



Wednesday, October 13, 2021

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## Craft and Draft returns to Radford this Saturday



The grounds of Glencoe Mansion and Museum will be host to Craft and Draft, seen here in a previous year's offering, this Saturday, Oct. 16.

RADFORD - This Saturday, Oct. 16, the grounds of Glencoe Mansion and Museum will welcome the return of Craft & Draft, a free day of live music, handmade arts, food, and craft beer. This year, dozens of vendors -- 35 at last count -- from Southwest Virginia and North Carolina will be on hand selling original art, jewelry, letterpress cards and decorations, soy wax candles, goat milk soaps, and accessories.

"These handcrafted and one-of-a-kind works, ranging from traditional arts to trending modern styles, are a good way to support local artisans and get a jump on holiday shopping," said MountainTrotter Arts in announcing the event. The Craft & Draft merchandise tent will also be selling official event swag, including reusable metal tumblers and an artful 2021 T-shirt designed by local

artist Main Squeeze Press. Food vendors will be offering a variety of fare, including hamburgers, tacos, and sandwich wraps. The festival will also include musical performances throughout the day. JoJo Stockton & Soulacoustix, a soulful musical act out of Roanoke, will bring fun, entertainment, and soul to the stage beginning at 11 a.m. Gate 10, a full array of bluegrass musicians, will break the barriers of traditional bluegrass and country music beginning at 1 p.m. And finally, Flannel Jukebox, a Southwest Virginia classic and grunge rock cover band, will bring their full band's energy to the stage starting at 4 p.m. Craft beer and cider will be on tap for purchase. Patrons are encouraged to bring their own 16-ounce metal tumbler cups to help reduce plastic waste. Donations and tips will benefit MountainTrotter Arts's programming, including Craft and Draft, West End Wednesdays, the Radford Farmers Market, holiday pop-up

See **Craft and Draft**, page 6

## Battle of the Bridge golf tournament supports NRCC college education program

The legendary rivalry between Pulaski County and Radford City is moving to the golf course once again. The second annual "Battle of the Bridge" golf tournament hosted by the Pete Dye River Course of Virginia Tech will be played on Sunday, Oct. 24, 2021. Teams will tee off at 1 p.m. with lunch served at noon. Teams register to play for either side of the bridge, the Pulaski County Cougars or the Radford Bobcats. The beautiful Pete Dye River Course is the perfect place to spend a fall afternoon of friendly competition. The tournament supports the Access to Community College Education (ACCE) program at New River Community College (NRCC). The side with the most points gets bragging rights, but both sides win, as tournament proceeds will support ACCE students from both Radford and Pulaski County. Registration is open for teams of four at \$360 per team. Players who do not have a full team can contact the golf course to be added to a team. For those who can't attend the event, sponsorship opportunities are also available starting at \$150. To register or

See **Golf**, page 6

## From pagan festival to eve of day honoring saints and trick-or-treating and costumes, Halloween has evolved over the centuries



Halloween is a holiday celebrated each year on October 31, and Halloween 2021 will occur on Sunday, Oct. 31. The tradition originated with the ancient Celtic festival of Samhain, when people would light bonfires and wear costumes to ward off ghosts. In the eighth century, Pope Gregory III designated November 1 as a time to honor all saints. Soon, All Saints Day incorporated some of the traditions of Samhain. The evening before was known as All Hallows Eve, and later Halloween. Over time, Halloween evolved into a day of activities like trick-or-treating, carving jack-o-lanterns, festive gatherings, donning costumes and eating treats.

**H A L L O W E E N COMES TO AMERICA**  
The celebration of Halloween was extremely limited in colonial New England because of the rigid Protestant belief systems there. Halloween was much more common in Maryland and the southern colonies.

As the beliefs and customs of different European ethnic groups and the American Indians meshed, a distinctly American version of Halloween began to emerge. The first celebrations included "play parties," which were public events held to celebrate the harvest. Neighbors would share stories of the dead, tell each other's fortunes, dance, and sing. **FUN FACT:** More people, especially millennials, are buying costumes for their pets. Twenty percent did so in 2018, up from 16 percent in 2017. **FUN FACT II:** One quarter of all the candy sold annually in the United States is purchased for Halloween. Colonial Halloween festivities also featured the telling of ghost stories and mischief-making of all kinds. By the middle of the 19th century, annual autumn festivities were common, but Halloween was not yet celebrated everywhere in the

country. In the second half of the 19th century, America was flooded with new immigrants. These new immigrants, especially the millions of Irish fleeing the Irish Potato Famine, helped to popularize the celebration of Halloween nationally. **ALL SOULS DAY AND ALL SOULS CAKES**  
The American Halloween tradition of trick-or-treating probably dates back to the early All Souls' Day parades in England. During the festivities, poor citizens would beg for food and families would give them pastries called "soul cakes" in return for their promise to pray for the family's dead relatives. The distribution of soul cakes was encouraged by the church as a way to replace the ancient practice of leaving food and wine for roaming spirits. The practice, which was referred to as "going a-souling," was eventually taken up by children who would visit the houses in their neighborhood and be given ale, food, and money. The tradition of dressing in costume for Halloween has both European and Celtic roots. Hundreds of years ago, winter was an uncertain and frightening time. Food supplies often ran low and, for the many people afraid of the dark, the short days of winter were full of constant worry. On Halloween, when it was believed that ghosts came back to the earthly world, people thought that they would encounter ghosts if they left their homes. To avoid being recognized by these ghosts, people would wear masks when they left their homes after dark so that the ghosts would mistake them for fellow spirits. **BLACK CATS AND GHOSTS**  
Halloween has always been a holiday filled with mystery, magic and superstition. It began as a Celtic end-of-summer festival during

See **Halloween**, page 5

## Radford Woman's Club distributes books to elementary schools

The Radford Woman's Club held Reading Is Fundamental fall book distributions at Snowville Elementary School on Sept. 17 and at McHarg Elementary school on Sept. 27. The books for McHarg's pre-K students were delivered to classrooms at Grove United Methodist Church because of the school's remodeling. Seventy-two books were taken to Grove UMC for the students and four teachers. The books given to the children were ordered from Scholastic Books. They include early readers, starting chapter books, older reader chapter books, non-fiction, and color-and-read books. The children chose their own books with guidance from members of the Radford Woman's Club and their teachers. Betty Overdorf and Vicki Tupman are the coordinators of the club's Reading Is Fundamental program. The club has its next RIF book distribution scheduled for Oct. 19 from 8:30 until noon at Riverlawn Elementary School.



Snowville Elementary School students enjoy the books they received at the Radford Woman's Club Reading Is Fundamental book distribution.

