

News Journal

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Final city budget vote set for tomorrow, April 25

Heather Bell
Editor

RADFORD – The Radford City Council is set to take the second of two required votes on the city’s budget, tax rates and some utility rates tomorrow, Thursday, April 25 at 6 p.m.

During a meeting Tuesday, April 16, during which council passed the budget and tax rates on first reading, Radford City Manager David Ridpath gave a presentation about the budget and offered some comparisons of Radford’s rates as compared to the surrounding localities.

Radford’s new real estate tax rate is set to be 69-cents per \$100 valuation of a property. For comparison, Montgomery County’s rate is 75-cents, Pulaski County’s is 74-cents, the Town of Christiansburg’s is 89-cents, the Town of Blacksburg’s is \$1.01, and the Town of Pulaski is \$1.10. The town rates are the total rate residents pay when

the county rate and town rates are added together.

“Radford is still the lowest tax rate compared to the other localities in the New River Valley,” said Ridpath.

Prior to the reassessment of properties completed earlier this year, Radford’s real estate tax rate was 84-cents. However, localities are required to adjust the rate to provide level revenue. Radford’s rate became 64-cents to provide for level revenue, and the new rate is set to become 69-cents once the final vote is taken.

Radford also has the lowest rates for water and wastewater (sewer) in the area. Radford’s new rate is \$16.24 per 2,000 gallons for sewer, which is up \$2 from last year. Blacksburg’s rate per 2,000 gallons is \$27.12, Christiansburg’s is \$20.50 and Pulaski County’s is \$33.34. Radford’s water rate per 4,000 gallons used is \$20.32. It is the same as last year’s rate. Blacksburg’s is \$31.64, Christiansburg’s is \$48.00 and Pulaski County’s is \$38.03.

Radford’s electric rates are also set to increase. The

average electric bill under the new rates is set to be \$167.33 a month. Customers of AEP, which provides power for Montgomery and Pulaski counties, have an average \$171.99 monthly bill. The reason for Radford’s increase is a sizable increase in the cost of wholesale power. Radford purchases 96 percent of its power from AEP and gets four percent of its power from the city-owned Little River Dam. Radford’s wholesale power cost from AEP was \$12,424,346 in fiscal year 2020, \$16,560,942 in fiscal year 2024 and will be \$20,026,219 in fiscal year 2025, a 21 percent increase over FY 2024.

Thursday meeting is scheduled for 6 p.m. in city council chambers, 10 Robertson St., Radford. 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 and Solid waste fund: \$1,688,841.

RAAP modernizing facility for U.S. Army requirements

RADFORD - BAE Systems Ordnance Systems Inc. is modernizing an existing production building at the Radford Army Ammunition Plant to better meet the needs of the U.S. defense industry.

BAE Systems has chosen Hanwha Defense USA (HDUSA), the U.S. defense subsidiary of Hanwha Aerospace in South Korea, to complete the modernization project. Company officials said the project will further cement RAAP as an important manufacturer for the U.S. Army.

“BAE Systems is fully committed to modernizing the Radford Army Ammunition Plant and furthering its support of the U.S. Army’s requirements,” said John Swift,

vice president and general manager of BAE Systems Ordnance Systems Inc. “We are excited to collaborate with Hanwha Defense USA, as they will use their proven expertise to help us integrate advanced chemical processing capabilities into a manufacturing environment.”

“Modernization of World War II-era facilities is important for national security,” according to BAE Systems. “As BAE Systems continues to deliver vital capabilities to the warfighter, the focus on improving the safety of the process remains. BAE Systems’ legacy of modernizing while manufacturing, supported by HDUSA’s past experience in energetics facilities, will result in a state-of-the-art process to

manufacture propellants.”

“The upgrade is based on technology and experience that Hanwha has already completed in their Korean energetics facilities,” said John Kelly, president and CEO of HDUSA. “We look forward to implementing this upgrade at Radford and expanding our modernization collaboration with BAE Systems and the Army.”

BAE Systems OSI has been the operating contractor of the Radford Army Ammunition Plant since 2012, and in December 2023, received the contract to continue operating the Holston Army Ammunition Plant in Kingsport, Tenn. through 2035.

Staff report



The Radford Rotary Club made excellent progress on the Field of Honor in front of the Glencoe Museum on April 14-15, and the display will be ready by Memorial Day.



PHOTOS BY MARY ALICE BARKSDALE

Radford Noon Rotary members Frank Herzog and Tom Alston work on the Field of Honor in front of Glencoe Mansion.

Rotary Club Field of Honor display coming together at Glencoe

Heather Bell
Editor

RADFORD – The Radford Noon Rotary Club’s Field of Honor display is being installed on the grounds of Glencoe Mansion and there is just a week left to purchase a flag to be part of the it.

The deadline to purchase a flag from the club is Wednesday, May 1. The project is to honor veterans, first responders and others and will also raise funds for scholarships and other Rotary efforts.

The Field of Honor will be displayed until the Fourth of July.

“You can sponsor a flag to display at Glencoe Mansion to honor a veteran, first responder, family member, teacher, an associate, or anyone else who has impacted your life,” the club announced.

Individual flags are \$50. Corporate Sponsorship is: Bronze - \$250; Silver - \$500; Gold - \$1000; and Platinum - \$2500. Flags will be on display at Glencoe

Mansion from Memorial Day to the Fourth of July.

Club President Jim Mitchell said the display allows people to “show respect and appreciation for those people that have meant so much to them in their lives.”

Money raised through the project will benefit scholarships to Radford High School students attending Radford University, and other Rotary initiatives, including polio eradication, Rotary Youth Leadership Awards, Glencoe Mansion, Museum and Gallery, Radford-Fairlawn Daily Bread, Elf Shelf, the Women’s Resource Center, Sleep in Heavenly Peace, Vittles for Vets, Beans and Rice, the Wheelchair Foundation, Wonder Universe Children’s Museum, Shelterbox and Sunset Garden.

All flags are made in the USA. For further questions, and to register, contact rotary.club.of.radford.noon@gmail.com.

Radford Farmers Market 2024 season underway



Radford Farmers Market vendor Gabriella the Garden Sage has a wealth of native plants for sale.



PHOTOS BY ETHAN BELL

Glencoe Mansion provides a picturesque backdrop to the Radford Farmers Market, which has grown a lot since last year.

Heather Bell
Editor

RADFORD – The Radford Farmers Market’s 2024 season started off in fine fashion this past Saturday, with great weather and an impressive number of vendors.

The market has grown a lot since last year, with about 40 vendors now. In addition to produce, baked goods, fresh meat and eggs, vegetable and decorative plants, jams and honey, and the like, there is also hot food (empanadas!), coffee drinks, lemonades and iced teas for sale.

“We also have amazing local crafters and artisans with plenty of one of kind gifts, or even something for yourself,” market organizers announced. “Candles, unique natural body products, leather items, teas, keychains, shirts, and so much more!”

The market happens every Saturday, 9 a.m. – 1 p.m. on the grounds of Glencoe Mansion at 600 Unruh Dr., rain or shine. The list of vendors includes:

- Trillium Candle Co.
- Hippy Chix at Fortuna Farms
- Squeeze’em and Shake’em Refreshment
- Foggy Fork Farm LLC
- JBR Vineyards LLC
- Living Micros
- Mountain View Farm
- Mountain Laurel Farm
- Jama Gift Baskets
- Empanadas Meraki
- Radford Coffee Company
- Gabriella the Garden Sage
- Old Bay Farms
- LENS Crafts
- S-N-S Stitching
- Camelot Gardens
- Alpen Glow Farms
- Country Girl Flower

- Primitive Farms
- Red Fern Farm
- Grains and Goodies
- Porky Pastures
- Jesse’s Dough
- Atypical Botanicals
- Smith Alpine Farm
- Lil’ Bit Corny, LLC.
- Cavalier Farm, owned and operated by Teresa and Bruce Caldwell
- Martin Craft and Design
- Naturally Green by Dora
- Your Flow
- NRV Dyeworks
- MyGroovyartshop
- Bolgiano Family Farm
- 2 Old Crows Crafting
- Soledad Design Co.
- Vela’s Hand Crafted Custom Designs
- That’s so Roxi
- Elsie’s Eatz
- The Whole You

UPCOMING EVENTS

Thursday, April 25:

Route 460 Business Corridor Bicycle, Pedestrian and Transit Study open house

The New River Valley Metropolitan Planning Organization is seeking input for the Route 460 Business Corridor Bicycle, Pedestrian, and Transit Study. The study will look at the segment of the corridor, from Industrial Park Road in Blacksburg to the Uptown Christiansburg Mall, for bicycle, pedestrian, and transit improvements. Members of the public are invited to attend an open house public meeting, 4 p.m. – 6 p.m. to learn about the progress of the study and potential safety improvements. Those attending the meeting are encouraged to bring their written comments on the study. The meeting will be held at the Uptown Christiansburg location of New River Community College, Room 149. Comments are also accepted via email to 460study@rkk.com. Please reference "460 Study PH Comments" in the subject line.

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.

Sunday, May 5:

Blacksburg Community Strings concert

Blacksburg Community Strings presents their Spring 2024 Concert, 2 p.m. at the Warm Hearth Village Center, Blacksburg. The program includes Antonin Dvorak's Symphony No. 9 "From The New World" as well as Appalachian Morning by Robert Sheldon and Prairiesong by Carl Strommen. Come and hear music that reflects the land and cultures of America. Admission is free, donations are accepted and appreciated.

Monday, May 13:

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, May 14:

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.

On-going:

Route 460 Business Corridor Bicycle, Pedestrian and Transit Study

The New River Valley Metropolitan Planning Organization is seeking input for the Route 460 Business Corridor Bicycle, Pedestrian, and Transit Study. The study will look at the segment of the corridor, from Industrial Park Road in Blacksburg to the Uptown Christiansburg Mall, for bicycle, pedestrian, and transit improvements. Materials are posted online at www.newrivervalleympo.org and will be available for comment until May 9 at 5 p.m.

