

News Journal

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Radford City Council passes budget, tax rates on first reading

Second vote set for Thursday, April 25

Heather Bell
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RADFORD - The Radford City Council passed its budget and tax rates on first reading following a public hearing Tuesday, April 16, but questions from council members regarding the school division's budget have delayed the vote - originally set for Monday, April 22 - until Thursday, April 25.

The Radford City Public Schools budget includes a seven percent raise for all school division employees, with the state supplying the funds for three percent of the increase. However, due to an overall increase in revenue from state funding to the schools, the school division is using some of that increased funding to increase raises to seven percent for all employees.

Council members Jessie Foster and Kellie Atrip vocalized concerns over the amount of the raises, as city employees will not be getting any increase in salaries or wages in the upcoming budget year.

"We're holding on raises and we are making cuts here, cuts there," said Foster. "It

feels like you're getting all the raise, and I just have to be honest, I'm struggling with that."

"We gave our employees nothing this year," said Atrip. RCPS Superintendent Dr. Adam Joyce said the city's funding to the schools, which is \$5,839,528, is close to the "minimal required [local] funding," so it cannot be decreased in an amount that would provide enough funding to be used for city employee raises. The school division is getting \$31,354,400 in state funding, which is an increase over previous years mainly due to two factors. First, RCPS's enrollment now includes 1,485 virtual students in addition to the 1,525 students who attend RCPS in person. Second, Radford local composite index (LCI) or the calculation of a locality's ability to fund education, has "plunged," according to Joyce, which means the state is required to fund the school division more fully.

"This is good in terms of state funding, but bad in terms of our local economy," he said.

The city council passed the city's budget,



GRAPHIC COURTESY OF RADFORD CITY

which includes the school division's budget, on first reading at the April 16 meeting. The city council and the school board will meet in a work session this Thursday, April 25 at 6 p.m. in city council chambers, 10 Robertson St., Radford. The second reading of the city budget ordinance, the tax rates ordinance, and the water and wastewater rates, are also on the agenda for the April 25 meeting.

The 2024-2025 city budget is \$79,043,310, including a general fund of \$35,411,361. Enterprise funds include:
Streets maintenance fund: \$2,829,359
Transit: \$2,860,488
Water/wastewater fund: \$6,320,498
Electric fund: \$28,854,443

See Council, page 4

City Council passes proclamation in recognition of National Crime Victims' Rights Week

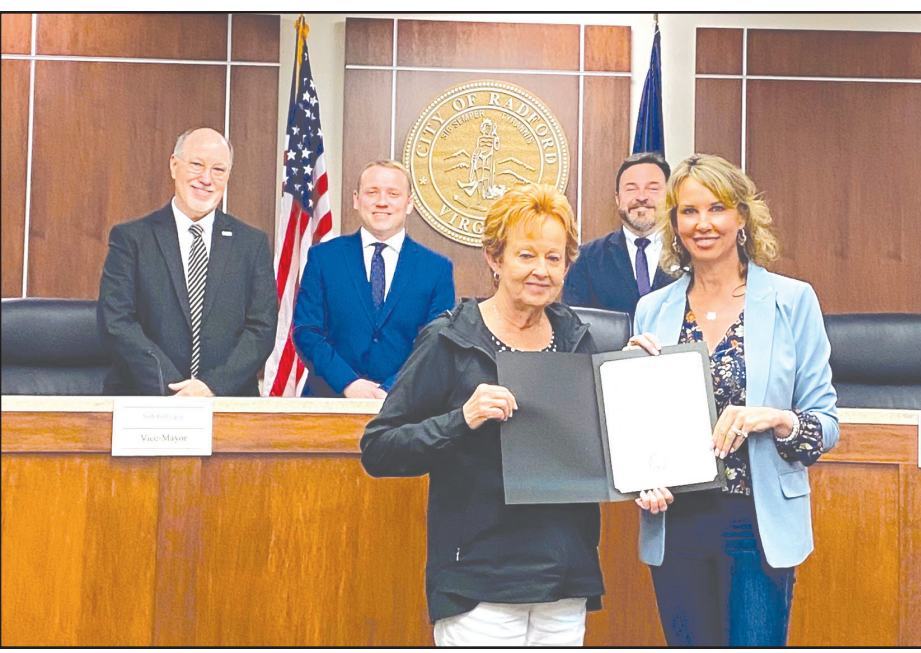


PHOTO COURTESY OF THE CITY OF RADFORD

Teresa McKenzie, Asst Director of Radford City/Floyd County Victim Witness (left), receives a proclamation from Radford City Council member Jessie Foster in recognition of National Crime Victims' Rights Week, as (left to right) Council member Bobby Davis, Vice Mayor Seth Gillespie and Mayor David Horton look on.

RADFORD - The week of April 21-27, 2024 is Crime Victims' Rights Week nationwide, and Radford City Council recently passed a proclamation commemorating the week locally.

"The term 'victim' is more than just a label and has legal standing and protections that go along with it and crime victims' rights acts passed in Virginia and at the federal level guarantee victims the right to meaningfully participate and use their voice in the criminal justice process," the proclamation reads. "Victim service providers, advocates, law enforcement officers, attorneys, and other allied professionals can help survivors find their justice by enforcing these

rights. Including and elevating the voices of survivors makes certain they are heard and seen and creates a path to forging and sustaining community trust and engaging survivors creates responses and services that are credible, meaningful, and centered on individual needs."

"National Crime Victims' Rights Week provides an opportunity to recommit to listening to crime survivors in every space where decisions are made that could impact them and Radford City/Floyd County Victim Witness is hereby dedicated to amplifying the voices of survivors and creating an environment where survivors have the confidence that they will

be heard, believed, and supported," it continues. "The city council of the City of Radford does hereby proclaim the week of April 21-27, 2024 as Crime Victims' Rights Week and reaffirms our commitment to creating a victim service and criminal justice response that assists all victims of crime throughout the year. "[We express] our sincere gratitude and appreciation for those community members, victim service providers, and criminal justice professionals who are committed to improving our response to all victims of crime so that they may find relevant assistance, support, justice, and peace."

Staff report



PHOTO BY LORI GRAHAM

People gather at the semi-circle of memorial stones engraved with each name of students and faculty who lost their lives on April 16, 2007.

We Remember memorial events observed at Virginia Tech

Lori Graham
Contributing writer

BLACKSBURG - On April 16, 2007, a tragic loss of life occurred on the campus of Virginia Tech, forever changing the families, friends, and communities that hold the Hokie Nation so dear.

Now, 17 years later, a community once

again comes together to remember.

An abundance of sunshine was present Tuesday, April 16, 2024 as Hokies gathered on campus to participate in memorial events. The weather was in stark contrast to the dark day that unfolded in 2007, when a cold, blustery day with a few snowflakes blowing in the

spring air was met with a horrific attack, resulting in the deaths of 32 students and faculty and injuring numerous survivors.

A whole generation of time has passed, but the events of that day and the remembrance of those impacted by the horrific events is still at the heart of

See Memorial, page 4

National Endowment for the Humanities awards Christiansburg Institute, Inc. \$349,126 grant

NEH grant expands Christiansburg Institute digital archives

CHRISTIANSBURG - The National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH) has awarded Christiansburg Institute, Inc. a grant of \$349,126.

The successful grant proposal, titled "Unveiling 20th Century Black Life in Middle Appalachia: Digitizing School and Community Records for Christiansburg Institute Digital Archives" was awarded as part of the NEH's Humanities Collections and Reference Resources grant program. The project was selected as a part of the agency's special initiative, American Tapestry: Weaving Together Past, Present, and Future, as a project that will "help emphasize the role of the humanities in tackling contemporary

social challenges: strengthening our democracy, advancing equity for all, and addressing our changing climate."

"Christiansburg Institute expresses profound gratitude and enthusiasm for the generous grant award from the National Endowment for the Humanities, which will greatly empower our organization, providing our team with the essential resources critical to preserving the rich 100-year legacy of the Christiansburg Industrial Institute (CII), the pioneering Booker T. Washington high school in Montgomery County that educated generations of African Americans

See Grant, page 4

Thursday, APRIL 25
Eastern Divide Brewing Company
 3175 Commerce Street, Blacksburg

Benefiting

FREE ADMISSION Food available for purchase at venue

\$1 per beverage will be donated to CHCNRV and BBC

Silent Auction

Mission JAZZ 2.0

4:30-5:30 P.M. **THE VIRGINIA TECH JAZZ COMBO**
 5:30-6:30 P.M. **STEVE KESSLER TRIO WITH AL BROHOLM & LOGAN VALLEROY**
 6:30-7:30 P.M. **ROOT DOWN QUINTET**
 7:30-9:00 P.M. **LENNY MARCUS TRIO**

UPCOMING EVENTS

Today, Saturday, April 20:

Father Emil Kapaun Memorial

The Knights of Columbus Father Fox Council 6747, will host a memorial presentation and walk in honor of Father Emil Kapaun at Holy Spirit Catholic Church, Christiansburg, Va.; 9 - 10:30 a.m. Father Kapaun was a U.S. Army Chaplain who was captured by North Korean troops in the Korean War. Because of his support of U.S. troops while he was a POW he was honored by America with the "Medal of Honor. He is now being recommend for "Sainthood " by the Catholic Church. The short walk and presentation will begin at 9 a.m.

Spring Kickoff Festival

Come join the party! The Town of Christiansburg is hosting a Spring Kickoff Festival at the Recreation Center from 6-9 p.m. All activities and games are free. PAR Mobile Golf golf simulator, trivia, Target Challenge, giant Jenga, Connect Four, cornhole and more. Live music by Jimothy. Local food, wine and beer trucks also available. Please bring your ID if you plan to purchase beer or wine. Outdoor event. Limited number of tables and chairs available. However, attendees are encouraged to bring lawn chairs to sit around a bonfire and enjoy the evening. This event is recommended for ages 18 and up.

NAACP Young Adults Meet and Greet

At the Christiansburg Library; 6 - 7 p.m. Geared toward 25- 50 years olds. Learn about the NAACP, meet people and learn about professional development and social opportunities. Giveaways and appetizers. For more information crashatowndsend@gmail.com.