## Kids' Tech University registration opens on Oct. 18

Registration for Kids' Tech University, which is hosted by the Fralin Life Sciences Institute and Virginia 4-H, will open on Oct. 18 and will continue through Jan. 5, 2022 or when the program is full. Registration will operate on a first-come, first-served basis, and the program will be limited to 350 participants. A registration fee of \$65 per child

will be charged upon registration to cover the costs of offering a high-quality program. No refunds will be given. Parents will also have an option to apply for a scholarship during registration. Every year, Kids' Tech University (KTU) aims to inspire the future generation of scientists by bridging the gap between kids and experts in the fields of sci-

ence, technology, engineering, and mathematics. Last year, the program had to address a gap of a different kind: distance. Kids' Tech University, like many other programs and activities, had to move to a virtual format for the first time as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic. Despite its difficulties, the program was a success. Not only that, but kids were given access to locations and experiences they could never have imagined. The program drew interest from all across the country and the world, leaving Kristy Collins, the Fralin Life Sciences Institute's head of education and outreach, astonished. "We have never had so much national reach - or any international reach for that matter - for this program," said Collins. "We had kids from Florida, Georgia, West Virginia, Tennessee, Arizona, Virginia, North Carolina, and Maryland. Last year's program was also attended by kids who were residing in Japan, Egypt, and Turkey." This year, the program will continue the tradition by hosting another virtual Kids' Tech Univer-

See **Kids' Tech**, page 6



In February of 2020, Kris Rau spoke about the neural pathways of the body and demonstrated a human-to-human interface device, which allows one person to control the hand of another. Photo courtesy of Rasha Aridi for Virginia Tech.



# UPCOMING EVENTS

## Wednesday, Oct. 13

### Virginia's Rent Relief Program Workshop

At 5:30 p.m. at the Blacksburg Library; Virginia's Rent Relief Program (RRP) can provide funds to assist in paying rent, late fees and other lease-based costs back to April 2020 for those impacted by COVID-19. Join Virginia's Rent Relief Program for information about the requirements and help in completing the online application. Attendees should bring a signed, current lease agreement.

### Essential Oils

At the Christiansburg Library at 7 p.m. Learn more about essential oils. A different topic is featured every month.

## Thursday, Oct. 14

### Christiansburg Mayors Candidates Forum

A Zoom forum featuring the three candidates for mayor of Christiansburg will be held on Thursday, Oct. 14, at 7 p.m. To register and submit questions, go to [bit.ly/CburgMayorForum](https://bit.ly/CburgMayorForum).

The candidates are Michael Barber, incumbent mayor; and two council members, Samuel M. Bishop III and Johana Hicks. The League of Women Voters of Montgomery County and the Montgomery County-Radford City-Floyd County branch of the NAACP will host the event.

### Cybersecurity Awareness Month at the MFRL

At 11 a.m. Virtual/Online; October is National Cybersecurity Awareness Month and the Better Business Bureau serving Western Virginia wants to educate members of the community about the importance of cybersecurity and to provide tips and resources needed to be safer and more secure online. Connect at: <https://www.gotomeet.me/MFRL/programs>.

### Author Talk at the Radford Public Library

Author Willa Reece will talk about her book "Wildwood Whispers" in the Radford Public Library community room on at 7 p.m. This

adult fiction is "a heart-warming tale of hope, fate, and folk magic that unfolds in a sleepy town nestled in the Appalachian mountains." Author Reece will have some giveaways and swag for the audience with one copy of the book to give away. This event is free and open to the public and will also be streamed live to Facebook on the Radford Public Library page.

### Virginia's Rent Relief Program Workshop

At 5:30 p.m. at the Christiansburg Library

### Speak Up

At the Meadowbrook Public Library at 4:30 p.m. This special program will be presented by members of the local chapter of GLSEN. April Tarvidrichy will be reading "Speak Up!" by Miranda Paul and Ebony Glenn. Join this session for stories, thoughtful discussions, and activity.

## Friday, Oct. 15

### Cannon Firing for Homecoming Parade

The Virginia Tech Corps of Cadets cannon will be fired twice the afternoon of Friday, Oct. 15, as cadets pass in review on the Drillfield in honor of Virginia Tech's homecoming. The event begins at 3:30 p.m. Skipper will be fired at the first note of the National Anthem and at the first note of "Tech Triumph." There will be two shots total.

### Noise Alert: Fireworks

A fireworks event will be held on the west side Drillfield of the Virginia Tech campus. The fireworks will be fired at 8:45 p.m. as part of homecoming. All the appropriate cautions will be in place. VT Rescue will provide EMT standby. VT Health and Safety has requested standby coverage begin 30 minutes prior to the scheduled shoot time.

## Saturday, Oct. 16

### Craft and Draft Festival

On the grounds of the Glencoe Mansion and Museum from 11 a.m. until 6 p.m. Live music, handmade arts,

food trucks and craft beer. Thirty-five vendors from Southwest Virginia and North Carolina will be on hand selling original art, jewelry, letterpress cards and decorations, soy wax candles, goat milk soaps, and accessories. Live music will be presented by JoJo Stockton & Soula-coustix, Gate 10, and Flannel Jukebox.

### Creative Writing

At the Meadowbrook Public Library at 11 a.m. In person or virtually on Go-To-Meeting for support, feedback, and writing tips. Email [mupthegrove@mfrl.org](mailto:mupthegrove@mfrl.org) or call 540-268-1964 for more information. You do not need a Go-To-Meeting account to join.

## Caturday

At the Christiansburg Library from noon to 1 p.m. Sign up at the front desk for a 15-minute slot to read to a cat from the Montgomery County Animal Care and Adoption Center to practice reading and to socialize shelter cats. All Ages. Email [shodges@mfrl.org](mailto:shodges@mfrl.org) for more info.

## Monday, Oct. 18

### Pokémon Club

At the Christiansburg Library at 4:30 p.m. Pokémon fans bring your DS or Pokémon cards and get ready to battle, trade, and make new friends. All ages.

### Graphic Novel Book Club

At the Blacksburg Library at 6 p.m. To be discussed is "My Favorite Thing is Monsters" by Emil Ferris. Call ahead to reserve a copy

## Tuesday, Oct. 19

### SRS Paranormal at the Radford Library

SRS Paranormal, spooky local paranormal investigators will be at the library at 4 p.m. to talk about their work, show off the special equipment that they use, and give a live demonstration. At 4 p.m. The program is not recommended for children younger than 13.

