

## A photograph of the exterior of Radford High School. The building features a mix of red brick and rough-hewn stone masonry. There are several large, dark-framed windows. A set of wide concrete stairs with metal railings leads up to the entrance. A sign on a post to the right of the stairs reads "RADFORD HIGH SCHOOL". The building is set on a grassy lawn.

“We are so excited to announce that we will be returning to in-person learning much earlier than

"Therefore, with this informa-

Anyone with questions or concerns about the return to in-person learning earlier than expected, should contact Robert Graham at [rgraham@rcps.org](mailto:rgraham@rcps.org), Tammy Weston at [bhnurse@rcps.org](mailto:bhnurse@rcps.org) or Kelly Minnick at [kminnick@rcps.org](mailto:kminnick@rcps.org).

## An aerial photograph of a large-scale construction project for a school building. The main structure is a long, white, L-shaped building with a flat roof, partially completed. To its right is a smaller, two-story brick building with a blue roof. The construction site is surrounded by dirt roads and parking areas filled with various vehicles, including cars, trucks, and construction equipment. The site is bordered by a green field on the left and a residential area with houses and trees on the right. In the background, there are rolling hills and mountains under a clear sky.



Among the medical services the clinic offers are primary care, specialty care, diagnostic testing, and hospital services. The clinic also offers access to prescription medication through The Pharmacy Connection, diabetic supplies, and medication pickup. The clinic's behavioral health program offers counseling services, behavioral health consultation, and psychiatric services.



# UPCOMING EVENTS

**March 31:**

*Keep Virginia Beautiful Annual "Shiver" Fund-raising Event* - Keep Virginia Beautiful (KVB) has opened registration for Shiver in Virginia, a reimagined version of its annual Shiver in the River festival that has been KVB's largest annual fundraiser since 2015. This year's initiative is designed to be COVID-safe and give people more choice in how they can contribute to the beautification of their communities. Shiver in Virginia runs through today, March 31. Participants engage in activities including litter cleanups, recycling, trail cleaning, graffiti removal and other good deeds. For a donation of \$20.21, participants will receive a free Virginia State Parks parking pass, with no expiration date. Participants will also have access to the KVB Mission Challenge website, where they can map the collective progress on the 2,021 mile path across the state.

*Virginia Tech Parking Survey* - Virginia Tech has released a 2021 parking survey. All those who utilize parking and transportation in and around the Virginia Tech Blacksburg campus are invited to participate, including visitors and Blacksburg residents. The survey

will close today, March 31, 2021, at 5 p.m. All responses will remain anonymous and will be analyzed at the aggregate level. The survey should take fewer than 15 minutes to complete. To take the survey, visit <https://vtnews.vt.edu/notices/adm-evergreens/Transpo-parkingsurvey.html>.

*Teen Book Club: virtual* - 4 p.m. at the Montgomery Floyd Regional Library/Blacksburg Library. Each month the Teen Book Club discusses the first book in a series. To be discussed this month is "The Fifth Wave" by Richard Yancey. For more information, to get the link for the virtual meeting, and to join the book raffle for the first three books, email [bford@mfrl.org](mailto:bford@mfrl.org) or call 540-552-8246.

*Peep Science* - 1 p.m. at the Montgomery Floyd Regional Library/Blacksburg Library online. Watch as the librarians experiment and learn from marshmallow peeps.

**Thursday, April 1:**

*One Good Mama Bone Book Club* - Bren McClain, author of "One Good Mama Bone," will be visiting library patrons virtually in April. In preparation for her author talk, the Radford

Public Library will be hosting a book discussion. Join the meeting on Thursday, April 1 at 6:30 p.m. To join in, use the meeting ID 810 1631 3691 and the passcode 570599.

*American Legion Meeting* - The American Legion, Harvey-Howe-Carper Post 30 will meet at 7 p.m. at the VFW Post Home on 102 Watts St. in Radford. For further information, call 250-2283 or 239-9864.

**Sunday, April 4:**

*First Missionary Baptist to reopen for Easter* - First Missionary Baptist Church, 7318 Manns Drive in Radford and its pastor, the Rev. Richard A. Goodman, Sr., announce the church will reopen its doors for 11 a.m. Easter Sunday services. Celebrate resurrection Sunday with the church, but please wear a mask and practice social distancing.

**Thursday, April 8:**

*Virtual Author Talk with Ron Peterson, Jr.* - The Radford Public Library will present bestselling author Ron Peterson, Jr., at 7 p.m. for a virtual discussion of his new novel, "Chasing the Squirrel: The Pursuit of Notorious Drug Smuggler Wally Thrasher." Joining Ron

will be Wally Thrasher's son, Montana Thrasher. "Chasing the Squirrel" is the true story of Pulaski native Wally Thrasher, whose investigation led to the biggest drug bust in Mid-Atlantic United States history in 1986.

**Tuesday, April 13:**

*Sons of Confederate Veterans meeting* - The Sons of Confederate Veterans, Stuart-Horse-Artillery Camp 1784 will meet at 7 p.m. at Aly's Italian Family Restaurant at 3204 Riner Rd. Jonathan McPeak will give a talk on the "History of the Virginia 45th Infantry Regiment". Members of the United Daughters of the Confederacy are also invited to attend. For further information, please call 320-4315 or 239-9864.

**Wednesday, April 14; April 28, May 12, May 26**

*Hahn Horticulture Garden Virtual Road Trip* - The second stop on this five-stop virtual road trip via Zoom to gardens and arboretums is Wednesday, April 14, at 2 p.m. at the Lady Bird Johnson Wildflower Center with Tanya Zastrow. After that, the tour heads to the Lewis Ginter Botanical Garden with VT alumnus Brian Trader on April 28 at 3:30 p.m., the Wisconsin Arboretum

with VT alumnus David Stevens on May 12 at 2 p.m., and Lotusland with Paul Mills and Rebecca Anderson on May 26 at 2 p.m.. Register online for these talks and a zoom link will be provided: [https://virginiatech.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV\\_cumxRA4Mec96guy](https://virginiatech.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_cumxRA4Mec96guy).

**Ongoing: Through Monday, April 5:**

*Hahn Horticulture Garden Spring Plant Sale* - The 2021 spring plant sale, a joint fundraising event between the Hahn Horticulture Garden and the Virginia Tech Horticulture Club, is online this year due to COVID limitations on gatherings. The sale site link is <http://springplantsaleatvt.company.site>. Ordering will close on April 5 at 5 p.m. Plant pick-up days will be April 22, 23, and 24. A lot of great plants are on the list, but quantities are limited, so ordering early is advised.

**Through Thursday, April 15:**

"ART GAWK: Selections from the Radford University Permanent Collection" - The exhibition is a selection of 111 works that range widely in media, artistic styles, and historical periods. The hours of the exhibition are Monday through

Friday from 10 a.m. until 5 p.m. and Saturday from noon through 4 p.m. at the Art Museum at the Covington Center.