Arbor Day Celebration

Join Blacksburg Parks and Recreation as a volunteer, 9 a.m.- noon for an Arbor Day Celebration and plant a tree or two! Participants are encouraged to bring a shovel and gloves. This event will be held rain or shine at 615 Patrick Henry Dr., Blacksburg.

"Uninvited: The Spread of Invasive Species"

At the Lyric Theater; 2- 4 p.m. Town of Blacksburg, Fralin Life Sciences Institute Global Change Center at Virginia Tech and the Invasive Species Collaborative

(ISC) at Virginia Tech will host a screening of the film "Uninvited: The Spread of Invasive Species" at the Lyric Theater. Film introduces concept of invasive species and explains how strategies can prevent the spread of harmful species. Also, a panel of professionals will answer audience questions. Complimentary popcorn and drinks. To register, for questions or more information, contact Town of Blacksburg Sustainability Manager, Carol Davis at 540.443.1617.

Monday, April 22:

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. Citizens are invited to attend and allowed to speak at each meeting. See the agenda at www.radfordva.gov.

Montgomery County Board of Supervisors meeting

Public meetings are the second and fourth Monday of each month at the Montgomery County Government Center, 755 Roanoke St. in Christiansburg. Closed sessions begin at 6 p.m. if needed. Open sessions begin at 7:15 p.m. Citizens are invited to attend and allowed to speak at each meeting. All regular meetings of the Board of Supervisors are rebroadcast on Montgomery County Comcast and Shentel Channels 190 daily.

Tuesday, April 23:

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.

Spring Shred-A-Thon

The spring Shred-A-Thon, sponsored by TRIAD and Christiansburg Recreation Department, will be held 3-6 p.m. at Christiansburg Recreation Center. Bring documents in a box or plastic tote (no larger than 22.5x18x11.5 inches). Limit of three totes/boxes per vehicle. Items that cannot be shredded include metal, three-ring binders, composition notebooks, hanging file folders, paint brushes, padlocks, hardback books, keys, eyeglasses, bungee cords, etc. The Shred-A-Thon is a drive-thru event. Please stay in your cars. TRIAD meets the third Tuesday of each month at the Christiansburg Recreation Center at 1:30 p.m. The public is invited to attend.

Southwest Virginia Legal Aid Society board meeting

The Board of Directors of Southwest Virginia Legal Aid Society will meet by conference call at 6:30 p.m. The public is welcome to participate in the call from the Marion Office of Southwest Virginia Legal Aid Society located at 227 West Cherry Street, Marion, Va. 24354.

Saturday, April 27:

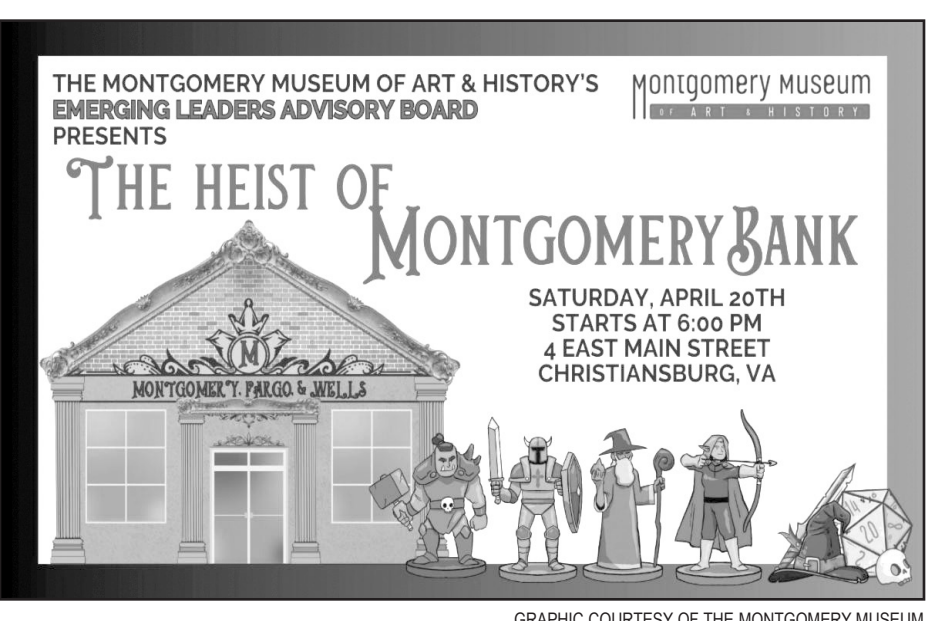
Children's Consignment Sale

The spring children's consignment sale will be held 9 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. at Blacksburg Presbyterian Church, 701 Church St SE. (note different location). Families can get great deals on seasonal kids' clothes and shoes, toys, books, baby gear, sports equipment, maternity clothing and more. Many items are like-new (some even brand-new). Some items will be half-price between 12:30 and 1:30 p.m. but you will want to shop early for the best selection! Cash or checks only. No card or electronic payments. There is space for new consignors. For more information, email bumckidsale@aol.com.

On-going:

Radford Noon Rotary Club's Field of Honor

Field of Honor will be installed on the grounds of Glencoe Mansion prior to Memorial Day until the Fourth of July. Radford Noon Rotary Club is looking for people to sponsor flags. Individual flags are \$50. Corporate Sponsorship: Bronze - \$250; Silver - \$500; Gold - \$1000; and Platinum - \$2500. To register, contact rotary.club.of.radford.noon@gmail.com.



Montgomery Museum hosts live Dungeons and Dragons event

Join the Montgomery Museum for a night of mystery, mischief, and miniatures as we host "The Heist of Montgomery Bank" a live play D&D experience that is built with our audience in mind and produced by our Emerging Leaders Advisory Board. Dungeon & Dragons is a tabletop role-playing game that often includes the use of miniatures to expand the world created by its players. This event looks to expand upon our miniatures exhibit,

"Creativity Enclosed: Reusing Historic Safe Deposit Boxes," and incorporate other forms of art in order to make the night a one-of-a-kind experience that can never be recreated. Enjoy light refreshments and explore our galleries throughout the evening, and you may even find clues that are vital to the cracking of the case for our merry band of adventurers in this one night only experience. With stories to be told, riddles to be solved, and

a treasure waiting to be claimed, this is one event you do not want to miss! The Heist of Montgomery Bank, is one night only, Saturday, April 20, 6- 8 p.m. For more information visit the Montgomery Museum at 4 East Main St., Christiansburg, VA, or contact Courtney Amos at marketing@montgomerymuseum.org. - Montgomery Museum

Graphic design majors score 11 wins at the Western Virginia Advertising 'Addy' Awards



Seven of Radford's graphic design majors racked up a total of 11 wins in the student categories of the Western Virginia Advertising Awards, or "the Addys," held at the Hotel Roanoke and Conference Center on March 2. Pictured (L to R): Brittany Rorer, Ahna Huff, Jenna Repass, Wendy Marshall and Radford University Professor of Graphic Design Ken Smith.

Seven of Radford's graphic design majors racked up a total of 11 wins in the student categories of the Western Virginia Advertising Awards, or "the Addys," held at the Hotel Roanoke and Conference Center March 2. Sponsored by the American Advertising Federation (AFF) Roanoke chapter, the competition recognizes advertising excellence and creativity across the full spectrum of media platforms. Students had to create packaging, logos, labels, branding and other forms of physical advertising and 3-D designs for products of

their choosing, or for Lipton tea and Burpee Seeds and Plants, or Kilt Gilt Scottish Ale, a fictional beer that remains a design staple for Radford. Radford's winners were: Senior Brittany Rorer - Student Gold (Burpee) and two Student Silvers (Selu Farm branding logos; a 2024 calendar) Cade Carter '23 - Student Gold (Lady Gaga artRave concert poster) and Student Silver (RU BFA Graphic Design show poster) Senior Kiera Adens - Two Student Silvers (Lipton, Kilt Gilt) Senior Ahna Huff - Student Silver (Lipton)

Junior Jenna Repass - Student Silver (Cactus Club food truck design) Junior McKinna Huffman - Student Silver (Juno & Co. dog treats) Sophomore Wendy Marshall - Student Silver (Graphic Art Exhibition poster) This year's competition included 67 student submissions, with entries from George Mason, James Madison and Liberty universities as well as Virginia Tech. Radford's 11 wins gave it the highest total for participating colleges and universities. "We certainly don't judge the quality of our See ADDYS, page 6

NRCC student named 2024 New Century Workforce Scholar

New River Community College student Reagan Young has been named a 2024 New Century Workforce Scholar and will receive a \$1,500 scholarship. Young, an Eagle Scout, is from Christiansburg. He is currently studying instrumentation and control automation technology, electronics technology, and electrical engineering technology. He plans to complete his studies at NRCC in 2025. Young is also the president of NRCC's chapter of the Phi Theta Kappa (PTK) Honor Society.

This scholarship is the first of its kind to support students at associate degree-granting institutions on a national scale as they plan to enter the workforce upon completing a degree or certificate. The program is sponsored by The Coca-Cola Foundation and PTK Honor Society. New Century Workforce Scholars are selected based on their academic accomplishments, leadership, activities, and how they extend their intellectual

See NRCC, page 6

Food City president talks shop at Truist lecture series event at Radford U

As Steven C. Smith tells it, his family's multibillion-dollar retail empire started with an ambitious leap nearly 70 years ago and has since grown one logical step at a time.

Smith is the president and chief financial officer of K-VA-T Food Stores, the company that owns and operates the Food City grocery chain, and he was the guest speaker for Radford's spring installment of the Truist Global Capitalism Lecture Series, held April 4 at Kyle Hall.

He said his company's origin story began soon after his father, Jack Smith, completed seven years of service in the United States Navy Supply Corps, a duty that wasn't exactly his first choice.

"He didn't like that, but he learned logistics and supply management," Steven Smith recalled. "He didn't realize that was going to be the future for him."

Following his military service, the elder Smith returned home to Grundy, Virginia, in 1955. He used his experience and training to launch an 8,000-square-foot Piggly Wiggly grocery store alongside three close shareholders: his father, uncle and cousin.