## Wednesday, Oct. 20

### Radford Army Ammu-

### nition Plant (RFAAP) Community Meeting

The (RFAAP) Community Meeting has been rescheduled to Wed., Oct. 20, 2021 at 6 p.m. at the

Christiansburg Library. The rescheduling of this meeting will 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/Radford-Default.aspx>. Email: [usarmy.radford.peo-eis.list.rfaap-public-affairs@mail.mil](mailto:usarmy.radford.peo-eis.list.rfaap-public-affairs@mail.mil).

In-Person Learn at Lunch at Hahn Horticulture Garden.

### "Crafting a Garden Vision" with Steve Hale.

This presentation is designed to give participants new perspectives on their own gardens, no matter how large or small. Join for an hour of "Crafting a Garden Vision" at the Hahn Horticulture Garden Pavilion from noon to 1 p.m. Parking passes will be provided to attendees.

## Friday, Oct. 22

### VT Corp of Cadets Formal Retreat

The Virginia Tech Corps of Cadets will hold a formal retreat ceremony at 4:15 p.m. on Upper Quad. The Color Guard will lower the flag, and the regimental band, the Highty-Tighties, will play. Skipper, the corps cannon, will fire once.

## Friday, Oct. 29

### Radford Trick or Treat Trail and Harvest Festival

From 4 to 6 p.m., downtown Radford. Stop at downtown busi-

nesses for treats and have fun at the Harvest Festival, sponsored by Oasis Church, held in the Virginia St. and East Main parking lot.

## Sunday, Oct. 31

### Grove United Methodist Church Trunk or Treat

An afternoon of safe fun trunk or treating. Trunks filled with treats are being provided by Grove UMC members and students from the Wesley Student Center at Radford University. The event is free. For more information 540-639-2807.

## Through Oct. 19

### Crafts to Go

At the Meadowbrook Library. Drop by the library for Halloween and autumn take and make craft kits. Available at the library or with curbside pickup. They are free but supplies are limited.

### Diaper Drive benefiting Montgomery County Christmas Store

At the Blacksburg Library. Blacksburg Junior's Club and the Blacksburg Library are hosting a diaper drive benefiting the Montgomery County Christmas Store. All sizes of diapers needed and welcomed.

### Halloween Costume Drive

At the Meadowbrook Library, which is looking for gently used costumes in all sizes. Drop off Halloween costumes during library hours through Oct. 20. Come to the Halloween Costume Mania and select a costume for children or adults while costumes last.

## All month of October

### Halloween-Sidewalk Obstacle Course

At the Meadowbrook Library's courtyard. Can you make it through the Halloween-themed obstacle course? Don't forget to count the candy corn throughout the course to win a prize. For all ages and abilities. Those that complete the course can enter for a special prize drawing to be held Oct. 25.

### Passionate Painters

At the Blacksburg Library. Come check out the beautiful works by the students and friends of VT Lifelong Learning Institute.

### Grab-and-Go Meals

At the Meadowbrook Public Library. Offering free grab and go and meals and snacks. Children 18 years and younger can come and get a weeks' worth of meals and snacks. Each box will contain a five-day supply. This is free to all children/teens during library hours. Sponsored by Feeding Southwest Virginia, an equal opportunity provider.

### Radford Farmers Market

The Radford Farmers Market will be held each Saturday through Oct. 30, from 9 a.m. until 1 p.m. 9 a.m. - 1 p.m. New River Valley Community Service parking lot (the old Wade's parking lot) on West Main Street.

### Christiansburg Farmers Market

The Christiansburg Farmers Market will be held every Thursday through Oct. 28 from 3 to 7 p.m. in the parking lot of the Christiansburg Recreation Center.

## Ongoing

### RPL and passports

The Radford Public Library is a Passport Acceptance Office. Call (540) 731-3621 to set up an appointment. Those planning overseas travel should get their passports as early as possible. The current wait time is up to 18 weeks.

### "Paper Alchemy" exhibit

Currently on display in the gallery in the Covington Center at Radford University. This is an exhibition of jewelry and other objects made from Thurmanite®, a material invented by James Thurman, an artist who teaches at the University of North Texas. Thurmanite is a unique composite material made of layers of recycled paper bonded together with an environmentally friendly plant-based resin. "Paper Alchemy" is a dynamic demonstration of the artist's range of inventive problem-solving and creativity.

## New Catawba Sustainability Center trail provides access to Appalachian Trail, McAfee Knob

McAfee Knob, one of the Appalachian Trail's most popular overlooks, draws thousands each year to its awe-inspiring summit in Roanoke County. But especially on pretty autumn weekends, that popularity has made parking increasingly difficult for hikers hoping to take in the view.

Now, just in time for the fall hiking season, a new trailhead at the Virginia Tech Catawba Sustainability Center will help ease that load.

The Catawba Greenway, a 2.9-mile looped trail that officially

opened with a ribbon-cutting Sept. 30, winds its way through the 377-acre Virginia Tech property before connecting to the Appalachian Trail. The trailhead includes a 25-space parking lot.

In addition to easing parking congestion, the trail also improves safety for hikers along state Route 311. Crossing the busy road at the McAfee Knob trailhead can be harrowing. Plus, an ever-growing number of Appalachian Trail thru-hikers now will have an alternative, off-road path to visit Catawba and its farmers market

and post office.

Roanoke County and Virginia Tech formed a partnership nearly 10 years ago to develop the Catawba Sustainability Center into a laboratory supporting university research and community engagement.

Preserving the county's natural beauty helps support agritourism and economic development in the region. Jason Peters, chairman of the Roanoke County Board of Supervisors, said the county is

See McAfee Knob, page 3



Sharing a giant pair of scissors, Roanoke County supervisor Martha Hooker and Catawba Sustainability Center manager Adam Taylor (center) lead representatives from Virginia Tech, Roanoke County, and the community in a ribbon-cutting ceremony on Sept. 30. The celebration officially opened a new trail that provides access to McAfee Knob and the Appalachian Trail. Photos by Diane Deffenbaugh for Virginia Tech.

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## Goodwill Industries of the Valleys celebrates 90 years

Sunday, Oct. 10 marked the 90th anniversary of Goodwill Industries of the Valleys.

Founded on Oct. 10, 1931, Goodwill consisted of a cabinet and shoe shop, a store, a mission hall, and 32 rooms for the homeless. The first superintendent was S.L. Thomas, and he oversaw the work of 20 to 30 people operating a paper plant that generated about \$10,000 a year. Records dating back to 1935 list the Roanoke program as one of 89 Goodwills nationwide and the 64th

program organized.

