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Radford Highlanders Festival 2021 coming to campus this October



PHOTO BY ETHAN BELL

The Scottish Heavyweight Games are a favorite event at the Highlanders Festival.

The Radford Highlanders Festival is returning to the Radford University campus this year, bringing the Scots-Irish culture and heritage to Radford for the annual event.

The festival is scheduled for Saturday, Oct. 9, 2021, and will feature the popular heavyweight games, bagpiping, sheepherding, live entertainment, food, vendors, and festivities for all ages.

The festival, a partnership between Radford University and the City of Radford, has free admission and is a favorite annual event for both residents and visitors to the area.

The festival began in the mid-1990s with an ap-

proximate crowd of 3,000, according to Radford University.

“Over the past 20 years, the festival has more than tripled in size and now attracts an estimated crowd of 10,000 people,” according to the university. “Whether a family’s background is of Scots-Irish origin or of other descent, the day always brings with it an air of excitement and anticipation. There is no place more beautiful than Southwest Virginia in the autumn, and the Blue Ridge Mountains provide a beautiful backdrop for the fall festival.”

Two musical groups will
See **Highlanders**, page 7

Glencoe Mansion, Museum offers Victorian Era history lessons



PHOTO COURTESY OF GLENCOE MANSION

Women’s basketball uniforms have evolved over time.

Glencoe Mansion, Museum, and Gallery has been offering weekly history lessons with “Victorian Wednesday” posts on social media, educating the public on everything from traditions and customs to women’s sports in the 1800s.

One of the most recent posts delved into the evolution of women’s sportswear.

“This week we’ll look at basketball and soccer uniforms,” the post reads. “As we discussed last week, during the Victorian Era modesty was a key component of society. As the 19th Century progressed, however, women became more involved with many sports, creating a unique cross of these two aspects

of culture.

“Similar to tennis, basketball was originally played in long dresses with long sleeves,” the post reads. “As time went on, the long sleeves were dropped and the dresses became shorter. By the 1930s, women were still wearing dresses, but they were knee-length with a short sleeve top. By the 1950s the earliest forms of modern uniforms were being adopted with short athletic shorts and short sleeve shirts. In the 1980s, they began to look more familiar with sleeveless jerseys and athletic shorts.

The post goes on to say, “Soccer uniforms went through similar changes.

See **Museum**, page 7

First-year cadets chosen to highlight the colors at today’s Richmond game

First-year cadets Ainsley Brewer, Dom Meoli, and Victor Mou will receive the flags at today’s football game against Richmond.

The Virginia Tech Corps of Cadets and the Virginia Tech football team continue their proud partnership to highlight the colors during the pre-game ceremony at every football game.

Three football players, chosen because of their performance in the last game or at practice, carry the American flag, the state flag, and the team’s spirit flag and lead the team onto the field. They deliver the flags to cadets at the south end of the field.

The cadets, selected based on their performance in the corps, render honor to the flags and carry them off the field. At home games, three first-year cadets are selected, and one or two upper-class cadets travel with the team and receive the flags at away games.

Brewer is majoring in biological sciences in the College of Sci-



First-year cadets (left to right) Ainsley Brewer, Dom Meoli, and Victor Mou.

ence. She is the recipient of a corps’ Emerging Leader Scholarship and is in Navy ROTC.

Meoli is majoring in general engineering in the College of Engineering. He is the recipient of an Emerging Leader Scholarship and also is in Navy ROTC. He volunteers with

Best Buddies in his free time.

Mou is majoring in economics in the College of Science. He is the recipient of an Emerging Leader Scholarship and is in Air Force ROTC.

-By Shay Barnhart

Jazz legends Chucho Valdés, Dianne Reeves, and Joe Lovano unite for evening of duets at Moss Arts Center

With a combined 12 Grammy Awards, jazz legends Chucho Valdés, Dianne Reeves, and Joe Lovano take the Moss Arts Center stage for “Duets” on Thursday, Sept. 30, at 7:30 p.m.

The performance will be held in the center’s Anne and Ellen Fife Theatre, located within the Street and Davis Performance Hall at 190 Alumni Mall.

In accordance with current university policy for indoor events, all faculty, staff, students, and visitors to the Moss Arts Center are required to wear a mask regardless of vaccination status.

This all-star performance features one of the most influential figures in modern Afro-Cuban jazz, pianist Chucho Valdés, sharing the stage with preeminent jazz vocalist Dianne Reeves and celebrated saxophonist Joe Lovano. Launching their U.S. tour at the Moss, the project unites the artists for classics such as a breathtaking, spacious duet of “My Foolish

Heart,” featuring Valdés and Reeves.

Winner of six Grammy and three Latin Grammy Awards, Cuban pianist, composer, and arranger Chucho Valdés has pushed boundaries in pursuit of new expressions in Afro-Cuban music throughout his rich career spanning 60 years. His musical education includes formal studies and countless nights on the best stages in Cuba as the pianist with his father, Bebo Valdés, and his orchestra, Sabor de Cuba. Valdés is perhaps best known as the founder, pianist, and main composer and arranger of Irakere, a landmark ensemble in Cuban music.

Valdes is celebrating his 80th birthday in 2021, and his technique and creative output are as prodigious as ever. He is a recipient of a Lifetime Achievement Award from the Latin Academy of Recording Arts and Sciences, has been inducted into the Latin Songwriters Hall of Fame, and received a DC Jazz Festival Lifetime Achievement Award.

Dianne Reeves has virtuosity, improvisational prowess, and unique jazz and R&B stylings that have garnered her five Grammy Awards for Best Jazz Vocal Album, an honorary doctorate of music from Juilliard, and the honor of being named a 2018 National Endowment of the Arts Jazz Master. According to Wynton Marsalis, “She has one of the most powerful, purposeful, and accurate voices of this or any time.” Reeves’s Grammy Award-winning album “Beautiful Life” epitomizes the spirit of her storied and extraordinary career, traversing many genres and collaborating with a diverse collection of artists.

Joe Lovano is a Grammy-winning saxophonist, composer, and arranger. DownBeat magazine has twice named him Jazz Artist of the Year, and he scored a prestigious trifecta in 1998: nominations for Musician of the Year, Improviser of the Year, and Best Tenor Saxophonist in the New York Jazz Awards. Lovano attended the Berklee College of Music in Boston in the early 1970s and received an honorary doctor of music degree from the college in 1998. In the fall of 2001 he began a prestigious teaching residency in the Berklee Ensemble Department, known as the Gary Burton Chair in Jazz Performance. Lovano has released nearly 40 albums as leader or co-leader and has collaborated with many legendary musicians, including McCoy Tyner, Hank Jones, Joshua Redman, Bill Frisell, Branford Marsalis, Jim Hall, and Paul Motian.

“Duets” is presented in partnership with the Black Cultural Center, Ujima, and the Center for the Study of Cuban Culture and Economy and is supported in part by gifts from Don and Libby Drapeau, Dr. James M. Shuler and Ms. Margaret F. Shuler, and Mr. Edwin H. Talley and Mrs. Melinda P. Talley.

VT’s John Seiler: Virginia’s vibrant autumn colors could be early this year



Virginia Tech tree physiology expert John Seiler says Virginia never really has a poor or average year for fall colors. It’s either good, better or best, and this year’s fall foliage colors may peak by the third week of October this year, about a week ahead of normal, according to Seiler.

“I’m seeing some signs of things being a little early this year,” Seiler said. “A couple of particular ‘go to trees’ I monitor, they’ve already got some yellow in them. We may be a week early, in part because of the lack of long-term rain. Before the recent storms, we were drying out a bit. But that slow, steady drizzle should really help. Decent amounts of precipitation keep the leaves from dropping too soon. And because those vivid reds form in the fall, rain improves the outlook they’ll be bright and colorful.”

Seiler said Virginia never has poor fall foliage because of “the diversity and wide varieties of tree species here in Virginia. If one tree gets hurt by a hot dry August, there’s another species that didn’t. It buffers the bad weather like that. Our mountains

offer constantly changing elevations and aspects, which lead to a higher biodiversity, which leads to a greater mixture of fall color.

“People should be looking at their calendars, picking a good Saturday or Sunday,” Seiler said. “Shoot for the time period starting around October 23 on through the end of the month. Plan your trip accordingly, check the weather and pick a good day when the sun is out. The colors look a lot better when there’s sunshine.”

Professor Seiler specializes in environmental stress effects on woody plant physiology, including water and pollutant stresses. He is quoted regularly in broadcast and print publications due to his expertise in tree physiology. Seiler is the Honorable and Mrs. Shelton H. Short Professor of Forestry at Virginia Tech, and was named an Alumni Distinguished Professor in recognition of his extraordinary academic citizenship and distinguished service within the Virginia Tech community. Seiler teaches in the College of Natural Resources and Environment.



Pianist Chucho Valdés (left), jazz vocalist Dianne Reeves (center), and saxophonist Joe Lovano (right) will perform a magical evening of jazz standards on Thursday, Sept. 30, at the Moss Arts Center.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Saturday, Sept. 25:
Galaxy Jars - At the Blacksburg Library at 1 p.m. Teens and tweens, join in learning how to make galaxy jars. All supplies will be provided. Email mroach@mfrl.org with any questions.
Candle Making Workshop - At the Blacksburg Library at 3 p.m. Celebrate fall with cozy homemade scented candles. All supplies will be provided. Registration is requested. Call the library at 540-552-8246 for more details and to register.

Monday, Sept. 27:
Tots Storytime - At the Christiansburg Library; at 10 a.m. Ages 0-2 will share stories, rhymes, music and movement and develop early literacy skills and a love of reading.
Talking About Books: Shadow of the Wind - At the Blacksburg Library at 11 a.m.

Tuesday, Sept. 28:
Blacksburg Town Council Meeting - The agenda for the Blacksburg Town Council meeting scheduled for Tuesday, Sept. 28, at 6:30 p.m. in the Roger E. Hedgepeth Chambers can be found at https://blacksburg.granicus.com/GeneratedAgendaViewer.php?view_id=20&event_id=5674.