Their subsequent success led the family to acquire or build an extended stream of additional stores, and today, the Abingdon, Virginia-based K-VA-T Food Stores boasts more than 150 outlets across five states, including about 130 Food Cities plus convenience and hardware stores, as well as a 1.2 million-square-foot distribution center supported by nearly 1,000 employees.

In 2001, Steven Smith took over from his father as the company continued its expansion and crested \$1 billion in sales; by 2010, that figure had doubled.

The chain broke ground in 2019 on a new Food City in Radford – which, at 47,000 square feet, is nearly six times the size of the Smiths' original Piggly Wiggly – and it's increasing its existing presence in Pulaski this year with the opening of a 54,600-square foot replacement store.

Indeed, K-VA-T Food Stores – whose name is an acronym for the chain's original service area of Kentucky, Virginia, and Tennessee – has even outgrown its own handle, as it now operates in both Georgia and Alabama as well.

"We hold a number one or number two market share in every market we serve, and we serve over 4.2 million customers and almost 1.6 million households," Steven Smith said in his remarks.

"By the end of this year, we will become a \$4 billion company."

In the face of such success, however, he maintains a humble designation for himself: "I'm a second-generation grocer."

While Smith's address reviewed the past, it also looked to the future. He discussed efforts to reduce the company's carbon footprint – by developing newer refrigeration methodologies, providing increased recycling



PHOTO COURTESY OF RADFORD UNIVERSITY

Steven C. Smith, president and chief financial officer of K-VA-T Food Stores, which owns and operates the Food City grocery chain, among other enterprises, was the speaker at this spring's Truist Global Lecture Series.

opportunities, and implementing a transportation model to give trucks greater carrying capacity – and to share success through the stock ownership program Food City offers its employees, whom Smith said hold about 11% of the company.

He also offered advice to the business students in the audience.

"Have a laser-focused, purpose-driven business plan," Smith told them. "Surround yourself with people more knowledgeable than yourself who have a passion for what they do."

"Choose your partners wisely and help them understand your business. Communicate, communicate, communicate," he said. "Stand by your people ... show them appreciation, trust and respect."

"Don't be afraid to take a calculated risk – the keyword here is 'calculated.' You've got to take risks; you'll never get forward if you don't."

"Remember to truly embrace the great days and enjoy, because you're going to have to go through a few tough ones. And I think anybody who's been in business will certainly understand that," Smith said.

Luke Goodie, a management major from Honaker, Virginia, introduced Smith's Truist Global Lecture Series presentation. Goodie has worked for Food City since 2020, and over the summer undertook an internship with the company, working in the accounting department. After he graduates in May, Goodie will go to work for K-VA-T Food Stores full time as an assets

analyst. Smith's presentation was introduced by Radford senior Luke Goodie, a management major from Honaker, Virginia, whose history with K-VA-T is also about to expand.

Goodie worked at the Food City outlets in both Radford and Lebanon, Virginia, throughout his college career, first as a stocker in 2020, and within two years, he became a closing store manager.

Last summer, he undertook an internship with the company, working in the accounting department and dealing with such aspects as accounts payable, beer and wine sales, employee apparel, work orders and warehouse invoices.

After he graduates in May, Goodie will begin a full-time position with K-VA-T.

"I'll be an assets analyst," he explained recently. "What they're wanting to do is have me go along to Food City stores and help create a new database – an in-house inventory system – because we contract that out currently. I'll be making an inventory, not of the products they sell but the equipment they use. Computers and registers and things like that."

"They've always done right by me, and I've just had great experiences with them," Goodie said.

Neil Harvey for Radford University

Marketplace ourvalley.org

THE FINCASTLE HERALD The Vinton Messenger THE NEW CASTLE RECORD SALEM TIMES REGISTER News Messenger RADFORD News Journal

Legals - Montgomery County

LEGAL NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING OF THE TOWN OF CHRISTIANSBURG TOWN COUNCIL

The Town of Christiansburg Town Council will hold a Public Hearing on Tuesday, April 23, 2024, at 7:00 PM in the Council Chambers of the Christiansburg Town Hall, 100 E. Main Street, Christiansburg, Virginia 24073. The purpose of the public hearing is to receive public comments concerning:

A. Conditional Use Permit request by Howard M. Thornton, Jr. and Gayle W. Thornton, Property Owners, and PCKK Partners, LLC, Applicant, to allow for a Contractors Equipment Storage Yard in the General Business District B-3 zoning district on property located at 520 and 540 Depot St. NE, identified as Tax Parcel 497-((A))-40; (Parcel ID 007903), and consisting of approximately 2.409 acres. The property is designated as Downtown/Mixed Use on the Future Land Use Map of the 2013 Christiansburg Comprehensive Plan.

B. Rezoning request by Johnny C. Martin, Jr. and Amelia F. Martin, Property Owners and Applicants, to rezone property identified as all of Tax Parcel 502-(9)-6, (Parcel ID 007453), and consisting of approximately 1.595 acres located at 3345 Roanoke Street; and a portion of property located at 3301 Roanoke Street, identified as a portion of Tax Parcel 502-(9)-5C, (Parcel ID 090517) from Agricultural District (A) to General Business District (B-3). The property is designated as Residential on the Future Land Use Map of the 2013 Christiansburg Comprehensive Plan.

C. Conditional Use Permit

Legals - Montgomery County

request by Johnny C. Martin, Jr. and Amelia F. Martin, Property Owners and Applicants, to allow for an amendment of an existing Conditional Use Permit (CUP) for the expansion of a Contractors Equipment Storage Yard on property located at 3345 Roanoke Street and a portion of property located at 3301 Roanoke Street, identified as all of Tax Parcel 502-(9)-6, (Parcel ID 007453), consisting of approximately 1.595 acres, and a portion of Tax Parcel 502-(9)-5C, (Parcel ID 090517) consisting of approximately 5.955 acres. The property is designated as Residential on the Future Land Use Map of the 2013 Christiansburg Comprehensive Plan. A copy of the applications, the Town's Zoning Map, Zoning Ordinance, and Future Land Use Map may be viewed in the Planning Department Office, 100 E. Main Street, Christiansburg, VA 24073 during normal office hours of 8:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m. Monday through Friday. Contact Retta Jackson, Planning Director, at (540) 382-6128, ext. 1120 or by email at rjackson@christiansburg.org, with any questions or if you require reasonable accommodations.

MAKE AN "A" IN ADVERTISING!

To place your ad, call 389-9355

Legals - Montgomery County

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING AND INVITING BIDS ON AN ORDINANCE PROPOSING TO GRANT A NON-EXCLUSIVE LEASE OF ATTACHMENT LOCATIONS AND GROUND SPACE AT THE WATER TANK SITE LOCATED AT 110 RIDGEWOOD LANE IN THE CITY OF RADFORD FOR CELLULAR TELECOMMUNICATIONS PURPOSES

Pursuant to Virginia Code § 15.2-1800, the Radford City Council will hold a public hearing on April 22, 2024 at 7:00 P.M. in the Council Chambers at 10 Robertson Street to receive public comment on an ordinance proposing to grant a non-exclusive lease of attachment locations and ground space at the water tank site located at 110 Ridgewood Lane in the City of Radford for cellular telecommunications purposes. A copy of the full text of the ordinance, including the terms of the proposed lease agreement, may be obtained by contacting the Office of the City Clerk at (540) 731-3603.

In addition, pursuant to Virginia Code § 15.2-2100 et seq., bids are hereby invited for the lease proposed to be granted under the ordinance. All bids must be in writing and submitted to the Office of the City Clerk at 10 Robertson Street, Radford, Virginia 24141 or at Jenni.Goodman@radfordva.gov. ALL BIDS MUST BE

Legals - Montgomery County

TOWN OF CHRISTIANSBURG, VIRGINIA COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT (CDBG)

RECEIVED BY April 22, 2024 AT 12:00 P.M. Bids will be opened and read aloud during public session at Council's regular meeting on April 22, 2024 at 7 PM. After the reading of the bids, Council will proceed with consideration of the proposed ordinance and lease. Council reserves the right to reject any and all bids and to defer action until a subsequent meeting.

The Town of Christiansburg Virginia as a recipient of block grant funding is required by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) to prepare and adopt a multiyear Consolidated Plan and Annual Action Plans to solicit citizen views on proposed Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) program activities contained in these documents. The proposed plan is for the FY 2024 Annual Action Plan to provide information on the program and the goals for the upcoming year. Based on last year's allocation, the estimated amount the Town may receive is approximately \$130,000.

Activities proposed include the East Main Street sidewalk project located in the Town's qualifying low to moderate income census tract block group and a town-wide income-qualified emergency home repair program.

CITIZEN PARTICIPATION Draft copies of the FY 2024

Legals - Montgomery County

Annual Action Plan are available for review. Copies can be obtained from the Christiansburg Town Manager's Office, Christiansburg Town Hall, 100 E. Main Street, the Christiansburg branch library at 125 Shelman Street or on the Town's website at www.christiansburg.org . The 30-day comment period will run through Wednesday, May 15, 2024.

PUBLIC MEETINGS Two Public Meetings with Town staff to discuss and receive comment on the FY 2024 Annual Action Plan on Thursday, April 18, 2024 at 5:30 PM and Wednesday, May 1, 2024 at 5:30 PM in the Admin Conference Room, Christiansburg Town Hall, 100 E. Main Street, Christiansburg, Virginia. An electronic (Zoom) option is available for both meetings. Please contact staff for further information.

PUBLIC HEARING A Public Hearing for the adoption of the FY 2024 Annual Action Plan at the Town Council meeting on Tuesday, April 23, 2024, at 7:00 PM in the Council Room, Christiansburg Town Hall, 100 E. Main Street, Christiansburg, Virginia.

Provide any questions, comments, or suggestions by mailing the Town Manager's Office, Town of Christiansburg, 100 E. Main Street, Christiansburg, VA 24073-3029, by e-mailing awarren@christiansburg.org or by phone at (540) 382-6120 x 1130.