Today, Goodwill Industries of the Valleys is one of 156 independent, community-based Goodwill agencies in the United States and Canada. The current organization was created in January 2000 through the merger of four organizations with similar missions, all committed to serving people in need. Goodwill's service area covers 35 counties and 14 cities in Central, Southwest, and Southside Virginia including Montgomery County.

"As we look to the future of Goodwill, our vision is to eliminate poverty through empowering individuals, strengthening families, and inspiring communities," states Richmond Vincent, President and CEO of Goodwill Industries of the Valleys. "Through the work of Goodwill, we want people to have the opportunity to achieve their greatest potential. Times have changed in the 90 years our organization has been serving the Commonwealth of Virginia and so have the needs of our

communities. With the support of our communities and team members, we look forward to another 90 years of service."



# VT epidemiologist: Data show pregnant women should get vaccinated



**"We've seen an increase in COVID complications, especially among unvaccinated women, and recent hospitalization data indicated that 97% of pregnant women who are hospitalized with confirmed COVID infections were not vaccinated," said Virginia Tech's Rachel Silverman.**

"When it comes to pregnancy and vaccinations, the data is clear," according to Virginia Tech epidemiologist, Rachel Silverman. "We've seen an increase in COVID complications, especially among unvaccinated women, and recent hospitalization data indicated that 97% of pregnant women who are hospitalized with confirmed COVID infections were not vaccinated."

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention has issued a call for "urgent action" to increase coronavirus vaccinations among women who are pregnant.

"We know that the risks of COVID-19 infections are very well documented," Silverman said. "We've had that data for quite a

while. Those who are pregnant have a much higher risk for severe illness, hospitalizations, ICU admissions, along with pregnancy complications like premature birth, Preeclampsia, and stillbirth. They are also more likely among those who are infected than those who are not infected."

Silverman is a research scientist in epidemiology in the Virginia Tech Center for Public Health Practice and Research housed in the Department of Population Health Sciences in the Virginia-Maryland College of Veterinary Medicine at Virginia Tech. Her research includes infectious disease and maternal and reproductive health.

Silverman is currently expecting her second child, was vaccinated

and plans to get the Pfizer booster as soon as it's available.

"I'll definitely be taking that booster to help both protect me -- make sure that I'm still protected -- and to also to help boost those maternal antibodies for my child," Silverman said. "So when they are born they have those maternal antibodies, to help protect them during that newborn stage as well. I'll also probably get my flu shot at the same time."

"I totally understand some people are on the fence with this," Silverman said. "We need to keep balancing the risks of the vaccines which are extremely low to the risks of getting infected during that vulnerable time when you are at higher risks for these complications."

## Virginia's mushroom industry is not only thriving, but growing

Driving by Schofield Farm in Dinwiddie County, you would never guess that Paul and Katie Schofield have one of the largest mushroom-growing operations in Virginia.

Situated amid wild berry bushes, a few chickens and some sheep, are two small shipping containers and a greenhouse where the couple raises and harvests around 600 pounds of mushrooms each week: oysters, shiitake, lion's mane and "a little bit of maitake."

"We're gonna start some chestnuts in a couple of weeks, so I'm pretty excited about those," Katie said.

The inspiration behind cultivating fungi stemmed from Paul's education at Virginia Commonwealth University, where one of his professors was researching mushrooms' anti-cancer properties. Unable to find fresh, local

mushrooms for a study, they decided to grow their own.

"Then it just turned into, 'Why don't we just grow some more and sell them?'" Katie recalled.

### Like something out of science fiction

Outfitted with temperature control, a misting system and grow lights, shelves inside the shipping containers are lined with blocks of sawdust and wheat bran substrate that act as growing media. Mycelium—the vegetative part of fungi—webs throughout the substrate with fruit in various stages of growth, looking almost otherworldly.

"You open the doors, and fog comes out like it's a science fiction movie," Katie chuckled.

Paul explained that "you need the right humidity and temperature range. Blue oysters like it cooler. Shiitake like

it a little bit warmer, so they're in the greenhouse. Lion's mane likes it kind of cool, but not cold."

The Schofields mix their own substrate and purchase ready-to-fruit shiitake logs from a farm in New Jersey. The substrate is steamed, eliminating contaminants before being formed into blocks. Once they are inoculated with spores and the mycelium is established, the fruiting begins.

"The lion's mane grows slowly. Once it starts fruiting, it'll be seven days before they can be harvested. These guys," Paul said, pointing to a cluster of bright yellow oysters, "take about three days."

### Gnomestead Hollow is an ode to fungi

Nestled in a lush green meadow surrounded by forest and a trickling brook, Carroll County's Gnomestead Hollow Farm and Forage is a nod

to mushroom lore.

"Gnomes have always been associated with mushrooms—you don't really see one without the other," explained owner Matthew Reiss. "They're guardians of the garden and forest."

Reiss always enjoyed foraging mushrooms in the wild. He started producing them while studying sustainable agriculture at Evergreen College in Washington where he grew his first fungi at the college farm. A Virginia native, he eventually moved back east and settled on his family's land in Dugspur.

"Depending on the season, I grow about five to 15 varieties," Reiss said. "I have a pretty passive setup, which relies a lot on the ambient conditions. I built it around this climate zone."

Standing in one of his grow houses, he explained how people enjoy



**Mushroom farmer Katie Schofield says when she opens the door to the shipping containers in which her husband and she cultivate their mushrooms, "a fog comes out like a science-fiction movie."**

mushrooms' variety and unique, earthy flavors.

"People think 'earthy' tastes like dirt, but it doesn't," he said. "Some have this really nice, deep umami flavor like the shiitake. Oysters have a delicate, nutty flavor that intensifies when you sauté or roast them."

Lion's mane, with their slight seafood essence, work well for faux crab

cakes. Reishi mushrooms, Reiss said, are bitter and made into teas with ginger and honey.

There wasn't much of a mushroom industry in Virginia when he first started in 2013, but "it's gained a lot of traction. A lot more people are growing. A lot more people are foraging, especially since the pandemic. Mushroom culture is thriving."

## New study examines quality of life in mini-pigs

At the Virginia-Maryland College of Veterinary Medicine, researchers want to examine which factors are important when miniature pig owners — also known as "pig parents" — measure their pigs' happiness.

With the popularity of pet pigs on the rise, Sherrie Clark, professor of theriogenology and interim

department head of Large Animal Clinical Sciences, and Megan Shepherd, clinical assistant professor of clinical nutrition, began to wonder what people overlook when they think about their pet pigs.

"There's been a lot of research on indicators that a pet dog or a cat is happy, healthy, and thriving, but

with mini-pigs, we don't really have a standardized way to measure their quality of life," Shepherd said.

"You can't treat a pig like a dog with a different snout," said Clark.

