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Carilion CEO Nancy Howell Agee to retire

Nancy Howell Agee, who led Carilion for more than a decade, will step down as CEO Sept. 30 according to Carilion.

Steve Arner, who was promoted to president in May 2023, will succeed Agee and become president and CEO Oct. 1.

“The leadership transition comes after Agee’s long and distinguished career at Carilion, beginning as a nurse in 1973,” a statement from Carilion reads. “She was named Carilion’s president and CEO in 2011, becoming the health system’s seventh – and only female – top executive.”

Agee earned national recognition for reorganizing Carilion as a fully integrated, physician-led clinic that includes a medical school and research institute with Virginia Tech and served as chair of the American Hospital Association’s Board of Trustees in 2018. She also served as a member of the Radford University Board of Visitors from 2003 – 2011

And was Vice Rector in 2007.

“Nancy Howell Agee personifies health care servant leadership,” said VHHA President and CEO Sean T. Connaughton. “Her journey has been a quintessential self-made American success story from her days as a candy stripper following a teenage injury and hospitalization, as the first person in her family to graduate from high school, to her work as a hospice and surgery nurse, her civic engagement on behalf of the Commonwealth and its people, her



PHOTO COURTESY OF CARILION

Nancy Howell Agee (right) will step down as CEO of Carilion Sept. 30. Steve Arner (left), who was promoted to president in May 2023, will succeed Agee and become president and CEO Oct. 1.

accomplished tenure leading Carilion Clinic, and her service as past Chair of the American Hospital Association’s (AHA) Board of Trustees and the Virginia Hospital & Healthcare Association’s (VHHA) Board of Directors. She leaves Carilion in the capable hands of health system President and Chief Operating Officer Steven C. Arner, a talented leader guiding Carilion to continued success. Nancy has our sincere

admiration and appreciation, and Steve has our full support moving forward. We congratulate them both.”

Agee will serve as CEO emeritus through September 2025 and “focus on philanthropy, growing Carilion’s partnerships and continuing to develop the health system’s reputation statewide and nationally” according to Carilion.

“Steve is a strong and capable leader whose commitment to our mission and

deep knowledge of our entire organization make him well-suited for the CEO role,” said James Hartley, chairman of Carilion Clinic’s board of directors.

Arner has served as chief operating officer since 2012. He spearheaded more than \$500 million in facilities investments, including the Crystal Spring Tower addition to Carilion Roanoke Memorial Hospital, on track for completion in 2025, and the recently opened Carilion Children’s and Mental Health facilities at Tanglewood. During the Covid-19 pandemic, he led the health system’s response, while also serving as chair of the Virginia Hospital and Healthcare Association.

“Carilion today is a nationally ranked academic health system that provides an extraordinary range of services, from primary care to the most advanced, complex care,” said Arner. “In some respects, it’s a far different organization than the one I joined more than 25 years ago. What has remained the same since the day I started is Carilion’s laser-like focus on its mission and our community, and I look forward to continuing on the path to growth and collaboration.”

“Carilion and our community have been the fortunate beneficiaries of Nancy’s talents for more than 50 years,” added Hartley. I’m grateful to her for her continued service, and I’m grateful to Steve for advancing us to our next chapter.”

Staff report

Patricia Moss (1933-2024): Celebrating the life of an iconic American artist



Patricia Buckley Moss, widely known as P. Buckley Moss, passed away peacefully on July 13, 2024, surrounded by family.

With her departure, the art world mourns the loss of a talented and influential artist and philanthropist whose work and charity touched the lives and hearts of countless supporters.

Born on May 20, 1933, in Staten Island, New York, as the second of three children to Vincent William

Buckley and Elizabeth Panno Buckley, Pat was raised in a house full of love and support alongside her sister Mary Martin and brother Daniel Buckley. Pat discovered her passion for art at a young age, and despite facing challenges related to her learning differences, persevered and pursued her artistic dreams. Pat graduated from the Cooper Union

See PATRICIA MOSS, Page 6



PHOTO COURTESY OF UMWA

Karen Baker, candidate for the Ninth Congressional District, gather with members of the United Mine Workers of America.

United Mine Workers of America endorses Karen Baker for Ninth Congressional District

The United Mine Workers of America are endorsing Karen Baker’s candidacy for the Ninth Congressional District.

The UMWA, which represents the interests of miners and their families, has recognized Baker as a “champion for the issues that matter most to their members” according to a statement.

Baker’s background as an associate member of the UMWA and her involvement in advocacy work against the Moss 3 Landfill in Russell County “demonstrates her deep connection to the coalfields region and her commitment to environmental and labor issues.”

Baker expressed her gratitude for the endorsement.

“I am honored to receive the support of the United Mine Workers of America,” she said. “The men and women of the UMWA are the backbone of Southwest Virginia, and I am committed to fighting for their black lung benefits and pension and ensuring that their voices are heard in Washington.”

James Gibbs, International Vice President At-Large of the United Mine Workers of America said he is confident Baker will represent the UMWA’s interests.

“I’ve spent a lot of time with Karen Baker and I know she can do the work,” he said. “She is an outstanding candidate who cares about the coalfields region and our coal miners. I am confident that she will fight for us, unlike our current congressman.”

“Every time I see our miners, I ask them: Can you tell me one thing? One thing that Morgan Griffith has done for our union or for our coal miners? And they can’t tell me,” Gibbs told his members at recent meeting.

“Every time the mine workers put their heads together, anything is possible,” Gibbs added. “Y’all know we can get this thing done in these six coal counties. We have power and we have people. We will win this thing.”

Staff report

Traditional music featured at Mary Draper Ingles Festival



PHOTO COURTESY OF GLENCOE MANSION

Musicians Kim & Jimbo Cary will present traditional music of early America on a variety of instruments during the Mary Draper Ingles Festival, set for July 26- 28. The entertaining duo will play a variety of instruments including mandolin, fiddle, guitar and gourd banjo. The audience will be treated with authentic old-time banjo tunes, flat-pickin’ bluegrass, gospel and southern mountain music. All total, the festival’s three days will feature more than 75 activities, including old-time crafts and skills, art exhibits, vendors, a petting zoo, live music, historical dancers, food trucks, a children’s play zone, a short reenactment of the Ingles play, “Long Walk to Freedom,” and more. For the full schedule and locations, go to www.glencoemansion.org/mdifestival or phone (540) 731-5031.

RCPS sets policy to increase students’ water consumption

RADFORD – Radford City Public Schools has made an update to its School Wellness Policy to ensure students have increased access to water throughout the school day.

The change should positively impact the health and well-being of students throughout the division and their overall academic success, with students having access to the support they need to stay hydrated during the day.

“By prioritizing the well-being of its students, Radford City Public Schools is setting an excellent example for other school divisions to follow,” announced Virginia Foundation for Healthy Youth in a statement.

The updated policy was developed in collaboration with the Rev Your Bev campaign, the VFHY healthy hydration campaign, and its statewide, award-winning high school program, Y Street.

“Research has consistently proven that water is the healthiest beverage choice as it fuels your body,” said VFHY. Since 2013, Rev Your Bev and

Y Street have devoted and sustained efforts to spread healthy hydration messages to help individuals make drinking water a habit and improve Virginians’ overall health. Radford City Public Schools’ revised wellness policy now aligns more with Rev Your Bev’s best practices, ensuring students have access to free and safe drinking water throughout the school day and encouraging teachers to model healthy hydration behaviors. Approved water bottles are also allowed, and water sources will be regularly maintained for hygiene and safety.

VFHY and Y Street are committed to supporting Virginia school divisions’ efforts to maintain a positive, healthy learning environment and serve as a resource for Virginia schools.

“The Virginia Foundation for Healthy Youth is thrilled to have Radford City Public Schools join as a partner to support healthy hydration. Adequate water consumption is a great habit for youth to develop and a key

component to creating positive health outcomes,” said Executive Director Marty Kilgore.

The impact of the updated policy is expected to increase students’ water consumption and promote healthy hydration. Radford City Public Schools joins the growing list of divisions with comprehensive wellness policies prioritizing water access and promotion, becoming Rev Your Bev’s 15th partner.

“Drinking water boosts energy levels and combats fatigue for all our students throughout the day,” said RCPS Director of School Nutrition Connie Wood. “Additionally, water transports nutrients and oxygen to your cells and helps maintain the body’s fluid balance, which is crucial since about 60% of the body is composed of water.”

Radford City Public Schools will receive free resources such as water bottles from VFHY as part of its partnership with Rev Your Bev to support the division in implementing its updated policy.