Science Fiction and Fantasy Book Club: By Force Alone - At the Blacksburg Library at 6:30 p.m.
Wellness Book Club: Braving the Wilderness - At the Christiansburg Library at 6:30 p.m. To be discussed this month is "Braving the Wilderness" by Brené Brown. Pre-register with the Town of Christiansburg Recreation Department at 540-382-2349.

Wednesday, Sept. 29:
Toddler Storytime - For ages 2 and 3 at the Blacksburg Library at 10 a.m. A chance to share stories, rhymes, music, and movement and to develop early literacy skills and encourage a love of reading.
Pre-K Storytime - At the Blacksburg Library at 11 a.m. for ages 3-5.
Teen Book Club: Fablehaven - At the Meadowbrook Public Library at 4 p.m. Each month the teen book club reads a different book and meets on the last Wednesday of every month to chat about it. This month the club is reading "Stardust" by Neil Gaiman. Join in at: <https://www.gotomeet.me/MFRL/programs>. Email mroach@mfrl.org for more information.

Saturday, Oct. 2:
Tony L. Huddleston

Trout Rodeo - This event will test your child's fishing ability. More than 300 fish will be stocked in the local Izaak Walton pond for this rodeo. Each kid will be allowed to catch up to four fish in the allotted two-hour time frame. Goodie bags and T-shirts will be given to the first 100 pre-registered participants. A hot dog lunch will be provided as well. The event will also feature giveaways and potential raffles. Check-in begins at noon; fishing starts at 2 p.m. All information is subject to change based on COVID-19 restrictions. Call 540-382-2349 before Oct. 1 to pre-register. The event is free for ages 4-15.

Thursday, Oct. 7:
American Legion meeting - American Legion Harvey-Howe-Carper Post 30 will meet at 7 p.m. at the VFW Post Home in Radford. For further information, call 250-2283 or 239-9864.

Saturday, Oct. 9:
Radford Highlanders Festival 2021 - The festival will feature the famed heavyweight games, sheepherding, live entertainment, food, vendors, and festivities for all ages. Held on the campus of Radford University, the festival is a partnership between Radford University and the City of Radford and is open to the general public with

free admission.
Tuesday, Oct. 12:
Sons of Confederate Veterans meeting - The Sons of Confederate Veterans, Stuart Horse Artillery Camp 1784 will meet at 7 p.m. at Aly's Family Italian Restaurant at 3204 Riner Rd. Members of the United Daughters of the Confederacy (UDC) are invited to the meeting. For further information, call 320-4315 or 239-9864.

Wednesday, Oct. 20:
Radford Army Ammunition Plant (RFAAP) Community Meeting - The (RFAAP) Community Meeting has been rescheduled to Wed., Oct. 20, 2021 at 6 p.m. at the Christiansburg Library to allow RFAAP to provide the most current updates on environmental and modernization projects. 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. The public can reach out with questions, or to conduct research on their own through several resources, including:
 Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/RadfordArmyAmmunitionPlant/>
 Homepage: <http://www.jmc.army.mil/Radford/RadfordDefault.aspx>.

Through Oct. 1:
Noise Alerts: Propulsion Testing - Testing coordinated by the Virginia Tech Advanced Propulsion and Power Lab will continue through Friday from 10 a.m. until 6 p.m. near the northwest end of the Virginia Tech Montgomery Executive Airport. For more information, visit <https://vtx.vt.edu/notices/adm-evergreens/police-noise-propulsion.html>.
Through October:
Radford Farmers Market - The Radford Farmers Market continues each Saturday through Oct. 30 from 9 a.m. until 1 p.m. in the New River Valley Community Service parking lot (the Old Wade's parking lot) on West Main Street.
Christiansburg Farmers Market - The Christiansburg Farmers Market continues every Thursday through October at the Christiansburg Recreation Center parking lot from 3 to 7 p.m.
Ongoing:
Get your passport at the Radford Public Library - The Radford Public Library is a Passport Acceptance Office. Call (540) 731-3621 to set up an appointment time. Those traveling overseas should be aware how important it is to get a passport as early as possible because the current wait list is 18 weeks.
Crafts-to-Go - All month at the Meadowbrook Public Library. Drop by the Meadowbrook Public Library for take-and-make craft kits. They are available at the library or with curbside pickup. They are free but supplies are limited.

Blacksburg's Market Square Jam 2021 - The final Blacksburg's Market Square Jam of the season will be held Wednesday, Sept. 29, from 7 to 9 p.m. at Market Square Park.
Simply Elemental Art Exhibit - The Simply Elemental art display in the Hahn Horticultural Garden (on the Virginia Tech campus) will be on display through Sept. 30.
Take-and-Make Crafts - All month at the Blacksburg Library. Each week will feature a new craft for kids to take home.
Interactive Movie Kits - All month at the Christiansburg Library and the Meadowbrook Public Library. Each kit contains popcorn and props for four individuals to participate to make movie night interactive. The movie is not included and supplies are limited.

Cherokee actor, writer, and activist DeLanna Studi recounts her life-changing journey along the Trail of Tears

Cherokee actor, writer, and activist DeLanna Studi leads audiences on an incredible adventure as she recounts her journey tracing the path of her ancestors through a 900-mile trek she took along the Trail of Tears. The Moss Arts Center presents four evening performances of Studi's powerful one-woman show "And So We Walked" — on Monday, Oct. 11, through Thursday, Oct. 14, at 7:30 p.m. — seated onstage of the center's Anne and Ellen Fife Theatre, located within the Street and Davis Performance Hall at 190 Alumni Mall. Studi dreamed of following the footsteps her ancestors were forced to travel along the Trail of Tears. In 2015 she embarked on a six-week journey along the route her great-great-grandparents took in the 1830s when they were forced to relocate from their homelands with more than 17,000 Cherokee people.

A powerful show honoring Indigenous people everywhere, "And So We Walked" recounts her incredible journey to truly understand her own identity and the conflicts of her nation. Studi performed excerpts of the piece last fall during a virtual performance for the Moss Arts Center's "Home-Stage" series, which included a conversation with Mae Hey, assistant professor of American Indian Studies at Virginia Tech. She also participated in virtual discussions with Native students at Virginia Tech. Now Studi performs the full play live for an audience seated on the Anne and Ellen Fife Theatre stage, with four performances presented in celebration of Indigenous Peoples' Day. Portraying multiple characters and incorporating humor and emotional touchpoints, Studi blazes a path squarely into



DeLanna Studi in "And So We Walked." Photo by Patrick Weishampel/blankeye.tv. Courtesy of Portland Center Stage at The Armory.

the heart of the audience member. "It isn't just my story about my journey," said

Studi. "It is a Cherokee story, one that transcends my own personal identity and experiences. It belongs to the Cherokee people, past and present; to the Cherokee Nation in Oklahoma and Eastern Band of Cherokee in North Carolina; and to the dozens of people across the country who helped me complete this project." Studi has originated

roles in more than 18 world premieres, including 14 native productions, and she has received numerous awards for her performances in the Hallmark/ABC mini-series "Dreamkeeper" and Chris Eyre's "Edge of America." She is co-artistic director of America's only equity Native American theatre company, Native Voices at the Autry, and serves as chair of SAG-

AFTRA's National Native Committee. "And So We Walked" will run off-Broadway in New York City later in October. This engagement is presented in partnership with the American Indian and Indigenous Community Center and supported in part by gifts from Mr. Bruce Prichard and Mrs. Nancy Beville Prichard and Larry and Lindsay Bowman.

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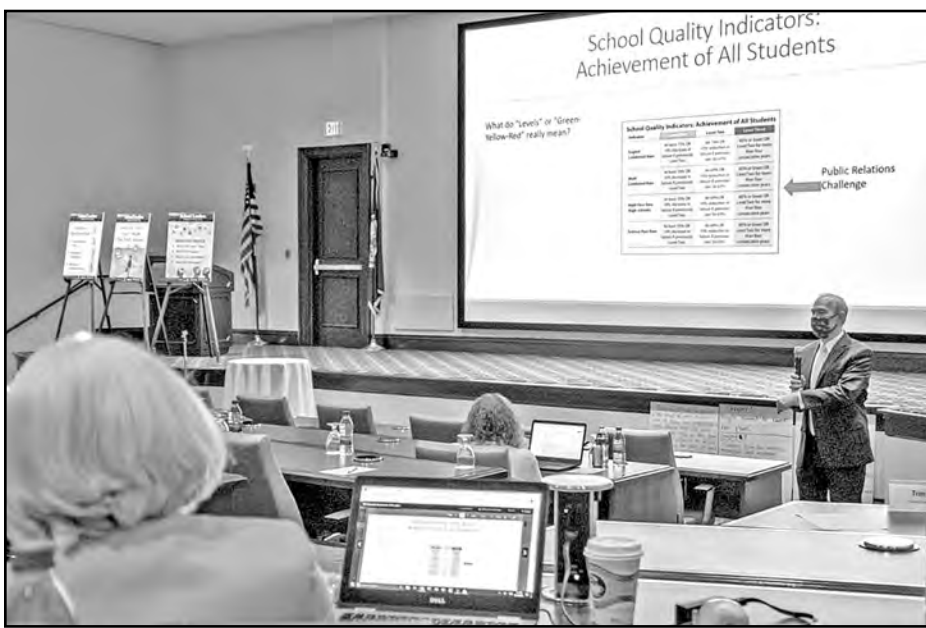
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Local school administrators go back to class at School Leaders Institute



Steve Staples, former Virginia superintendent of public instruction, was one of several guest presenters during the recent School Leaders Institute attended by, among others, Montgomery County Public Schools Superintendent Mark Mear.

As another school year begins under the uneasy cloud of COVID-19, Montgomery County Public Schools Superin-

tendent Mark Mear is drawing on the lessons he learned and the network of peers he developed at the School Lead-

ers Institute.

Run by Virginia Tech's Center for Organizational and Technological Advancement (COTA), the

institute teaches administrators like Mear how to lead during change. The faculty members — four COTA Fellows who are all former school administrators — share hard-earned wisdom that comes from decades of experience.