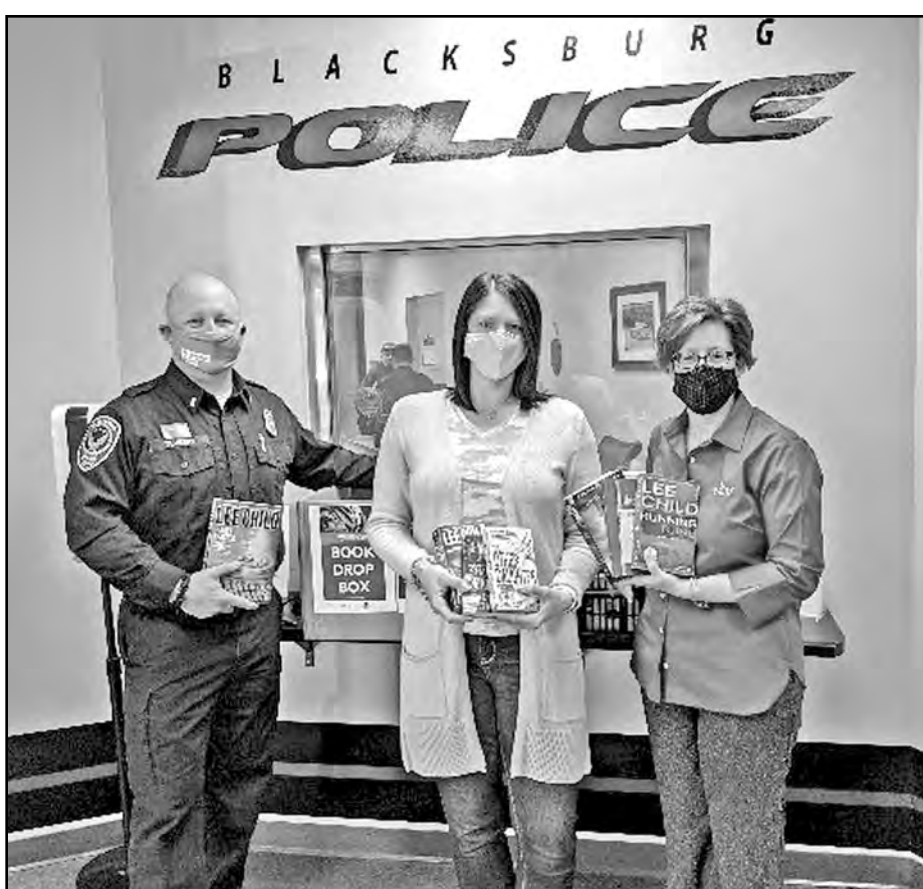
**Through Saturday, April 24:**

"Unbearable Beauty" Exhibit at Moss Arts Center - The exhibit is open each Wednesday from 10 a.m. until 5 p.m. and on Saturdays from 10 a.m. until 4 p.m. through Saturday, April 24. The exhibit is a demonstration of the devastation human activity has wreaked on the environment. The exhibit is free and open to the public.

**Tuesday, April 27; Tuesday, May 4**

*Radford Library Zooms with Ron Peterson, Jr.* - The Radford Public Library will again host Ron Peterson Jr. for a Radford Reads author talk. This time, he'll be discussing another person of local interest in his new book, "Chasing the Squirrel: The Pursuit of Notorious Drug Smuggler Wally Thrasher." Pulaski native Wally Thrasher was recently profiled on "America's Most Wanted" as US Marshals chased leads in his pursuit. The book discussion is at 6:30 p.m. The Radford Public Library will also host a Meet the Author session on Zoom on May 4 at 6:30 p.m.

## Warm Hearth Village and Retired Senior Volunteer Program send books to vets and troops



Left to right: Town of Blacksburg Police Lt. Josh Teubert, Retired Senior Volunteer Program (RSVP) Coordinator Mandy Hayes, and Warm Hearth Village Marketing Consultant Ellen Rorrer.

BLACKSBURG -- Through Operation Paperback, a national, nonprofit organization of volunteers, Warm Hearth Village and the Retired Senior Volunteer Program (RSVP) of Montgomery County and the City of Radford have shipped 223 books to American troops serving in countries all over the world and to veterans and military families in the U.S.

When Ellen Rorrer, Warm Hearth Village's marketing consultant, learned about Operation Paperback, she teamed with Mandy Hayes, the coordinator and director of the local chapter of RSVP, to collect books.

The village and RSVP have had a long-term partnership, and Hayes said as soon as she heard about the project she knew it was "win-win. This perfectly aligns with our goals because we focus on veterans and active military."

As is the case for all collection sites, Warm Hearth Village has a drop box and is responsible for shipping, the only cost for the project. Hayes said their building is closed due to the pandemic so WHV's drop box is outside.

"We have collected 153 books since January 1," Hayes said. "If we were open, doing our normal activities with volunteers coming in and out of the building, I think we'd collect triple what we have so far." Warm Hearth Village has collected 325 books to date, according to Hayes.

Rorrer said Warm Hearth Village also looks for ways to support state-

side veterans.

"We thought this was a great program for WHV staff and residents to collaborate with community organizations and volunteers. We value our relationship with RSVP, and this project was a natural fit. So far we have shipped 223 books gathered from Warm Hearth Village residents, staff and community supporters," Hayes said.

Just this month, partnerships with the Blacksburg, Christiansburg, and Radford Police departments; the Montgomery County Sheriff's Office; Radford University; and Lambda Alpha Epsilon (LAE), the American Criminal Justice Association Fraternity were formed to gather donations. These partners have members who have served in the military or who are just beginning their careers and want to show support.

One book recipient wrote, "I just received my first box while recovering from another surgery and reading a book a day. This has been a real gift, especially for someone who doesn't like TV or technology. Thank you for your dedication and kindness."

Paperback book donations can be made at the village center at Warm Hearth Village, 2387 Warm Hearth Drive, Blacksburg and the RSVP office drop box at 10 Pepper St SE, Christiansburg.

If you are a veteran or would like to enroll a US Military base, go to [www.Operationpaperback.org](http://www.Operationpaperback.org) to sign up.

### NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING COUNTY OF MONTGOMERY, VIRGINIA FISCAL YEAR 2021-2022 TAX LEVIES AND BUDGET

Pursuant to Section 58.1-3007 of the Code of Virginia, notice is hereby given that a public hearing be scheduled for 6:00 P.M. April 8, 2021 on the proposed intention to address the below listed local tax levies for Fiscal Year 2021-2022 upon which matter citizens will have the opportunity to be heard. Said hearing will be held at the Montgomery County Government Center Board Room, 755 Roanoke Street, Christiansburg, Virginia.

FURTHER, notice is given of the Board's intention to propose no increases in the following tax levies for Fiscal Year 2021-2022:

Real Property tax levy remains at \$.89 per \$100 of assessed value.

Personal Property tax levy remains at \$2.55 per \$100 of assessed value.

Machinery & Tools tax levy remains at \$1.82 per \$100 of assessed value.

Merchant's Capital tax levy remains at \$3.05 per \$100 of assessed value.

Mobile Homes tax levy remains at \$.89 per \$100 of assessed value.

Notice is also given that the Board of Supervisors of Montgomery County scheduled a public hearing for 6:15 P.M. or as soon thereafter, April 8, 2021 on the **Advertised Fiscal Year 2021-2022 Budget** in the amount of \$210,986,555. Said hearing will be held at the Montgomery County Government Center Board Room, 755 Roanoke Street, Christiansburg, Virginia.