Virginia Foundation for Healthy Youth

UPCOMING EVENTS

Saturday, July 20:

Radford Summer Concert

Chairmen of the Board will be performing. Bring a chair or blanket and come out to the fields of Glencoe Mansion, Museum & Gallery at 600 Unruh Dr., Radford. Gates open at 6 p.m. Concert begins at 7 p.m. Alcoholic beverages can be purchased through Radford Chamber of Commerce. Food trucks and non-alcoholic beverages are also available. Admission is \$5 per person. Children 12 and under and free.

Blacksburg Farmers Market

At Market Square Park, 100 Draper Rd SW, Blacksburg; 8 a.m. - 2 p.m. The Blacksburg Farmers Market is a local, family-friendly gathering place in downtown Blacksburg featuring farmers of locally grown produce and meats, alongside artisans of baked goods and handmade crafts. For more information, visit <http://blacksburgfarmersmarket.com>.

Radford Farmer's Market

Every Saturday through October; 9 a.m. - 1 p.m. on the grounds of Glencoe Mansion, 600 Unruh Dr. Visit weekly for an ever-changing supply of homemade goodies, crafts, plants, meats, produce, and more.

Sunday, July 21:

Vintage Market

At Market Square Park, 100 Draper Rd SW, Blacksburg; 10 a.m. - 5 p.m. The market is made up of a carefully chosen group of vendors selling a wide selection of quality vintage items, upcycled crafts, and occasional antiques. For more information, visit blacksburgfarmersmarket.com/vintage-market/.

Monday, July 22:

Montgomery County Board of Supervisors meeting

Public meetings are normally held 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, July 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.

Wednesday, July 24:

Blacksburg Farmers Market

At Market Square Park, 100 Draper Rd SW, Blacksburg; 2 - 6 p.m. The Blacksburg Farmers Market is a local, family-friendly gathering place in downtown Blacksburg featuring farmers of locally grown produce and meats, alongside artisans of baked goods and handmade crafts. For more information, visit <http://blacksburgfarmersmarket.com>.

Market Square Jam

Blacksburg's Market Square Jam is an official Crooked Road affiliated venue that provides fun and entertainment on Wednesday evenings, June through September. The Jam takes place at Market Square Park from 7-9 p.m. For more information and a list of hosts, please visit blacksburg.gov/marketsquarejam.

Thursday, July 25:

Thursday night indoor concert

Concert will be held at the Blacksburg Presbyterian Church, 701 Church St. SE. "A Treasury of English Music," music by Handel, Purcell, and others. This event is a community sing. Rehearsals began on July 1. Contact the Blacksburg Presbyterian Church to get involved.

Friday, July 26:

Spaghetti Dinner Fundraiser

Please join the Pilot Community Center for a Spaghetti Dinner Fundraiser; 5-7 p.m. Pilot Community Center, 4449 Brush Creek Road, Pilot. The meal is \$10 per plate and includes spaghetti, bread, salad, and a drink. Dine-in or take-out available. We'll also have a 50/50 raffle! For more information call 540-382-6537.

Friday, July 26 - Sunday July 28:

Mary Draper Ingles Festival

Multi-day festival in multiple locations featuring tours of historic landmarks, exhibits, historical interpreters, vendors, live music, performances and more. For the full schedule, go to www.glencoe mansion.org/mdifestival or phone (540) 731-5031.

Historic Smithfield's 250th anniversary

Commemoration event will include tours of the grounds and gardens, panels discussing the histories of everyone who lived on the property, a dedication of the Merry Oak Bench, activities for the little ones and book signings from authors who have written on local history. There will also be a Reunion Mixer at the Smithfield Pavilion with a welcome video and speech. For a complete schedule go to www.historic smithfield.org.

Radford, Virginia Tech partnership accelerates pathway to master's degree

RADFORD - A new partnership between Radford University and Virginia Tech offers students a unique opportunity to fast-track their education. The 4+1 undergraduate/graduate program in Virginia Tech's Department of Agricultural and Applied Economics within the College of Agriculture and Life Sciences allows Radford University students pursuing a bachelor's degree to earn a master's degree in just one additional year.

The program blends academic excellence with real-world relevance, integrating industry and government issues into coursework focused on applied economic analytics, commodity markets, pricing and contemporary challenges in food systems. Graduates will be prepared for diverse roles in the food and agricultural sectors and various data analytics positions across industries. This partnership opens doors to promising career paths, offering students a competitive edge in today's job market with skill sets in economic modeling, data analysis, econometrics, forecasting and micro- and macroeconomics.

Career paths may include:

Agriculture economist - Analyze economic data

related to farming, food production and agriculture policies for government agencies, research institutions or private companies.

Policy analyst - Evaluate agriculture policies and their impact on farmers, consumers and the environment for government agencies, think tanks or advocacy organizations.

Market analyst - Study supply and demand dynamics, pricing trends and market competition in agriculture commodities for agriculture businesses, commodity trading firms or market research companies.

The master's degree program is 100% online and open to all Radford University students with a 3.3 GPA, regardless of major, who have completed certain required courses. As part of the accelerated 4+1 agreement, students will not have to pay application fees or submit GRE scores to Virginia Tech.

"We are excited to see this new partnership with Virginia Tech come to fruition," said Bethany Usher, provost and senior vice president for Academic Affairs at Radford University. It exemplifies our commitment to fostering regional collaboration and providing

innovative educational pathways that prepare students for the dynamic challenges of the modern workforce. By streamlining the journey from undergraduate to graduate education, we are enabling students to advance their careers more efficiently and with greater flexibility."

"We are delighted to form this partnership," said Seife Dendir, department chair and professor in Radford University's Department of Economics. "Radford University students who are interested in pursuing a graduate economics degree now have a great opportunity to do so in a reputable, career-focused program. The 4+1 arrangement, which allows students to start the program in their senior year at Radford and finish within a year of receiving their undergraduate degree, also provides a big incentive."

"The program enables students to enter the workforce on schedule while continuing to work on their master's degree, offering a valuable head start in their careers," said Matthew T. Holt, department head and professor in the Department of Agricultural and Applied Economics at Virginia Tech.

Radford University

Study shows songbird habitats benefit monarch butterflies

WASHINGTON— Establishing a songbird habitat benefits at-risk birds and plays an important role in helping

conserve other vulnerable species.

According to the USDA's Natural Resources Conservation Service,

a study conducted by the Indiana University of Pennsylvania found that managing habitats of songbirds like the

golden-winged warbler also provides co-benefits to other birds and pollinators.

One of those pollinators is the vulnerable monarch butterfly, which has faced significantly declining populations in North America.

"We're implementing strategies for the golden-winged warbler, but it's important for us to understand how those efforts augment or provide potential benefits to these other species," said researcher Jeffery Larkin during a webinar about avian-focused conservation outcomes.

The study examined conservation efforts to manage early successional habitats for golden-winged warblers in the Appalachian Mountains and Great Lakes regions. While these habitats are vital to songbirds' breeding success, the study demonstrated they serve as important nectar and forage sources for monarchs. They also promote the growth of

milkweed—a plant pivotal to monarchs' survival.

Early successional habitats are open areas typically covered in young trees, shrubs, grasses and wildflowers that support a variety of wildlife species. Ecologically diverse, the habitats form after a disturbance, like wildfires, severe weather and timbering.

If not properly managed, the habitat will become a mature forest with tree canopies blocking sunlight from reaching the understory plant species that support wildlife.

But managing these habitats is expensive. The NRCS' Working Lands for Wildlife initiative provides landowners with financial and technical assistance to conserve and create the diverse habitats.

The USDA said research from this study will strengthen conservation solutions for the monarch butterfly and other pollinators. It also will provide valuable information for more

multispecies approaches.

"Contributing to the recovery of another species is wonderful news," Larkin said.

The iconic monarch butterfly is known for its migration from overwintering sites in central Mexico and coastal California to as far north as Canada. But populations are facing stressors, including reduced milkweed and nectar plant availability due to habitat loss and land conversion.

According to the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, eastern monarch populations declined from 384 million in 1996 to 60 million in 2019. The western monarch population declined from around 1.2 million in 1997 to less than 30,000 in 2019.

To read a report on the study, visit bit.ly/3RZnwhs. Learn more about creating or enhancing monarch butterfly habitats at bit.ly/3VYE765.

Virginia Farm Bureau

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NEWS JOURNAL

Radford Dispatch implements Emergency Medical Dispatch resource

Radford City Dispatchers recently implemented a new system known as "Emergency Medical Dispatch" (EMD). This system, already in use at over 3,500 emergency call centers worldwide, is designed to bridge the critical moments between the initiation of a 911 call and the arrival of emergency responders. Through EMD, 911 dispatchers will ask specific questions and provide instructions tailored to the nature of each medical emergency,

ranging from non-urgent to life-threatening situations. Emergency Medical Dispatch is a life-saving system that enables 911 telecommunicators to quickly assess each patient and determine who needs immediate pre-arrival instructions. While rescue units are en route, dispatchers will use APCO International software-based protocol to guide them in asking relevant questions and providing essential instructions for a variety of medical emergencies. These



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include CPR, choking, overdoses, allergic reactions, seizures, severe bleeding, and injuries. The specific questions and instructions will vary depending on the type of medical emergency. Public cooperation and patience with 911 telecommunicators is crucial for delivering the best possible care until emergency responders arrive. By following the provided instructions, callers can significantly improve the outcome for the patient.