This may seem obvious, but Clark said it's crucial to set appropriate expectations for people who want to incorporate a pet mini-pig into

their households.

"There are so many misconceptions about mini-pigs. Potential owners really need to go into pig parenting with their eyes wide open," said Clark. One of the misconceptions, she cites, is built into the very name — the truth is that "mini" pigs don't stay mini.

"When we're talking about mini-pigs, we're talking about a one- to two-hundred-pound animal. That's 'mini' compared to a half-ton farm pig, but if your pig doesn't want to cooperate with you, it's not just a matter of picking her up and putting her into a crate."

Clark and Shepherd partnered with Mazuri Exotic Animal Nutrition, a leading exotic animal nutrition company, to develop a survey tool to develop quality of life (QOL) in pet mini-pigs.

According to Mazuri nutritionist Nichole Huntley, "With a lot of the exotic pets we cater to, there aren't as many resources available to guide pet parents as there are with more common pets. Creating a standard QOL instrument that can be used

for companion mini-pigs was a natural extension of Mazuri's aim to be an information resource and to help improve the wellbeing of pet pigs."

Clark and Shepherd designed a simple questionnaire they hope will form the basis of a QOL instrument that can be used to facilitate communication between owners, veterinarians, and their pig pals.

For this study, healthy pet mini-pigs aged 1 year or older have a single wellness visit, either at the Veterinary Teaching Hospital or as part of a farm visit. During the visit, the pig's owner will complete a survey about their pig's quality of life while some basic data are collected about the pig.

"We tried to make it as simple as possible for owners to participate," Shepherd said. "The only extra thing they need to do is to complete the short questionnaire, which can easily be done during the wellness visit."

Participants will receive a \$100 discount off the cost of their appointment. The cost of any additional treatments

or diagnostic procedures undertaken during the visit are not covered by the study.

Pig parent Lexi Vest of Earlysville, Va., participated in the study during a recent checkup for her 4-year-old mini-pig, Alexander Hamilton, better known as "Ham."

"He sleeps under a heated blanket all year round, and every spring, he'll run over to our neighbors' house and eat mulberries off their bush. It's his favorite time of year. He can gain five pounds during mulberry season, just from gorging on the berries," Vest said.

Vest, who also parents Ham's "roommate," a bulldog named Luna, emphasized the importance of understanding that pigs are different from other pets. "Their expressions are different from a dog's. Your relationship with them will be different. I had to earn Ham's respect, which has made our bond even tighter."

The knowledge from this study will help facilitate better communication between veterinarians and pig parents so that mini-pigs like Ham can lead their best lives.



**"You can't treat a pig like a dog with a different snout," says Sherrie Clark, interim department head of Large Animal Clinical Sciences at the Virginia-Maryland College of Veterinary Medicine where researchers are seeking standards by which to measure the happiness of mini-pigs, the popularity of which is on the rise.**

## McAfee Knob from page 2

dedicated to expanding and developing outdoor recreation opportunities for both the health of residents and to draw tourism.

McAfee Knob — along with neighboring Dragon's Tooth and Tinker Cliffs trails — is part of Virginia's "Triple Crown" of hiking, each year bringing about 70,000 outdoors enthusiasts from near and far to see its 270-degree vista. The summit has become a key part of the region's identity and is even featured in the county's logo.

That pride shows clearly in the communi-

ty. Almost 40 Pathfinders for Greenways volunteers spent thousands of hours building the trail, including hand-building rock staircases where it connects to federal land.

For Virginia Tech, the trail will showcase research at the farm, which has been a landmark in the Catawba community since the early 1900s, when it was a dairy farm that supported the Catawba Sanatorium. It was given to the university in 1988 and is now part of Outreach and International Affairs.

"Seeing how the farm transforms and changes has been part of my

daily happiness for the past five years," manager Adam Taylor said. "Tucked away in the hills and the hollers, our projects strive to not only work to feed people and represent agriculture in our rural valleys, but also to represent farming in a way that is looking to the future through environmental stewardship, building soils, and creating a local food economy."

Taylor hopes the trail will allow visitors to reconnect to the land and consider the importance of food production and the environment.

"People visiting this

farm can walk through on this beautiful trail and see firsthand what

food production looks like when it's done in a way that's protecting

our environment and our natural resources," Taylor said.

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OPINION

Home Country By Slim Randles

Steve was out in the Mule Barn parking lot the other day, tightening something with his wrenches under the hood of his pickup truck. The rest of us stood around, looking wise, and sipping coffee. "You sure it ain't the solenoid?" said Bert. "I don't think they make them anymore," said Doc. "It's usually the solenoid," Bert said, with finality. Out of self-defense, Steve emerged from his cavern of wires

and metal long enough to say, "Didn't I see you have a goat now, Bert?" Bert nodded. "That's why I hate allergies." We waited. We stared. "Well you see, Maizie's allergic to cow's milk, so we bought Ernestine for her." "And Ernestine is ...?" "The goat ... right. So what happens is somehow I have to milk Ernestine. Twice a day. We wanted to go overnight to the city

last week. Ever try to find someone who will babysit and milk a goat?" "I won't do it," said Dud. "Neither will anyone else," said Bert, sadly. "So we either stay home, or take the goat with us. Ever try to find a motel that takes goats?" "Not recently," Doc said. "So we stayed home. Oh, it wouldn't be so bad if she liked me..." "Maizie?"

"Ernestine. See, she waits until I have her almost milked out, then she'll stick her foot in the bucket and kick it all over me. The other day, I was standing in her pen and talking with Mrs. Gonzales next door, and Ernestine came running up behind me and ran right between my legs." "Did you fall?" "Of course. And Mrs. Gonzales tried not to laugh, but it didn't work." "Bert," said Doc, "why don't

you just buy goat's milk at the store?" "Maizie says she needs it fresh, because it's better. You guys ever notice how a goat has horns and cloven hooves?" We nodded. "I don't think I need to add anything to that," said Bert. Pick up "Home Country: Drama, dreams and laughter from the American heartland" www.lpd.press.com.