"There are a set of predictable challenges that every new administrator is going to face," said E. Wayne Harris, a COTA Fellow and former superintendent of Roanoke City Public Schools. "By sharing some of our experiences, we help people avoid the same potholes."

That practical approach, Mear said, provides a perspective that most courses do not offer.

Interactive in-person sessions held at The Hotel Roanoke & Conference Center cover a wide range

of topics, from everyday administrative burdens such as budgeting to trickier real-world dilemmas like working with a school board or communicating effectively with the community on contentious subjects.

To ensure the institute addresses those contemporary issues as well as perennial challenges, guest presentations from current superintendents, administrators, and teachers offer a view from inside the schools.

"We're in the age of rapid change," said Lois Graham, a former deputy superintendent and principal at Montgomery County Public Schools. "COVID and the way it affected schools — I don't think education will ever be the same. There's going to be a lot of catch-up."

About 70 percent of Virginia's public school divisions have sent administrators to the institute's two programs since they began in 2005. More than 500 participants have taken part in the Recently Appointed Administrators Program, and nearly 200 more have attended the Aspiring Superintendents Program.

Mear said his school division has sent several administrators to the institute. "Their participation not only benefits them when they become superintendents, but it benefits them in their current roles and helps them understand the superintendent's role better on a daily basis," Mear said.

-Written by Diane Deffenbaugh

Experts urge safe handling as backyard poultry salmonella cases spike

An outbreak of salmonella cases among backyard poultry flocks has experts urging owners to practice safe handling and proper hygiene when working with birds, eggs and meat.

According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, U.S. salmonella cases for 2021 had risen to 863 as of Aug. 31. That's 191 new cases since the previous report on July 23, with 209 hospitalizations and two deaths among 47 states. Of those, 32 cases have been reported in Virginia, and one person has died.

"Salmonella bacteria may be found in poultry manure and may not make the bird sick," said Dr. Charles Broaddus, state veterinarian and director of the Virginia Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services' Division of Food Industry Services. "The most effective way to prevent people who are handling chicks and chickens from getting sick is for them to wash their hands well after handling."

Broaddus and other experts are asking parents to be especially vigilant when it comes to children as one in four salmonella cases involve children under 5.

"Since small children are often not as aware of not putting their hands in their mouths or washing them well, we recommend that small children not handle poultry until they are of the age that their parents can trust them to wash their hands well and not put their hands in their mouths after handling chicks and chickens," Broaddus said.

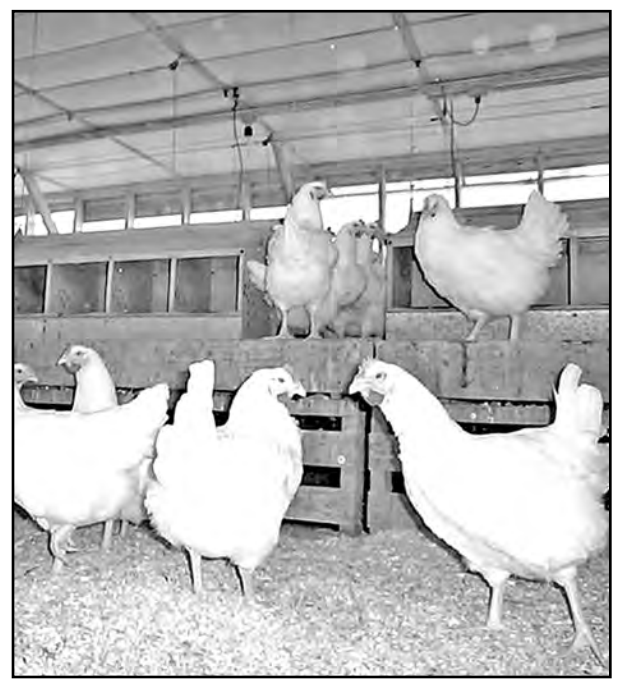
Even if they look clean and healthy, backyard birds still can carry salmonella germs. Never kiss or cuddle poultry, and don't eat or drink around them. When collecting eggs, use fine sandpaper, a brush, or cloth to clear off dirt. Don't rinse or wash them because cooler water can pull germs into the egg through the porous shell.

"It's very important that ev-

eryone practice biosecurity and proper personal hygiene to limit exposure," said Tony Banks, senior assistant director of agriculture, development and innovation for Virginia Farm Bureau Federation. "This is especially true for owners of backyard poultry and small commercial flocks. These individuals may not be aware of the potential hazard or may not wear dedicated clothing and footwear to reduce their potential exposure when working with their fowl."

According to the CDC, severe symptoms of salmonella include a fever higher than 102 degrees, vomiting, diarrhea, and signs of dehydration such as dry mouth and throat and dizziness. Persons experiencing any of these symptoms should seek medical attention right away.

For more information about the salmonella outbreak and safe handling practices, visit <https://bit.ly/3AboXOW>.



With 32 cases and one death in Virginia from salmonella among backyard poultry flocks, experts are urging safe handling and proper hygiene when working with birds, eggs, and meat.

Locally harvested honey reflects Virginia's varied landscape

Between its coastline, mountains, rivers and valleys, Virginia's diverse landscape makes the Old Dominion an ideal place for humans, animals and plants to live harmoniously.

Among the greatest beneficiaries of Virginia's natural splendor is the western honeybee, which was first introduced to the New World in 1622 to help Jamestown colonists improve their crop cultivation. Nearly 400 years later, the species is still busy producing unique honeys that are coveted by local consumers.

The process begins each spring when foraging honeybees collect nectar from flowering plants and use the syrup to produce honey in their hives. The nectar source determines the honey's flavor, and the wide range of honey varieties produced in Virginia is a product of the state's floral diversity.

"There are a lot of nectar sources out there. Every plant is going to have a different concentration of sugars and flavors, so

each will produce a honey with its own unique tastes and colors," said Keith Tignor, state apiarist for the Virginia Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services. "And because bees are generalist pollinators, they're usually visiting multiple plant species and are likely to bring back lots of different nectars to combine in the hive."

Tignor said beekeepers manage their harvests to determine whether their honeys will have a plant-specific flavor or a culmination of flavors from several different plants. To influence their colonies' pollination practices, beekeepers often place their hives in locations where certain plants are in full bloom. This encourages bees to feed on that plant's nectar.

"Once that plant's bloom is over, beekeepers will take the honey that was produced during that time, extract it and bottle it," Tignor said. "They'll label their honey things like clover, thistle, and tulip poplar because that's where most of the nectar came from that's

in that jar of honey."

Buckwheat, clover, and wildflower are among the most common honey varieties produced in Virginia though the commonwealth is known for its production of sourwood honey. Named after the species of trees that are found in southern and western parts of the state, its nectar is available to honeybees in June and July.

The honey, revered for its sweet, buttery taste resembling caramel, typically makes its way to consumers in early August.

"It's what we call 'the Cadillac of the honeys,'" said Glenn Clayton, who produces sourwood and wildflower honey at Hungry Hill Farm in Nelson County. "You have all kinds of honey, but sourwood has its own special flavor."

Bob Wellemeyer, a Rappahannock County beekeeper who produces goldenrod and wildflower honey at Windsong Apiaries, noted locally produced honey is becoming popular with consumers for culinary and medici-

nal purposes.

Honey is a trendy yeast source and ingredient at Virginia breweries, distilleries, and meaderies as well. Darker honey varieties are sometimes favored for their nutritional value.

Raw honey is finding increased applications in medical settings because of its wound-healing properties.

"The thing you've got to remember about honey is that it's pretty much perfect in the hive," Wellemeyer said. "The honey that smaller

producers are selling is strained, not filtered, and still has all the pollen grains and particles that make it the prod-

uct people want to buy. Raw honey is one thing smaller producers can offer that the big packing companies can't."

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**Pick up will be held at 5188 Kilgore Drive, Mendota, VA 24270
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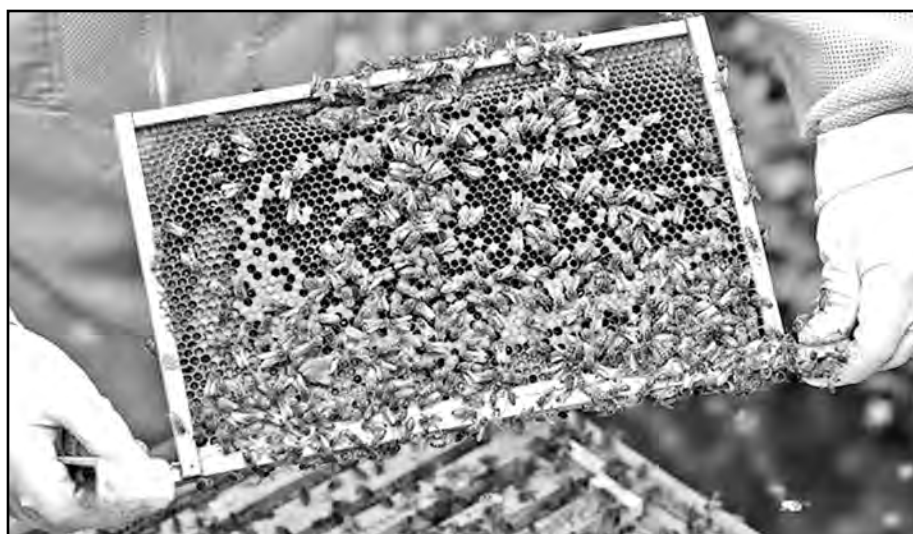
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**Blue Ridge Land
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Introduced to the New World in 1622 to help Jamestown colonists improve their crop cultivation, the western honeybee is still producing unique honeys in Virginia 400 years later.

OPINION

Home Country by Slim Randles

You have to know Bert really well before he'll share his secret with you, but if he does, it's as though he's revealed the reason for life and sunshine and the main reason our dogs think we're smart.

Oh, Bert gets down in the dumps just like the rest of us, but he has discovered a way to jerk himself out of the bar ditch by his own belt loops, and he finally broke down and explained how he could re-

main so cheerful during a year and a half of basic house arrest during the pandemic.