City of Radford

August Kids eligibility screening set for Aug. 5

The Radford Clothing Bank is once again gearing up for its annual August Kids Program. The program provides a \$75 voucher for each income qualifying student in grades K - 12 attending Radford City Schools. The vouchers can only be redeemed at the local Fairlawn Walmart to purchase new school clothing and tennis shoes for each school aged child in a family. In 2023, 296 students received vouchers. This year's screening for eligibility will be August 5, 10 a.m.- noon and 4- 6 p.m. at Central Church, 803 Wadsworth St., Radford.

The Radford community and the 14 churches that sponsor the Radford Clothing Bank provide funding and volunteers. Anyone wanting more information can call the Radford Clothing Bank at 540-633-5050. Donations to this project can be mailed to RCB, P O Box 994, Radford, VA 24143. You MUST provide all of the following verifications: • Photo ID of applicant • Proof of address (June or July bill) • Social security card or birth certificate for each child in the home. *SNAP, Medicaid, TANF or four weeks of current pay stub for each employed family member Questions? Call the Radford Clothing Bank at (540)633-5050 (10 a.m. -noon) Monday-Saturday. Monetary donations can be sent to: Radford Clothing Bank PO Box 994 Radford, VA 24143

Radford Clothing Bank

BAE Systems selects Parsons Corporation for design work

BAE Systems has selected Parsons Corporation, a national security and global infrastructure company, to begin initial designs for the modernization of the Alternate Nitrate Ester Manufacturing Facility at the Radford Army Ammunition Plant (RFAAP). Under the two-year, \$15.4 million contract, Parsons will prepare a series of preliminary design packages for the RFAAP manufacturing facility. BAE Systems OSI continues to modernize World War II-era facilities to deliver mission-critical capabilities to the military. BAE says this project "will improve the safety of manufacturing areas, increase operational efficiencies, and continue to prioritize environmental

improvements." Parsons Corporation is currently providing design and engineering, permitting, and delivery of the Energetic Waste Incinerator/ Contaminated Waste Processor, a safe alternative to open burning at RFAAP. BAE Systems' legacy of modernizing while manufacturing, supported by Parsons' experience at RFAAP, will provide the U.S. Army with the expertise to deliver reliable, innovative energetics. "As a premier design and construction management solutions provider for the Army's industrial base, we're proud to be a part of critical work at both Radford and Holston Army Ammunition plants," said Jon Moretta, president

of Engineered Systems for Parsons. "Together with BAE Systems, we will leverage our experience to advance the Army's efforts to modernize the organic industrial base. This important project will add to the storied history of service with which Radford Army Ammunition Plant has provided our nation for more than 80 years and will help ensure the plant remains ready to support the warfighter." BAE Systems OSI has been the operating contractor of the RFAAP since 2012, and, in December 2023, received the contract to continue operating the Holston Army Ammunition Plant in Kingsport, Tennessee, through 2035.

BAE Systems

RCPS students to receive free breakfast and lunch

RADFORD - All RCPS students to receive free breakfast and lunch in the upcoming school year. Radford City Public Schools has announced all students in RCPS will be entitled to free breakfast and lunch for the upcoming school year. All schools in the division will be participating in the Community Eligibility Provision (CEP) as implemented under the Healthy, Hunger-Free Kids Act of 2010. Students attending a participating school will be provided a nutritious meal for breakfast and lunch each day at no charge to the household. Households will not be required to submit a meal application form to receive meals at no charge. A la carte items are not included in CEP and must be paid for including milk.

Radford City Public Schools

Radford Army Ammunition Plant to hold community meeting July 23

CHRISTIANSBURG — The Radford Army Ammunition Plant (RFAAP) will hold the next Commander's Community Meeting on Tuesday, July 23 at 6:30 p.m. The event will take place at the Christiansburg Library at 125 Sheltman St., Christiansburg. Additionally, the event will be broadcast on Facebook Live from

the Radford Army Ammunition Plant Facebook page. These meetings are open to the public and are an opportunity to learn about RFAAP Modernization and Environmental Projects. Our commitment to responding to your questions extends beyond the Community Meeting. You can reach out to us for questions or

to conduct research on your own through several resources, including: Facebook: www.facebook.com/RadfordArmyAmmunitionPlant Homepage: www.jmc.army.mil/Radford/RadfordDefault.aspx Email: usarmy.ria.jmc.mbx.amsjm-pa@army.mil

Radford Army Ammunition Plant

Send community news and photos to communitynews@ourvalley.org

Marketplace ourvalley.org THE FINCASTLE HERALD The Vinton Messenger THE NEW CASTLE RECORD SALEM TIMES REGISTER News Messenger RADFORD News Journal

Legals - Montgomery County

TRUSTEE'S SALE OF 140 SUMMIT RIDGE ROAD, CHRISTIANSBURG, VA 24073. In execution of a certain Deed of Trust dated May 15, 2003, in the original principal amount of \$60,800.00 recorded in the Clerk's Office, Circuit Court for Montgomery County, Virginia as Instrument No. 2003007685. The undersigned Substitute Trustee will offer for sale at public auction in the front of the Circuit Court building for Montgomery County, 55 East Main Street, Christiansburg, Virginia, or any such temporary alternative Circuit Court location designated by the Judges of the Circuit Court, on August 26, 2024, at 12:00 PM, the property described in said Deed of Trust, located at the above address, and more particularly described as follows: ALL THAT CERTAIN TRACT OR PARCEL OF LAND, WITH THE IMPROVEMENTS THEREON AND THE APPURTENANCES THEREUNTO BELONGING, SITUATE, LYING AND BEING ON SUMMIT RIDGE ROAD, IN THE OF CHRISTIANSBURG, RINER MAGISTERIAL DISTRICT OF

Legals - Montgomery County

MONTGOMERY COUNTY, VIRGINIA DESCRIBED AS FOLLOWS: ALL OF LOTS 23 AND 26, AS SHOWN ON THE PLAT SHOWING LOTS 25 AND 26, EDIE PARK, SECTION B PREPARED BY CURTIS W. SUMMER, L.S. DATED 30 JANUARY 1984, JOB NO 3769, A COPY OF WHICH MAP IS OF RECORD IN THE OFFICE OF THE CLERK OF THE CIRCUIT COURT OF MONTGOMERY COUNTY, VIRGINIA, IN DEED BOOK 482 PAGE 800 AND TO WHICH MAP REFERENCE IS MADE FOR A MORE PARTICULAR DESCRIPTION OF THE PROPERTY HERBY CONVEYED. 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.

Legals - Montgomery County

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 Mortgagee'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.bwvsales.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: BWV Law Group, LLC, attorneys for Equity Trustees, LLC, 6003 Executive Blvd, Suite 101, Rockville, MD 20852, 301-961-6555, website: www.bwvsales.com. VA-355083-2.

Legals - City of Radford

NOTICE OF TRUSTEE'S SALE 1011 Sutton Street, Radford, Virginia Tax Map # 15-(8)-sec 2-23-24 In execution of a Deed of Trust in the original amount of \$143,000.00, dated October 29, 2013 from Todd Calfee, recorded as Instrument Number 01301396 in the land records of the Radford Circuit Court, Radford, Virginia, default having been made in the payments of the indebtedness thereby secured, the undersigned will on July 23, 2024 @ 12:00 NOON at the front entrance of the Radford Circuit Court, 619 Second Street, West, Radford, Virginia, offer for sale at public auction the property and improvements thereon, described as follows: All that certain tract or parcel of land with all improvements thereon and appurtenances thereunto belonging, situate in the City of Radford, Virginia, being that certain 0.3685 acre parcel designated as Lot B on a certain plat of survey entitled "Physical Survey of Lot B Being the Easterly Portion of Lot 24 and the Westerly Portion of Lot 23, Sec. 2, Forest Park Subdivision. City of

Legals - City of Radford

Radford, Virginia, for Thomas A. & Cynthia L. Paredes" dated October 7, 1993, prepared by Matthews & Henegard, PLS, a copy of which survey appears of record in the Radford City Circuit Court Clerk's Office in Deed Book 176, Page 747. TERMS OF SALE: CASH This sale is subject to all matters of record in the chain of title to the above property, and also subject to mechanics' and materialmen's liens of record and not of record, if any such liens exist. A bidder's deposit of 10% of bid amount, in cash, certified or cashier's check, is required at the time of sale, with the balance due at settlement, to be held within 30 days from the sale date at the office of the Trustee. The property and improvements thereon shall be sold in "as is" condition. All costs of conveyance, by special warranty deed, will be at the cost of the purchaser. Real estate taxes shall be prorated to date of sale. Additional terms of sale shall be announced at the time of sale and contained in a memorandum of sale which the successful bidder shall be required to sign. JEFFREY A. WARD

Legals - City of Radford

SUBSTITUTE TRUSTEE For more information please contact: Jeffrey A. Ward, Esquire Franklin, Denney, Ward, & Strosnider PLC 129 N. Wayne Ave., Waynesboro, Virginia 22980 540-946-4408 email: jward@fdwslaw.com

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The magic of turning food waste into paint pigments

For Yoon Jung Choi, designing changes in human behavior has led to turning food waste into works of art.