WalletHub ranks Virginia among states with lowest bullying problem

In light of the return to in-person schooling this fall, the personal finance website WalletHub measured the prevalence and prevention of bullying in 47 states and the District of Columbia to help bring awareness to its harmful effects not only to America's young people but also to society as a whole. Virginia emerged from the survey as one of the states in which bullying is least prevalent, winding up as No. 43 in the rankings.

of someone you know. It may even be your own child. Meanwhile, only four in 100 adults will intervene. And only 11 percent of the child's peers might do the same. The rest — 85 percent — will do nothing. According to the CDC's 2019 Youth Risk Behavior Surveillance System, WalletHub reported, 19% of students in grades 9-12 said they were bullied on school property in the previous 12 months. 14.9% of students surveyed said they were cyberbullied. Bullying takes many forms, and technological advances have opened new ways for bullies to hide behind anonymity. Besides the physical,

emotional, and psychological tolls it takes on victims, bullying produces adverse socioeconomic outcomes. The Association for Psychological Science found that those who are bullies, victims, or both are more likely to experience poverty, academic failure, and job termination in their adulthood than those who were neither. In addition, the affected individuals are more likely to commit crime and to abuse drugs and alcohol. Even our schools take a financial hit from bullying. Research shows that schools stand to lose millions of dollars in attendance-based funding due to students staying home to avoid bullying. With Minnesota, Oregon, and Washington excluded from the survey

because of data limitations, WalletHub determined that the states with the lowest incidences of bullying were 39) Kentucky 40) Maine 41) Utah 42) Ohio 43) Virginia 44) Indiana 45) Delaware 46) Colorado 47) Vermont and 48) Massachusetts. The states where bullying is the most prevalent are 1) California 2) Wisconsin 3) Alaska 4) Missouri 5) Mississippi 6) Louisiana 7) Montana 8) New Hampshire 9) West Virginia and 10) Alabama.

The website then evaluated these categories using 20 relevant metrics. The metrics used in the bullying prevalence dimension were the bullying incidents rate, the cyberbullying incidents rate, and the physical violence rate. The metrics employed in the bullying impact and treatment dimension were the share of high school students who missed school for fear of being bullied, psychologists per capita, the share of students who attempted suicide, the share of high school students who experienced feeling sad or hopeless, the student-to-counselor ratio, the child or adolescent therapists per capita, and the cost of truancy for schools due to bullying. WalletHub examined

the anti-bullying laws dimension through the following metrics: state anti-bullying laws and policies, state anti-cyberbullying laws including criminal sanction, state anti-cyberbullying laws including school sanction, state anti-cyberbullying laws requiring school policy, state anti-cyberbullying laws including off-campus behavior, the share of secondary schools that engage in practices related to LGBTQ youth, the presence of adopted and enacted laws regulating mandatory school resource officers, the share of secondary schools with practices in place to prevent bullying and sexual harassment, and the presence of the CDC's National Centers of Excellence in Youth Violence Prevention.

RADFORD NEWS JOURNAL Serving Radford since 1884 (540) 389-9355 P.O. Box 1125 • Salem, VA 24153 USPS 387-780 • ourvalley.org Michael Showell, Publisher Ed McMinn, Editor... editor@ourvalley.org Heather Bell, Community News Editor... communitynews@ourvalley.org Lynn Hurst, General Manager... lhurst@ourvalley.org Randy Thompson, Advertising Consultant... advertise@ourvalley.org Give us your view: communitynews@ourvalley.org To subscribe: (540) 389-9355 Radford News Journal is a newspaper of, by and for the people of Radford. We encourage letters from our readers on topics of general interest to the community and responses to our articles and columns. Letters must be signed and have a telephone number where you can be reached for verification. All letters will be verified before publication. We reserve the right to deny publication of any letter and edit letters for length, content and style. Radford News Journal (USPS 387-780) is published twice a week for \$44 a year in the City of Radford, \$53 elsewhere in Virginia, and \$57 out of state by Virginia Media Inc., P.O. Box 429, Lewisburg, WV 24901. Periodical postage paid at Christiansburg, VA. POSTMASTER: Send address changes to RADFORD NEWS JOURNAL 1633 W. Main St., Salem, VA 24153.

Virginia gas prices blow past \$3/gallon mark

As of Monday, Oct. 11, according to GasBuddy's daily survey of 4,081 stations in Virginia, gas prices in the commonwealth have risen 6.8 cents per gallon in the past week, averaging \$3.12/g. Gas prices in Virginia are 12.2 cents per gallon higher than a month ago and stand 99.0 cents per gallon higher than a year ago. According to GasBuddy price reports, the cheapest station in Virginia was priced at \$2.85/g Monday while the most expensive was \$3.59/g, a difference of 74.0 cents per gallon. The national average price of gasoline has risen 5.2 cents per gallon in the last week, averaging \$3.25/g as of Monday. The national average is up 7.5 cents

per gallon from a month ago and stands \$1.08/g higher than a year ago. "Last week saw oil prices advance to their highest in seven years with a barrel of West Texas Intermediate crude oil surpassing the critical \$80 per barrel level," said Patrick De Haan, head of petroleum analysis for GasBuddy. "The nation's gas prices were also pushed to their highest since 2014, all on OPEC's decision not to raise production more than it already agreed to in July. The OPEC decision caused an immediate reaction in oil prices, and amidst what is turning into a global energy crunch, motorists are now spending over \$400 million more on gasoline every single

day than they were just a year ago. The problems continue to relate to a surge in demand as the global economy recovers, combined with deep cuts to production from early in the pandemic. If Americans can't slow their appetite for fuels, we've got no place for prices to go but up." GasBuddy is the authoritative voice for gas prices and 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, the most comprehensive and up-to-date in the country. GasBuddy data are accessible at http://FuelInsights.GasBuddy.com.

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LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Vote

I know that some people vote only in the years of the presidential elections. They feel that is the only important time to vote. But the fact is your vote is going to count for so much more in local elections, particularly this year. The governor's race appears to be extremely close, and the election in Christiansburg appears to be even closer. Six individuals are running for three seats

on the Christiansburg Town Council, and three candidates are running for the office of mayor. The results of the election for council and mayor will have an effect on the progress and quality of life for the citizens of Christiansburg for years. The mayor's race is particularly important. Voters want to support an individual whom they can trust, who is reliable, and who will make the Town of Christiansburg a place the citizens can be proud of. People do not have to wait to vote until Nov. 2,

2021. Early voters can vote at the Government Center any day of the week. The important thing is to study the candidates and vote. This is your town and you have an opportunity to be involved and have a voice. -Steve Huppert Christiansburg Town Council Note: These comments are mine and do not represent the opinions of the staff of the Town of Christiansburg or the Christiansburg Town Council

CROSSWORD PUZZLE

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31 32 33 34 35 36 37 38 39 40 41 42 43 44 45 46 47 48 49 50 51 52 53 54 55 56 57 58 59 60 61 62 63