Legals - Montgomery County

THE NRV MPO SEEKS PUBLIC INPUT FOR THE ROUTE 460 BUSINESS CORRIDOR BICYCLE, PEDESTRIAN, AND TRANSIT STUDY

Find out about the study progress and potential safety improvements along Route 460 Business in Blacksburg, Christiansburg, and Montgomery County. The meeting will be held at the New River Community College, Christiansburg Site located at 782 New River Road NW, Suite 400, Room 149 on Thursday, April 25, 2024, from 4:00 to 6:00 pm. In addition to the in-person meeting, public meeting materials will be posted by April 22nd on the New River Valley MPO's website at www.newrivervalleympo.org

They will also be available for review at the offices the New River Valley MPO. Please give your written comments at the meeting or submit them via USPS to the NRV MPO's office, located at 755 Roanoke St. Ste. 21, Christiansburg, VA 24073. You may also e-mail your comments to 460study@rkk.com. Please reference "460 Study" PH Comments in the subject line. Comments for this study will be received until 5:00 PM, May 9th, 2024.

This public notice and opportunity to comment on the Route 460 Study meets the program of projects requirements as established by the FTA pursuant to 49 U.S.C. Section 5307(c). The NRV MPO ensures nondiscrimination and equal employment in all programs and activities in accordance with Title VI and Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964.

Legals - Montgomery County

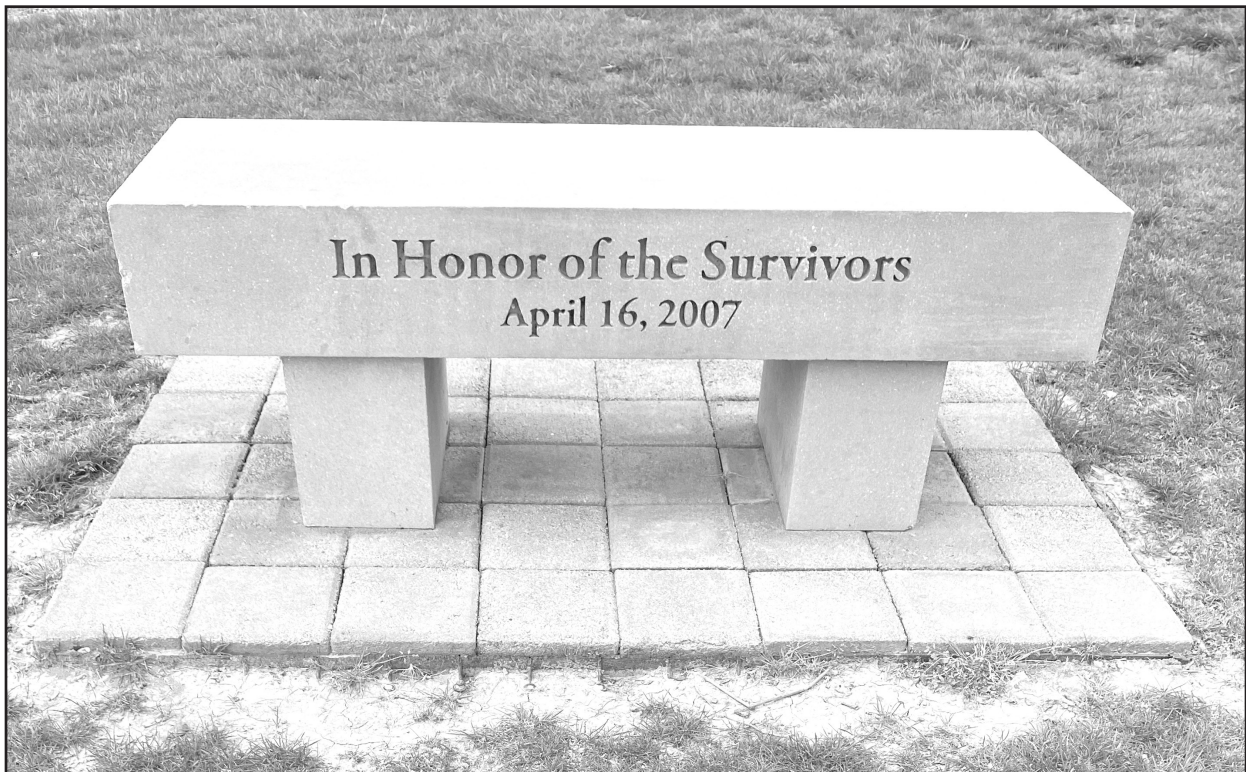
If you need more information or special assistance for persons with disabilities or limited English proficiency, contact Dan Brugh at: brughid@montgomerycountva.gov or 540-394-2145, TTY/TTD 711.

Classified Advertising DELIVERS

Memorial from page 1



A memorial candle remained burning for 24 hours on campus.



PHOTOS BY LORI GRAHAM

Memorial benches reading "In Honor of the Survivors" flank the sides of the memorial in front of Burruss Hall.

RADFORD NEWS JOURNAL

Serving Radford since 1884

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Radford News Journal is a newspaper of, by and for the people of Radford. We encourage letters from our readers on topics of general interest to the community and responses to our articles and columns. Letters must be signed and have a telephone number where you can be reached for verification. All letters will be verified before publication. We reserve the right to deny publication of any letter and edit letters for length, content and style.

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every Hokie.

A memorial in front of Burruss Hall was erected in memory of the lives lost, with each name engraved in stone. The Virginia Tech Corps of Cadets stand at attention overlooking the site adorned with flowers and a memorial candle centered among the stones. Streams of people quietly walk past each name, some laying flowers on the sacred ground, others with tears streaming down their faces, while others kneel or stand with heads bowed in prayer.

Also engraved in stone at the center of the memorial are the iconic words "We will prevail," the words of inspiration delivered at the memorial ceremony for the Virginia Tech shooting victims on April 17, 2007, by Nikki Giovanni. Giovanni, a renowned poet and VT professor, was also an instructor of the very VT

student who would later become known to all as the destructor of the peaceful campus community on that fatal day. She was given the incredible task of addressing Hokies near and far suffering from the incredible loss. Her words, "We will prevail. We will prevail. We will prevail," continue to lift up those impacted by the terrible day.

Every year, Hokies from all over the world remember through their own events held in a variety of locations. On the VT campus, events provide a platform for remembrance, support, and connection. A 3.2 mile Run for the 32, the memorial candlelight ceremony at the April 16 memorial, and a remembrance service at the Wishing Tree held at Solitude are just some of the events that Hokies attended. Activities from the past and

present can be found at www.weremember.vt.edu.

According to the [weremember.vt.edu](http://www.weremember.vt.edu) site, the 32 victims' ages ranged from 18 to 76 years old and encompassed a variety of backgrounds, academic achievements and faiths.

"We hope that you are able to reflect on the tremendous promise each of them embodied for our world with creativity, intelligence, humility, and humanity," the VT site reads.

In remembrance of each forever Hokie, their names follow:

Ross A. Alameddine
 Christopher James Bishop
 Brian R. Bluhm
 Ryan Christopher Clark
 Austin Michelle Cloyd
 Jocelyn Couture-Nowak
 Kevin P. Granata
 Matthew Gregory
 Gwaltney
 Caitlin Millar Hammaren
 Jeremy Michael Herbstritt

Rachael Elizabeth Hill
 Emily Jane Hilscher
 Jarrett Lee Lane
 Matthew Joseph La Porte
 Henry J. Lee (Henh Ly)
 Liviu Librescu
 G.V. Loganathan
 Partahi Mamora
 Halomoan Lumbantoruan
 Lauren Ashley McCain
 Daniel Patrick O'Neil
 Juan Ramon Ortiz-Ortiz
 Minal Hiralal Panchal
 Daniel Alejandro Perez
 Cueva
 Erin Nicole Peterson
 Michael Steven Pohle, Jr.
 Julia Kathleen Pryde
 Mary Karen Read
 Reema Joseph Samaha
 Waleed Mohamed
 Shaalan
 Leslie Geraldine Sherman
 Maxine Shelly Turner
 Nicole Regina White
 Family approved
 biographies of each of the 32 can be read at the Virginia Tech University website previously listed.

Council from page 1

Solid waste fund: \$1,688,841

The budget includes increases to the electric rate and the wastewater rates. A public hearing will be held Monday, April 22 at 7 p.m. regarding utility rates. Wastewater rates will increase from \$14.24 to \$16.24 for 2,000

gallons. Electric base rates (energy + customer charge) will increase from \$104.65 to \$107.97 for 1,000 kwh customer.

Also voted on during Tuesday's meeting were the tax rates, which operate on the calendar year instead of the fiscal year. They are:

Real property tax levy at \$0.69 per one \$100.00 of assessed value.
 Machinery and tools tax levy will remain at \$1.76 per \$100.00 of assessed value.
 Tangible personal property will remain at \$2.44 per \$100.00 of assessed value.

CROSSWORD PUZZLE

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11		
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49				50			51		52	53	54	55
56					57			58				
59				60				61				
62					63				64			

CLUES ACROSS

1. Tenor
5. Panthers' signal caller
8. Systems, doctrines, theories
12. Rulers
14. Indonesian coastal town
15. Type of cuisine
16. Kids
18. Single Lens Reflex
19. Extra seed-covering
20. Force out
21. Feline
22. ___ & Stitch
23. Semantic relations
26. A larval frog or toad
30. Sport for speedsters
31. One who is learning
32. Request
33. Famed WWII conference
34. Relieved
39. English broadcaster
42. Car signal

CLUES DOWN

1. Mathematical optimization search method
2. Country along the Arabian peninsula
3. Pointed parts of pens
4. Lake ___, one of the Great
5. Peruvian region
6. State capital of Georgia
7. Those killed for their beliefs
8. Typeface
9. Shrill cry
10. Sends via the Postal Service
11. Holds grain
13. Occurring at a fitting time
17. Vogue
24. Born of
25. Get the job done
26. Teletype (Computers)
27. Small southern constellation

CLUES DOWN

28. Decaliters
29. Area near the concert stage
35. Social insect living in organized colonies
36. Winter activity
37. Snake-like fish
38. Not wet
40. In addition to
41. In league
42. Barrels per day (abbr.)
43. Monetary unit
44. Marked
45. Emerges
47. Shape by heating
48. Early Slavic society
49. Italian automaker
52. Racing legend Earnhardt
53. A type of name
54. ___ Strauss, jeans maker
55. Famed garden

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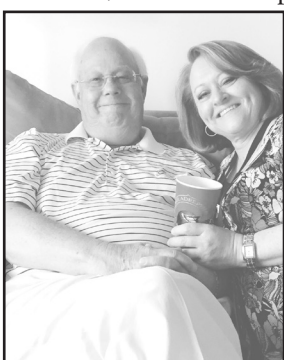
OBITUARIES

Blake, Robert Lilly

Robert Lilly Blake, 77, of Radford, passed away Tuesday, April 16, 2024, after a long battle with cancer.