"I always wanted to rethink my job roles in the packaging industry and do my own thing, but I often wondered what I could do to impact society positively," said Choi, assistant professor in Virginia Tech's College of Architecture, Arts, and Design.

In 2023, Choi launched Food Magic, which utilizes a multistream recycling approach to capture food waste that can be transformed into natural powder pigments for art. According to Grist.org, the U.S. Department of Agriculture's National School Lunch Program alone wastes approximately \$5 million worth of edible food daily.

Choi explained this process, as well as the issue of food waste in public schools in America, in a paper she presented at the Design Research Society's conference on June 27.

Funded by the Institute for Creativity, Arts, and Technology (ICAT), Food Magic successfully engaged local school and community groups in the New River Valley to help co-design this potential systemic transformation toward a circular economy.

The produced pigments have already been used to create art that's on public display. Hiromi Okumura, assistant professor and co-investigator on the project, has used the pigment in paintings currently featured in the

New Vision exhibition at the Hilton Alexandria Mark Center in Alexandria. This is part of ICAT's collaboration with the City of Alexandria Office of the Arts from November 2023 to May 2024.

Inception

Earlier in her career, Choi worked in branding, packaging, and product design with companies including Bluemarl Brand Design, Lewis Moberly, and Samsung Design Europe in London. During that time, she observed problematic consumer behaviors.

"We design so many products, but at the end of their use, short or long term, the users simply discard them, whether the products have broken down or not; we produce so much waste," Choi said.

Before moving to America for her faculty appointment, Choi visited K-12 schools in Blacksburg to find a potential school for her children. She witnessed an enormous amount of food being wasted at schools; that experience troubled her.

"How much food was not eaten yet thrown away in the cafeteria was a culture shock to me. I had never actually witnessed anything like that until that very moment," said Choi, who previously lived in England. "The school my son eventually attended struggled with recycling on multiple levels. For instance, at lunch, there was no food waste bin or recycling bin,



PHOTO COURTESY OF YOON CHOI

Yoon Choi extracts pigment from orange peels during an art workshop at Pulaski.

just one huge garbage bin for mixed waste."

That day, she set out on a mission to tackle the food waste problem she observed.

The recycling process

Choi's effort to recycle food waste focuses on changing behaviors and utilizes a co-design approach, which incorporates feedback from users throughout the creation process.

She collaborated with Lee Worley, one of three art teachers at the Blacksburg Middle School, to begin a school-wide food recycling effort and conduct a two-day art workshop with his eighth grade students.

"I thought that the pigments were great. Choi's project is amazing, and I'm hoping that something larger can grow

out of this," Worley said.

The conversations with the students revealed the methods they believed would be most successful in encouraging their peers to actively participate in the first step of the process – sorting waste.

"People often get confused about what goes where, when, and why. So we designed these three color-coded bins to guide them in the sorting," Choi said.

Over a few weeks, the 3D-printed bins collected green, orange, and purple foods from more than 1,000 students in the school's cafeteria. The waste was kept refrigerated between collection and extraction.

The extraction of pigment from the food worked by adding the waste into an extractor and boiling its content. Upon cooling down, the solids were then separated from the liquids.

The pigmented liquid was then transferred to an evaporator for dehydration, leaving a sticky concentrate to be mixed with a stabilizing agent. The mixture was mulled on a flat glass surface until it was smooth and homogenous.

At this point, the paint could be used, further diluted, or freeze-dried for later usage. During the workshops, students were encouraged to paint with the new products, hoping they would see the useful nature of the now-recycled waste.

"The watercolor pigments made out of food waste were indiscernible from the type of cake watercolor that we use

in the classroom. These pigments reacted the same, the colors were the same, though the kids were a little sensitive to the fact that the food did smell like food," Worley said.

Unlike many commercially available paints, the pigments produced during this process can decay back into the environment.

"Once artificial paints dry out, they get thrown away or go through the sewage system, thus polluting our waters and ecosystems," Choi said.

While the pigments are currently used mainly for watercolor, Choi is exploring collaborations to find sustainable ways for oil extraction to be used as a binder and produce higher-density paint in the future.

Impact on the community

The co-design nature of this project has fostered a collaborative environment for faculty members, students, and the community and provided valuable data related to behavioral changes and recycling food waste.

As a part of the workshops, Choi used feedback cards and informal conversations to gauge the impact it had on the students.

According to the responses, 90 percent of students surveyed reported learning food waste has value by being converted to natural paint and 61 percent said they want to share this new knowledge at home.

The project has also

impacted those who helped make it possible.

The resulting unusable biomass residue can be composted or thrown away upon extracting the pigment. This substance inspired Avery Gendell, a master's degree candidate in architecture working on the project.

"I learned a lot about design for behavioral change using the co-design approach, both of which were relatively new to me. Now, I am interested in the potential of growing mycelium composites using this mushy byproduct as a substrate instead of discarding them or composting them," Gendell said.

Since the middle school workshops, Food Magic has expanded to other local organizations.

"We collaborated with Blacksburg Middle School, the YMCA, Wonder Universe, and the Fine Arts Center for the New River Valley. They all wanted us to set up programs and workshops with them and expand this project," Choi said.

The Virginia Tech Science Festival, Hokie for a Day, and ICAT Innovation Day have also offered outlets for the project to engage with the community.

Food Magic has already inspired other projects with a similar theme. Choi is currently in the beginning stages of ToySphere, a project that aims to transform the relationship between consumers and end-of-life toys.

Virginia Tech

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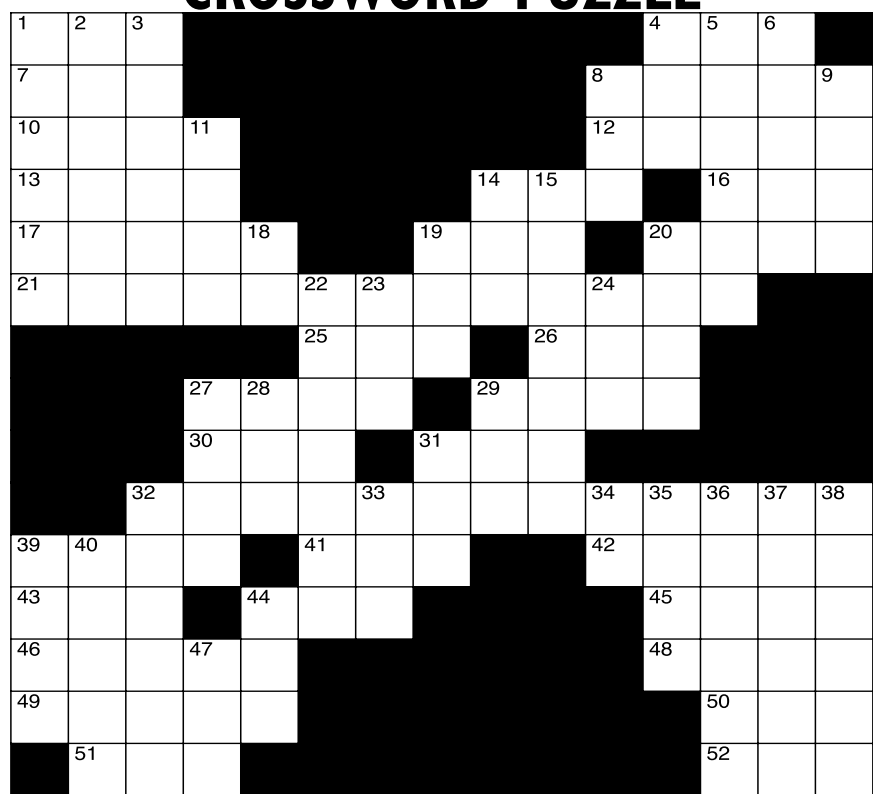
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CROSSWORD PUZZLE