BY THE ORDER OF THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS  
F. CRAIG MEADOWS  
COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR

## Hall from page 1

Critical Incident Stress Management Team. Her tenure has been devoted to student success, technology in advising, and professional development.

In 2017, Hall earned her Bachelor of Science degree in interdisciplinary studies with a concentration in psychology and social work. She said she has enjoyed a rewarding career in advising, especially the deep connections she has formed with her students.

"Every day, I have the chance to remind students of their relevance and inherent worth," she said. "Advising gives me the opportunity to encourage students to develop their personal and intellectual growth, courageously explore what makes them come alive, and

to audaciously pursue their passions."

Hall and her advising colleagues are housed in the newly established Academic Success Center. The center, under the leadership of executive director Dr. Corey Cassidy, brings together a team of highly skilled individuals who represent key areas within the divisions of Academic Affairs, Enrollment Management, and Student Affairs.

"Radford University has a long history of providing quality academic advising," Hall said. "I feel very fortunate to work alongside so many caring professionals that are deeply committed to student success."

-Mary Hardbarger  
Radford University

Send community  
news and photos to  
[communitynews@ourvalley.org](mailto:communitynews@ourvalley.org)



# Moss Arts Center's 'Homestage' series presents acclaimed Mexican-born author Valeria Luiselli Tuesday at 7:30 p.m.

The Moss Arts Center presents Mexican-born author and 2019 MacArthur Fellow Valeria Luiselli in an exclusive "HomeStage" series event streamed live from

the author's home on Tuesday, April 6, at 7:30 p.m.

Presented by the Moss Arts Center in partnership with the Department of English Visiting Writer

Series, the virtual event features a reading from the author, along with an interview moderated by Carmen Giménez Smith, Virginia Tech professor of English and 2019 Guggenheim fellow, and a question-and-answer session with the audience.

In addition to the April 6 event, Luiselli will lead a virtual discussion with students, faculty, and staff from Virginia Tech's Department of English, sharing insights into her myriad approaches to writing.

Ticket holders have access to this "HomeStage" series event as it happens and for seven days afterwards. The event is part of the Moss Arts Center's 2020-21 season theme, "Flight and Refuge."

Luiselli's recent works

synthesize her experiences as a court interpreter for unaccompanied child migrants caught in the labyrinth of U.S. immigration policy. These experiences figure prominently in her latest novel, "Lost Children Archive."

Born in Mexico City and growing up in South Korea, South Africa, and India, Luiselli writes with dry humor and deftly controlled prose in both Spanish and English, often wrestling with the complexity of translation while drawing from an unusually broad range of Latin American, American, and European literary traditions..

In her nonfiction work, "Tell Me How It Ends: An Essay in Forty Questions" (2017), Luiselli demonstrates the impossibility of

giving coherent, narrative form to the harrowing and fragmented statements that immigration intake questionnaires elicit from children facing deportation.

Named a New York Times 2019 "Top 10 Book of the Year," "Lost Children Archive" provides a fictionalized account of her own family's road trip from New York to the U.S.-Mexico borderlands with stories of the unfolding Central American migration crisis nested into the narrative.

She is the winner of two Los Angeles Times Book Prizes, the Carnegie Medal, and an American Book Award, and has been nominated for the National Book Critics Circle Award, the Kirkus Prize, and the Booker Prize.

She has been a National

Book Foundation "5 under 35" honoree and the recipient of a Bearing Witness Fellowship from the Art for Justice Fund. Her work has appeared in the New York Times, Granta, and McSweeney's, among other publications, and has been translated into more than 20 languages. Luiselli is a writer in residence at Bard College and lives in New York City.

Tickets are \$10 for the general public and free for Virginia Tech students. Tickets can be purchased online; at the Moss Arts Center's box office from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Wednesday through Friday, and 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. on Saturday; or by calling 540-231-5300 during box office hours.

-- Susan Bland

# Virginia Tech researcher strives to lower suicide risk among homebound older adults

Homebound older adults often face a sense of loneliness few could imagine.

Caretakers have long sought ways to heal the pain of isolated aging adults and lower their risk of suicide. The COVID-19 pandemic has only intensified the challenge.

A Virginia Tech researcher will pursue lifesaving solutions with a \$1.3 million federal grant.

Matthew Fullen, an assistant professor of counselor education in the VT School of Education, has co-launched a research project to develop and evaluate an innovative training program. Suicide prevention among older adults represents the top goal of the phone-based training.

Fullen leads the project alongside Georgia State University colleagues Laura

Shannonhouse and Mary Chase Mize. The training program under development is titled Belonging and Empathy, With Intentional Targeting Helping, or BE WITH.

Powered by funding from the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services through the Administration for Community Living, the researchers plan to study the effectiveness of the training for nutrition service volunteers working with older adults in six metro Atlanta counties.

Ultimately, the researchers hope the National Council on Aging will add the training to its registry of programs.

Fullen said the research team previously received federal funds to study the benefits of training home-delivered meals volunteers in suicide prevention skills

through the ASIST program, a suicide intervention training program. The new project and grant builds from this initial research.

"Once the pandemic hit, several of these volunteers described how they so wanted to help their home-delivered meals clients, but didn't know what to do," said Fullen. "We began outlining a phone-based program that would equip these volunteers with opportunities to connect with older adults who have difficulty leaving home."

Participants in programs such as Meals on Wheels have long viewed the services as more than a meal delivery, said Fullen. "This project will foster more intentional social connections between these volunteers and homebound older adults at a time when relationships

are sorely needed.

"We learned from the previous project that these volunteers are eager to develop a more dynamic set of responsibilities within the aging network," Fullen said. "Many of them view meal delivery as a means to connect with older people in their communities, and they feel dissatisfied when their role is relegated to quickly dropping off a meal and then driving away."

"Our hope with the current project is to show that equipping volunteers with a broad range of skills — from suicide intervention to addressing social isolation and loneliness — provides the volunteers with a greater sense of role satisfaction," Fullen said. "We also hope the project will contribute to addressing the spectrum of concerns that some older adults face

in their communities."

Fullen, who joined the School of Education in 2017, has worked with older adults since 2005. He said the pandemic has illuminated growing evidence of the harmful effects of social isolation and loneliness for many older adults in the United States. He offered tips for how members of the general public can help.

"Taking the time to connect with older friends and family members is especially important, and allowing people to express their disappointment, frustration, or sense of loneliness can go a long way," said Fullen. "Two major risk factors for suicide are perceiving oneself to be a burden and feeling like you don't belong. Reminding others that we love them and value their role in our lives has always

been important, but that is true all the more during the pandemic."

The project will continue through 2023.

"Dr. Fullen and his colleagues are helping all of us better understand the importance of experiential, community-engaged learning and applied research across the lifespan," said Kristin Gehsmann, director of the School of Education. "Their efforts will not only impact the lives of participants, but the lessons learned from this research will help the next generation of counselor educators prepare clinicians and educators to better meet the needs of older adults."