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.

For Virginia, Less-Mow April is better than No Mow May, Virginia Cooperative Extension recommends



PHOTO BY DEVON JOHNSON FOR VIRGINIA TECH

Dandelions provide good spring forage for pollinators.

Each May, millions of people preserve the blooming dandelions and clover in their lawns by leaving their lawn mowers idle — a practice called No Mow May.

"The idea is that you are leaving the early flowering dandelion and clover to provide some forage for the earliest pollinating insects," said Mike Goatley, Extension turf specialist and associate professor of crop and soil environmental sciences in Virginia Tech's College of Agriculture and Life Sciences.

"No Mow May has become widespread in the last few years, but May is really too late in Virginia. The clover and dandelion begin flowering in April, and that's when you're really getting the value in not mowing," said Goatley.

It is not just "no-mow" that can help insects, said Shawn Askew, Extension specialist in turfgrass weed science and associate professor in the College of Agriculture and Life Sciences. Mowing less frequently also helps ensure pollinators have a supply of clover and dandelion. Cutting back clover and dandelion plants may even encourage the plants to produce more blooms.

According to Askew, think of it as "less-mow" April. He recommends these practices:

Reduce mowing instead of not mowing.

Raise the mower height to increase bloom density.

Only mow part of the yard each time you mow so that food is always available somewhere on the property.

Are lawns really that important for pollinators?

According to Margaret Couvillon, assistant professor of entomology in Virginia Tech's College of Agriculture and Life Sciences, laws are important for pollinators.

"Because those March and April flowering weeds — the dandelions and clover — are important early sources of food for flower-visiting insects, leaving them uncut in your yard will help feed hungry bees," said Couvillon.

Recent studies on urban bees suggest that in addition to specialized pollinator gardens, yards with spontaneous lawn flowers also support bees and are important part of the urban pollinator ecosystem. For example, a 2014 study documented 25 pollinator species visiting white clover and 21 species visiting common dandelion.

Leaving grass long also provides necessary habitat for insects.

"The longer you can delay the mow, the better. We know from studies in Europe that delaying that first cut by eight weeks can significantly increase the diversity and abundance of insects in an

area in subsequent years because early emerging insects can mate and lay eggs before their habitat is destroyed."

Be careful when you mow long grass. According to Goatley, avoiding the lawnmower in spring when grass is just starting to grow might have benefits for your turf as well. Leaving the grass a little longer during this time can help the plant direct energy to establishing a strong root system.

When you're ready to mow again, just be sure not to cut tall grass down to very short all in one mowing, a practice known as "scalping" your lawn. Removing more than one-third of the length of the grass in one mowing is very damaging to the plant.

"If you have let your grass get pretty long, you might be tempted to take it all the way down with your mower on the shortest setting, for example taking the grass from 6 inches down to 2 inches," said Goatley. "This is exactly the opposite of what you want to do right before the heat of summer begins to stress your lawn."

Instead, remove height gradually by setting your mower to consecutively lower settings over several days. Follow the rule of thirds: never remove more than one-third of the length at a time.

Goatley cautions Virginians with warm-season lawns — for example, bermudagrass or zoysiagrass — to be especially careful if participating in Less-Mow April.

"Warm season grass can really get away from you," said Goatley. "If you let your warm season lawn get to 5 or 6 inches, it's going to be hard to even get the mower through it when you're ready to mow."

In addition to avoiding the lawnmower in spring, gardeners can also help pollinators by choosing landscape plants with wildlife benefits. For more information on habitat gardening, check the Virginia Cooperative Extension publication "For the For the Birds, Butterflies, and Hummingbirds: Creating Inviting Habitats."

"If you choose ornamental plants wisely, you'll be able to attract an abundant, diverse population of insect pollinators," said Couvillon.

For help with your lawn, contact your local Extension Master Gardeners. Extension Master Gardeners are trained volunteer educators who bring the resources of Virginia's land-grant universities to the people of the commonwealth. Visit the Extension Master Gardener Program website for more information or to become an Extension Master Gardener.

Tom Soladay for Virginia Tech

PETS OF THE WEEK

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

Sweet pup, Canva, is ready for her furever home. She can be a little skittish, so patient humans that will help boost her confidence are ideal for her. When Canva feels comfortable, look out for zoomies!



Need some bunny to love? Buggs may be pawfect for you! He's more gentle bunny than rascally rabbit. Buggs enjoys cuddles and being held! Stop by the Animal Care and Adoption Center to meet him.

Gas prices up slightly in the last week

Average gasoline prices in Virginia have risen 2.2 cents per gallon in the last week, averaging \$3.52/g today, according to GasBuddy's survey of 4,081 stations in Virginia. Prices in Virginia are 7.0 cents per gallon higher than a month ago and stand 3.7 cents per gallon higher than a year ago. The national average price of diesel has decreased 0.4 cents in the last week and stands at \$4.01 per gallon.

According to GasBuddy price reports, the cheapest station in Virginia was priced at \$3.14/g yesterday while the most expensive was \$4.59/g, a difference of \$1.45/g. The lowest price in the state yesterday was \$3.14/g while the highest was \$4.59/g, a difference of \$1.45/g.

The national average price of gasoline has risen 4.3 cents per gallon in the last week, averaging \$3.64/g today. The national average is up 10.8 cents per gallon from a month ago and stands 1.1 cents per gallon lower than a year ago, according to GasBuddy data compiled from more than 11 million weekly price reports covering over 150,000 gas stations across the country.

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

April 22, 2023: \$3.48/g (U.S. Average: \$3.66/g)

April 22, 2022: \$3.96/g (U.S. Average: \$4.11/g)

April 22, 2021: \$2.72/g (U.S. Average: \$2.88/g)

April 22, 2020: \$1.72/g (U.S. Average: \$1.77/g)

April 22, 2019: \$2.60/g (U.S. Average: \$2.85/g)

April 22, 2018: \$2.57/g (U.S. Average: \$2.75/g)

April 22, 2017: \$2.23/g (U.S. Average: \$2.42/g)

April 22, 2016: \$1.94/g (U.S. Average: \$2.13/g)

April 22, 2015: \$2.29/g (U.S. Average: \$2.48/g)

April 22, 2014: \$3.50/g (U.S. Average: \$3.66/g)

Neighboring areas and their current gas prices:

Roanoke- \$3.39/g, down 2.0 cents per gallon from last week's \$3.41/g.

Richmond- \$3.53/g, down 1.7 cents per gallon from last week's \$3.55/g.

West Virginia- \$3.58/g, up 4.2 cents per gallon from last week's \$3.54/g.

"As the nationwide changeover to summer gasoline is now behind us, at least one of the three factors that had been actively causing prices to rise in the last couple of months is behind us. However, it may take time for the largest pain point to be over: refinery maintenance. The next few weeks should see many refineries wrapping up their work and gasoline output should rise, putting downward pressure on gasoline prices soon," said Patrick De Haan, head of petroleum analysis at GasBuddy.

"While Israel's retribution on Iran was somewhat surprising, it was also measured, with Iran virtually not even mentioning it publicly. As such, the price of oil has moved slightly lower, following the de-escalation that now appears to be taking place. I'm hopeful with reduced concern in the Middle East and an end to the seasonal factors pushing prices up that Americans will soon see relief."

GasBuddy



PHOTO COURTESY OF MFRL

Blacksburg Library will be holding its first ever Kitchen Supply Swap this, Saturday, April 27 from 1- 3 p.m.

Free community Kitchen Supply Swap this Saturday

Blacksburg Library will be holding its first ever Kitchen Supply Swap this, Saturday, April 27 from 1- 3 p.m.

This free event is open to everyone in the community who has kitchen supplies, dishes, pots and pans, utensils, baking dishes, gadgets, and thingamabobs to donate, as well as those who need such items. The goal of the community swap is to encourage people to reduce waste and save money by exchanging their gently-used kitchen supplies and items with others.

To participate in the community swap, attendees are encouraged to bring their gently-used kitchen supplies to the library the week prior or on the day of the event. All donated items must be clean, useable, and in good condition. Once at the swap, attendees can browse the available items and take what they need for free.

"We want to make this event as accessible as possible," said Kerri Copus, Library Program Coordinator. "No one should have to go without basic supplies, and we hope this event will help fill that need for our community. This serves to provide a space to meet up, give away items you may no longer need, and find items that need a new home - all while participating in sustainable living!"

Any leftover items will be donated to the Montgomery County Emergency Assistance Program (MCEAP).

Please plan to join the free fun at the Blacksburg Library at 200 Miller Street, on Saturday, April 27!

For more information, contact Kerri Copus, Library Program Coordinator, at (540) 382-6969 ext. 215, or email at kcopus@mfrrl.org

Montgomery-Floyd Regional Library

AARP Virginia fraud alert: Social Security scams

One of the most popular ways for criminals to steal money and sensitive information is by impersonating a trusted source — often a government agency. According to the Federal Trade Commission, victims of government impostor scams reported theft of nearly \$617 million in 2023.

A frequently impersonated agency is the Social Security Administration. Here's what you need to know to spot and stop a Social Security impostor scam.

Criminals rely on getting their target into a heightened emotional state, such as fear, panic or excitement. They know high emotions can block access to logical thinking. Social Security impostors tend to use fear (your number has

been suspended, call immediately) or excitement (you are eligible for a higher monthly benefit).

If you get a call claiming to be from Social Security and you are not already engaged with them on a specific matter, hang up. Concerned? Look up the number to your local office at ssa.gov/locator and find out if the agency has been trying to reach you.

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

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

AARP Virginia

OBITUARIES

Matthews, Victor Leneal

Victor Leneal Matthews, 71, of Radford, passed away in the early morning hours April 9, 2024 at Lewis-Gale Montgomery Hospital after a brief illness.