- CLUES ACROSS 1. Flat-topped hill 5. Move upward 11. Admiration 14. It's useful for serving food 15. Kidnap 18. One of the Greek Muses 19. A type of media 21. Sunscreen rating 23. Former Michigan coach Brady 24. German town devastated in WW2 28. Gasteyer and Ortiz are two 29. Leave 30. Forearm bone 32. Very fast airplane 33. Helps little firms 35. Defunct economic organization 36. Science-based students organization (abbr.) 39. Feels ill 41. Indicates position 42. Beverage containers 44. Assists 46. Science accreditation organization (abbr.) 47. Purpose 49. Group of elected officials 52. Hebrew prophet 56. They help you drink 58. Lawmaker 60. Charitable 62. Doctrines 63. Footwear CLUES DOWN 1. Where wrestlers work 2. Duelling sword 3. Practice fight 4. Genus of clams 5. Fear of heights 6. What some tell their dog 7. The Golden State 8. When you expect to get there 9. Pointed ends 10. Extinct flightless bird 12. Feeds 13. Nape of neck 16. Descendant 17. Small boats found in Turkey 20. To avoid the risk of 22. Athlete with no contract (abbr.) 25. 13th letter of the Greek alphabet 26. Brew 27. Feeling of anxiety 29. Young girls group 31. Perform on stage 34. White clerical vestment 36. Popular musical awards show 37. Bumpkins 38. One who acts on another's behalf 40. Direction 43. Look at with fixed eyes 45. One who helps professors (abbr.) 48. A large number of 50. Type of powder 51. Large jug 53. \_\_\_ Christian Anderson, children's author 54. American state 55. Muslim inhabitant of the Philippines 57. Witness 58. Landscapers lay it 59. Type of bread 61. Of I

PETS-OF-THE-WEEK

Each week the paper features pets from the Montgomery County Animal Care and Adoption Center (480 Cinnabar Road, Christiansburg). Those interested in adopting a pet can call 382-5795 or visit www.montgomerycountyva.gov/acac. Hours are 11 a.m.-6 p.m. Monday through Friday and 11 a.m.-4 p.m. Saturday and Sunday. Walk-ins are welcome.



Lovable Garfield is shy and sweet. Like a famous cartoon cat of the same name, this Garfield enjoys food, too—purrhaps not lasagna, though. Cat treats may be more his speed. He gets very excited and chatty when it's time to eat.



Buddy can be a little shy when meeting new humans but warms up quickly when he feels comfortable. In the past he's lived with several small dogs and cats. Stop by the Animal Care and Adoption Center to see if he is the pawsome dog you've been looking for.

# OBITUARIES

## Dehoff, David "Dave"

David "Dave" Dehoff, of Blacksburg, born in Sedro Woolley, Wash. on Sept. 25, 1963, died Oct. 4, 2021 in Blacksburg. The son of Suzanne Oliver and the late William DeHoff, Dave served in the Navy from 1982-1988 and was stationed aboard the USS Virginia, CGN-38, as a [Nuclear] Reactor Operator. After earning his BS in Mechanical Engineering and Masters in Civil Engineering at UNM, he worked for several consulting services as a Hydrology Specialist. For the last 10 years, Dave worked for Whitman, Requardt and Associates. Dave loved his family, dogs, photography, biking, and the outdoors.



He is survived by his mother, his wife, Circe Cooke; son, Ethan "Tommy" DeHoff; daughter, Allison DeHoff; sister, Karen Oliver; brother, Keith DeHoff; sister-in-law, Cassandra Cooke; brother and sister-in-law George and Cybele Lane; and five nieces and nephews. David's family is grateful to friends at WRA, New River Valley Community Services, as well as the treatment staff at Blue Ridge Cancer Care for their compassionate support. A Memorial Service will be held at McCoy Funeral Home, Blacksburg, on Sat., Oct. 30, 2021 at 11 a.m. In lieu of flowers, please make contributions to the American Cancer Society.

## Hanks, Dylan L.

Dylan L. Hanks, 25, of Christiansburg, went to be with our heavenly father on Wednesday, Oct. 6, 2021. He passed peacefully with his family by his side at Roanoke Memorial Hospital.

He was preceded in death by his grandparents, Cecil and Ellen Rolen and Edward "Bud" Hanks. Dylan is survived by his parents, William "Billy" Hanks and Terry Hanks; a sister, Kayla Penca, and her husband and children, Joey, McKenna and Madelyn Penca; and his grandmother, Marietta Hanks, all of Christiansburg. He is also survived by his uncle and aunt, Charley and Linda Hanks; cousins Brandon Ramsey and Lindsey Hanks; uncle and aunt David and Kathy Graciano; and cousins Kristy Sosso and Gina Astorino and their families.

Dylan was a 2014 graduate of Christiansburg High School and a 2016 graduate of New River Community College. He was currently an employee of Duncan Ford Lincoln Mazda and was always considered a part of the Duncan family. He was a previous employee of Shelor Motor Mile.

Dylan's passions included his family, friends, being on the lake, and riding mo-



torcycles with his friends. Dylan carried many titles, as he was an amazing son, brother, and uncle. He was a wonderful friend who always thought about others. His friends spoke of his kind soul, caring personality, and memories that last them a lifetime. His bright smile could light up a room, and he lived every day to the fullest. His love for life was extraordinary.

Dylan was loved by all who knew him and will be deeply missed but never forgotten by his friends and family.

A special thank-you from the family goes to some of Dylan's closest friends for not only being there, but helping fill our souls with love, laughter, and stories of Dylan to help get us through.

A special thank-you also goes out to 9 mountain ICU at Roanoke Memorial Hospital for their compassion and care that will never be forgotten.

The family received friends on Sunday, Oct. 10, 2021, from 12 to 2 p.m. at McCoy Funeral Home, Blacksburg, and a service followed. A private burial with family will be held at a later date.

In lieu of flowers, please send donations to the Christiansburg Fire Department.

## Jones, David Lee

David Lee Jones, 81, of Dublin, died Oct. 9, 2021, at Radford Health and Rehab Center.

He was born on June 23, 1940, to the late Percy and Jessie Allen Jones. He is survived by his wife of 59 years, Jeannie Bradley Jones; daughters and son-in-law Tammy and Donivan Sledd, and Becky Hunter; grandsons Roger Linkous, Andrew Hunter, Dustin Martin, and Logan Martin; a granddaughter, April Linkous; great-grandchildren Kenzie Hunter, Alexis Hunter, Lindsey Myers, Destiny Myers, Michael Myers, Violet Linkous, and



Kristin Myers; brothers Codell Jones, Bill Jones, and Tommy Jones; sisters and brothers-in-law, Mae Henderson, Janie and Sam Martin, Geraldine Correll, and Darlene and Wayne Ratcliff; brother and sister-in-law Ralph and Jean Bradley, and numerous nieces and nephews.