# International Week kicks off YMCA at VT's first annual Y Spring Expo through April 25

The first annual Y Spring Expo, sponsored by the YMCA at Virginia Tech, kicked off Thursday, March 25, with Y International Week, which began a month-long celebration of the international programs provided by the Y.

The main purpose of the spring expo is to showcase the many and varied programs provided to the community by the YMCA at Virginia Tech and to feature the excellent child-friendly programs from Virginia Tech, local businesses, and the community. The event will feature a virtual craft market offering a wide variety of unique handmade items.

The expo will feature a month of family fun-filled virtual activities. Shopping with juried artisans and local businesses will run throughout the event.

Donations can be made to support the YMCA at Virginia Tech's community programs such as its Meals on Main from the Y's website at <http://vtymca.org/> or by sending a check to YMCA at VT, 403 Washington St. SW, Blacksburg, VA 24060.

The kickoff week, featured International Restaurant Week and continues through tomorrow, April 1. International Restaurant Week featured flavors from a variety of cultures with participation from Cabo Fish Taco, Café de Bangkok, Cafe Mekong, Ceritano's, Chinese Kitchen, Gaucho Brazilian, India Garden, Luci Monroe's, MixMix Korea, Next Door Bake Shop, and Zeppolli's.

The celebration then continues through April with Healthy

Lifestyles Week from April 2 through April 9; Healthy Kids Week April 10 through April 17, a highlight of which is a virtual fun run; and Environmental Stewardship Week from April 18 through April 25.

International Week was packed full of virtual activities including interactive livestream cooking lessons, yoga classes, panel discussions, and movie chats, all led by members of the Y's International Women's Group and its VT student program leaders. This past Sunday at 4 p.m. a virtual webinar acknowledged and recognized the accomplishments of three international women who have leadership roles in Montgomery County. The leaders celebrated were Agida G. Manizade, a professor in the Department of

Mathematics and Statistics at Radford University; Gunin Kiran, a member of the Montgomery County School Board;

and Pie Charoensombutarn, an entrepreneur co-owner of Next Door Bake Shop and Cafe de Bangkok.

## FISH DAY



It's Time to Stock Your Pond!

**DELIVERY WILL BE:**  
**Thursday, April 15**  
 Christiansburg 1:30-2:15  
 @Southern States  
 Wytheville 3:15-4:00  
 @Farmers Milling & Supply

"LIKE" us on Facebook!

### FISH WAGON

To Place an Order Call:  
 1-800-643-8439  
[www.fishwagon.com](http://www.fishwagon.com)

## ONLINE ONLY AUCTION

**Ends Thursday, April 8th at 4 PM**  
**Income Producing Rental Property for Sale in Christiansburg VA!**  
**104 Evans St. Christiansburg VA 24073**



**Bid Online Now at VAAuctionPro.com**

4-Unit apartment building that has been recently remodeled and updated. The .191 acre property has been well maintained and is beautifully landscaped. There are parking spaces in front of apartments 1 & 2 as well as a large, paved lot behind the building. Each unit has laminate and carpet flooring and laundry hookups along with an electric range, refrigerator and dishwasher. Located in Downtown Christiansburg. Each unit is currently rented. Purchaser shall honor current annual lease until expiration. Contact auction company for rent roll.

- Apartment 1** – 2 BR, 1 BA on the upper/street level and has a parking space in front.
- Apartment 2** – 2 BR, 1 BA on the upper/street level and has a parking space in front.
- Apartment 3** – 2 BR, 1 BA on the lower level.
- Apartment 4** – 1 BR, 1 BA on the lower level.

**Preview Date - Saturday March 27 @ 2 PM**

**Terms** – 10% Buyer's Premium, \$10,000. Earnest Money Deposit, Closing in 45 Days. Subject to seller confirmation. Property sold as is where is any and all faults. Buyer is expected to complete their own due diligence. Property is being sold by Online Only Auction with a SOFT CLOSE. Please note that during the last two minutes of bidding, if a new bid is placed, the clock is automatically extended an additional two minutes. Auction ends once bidding ends. Download Bidder Information Pack for complete details.

**Contact – Broker & Auctioneer Matt Gallimore at 540-239-2585 or email [gallimore.matt@gmail.com](mailto:gallimore.matt@gmail.com) ; You can also contact Levi Cox Realtor at 540-230-7162 or email [levicox87@gmail.com](mailto:levicox87@gmail.com)**

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# Evans King: Recalling the NCAA Tournament's past

*Evans "Buddy" King is a proud native of Christiansburg, CHS Class of 1971. He resides in Clarksburg, W.Va., where he has practiced law with the firm of Steptoe & Johnson, PLLC, since 1980. He can be reached at evans.king@steptoe-johnson.com.*

The daily supply of 4,081 stations. According to reports, the check was priced at the most expensive of \$1. The national line fell 2.7 cents a week, GasBuddy \$2.84/gal. Monday's average is up 12.9¢ a month ago and a gallon higher.

"After the year to start the year tapered off, a decreasing price

The release of this study comes at a crucial time, as lawmakers in five states (New Hampshire, Hawaii, Maryland, Wyoming, and North Dakota) have all rejected efforts to legalize the substance in recent days. However, lawmakers in New York and New Mexico will vote within days of this study's publication on bills to commercialize marijuana and essentially endorse its use.

GasBuddy has been the only source for station-level data spanning nearly two decades. GasBuddy's survey updates 288 times every day from the most diverse list of sources covering nearly 150,000 stations nationwide. GasBuddy data is accessible at <http://FuelInsights.GasBuddy.com>.





# Marketplace

ourvalley.org

## For Rent - Apartments

**2, 3, 4 BR Townhouse Style**  
accepting applications. Short waiting list, HUD subsidized, W/D hookups, private patio, water & trash incl. Fairfax Village Apts. 332 Fairfax St., Radford Cambridge Square 1805 Whipple Dr. NW Blacksburg 540-731-1786 EHO TDD #800-828-1120



## For Sale - Firewood

**FIREWOOD**  
Mixed Hardwood.  
Call 540-529-2745  
Delivery in Botetourt only

## For Sale - Misc

**FOR SALE**  
Unprinted end rolls of newsprint. Great for packing & shipping, moving & storage and for art projects. Various sizes available. Stop by the Salem Times-Register 1633 West Main St. or call (540)389-9355 for details.

## Wanted - To Buy

**Cash paid  
Coin Collections  
Or Indian artifacts  
540-988-2420**

## Help Wanted - General

**Part Time Newspaper Production Help**  
The Salem TimesRegister has openings for afternoon/evening shift work inserting, labeling and bundling newspapers for delivery. No experience necessary. Hours may vary. Will train. \$7.50 per hour. Contact Lynn Hurst, General Manager, Salem-Times Register (540)389-9355 or email lhurst@ourvalley.org

**Now Hiring Dishwasher at the Swinging Bridge Restaurant in Paint Bank.**

Friday evenings and weekends only. Dependable, motivated self-starter needed. Come join our team!

Great for a High School Student or a 2nd job  
Paid Vacation  
Estimated 26 hours per week.  
Great Pay  
If interested, please E-mail  
[Melissa@paintbankgeneralstore.com](mailto:Melissa@paintbankgeneralstore.com) or call (540) 897-5099.