Vic, as he was often called, was born Oct. 6, 1952 in Radford to Irma Jean Matthews Tinner and the late William Robert Matthews. After Vic graduated from Dublin High School in 1971, he studied at New River Community College and later at the Pistis School of Ministry through Faith4life Church located in Round Rock, Texas. He also completed ministerial training in 2021 through the Church of God in Christ and became an ordained Elder at Radford COGIC.

In 2004, Vic married Shannon Free in Round Rock, Texas. Vic and Shannon went on to have one child, Zakk who is



dearly loved.

In 2016 Vic retired from the security industry and spent his time as an entrepreneur, ministering, fishing and golfing with his son, and enjoying family cookouts at Claytor Lake.

Vic was preceded in death by his father William Robert Matthews; sister Bryce Matthews; grandmother Ossie Steger; stepfather Warren Tinner; and father-in-law Glenn Free. He is survived by his wife of 25 years, Shannon and their son, Zakk,

of Radford; daughter Ayanna Matthews of Powder Springs, Ga.; mother Irma Jean Tinner of Radford; grandchildren London (Jasmine) Matthews and Zicari Matthews of Atlanta, Ga.; brother William (Felicia) Matthews III of Austin, Texas; brother Dean (Kim) Matthews of Fairlawn; sisters-in-law Tracy (Rod) LaVelle of Vail, Arizona and Natasha (Isaac) Hall of Cedar Park, Texas; special nieces and nephews Mia, Will, Nadine, Hailey, McKinley, Garrett, and Quaid; and a host of cousins, family members and close friends.

A memorial service will be held at noon Saturday, April 27, 2024 at the Radford Church of God in Christ located at 206 Russell Ave., Radford.

Repast will be immediately following the service at the Church Fellowship Hall.

Shrewsbury, Norman

Norman Shrewsbury, 86, of Christiansburg, died Saturday, April 20, 2024, at his home.

He was born in Mullens, W.Va., on Oct. 14, 1937, to the late James Edward and Dolly Meadows Shrewsbury. He was also preceded in death by his wife of 64 years, Juanita Lee Shrewsbury, and a son, Norman Dewayne Shrewsbury. He was a member of Oak Grove Church.

He is survived by his



son, Paul Shrewsbury (Donna); grandson, Paul Shrewsbury, Jr. (Jackie);

granddaughters Ann Work (Don) and Jessica Douthitt (Jason); great-grandchildren Dakota Bower, Dewayne and Hunter Shrewsbury, and Sadie and Haley Crutchfield; brother, Wyman; and sister, Dorothy.

A graveside service will be conducted Wednesday, April 24, 2024, at 2 p.m. in the Sunset Cemetery with Pastor David Neal officiating.

Send community news and photos to communitynews@ourvalley.org

CROSSWORD PUZZLE

Grid for crossword puzzle with numbered squares from 1 to 61.

- CLUES ACROSS: 1. North American people, 6. Chinese surname, 10. Fit in at the last minute, 14. "Very" in musical terminology, 15. Underwater displays, 17. Crosby's bandmates, 19. Belong to he, 20. Informed about the latest trends (archaic), 21. Sequences of alternating turns, 22. Genus of grasses, 23. Satisfy, 24. Petty quarrel, 26. Made level, 29. Ruler of Iran, 31. Historical region of Syria, 32. Food suitable for babies, 34. Something to lend, 35. Zone of oceanic trenches, 37. Philippine island, 38. Domesticated animal, 39. Plant of the lily family, 40. Bluish green, 41. Tomei, actress, 43. Without (French), 45. Lilly and Manning are two, 46. Apply pressure to, 47. Divide in half, 49. Bad deed, 50. Don't know when yet, 53. Hollywood's greatest honor, 57. Aiming to exhort, 58. Faked, 59. A way to pierce, 60. Midway between north-east and east, 61. Points, CLUES DOWN: 1. Chop up, 2. Spumante (Italian wine), 3. Egyptian goddess, 4. Split pulses, 5. Afflict, 6. Type of area rug, 7. Tide, 8. Affirmative, 9. Sudden change, 10. One picked, 11. Debauched man, 12. Stiff bristles, 13. Famous arena, 16. Established rules and methods, 18. Injection, 22. Father, 23. Protein-rich liquids, 24. He delivers gifts, 25. Advanced degree, 27. Fencing swords, 28. Chinese mountain range (abbr.), 29. Shaft horsepower (abbr.), 30. Precursor to hemoglobin, 31. Much about nothing, 33. Compound fabric (abbr.), 35. A way to act slowly on, 36. Ottoman military commanders, 37. Popular kids' network, 39. Hard compound, 42. Sympathize with, 43. Northeast college, 44. Blood group, 46. Frosted, 47. Turn away, 48. Benefit, 49. Dry or withered, 50. Bangladeshi monetary unit, 51. Reproduced, 52. Contributes, 53. Thrust horse power (abbr.), 54. Wear, 55. Promotes retention of water (abbr.), 56. Very small

Advertisement for Radford News Journal featuring a picture of a hat and boots, and subscription information: Digital Only (\$29.00), Digital & Print (\$72.00), Print Only (\$46.00 Radford, \$55.00 Virginia, \$59.00 Out of State). Includes a subscription form with fields for Name, Address, City, State, Zip, and Telephone.

OPINION

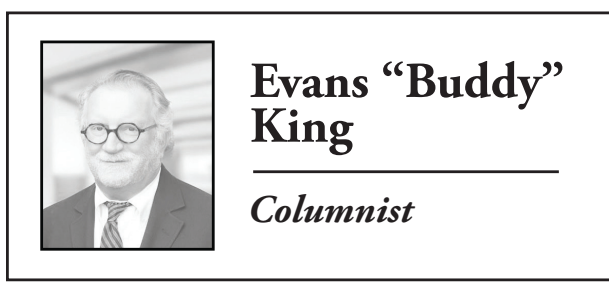
My favorite men of the cloth and the lessons they taught along the way

I am writing this column during Easter week while taking a short holiday, so I thought it might be fun to do a piece on my favorite “men of the cloth”. I have done lists of my favorite restaurants and athletes and bars, so why not take a slightly irreverent look at the most reverent of my friends? While most of my readers will not know my subjects, I hope this writing stirs some personal memories or provides a little insight into some interesting and important people in my life. These wonderful folks are listed in no particular order.

Rev. Ira Astin. The minister at St. Paul Methodist in Christiansburg during my early childhood and great friend of my dad. In fact, my dad hired him and retained him during his tenure at our church, serving as chair of the Board of Stewards in those days. My dad also served as chair of the building committee for the new church building on West Main where St. Paul moved in 1962 while Ira was pastor, the two of them working closely to complete that beautiful structure that celebrated its 60th anniversary a couple of years ago.

My main memory of Rev. Astin is that, while he had a priestly, holy appearance in the pulpit, he also had a warm and kindly and gentle nature and made me feel like I was not destined for eternal damnation like my Baptist friends felt they were when they left their church. He seemed jovial and welcoming, in stark contrast to the minister my Presbyterian friends sat in front of on Sunday mornings, those kids no doubt leaving church in dark funks feeling they had no control of their own fates. I jest, at least a little.

Other memories of Rev. Astin are that he and his wife came to Sunday dinner at our house after church about once a month, delaying my attention to the Redskins or Colts or the baseball game of the week, depending



Evans “Buddy” King

Columnist

on the season, to my impatient chagrin, and that my dad had a habit of quoting Rev. Astin when making decisions. My dad rarely lacked for the ability to make his own decisions and rarely trusted others’ judgment more than his own, but Ira was the exception. For example, if sitting at an intersection waiting for traffic to slow so he could pull out, my dad would say, “Rev. Astin always says, ‘wait, there’ll be a lull,’” or “Rev. Astin says, ‘you’ll never go wrong going with your first instinct.’” In my memory, Ira had a kindly, Buddha-like quality that endeared him to those whose lives he touched.

Rev. Dale Waters. Bridgeport United Methodist for many years, the “Ira Astin” of my adult life. He was the first minister I met after moving to West Virginia, both immensely human and highly spiritual, a warm and comforting friend to all. I had the high-pressure job of being head of Staff-Parish Relations while Dale was at BUMC and so I had the responsibility for making certain that the powers that be within the conference didn’t whisk him away to another church.

Dale baptized my second daughter on her first Christmas Eve morning and was with me when my dad passed away even though I no longer attended his church. That’s all you need to know to understand the

type of person Dale is.

I have lots of “Dale stories.” One involves playing in the Bridgeport Church Softball League (which he helped start) against our fierce rivals, All Saints Catholic. There was a close play at third; I had tagged the runner out, but the ump called him safe. I chose some particularly non-spiritual words in my argument with the umpire, a member at our church, and I realized Dale, our pitcher, was standing right behind me. I turned and expected to hear rebuke or a calming word from Dale. Instead, he looked at the ump and yelled, “Buddy’s right, you blew that one.” Another time I lined into a double play with the bases loaded to end the game and walked over to the bench, sat down and took my cleats off and threw them in the creek next to the field and drove home in my socks. I never see Dale without hearing this story repeated.

There is another great story involving Dale, a passionate WVU football fan. While a young minister at a church in Parkersburg, he had his tires slashed by a Pitt fan after a game in Morgantown. The fan had boarded a bus full of Panther fans to head back up the road when Dale arrived and someone pointed out the culprit. Dale charged on the bus, malice no doubt in his heart, with his wife in full pursuit. She got Dale to calm down and retreat by yelling, “Dale, Dale, think of the headline, Methodist minister arrested in brawl after Pitt game”. Dale, the most spiritual, the most human, the most special of men.

Rev. Doug Kanney. Long time minister at St. Paul in Christiansburg after I had moved away from home.