- | | | |
|--|---|---|
| <p>CLUES ACROSS</p> <p>1. Rated horsepower (abbr.)</p> <p>4. What a cow says</p> <p>7. Snake-like fish</p> <p>8. Spiritual leader</p> <p>10. Catch</p> <p>12. Car part</p> <p>13. Extremely small amount</p> <p>14. Nucleic acid</p> <p>16. The Greatest of All Time</p> <p>17. Lustrous</p> <p>19. India's least populated district</p> <p>20. Muckraking journalist Jacob</p> <p>21. Medicine</p> <p>25. S. American plant</p> <p>26. Small amount</p> <p>27. Dry or withered</p> | <p>29. Where construction takes place</p> <p>30. Russian river</p> <p>31. Supervises flying</p> <p>32. "City of Brotherly Love" native</p> <p>39. Greeting at meeting</p> <p>41. Common gibbon</p> <p>42. Type of TV</p> <p>43. Corpuscle count (abbr.)</p> <p>44. Scottish port</p> <p>45. Computer company</p> <p>46. One from Asia</p> <p>48. Former significant others</p> <p>49. Woven fabrics or garments</p> <p>50. One's sense of self-esteem</p> <p>51. The Science Guy</p> <p>52. Monetary unit</p> | <p>CLUES DOWN</p> <p>1. "The Leftovers" actress King</p> <p>2. Epic</p> <p>3. Missouri county</p> <p>4. Chinese revolutionary</p> <p>5. Get</p> <p>6. Ancient Greek coin</p> <p>8. Returned material authorization (abbr.)</p> <p>9. Part of the human eye</p> <p>11. A fisherman's accessory</p> <p>14. Brazilian state</p> <p>15. Of a wedding</p> <p>18. Prosecutor</p> <p>19. The main constituent of chromosomes</p> <p>20. Advice</p> <p>22. Principles of right and wrong</p> <p>23. Decorate a cake with frosting</p> <p>24. Headgear</p> <p>27. New York art district</p> <p>28. ___ Lilly, drug company</p> <p>29. Car mechanics group</p> <p>31. Influential U.S. president</p> <p>32. Quell the anger</p> <p>33. Swiss river</p> <p>34. Personal computer</p> <p>35. Incline from the vertical</p> <p>36. Wild goats</p> <p>37. Assert that someone has done wrong</p> <p>38. Anti-apartheid leader ___ Mandela</p> <p>39. Crop of a bird</p> <p>40. "A Doll's House" playwright</p> <p>44. Autonomic nervous system</p> <p>47. Consumed</p> |
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OBITUARIES

Stevens, Jacob Gene

Jacob Gene Stevens, 91, of Blacksburg, died peacefully Friday, July 12, 2024.

Gene was born May 7, 1933, in Marion, Ohio to the late Howard and LeOpal Stevens. He was preceded in death by his wife of 62 years, Marilyn Joan Stevens and his son, John Scott Stevens. He is survived by his son, Kenneth Todd Stevens, of Blacksburg; sisters Pansy Barrett and Vera Hayes; many nieces and nephews; and beloved puppy dogs Dawn and Darcy.

Gene grew up in Marion, Ohio. He was a barber in the family barber shop in the 1950's and served as a barber in the US Army. He continued his barber career in Marion after his discharge. Gene also worked for Whirlpool Corporation in Marion, Ohio for over 30 years.

Gene was an active member of First United Church of Christ, in Marion, Ohio. He enjoyed donating to a broad variety of charities and was especially fond of animal rescues and dogs. He was a dedicated father and husband



who enjoyed gardening, playing Euchre with friends, shooting pool, and traveling with his wife to vacation with their sons.

The family would like to give special thanks and recognition to friends who cared for Gene throughout his final years and days, caregivers Karen Bartnick and Trish McLawhorn and his phenomenal physical therapist Amy Sartoris-Kietrys, who even got him to dance.

Visitation was held Thursday, July 18 at McCoy Funeral Home, 150 Country Club Dr SW, Blacksburg. There were also visiting hours Monday, July 22 at Boyd Funeral Home at 122 West Columbia St, Marion, Ohio. A funeral service followed at the funeral home. An interment followed the funeral service at Grand Prairie Cemetery, 4964 Brush Ridge Dr N, Marion, Ohio.

In lieu of flowers, please consider a donation to the Montgomery County Virginia Animal Care & Adoption Center, 480 Cinnabar Rd, Christiansburg, Virginia 24073.

Worrell, Earnest Pierce

Earnest Pierce Worrell, 85, of Snowville, passed away peacefully at his home, surrounded by those he loved the most, Tuesday, July 16, 2024. He was born in Carroll County October 5, 1938, to the late Hobert S. and Delmar Simpkins Worrell. Earnest grew up in Snowville where he gained his lifelong love of fishing, hunting, gardening and the mountains. He was a devoted employee of New River Industries for 39 years.

Earnest was known for his incredible love for his family, his infectious laugh, and for being the best cook around. He was a hardworking and devoted husband, father and Paw. His greatest joy was serving his family and spending time with them.

Earnest was preceded in death by his parents; daughter, Sandra Lynn Worrell;



brothers, George, Melvin, William and Bobby Worrell; and his sister, Nellie Worrell Morris.

He is survived by his loving wife of 63 years, Gracie Eileen Dishon Worrell; son, Jackie D. Worrell; daughter and son-in-law, Jeannie Worrell Quesenberry (Michael); granddaughters, Autumn Brooke and Alyson Blake Quesenberry; sisters, Hattie Worrell Simpkins and Edna Worrell DeLap; special sister-in-law, Belva Lorraine Dalton; brothers-in-law, Jeff, Ricky and Gary Dishon; and many other family members and friends.

A graveside service will be held at 9 a.m. today, Saturday, July 20, 2024, at the Dishon Cemetery in Snowville with Pastor Jason Aker officiating.

The Worrell family is in the care of Mullins Funeral Home in Radford.

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.sttofc.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, 1916 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

& 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. Sunday Services 10:30am Sunday School 9:00am. Child care is provided. www.centralchurchradford.org.

PENTECOSTAL HOLINESS

Merrimac Pentecostal Holiness Church, Rev. Larry Christopher (540) 552-7194. lchristopher695@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 and Randolph. Worship will be at 10 am Memorial Day (May 26) through Labor Day (September 1). Pastor Morgan Whitfield, Jr. will lead 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.stpaulvumc.org

Radford WORSHIP DIRECTORY

We Forget; God Remembers

Read Isaiah 14:1 through 18:7

Forgetting things causes problems. People who forget where they put their car keys will be late for an appointment. Those who forget a birthday or anniversary will find their relationship with the other person suffers. Those who forget God will find things will not go well in the long run.

You have forgotten God your Savior; you have not remembered the Rock, your fortress (Isaiah 17:10).

In this section, Isaiah predicted several gloom-and-doom scenarios for the nations who chose not to honor God—who forgot God. These nations had historically bullied God's people and were sometimes

unwittingly God's instrument to bring His people back to Him.

But God remembered His own, promising to show compassion to them and turn the tables on the nations that had been the oppressors: "The Lord will have compassion on Jacob; once again he will choose Israel and will settle them in their own land" (Isaiah 14:1).

God always remembers us and waits for us to remember Him.

Prayer Suggestion: Lord, I want to remember You in all things.

Quicklook: Isaiah 17:7-14

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

OBITUARIES

Fletcher, Aileen Ruth Blankinship

Aileen Ruth Blankinship Fletcher completed her earthly journey Thursday, June 6, 2024.

She is preceded in death by her parents, Massie and Anne Blankinship; her brother, Massie Blankinship; and her husband of 58 years, Peter Leon Griffin Fletcher.

She was born July 30, 1942 in Washington DC and was raised in Bethesda, Maryland, but resided in the New River Valley for the majority of her life. Earning her Master of Arts, she was best known best as a professor of art at NRCC for 33 years and retired in 2011, but continued her passion for the arts by continuing to teach at NRCC and volunteer for numerous arts related groups such as the Blacksburg Regional Arts Association. Her hobbies revolved around the arts for many, many years and never missed a chance to show her many works around the NRV and beyond.

She had much support of her LOF for the Unitarian Universalist Congregation, one of which she and Peter were one of the original founding families.

She is survived by her daughter, Maria Ruth Fletcher; son Kevin Leon Fletcher (Melissa); sister-in-law, Edna Blankinship; nephew Walker; her beloved grandchildren, Nell and Gibson Hughes; nieces Eva and Maria; and her fur babies who brought her much joy her entire life.

A celebration of life will be held July 27, 2024, 1-3 p.m. at The Warm Hearth in the Village Center. For info contact Maria at mariasgardening@gmail.com.

In lieu of flowers contributions can be made to the following loves of our mother: New River Community College Educational Foundation (online www.nr.edu/giveonline or by mail), Blacksburg Regional Arts Association, Floyd Center For The Arts, and Montgomery Museum.