He looked up from his coffee and whispered, "mail order madness."

What? "What you do is buy stupid stuff. Cheap stuff. Maybe even stuff you'll never use, but maybe it's a pleasant color, or leads you to daydreams where you become dang near adequate."

"For example?" asked Doc.

"Okay," Bert said, "ask yourself this ... what's the very best part of ordering something through the mail?"

Our mouths still hung open. "Anticipation," Bert said. "I love it. You can do it with a computer, or just send off for a catalog. The simplest way to get anticipation kinda mail is to get those catalogues. List your address and name, of course, but it doesn't hurt to add the title 'Purchasing Coor-

dinator' below your name.

"Then you add a note telling the catalog folks not to give your name out to anyone else or little old ladies will pull out their whiskers, one at a time. It doesn't hurt to add that the chairman of the board mustn't find out what has been ordered.

"Then be sure the item you order is really cheap and makes no earthly sense at all. Hey, why waste money? Think por-

celain frog soap dish here.

"This will immediately start a flood of catalogs coming your way. You have now broken once and for all the evil shadow of boredom. Besides, you know you've secretly wanted a porcelain frog soap dish anyway."

Pick up "Home Country: Drama, dreams and laughter from the American heartland" www.lpdpress.com.

WalletHub ranks Virginia among safer states to live in during pandemic

The personal finance website WalletHub Thursday released its survey of the safest states to live in during the COVID-19 pandemic and ranked Virginia among the safer places. The commonwealth wound up in the number-20 slot among the 50 states and the District of Columbia.

As the website pointed out, some states are safer than others based on how well they have kept the pan-

demic under control and how much they are vaccinating. To find out the safest states during the COVID-19 pandemic, WalletHub compared the 50 states and the District of Columbia across five key metrics.

The metrics WalletHub used to determine the states' rankings were the vaccination rate, the positive testing rate, the hospitalization rate, the death rate, and the estimated COVID transmission rate.

The website noted that as the U.S. continues its efforts to overcome the COVID-19 pandemic amid a surge in cases caused by variant strains, staying safe is one of Americans' top concerns. Safety is also essential for getting the economy back on track as the lower COVID-19 transmission and deaths are in a state, the fewer restrictions there will be and the more confidence people will have to shop in person.

While almost all states have fully reopened, the website notes, the country will be able to completely get back to life as normal only when most of the population is fully vaccinated against the coronavirus. The good news is that the U.S. is picking up speed with vaccination as almost 55% of the population had been fully vaccinated against COVID-19 as of Tuesday, Sept. 21.

According to WalletHub's rankings of the states the 10

safest places during the pandemic are 1. Massachusetts 2. Vermont 3. Connecticut 4. California 5. Rhode Island 6. New Jersey 7. New York 8. The District of Columbia 9. Maine and 10. Maryland.

Winding up at the bottom of the rankings as the least safe states are 42. Mississippi 43. Montana 44. Kentucky 45. Oklahoma 46. South Carolina 47. Wyoming 48. Georgia 49. West Virginia 50. Idaho and 51. Alabama.

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Most recent figures show Virginia trails neighboring states and U.S. average in per-student investment in higher ed

RICHMOND, VA — The Virginia Business Higher Education Council (VBHEC) and Growth4VA Tuesday released a chart that details Virginia's per-student state support of higher education in 2020 compared to neighboring states Maryland, North Carolina, and Tennessee and the United States average. The commonwealth trailed all four states and the U.S. average

In 2020, Virginia spent \$6,519 per student on higher education compared to \$10,742 in North Carolina, \$10,969 in Tennessee, and \$8,800 in Maryland. The U.S. average was \$8,636.

Thus, Virginia leaves it to students and families in the commonwealth to cover a larger share through tuition and fees than do its neighbors and the country at large.

VBHEC chair Dennis H. Treacy, said, "Virginia's top-notch higher education system sets us apart, but

we will not maintain that advantage or keep our best-state-for-business ranking unless we meet the competitive challenge by making critical investments. Affordable access to higher education is the key to better jobs for Virginians and a world-class workforce.

"With the \$2.6 billion budget surplus [as reported by the Northam Administration in July] and other resources, we have a once-in-generations chance to invest in opportunity for all our students and to make Virginia the top state for talent. We believe there's no better investment right now than higher education."

A recent statewide survey released by Growth4VA indicated that 90% of Virginians in both parties agree that providing Virginians with degrees and credentials that lead to good jobs in the new economy is the most important investment the state can make.

VBHEC has applauded recent bipartisan efforts in Virginia to reinvest in higher education and has expressed appreciation to the governor and the general assembly. But a large gap remains, and the current level of state funding falls far short of the commonwealth's own declared goal.

"Ten years ago, the governor's higher ed commission and General Assembly set a goal that students and their families should only have to pay one-third of college costs, said Todd A. Stottleyer, VBHEC's treasurer and CEO of IT service management company Client Network Services, Inc. (CNSI), based in Maryland. "Despite a lot of good efforts, the state still is not paying two-thirds. It's paying about half. Now is the time to meet that two-thirds goal and, in the process, answer the competitive challenge posed by neighboring states."

Submit letters to the editor to editor@ourvalley.org

WalletHub survey shows Virginia among nation's most diverse states

The personal finance website WalletHub declares that the American narrative is a story of diversity. Our history tells of many different peoples coming together from every walk of life to form what is today a complex tapestry of backgrounds, the website notes. WalletHub also asserts that our story will continue to advance that narrative in the decades to come.

According to the website, the U.S. Census Bureau predicts that by 2045 the U.S. will no longer have a single ethnic majority, currently non-Hispanic whites, and will grow increasingly more diverse in the years to follow.

Some U.S. states promote diversity more than others. To determine where idea and identity exchanges have occurred at the highest level and where the population is relatively more homogeneous, WalletHub compared the 50 states across six key diversity categories and then ranked them from

most diverse to least diverse.

Virginia emerged as one of the country's most diverse states, coming in as the nation's 12th-most diverse state.

The six key diversity categories WalletHub used to determine its rankings were socioeconomic diversity, cultural diversity, economic diversity, household diversity, religious diversity, and political diversity.

The states WalletHub determined to be more diverse than Virginia were (in order from most diverse to less diverse) 1. California 2. Texas 3. Hawaii 4. New Jersey 5. New York 6. New Mexico 7. Maryland 8. Florida 9. Nevada 10. Arizona 11. Illinois.

The states WalletHub determined to be the least diverse were 41. Ohio 42. Iowa 43. Utah 44. Wyoming 45. Kentucky 46. Montana 47. New Hampshire 8. Vermont 49. Maine 50. West Virginia.

CROSSWORD grid with numbers 1-62 and letters C, R, O, S, S, W, O, R, D

- CLUES ACROSS 1. Auricles 5. Sharpening strap 10. Supplemented with difficulty 14. Jaguarundi 15. '7 Year Itch' Tom 16. European defense organization 17. Camber 18. Kittiwake genus 19. 3rd largest French city 20. Used for instant long locks 23. Harangue 24. Grabs 25. Formally withdraw membership 28. Magnitude relations 32. El Dorado High School 33. Porzana carolina 34. Earl Grey or green 35. Dog's tail action 36. Friends (French) 38. Lessen the force of 39. Dermaptera 42. Views 44. From a distance 46. Bleats 47. London Games 2012 53. Let the body fall heavily 54. Collect a large group 55. ABA ___ Honeymoon 57. Give over 58. Glue & plaster painting prep 59. Middle East chieftain 60. Removed ruthlessly 61. AKA bromelain 62. A dissenting clique CLUES DOWN 1. Formerly the ECM 2. A native nursemaid in India 3. Ribosomal ribonucleic acid 4. Ironies 5. Peaceable 6. Between 7. Cessation of activity 8. 'Little House' actor Merlin 9. Lying in one plane 10. Joins the military 11. Knock out 12. British School 13. Puts on clothing 21. Radioactivity unit 22. Helps little firms 25. Podetium 26. Fluid accumulation in tissues 27. Backed seat for one 29. From farm slate 30. Speak 31. Gurus 37. Deluged 38. In addition to 40. Oldest Yoruba town 41. A place to shelter cars 42. ___ and Dallah 43. Toothpaste tube cover 45. ___ and Juliet 46. Mussel beards 47. Prevents harm to creatures 48. Gorse genus 49. A method of doing 50. Young Scottish woman 51. Latticework lead bar 52. Invests in little enterprises 56. The products of human creativity

Send community news and photos to communitynews@ourvalley.org

OBITUARIES

Bowling, Patsy "Pat" James

Patsy "Pat" James Bowling, 75, passed away at her home in Hiwassee on Wednesday, Sept. 15, 2021.

She worked 27 years on the farm, but she was best known for her artistic abilities. She worked with crafts and was able to turn anything into a piece of art. She loved crocheting blankets, hats, socks and sweaters; painting pictures of horses, farms, and nature; and making jewelry and wreaths. She had so much talent and usually gave away her creations to family just to see them smile.

Pat was preceded in death by her parents, Frank Wilson James and Martha Ellen Underwood James; and her brother,



Frank James, Jr.

Survivors include her husband of 44 years, Douglas "Doug" Edward Bowling; sons and daughters-in-law, Chris and Felecia Altizer, and Michael and Crystal Altizer; eight grandchildren and seven great-grandchildren; sisters and brothers-in-law Helen and Danny Wolfe, Linda and John Bowls, and Kathy James; brother and sister-in-law Joe and Brenda

James; and many other relatives and friends.

Memorial services will be private and her ashes will be spread on the family farm.

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

Bruce, Shirley Anne

Shirley Anne Bruce passed away on Tuesday, Sept. 21, 2021, at Kroontje Health Care Center in Blacksburg.

Born on Feb. 6, 1932, she was known by family and friends as "Shirl." She was a graduate and member of the Beta Club of Dublin High School, Class of 1949. She attended Stratford College in Danville and graduated with a BA degree in English from Radford College in 1953.