See **Lessons**, page 8

RADFORD NEWS JOURNAL

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Michael Showell, *Publisher*
 Heather Bell, *Editor*.....hbell@mainstreetnewspapers.com
 Aila Boyd, *Executive Editor*.....aboyn@ourvalley.org
 Wendi Craig, *Advertising Consultant*.....advertise@ourvalley.org

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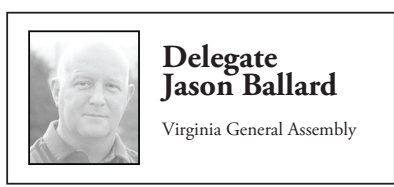
Radford News Journal is a newspaper of, by and for the people of Radford. We encourage letters from our readers on topics of general interest to the community and responses to our articles and columns. Letters must be signed and have a telephone number where you can be reached for verification. All letters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

Radford News Journal (USPS 387-780) is published twice a week for \$46 a year in the City of Radford, \$55 elsewhere in Virginia, and \$59 out of state by Virginia Media Inc., P.O. Box 429, Lewisburg, WV 24901. Periodical postage paid at Christiansburg, VA. POSTMASTER: Send address changes to RADFORD NEWS JOURNAL 1633 W. Main St., Salem, VA 24153.

State budget work will continue in special May session

On Wednesday, April 17, members of the General Assembly returned to Richmond in order to consider Governor Glenn Youngkin’s amendments and vetoes to legislation passed during the 2024 session – to include the Commonwealth’s budget. Now that the dust has settled, I’d like to give you a brief update on where things stand.

First, the general assembly and governor have come to an agreement to continue work on the budget and return for a special session in May to vote on a reworked proposal. The Governor proposed over 200 amendments to the budget, and rather than remain in Richmond for an indefinite period, budget negotiators will now work with the administration in the coming weeks to identify areas of common ground. This is a positive step toward implementation of a state budget before July 1 – the date at which the current budget expires. It’s my sincere desire that budget negotiators work toward a product that does not raise taxes, but also spends responsibly on teacher pay raises, transportation infrastructure improvements on secondary roads and I-81, and increases in law enforcement salaries. Virginia is on solid financial footing, and we do not need to raise taxes in



Delegate Jason Ballard

Virginia General Assembly

order to commit to these investments.

As to other legislation considered during the reconvened session, as anticipated, all of Governor Youngkin’s vetoes were upheld. This is good news for anyone concerned about a raft of far-left legislation similar to what we saw in 2020 becoming law in Virginia. This includes a wholesale ban on popular sporting firearms, an extension of a tax on plastic grocery bags, lessening criminal penalties for those who peddle fentanyl and other dangerous drugs, and more. Democrats have a slim majority in the House and Senate, which means that there wasn’t much that Republicans could do in the 2024 session to play defense and stop bad legislation from advancing. Fortunately, Democrats do not control a two-thirds majority in either the House or Senate, which means the Governor’s vetoes were secure.

After much has been reported about the negative tone of budget negotiations – especially from the Senate budget conferees toward the

Governor – I believe we’ve reached a point where both sides understand the necessity of working together to preserve the Commonwealth’s sterling AAA bond rating and funding Virginia’s top priorities. As with any negotiation, neither Republicans or Democrats are going to get everything they wanted. For example, Senate Democrats have been reticent toward the governor’s desire to relocate the Washington Wizards and the Washington Capitals to Northern Virginia. Now it’s time for Democrats to come back to the table with the understanding that serious compromise must be undertaken to keep Virginia moving forward. I look forward to updating you in the coming weeks as the General Assembly progresses toward that goal.

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.

ABSOLUTE ESTATE AUCTION

SAT., MAY 18, 2024 – 10:00 AM
3 BDRM. BRICK RANCH HOME & BUILDINGS ON NICE LOT
ALSO COLLECTIBLES - GLASSWARE – FURNITURE – & Personal Property

of the late Joe B. Hicks - 1502 Second Street, Radford, VA 24141

This brick ranch home features a living room with brick fireplace, kitchen/dining combo, 3 bedrooms, bath and full basement. Heat pump for heat and air and public utilities. Home sits on two lots with a paved drive, fenced on 2 sides and a nice yard with walnut-chestnut-pear and apple trees! Great location in the heart of Radford making this a perfect permanent home or rental investment close to Radford University! Also on the property are a 8’x12’ metal storage building, a 12’x16’ wood storage building and a 11’x19.5’ wood garage w/metal roof.

Note: Potential buyers will have from May 7th until May 17th to conduct a lead-based paint contamination test if they so desire.

Partial List of Personal Property to be sold at “Absolute Auction”
Antiques/Collectibles: Antique Barlow & Seelig Wringer washer, wooden sleigh, wooden apple crates, various size milk bottles, old bidder bottles, McCoy cookie jar, Lg. Raggedy Ann & Andy dolls, several dolls, vintage toys, Edward Mobley antique squeaky toys, Nascar coffee tins, political button collection, antique planter (patented 1900), Old Pepsi thermometer, baskets, glassware (Pink depression-Fireking-Amber-Pyrex), collection of mini setting hens, butter mold, sm. ceramic churn, several ceramic pieces, canning & jelly jars, gallon White House vinegar jugs, speckle wear pieces, china, pots/pans, seasonal decorations, wash tub, bushel baskets, sausage grinder, antique comic stands, antique chalk board, what knots, several TY beanie babies, sessions clock, sadd iron, wrought iron tea kettle, lamps, pictures, glass insulators, quilts/afghans, sewing material, crafting supplies, brass metal garden sprayer, walking canes, #5 crock, 2 wash boards, single tree, pony size double tree, old nail keg, antique shoe lasts, lots of cat collectibles, unopened geodes.

Furn./Household: 4 pc. wood bedroom suite, ½ bed, chest & dresser, wood/metal dining table w/4 chairs, oil lamps, curio cabinet, pine wardrobe, antique wooden rocker, corner hutch, straight back wooden chair, arm chair, sofa & chair, flat screen TV, elec. lift chair, 4 bar stools, charcoal grill.

Tools/Misc.: Lawn fertilize spreader, 6 wagon steel wheels, horse drawn turn plow, several plow points, garden layoff plow, elec. pole saw, elec. chain saw, yard/garden tools, carpenter/mechanic tools, vise, 15 ton railroad jack, floor creeper, wooden ladder, rods/reels, 12 gal. shop vac, fan, motorcycle helmet, bird cage, reptile habitat w/lamp & more!

Terms: Real Estate 10% deposit day of auction, balance within 30 days at closing. Personal Property cash, check or credit card day of auction.
Inspection: Call our office anytime to see this lovely home. Personal property 1.5 hrs. prior to auction.
Directions: Traveling on I-81 take Exit #105 (Radford) & go N on Rt.# 232 (W. Main St.) – toward Radford for 2.4 mi. to Henry St., turn R & go 1/10 mi. to Second St., turn R to house on Left.

Which IRA is right for me?



Josh Smith, CRPC

Ameriprise Financial Services, LLC

Individual Retirement Accounts (IRAs) are recognized as one of the most attractive retirement savings vehicles available to investors. IRAs allow investors to save and grow money in a tax-advantaged account. Utilizing a retirement savings vehicle like this can greatly enhance your long-term financial prosperity, but deciding which type of IRA is right for your investment goals can be a challenge. Here are answers to common questions around this important topic.

1. What types of IRAs should I consider?

At its most basic level, there are two types of IRAs – traditional and Roth IRAs. The biggest difference between the two is the tax treatment of contributions and distributions. Contributions are the process by which an investor puts money into an account and a distribution is the process of taking that money out.

2. How does a traditional IRA work?

Contributions With a traditional IRA, you either make after-tax contributions or (if you qualify and choose to do so), tax-deductible contributions. If you are not covered by a retirement plan at work, your contributions can be fully deducted from income tax. If you or your spouse are covered by a plan, income limits apply. To claim a full deduction on 2024 taxes, a single person can’t earn more than \$77,000 and a married person filing a joint return can’t earn more than \$123,000.

Distributions

Money held in a traditional IRA grows on a tax-deferred basis, a characteristic that allows your money to grow faster. However, when withdrawals are taken, all earnings are subject to tax at your applicable ordinary income tax rate in the year of the withdrawal. If you claimed a tax deduction at the time you made contributions to your IRA, those too are subject to tax. With some

exceptions, withdrawals before age 59-1/2 also may incur an early distribution penalty. One important note is that traditional IRAs are subject to required minimum distribution (RMD) rules which define the age at which an investor must begin to take money out of the account. Under current law, distributions must begin by April 1 in the year after reaching age 73 and continue every year thereafter.

3. How does a Roth IRA work?

Contributions All Roth IRA contributions are made with after-tax dollars that grow tax-free until you start making withdrawals. However, income limits apply that determine whether you qualify to make full Roth IRA contributions. In 2024, the ability for single individuals to make full Roth IRA contributions is phased out if income is higher than \$146,000. For married couples filing a joint return, you cannot make a full Roth IRA contribution if gross income is more than \$230,000.

Distributions

If a five-year holding period requirement is met, all distributions (contributions and earnings) after age 59-1/2 are eligible for tax-free treatment. In addition, RMD rules do not apply to Roth IRAs.

4. How much can I contribute to IRAs?

In 2024, you can contribute up to \$7,000 (\$8,000 for those age 50 and older) or up to 100% of earned income, whichever is less. This is the maximum contribution amount for both traditional and Roth IRAs for the year.

Note that contributions can’t exceed 100% of your earned income if you earn less than the limits stated above. Also, these limits apply to total IRA contributions for the year. This is applicable even if you hold multiple IRAs or make contributions to both Roth IRAs and traditional IRAs.

5. Which IRA is right for me?

The answer is different for everybody. Determining how much to set aside for retirement and in what types of savings vehicles is best determined through careful planning. A financial professional can help you understand which account is best suited to meet your long-term financial goals.

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Marketplace



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

Yard Sales - Craig County

Yard Sale Lots of Items!