Morehead, Harold Vincent

The breath of life left Harold Vincent Morehead, 77 of Dublin, Sunday morning July 14, 2024, in the presence of his wife, Shirley, and sons, Ben and Cody.

We knew immediately by his face that he had entered his eternal rest, and his soul was with his heavenly Father. He received no greater joy than knowing others would meet him there.

Vince had an immense amount of pride for having served his country as a Corporal in the 5th Division of the Marine Corps. He served in the Vietnam War between 1969 and 1971. Vince received a Purple Heart from that service. He never missed an opportunity to share that he served his country.

Vince lived his life to the fullest. His greatest loves were his family, especially his children, their spouses and his grandchildren. Not a day would pass without him bragging about his people and what they were up to. Vince loved to hunt and fish and found stillness and peace when he was near the mountains.

He was always known for his smile and his warmth. Those who had the opportunity to meet him would know how legendary his hugs were and how welcoming he was to anyone who came through the door. He was a permanent member of the greeting crew at Belview Church! Vince was strong in his Christian faith and lived his life connected to the values of his faith.

Vince found joy in everything. He



certainly had no lack of laughter and was a charter member of the Kimberling Creek Social Club, also known as the Wednesday Prayer Group by its members. Here, he was affectionately known as "Uncle Vince," and there was always a cup of coffee ready for him. He spent his days hunting after Bob's groundhogs, checking on the "old men", playing cards with his wife and their friends, and listening to classic country music in

his Jeep.

Vince was an incredible man. Like all of us he had his challenges, but He never allowed those to take away his joy and his peace. His life was simple. He was such a strong leader as a husband, father, and grandfather. Vince had a presence that filled the room with so much love and peace. He is going to be deeply missed and will never be forgotten.

A celebration of Vince's life will be held at 4 p.m. on Saturday, July 20, 2024, at Belview Church, 3619 Onyx Drive, Radford, VA. 24141. Following the service please join us at our home, 6095 Hedge Lane Dublin, VA, for a potluck meal. All are welcome and be sure to bring a chair.

Please no flowers. In lieu of flowers, please consider donations to Belview Church.

A private burial with full military honors will be held at the Southwest Virginia Veterans Cemetery in Dublin.

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

Branch, Betty Webb

Betty Webb Branch, 85, of Riner, passed away Friday, July 12, 2024.

She was born in Gate City, Virginia, the daughter of the late Clyde and Bertie Webb. She was a member of Central United Methodist Church in Radford.

Betty was preceded in death by her parents; husband, David "Bear" Carr Branch; daughter, LuAnn Branch; and brothers, Clyde Everette "C.E." Webb, Jr. and Joe Bill Webb.

Survivors include her sons, Steven Branch and David Branch (Kitty); grandchildren, Nikole (Ryan), Kasey (Eric), Courtney (Calvin), Joshua David (Katherine); great grandchildren, Kane, Lennon, McCall, and Esmé; sister-in-law, Betty Ruddy; and many other beloved relatives and friends.

Betty was born October 20, 1938. She spent much of her childhood working on her parents' tobacco farm. Alongside her brothers, she milked cows, dug up potatoes, and cared for two pet groundhogs.

At 16 years old - indicative of her fiercely independent nature - Betty graduated high school and moved to Radford to attend Radford College. While working toward her teaching degree, she met David Carr. They married in 1957 and enjoyed 47 years of laughter, bridge-playing, entertaining at their home, family trips to Myrtle beach, and supporting each other through all of life's joys and hardships.

As a young girl and teenager, participating in sports was a refuge for Betty and inspired a lifelong passion for athletics. She was an exceptional basketball player and was invited to join the All-American Red Heads professional women's team - the longest-running women's professional franchise in the history of basketball - while she was still in high school. Although her parents thought it best for her to remain at home, Betty continued playing and was known to sink half-court shots with ease well into adulthood.

But Betty's true sports love was tennis. She played, coached, refereed, spectated, and inspired loved ones and friends to do the same. As a girls' tennis coach at Radford High School, she helped lead them to multiple state titles and was honored as Timesland Coach of the Year four times. Radford High School immortalized her coaching prowess by inducting her into their first



cohort of Hall of Famers. While her competitive spirit contributed to her enjoyment of the sport, what meant even more to Betty were the lifelong friendships that originated on the court and shared experiences and adventures that blossomed from them.

Betty's endurance on the court mirrored the unending support she selflessly gave to family and friends when they were in need of care. Both her

mother-in-law and her own mother lived with Betty and her family when they could no longer live alone, and eventually, Betty lovingly cared for her husband through a battle with lung cancer. These were the big ways in which she took care of others, but Betty also never failed to show up in "smaller" ways. Usually the first one to arrive to help out before an event or gathering, often the last to leave - hands wet from washing dishes, always just a phone call or text message away, Betty cared for others with an open heart, a dollop of spunky sass, and a huge smile on her face.

Perhaps her favorite role was matriarch. Betty exuberantly and tirelessly participated in the lives of her children, grandchildren, and great-grandchildren. Wherever her family was and whatever her family was doing, she wanted to be right in the middle of it all. And through it all, MeMe/Meems (as she was called by her grands and greats, respectively) made everything more fun, more joyous, more special. On the day that she passed, three of her great-grandchildren visited with her. Betty continually wanted to hug and kiss each one, crying happy tears throughout their last time together.

The family would like to express their sincere gratitude for the care and companionship that Bettina Cox of Senior Home Care provided to Betty over the last few months.

A celebration of Betty's life will occur today, Saturday, July 20, 2024, at Mullins Funeral Home in Radford. The family will receive friends 2 - 4 p.m., and memorial services will begin at 4 p.m. with Rev. Don Shelor officiating.

Graveside services will be private. In lieu of flowers, please consider contributions to either the Radford High School Booster Club or the Radford High School Tennis Teams.

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



PHOTO COURTESY OF MCCC

Montgomery County Chamber partners with Carter Bank & Trust to support local minority-owned businesses

The Montgomery County Chamber of Commerce has partnered with Carter Bank & Trust to award complimentary chamber memberships to four local minority owned businesses.

In the month of May, the Chamber collected nearly 20 entries for the Minority Owned Business Contest. To be eligible, the business must be 51 percent or more owned by a minority, marginalized or underrepresented demographic such as: Black or African American, Hispanic, Native American, Asian-Pacific, Subcontinent Asian, woman, veteran, or individual with a disability. Additionally, the business must be in Montgomery County or Radford City, legally operating for at least one month and cannot be current investors with the Chamber.

The winners were: This Penguin Can

Fly LLC - Rachel Coleman, The Blush Door - Kierstin Houston, FWM Candles LLC - Geoffrey Brown, and The Stray Shop - Taylor Carroll.

"At Carter Bank & Trust, creating opportunities for more people and business to prosper is a part of our guiding principles," said James Cabler, Community Development Lender for Carter Bank & Trust. "Small businesses are life blood of our community, and we are proud to partner with the Chamber to help them succeed."

"We are excited to partner with Carter Bank & Trust Bank to offer these opportunities and to support locally owned minority businesses," said Steve Baffuto, MCCC President and CEO. "We plan to do this again next May."

MCCC

Patricia Moss

from page 1

for the Advancement of Science and Art in New York City, where she honed her skills and developed her unique style. In 2014 Cooper Union honored Pat as the inaugural recipient of the prestigious Peter Cooper Public Service Award, presented each year to a Cooper Union graduate who best exemplifies a life of service to the public.

Throughout her career, P. Buckley Moss became renowned for her distinctive artistic approach. Her paintings often depicted rural landscapes, barns, and idyllic scenes that captured the essence of the American countryside. Pat's work was characterized by vibrant colors, intricate details, and a sense of warmth and nostalgia.

One of the defining features of Pat's art was her use of the Amish and Mennonite communities as subjects. Referred to as The People's Artist by American television journalist Charles Kuralt, she developed a deep connection with these communities and their way of life, which inspired many of her paintings. Pat's portrayals of Amish and Mennonite families resonated with audiences worldwide, showcasing the beauty of simplicity, community, and faith. Those who loved Pat and her art were much more to her than collectors and fans. She considered them all to be her close friends and her extended family.

P. Buckley Moss's artistic contributions extended beyond her paintings. She was also a dedicated philanthropist who used her art to make a positive impact on society. Friends and art collectors shared her vision, and in 1987 the P. Buckley Moss Society was formed. To date, the Moss Society has issued 49,467 memberships. The Moss Society has and continues to be a compassionate force working together to make their individual communities better. Building on the Moss Society's endeavors, she established the P. Buckley Moss Foundation for Children's Education in 1995, whose mission is to support children with learning differences, and promote the importance of integrating art into education. The Moss Foundation continues to make a difference in the lives of young people, reflecting her commitment to giving back to the community.