## WANTED

Models needed for life drawing class, male and female, \$60 for 3 hour session. Call David 540-473-3713

**Food Service Associate/Dining Service Lead Positions Available**

Carilion Clinic New River Valley Medical Center  
We're looking for individuals who will provide excellent customer service to patients.

Duties include: assisting patients with meal selections, deliver meal trays, Basic stocking and cleaning for assigned areas. You will receive education on diet needs and allergy restrictions. Scheduled shifts between 7am-6:30pm and every other weekends. Shift differential for weekends and selected holidays. Full benefit package including paid-time-off, competitive pay Looking for a new career? Apply today! Join our team of food service professionals today! Visit [www.carilionclinic.org/careers](http://www.carilionclinic.org/careers) to view our current openings and for more details of the positions. Submit your online application today! *Equal Opportunity Employer*

## Help Wanted - General

*Minorities/Females/Protected Veterans/Individuals with Disabilities/Sexual Orientation/Gender Identity.*  
*Carilion Clinic is a drug-free workplace.*



**CARILION CLINIC**

## Legals - City of Radford

**LEGAL NOTICE**  
**Tyler Avenue/East Main Street Connector – Phase 1**  
**City of Radford Notice of Public Review**  
Find out about a project to construct Phase I of a new 2 lane connector road from Tyler Avenue to East Main Street. Phase I shall include reconstruction of the existing skewed Tyler Avenue/Auburn Avenue intersection (adjacent to Radford Child Development, Inc.), construction of approximately 620LF of the Connector Road, and the construction of approximately 900LF of re-aligned Auburn Avenue.

Review project information and National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) documentation in the form of a Categorical Exclusion (CE) are available at 10 Robertson Street, Radford, 540-731-3603. Please call ahead so the City can make arrangements for personnel to share more information or answer your questions.

If your concerns cannot be satisfied, City is willing to hold a public hearing. You may request that a public hearing be held by sending a written request to Radford City Manager, the City of Radford Office located at 10 Robertson Street, Radford, Virginia 24141 on or prior to April 9, 2021. If a request for a public hearing is received, notice of date, time and place of the hearing will be posted.

VDOT ensures nondiscrimination and equal employment in all programs and activities in accordance with Title VI and Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964. If you need special assistance for persons with disabilities or limited English proficiency, contact the phone number listed above.

State Project: U000-126-106, C501, P101, R201  
Federal Project: STP-5126(107)  
UPC: 76402

## City of Radford CDBG Annual Action Plan

The City of Radford invites comments on its 2021 Annual Action Plan, which will be submitted to the US Dept of HUD on or about May 10, 2021. The Annual Action plan serves as the City's grant application for Community Development Block Grant Funds and sets the goals and budgets for the use of funds. A copy of the Annual Action Plan is available for review online or at the City Manager's Office. Comments may be given via e-mail to: [melissa.skelton@radfordva.gov](mailto:melissa.skelton@radfordva.gov), by phone at (540) 731-3603, or by mail to Community Developer, 10 Robertson St, Radford, VA 24141. Comments must be received by 5:00 p.m. May 7, 2021.

## Legals - City of Salem

### Notice is hereby given to

all interested persons that the City of Salem Planning Commission, at its regular meeting on April 14, 2021, at 7:00 p.m., in the Community Room at the Salem Civic Center, 1001 Roanoke Boulevard, in the City of Salem, Virginia, will hold a public hearing, pursuant to Sections 15.2-2204 and 15.2-2285 of the Code of Virginia, as amended, to consider approval of the following requests relative to the CODE OF THE CITY OF SALEM, VIRGINIA:

1) Hold public hearing to consider amending Chapter 66, Article I In General, Section 66-9, Article III Construction Location, Division 1 Generally, Section 66-73, Article IV Permitted Signs by Use and District, Section 66-107, and Article V Definitions, Section 66-151, of the CODE OF

THE CITY OF SALEM, VIRGINIA pertaining to signs.

2) Hold public hearing to consider amending Chapter 106, Zoning, Article II District Regulations, Sections 106-204.3(B)1, 106-208.3(B)1, 106-213.3(B)1 pertaining to single-family dwellings; Article III Use & Design Standards, Section 106-304.5(B)(D) pertaining to home occupations, Article IV Development Standards, Section 106-404.11(A)(E) pertaining to parking, Article V Administration, Sections 106-504(A), 106-514, 106-518 pertaining to zoning permits, enforcement, and civil penalties of the CODE OF THE CITY OF SALEM, VIRGINIA.

Copies of the proposed plans, ordinances or amendments may be obtained from the Office of the City Planner, Community Development, 21 South Bruffey Street, Salem, Virginia.

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

THE PLANNING COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF SALEM, VIRGINIA BY  
James E. Taliaferro, II  
Executive Secretary

## Legals - Montgomery County

### ORDER OF PUBLICATION

COMMONWEALTH OF VIRGINIA  
VA. CODE §§ 1-211.1; 8.01-316, -317, 20-104  
**Case No. CL21000326-00**  
MONTGOMERY CIRCUIT COURT  
55 EAST MAIN STREET, CHRISTIANSBURG, VA 24073  
CHARLES PHLEGAR  
KAREN PHLEGAR  
v.  
JAMES FULTON HOGE, DECEASED  
UNKNOWN OF HEIRS OF JAMES FULTON HOGE  
The object of this suit is to: REMOVE THE REMAINS FROM ABANDONED FAMILY GRAVEYARD  
It is ORDERED that THE UNKNOWN HEIRS OF JAMES FULTON HOGE, DECEASED appear at the above-name court and protect his/her interests on or before APRIL 26, 2021.

FEBRUARY 24, 2021  
Bridget Adams  
Deputy Clerk

## LEGAL NOTICE

### County of Montgomery, Virginia Synopsis of Advertised Budget for the Fiscal Year Ending June 30, 2022

This budget synopsis is prepared and published pursuant to Section 15.2-2506 of Code of Virginia, for information and fiscal planning purposes only.

A hearing will be held by the Board of Supervisors on April 8, 2021 at 6:15 P.M. at the County Government Center Board Room, 755 Roanoke Street, Christiansburg, Virginia at which time any citizen of the County shall have the opportunity to attend and state his or her views on the advertised budget.

A copy of the Advertised Budget is available for inspection at the County Government Center, in the County Administrator's Office, 755 Roanoke Street, Christiansburg; the Blacksburg Library, 200 Miller St., Blacksburg; the Christiansburg Library, 125 Shelton St., Christiansburg; the Meadowbrook Library, 267 Alleghany Springs Road, Shawsville; the Blacksburg Community Center, 725 Patrick Henry Dr., Blacksburg; the Christiansburg Recreation Center, 1600 N. Franklin St., Christiansburg; the Blacksburg Municipal Building, in the Town Manager's Office, 300 S. Main St., Blacksburg; and the Christiansburg Town Hall, in the Town Manager's Office, 100 E. Main St., Christiansburg.