Saturday, April 27
8:00 am to 1:00 pm
New Castle United Methodist Church

Auctions

Notice of Public Auction Bath and Hotel Fixtures 2635 Roanoke Street, Christiansburg, VA 24073 Days Inn Christiansburg

New in Boxes Bath and Hotel Fixtures

Sale Starts: Friday, May 10th, 2024 12:00 Noon

Fixtures Include: 50 plus 60 x30 x 14.25 Profit steel Bathtubs Left and Right, 60 plus Chair Height Commodes, 35 plus A Grade 800 x 1600 x 9mm Sink Countertops, Bbhukhara Vitrified Tile, Tub Tile, Full and King Size Headboards, 100 plus Delta Shower Heads, Plumbing Fittings, Supply Lines, Full Length Mirrors, 36" Round Mirrors, 40 plus Night Stands, Blu Vinyl Lounge Chairs, 25 plus LED Lighted Mirrors, 45 Plus Bench Seats and many more items too numerous to mention!

All Items Must Be Removed at the Conclusion of this Auction!

Terms of Sale for Personal Property: Cash, Checks, Visa or Master Card. A 13% buyer's premium will be charged, 3% will be waived if payment is made by cash or check.

Sale is Being Conducted by: Larry J. Linkous, VAAL #3

For Further Information, call: 540.961.2608 or check website at www.linkousauctioneers.com

All information contained in this listing was derived from sources believed to be correct, but is not guaranteed. Any announcement made from the auction stand shall take precedence over any printed material.

Help Wanted - General

Pianist Wanted
Troutville Baptist church is seeking a pianist to provide accompaniment for services and choir rehearsals. Parttime, salaried, for more information Troutvillebaptistchurchpc@gmail.com

Help Wanted - Health Care

Catawba Hospital is now hiring floor technicians and housekeepers!

Starting pay is \$15/hr+ depending on experience. Excellent Benefits including affordable health insurance, VRS retirement plan, and 12 days of Paid Time Off!

Please apply on our website, <https://dbhds.virginia.gov/facilities/catawba/employment-opportunities>
Contact Austin Grasty for details
Ph: (540) 375-4368
Email: austin.grasty@dbhds.virginia.gov

Legals - Botetourt County

TRUSTEE'S SALE OF 423 TINKERVIEW DRIVE, CLOVERDALE, VA 24077.

In execution of a certain Deed of Trust dated October 31, 2016, in the original principal amount of \$114,075.00 recorded in the Clerk's Office, Circuit Court for Botetourt County, Virginia as Instrument No. 160004078. The undersigned Substitute Trustee will offer for sale at public auction in the front of the Circuit Court building for Botetourt County, Main Street, Fincastle, VA 24090, or any such temporary alternative Circuit Court location designated by the Judges of the Circuit Court,

Legals - Botetourt County

on May 31, 2024, at 10:30 AM, the property described in said Deed of Trust, located at the above address, and more particularly described as follows: UNIT 2004 OF PHASE IV, ACCORDING TO THE PLAT SHOWING PHASE IV SUBDIVISION OF TINKERVIEW TOWNHOUSE PROPERTY, BLUE RIDGE MAGISTERIAL DISTRICT, DATED JUNE 30, 1988, PREPARED BY MATTERN & CRAIG, CERTIFIED LAND SURVEYORS, OF RECORD IN THE CLERK'S OFFICE OF THE CIRCUIT COURT FOR THE COUNTY OF BOTETOURT, VIRGINIA, IN PLAT BOOK 12, PAGE 166. TERMS OF SALE: ALL CASH. A bidder's deposit of ten percent (10%) of the sale price or ten percent (10%) of the original principal balance of the subject Deed of Trust, whichever is lower, in the form of cash or certified funds payable to the Substitute Trustee must be present at the time of the sale. The balance of the purchase price will be due within fifteen (15) days of sale, otherwise Purchaser's deposit may be forfeited to Trustee. Time is of the essence. If the sale is set aside for any reason, the Purchaser at the sale shall be entitled to a return of the deposit paid. The Purchaser may, if provided by the terms of the Trustee's Memorandum of Foreclosure Sale, be entitled to a \$50 cancellation fee from the Substitute Trustee, but shall have no further recourse against the Mortgagor, the Mortgagor or the Mortgagor's attorney. A form copy of the Trustee's memorandum of foreclosure sale and contract to purchase real property is available for viewing at www.bwwsales.com. Additional terms, if any, to be announced at the sale and the Purchaser may be given the option to execute the contract of sale electronically. This is a communication from a debt collector and any information obtained will be used for that purpose. The sale is subject to seller confirmation. Substitute Trustee: Equity Trustees, LLC, 8100 Three Chopt Road, Suite 240, Richmond, VA 23229. For more information contact: BWW Law Group, LLC, attorneys for Equity Trustees, LLC, 6003 Executive Blvd, Suite 101, Rockville, MD 20852, 301-961-6555, website: www.bwwsales.com. VA-369557-1.

Order of Publication

Commonwealth of Virginia VA Code §§ 1-211.1; 8.01-316.20-104
Case No. **CL24000530-00** MONTGOMERY COUNTY Circuit Court, 55 EAST MAIN STREET, SUITE 1, CHRISTIANSBURG, VA 24073 Commonwealth of Virginia, *in re* ERIC RANDALE BRYANT v. CHRISTINA MARIE BRYANT

The object of this suit is to: SHOW CAUSE AGAINST PAYMENT AND DELIVERY OF ASSETS IN INSOLVENT ESTATE. It appearing that a report of the accounts of James A. McClure, Administrator of the Estate of Charles Matthew Barton, deceased, and the debts and demands against the estate have been filed in the Clerk's Office and that six months have elapsed since the qualification, on motion of the personal representative, it is ORDERED that the creditors of, and all others interested in, the Estate of Charles Mathew Barton show cause, if any they can, on the 13th day of May 2024, at 11:00 a.m., before this Court at its Courthouse at 1 Main Street, Fincastle, Virginia, against the payment and delivery of the assets in the insolvent estate, pursuant to Virginia Code §64.2-528, to the creditors as listed on Schedule B of the Motion for Entry of Show Cause Order previously filed in this matter. It is ORDERED that the foregoing portion of this Order be published once a week for two successive weeks in the Fincastle Herald, a newspaper having general circulation in the County of Botetourt, Virginia. Enter: April 11, 2024 Leslieanne Smith Clerk

I ask for this: Lenden A. Eakin (VSB #23885) FERRISS & EAKIN, P.C. 22 Luck Avenue, SW

Legals - Botetourt County

Roanoke, Va 24011
Phone: 540-345-1000
Fax: 540-344-6608
Email: Lenden@rvalaw.com
Counsel for James A. McClure, Administrator of the Estate of Charles Matthew Barton, deceased

Legals - City of Salem

VDOT Bristol Bundle Bridges Bidding Opportunity! Archer Western is seeking subcontractors and suppliers for VDOT - Bristol and Salem Districts Bridge Bundle

DB this Project bids on May 5th, 2024. The Project includes, among other things the Design and Construction of: (a) roadway; (b) survey; (c) structure and/or bridge; (d) environmental; (e) geotechnical; (f) hydraulics, drainage, stormwater management, and erosion and sediment control; (g) traffic control devices; (h) transportation management plan; (i) right-of-way; (j) utilities; (k) quality assurance and quality control. Estimating Contact 301-347-4680. Submit questions and quotes by May 1st COB. To: awcestimating@walshgrp.com.

An Equal Opportunity Employer, Disability/Veteran

Legals - Montgomery County

Order of Publication

Commonwealth of Virginia VA Code §§ 1-211.1; 8.01-316.20-104
Case No. **CL24000530-00** MONTGOMERY COUNTY Circuit Court, 55 EAST MAIN STREET, SUITE 1, CHRISTIANSBURG, VA 24073 Commonwealth of Virginia, *in re* ERIC RANDALE BRYANT v. CHRISTINA MARIE BRYANT
The object of this suit is to: DIVORCE. It is ORDERED that CHRISTINA MARIE BRYANT appear at the above-named court and protect his/her interests on or before JUNE 5, 2024. APRIL 2, 2024 ROBERT M.D. TURK, JUDGE TIFFANY M. COUCH, CLERK

TRUSTEE'S SALE PARCEL OF LAND LOCATED IN: West Ward of the City of Radford, Virginia

Containing 0.2479 acres, more or less Commonly Known as: 1002 West Main Street, Radford, Virginia

IN EXECUTION OF A CERTAIN DEED OF TRUST OF RECORD IN THE CLERK'S OFFICE OF THE CIRCUIT COURT OF RADFORD CITY, VIRGINIA, AS INSTRUMENT NO. 201100838, DATED AUGUST 29, 2011, WHEREAS, BY DEED OF BARGAIN AND SALE AND ASSUMPTION DATED SEPTEMBER 1, 2016, RECORDED IN THE AFORESAID CLERK'S OFFICE AS INSTRUMENT NO: 201600804 THE DEED OF TRUST WAS ASSUMED BY MARK BROOKNER. DEFAULT HAVING BEEN MADE IN THE PAYMENT OF THE DEBT THEREIN SECURED TO DO SO BY THE NOTEHOLDER, THE UNDERSIGNED SUBSTITUTE TRUSTEE, AFTER GIVING FOURTEEN (14) DAYS DUE NOTICE TO THE OWNERS OF THE REAL ESTATE OF THE DATE, TIME, PLACE AND TERMS OF SALE, WILL OFFER FOR SALE AT PUBLIC AUCTION, IN FRONT OF THE RADFORD CITY COURTHOUSE LOCATED AT 619 SECOND STREET, RADFORD, VIRGINIA, ON THE 9th DAY OF MAY, 2024, AT 10:00 A.M., THE REAL ESTATE WITH

Legals - Montgomery County

IMPROVEMENTS THEREON KNOWN AND DESCRIBED AS FOLLOWS:

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

Tax Map Number: 13-(5)-SEC 1-27A-28-29-30A-34A+
Account Number: 020000684.
Commonly Known As: 1002 West Main Street, Radford, Virginia

SALE WILL BE MADE SUBJECT TO ALL EXISTING EASEMENTS AND RESTRICTIVE COVENANTS AS THE SAME MAY LAWFULLY AFFECT THE REAL ESTATE.