Over the course of her career, P. Buckley Moss received numerous accolades and

honors for her artistic achievements and philanthropy. Her work was featured in prestigious galleries and museums around the world, and she was a sought-after artist whose pieces are cherished by collectors. Pat's contributions to the art world earned her a dedicated following and cemented her status as an iconic American artist.

While P. Buckley Moss may no longer be with us, her artistic legacy lives on. Her paintings will continue to inspire and captivate audiences, reminding us of the beauty found in everyday life. Moss's impact on the art world and her philanthropic endeavors will be remembered as a testament to her talent and compassion.

Pat was a devoted mother of six and a cherished grandmother of ten. Her enthusiasm for travel, food and the many pleasures of life was shared with everyone she knew. She found joy in every person and place she encountered. Her adventurous spirit led her to spend significant time in Virginia and Florida, exploring the seashore, mountains and the Shenandoah Valley. Pat embraced activities such as skiing, windsurfing, sailing and had a lifelong passion for gardening.

Pat was preceded in death by her parents and siblings, her first husband John Gordon Moss as well as her son John Damian Moss. She is survived by her remaining five children, daughters Mary Donnelly (Kerry), Rebecca Ghezzi (Roberto), Patricia Moss (Mary Morgan), Virginia Moss (Corrado Gabellieri), her son Christopher Moss (Lisa) and her daughter-in-law Maureen Moss. Pat is also survived by her grandchildren Kate Harvey (Michael), Sarah Donnelly (Anthony Frate), Sean Donnelly, Sofia Ghezzi, Michela Ghezzi, Pier Francesco Gabellieri, Chiara Gabellieri, Kristina Moss, Diana Moss and Amanda Moss.

At a later date to be announced, Pat's family will hold a ceremony to celebrate the life of P. Buckley Moss. In lieu of flowers, those who wish can send donations to the P. Buckley Moss Foundation for Children's Education, the American Cancer Society or the Glioblastoma Foundation. Faulkner Funeral Homes, Foster-Faulkner Chapel, Mathews, Virginia is assisting the family.

RADFORD SPORTS

New technology for ACC football

The Atlantic Coast Conference and Apple will collaborate to bring iPad Technology to ACC football sidelines and coaches booths starting with the 2024 season, it was announced today. All 17 ACC football programs will have access to conference-provided iPad Pro and iPad Air models to immediately view video playback, elevating on field performance.

In April, the NCAA Playing Rules Oversight Panel approved the use of video for in-game evaluation. The large multi-touch display of iPad, combined with its performance and portability, make it the ideal solution for coaches and student-athletes to watch film in-game in an efficient and timely manner. The video provided to each team's sideline will include the broadcast feed and camera angles from the coach's sideline and coach's end zone.

"The ACC continues its commitment in embracing the use of technology to elevate the performance of our student-

athletes, teams, officials, and more," said ACC Commissioner Jim Phillips, Ph.D. "We are proud to advance the sport of football and build upon our positive experiences over the last two years of testing in men's and women's basketball. Between our state-of-the-art ACC Game Day Operations Center, being at the forefront of testing the technology in basketball and with this year's integration in football, we are proud of our unparalleled prioritization of technology and the positive impact it will have for our league."

"We're thrilled the ACC is utilizing iPad, as its unique capabilities and versatility make it the ideal solution to support coaches and student-athletes," said Scott Brodrick, Apple's Worldwide iPad Product Marketing. "With an unrivaled combination of advanced displays, powerful performance, portability, fast connectivity, all day battery life and versatile accessories, iPad will let coaches and players

make in-game adjustments and empower athletes to compete at the highest level."

The ACC will kick off the 2024 college football season in Dublin with a Week 0 matchup between Florida State and Georgia Tech, live on ESPN in the 2024 Aer Lingus College Football Classic at Aviva Stadium on Saturday, Aug. 24 (noon ET). Action continues in Week 1 with all 17 ACC teams taking to the field and 16 of them playing across Disney platforms over Labor Day weekend.

In addition, the conference announced the 2024 ACC Football Championship Game will kick off in primetime at 8 p.m. ET on ABC on Saturday, Dec. 7, at Bank of America Stadium in Charlotte, North Carolina. This fall will be the first featuring 17 ACC football teams and for the second consecutive season, the league's football championship game will showcase the top two teams based on regular-season conference winning percentage.

"There will be great anticipation throughout the season as our teams compete to earn a spot in the 2024 ACC Football Championship Game. We are thrilled it will once again be played in primetime on ABC and at Bank of America Stadium directly across from our conference office headquarters," said ACC Commissioner Jim Phillips. "We look forward to an incredible 2024 ACC Football season with our 17 programs collectively playing the toughest nonconference schedule in the country in addition to each team's eight challenging league opponents."

The 8 p.m. ET kickoff marks the 15th time in the last 16 years that the game will be held in primetime. Since its inception in 2005, a total of 13 different teams have competed in the championship game. Last season, No. 4 Florida State emerged victorious, defeating No. 14 Louisville 16-6 to secure its fifth ACC Football Championship Game title (2005, 2012, 2013, 2014, 2023) and its 16th ACC title.

Bank of America Stadium, home of the NFL's Carolina Panthers, has hosted 13 of the last 14 ACC Football Championship Games. In 2018, an agreement was reached to keep the game in Charlotte through 2030. Excluding the 2020 game, which had limited attendance due to the pandemic, the ACC Football Championship Games at Bank of America Stadium have averaged nearly 70,000 fans in attendance. Since 2010, the ACC has had the second-highest average attendance of any Power 5 conference championship game.

The winner of the conference championship game has advanced to the National Championship Game or competed in the College Football Playoff in eight of the last 11 seasons, including two teams in 2020. The ACC has the second most football national titles over the last 11 years and is one of only two conferences with a .500 or better record in the first 10 years of the CFP.

ACC

Southwest Virginia Swim League holds championship meet



PHOTO BY JON FLEMING

Henry Miller races in the boys 9-10-year-old 25-yard breaststroke for the Pine Valley Piranhas at Tuesday's SVSL Championships hosted by the Christiansburg Aquatic Center. Approximately 500 swimmers converged on the Christiansburg Aquatic Center from across the New River Valley for the 2024 Southwest Virginia Swim League Championship Meet Tuesday night.



PHOTO BY JON FLEMING

Pine Valley's JT Keister set a new meet record in the girls 9-10-year-old 50-yard breaststroke at the SVSL Championship meet. Shawnee took the large team title with Blacksburg Aquatics second. Hethwood Swim Club claimed the small team championship with Piedmont second.



PHOTO BY JON FLEMING

Pine Valley's Kade Hamilton races in 50-yard breaststroke during Tuesday's SVSL Championship meet.



PHOTO BY JON FLEMING

Pine Valley's Wyatt Gill waits for the start of the 7-8-year-old 25-yard freestyle at the SVSL championship meet.

Outdoors: Safe practices for summer trout fishing

Despite an elevation advantage that mitigates warm water in the summertime, trout streams in southwest Virginia, particularly during summers of little precipitation and high heat, can reach temperatures that stress trout. Across the state, water temperatures typically peak at the end of July and early August.

So, if trout fishing during this period, it's wise to understand the relationship between trout health and water temperature and plan your fishing strategically.

As most anglers are aware, fish don't have lungs for breathing atmospheric oxygen. Rather, they intake oxygen that is dissolved in the water through their gills.

Specifically, gills feature countless filaments, each with thousands of small folds called lamellae. When water passes over a fish's gills, dissolved oxygen passes through thin membranes in the lamellae, where it is incorporated into their blood stream.

For a fish to live, it must consume food and covert glucose into energy, a process known as metabolism, which requires oxygen in the bloodstream. The more energy a fish needs, the more dissolved oxygen it needs for the metabolic process. The warmer the water, the less dissolved oxygen it can hold.

When fish expend energy by fighting against an angler, they require an increased amount of oxygen to create that energy. In the absence of oxygen in the bloodstream due to high water temperatures and low dissolved oxygen levels in the stream, their bodies break down glucose without oxygen,

which creates lactic acid, which, along with glucose and plasma potassium, can build up to create a potentially lethal chemical cocktail. Without sufficiently cold water to hold the required levels of dissolved oxygen that a trout needs to recover, a trout that is hooked, fought, and removed from the water, even if released seemingly successfully, can perish later.

These are the mechanisms that define a fish's upper temperature threshold for survival and the parameters of responsible angling practices during periods of warm water.

Trout are most comfortable in highly oxygenated water that doesn't exceed 68 degrees in temperature, though there are some variations in tolerances between species. Rainbow trout, for example, are comfortable at slightly higher water temperatures than brook trout, and brown trout can handle even warmer temperatures.