#### EXPENDITURES:

	FY 2021 Budget	FY 2022 Advertised Budget	Increase (Decrease)
<b>GENERAL GOVERNMENT:</b>			
Board of Supervisors	\$ 270,632	\$ 282,425	\$ 11,793
County Administration	\$ 1,956,788	\$ 2,104,749	\$ 147,961
County Attorney	\$ 382,368	\$ 383,225	\$ 857
Financial & Management Services	\$ 1,225,460	\$ 1,018,450	\$ (207,010)
Insurance	\$ 208,195	\$ 210,695	\$ 2,500
Information Technology	\$ 2,015,760	\$ 2,135,796	\$ 120,036
Commissioner of the Revenue-State	\$ 561,856	\$ 588,651	\$ 26,795
Assessment-100% County	\$ 479,677	\$ 490,370	\$ 10,693
Treasurer-State	\$ 482,702	\$ 492,165	\$ 9,463
Collections-100% County	\$ 531,481	\$ 506,505	\$ (24,976)
Electoral Board/Director of Elections	\$ 485,484	\$ 473,570	\$ (11,914)
Commonwealth Attorney	\$ 1,249,358	\$ 1,282,063	\$ 32,705
Courts	\$ 262,008	\$ 267,247	\$ 5,239
Clerk of the Circuit Court	\$ 715,542	\$ 779,147	\$ 63,605
Sheriff-State	\$ 8,066,081	\$ 8,213,115	\$ 147,034
Sheriff-100% County	\$ 7,178,602	\$ 7,323,178	\$ 144,576
Fire Departments and Rescue Squads	\$ 1,487,781	\$ 1,494,981	\$ 7,200
Animal Care and Adoption Center	\$ 631,681	\$ 652,869	\$ 21,188
General Services	\$ 6,348,344	\$ 6,685,685	\$ 337,341
Children's Services Act	\$ 1,651,969	\$ 1,651,969	\$ -
Human Services	\$ 378,338	\$ 392,725	\$ 14,387
Public Health Department	\$ 604,488	\$ 604,488	\$ -
Social Services	\$ 6,228,024	\$ 6,364,979	\$ 136,955
Parks & Recreation	\$ 1,257,701	\$ 1,296,123	\$ 38,422
Regional Library	\$ 2,246,303	\$ 2,347,680	\$ 101,377
Planning & GIS	\$ 948,750	\$ 948,167	\$ (583)
Economic Development	\$ 434,156	\$ 460,975	\$ 26,819
Other Agencies	\$ 2,708,739	\$ 2,762,426	\$ 53,687
Contingencies-General	\$ 526,307	\$ 536,307	\$ 10,000
Contingencies-Special	\$ 7,836,404	\$ 526,000	\$ (7,310,404)
Revenue Refunds	\$ 195,000	\$ 195,000	\$ -
<b>Subtotal:</b>	<b>\$ 59,555,979</b>	<b>\$ 53,471,725</b>	<b>\$ (6,084,254)</b>
<b>Law Library</b>	<b>\$ 17,600</b>	<b>\$ 17,600</b>	<b>\$ -</b>
<b>SCHOOLS:</b>			
School Operating	\$ 113,745,153	\$ 121,984,741	\$ 8,239,588
School Capital	\$ 2,146,173	\$ 2,195,645	\$ 49,472
School Nutrition	\$ 5,228,004	\$ 4,633,474	\$ (594,530)
<b>Subtotal:</b>	<b>\$ 121,119,330</b>	<b>\$ 128,813,860</b>	<b>\$ 7,694,530</b>
<b>County Capital</b>	<b>\$ 3,531,173</b>	<b>\$ 3,580,645</b>	<b>\$ 49,472</b>
<b>Debt Service</b>	<b>\$ 24,722,725</b>	<b>\$ 24,722,725</b>	<b>\$ -</b>
<b>Economic Development</b>	<b>\$ 380,000</b>	<b>\$ 380,000</b>	<b>\$ -</b>
<b>COUNTY TOTAL</b>	<b>\$ 209,326,807</b>	<b>\$ 210,986,555</b>	<b>\$ 1,659,748</b>

#### RESOURCES:

##### REVENUE:

	FY 2021 Budget	FY 2022 Advertised Budget	Increase (Decrease)
<b>General Undesignated Revenue:</b>			
Current Property Taxes (1)	\$ 101,562,376	\$ 103,807,971	\$ 2,245,595
Delinquent/Other Property Tax Revenue	\$ 2,996,000	\$ 2,996,000	\$ -
Sales and Use Tax	\$ 10,301,540	\$ 10,081,222	\$ (220,318)
Undesignated Consumer Utility Tax	\$ 1,659,000	\$ 1,628,000	\$ (31,000)
Motor Vehicle Licenses	\$ 800,000	\$ 800,000	\$ -
All Other Local Taxes	\$ 1,370,000	\$ 1,325,000	\$ (45,000)
Interest on Investments	\$ 895,999	\$ 113,268	\$ (782,731)
All Other Undesignated Revenue	\$ 546,384	\$ 620,384	\$ 74,000
<b>Total Undesignated Revenue</b>	<b>\$ 120,131,299</b>	<b>\$ 121,371,845</b>	<b>\$ 1,240,546</b>
General Designated Revenue	\$ 20,009,464	\$ 14,833,608	\$ (5,175,856)
Law Library Designated Revenue	\$ 15,000	\$ 15,000	\$ -
School Operating Designated Revenue	\$ 62,326,540	\$ 68,516,128	\$ 6,189,588
Other School Designated Resources	\$ 5,228,004	\$ 4,633,474	\$ (594,530)
Debt Service Designated	\$ 1,613,900	\$ 1,613,900	\$ -
<b>Total Designated Revenue</b>	<b>\$ 89,192,908</b>	<b>\$ 89,612,110</b>	<b>\$ 419,202</b>
Law Library Fund Balance	\$ 2,600	\$ 2,600	\$ -
<b>Total Fund Balance</b>	<b>\$ 2,600</b>	<b>\$ 2,600</b>	<b>\$ -</b>
<b>TOTAL RESOURCES</b>	<b>\$ 209,326,807</b>	<b>\$ 210,986,555</b>	<b>\$ 1,659,748</b>

(1) Real Estate Tax Rate based on \$0.89 per \$100 of Assessed Valuation.  
Personal Property Tax Rate Based on \$2.55 per \$100 Assessed Valuation.

**By Order of the Board of Supervisors:**  
F. Craig Meadows, County Administrator  
County of Montgomery, Virginia

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# RADFORD SPORTS

## Game previews; Radford resumes football after COVID stop; region point totals tight

**Marty Gordon**  
*Contributing writer*

Quick and concise COVID testing will allow Radford High School to reopen and restart athletic activities including football.

It had looked as though Radford would have to cancel its final two football games. Now, the final game of the season this weekend against Carroll County is back on.

Robert Graham, superintendent of schools in Radford, said he was excited to announce that they will be returning to in-person learning much earlier than anticipated at John Dalton Middle and Radford High School.

“Our football team was tested at NRV pediatrics, and only one member of the team tested positive,” Graham said. “In addition, our school nurses, who are absolutely fantastic, have concluded their contact tracing from last week’s spread of the virus and have all students who had direct exposure quarantined until they are safely able to return.”