TERMS OF SALE: CASH, SETTLEMENT WITHIN FIFTEEN (15) DAYS OF SALE. A BIDDERS DEPOSIT OF TEN PERCENT (10%) MAY BE REQUIRED.

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

DATE OF SALE: MAY 9, 2024
TIME OF SALE: 10:00 A.M.

Daniel D. Hamrick, PC Substitute Trustee
By: Daniel D. Hamrick, Agent

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

Order of Publication

Commonwealth of Virginia VA Code §§ 1-211.1; 8.01-316.20-104
Case No. **CL24-228** MONTGOMERY COUNTY Circuit Court, 55 EAST MAIN STREET, SUITE 1, CHRISTIANSBURG, VA 24073

COUNTY OF MONTGOMERY, VIRGINIA, a Political Subdivision of the Commonwealth of Virginia, Complainant, v.

FRANK E. LYTTON, ET AL., Respondent(s).

ORDER OF PUBLICATION] The object of this suit is to enforce the lien of the Complainant, County of Montgomery, Virginia, for delinquent real estate taxes against certain real property located in the County of Montgomery, Virginia, described as follows: Tax Map No. 076-A 74 Account No. 011621 All that certain tract or parcel of land, with the improvements thereon and the appurtenances thereunto belonging, situate, lying or being in the Riner Magisterial District, Montgomery County, Virginia, which contains one acre, more or less, described as follows: BEGINNING at an iron stake in or near the line of (now or formerly) Gifford McGuire and C.R. Thompson and running with said line in a westerly direction to another stake; thence northward to the N & W Railway Line, and east ward with the said N & W line back to about the center of a two-acre tract of land belonging now or formerly

Legals - Montgomery County

to the said Gifford McGuire; thence southward back to the point of BEGINNING. And being the same property conveyed to Frank E. Lytton and Gladys E. Lytton, husband and wife, by Deed, dated July 2, 1951 and recorded July 2, 1951 in the Montgomery County Circuit Court Clerk's Office in Deed Book 172 at Page 59.

This description is made subject to all easements, conditions, agreements, restrictions, and reservations of record which affect the property herein described.

IT APPEARING that a Affidavit has been made and filed stating that due diligence has been used, without effect, to ascertain the identity and location of certain parties to be served, that the last known addresser for the Respondents herein are as follows: Frank E. Lytton, who is believed to be deceased and whose last known address is unknown, Gladys E. Lytton, who is believed to be deceased and whose last known address is unknown; Don Edward Lytton, who is believed to be deceased and whose last known address is unknown; Glenn Lytton, whose last known address is unknown; Harrison Edward Lytton, Whose last known address is 5391 Ivanhoe Rd, Apt. A, Fries, Virginia 24330; Janet Lytton, whose last known address is 3664 Caboose Rd, Christiansburg, Virginia, 24073; Violet Pagen aka Violet Lyons, whose last known address is 3428 Case Knife Rd. Pulaski, Virginia 24301; and that any officers, heirs, devisees, and successors in title of the Respondent named herein are made parties Respondent to this action individually and/or by the general description of Parties Unknown, it is hereby

ORDERED that the parties herein and all Parties Unknown and/or whose location cannot be ascertained apparat on or before May 15, 2024 in the Clerk's Office of the Circuit Court of the County of Montgomery, Virginia, and do what may be necessary to protect their interest in this cause.

Entered on the 4th day of April, 2024.
K. Mike Fleenor, Judge

I Ask For This: John A Rife, Esq. (VSB No. 45805)

Jeffery A. Scharf, Esq. (VSB No. 30591)
Mark K. Ames, Esq. (VSB No. 27409)

Andrew M. Neville, Esq. (VSB No. 86372)
Paul L. LaBarr, Esq. (VSB No. 91609)

Gregory L. Haynes, Esq. (VSB No. 37158)
Seth R. Konopasek, Esq. (VSB No. 97065)
Garrett W. Patton, Esq. (VSB No. 98345)

Notice of Public Hearing

Town of Blacksburg Planning Commission Tuesday, May 7, 2024

Notice is hereby given that the Planning Commission of the Town of Blacksburg will conduct a public hearing on Tuesday, May 7, 2024 during its meeting beginning at 6:30 PM in the Roger E. Hedgpepp Council Chamber, 300 South Main St, Blacksburg, VA on the following item:

AFD-24-1/ORD 2052- Withdrawal of 3.036 acres of land from the Agricultural and Forestal District at 701 Bishop Road (Tax Map No. 137-T-A-1, Parcel # 006339) by James and Carol Burger (property owner).

Request to withdraw 3.036 acres of land from the Town of Blacksburg Agricultural and Forestal District (AFD) at 701 Bishop Road by James and Carol Burger. A minor subdivision application (SUB 23-0006) for the creation of three (3) parcels is currently under review by the Planning and Engineering Department.

Persons affected by or interested in this Agricultural and Forestal District withdrawal may appear and present their views. After

Legals - Montgomery County

the hearing, the Planning Commission will take action. Copies of the request and all related items may be found online at www.blacksburg.gov/public-hearings or reviewed in person at the Blacksburg Planning and Building Department, 400 South Main Street, Blacksburg, Virginia.

You may also call the office at (540) 443-1300 for more information. Individuals with disabilities who require special assistance to attend and participate in the public hearing on the above should contact the Planning & Building Department at (540) 443-1300, or (540)-443-1000-TDD.

Legals - Town of Vinton

INVITATION FOR BIDS

Town of Vinton Virginia

Legals - Town of Vinton

"Resurface Various Streets"

The Town of Vinton Virginia is seeking Competitive Sealed Bids for Solicitation No. TOV-2024-001-PW, Resurface Various Streets in the Town of Vinton, VA.

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The state of Virginia is trying to get out ahead of the issues dealing with college athletics' Name, Image and Likeness (NIL) dealings.

In an effort to position the Commonwealth and its schools at the forefront of the next evolution in college athletics, Virginia governor Glenn Youngkin signed House Bill 1505 into state law Thursday with an effective date of July 1, 2024.

Name, image and likeness is a phrase that is used to describe a student-athlete's ability to earn compensation from a business, individual, entity, etc. that utilizes their name, image, likeness, signature, voice, caricature, etc. for commercial and/or non-commercial purposes.

"We are thankful to the state legislature and Governor Youngkin for their proactive work in the NIL space," Tech Athletic Director Whit Babcock said. "We take care of our student-athletes and recognize the value they bring to ensure the longstanding success of our athletic programs.

"Not only does this position us more competitively among other states during this critical time, but it also allows for more school involvement as we continue to enhance our recruiting and retention efforts to bring the most talented student-athletes to Virginia Tech."

The Virginia bill will allow public and private institutions of higher education within the Commonwealth to create and facilitate name, image, or likeness opportunities for student-athletes. In other words, NIL operations will become more streamlined through school involvement.

Virginia's bill bypasses the NCAA and will directly allow universities to pay student athletes as the Commonwealth is one of the first in the nation to enact such a law. Other states have already said they will follow Virginia's lead.

The law takes effect July 1 and was signed by Youngkin one day after the NCAA cutback some of its own NIL restrictions.

The governor said the bill is a very important step in making Virginia the most competitive place not just to compete in college athletics, but also the most competitive place for our universities to really take care of their student-athletes and drive this to the next level.

"This is going to be a program managed by Virginia's universities and colleges and not by outside institutions and associations. It enables us to be competitive across the nation with other

power conferences and major universities and enables our athletes to fully benefit (from) their God-given skills," he said.

Three years ago, the NCAA announced the NIL plan to allow college athletes to earn money from deals with brands or businesses that compensate them for such things as endorsements or personal appearances.

Virginia's plan has been called "cutting edge."

Bringing NIL operations in-house will enable schools to efficiently manage monitoring and funding. Simultaneously, Tech donors will no longer face the dilemma of allocating funds between a collective for NIL or directly to the athletic department for scholarships and facilities.

"I commend our state leaders for their proactive work in the evolution of college athletics," Pry said. "This positions us favorably and competitively at a critical time. The bill is a win-win for our school, our student-athletes and our donors."

The bill was sponsored by Del. Terry Austin, R-Botetourt. Austin worked closely on the NIL legislation with state Sen. Aaron Rouse, D-Virginia Beach, an All-ACC safety for the Hokies in 2005 and the Green Bay Packers' third-round NFL draft pick in 2007.

"We're truly appreciative of the diligent work by the state legislature and governor to enact this groundbreaking bill during a pivotal time in college athletics," Skiera said. "This legislation is beneficial for all parties involved, especially our student-athletes, who accomplish remarkable things on and off the field."

Below is a list of FAQs as it relates to the Virginia NIL bill.

Institutional Involvement

Q: Are Virginia colleges and universities required to pay student-athletes for their name, image or likeness?

A: No, the Virginia name, image or likeness law is permissive and provides Virginia colleges and universities discretion to compensate student-athletes for their name, image or likeness.

Q: Are the new policies and procedures necessary to compensate student-athletes for their name, image or likeness?

A: If Virginia colleges and universities compensate student-athletes for their name, image or likeness, they must develop new policies and procedures approved by their governing board (e.g., Board of Visitors).

Q: Are student fees going to be used to pay student-athletes for their name, image or likeness?

A: The Virginia name, image and likeness law expressly prohibits student fees from being used to pay student-athletes for their name, image or likeness.