Shirl taught school at Floyd High School from 1953 to 1958.

She toured extensively in Europe, including London, Ireland, Denmark, and Switzerland. Shirl was a lifelong member, Sunday school teacher and church historian at Fairlawn Presbyterian Church in Radford.

Shirley Anne was preceded in death by her parents, the late Robert H. Bruce, Sr. and Gertrude Hutchinson Bruce; and a sister, Mary Evelyn Bruce.

She is survived by her brother, Robert H. Bruce, Jr., and his wife Patsy Harless Bruce;



nephew Mark Sheridan Bruce and his wife Kimberly Linkous Bruce and their children Jared L. Bruce, Kevin Martin, and Allyson Martin; nephew Gary Allen Bruce and his wife Nicole Amos Bruce, and their children, Cody Allen Bruce of the U. S. Marines, stationed in Okinawa, Japan; Rachael, Landon, and Leighann Bruce; and many other relatives and friends.

The Bruce family would like to thank the staff and all employees of Kroontje Health Care Center in Blacksburg for Shirley Anne's loving care.

The family will receive friends from noon until 1:30 p.m. on Sunday, Sept. 26, 2021, at the Mullins Funeral Home in Radford. Graveside services will follow at 2 p.m. in Highland Memory Gardens with Pastor Laura Beth Gillespie Howell officiating.

In lieu of flowers, please consider donations to your favorite charity.

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

Cromer, Michael Timothy

Michael Timothy Cromer, 73, was called home to our Lord on Sept. 17, 2021, at Carilion New River Valley Medical Center.

Tim was born on May 18, 1948, in Blacksburg, to John Houston Cromer and Louise Graves Cromer. Both parents preceded him in death.

He grew up in Blacksburg with siblings Carolyn Wimmer, Larry Cromer, Charlie Cromer, John Cromer, Barbara Cromer, Kathy Sage, and Stephen Cromer. Several siblings preceded Tim in death. He attended Blacksburg High School.

Tim and his sons moved to Rocky Gap, Va., and he worked for several companies before joining Frito-Lay as a route salesman. Tim retired from Frito-Lay as a distinguished employee after more than 30 years with the company.

He was a loving son, brother, father,



grandfather, and a kind human being. He is survived by his sons, Tompall Cromer of Paso Robles, Calif. and Joseph Cromer, of Christiansburg; grandchildren Jason Cromer of San Francisco, Calif., Kenneth Cromer of Prague, Czech Republic, Isabelle Cromer of Christiansburg, Cecillia Cromer of Christiansburg, Chance Cromer of Paso Robles, Calif., and Ellana Cromer of Christiansburg.

Tim was a character. He liked to tell stories and get into a good debate. He loved to sing bluegrass and gospel music. He lived his life with the utmost morals and values. Tim loved all children and they all knew him as Pawpaw or Granddaddy.

A small graveside service will be held at Westview Cemetery in Blacksburg on Sunday, Sept. 26, at 2 p.m.

Graham, Timothy Wayne

Timothy Wayne Graham, 55, of Newport, went to his heavenly home on Sept. 20, 2021, after a long 20-year battle with multiple health complications.

Timmy was born on Nov. 16, 1965, to Harry Kawood Graham and Nancy Ellen Graham. He was a graduate of Blacksburg High School class of 1984. Soon after, he wed Tammy Reynolds Graham in 1987, and they had three children: Dalton Reynolds Graham, Dillon Keister Graham, and Drew Madison Graham.

Timmy was a force of nature, determined to provide for his family and give them the life he felt they deserved. His family meant more to him than anything else in the world, something he often mentioned. He was undeniably proud of Dalton, Dillon, and Drew and always supported them each and every day.

Anyone who knew Timmy knew that he was the most loving father and husband a family could ever ask for. Timmy was predeceased by his mother, Nancy Ellen Graham, and his in-laws, William Osborne Reynolds and Grace Keister Reynolds.

He is survived by his father, Harry Ka-



wood Graham; his wife; Tammy Reynolds Graham; his children, Dalton Reynolds Graham, Dillon Keister Graham (Alyssa Page), and Drew Madison Graham; siblings Tina Graham Carroll, Ford Graham (Pam Graham), Michael Graham, and Scottie Graham (Donna Graham); in-laws Robin Reynolds and Jan Gilbertson (Phil Gilbertson); nieces and nephews Jamie McGuire, Joey Carroll, Candace Keene, Kelley Graham, Whitney Akers (Justin Akers), Justin Graham, and Lucas Graham (Deidre Graham); several great-nephews whom he adored; numerous aunts, uncles, cousins; and his Myrtle Beach family and "chosen family," you know who you are.

The family sends a special shout-out to all of the doctors, nurses, and staff members at Fresenius Medical Care who were such a big part of his life; we can't thank you enough.

A celebration of Timmy's life will be held on Monday Sept. 27, 2021, at McCoy Funeral Home from noon to 2 p.m. Visitation with service and graveside will follow at the Newport Cemetery on Winding Way Drive in Newport, Va.

Hudgins, Julius B. "Joe"

Julius B. "Joe" Hudgins, 61, passed away on Saturday, Sept. 18, 2021.

Survivors include his sister and brother-in-law, Elaine and Ronnie Meredith; a son and daughter-in-law, Eric and Amanda Hudgins; a special niece, Shelley Dowdy and Austin Mul-



lins; one grandchild; two great-grandchildren; two special nephews; and many other family members and friends.

Per his request, no services will be held at this time. The Hudgins family is in the care of Mullins Funeral Home & Crematory. www.mullinsfuneralhome.com.

King, Elaine McKee

Elaine McKee King, 91, formerly of Radford, passed away Wednesday, Sept. 22, 2021, at Salem Terrace Assisted Living Facility, Salem, Va.

Elaine was preceded in death by her parents, the late Edd and Reba McKee of Johnson City, Tenn., where Elaine grew up; brothers Robert McKee, Gene McKee, and Ralph McKee; sisters-in-law Jimmie McKee and Myrtle McKee; and brothers-in-law, Richard Rahm and Jack King.

Survivors include her devoted husband of 63 years, Thomas (Tom) King of Salem Terrace, Salem.; daughter Susan King of Roanoke; a son, Nathaniel King of Charleston, S.C.; daughter Lillian King of Radford; sisters Louise Rahm of Atlanta and Shirley Budlong (Don) of Richmond.; sisters-in-law, Sarah McKee of Kingsport, Tenn., and Lonette King of Bristol, Va.; and a host of beloved nieces and nephews.

Elaine attended East Tennessee State University. She taught School in Tennessee, Florida, and Virginia. After teaching, while rearing her family, she was an active



member and leader in numerous organizations including the American Red Cross, the American Cancer Society, the American Heart Association, the Radford Hospital Auxiliary, the National PTA, Girl Scouts of the USA, Blacksburg First Church of God, Radford First Church of God, Triestone Christian Fellowship, and was a former member of PEO Chapter AB.

The family extends a heartfelt thank-you to Good Samaritan Hospice with very special gratitude to Venessa Stosser.

The family will receive friends from 4 p.m. until 5 p.m. on Sunday, Sept. 26, 2021, at Mullins Funeral Home in Radford. Funeral services will begin at 5 p.m. with the Rev. Gina Rhea and the Rev. Liz Dowdy officiating.

A private interment will be in the Southwest Virginia Veterans Cemetery in Dublin.

In lieu of flowers, please consider contributions to The American Red Cross.

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

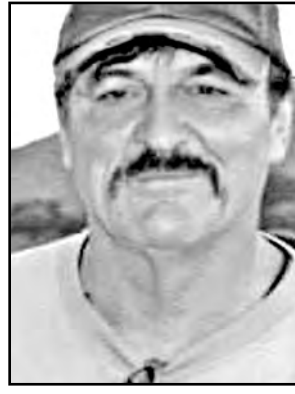
Kinser, Danny Lee

Danny Lee Kinser, 73, passed away on Monday, Sept. 20, 2021.

He was preceded in death by his parents, Duran Kinser and Tokie Kinser, and his sister, Judy Schoonover.

He loved spending time at the beach and enjoying beach music, fishing, and the UVA Cavaliers. WAHOOWA!

Survivors include his sons and daughter-in-law, Josh and Casey Kinser and John



Kinser; granddaughters Hattie, Riley and Josey; brother and sister-in-law, Mark and Stephanie Kinser; nephews Darryl Schoonover and Aubrey Kinser; special friend Jim Wheeler; and many other family members and friends.

Per his request, no services will be held at this time.

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

Witten, Barbara Ann Epling

Barbara Ann Epling Witten, 76, of Christiansburg, passed away at her home on Sunday, Sept. 19, 2021.

Barbara was born in Norfolk on June 15, 1945, to the late Arnold Eugene "Jack" Epling and Bessie Florence Blevins Lytle. She was raised by her late aunt and uncle, Beulah and Crocket Sarver, in Newport, Va., on their farm in Clover Hollow. Her love and admiration for them was immense.

Barbara was preceded in death by her high school sweetheart and husband of 43-and-a-half years, George Thomas Witten; her brother Eddie Egbert Eugene Epling; a sister, Ermadean Epling Caldwell; and her beloved kitties, Mia, Tommy, and Max.

While working full time and being a mother of two small children, Barbara graduated from Radford University. After a long career as a kindergarten teacher at Riverlawn Elementary School, she retired in 2001 from the Pulaski County School System. She loved her students and felt it was important for a child's first experiences in the classroom to be kind and loving. She devoted herself to instilling in the children a passion for learning and school. Mrs. Witten was loved by all her students and recognized long after retirement as a special lady.

Mom was the strongest woman we have ever known. Cherished lifelong friends Shannon Turner and Denise Bishop were an eternal presence in her life. Together they were teachers, raised their children, enjoyed their grandchildren, and spent countless hours after retirement together



shopping and talking over lunch and dinners.

Barbara conquered many obstacles in life. Her strength and faith in God carried her and enabled her to survive multiple cancers, including breast cancer. Her husband George was her rock, and her children and grandchildren were her reason for living.