All extracurricular activities except for football were cleared to resume on Monday. Football practice was cleared to resume today, March 31.

This means Radford and Carroll will play no later than Saturday in the final game of the season.

The “Battle of the Burgs” takes place Friday night when Christiansburg travels to Blacksburg. The winner will receive the ceremonial “Huckleberry Coal Miner’s helmet.”

Game previews:

Radford (3-1) at Carroll County (4-1)

We don’t know how this past week’s football shutdown at Radford will affect the Bobcats, but they will be trying to rebound from a loss to Glenvar. A win by Radford could give the team a postseason berth. Carroll seems poised to take the same step in 3D region play after dropping down from Class 4 this past season.

Carroll is in the second spot of the regional standings and could still make the playoffs even with a loss.

The Cavaliers have outscored their opponents 123-74 but fell 40-0 to Galax in their last game. In the loss, Galax limited Carroll to 94 yards of total offense.

Wins have come over James River, Giles, Bassett and Floyd. In the win over James River, Carroll’s Brady Dalton completed eight of 10 passes for 167 yards and two touchdowns and rushed for 99 yards and another score.

Coach Monty Chipman is in his

first year after leaving North Wilkes High School in North Carolina.

In Radford’s loss to Glenvar, Darius Wesley-Brubeck rushed for 105 yards and a touchdown for the Bobcats. PJ Prioleau had three receptions for 97 yards while quarterback Zane Rupe was six of 22 for 130 yards and a touchdown.

Prediction: Radford 24, Carroll County 21

Christiansburg (2-3) at Blacksburg (0-5)

Last week: Blacksburg was idle while Christiansburg picked up a 23-6 win over Cave Spring. Casey Graham passed for 168 yards and two touchdowns in the win. Travis Altizer caught three passes for 121 yards for the Blue Demons. Dixon Arita connected on three field goals in the win including two from 34 yards and another from 19 yards out.

Prediction: Christiansburg 34, Blacksburg 10

Bland (0-5) at Auburn

Last week: Bland was shut out in a 30-0 loss to Grayson County. The Bears have been outscored 251 to 28 this season. Bland did not field a team in 2019 because of the lack of participants.

Auburn’s contest against Galax was postponed because of heavy rain.

Prediction: Auburn 23, Bland 18

Going into this final week, the points standings in the regions are tight. For example, Christiansburg remains tied for fifth with Northside in 3D, but just 1.25 out of the final spot to make the postseason.

Only four teams from each region make the playoffs this year with Lord Botetourt running away with Region 3D with 27.2 points. Abingdon is second at 23.5, while Carroll County is third with 21.2 points. Fourth-place William Byrd is slightly ahead of Christiansburg and Northside for the final selection.

With Radford starting its football program back up, the Bobcats will now play Carroll County. In 2C Radford remains in fifth at 17.25 slightly behind Ft. Chiswell at 17.75. Glenvar is third at 18.8. Appomattox leads 2C with 21.6 points followed by Dan River with 20.66.

Galax leads 1C with 21.5 points. Narrows in second at 20.4. Grayson and Parry McCluer are tied for third with 15 points while George Wythe has 14.0 in fifth place.

Eastern Montgomery and Auburn have outside shots at making the playoffs with 12.5 and 11 points respectively.

## Christiansburg downs Cave Spring 23-6 in home finale



PHOTOS BY KYMN DAVIDSON-HAMLEY

Christiansburg's Elijah Brubaker sacks Cave Spring's quarterback in Friday's 23-6 win.



With Drew Lloyd (left) blocking to give him time, Dixon Arita kicks the first of three field goals for the Blue Demons, who are now 2-3 overall with one game left in the season.



Seniors Caleb Henley (left) and MJ Hunter lead the Blue Demons onto the field for their final home game.

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# Hokies impress NFL scouts on Pro Day

All 32 NFL teams weren't represented at Virginia Tech's Pro Day on Friday because the LA Rams aren't sending scouts to in-person workouts. But the more than 50 NFL executives, coaches and scouts who were on Tech's campus Friday witnessed impressive performances from several Hokies.

Safety Divine Deablo was arguably the day's biggest winner after posting a 34-inch vertical jump and an official 4.46 time in the 40-yard dash. Deablo, who originally came to Tech as a wide receiver, put his chiseled physique and athleticism on display.

During his post-workout media session, the Winston-Salem, N.C., native indicated that multiple teams have told him that they'd move him to linebacker.

Other teams have said that they'd play him at strong safety.

Long snapper Austin Rosa surely made Tech strength and conditioning coach Ben Hilgart proud when he topped all Tech players with 27 reps on the bench press. Rosa is currently assisting in Tech's weight room.

Running back Khalil Herbert registered the day's best time in the 40-yard dash at an official 4.44 seconds. The Ft. Lauderdale, Fla., native also put up 22 reps at 225 pounds in the bench press. While not comparing himself to LaDainian Tomlinson, Herbert did cite the longtime Chargers great as an example of a back of a similar stature who enjoyed a long and very productive NFL career.

The main attraction for many of the NFL decision makers and evaluators in attendance Friday was the presence of cornerback Caleb Farley and tackle Christian Darrisaw. Farley didn't participate in testing or position drills due to a recent back surgery, but he did address the assembled NFL personnel on his health, his opt-out in 2020, and his desire to become one of the league's top corners. Farley also confirmed that he's accepted an invitation to attend the 2020 NFL draft in Cleveland in person.

Projected to become the first Tech offensive lineman to go in the first round of the NFL draft since tackle Duane Brown in 2008, Darrisaw went through position drills with multiple NFL offensive line coaches.



PHOTO COURTESY OF VT ATHLETICS  
**Virginia Tech offensive lineman Christian Darrisaw goes through drills Friday in front of a group of NFL scouts.**

# VT men's tennis upsets No. 36 Duke

BLACKSBURG – Mitch Harper, Alex Ribeiro, Ryan Kros, and Chase Bernstine's last home match for Virginia

Tech men's tennis wrapped up in fitting fashion for the four student-athletes Sunday afternoon, a 4-3 defeat of

No. 36 Duke.

The Hokies (9-6, 5-4 ACC) had a good start to doubles with Senior Day

honorees Mitch Harper and Alex Ribeiro downing their opponents on court two, 6-4. Duke (7-7, 3-3 ACC) ultimately clinched the point narrowly when its No. 12 ranked duo of Garrett Johns and Sean Sculley went to a tiebreak with the Hokies' Jordan Chrysostom and Ryan Fishback.

Tech got back in the match when Harper defeated No. 92 Johns on court one, 6-4, 6-3, adding another ranked win to his illustrious career. Fishback marched back from a first-set loss to win in a third-set tiebreaker on court 5. Sophomore Matthis Ross downed

Sean Sculley on court 2 after dropping his first set, 4-6, 7-6, 6-4. Freshman Hugo Maia clinched the match for Tech in dramatic fashion after climbing his way back into the match to win in a third-set tiebreak.

The Hokies will return to action on the road to face the No.-6 Virginia Cavaliers (14-2, 8-0 ACC) on Thursday, April 2.