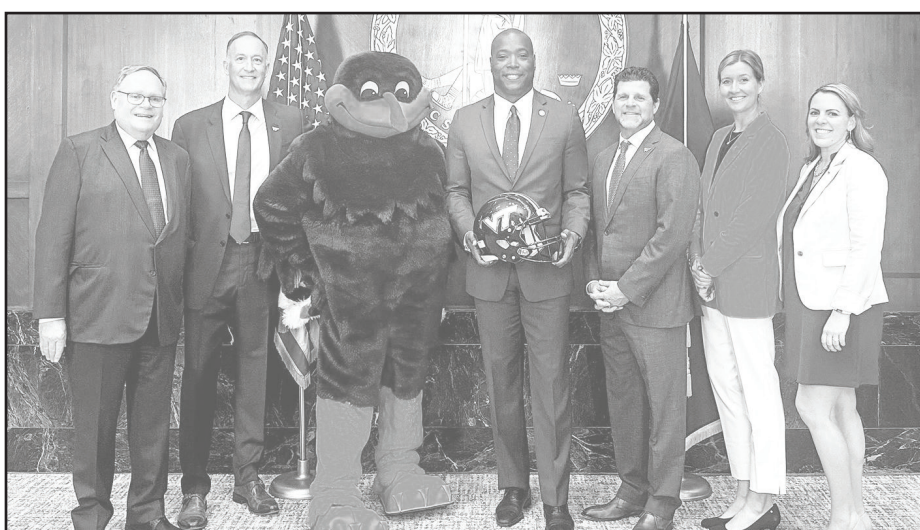


PHOTO COURTESY OF VT ATHLETICS

A ceremonial signing for the NIL law going into effect in Virginia was held at the Patrick Henry Building in Richmond with Governor Glenn Youngkin, state leaders and institutional representatives in attendance. Virginia Tech's director of athletics Whit Babcock, head football coach Brent Pry, head lacrosse coach Kristen Skiera and the HokieBird were on site.

Q: What is considered a student fee?

A: A student fee is any fee a student is charged to support any intercollegiate athletics programs.

Q: How can Virginia colleges and universities assist student-athletes with name, image and likeness activities?

A: The Virginia name, image and likeness law allows Virginia colleges and universities to educate student-athletes about name, image and likeness issues and identify, create, negotiate, facilitate, support, engage with, assist with, or otherwise enable name, image, or likeness opportunities for student-athletes.

Q: Are Virginia colleges and universities permitted to incentivize support for name, image and likeness activity?

A: The Virginia name, image and likeness law allows Virginia colleges and universities to provide assets, resources, or benefits as an incentive to individuals or entities that support name, image, or likeness opportunities.

Q: Is compensation for name, image and likeness opportunities considered pay-for-play?

A: No, it's considered compensation for the proprietary interest in a student-athlete's name, age or likeness.

NCAA Rules

Q: Does Virginia's name, image and likeness law conflict with NCAA rules?

A: Virginia colleges and universities are subject to Virginia law. Virginia colleges and universities will independently determine whether any action permitted under the Virginia name, image and likeness law conflicts with NCAA rules.

Q: Can a student-athlete be penalized for participating in name, image and

likeness activities pursuant to the Virginia name, image and likeness law?

A: The Virginia name, image and likeness law provides student-athletes protections for engaging in name, image and likeness activity pursuant to the law.

Collectives and Donors

Q: Does the Virginia name, image and likeness law preclude the existence of collectives?

A: Nothing in the Virginia name, image or likeness law states collectives cannot exist.

Q: Does the Virginia name, image and likeness law still prevent contributions to a collective?

A: Nothing in the Virginia name, image or likeness law prevents individuals or entities from contributing to a collective to support name, image or likeness opportunities.

Student-Athletes

Q: What impact will the Virginia name, image and likeness law have on Olympic and non-revenue generating sports?

A: The Virginia name, image and likeness law can greatly benefit student athletes who participate in Olympic and non-revenue generating sports.

Q: What impact does the Virginia name, image and likeness law have on international student-athletes?

A: The Virginia name, image and likeness law doesn't impact international student-athletes being able to earn name, image and likeness compensation. Federal immigration law, and visa status, control whether an international student-athlete can be compensated for their name, image or likeness.



PHOTO COURTESY OF MARY WASHINGTON UNIVERSITY

Adrian Newcomb beats defenders while playing for University of Mary Washington in 2012.

BHS player garners special scholarship

Marty Gordon
NRVsports@ourvalley.org

A Blacksburg High School soccer player is this year's recipient of a memorial scholarship, which honors a former local player who was tragically killed in an off-road accident.

Kallan Malabad was honored during a special ceremony before a Bruin game this past week.

Adrian Newcomb is a former NRU player and standout at Blacksburg High School, who went on to play soccer at Mary Washington University. She ultimately graduated from Virginia Tech and was living and working in Fort Collins, Colorado when she was killed in 2019.

She played recreation league soccer as an adult at Virginia Tech, in Roanoke and in Fort Collins. Adrian was committed to a career in child development and education.

Unfortunately, Adrian lost her life in an accident before fulfilling her full promise. In her memory, and to assist those following similar career paths, NRU joined with the Newcomb family to put in place an endowment dedicated to supporting a perennial \$500 scholarship.

According to the NRU Soccer

Association, thanks to many generous donations from community members, the Newcomb family and New River United (NRU) have established a memorial scholarship to honor the passionate, talented and tenacious Newcomb.

During the presentation, NRU said Malabad is an excellent student, athlete, and community member - because of her well-rounded dedication to not only her own pursuits, but also helping others through the Alopecia Justice League, and her plans to continue volunteering with the alopecia community and youth soccer, Kallan was chosen as this year's recipient of the Adrian Newcomb Memorial Scholarship.

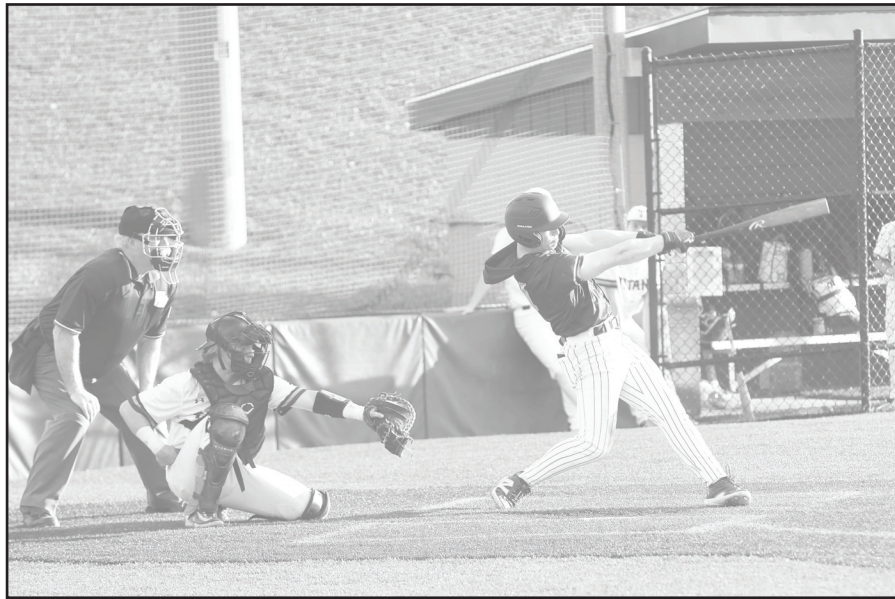
Newcomb has played soccer with NRU since age four - including being chosen as captain of both club and high school soccer and track teams. She will continue her soccer career and education at Saint Michael's College in Burlington, VT.

Funds donated (via the GoFundMe link below) to NRU in Adrian's name will help to continue this scholarship for a college-bound NRU player.

<https://www.gofundme.com/f/adrian-newcomb-memorial-scholarship>.

See BHS, page 8

Christiansburg slides by Hidden Valley in baseball



Senior JT Thompson hits a single and gets on first base for the Blue Demons in a late week 2-1 win over Hidden Valley.



PHOTOS BY KYMN DAVIDSON-HAMLEY

Levi Glosch scores one of three runs for Christiansburg against the Hidden Valley Titans.

See Baseball, page 8

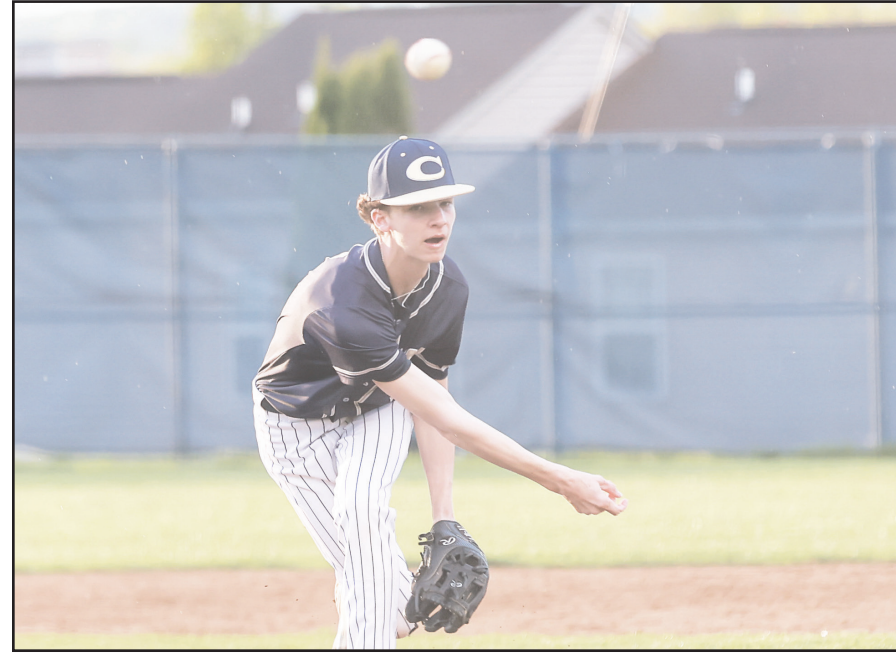
BHS from page 7



PHOTO BY KYMN DAVIDSON-HAMLEY

Kallan Malabad (center, #18) receives the award from Adrian Newcomb's mother (right), along with her family, and numerous members of the NRU Board of Directors for this year's memorial scholarship, which honors Newcomb who was a former outstanding Blacksburg High School player.