She is survived by her son, George Thomas

"Tommy" Witten, Jr., and his wife, Pam Hixon Witten; and a daughter, Sheri Annette Witten Light, all of Fairlawn. Barbara is also survived by four grandchildren whom she cherished beyond words: Justin Scott Witten, owner of Ambush Sport Fishing in Murrells Inlet, S.C.; Justin Charles Light, a recent graduate of Iowa State University and employed by Deloitte in Charlotte, N.C.; Nicholas Whitman Light, a freshman at Auburn High School, and his sister, Mackenzie Grace Light, who is in the seventh grade at Auburn Middle School. They were what she cherished most and loved to spoil.

Also surviving are sister-in-law Beulah Link Epling of Newport; half-brother Harold N. Moore, Jr., of El Centro, Calif.; half-sister Michelle Diane Lytle Ruggles and her husband Scott of Hunting, W.Va.; and a cousin, Crocket Deanita Sarver Verbeck and her husband, retired Brigadier General Tom Verbeck of Burke, Va.

The family will receive friends from noon to 2 p.m. on Sunday, Sept. 26, 2021, at the McCoy Funeral Home, 150 Country Club Drive, Blacksburg. A memorial service will begin at 2 p.m. Interment will follow in the Newport Cemetery.

More Obituaries, page 6

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OBITUARIES continued from page 5

Shaver, Ralph Curtis

Ralph Curtis Shaver, 77, of Narrows, died Monday, Sept. 20, 2021, at his home.

He was born in Montgomery County on Aug. 5, 1944, to the late Sidney Roop and Anna Lee Dowdy Shaver. He was also preceded in death by his son-in-law, Wally Lawson; brothers Dick Shaver and Billy Shaver; and a sister-in-law, Shirley.

He is survived by his wife, Brenda Shaver; daughters and son-in-law, Lavonda Lawson, Angie Frazier and Greg; grandchildren Levi and Ella; step-granddaughter Devon Frazier; brother and sister-in-law, Melvin and Melinda Shaver; sisters-in-law Jeanne

Davis, Janie Moss, and Yvonne Shaver; brother-in-law Jackie Vaught; and numerous nieces and nephews

One of his greatest joys was being "Papa" to Levi and Ella, playing and laughing with them after school and during the summer, and enjoying walks through the neighborhood.

Funeral services were conducted Thursday, Sept. 23, 2021, in the McCoy Funeral Home Chapel with the Rev. Eddie Kendall officiating. Interment followed in the Roselawn Memorial Gardens, Christiansburg.

The family received friends prior to the service at McCoy Funeral Home, Blacksburg.

Willard, Anthony (Tony)

Anthony (Tony) Willard, 60, of Blacksburg, passed away peacefully on Sept. 20, 2021, from his short battle with esophageal cancer.

Anthony was predeceased by his parents, James and Juanita Willard; and his brother, Dean.

He leaves to cherish his memory his two

sons, Anthony (AJ) Willard and Jacob; three grandchildren, Travis, McKinley, and Levi; a sister and brother-in-law, Peggy and Ricky Huff; and a special niece, Kaitlin Huff.

As per Tony's request, there will be no services. Fly high Tony, you will be missed here on earth. Arrangements by McCoy Funeral Home, Blacksburg.

Governor: All Virginia school divisions are open for full in-person instruction

Virginia Governor Ralph Northam announced Thursday that as of this week, all of Virginia's 132 school divisions are open for full-time, in-person learning.

The announcement came as First Lady Pamela Northam concluded her annual Back to School Tour, during which she visited 28 schools, 26 school divisions, and all eight superintendent regions.

"Students learn best when they are in their classroom, and I am proud that all of Virginia's school divisions are now providing safe, in-person instruction," said the governor. "The commonwealth's teachers and families have worked hard to adjust to virtual and hybrid learning during the pandemic. Because of their continued work, Virginia's children are now safely back in school."

Since the inauguration, First Lady Northam has covered over 10,000 miles and visited over 200 schools to celebrate the start of the school year. Due to her advocacy on behalf of the Northam administration, a record 25,000 3- and 4-year-olds in Virginia now have access to early childhood learning.

"After four years on the road at over

200 schools and programs, we have never seen students so excited to be back in the classroom totally engaged in learning with their peers," the first lady said. "Thanks to superhero educators, Virginia's children will emerge from this pandemic stronger and more resilient than ever before."

"I have been traveling across Virginia and welcoming students back to in-person learning since July when Hopewell Public Schools reopened under their new year-round calendar," said Secretary of Education Atif Qarni. "At every school I visit, I am impressed by the determination of principals, teachers, and support staff to overcome all of the challenges they face and maintain safe, in-person learning for their students."

Schools are collaborating with local health departments and working to implement recommended mitigation strategies while also navigating quarantine protocols following positive cases among school members. Last week the Virginia Department of Health issued guidance on "close contacts" for K-12 settings that is expected to result in fewer and shorter disruptions to in-

See Northam, page 7

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 midweek 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 are committed to personal spiritual growth and to providing leadership in 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: www.fbcradford.org, 540-639-4419. Worship is broadcast live on 105.9 FM, 101.3 F, 1430AM.

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, Community Minister Tom Gilliam, 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.

EPISCOPAL

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Read Habakkuk 1:1 thru 3:19

See the Creator's magnificence in a fiery sunset glinting off the ocean. Fill your senses with His beauty flowing from a meadow alive in spring flowers. Recognize His splendor as stars light the night sky.

Precious time spent resting in the presence of the all-knowing, all-powerful, ever-present God strengthens a person's soul. Filling mind, soul, and spirit with His goodness and grace calms the spirit. Contemplating His protection and provision, remembering His love and sacrifice, and resting in His mercy refreshes the mind.

The Lord is in his holy temple; let all the earth be silent before him (Habakkuk 2:20).

Many look to government, possessions, or other people for security. They are reminiscent of those who carved impotent gods from idols of wood and stone—worshiping created things and ignoring their Creator. But nothing substitutes for God's wise care.

Take the time to sit quietly and remember who God is and what He has done. Bask in His presence. Be wrapped in the security of His perfect love.

Thought for Today: Be still and know that He is God.

Quicklook: Habakkuk 2:18-20

If your church is not listed and if you are interested, call Randy Thompson at 540-389-9355 or email at advertise@ourvalley.org

oriented spiritual community sharing the Word of God. ALL ARE WELCOME. In person and live-streamed services 10:30AM Sundays. Holy Eucharist twice a month. Morning Prayer twice a month. Fellowship and refreshments follow services. Find us on Facebook: Grace Episcopal Church 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.

PENTECOSTAL HOLINESS

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

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

Walton Pentecostal Holiness Church, 4003 Morning Glory Rd., off Walton Rd. on Rt. 114.

731-1755. Lee Sarver, pastor. Sun. School 9:30 a.m., Worship 10:30 a.m. & 6: p.m., Wed., 7p.m.

PRESBYTERIAN

Join us at **The Presbyterian Church of Radford**, 201 4th Street, at the corner of 4th & Randolph. Sunday school at 10am; worship at 11am in the sanctuary, masked & distanced. Phone 639-2585. Watch the service live on Facebook: The Presbyterian Church of Radford. www.pcradford.org. We are called to share the love of Christ in this community & beyond. Kelsey & Peter Hawisher-Faul, Co-Pastors.

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.

Central United Methodist Church, 803 Wadsworth Street, Radford. 639-3529. 8:30 a.m. Sunday Services: 8:30am (interpreter provided); 9:45am Sunday School (interpreter provided); and 11:00am. Wednesday Bible Study: 6:30pm. Child care is provided. www.centralmethodistchurch.com.

St. Paul United Methodist Church, 220 W. Main St., C'Burg. Rev. Moonsup "Paul" Song (540) 382-2410. Sunday Worship 10am, Sunday School 9am. Live streaming Sunday Service - www.twitch.tv/stpaulumc.

Northam from page 6

person learning for students and staff.

"Vaccines play a critical role in keeping students and staff safe, and our schools open for in-person learning," said Superintendent of

Public Instruction Dr. James Lane. "Parents and caregivers can play a significant role in keeping our schools open and safe by getting vaccinated and making sure that their children who are 12 and older are

vaccinated."

School divisions are receiving a total of \$3.6 billion in federal support for recovery and reopening under three federal pandemic relief acts: the Coronavirus Aid, Relief

and Economic Security Act, the Coronavirus Response and Relief Supplemental Appropriations Act of 2020, and the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021.

In addition, school divi-

sions received \$205.8 million in state funding this year to mitigate the impact of declines in per-pupil funding due to the pandemic, and \$40 million in state funding to address unfinished learning.

Museum from page 1

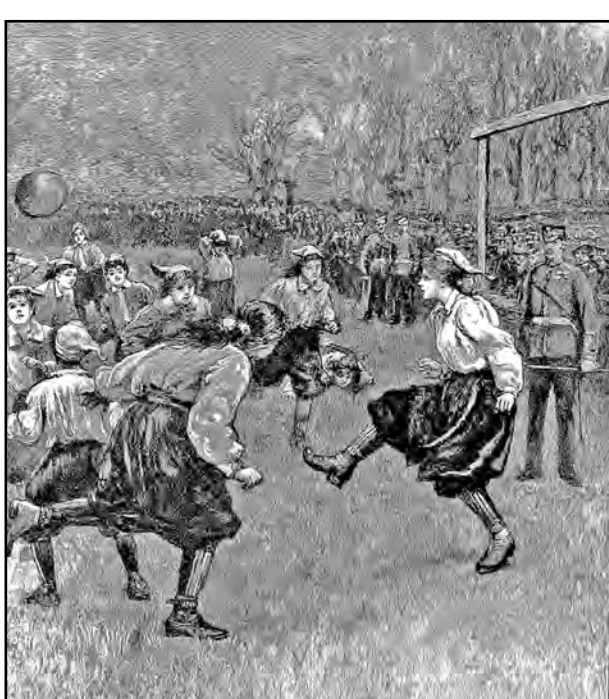


PHOTO COURTESY OF GLENCOE MANSION

Victorian-era women's soccer uniforms.