He was born May 6, 1946, in Charleston, W. Va., the son of the late Dr. Thomas H. and Evadyne Lilly Blake. Bob received his BS degree from WVU and his Masters in Accounting from USC. He was a CPA in both Virginia and South Carolina, since 1974, practicing for 50 years and retiring in 2023. He had been in practice in Radford since 1977.

Bob was a member of the AICPA, SC Assoc. of CPAs, Treasurer of the Blacksburg Country Club, Treasurer of Thornspring Country Club, on the Advisory Board at NRCC, RU Board of Visitors, RU Foundation, RU Real Estate Foundation, Treasurer to Radford Chamber of Commerce, on the First National Bank Advisory Board, and the New River Valley Health Foundation.



He was preceded in death by his parents; and brothers, John, William, and Thomas, Jr. Blake.

Survivors include the love of his life, Carol Miles; adopted daughter, Amy Caldwell; two adopted grandchildren; and adopted family, Rev. and Mrs. Clyde Bishop; nieces, Elizabeth Blake and Jennifer Blake;

nephew, Thomas Blake; and sister-in-law, Jane Blake.

The family received friends Friday, April 19, 2024 at the Mullins Funeral Home in Radford. Funeral services followed with Rev. Cathy Angle officiating. Interment with full military honors followed in the Southwest Virginia Veterans Cemetery in Dublin.

In lieu of flowers, please consider donations to New River Community College Education Fund.

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

Bowles, Thomas Daniel

Thomas Daniel Bowles, of Elliston, passed away Friday, April 12, 2024.

He was born in Christiansburg on Nov. 1, 1960. Thomas was a one-of-a-kind, good-hearted man and would help anyone. He had a great sense of humor but had his own way of doing things.

He was preceded in death by his parents, Walter Daniel Bowles and Norma Kirk Bowles. Thomas is survived by two children, Thomas Daniel Krafft of Shawsville and Lolita Sunshine Cassell of Elliston;

grandchildren, Tori Cassell and Haley, Joanna Brammer, Elizabeth Brammer and Logan, Trevor Krafft and Tyler Krafft; great-grandchildren, Ellie, Mae, Riley and Raelyn; two special friends, Kenny Mullins and Chasity (Chass) Williams; and step-son, Billy Moss.

Thomas was loved and will be missed by many. A visitation will be held Saturday, April 20, 2024, 1- 3 p.m., in the McCoy Funeral Home, 150 Country Club Drive SW, Blacksburg.

See Obituaries, page 6

Send community news and photos to communitynews@ourvalley.org

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

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

BAPTIST

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

First Baptist Church on 3rd Ave., 215 Third Ave at the corner with Downey St. We nurture meaningful connections to God and others through worship, spiritual growth, and community ministry. We celebrate the dignity and worth of all persons, created in the image of God. Sunday Bible Study Groups - 9:45, Sunday Worship - 11:00. Website: fbcradford.org 540-639-4419. Worship is in-person and live-streamed on Facebook and on our YouTube channel: First Baptist Church Radford.
Trinity Community Church, 1505 N. Franklin Street, C'burg. John Altizer, Lead Pastor, Brian Cockram, Associate Pastor, 382-8121. Worship at 10:45 a.m., Outreach Ministries - 6:00p.m. Wednesday, Growth Groups - 5:00p.m. Sunday, Youth and Children's Ministry - 5:00p.m. Sunday, www.trinitycburg.org.

CHURCH OF CHRIST

Blacksburg Church of Christ, 315 Eakin St., 552-1331. Sun. Bible Classes 9:30 a.m., Sun. Worship 10:30 a.m. & 6 p.m., Wed. Bible classes, 7 p.m., Outreach Minister Curt Seright, Dean Meadows, Campus Minister.

CHURCH OF GOD

Childress Church of God, 4187 Piney Woods Rd., C'Burg. 381-3693. Sun. School 10 a.m.; Worship 11 a.m. & Wed. 7 p.m.

New Hope Church of God, 1404 Mud Pike Rd., C'Burg. Rev. T. Michael Bond, pastor, 731-3178. Sun. School 10 a.m., Worship 10:50 a.m., 6 p.m. Thurs., 7:00 p.m.

West Radford Church of God, 1824 West Main Street, Radford, VA 24141, Sunday School - 10:00A.M. Morning Worship - 11:00A.M., Children's Church 11:00A.M. Sunday Evening - 6:00P.M., Wednesday Night - 7:00P.M., Pastor Danny Newman, Church Office - 540-639-6562 or 804-921-0828

CHURCH OF GOD IN CHRIST

Radford Church of God in Christ, 206 Russell Ave., Radford. Supt. Ronald A. Watson, Sr.; Elder, 639- 5948. Sun. School 9 a.m.; Prayer 11:30 a.m.; Worship 6 p.m.

(DOC - DISCIPLES OF CHRIST)

Snowville Christian Church, 5436 Lead Mine Rd., Hiwassee, VA 24347, Pastor: Jerry King, Website: www.SnowvilleChristianChurch.com (and Facebook), Office: 540-633-3761, Email: office@SnowvilleChristianChurch.com, Sunday Worship Service: 11:00 a.m., Sunday School: 10:00 a.m., Thursday Bible Study: 6:00 p.m., We are: "Inspiring hope, helping people grow their faith, and sharing God's love with others!"

EPISCOPAL

Grace Episcopal Church, 210 Fourth Street Radford. Welcoming and accepting, we have been a part of the Radford community for more than 130 years. ALL ARE WELCOME. Grace offers an 8:00am Contemplative Eucharist and a 10:30am Eucharist with organ music and a choir, with refreshments served afterwards. The 10:30am service is also available on YouTube for those unable to leave their house. Find us on Facebook and www.graceradford.org.

LUTHERAN

Christ Lutheran Church, 201 Harvey St. Sunday worship with communion at 10am; fellowship & snacks at 11am. All are welcome. Upcoming events and fellowship opportunities (Senior Brunch, Faith

Radford

WORSHIP DIRECTORY

DEPRESSED SAINTS

Read 1 Kings 19:1 through 20:43

Sometimes Christians get depressed. The cause might be a chemical imbalance, sin, an attack from Satan, or the stress of life, but depression can happen to all of us. Prayer is in order, and in some cases medications might also be needed. Depression is a serious problem, especially for those diagnosed with clinical depression. However, we can always count on the Holy Spirit to gently lead us through the dark days, if we let Him.

The angel of the Lord came back a second time and touched him and said, "Get up and eat, for the journey is too much for you" (1 Kings 19:7).

Godly Elijah, who had just won an incredible victory for the Lord, was hit so hard by depression that he wanted to die. God did not scold him or beat him when he was down. Instead, God sent His angel to gently remind Elijah to eat the food He provided. We, too, must daily eat the Word of God, the Bread of Life, for the "journey is too much" for us to travel in our own might.

Prayer for Today: Lord, encourage the depressed ones today. Draw them to Your Word, where they can find food for the journey.

Quicklook: 1 Kings 19:1-9

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

& Film, Rough Draught, etc.) detailed in weekly email and on website: clcradford.org. 540-639-2671.

Our Saviour Lutheran Church ELCA, 1845 Cambria St NE, Christiansburg. Celebrate Word and Sacrament as we worship with varied liturgy, hymns and music. Join our inclusive community in person or online Sundays at 10:00 am (youtube.com/@OSLCcburg), followed by refreshments and fellowship. Ministries include Bible study, choir, food ministry, and crafters. Little Free Pantry and Library available 24-7 by the parking lot. Parent's Morning Out offers faith-based activities and play for children 16 month - 5 years select weekdays. Wheelchair accessible. Learn how you may contribute to our ministries at www.oslc-cburg.org. 540-382-2223.

St. Michael Lutheran Church, 2308 Merrimac Road, Blacksburg, VA 24060. Worship service each Sunday at 10 AM, Sunday School 9 AM. We are a community of God's people where we gather for worship, learning and service. Visitors and new members are always WELCOME! Google comments: "Wonderful, welcoming congregation." A place where all are truly welcome." You'll love our minister, The Rev. Dr. Wes Jamison, who engages us in God's word. St. Michael started and administers Micah's Caring Initiative which includes Micah's Backpack, Soup for Seniors, Garden, Closet, and Mini Pantry, with tremendous community impact. Partnering with Rainbow Riders and Total Action for Progress, we opened the first Early Childhood Head Start in our community (6 weeks to age 3). We sponsor an awesome Scouting program of Scouts Boy & Girl Troop, Venture Scouts for older youth, and a Cub Pack for girls & boys kindergarten - 5th grade, amongst many other programs. Directions: From Price's Fork Road, turn onto Merrimac Road. St. Michael is ~quarter mile on the left. For more information: Phone 540.951.8951; Email hope@stmcl.us; Website www.st-michael-lutheran-church.org

NON-DENOMINATIONAL

Central Church, 803 Wadsworth Street, Radford. 639-3529. 8:30 a.m. Sunday Services: 8:30am; 9:45am Sunday School; and 11:00a.m. Child care is provided. [\[tralmethodistchurch.com\]\(http://tralmethodistchurch.com\).](http://www.cen-</p></div>
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PENTECOSTAL HOLINESS

Merrimac Pentecostal Holiness Church, Rev. Larry Christopher (540) 552-7194. l.christopher695@comcast.net. Sunday school at 10 a.m. and morning worship is 11 a.m. Evening service at 6 p.m. and Wednesday at 7 p.m.