All three species can tolerate temperatures up to 77 degrees for short periods of time, but such temperatures can be lethal if sustained.

Armed with the aforementioned knowledge, it is paramount to carry a stream thermometer in the summertime and take readings throughout the day. Often, water temperatures will be healthy, in the low 60s, in the morning, but will creep into the mid- and upper-60s in the afternoon. As a general rule, fishing becomes dangerous for the trout's health when water temperatures reach the upper 60s.

When faced with such conditions, there are a few courses of action to consider. First, consider fishing early in the morning for a few hours and then quitting or seeking out a spring creek or tailwater with colder water temperatures. Second, consider swapping your trout gear for bass, carp,

or panfish gear and go hit a warmwater river or farm pond. The fishing is never better there than in the heat of the summer.

When you do fish in warm water temperatures, also consider upsizing your gear slightly, with the goal of fighting and landing fish as quickly as possible. Avoid fighting fish to the point of exhaustion, and keep them in the water as much as possible when unhooking.

As the summer heat begins to set in, hit the road with a stream thermometer in search of cold water, and keep the fishes' safety as a priority.

Matt Reilly, Virginia DWR



PHOTO BY MATT REILLY

When fishing for trout in the summertime, or in marginally warm water temperatures, consider upsizing your gear and carrying a good landing net to allow you to fight and land fish quickly and keep them in the water when unhooking.

CROSSWORD ANSWERS

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EEL						RABB
GRAB						MOTOR
IOTA				RNA		ALIT
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ACETA				MINOPHEN		
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				CIAO		LAR
RBC				AYR		GABLE
ASIAN						DELL
WEFTS						EXES
NYE						EGO
						SEN

RADFORD SPORTS



PHOTO COURTESY OF VT ATHLETICS

New look burgundy uniforms for Virginia Tech this football season.



PHOTO COURTESY OF VT ATHLETICS

Virginia Tech unveiled white uniforms this week that eliminates shoulder stripes.

Sports notes: New Hokie uniforms unveiled

Marty Gordon

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The Virginia Tech football team will a new look when they take the field in less than 50 days.

This past week, the school unveiled uniforms that spin back to an earlier time in Hokie history.

The word “Tech” is prominent on the front bumper of both helmets. The jersey numbers feature the double outline, which began in the early 80s and debuted in Frank Beamer’s first year in Blacksburg and further made famous by Hokie teams in the 1990s.

The orange sleeve numbers on the burgundy unis pay tribute to the teams from 1995 to 2003, considered to be one of the most successful in school’s history.

Hokie stone adorns the inside of the numbers on both the burgundy and white, according to the university, connecting the past, present and future Virginia Tech.

The white helmet blends the past and present look with the stripe being updated to match the primary VT logo. “Ut Prosim” is stitched to the inside of both collars, defined of course by the school, “that I may serve.”

Both pants have been updated to include the wordmark “Hokies.”

Watts new soccer assistant

Virginia Tech head soccer coach Mike Brizendine announced the hiring of assistant coach Matt Watts on Tuesday.

Watts comes to Blacksburg following

eight years in charge of Nova Southeastern (DII), posting a 64-44-14 record with the Sharks. His tenure was highlighted by a Final Four run in 2021, while his program claimed its first Sunshine State Conference (SSC) title in the same year.

Having headlined the 2021 NCAA Division II South Region Staff of the Year, Watts guided Nova Southeastern to its first NCAA Tournament victories in program history during the Final Four run, which ended in penalties to the eventual national champions (Cal State).

Glenvar coach to Roanoke College

The Roanoke College football team announced two new assistant coaches Friday, Tony Spradlin as the recruiting coordinator/wide receiver coach, and Gerard Johnson as the special teams/cornerbacks coach. Spradlin is a Salem High School graduate where he was a two-time state champion, and earned all-state honors as a wide receiver and punt returner. Spradlin played football at Concord University and Christopher Newport University where he was an all-conference wide receiver. He earned his Bachelor’s degree (History) from Concord University and his Master’s degree (Education) from Radford University. Prior to coming to Roanoke, Spradlin spent the last four years as the offensive coordinator at Glenvar High School in Salem, and as the passing game coordinator and co-special teams coordinator for two years prior to that, Johnson previously served as the head

Duo wins member-guest tourney



PHOTO COURTESY OF PETE DYE RIVER COURSE

The Pete Dye River Course of Virginia Tech held its Men’s Member-Guest tournament this past week in Radford. Pictured are the winners: Ken Sherlock and Keith Anderson.

coach and offensive coordinator for the Caroline High School Cavaliers for two seasons.

Former RU coach at Roanoke

Roanoke College has hired Nathan “Nate” Stewart as its vice president for advancement.

Stewart is a Roanoke College alumnus who currently serves as associate vice president and chief operating officer for development and alumni engagement at Centre College in Danville, Kentucky, according to a news release from Roanoke College.

Stewart earned his Bachelor of Science degree in health and human performance from Roanoke College, where he was also a member of the men’s basketball team.

After graduate school, Stewart was an assistant men’s basketball coach at Radford University and at the University of Maryland Baltimore County. He went on to serve as assistant athletic director for advancement and director of athletics and athletic development at Eastern University and as director of athletics at Carthage College.

Appy honors River Turtle

The Appalachian League announced that Pulaski’s Noah Rabin Hitter of the Week for the period of July 8-14.

Rabin, 23, earned Hitter of the Week honors after batting .421 (8-for-19) with

10 runs scored, two home runs, two triples, one double and seven RBI in six games for the River Turtles. He led all Appy League hitters during the period in OPS (1.577), runs, triples and total bases (19), and finished second in the circuit in home runs (tied) and slugging (1.000).

Rabin hit safely in five games for Pulaski, posting three multi-hit efforts and multi-RBI games apiece during his award-winning week. A Sebastopol, Calif., native, Rabin is hitting .280 (28-for-100) with a .402 OBP and .510 slugging through 27 games this season between Johnson City (14 games) and Pulaski (13).

Highlander transfers to UNC

The reigning Big South Player of the Year, Lexie Roberts, is the newest member of the Carolina softball team, head coach Megan Smith Lyon announced on Tuesday. Roberts, a Mebane, N.C., native, is joining the Tar Heels after two seasons at Radford University as a rising junior.

A two-time All-Big South selection in the outfield, Roberts led the conference this season in batting average (.413), on-base percentage (.436), hits (62) and triples (5) and was second in runs scored (38) and stolen bases (29). She was also one of just two Highlanders to start all 47 games.

The young people behind Christiansburg Parks and Recreation

Angelica Ramos

Contributing Writer

CHRISTIANSBURG- The Christiansburg Parks and Recreation department has four exceptional young people setting examples for the next generation.

Seanna Perkins, Kenyon Buchanan, Raphael Rico and Deirdre McCurdy all work for Christiansburg Parks and Recreation. They work together in many ways, working the front desk at the Rec Center, managing and supervising at the new Huckleberry Park, scorekeeping at Harkrader Sports Complex and working popular events like Rockin’ Main Street and the Christiansburg Farmers Market.

Each of them started their journey

with Parks and Recreation differently, from scorekeeping to doing community service to wanting to give back to the community sports organizations they were part of as children. Now, these four young adults, through their work, strive to help members in their community, foster relationships with residents and support those around them.

The sense of community Christiansburg has seems to be the center for the passion these young people have.

“I have seen how the community,” Perkins, originally from Giles County, said, “is so tight knit. So, whenever I see things like Rockin’ Main or even the opening of this park [Huckleberry Park], I’m like ‘Wow’. It’s kind of cool how I see

the same faces every time I go to these events. That makes me really motivated to continue.”

Buchanan started his sports career in Christiansburg through playing football and basketball through the Parks and Recreation department. He sees working with this department as giving back to the community that helped him grow into who he is today.

Rico has had a passion for building strong lifelong relationships since high school and sees his work as an extension of that foundational belief.

McCurdy started her work as a volunteer originally as part of her college experience and found that the staff, the community and the opportunity to grow as a leader were essential to her growth.

“I’ve been given so many opportunities,” McCurdy said, “that have pushed me in all the right ways. Don’t be afraid at all to do something new. That’s when you grow and get to see who you really are.”

All four young adults agree that the experiences they’ve had and will continue to have in their roles will empower them in their future endeavors with dreams of becoming teachers, therapists, a center of support for other communities and Kenyon’s goal to just make people smile.

“I think it’s great to have a great community around you,” Rico said. “I think it’s just great for everybody. I think it’s important to have a happy place to live.”



PHOTO BY ANGELICA RAMOS

Deirdre McCurdy



PHOTO BY ANGELICA RAMOS

Raphael Rico



PHOTO BY ANGELICA RAMOS

Kenyon Buchanan



PHOTO BY ANGELICA RAMOS

Seanna Perkins