In the 1890s women wore skirts with long-sleeve blouses. By the 1910s, the skirts had shortened and high boots were worn. Shorts were common by the 1930s, though they were not necessarily the athletic shorts we think of today. From the 1950s to 1970s, athletic shorts were

developed, and T-shirts were often worn instead of jerseys.

"Women's soccer uniforms have changed drastically over time. What is interesting is to see how this evolution has corresponded with the suffragette and women's rights movements. During the

Victorian Era, women's suffrage and legal rights issues came to the forefront of American and British social causes.

"As the movement progressed and women became more independent, we can see that they shorten the dresses of their uniforms and make them more comfortable. Then, with the women's rights movements in the U.S. in the 1960s and 70s, we see the development of athletic shorts and more athletic shirts. Very rarely are social movements disconnected from cultural evolutions, and we can clearly see this with these athletic uniforms, and how they influence modern sports uniforms."

To learn more about Victorian life, "Like" Glencoe on Facebook or follow Glencoe on Instagram or visit the museum Tuesday through Saturday from 10 a.m. until 4 p.m. and Sunday from 1 to 4 p.m.

Highlanders from page 1

headline this year's festival.

SYR (sire) is a Celtic Folk Rock band from Columbia, SC. Taking inspiration from Celtic history, stories, and myth, SYR creates powerful songs with themes of battle, love, and victory, celebrating the rich heritage of the Celtic Nations in a contemporary style with broad audience appeal.

SYR's reputation for a high-energy performance has made them a popular attraction for many Celtic festivals and events, and they have built a following across the United States and internationally. Their much anticipated third album releases this year. The band consists of siblings Kyle (lead vocals, guitar) and Laurel MacCallum (vocals & percussion), Kelly Vance (bass), Luis Valverde (drums), Ben Campbell (guitar) and Worth Lewallen (fiddle).

Kinnfolk is the duo of Josh and Julie Kinn, who weave bouzouki, bodhran, and smooth vocal harmonies in their Celtic folk music from the heart of the Blue Ridge Mountains. The duo's musical style is heavily influenced by the sounds of the Roanoke traditional Irish session where they met in 2017. Since forming Kinnfolk in late 2018, the pair has played at festivals, breweries, and listening rooms all over the Southwest Virginia region. Their self-titled debut album dropped on March 7, 2020, (just one week before COVID-19 shut the state down), and they released their first original single, "The Borden Set,"

later that year.

Vendors are also a big draw at the festival. The lawn of Moffett quad will turn into an open-air extravaganza featuring artists, vendors, craftspeople, and community organizations. The day is also a great feast with assorted foods offered by vendors selling authentic Scottish fare classic festival food and American classics such as pizza and burgers.



PHOTO BY ETHAN BELL

The Radford University Highlander mascot greets attendees at the 2019 Highlanders Festival.

Virginia Department of Transportation road watch

The following is a list of forecasted highway projects that may impact traffic traveling in the 12-county Salem Transportation District this week. Work schedules and construction project timelines are always subject to change and weather dependent. New information is noted by "NEW" and updates are noted when a current project has had an update added to the listing. The Salem District covers Bedford, Botetourt, Carroll, Craig, Floyd, Franklin, Giles, Henry, Montgomery, Patrick, Pulaski and Roanoke counties.

MONTGOMERY COUNTY

I-81 NORTHBOUND AT EXIT 105 NEW RIVER BRIDGE REPLACEMENT IN MONTGOMERY COUNTY - Lane and shoulder closures may be in place near exit 105. Lane closure may be in effect during the week from 8 p.m. to 7 a.m. Shoulder closures may be in effect at any time during the week. Slow rolls may be performed on I-81 in the north and southbound lanes from mile marker 104 to 106 from 9 p.m. to 5 a.m. Speed limit is reduced to 60 miles per hour in the work zone. Shoulder closures will remain in place through the duration of the project. Project completion is estimated by June 2022.

LANE CLOSURES: Alternating lane closures may be in place on I-81 northbound between mile markers 104-106 during nighttime hours, 9 p.m. to 5 a.m. the following morning.

SLOW ROLLS: Slow rolls may be utilized periodically on both the northbound and southbound lanes from mile marker 98-109 for structural steel deliveries and setting beams.

I-81 BRIDGE REPLACEMENT AT EXIT 114 IN MONTGOMERY COUNTY - The bridge replacement of the two Interstate 81 bridges over Route 8, northbound and southbound, is underway. Drivers can expect alternating

lane and shoulder closures, northbound and southbound, from mile marker 114 to 115. Exit 114 ramp shoulder closures will be ongoing from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. Speed limit is reduced to 60 mph in the work zone. Route 8 will have alternating northbound and southbound shoulder and lane closures, day or night, as needed between the I-81 on and off ramps. A temporary traffic signal will direct traffic on Route 8 throughout the duration of the project. Access to all properties will be maintained during construction. Estimated completion is fall 2021.

LANE CLOSURES: Alternating lane closures may be in place through Sept. 23 for milling and paving on I-81 southbound during nighttime hours, 9 p.m. to 6 a.m. the next morning.

Nighttime lane closures may be in place periodically on I-81 southbound from 9 p.m. to 6 a.m. the following morning.

DMV Notice: The bridge on I-81 northbound at mile marker 114 currently has a restricted width for wide loads of 26 feet or larger.

ROUTE 643 PAVING PROJECT - Beginning soon, exact date to be determined, a project is being scheduled to resurface an unpaved portion of Route 643 (Yellow Sulfur Road). The work area begins .7 mile south of the intersection with Route 642 (Jennelle Road) and ends 1.7 miles north of the bridge over Route 460. Traffic impacts will include

intermittent flagging operations between these intersections. This project has an estimated completion date of May 2022.

LANE CLOSURES: Intermittent single lane closures utilizing flagging operations will be in place between the intersection of Teaberry Road and Jennelle Road.

ROUTE 11 BRIDGE DECK REPLACEMENT - Work is underway on Route 11 southbound to replace the bridge deck over the Norfolk Southern Railroad. The bridge is located .4 miles north of the intersection with Route 748 (Big Spring Drive) and .4 mile south of the intersection with Route 603 (North Fork Road). The left lane of both Route 11 north and south is closed with a detour in place until the completion of the project. Once in place, the detour will re-route Route 11 south traffic through the left lane of Route 11 north, limiting each direction to a single lane. The expected completion date is November 2021.

TRAFFIC SWITCH: A new traffic pattern is in place detouring Route 11 southbound traffic through the left lane of Route 11 northbound between the intersections above, limiting each direction to a single lane.

ROUTE 636 BRIDGE REPLACEMENT AT SENECA HOLLOW - Work has begun replacing the bridge on Route 636 over the Roanoke River at Seneca Hollow. A road

closure with a detour is in place from Echo Hills Road to .36 mile south of Route 460. The detour will restrict access to Route 460 at Seneca Hollow and will require travelers to enter/exit Route 460 at Friendship Road near Wheeling Hollow. The project is expected to be completed in fall 2021.

UTILITY WORK ON ROUTE 460 - MMI will be installing fiber optic along Route 460 from the Giles County line to the Floyd County line. This work will be ongoing. Motorists should expect shoulders and/or lane closures for travel in both directions.

VARIOUS ROADS FOR UTILITY WORK - Utility crews will be working on overhead lines along a general corridor alignment following Route 114 (Peppers Ferry), Route 460 Business (Franklin Street) and Route 11/460 (Roanoke Road). The work zone will span from the Pulaski/Montgomery county line to the Montgomery/Roanoke county line. In addition, various side roads will be impacted by intermittent closures for crossings. Motorists should expect shoulder closures and lane closures for travel in both directions. Intermittent full closures of the roads will be required for periods lasting no longer than 15 minutes. Work hours are scheduled for 9 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. daily. Advance warning for weekend work involving closures of primary highways on weekend mornings from 6 a.m. to 10 a.m. will be

provided via message boards once scheduled. Work is scheduled to last until fall 2021.

INTERSTATE 81 LANE WIDENING CONSTRUCTION EXIT 141 TO EXIT 143 - A project to widen the lanes on I-81 in Roanoke in both northbound and southbound directions between Exit 141 to Exit 143 has begun. Work will continue to be conducted within the median and shoulder within the barrier walls. Sound wall installation is underway. Weekday and weekend lane and shoulder closures may be in place. Estimated completion date of the project is summer 2022.

Drivers should expect delays. A left lane closure will be in place on I-81 northbound or southbound during nighttime hours from 8 p.m. to 6 a.m. while equipment and materials are brought into and out of the median. Message boards will alert drivers.

Daytime lane closures with flagging operations may be in place on Green Ridge Road due to installation of shoulder stone.

I-81 PAVING OPERATIONS - Weather permitting, crews will pave, patch and repair pavement on various routes. Lane closures may be in place during nighttime hours, 9 p.m. to 6 a.m. the following morning. Drivers should watch for signs and expect possible delays.

Botetourt County: Alternating lane closures will be in place between mile marker 167 and 169 on northbound I-81 between the hours of 7 p.m. and 6 a.m. the following morning, Sunday night to Friday morning.

I-81 BRIDGE DECK REPAIRS - Weather permitting, crews will repair bridge decks on Interstate 81. Between mile markers 141 and 143, right and left lane closures will be in place northbound and southbound during nighttime hours, 9 p.m. to 6 a.m. the following morning. Drivers should watch for signs and expect possible delays.

I-81 POTHOLE PATCHING OPERATIONS - Weather permitting, crews will patch potholes along southbound and northbound Interstate 81. Mobile right and left lane closures will be in place and moving along northbound and southbound lanes during nighttime hours, 9 p.m. to 6 a.m. the following morning. Drivers should watch for moving vehicles and equipment. Expect possible delays.

INTERSTATE 581 I-581/220 EXPRESSWAY PAVING OPERATIONS - Weather permitting, crews will pave, patch and repair pavement on various routes. Lane closures may be in place during nighttime hours, 9 p.m. to 6 a.m. the following morning. Drivers should watch for signs and expect possible delays.