Compassion Church, 1820 Second Street, Radford, 639-6287, Our music is passionate, our worship is real, and Pastor Chandler Jones brings relevant messages for everyone at any place on their journey, Sunday Worship Experience at 9:30 AM & 11:00 AM, Wednesday Family Night at 7 PM, Children Ministry provided for all services. Our vision is to see all Saved. Freed. Restored. Fulfilled. Find us on facebook and Instagram

Walton Pentecostal Holiness Church, 4003 Morning Glory Rd., off Walton Rd. on Rt. 114. 731-1755. Lee Sarver, pastor. Sun. School 9:30 a.m., Worship 10:30 a.m. & 6: p.m., Wed., 7p.m.

PRESBYTERIAN

Join us at **The Presbyterian Church of Radford**, 201 4th Street, at the corner of 4th & Randolph. Sunday School is at 10:00 a.m. and Sunday Service 11:00a.m. Morgan Whitfield Jr., Pastor will be leading worship. Phone 540-639-2585, Email pcofradford@gmail.com, Website www.pcradford.org. We are called to share the love of Christ in this community and beyond.

UNITED METHODIST

Asbury United Methodist Church, 500 Stuart Street, Christiansburg. 540-382- 0743. Rev. Ryan Schaeffer. Sunday School, 10:15 a.m., Sunday Worship, 11:30 a.m., Wednesday Bible Study 7pm, alternating month's with Schaeffer Memorial Baptist Church, Senior Bible Study Thursday, 10:30 a.m. All are welcome.

St. Paul United Methodist Church, 220 West Main Street, Christiansburg. Rev. Mike Derflinger (540) 382-2410. Sunday Worship at 10a.m. with Children's Church at the same time, Sunday School at 9 a.m. Worship is in-person and Live-streamed on our YouTube Channel: StPaulUMCChristiansburgVA. All are welcome. Website: www.stpaulvaumc.org

Outdoor report: Tis the anadromous fish season

Anglers can experience exceptional year-round fishing on Virginia's tidal rivers. These rivers are popular destinations to chase largemouth bass, gar, bowfin, flathead catfish, blue catfish, and more, regardless of what month it is.

However, every spring anglers are blessed with the seasonal arrival of ocean migrants that provide exceptional fishing opportunities and a welcomed diversity to any springtime fishing experience.

Anadromous Life History In the world of fisheries, these ocean migrants are known as "anadromous" fish. Anadromous fish are species of fish that spend portions of their lives in both saltwater and freshwater. Anadromous fish are migratory, traveling long distances from the ocean to return to the

freshwater rivers and streams where they were born to spawn. These fish travel hundreds—sometimes thousands—of miles to return to the rivers where their life began in order to create the next generation. To me, it's one of the most fascinating journeys any animal on this planet makes.

Monitoring and Fish Passage The Potomac River near Washington D.C., the Rappahannock River near Fredericksburg, and the James River near Richmond are a few of the destination areas where anadromous fish congregate each spring to fulfill their reproductive strategies. Alan Weaver, Virginia Department of Wildlife Resources (DWR) fish passage coordinator, has been tasked with monitoring the runs of these fish during his 30-year career.

Opportunities If you haven't tried fishing for shad or striped bass, you may consider exploring one of Virginia's tidal rivers this spring to see some of these migratory fish for yourself! The fishing has the potential to be fast and furious, especially when fishing for hickory shad if you can time it correctly. Shad darts and shad spoons fished close to the bottom are the ticket for anglers fishing with a spinning rod. Fly anglers can fish similar-colored shad flies with great success.

Anglers looking to target striped bass on Virginia's tidal rivers should fish with lures and or flies that imitate herring and alewife. Swimbait in the five- to six-inch range, jerkbaits, and topwater plugs work well. Clouser minnows, half-and-halves, and other large streamer patterns work well for

fly anglers fishing with a sink tip or sinking line. Make sure you are familiar with the current regulations and that you know how to properly identify the shad you catch. Additionally,

when practicing catch and release, make sure you handle these fish with care by following our best practices for catch and release! As a reminder to all, below are the current

spring 2024 regulations for these species in Virginia's tidal rivers.

Alex McCrickard, Department of Wildlife Resources

Grant from page 1



PHOTO COURTESY OF CI, INC.

Christiansburg Institute, Inc. is in the process of digitally archiving photographs and documents related to the history of Christiansburg Industrial Institute and broader African American history in Southwest Virginia.

for 100 years," said Chris Sanchez, CI, Inc. Executive Director.

Jenny Nehrt, CI, Inc. Museum Curator, expressed enthusiasm for the grant as well.

"The Christiansburg Institute Museum & Archives (CIMA) is thrilled to expand digital access to the history of Christiansburg Institute and greater Black Appalachia through the Christiansburg Institute Digital Archives," she said. "The NEH's support affirms our commitment to inclusive community-based archives, ensuring underrepresented narratives are preserved and our collective history is understood more profoundly."

The NEH grant will support the digitization of 48,157 manuscript pages, photographs, books, and other objects of material culture that speak to over a century of African American history in Southwest Virginia. Digital images will be hosted on the Christiansburg Institute Digital Archive and on Virginia Tech's Southwest Virginia Digital Archive, creating online access to previously inaccessible materials. The databases will be created with community input and freely

accessible to the Christiansburg Institute community, educators, and scholars.

According to the Christiansburg Institute's website (christiansburginstitute.com), the Christiansburg Institute's Digital Archives is a public, searchable archive of digital materials related to the history of Christiansburg Industrial Institute and broader African American history in Southwest Virginia. The archive was originally made possible through a 2022 grant from the Council on Library and Information Resources. Items in the archive are sourced from Christiansburg Institute Museum and Archives and from community members who donated digital copies to the digital archive.

The National Endowment for the Humanities supports research and learning in history, literature, philosophy, and other areas of the humanities by funding selected, peer-reviewed proposals from around the nation.

Christiansburg Institute, Inc.

NRCC from page 1

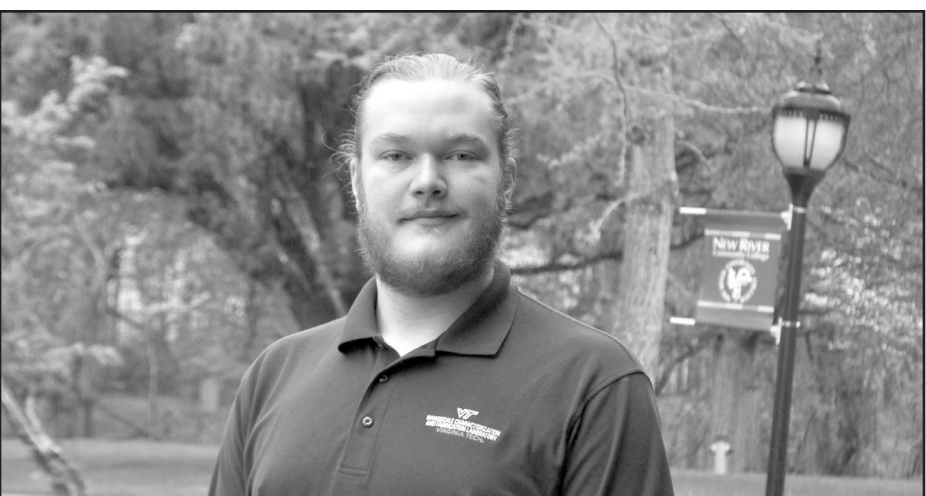


PHOTO COURTESY OF NRCC

talents beyond the classroom. Over 2,200 students from more than 1,300 college campuses nationwide were nominated. Only one New Century Workforce Scholar was selected from each state.

"We congratulate Reagan for receiving this prestigious scholarship, and we are honored to partner with The Coca-Cola Foundation to recognize these outstanding achievements," said Phi Theta Kappa's President and CEO, Dr. Lynn Tincher-Ladner. "Scholarship

programs like this are integral for creating opportunities for students to succeed as they prepare to enter the workforce and for putting college completion within reach."

The New Century Workforce Scholars will be recognized in the fall. Young will also be recognized at the All-Virginia Academic Team Luncheon in Richmond this month.

New River Community College

ADDYs from page 2

program or the quality of our students by winning awards," said Professor of Graphic Design Ken Smith.

"But it's good for them to know they're being judged in some fashion against their peers, not just at Radford but regionally. And when they do well, when they win anything, that's a positive reflection on both them and our program."

Brittiany Rorrer, who netted three awards this year, called the experience of going to the Addys "amazing." "You do all this work, all these projects over weeks and months and maybe even a year or so, and when you get to go to the Addys, you get to meet people in your field from Southwest Virginia, and you get to go up onstage ... it's the perfect accolade," Rorrer said.

The students who took gold and silver award wins are now eligible to compete at the District 3 level later this month. If selected there, they will advance to the national tier of the competition.

The judges also considered 134 professional entries from agencies and firms, and Highlanders had a strong presence in that section as well.

This year's winners included David Hodge '83, with Anstey-Hodge, and Peggy Underwood '88, with Pratt Industries. Michael Goodson '15, working with intern and Radford student winner Jenna Repass to create Virginia Tech Dining Services' Chili Challenge 2023 package, received this year's Howard Packett Award for Creative Excellence, which is the AFF Roanoke's Best in Show

prize. That campaign also won a gold Addy.

"It is immensely beneficial for our current students to witness alumni from our program achieving success in various career roles, whether as founders of agencies or as managers and directors of corporate design departments," Radford Assistant Professor of Graphic Design John O'Connor said after the event.

"Attending the ADDY awards ceremony allows student winners to interact with these accomplished professionals, fostering valuable networking opportunities that often lead to job placements and internships."

Neil Harvey for Radford University

Obituaries from page 5

Ellis, Rosemary Lynn

Rosemary Lynn Ellis, 61, died peacefully at UVA Medical Center Friday, April 12 surrounded with the love of her family after a three-year struggle with Long Covid and an undiagnosable lung disease.