Baseball from page 7



Mason Cullop finished pitching duties for the Blue Demons in the game.



PHOTOS BY KYMN DAVIDSON-HAMLEY

Sam Dudash successfully completes his run to third base.

RU 's Grant named coach of year

The Big South Conference announced Monday morning the 2023-24 conference award winners that featured the Highlanders seven times, the most the golf program has acquired in a single season.

Kicking off the award winners is none other than Bryce Corbett. The Gainesville, Va. native would be named to the Big South All-Championships team, making it the third time of his career receiving the honor. He also got the nod for First Team All-Conference, making it his third time receiving this honor and tying former Radford men's golfer Myles Creighton for the most in program history. During the regular season, Corbett would have four top 10 finishes, the second most in the Big South, the second-best scoring average in the conference with 71.07, and accumulate three Big South Player of the Week awards.

Nick Taliaferro would bring in the third award for the Highlanders as he was named to Second Team All-Conference. Taliaferro has been a force for the Highlander squad recording two top 10 finishes and has the fifth best scoring



PHOTO COURTESY OF RADFORD UNIVERSITY

RU Golf Coach Mike Grant is the Big South Coach of the Year

average among the conference at 72.08 and record two rounds shooting a 65 the most in the conference.

Patrick Gareiss makes it four awards as he would also bring home the Second Team All-Conference award alongside Taliaferro. Gareiss has been another impactful player for the Highlander squad. He would have the best round of the 2023-24 season in-conference shooting a 64, would have the fourth best scoring average at 72.00 and would pick up a Big South Player of the Week honor earlier in the season.

Bobby Dudeck would bring in two more to up the count to six as he would be named to

Honorable Mention All-Conference and Big South All-Academic team. Dudeck has delivered consistently on the course and has been an incredible student off of it. The senior has worked his way to a 3.87 cumulative grade point average as a management major.

Rounding out the awards would be the head man leading the program, Head Coach Mike Grant, who acquired his fourth Big South Coach of the Year award and making it the seventh conference award for the Highlanders, the most in a single season for the program.

Radford University Athletics

Weekly reports: Blacksburg boys, girls remain unbeaten

The Blacksburg High School's boys' basketball team remained unbeaten on the season with a 2-1 win over Patrick Henry. The Bruins picked up goals from Paul Distler and Sean DeLorenzo. Craig Huxtable and Peyton Cruise had individual assists, while Simon Pratt had four saves in goal.

Blacksburg is now 9-0, while Patrick Henry fell to 6-3-1.

Blacksburg girls also unbeaten
Blacksburg girls team defeated Patrick Henry 3-0 on Friday night at Bill Brown Stadium. Scoring for Blacksburg was Ginny Crawford with two goals and Kallan Malabad with one goal. Erin Bishop and Claire Langlinais, each had an assist. Paige Miller had two saves in collecting her 10th shutout of the season.

Blacksburg improves to 9-0-2, 5-0-2, while PH drops to 5-1-3, 3-1-2.

Auburn nails down two wins
Auburn broke open a close game last Monday with three runs in the fifth and four runs in the sixth to defeat Giles 10-1. Auburn collected 13 hits with every starter collecting at least one hit. Mitchell Hale led the offense with three hits and three RBI. Jared Lavergne and Brody Hensel had two hits each and Landon Marris added three RBI's for the Eagles. It was a combined effort on the mound from Lavergne, Hensel and Matthew Altizer allowing one run, four hits, five walks and 11 strikeouts.

Also last week, Mason Underwood for Blacksburg and Josh Givens for Auburn hooked up in a pitchers' duel with the Eagles coming out on top 2-0.

Givens threw a complete game shutout allowing only three hits, three walks and striking out nine.

Underwood had a no-hitter through 4 1/3 before Auburn broke through with 2 runs and 3 hits in the fifth. Landon

Marris doubled to break up the no-hitter followed by a run scoring single by Mitchell Hale. With two outs and Hale on second, JJ Cockram singled to center to plate Hale with the second run of the inning and make the score 2-0.

In the seventh, Blacksburg had the tying runs on but Givens calmly retired the last two batters on infield pop-ups to secure the victory. Underwood finished with six IP, allowing five hits, two runs, one walk and four strikeouts.

BHS Lax slips by Salem
The Blacksburg High School girls lacrosse team beat Salem 9-8 for the first time in program history this past week.

Hayli Williams and Karlyle Gresham both scored three goals. Maria Addikis, Emmie Swift, and Madison Stewart all had one goal each. Charis Krouscas had four assists and Emmie Swift had two. But the true star of our game was the Bruin defense as they played as an amazing unit, with goalie Leo McCoy having 12 saves.

Carroll 2-1 over Radford in softball

On Thursday, it was an old-fashioned pitcher's duel Thursday night at Veterans Field that took extra innings to decide. Carroll County's senior pitcher Emma Leath earned the win going all eight innings, striking out 18, giving up five hits and walking none. Radford Sophomore Quinn Burton took the loss also going all eight innings, surrendering 5 hits, striking out eight and walking none. Addie Saunders led the Bobcats with two hits, with Ella Cox, Burton and Kat Price each adding a hit. Adding to her work at the plate, Saunders had an incredible diving catch in center field to end the third.

Staff Report

Lessons from page 4

He was a great comfort and friend to my parents in their later years and presided at both their funerals. Known as "Ole Doug, the Emory & Henry Flash," he attended E & H with several Christiansburgers of his day, including Tommy Barber and Buddy Shull and Mike Griffith, mid 60's CHS heroes of mine, and met his lovely wife Penny on campus.

Doug served as pastor at the Methodist churches in the three towns I resided in before my move to West Virginia - Christiansburg, Charlottesville, and Williamsburg, and luckily for the local community, he and Penny chose C'burg as the place they wanted to retire. "Flash" and I have become very close friends over the last several years, and we worked together to establish the King-Earp-Ross Scholarship at Emory last year. Doug loves his church and his community, and I have been blessed to call him a friend. A very special person.

Rev. Ken Ramsey, Assistant Pastor to Rev. Waters at Bridgeport Methodist before returning to that church as head minister after several stints in between, beloved by all everywhere he has gone in his journeys. Ken had been an excellent high school basketball player in central West Virginia and had the opportunity to play Division 1 at an Ivy League school before getting the "calling" and attending a small Methodist college in West Virginia and doing a "circuit ministry" at several rural churches while getting his education. At 6' 3" and 26 years of age, Ken was the star of our Wednesday night "30 something" pickup games at our church. Although I only attended his church a few years early in his career, he always remembers me and greets me with a smile and a hug.

Rev. John Koerner. Recently retired from First Presbyterian Church in Clarksburg, the church I have attended for the last 30 years of my life.

Another high school basketball star, who came from the tiny community of Helvetia in central West Virginia and played on a state championship team at Pickens High, graduating class of 18 or so. John and his wife, also an ordained Presbyterian minister, teamed to lead our church through changing demographics and declining membership, focusing on "doing good" in the community. He was always there for those in need, without regard to whether members of our church or their social status. And his sermons were always understandable and humorous and meaningful.

Rev. Floyd Carroll, Minister at St. Paul during my high school and college years. He presided at the service honoring St. Paul seniors at CHS the year I graduated and at my wedding in 1976. He was loved by the teenagers in our church, a difficult thing to pull off. My Dad liked to tease Rev. Carroll that he was the only person he knew who was named after two counties in Virginia. Simply a nice and kind man.

Father Hilarion Cann. The most educated of my list by far, Father Cann came from a large Italian family in Clarksburg, during the time such families would "dedicate" at least one son to the priesthood and one daughter to the convent. He studied for many years at the Vatican, and after returning from Rome, he was the priest at All Saints Catholic Church in Bridgeport. I attended many weddings and funerals where he was celebrant. I also knew him socially, as Father Cann rarely passed up an opportunity to attend a party at the house of his parishioners. He used to say, "Buddy are you sure you aren't Catholic? You seem Catholic." Eventually he would say, "you're my favorite non-Catholic." I am good friends with several of his nephews. When I

pass his grave site in the cemetery at the end of my street where I have jogged for years, I always take off my ball cap and say hello.

Rev. Eric Faust. The first non-Methodist minister whose church I attended. He was the pastor at First Presbyterian in Clarksburg when my second wife and I "compromised" after we became a couple. I guess it was predestined (inside joke - it's something Presbyterians are famous for). Eric was another fine and caring member of the community he served, and he married Joyce and me on a Thursday night on short notice.

Rev. Kurt Busiek. My next-door neighbor for several years while he was the minister at a large Baptist Church in Clarksburg, raising four small children with his great wife, Mona. Kurt was a runner and told me that when he ran in local races, he would repeat a Bible verse to himself - "I will run and not grow weary, I will run and not grow weary" - changing the tempo of his recitation depending on whether he needed to speed up or slow down. He was also the backup quarterback in high school to Payne Stewart, the famous golfer who tragically died in a plane crash while Kurt was my neighbor.

Rev. Carl Haley. I really didn't know Rev. Haley. He was my dad's roommate at Emory & Henry, and while I was at UVA, he was the minister at a large Methodist Church just across the street from the campus. For my four years in Charlottesville, whenever I came home, my dad would ask me if I had attended Rev. Haley's church and introduced myself. Unfortunately (and sadly now), my response was always something along the lines of, "we have different schedules, but I'll get there soon".

Blessed to have known these folks.

CROSSWORD ANSWERS

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