**SINGLES**

1. Mitch Harper (VT) def. #92 Garrett Johns (DU) 6-4, 6-3

2. #96 Matthis Ross (VT) def. Sean Sculley (DU) 4-6, 7-6, 6-4

3. #94 Edu Guell (DU) def. Carlo Donato (VT) 7-6, 6-4

4. Hugo Maia (VT) def. #101 Andrew Zhang (DU) 5-7, 6-3, 7-6

5. Ryan Fishback (VT) def. Luca Keist (DU) 4-6, 6-2, 7-6

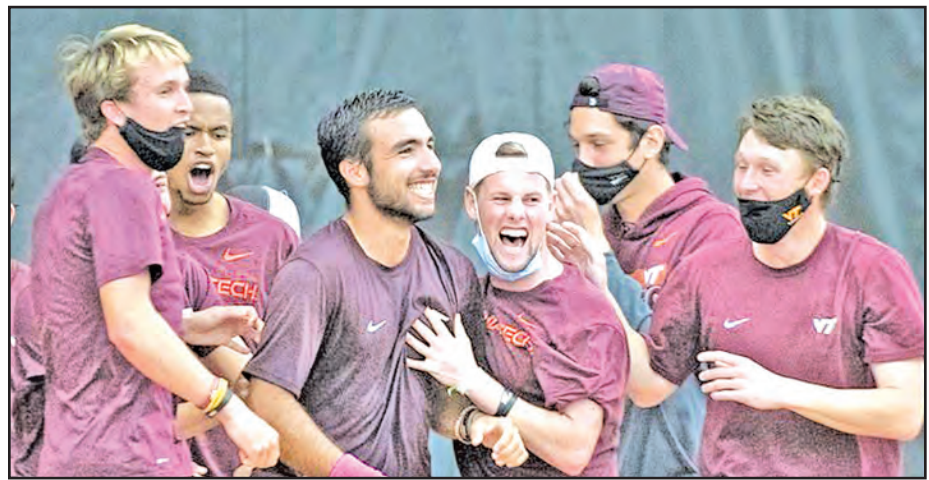
6. Samuel Rubell (DU) def. Alvaro Ariza (VT) 7-6, 6-4

**DOUBLES**

1. #12 Garrett Johns/Sean Sculley (DU) def. #36 Jordan Chrysostom/Ryan Fishback (VT) 7-6

2. Mitch Harper/Alex Ribeiro (VT) def. Edu Guell/Luca Keist (DU) 6-4

3. Andrew Zhang/Michael Heller (DU) def. Michael Shephard/Ryan Kros (VT) 6-3



**The VT men's tennis team enjoys a special win over ranked Duke on Senior Day.**

# Outdoor Report: Musky are out there waiting for anglers

Fisheries biologists from the Virginia Department of Wildlife Resources were excited to have encountered two muskies weighing more than 50 pounds each recently while sampling on the Shenandoah River.

If you're out on the water in pursuit of the "fish of a thousand casts," please consider contributing to DWR's Musky Angler Diary Program, new for 2021. Participating in this program is a helpful tool for biologists in managing and refining muskellunge fisheries. The process is easy. Simply record how many hours you fish, how many persons are in your fishing party, how many musky you encounter but did not catch (follows, strikes, or musky lost), how many musky you did catch (measure them and look for tag numbers), whether or not you harvested or released the musky, and how much money you spent on the trip.

Muskellunge (Esox

masquinongy) or musky are the largest members of the pike family. They are normally olive to dark gray on the back with grayish to bluish to yellowish sides. The sides may have faint vertical bars, spots or blotches.

Musky are an exciting and addictive fish to target in the waters of the commonwealth. However, some specialized techniques and equipment are required to hunt for these trophy fish.

River fishermen use rafts, kayaks, canoes, or small boats with electric motors or small outboards to float larger pools and fish near woody debris, large boulders, drop-offs, or weed lines. We suggest using an eight-foot medium heavy rod with fast action and a bait casting reel with a 6.4 gear ratio. Fill the reel with 80-lb. braided line, tipped with an 80-lb. fluorocarbon leader. You can also use a steel leader if you like.

There are many musky

baits on the market, but most fall into five categories: inline spinner, crank-bait, top water, soft plastic, and jerk baits. For beginners, try using an inline spinner or top water bait. They can be very productive from May through July and are easy to use.

Crank baits and soft plastics are good choices in the fall and winter months when muskies tend to target larger prey items like suckers. Jerk baits are the most challenging to use but can be effective in any season.

Anglers interested in trying to fish with live bait should use large hooks, 4/0 or larger. Some anglers simply allow 8 or 12-inch suckers, shad, or carp to swim free below the boat. Combining this method while casting artificial lures can be very effective.

Muskies are commonly caught in lakes by trolling deep water with large crankbaits, spoons, and inline spinners. Be sure to carry a large net with you



**Musky fishing can be fun for anglers of all ages.**

FILE PHOTO

as well as long nosed pliers, jaw spreaders, hook cutters, and hook resistant gloves.

Muskies prefer cool, clear lakes with abundant vegetation or long pool areas of rivers near fallen trees and other submerged structures. They prefer water temperatures ranging from 62°F – 75°F. Water temperatures up to 89°F can be stressfully tolerated, but musky stop feeding at 84°F. During the summer musky can be found seeking refuge where the water is cooler. When this behavior is observed, it is recommended to avoid targeting these fish as they are stressed due to warming water temperatures.

In Virginia, Muskies spawn in early spring at the end of March through April when waters reach

50°F to 60°F. Sexual maturity is reached at three to five years of age. Eggs are fertilized by one to three males and broadcast over aquatic vegetation, leaf mats or gravel bottoms in shallow bays and coves of lakes, or in slack pools or backwaters above or below riffles in rivers. Females release 10,000 to 250,000 eggs depending on the size.

Most musky populations in reservoirs are maintained through stocking. Some rivers like the James River and the New River are maintained through natural reproduction.

Musky are not believed to be native to Virginia. The first stocking of Muskellunge occurred in the New River in 1963. Since then more resources were added to the list of stocked waters or occupied by both

stocked and self-sustaining populations.

Initially, hatchery musky were imported from New York, Pennsylvania, West Virginia, and Tennessee. Our current stocked muskies are considered advanced fingerlings and range in size from eight to 12 inches.

These fish are incredibly challenging and costly to raise. Department of Wildlife Resources staff begin the process of rearing musky in March and April. Biologists and hatchery staff work together to collect both male and female musky from the James River. These brood fish are then shipped to the Vic Thomas hatchery. Brood fish are held for three days and are checked for ripeness. Typically 150,000–200,000 eggs are harvested, fertilized, and shipped to the Buller

Fish Hatchery. Buller hatchery staff monitor the eggs closely until they hatch. Brood fish are then returned to the river from where they were collected.

Once hatched, the musky fry are stocked into ponds at Buller as well as Front Royal Fish Hatchery. The fry feed on plankton, insects, and small minnows. Musky are incredibly carnivorous. If minnows run short, they will cannibalize their brothers and sisters. Hatchery staff continue to monitor the ponds throughout the summer. In the fall the ponds are drained and the fingerling musky are harvested, loaded onto stocking trucks, and distributed to select resources.

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