She was preceded in death by her parents Howard "Sonny" Ellis and Sarah Jean Ellis. Rosemary lived in many places, including Delaware, Japan, Idaho, New Mexico, Utah, West Virginia and spent the last 20 years of her life in and around Blacksburg. Rosemary graduated with a BA in sociology from Concord University and obtained two Masters degrees, one in Counseling and Human Development from Radford University and the other in Sociology from Virginia Tech. She dedicated the last 11 years of her master's helping children heal from trauma, giving them a safe space to be seen, heard and loved via her work at the Women's Resource Center in Radford.

The things that Rosemary enjoyed the most included spending time with her wife, children, grandchildren and



sisters, her work with children, making people laugh with her delightful sense of humor, and creating art, particularly pottery, and photography. She and her wife enjoyed playing racquetball, hiking, going to music festivals, playing double solitaire, just being together and watching TV, and going to the beach.

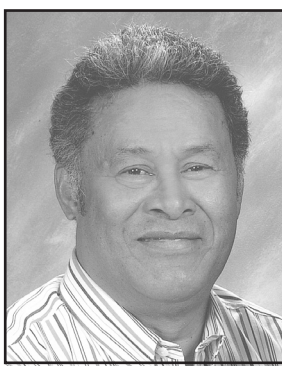
Rosemary is survived by her loving wife Melissa Howell, Rosemary's two children Jordan (Justin) Klein and Devin (Ranae) Coon; her grandchildren Makya, Merrick, Mya Lynn, Mayzie, Matylda and Quin; her sisters Lisa (Steve) Hart and Brenda (Marco) Walton and many nieces and nephews. She also leaves behind her much loved and adored child/dog Nika and her beloved Sisters in Sobriety. A Celebration of Life will be held later this summer in Blacksburg. In memory of Rosemary, please consider making a memorial donation to the Women's Resource Center, P.O. Box 477, Radford, Va (https://www.wrcnr.org/donate/).

Wells, Toto'a Petelo

Toto'a Petelo Wells, 76, of Dublin, passed away Sunday, April 14, 2024.

He was employed by Walmart. He was preceded in death by his parents, Sam and Tumuatasi Wells; daughter, Kathy Martin; brother, Jessie S. Wells, Luis S. Wells, Hans S. Wells, Paul S. Wells, and Jimmy S. Wells; and sisters, Margerete Wells-Talia and Katerina Sasaefaga Wells.

Survivors include his wife, Barbara Wells; sons, Hans Toto'a Wells, Jr., William Sam Wells, and Gwendolyn Wells; daughters, Joyce Wells and Yvonne Sa'ilau Wells; grandchildren, Terrance Ghoston (Sasha), Dominique Ghoston, Justin Ghoston (Emily), and



Shaunta Ghoston (Jaquil); nine great grandchildren; sister, Joyce Semi Wells; and many other relatives and friends.

The family will receive friends 2 - 3 p.m. Sunday, April 21, 2024, at Dublin UMC. Memorial services will follow at 3 p.m. with Rev. Don Shelor officiating.

In lieu of flowers, please consider donation to Dublin United Methodist Church to help defer the funeral expenses.

The family is in the care of the Mullins Funeral Home & Crematory in Radford. www.mullinsfuneralhome.com

Radford City Schools Destruction of Records Notice

Radford City Schools will be purging Special Education records for any former student who graduated during the 2018 - 2019 school year. According to the Records Retention and Disposition Schedule of the Library of Virginia, records may be destroyed five years after a student graduates, completes a Board of Education program, transfers or withdraws.

If you were a student who received Special Education services while enrolled in Radford City Schools and would like your records, please call Radford High School at 540-731-3649 by May 15, 2024. Records can be picked up by appointment with Teresa Phillips, Registrar, Radford High School, 50 Dalton Drive Radford, VA. Hours are Monday-Friday from 8:00am to 4:00pm.

RADFORD SPORTS

Radford U gains two through transfer portal

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Radford University will have at least two new faces for the 2024 basketball season, thanks to the transfer portal.

Head coach Darris Nichols has announced the addition of guard Jarvis Moss, formerly of Davidson and Stanford universities.

He is a 6'4", 200-pound guard hailing from Concord, N.C. and will join the Highlanders for the 2024-25 season following his last stint at Davidson College.

"We are thrilled to add Jarvis Moss to our Highlander family," said Nichols. "Jarvis is a high character, hardworking

individual who loves the game of basketball. He has a combination of shooting, playmaking, and athleticism at the guard position that will immediately impact our program."

Prior to Davidson, Moss was a member of Stanford's men's basketball team. There, he shot 42.9 percent from three-point range and scored a career-best 10 points vs. Green Bay. Additionally in that game, he collected 10 rebounds.

During his high school career at Cannon School (N.C.), Moss won back-to-back state



PHOTO COURTESY OF RU ATHLETICS

championships and broke the program record for 3-pointers made in a season and career.

When he arrives on campus, he'll be joined by fellow transfer Jonas Sirtautas, who will join the Highlanders for the 2024-25 season after redshirting last season at Wyoming still holding

four years of eligibility.

"Jonas is a versatile wing with tremendous athleticism," said Nichols. "His ability to play inside and out is exciting for our program. He comes from a great program in Lithuania where Zalgiris has done a great job developing talent."

Sirtautas, a native of Kaunas, Lithuania, stands at 6'10", 185 pounds and gives the Highlanders another athletic forward that can get the job done on both ends of the floor.

He spent time playing with the youth club under Zalgiris in Kaunas. He was also picked to

be a part of the NBA Academy last summer in the United States.

His father, Darius, played professionally in Lithuania from 1989 until 2005 when he announced his retirement. Additionally, his sister played basketball at Providence during the 2023-24 season.

Talented assistants added by new Hokie coach

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Virginia Tech's new women's basketball coach, Megan Duffy, continues to add to her staff with two talented assistants.

Ito Coleman was announced as the associate head coach of the program, while Sharnee Zoll-Norman is a new assistant coach.

Coleman, a veteran of the Atlantic Coast Conference, has coached at North Carolina since May 2021 and as a player at Clemson, Coleman was a three-time All-ACC selection and earned All-America honorable mention accolades. A member of the Clemson Athletic Hall of Fame, she led the Tigers to the 1999 ACC title and was named tournament MVP.

She will be responsible for recruiting, scouting, game planning, guard and post player development, and various external operations projects associated with Coach Duffy.

"I couldn't be more excited to welcome Ito Coleman to Virginia Tech," Duffy said. "She will bring an incredible amount of experience both on and off the court to our program. Ito is an elite level recruiter and teacher. Our student-athletes are going to thrive under her leadership. She brings great experience and knowledge of the ACC landscape to help continue our winning tradition."

In her three seasons in Chapel Hill, Coleman helped the Tar Heels to three NCAA appearances, including a Sweet Sixteen run in 2021-22. With Coleman on the sidelines, UNC went 67-31 (.683) and had a 35-19 (.648) record in ACC play.

Coleman has consistently helped her

program recruit at a high level, assisting the Tar Heels in inking the No. 18 signing class for the 2024 class. Carolina has regularly had athletes earn All-ACC and national recognition for their play.

Prior to her time at UNC, Coleman spent one season at Marquette with Coach Duffy in 2020-21. That year, the Golden Eagles finished second in the BIG EAST and concluded the season with a 19-7 record.

She also has served as an assistant coach at Penn State, Butler and Liberty, and coached at her alma mater, Clemson as both an assistant and head coach.

Coleman enjoyed a long professional career and played in the WNBA for the Indiana Fever and the Houston Comets. She was a member of Team USA in the Pan American Games and at the FIBA World Championships. Coleman played for the Nigerian National Team in the 2004 Summer Olympics in Athens and was captain of that team that gave Nigeria its first-ever Olympic victory.

She graduated from Clemson in 2000 with a degree in communications with her name etched in the Clemson record books with top-10 marks in scoring (1,409 points), assists (459) and steals (265). In 2008 Coleman was inducted into the Clemson Athletic Hall of Fame.

Zoll-Norman comes to Blacksburg after spending two seasons at State College on the Penn State staff. A veteran of the professional ranks, Zoll-Norman was drafted in the WNBA where she played for three seasons before continuing her pro career overseas.

"I am thrilled to welcome Sharnee and her family to Hokie Nation," Duffy said Thursday. "She is a rising star in our profession. Sharnee will bring an

incredible amount of knowledge to our players from her time in the WNBA and overseas. She will be a great mentor for our student-athletes. Sharnee has an energy about herself that will shine on the court, on the recruiting trail and in the Blacksburg community."

Working with the Lady Lions' backcourt, Zoll-Norman helped Makenna Marisa, Leilani Kapinus and Shay Ciezki rack up several accolades. Marisa repeated as Academic All-American Third Team and All-Big Ten First Team selections, becoming the third Lady Lion to earn Academic All-America distinction for two or more seasons and 12th to repeat as a first team selection in the league.

Kapinus was named an All-Big Ten Defensive Team selection and the only BIG player to be selected to the Naismith Women's Defensive Player of the Year Watch List, Kapinus finished eighth in the nation in steals (97) and was one of two players in the nation to be averaging at least 10 points, five rebounds, three steals and one block per game.

Ciezki was just one of two freshmen in the nation to average at least 2.0 three's per game with a 40.0 or better three-point percentage and finished second on the team in scoring (11.8 points per game).

"I have always dreamed of being back in the ACC competing against the best of the best," Zoll-Norman said. "I am beyond grateful to Virginia Tech Athletics and to Coach Duffy for allowing that dream to come to fruition. Coach Duffy is a proven winner, phenomenal leader, and an amazing human. My family and I are excited for the opportunity to be a part

of the winning tradition with Hokie Nation."

Before Penn State, Zoll-Norman spent three years as an assistant coach at Rhode Island. Over her three seasons, Rhode Island had eight All-Atlantic 10 selections, including three first team honorees.

She served on the Rams' staff after concluding a 14-year professional career, including three seasons in the WNBA.

Prior to Rhode Island, Zoll-Norman spent two seasons as an assistant with the Philadelphia Belles AAU program, helping the team with scouting reports, practice plans, player development and recruiting.

Zoll-Norman was the 29th overall pick in the 2008 WNBA Draft by the Los Angeles Sparks. She also spent time with the Minnesota Lynx.