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For Sale - Misc

FOR SALE

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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

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RADFORD SPORTS

Richmond interesting opponent for Hokies

Marty Gordon
NRVsports@ourvalley.org

On paper, this week's Virginia Tech opponent, the Richmond Spiders, is not in the same league or in this case division as the Hokies. The question is whether the Hokies can rebound from a late-game loss to West Virginia.

Head coach Justin Fuente said Richmond provides his team with a tremendous challenge this week to come back home to play a team that was really close to being undefeated coming into this game.

"They were like two minutes away in the Villanova game away from being undefeated," Fuente said at his press conference. "A veteran football team coming into our place that's very well-coached on both sides of the ball and special teams. They have four or five defensive linemen that would play for us. They have skill players.

We'll get some guys healthy to be back to full strength there because we're going to need that this week."

Richmond did pull off a rare 24-14 win in Blacksburg on Sept. 7, 1985, the first time they had defeated Tech. They were coming off play in the 1984 I-Double-A 12-team national playoffs. The win over the Hokies pushed the Spiders into the number-1 ranking in '85, and they reeled off six straight wins after the Blacksburg win

The school has been successful in the lower division and was the NCAA Division I Football Championship Subdivision champion for the 2008 season.

Saturday's game marks the 51st meeting between the two teams but the first meeting since 1986. They first met back on Nov. 13, 1897, when Virginia Tech posted a 26-0 victory. The Spiders trail the all-time series by an 10-37-4 margin, but their 10 victories are the

most for Richmond against a team from the Atlantic Coast Conference in program history.

Richmond is 2-24-1 all-time in Blacksburg and is coming off that loss to Villanova and is 2-1 after wins over Howard and Lehigh.

The Spiders remain ranked in both the national polls again this week, entering today's game at No. 21 in the American Football Coaches' Association (AFCA) poll, dropping three spots from last week. The Spiders fell to No. 24 in the Stats Perform FCS poll this week, again dropping three spots

Richmond players to watch include redshirt junior Aaron Dykes, who has been one of the top kickoff return specialists in the country during his Spider career as well as being the Spiders' starting running back for 17 games in his career. Dykes returned a kickoff 98 yards for a touchdown last week against Villanova, his third career kick-

off return for a touchdown. He leads the Colonial Athletic Association with five touchdowns in three games.

Linebackers Tyler Dressler and Tristan Wheeler have been a force together on the inside over the past two seasons. They became the first Spider linebacker duo to each record 100 or more tackles in the same season since 2008 when they accomplished the feat in 2019.

Redshirt senior quarterback Joe Mancuso has played in 38 games in his career at quarterback, making 20 starts. He ranks seventh all-time in program history with 6,009 yards of total offense, passing for 4,687 yards and rushing for 1,322 yards in his career. He ranked second in the Colonial Athletic Association in total offense from a quarterback in 2019, trailing only Villanova's Daniel Smith.

Mancuso's 4,687 yards passing ranks eighth while his 360

completions rank seventh all-time in Spider history. He is currently tied for eighth all-time with 34 passing touchdowns. During his career, he has accounted for 50 career touchdowns, 34 passing and 16 rushing and receiving.

Redshirt junior wide receiver Isaac Brown enters today's game leading the Spiders with 12 receptions for 193 yards and two scores in the first three games.

Redshirt senior defensive lineman Kobie Turner was named to the 2022 Reese's Senior Bowl Watch List and is one of just 35 members from the NCAA FCS level selected to that list and one of only three from the Colonial Athletic Association, being joined by Mike Greene from James Madison and Andre Miller from Maine.

The Spiders did play a short-spring season, going 3-1.

Predicted score: Virginia Tech 38, Richmond 28.

Radford Bobcats volleyball sweeps Fort Chiswell



PHOTOS BY BRYANT ALTIZER

Cheyenne Wesley bump passes to start the Bobcats' offense in Monday's win over Fort Chiswell. Radford swept the match from the Pioneers, 25-11, 25-6, 25-14.



Radford's Laney Cline taps the ball over the net as the Lady Cats rolled to another victory, defeating Fort Chiswell in straight sets. Radford is now 6-3 on the season.



Hollybrook Cline sets the ball in Radford's Monday win over Fort Chiswell.

Former walk-on continues long-standing Hokie tradition

Virginia Tech football has a long history of developing walk-ons into elite performers on the field. Wide receiver Kaleb Smith, a redshirt sophomore, is on his way to being part of that tradition.

Smith joined the Hokies in 2018 but didn't see any game action and redshirted. The following season, he was rewarded with a scholarship and played in his first game in the season opener at Boston College, a game that saw him grab four receptions for 64 yards with an 11-yard touchdown.

After COVID-19 turned normalcy into

a thing of the past in 2020, Smith is enjoying his role for Tech both on and off the field here in 2021. Prior to the season, Smith was elected to the team's Leadership Council as the wide receivers' representative, a position he does not take lightly.

The larger role seems to be suiting Smith as he has nine receptions for 83 yards through the season's first three games. He has already tied his career-high for receptions in a season from 2019 and is only five yards away from matching last season's receiving

See Smith, page 9



PHOTO COURTESY OF VT ATHLETICS

Former walk-on Kaleb Smith led Tech with six receptions for 58 yards last week against West Virginia.

Tech looks to bounce back at home versus Richmond

After its first road trip of the year, Virginia Tech returns home to Lane Stadium for an in-state matchup with Richmond today, Sept. 25, at noon on the ACC

Network.

The Hokies (2-1) suffered their first defeat of the season after a furious comeback attempt fell short in Morgantown. Despite the loss,

quarterback Braxton Burmeister had a career day, completing 19 of 31 passes for a career-high 223 yards and two touchdowns. The speedster from La Jolla,

Calif., also had a career-long 25-yard rush. Wide receiver Kaleb Smith, whose father played for Richmond from 1988-90, had a career-high six receptions for 58 yards

against the Mountaineers

Defensive captain Dax Hollifield led the team with 10 tackles (8 solo) to reach the career 200-tackle mark, joining his linebacker coach Jack Tyler and current Tech staffers Pierson Prioleau and Kyshoen Jarrett on the prestigious list.

Cornerback Jermaine Waller had an interception in his first straight game, the first Tech player to accomplish that feat since Hollifield in 2019. Waller is now tied for the FBS lead with three interceptions and is the only FBS player with an interception in all three games this season.

Richmond (2-1) is also coming off its first loss of the season after the Spiders suffered a 34-27 defeat at the hands of Villanova on Saturday. Quarterback

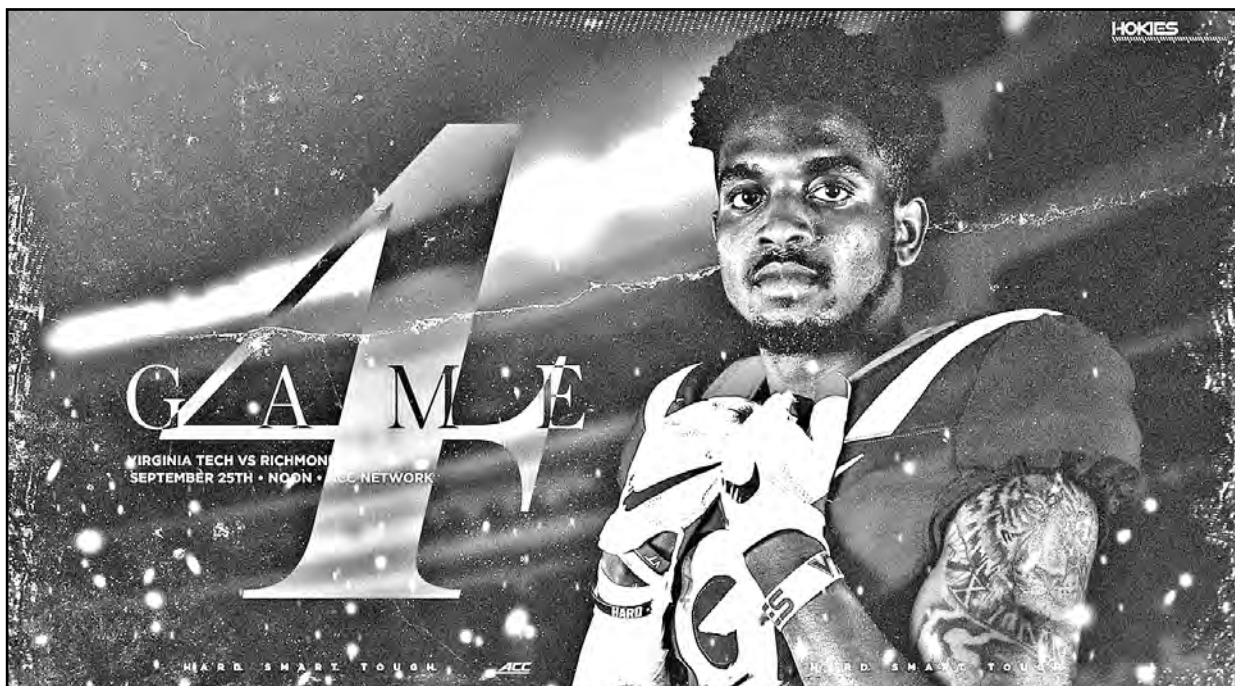
Joe Mancuso completed 18 passes on 32 attempts for 244 yards and two touchdowns in the loss while running back Aaron Dykes recorded 10 carries for 30 yards and had a 98-yard kickoff return touchdown against the Wildcats.

GAMEDAY INFORMATION

Saturday, September 25 - noon vs. Richmond (2-1); Lane Stadium; head coach: Russ Huesman (fifth season); record at Richmond: 20-21; Career: 79-58 (13th season); Series: VT leads 37-10-4

TV Broadcast
ACC Network; Play-by-Play: Wes Durham; Analyst: Roddy Jones; Sideline: Lericia Harris.

Local Radio
Virginia Tech Sports Network; Play-by-Play: Jon Laaser; Analyst: Mike Burnop; Sideline: Wes McElroy.





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