She most recently played with InvestInTheWest AZS Gorzow in Poland. She led the team to a Top 16 finish in the EuroCup and second in the EuroLeague. She was the 2018 EuroCup Guard of the Year and was a five-time Eurobasket All-Polish First Team honoree. In 2017, she led the team to its first Polish League Championship in 30 years and was named both regular season and postseason MVP.

Zoll-Norman graduated from Virginia in 2008. As a Cavalier, Zoll-Norman was a 1,000-point scorer and started every game of her career. She's the only woman in ACC history to record at least 200 assists in three straight seasons and broke Virginia and ACC records with 785 assists, both previously held by Dawn Staley. She won a gold medal as a member of the Team USA U19 team in 2005.

Weekly reports: Floyd beats Radford in slugfest

The Radford High School softball team fell 9-5 to the Floyd County Lady Buffs on Tuesday despite out hitting the Lady Buffs 12 to 8. Kaydence Rollins homered and Addie Saunders, Kathryn Price, Ella Cox and Olivia Radford each collected two hits for the Radford Bobcats. Rollins and Price each drove in two runs. Quinn Burton was the losing pitcher going six innings and striking out six.

Christiansburg over Radford in baseball

Christiansburg scored five runs on four hits in the bottom of the sixth inning to pull out a 14-16 2in over Radford this past week. Jeremiah Thompson hit a solo home run, while Ethon Wayman tripled and scored to runs.

Christiansburg amassed 13 hits in the game. Gavin Dow was 3-for-5 at the plate with two doubles.

Blake Farmer, Johnathan Flinchum, Mason Murphy and Micah Ray, each had hits for Radford. Flinchum and Tanner Rodgers stole multiple bases in the game as the Bobcats tallied seven total steals.

Blacksburg girls down Hidden Valley

The Blacksburg Girls Soccer team

defeated Hidden Valley 2-0 this past week at Bill Brown Stadium. Scoring for Blacksburg was senior Amalia Moore and sophomore Addison McSorley.

Blacksburg improves to 7-0-2, 3-0-2 and Hidden Valley dropped to 5-4, 1-4.

Fagan ACC player of week

Virginia Tech second baseman Cameron Fagan has been named the ACC Player of the Week, the league announced Tuesday morning. The senior earned the award for the second time this year after leading the offense with a .667 batting average.

Fagan tallied six hits and seven RBIs against Boston College. She produced at least two RBIs in every game of the series, including home runs in games one and two. In the series finale, Fagan hit a two RBI single to bring Tech from behind in the fifth inning.

At the plate, Fagan is third on the team with 50 hits and fourth with a .379 batting average. The second baseman continues to be a standout on defense with a .990 fielding percentage.

Staff report



PHOTO COURTESY OF VT ATHLETICS

Former Christiansburg High School pitcher Brady Kirtner picked up this week's win for Virginia Tech in a contest against NRV-rival Radford University.

No. 23 VT takes down RU

Leading from wire to wire on Tuesday night, the No. 23 Virginia Tech baseball team returned to prime form on both sides of the ball as the Hokies downed Radford, 7-1, at English Field at Atlantic Union Bank Park.

Sixth-year outfielder Chris Cannizzaro batted 3-for-4 with a double and a two-run home run, leading Tech with three RBIs - his best total since March 24 at Boston College. Christian Martin and Ben Watson chalked two hits apiece from the top of the Hokies' lineup with Watson scoring on Cannizzaro's eighth home run of the season.

Virginia Tech (24-10) kept marching forward throughout the night against Radford (10-23), staking the 3-0 lead

after three innings of play before doubling its advantage to 6-0 by the end of the fifth inning. The Hokies - who

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RADFORD SPORTS

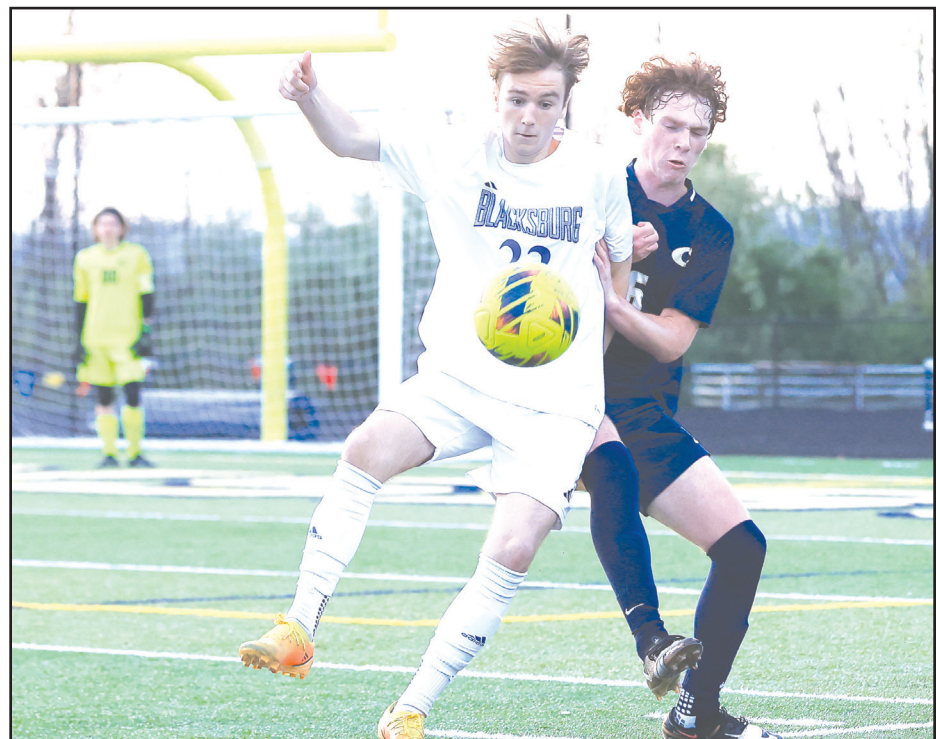
Blacksburg boys shut out Christiansburg



Craig Huxtable (left) and Nic Litos (right) simultaneously boot the ball during Tuesday night's Battle of the Burgs. Blacksburg is now 8-0 on the season, while Christiansburg falls to 4-3.



Christiansburg Goalkeeper Joseph Baines makes one of his many saves of the game. He would finish with seven on the night.



Ty Hannah (left) and Hayden Yopp (right) battle for ball possession near the sideline.

PHOTOS BY KYMN DAVIDSON-HAMLEY

VT Student-Athlete Development hosts Beyond VT event

Virginia Tech Student-Athlete Development recently held its annual Beyond VT event inside Lane Stadium, allowing Hokie student-athletes an opportunity to celebrate, reflect and network with former student-athletes and professionals as they begin to prepare for life after Virginia Tech and after athletics. This year, the student-athlete attendees at Beyond VT heard from a group of alumni during a panel Q&A session, participated in "speed networking" with alumni and professionals, and visited resource stations hosted by various campus and community members, who shared tips and tricks on how to leverage and market student-athlete skills and experiences.

"Virginia Tech's there for you when you're [an athlete], but they're really there for you once your playing days are over," football student-athlete Griffin Duggan said following the event. "There are so many people here to help you. You can't play that sport forever and they really

want you to make sure you're going to be fully ready to step into that business world once your playing days are done."

"Having resources like this is special and I think it makes Virginia Tech Athletics different from everybody else," women's soccer's Allie George said. "I think it's really cool to be able to talk to people that were in our shoes before and people that have been through these experiences."

"I think getting their advice and kind of their perspective on things that I'm going through right now is really beneficial as I take my next steps for the future."

After participating in the panel and networking discussions, the student-athletes had the chance to learn about a variety of resources, including topics like elevator pitches, professional dress, writing a resume and LinkedIn best practices, and opportunities to get professional headshots.

The event caps off a year of Student-

Athlete Development events that included annual programs such as Beyond VT, Career Jumpstart, and THRIVE Rookie Training Camp, while it also featured new events, such as the Elevate Her women's leadership event and a variety of diversity, equity, and inclusion education in partnership with SAAC and the Athletics Diversity & Inclusion Council.

"There's an investment in the well-being of our athletes beyond their time here," former men's basketball student-athlete and event panelist Greg Donlon said. "I think it's pretty special to be able to leave a place like this. It's not an easy transition."

"I don't think that there's a whole lot that any individual student can do to prepare themselves for it, so having events like this where people that have lived it and done it and are now on that next step of life can come back and kind of share their wisdom on it all. I think that's incredibly valuable."

The event kicked off with the panel

sharing some opening remarks to the entirety of the group. Following the conclusion of the discussion, the student-athletes dispersed into breakout groups with at least one former student-athlete/professional still there to lead the way.

It was an exciting night for current and former Hokie student-athletes to make connections with each other and learn from their experiences. Most student-athletes were able to garner plenty of takeaways, but there's a specific one that was mentioned the most.

"I think that you're not always going to know what your next step is and that's completely ok," George said. "You have so many aspects that are going to set you up for your future and just continuing to do the things that you're good at is what's going to drive you to success."

Virginia Tech Athletics

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defeated the Highlanders, 14-4, in nearby Radford on Feb. 27 – had a shutout brewing until the ninth inning when Zack Whitacre broke through with a solo home run hit off Wyatt Parliament.

Six Virginia Tech pitchers combined to rack up 10 strikeouts while holding Radford to four hits, including two hits through the game's first six innings. Right-hand reliever Grant Manning blanked the Highlanders during the fifth, sixth and seventh innings, picking up nine outs from 11

batters faced while recording three strikeouts.

Christiansburg alum Brady Kirtner improved to 5-0 upon earning the victory for his scoreless inning of relief while David Shoemaker and Matthew Siverling also contributed to the Hokies' shutout bid.

Game notes:
Zack Whitacre recorded his sixth home run of the season for Radford. This home run will place him in a tie for the second most on the Radford roster with

Hunter Keen who also has six on the season. The home run is also just one shy of Whitacre's season high.

Whitacre's home run will also make it his 21st RBI of the season putting him in a tie for fourth with Cameron Pittman in the category.

Staff report