A funeral service will be held today, Wednesday, Oct. 13, 2021, at 11 a.m.

in the McCoy Funeral Home Chapel with Simmon Jones officiating. Interment will follow at Westview Cemetery. The family will receive friends from 10 to 11 a.m. prior to the service.

## Pugh, Randolph "Wayne"

Randolph "Wayne" Pugh, 78, of Blacksburg, went home to be with the Lord, Saturday, Oct. 9, 2021.

He was born in Floyd County on May 11, 1943. He was preceded in death by his brother, Roger Pugh; his father, Joseph Everette Pugh; his mother, Margie Brogan Pugh; and his first wife, Sarah Duncan Pugh.

Wayne was a blessing, a selfless man, who never met a stranger and was loved by everyone he met. He was a devoted husband, father, grandfather, and friend. He loved the Lord and was a longtime member of Cambria Baptist Church where he not only worshiped God over

the years but once served as a deacon.

He is survived by his wife, Eileen Poff Pugh, of Blacksburg; his daughter, Wendy and husband Mark Gilmore, of Blacksburg; his daughter, Kelly Dunford and wife Rachel Dunford, of New Castle; his grandson, Dillon and wife Alex Gilmore, of Blacksburg; his granddaughter, Cassidy Gilmore, of Charlotte, N.C.; and his sister-in-law, Helen and husband Chib Royal, of Christiansburg.

The family received friends on Tuesday, Oct. 12, 2021, at McCoy Funeral Home, 150 Country Club Dr. SW, Blacksburg. A private graveside service will be held at a later date.

## White, Bessie Hungate Handy

Bessie Hungate Handy White, 92, of Long Shop, went home to be with the Lord Friday, Oct. 8, 2021, at her home.

She was born in Montgomery County on April 7, 1929. She was preceded in death by her father, William Rufus Hungate; her mother, Lela Smith Hungate Flinchum; her stepfather, Lee Flinchum; brothers Jimmy Hungate and Junior Hungate; a sister, Helen Hungate Carroll; a step-sister, Glenna Flinchum Garwood; and her second husband, Richard Thomas Handy.

Bessie was a devoted woman of God, a devoted wife, mother, grandmother, and sister. She was a member of Blacksburg Church of Christ.

She is survived by her husband, William E. White; a son and daughter-in-law, John and Gwen Handy; grandchildren Brandon Handy and his wife Linne,



Mary Katherine Handy, Will Stone, Abigail Stone, and Jarrett Mays; sisters Linda Hungate Jenkin and Vickie Flinchum Carroll; brothers and sisters-in-law, Danny and Patty Hungate, Jerry and Nancy Flinchum, and Michael and Debbie Flinchum; and numerous nieces and nephews.

The family has special thanks to Good Samaritan Hospice, especially Miranda and Britany, for their care.

Funeral services will be conducted today, Wednesday, Oct. 13, 2021, at 2 p.m. in the McCoy Funeral Home Chapel with Minister Michael Flinchum officiating. Interment will follow in the Centennial Christian Church Cemetery, McCoy. The family will receive friends from 1 to 2 p.m. prior to the service at McCoy Funeral Home 150 Country Club Dr. SW, Blacksburg.

## Halloween

from page 1

which people felt especially close to deceased relatives and friends. For these friendly spirits, they set places at the dinner table, left treats on doorsteps and along the side of the road and lit candles to help loved ones find their way back to the spirit world.

Today's Halloween ghosts are often depicted as more fearsome and malevolent, and our customs and superstitions are scarier too. We avoid crossing paths with black cats, afraid that they might bring us bad luck. This idea has its roots in the Middle Ages, when many people believed that witches avoided detection by turning themselves into black cats.

We try not to walk under ladders for the same reason. This superstition may have come from the ancient Egyptians, who believed that triangles were sacred (it also may have something to do with the fact that walking under a leaning ladder tends to be fairly unsafe). And around Halloween, especially, we try to avoid breaking mirrors, stepping on cracks in the road or spilling salt.

**WHY DO WITCHES RIDE BROOMS?**  
The evil green-skinned witch flying on her magic broomstick may be a Halloween icon—and a well-worn stereotype. But the actual history behind how witches came to be associated with such an everyday household object is anything but dull.

It's not clear exactly when the broom itself was first invented, but the act of sweeping goes back to ancient times, when people likely used bunches of thin sticks, reeds and other natural fibers to sweep aside dust or ash from a fire or hearth. As J. Bryan Lowder writes, this household task even shows up in the New Testament, which dates to the first and second centuries A.D.

The word broom comes from the actual plant, or shrub, that was used to make many early sweeping devices. It gradually replaced the Old English word besom, though both terms appear to have been used until at least the 18th century. From the beginning, brooms and besoms were associated primarily with women, and this ubiquitous household object became a powerful symbol of female domesticity.

Despite this, the first witch to confess to riding a broom or besom was a man: Guillaume Edelin. Edelin was a priest from Saint-Germain-en-Laye, near Paris. He was arrested in 1453 and tried for witchcraft after publicly criticizing the church's warnings about witches. His confession came under torture, and he eventually repented, but was still imprisoned for life.

By the time of Edelin's "confession," the idea of witches riding around on broomsticks was already well established. The earliest known image of witches on brooms dates to 1451, when two illustrations appeared in the French poet Martin Le Franc's manuscript *Le Champion des Dames* (*The Defender of Ladies*). In the two drawings, one woman soars through the air on a broom; the other flies aboard a plain white stick. Both wear head scarves that identify them as Waldensians, members of a Christian sect founded in the 12th century who were branded as heretics by the Catholic Church, partly because they allowed women to become priests.

Anthropologist Robin Skelton suggests the association between witches and brooms may have roots in a pagan fertility ritual, in which rural farmers would leap and dance astride poles, pitchforks or brooms in the light of the full moon to encourage the growth of their crops. This "broomstick dance," she writes, became confused with common accounts of witches flying through the night on their way to orgies and other illicit meetings.

Broomsticks were also thought to be the perfect vehicles for the special ointments and salves that witches brewed up to give themselves the ability to fly, among other depraved

activities. In 1324, when the wealthy Irish widow Lady Alice Kyteler was tried for sorcery and heresy, investigators reported that in searching Kyteler's house, they found "a pipe of ointment, wherewith she greased a staffe, upon which she ambled and galloped through thicke and thin."

Pharmacologist David Kroll writes in *Forbes* that alleged witches in the Middle Ages were thought to concoct their brews from such plants as *Atropa belladonna* (deadly nightshade), *Hyoscyamus niger* (henbane), *Mandragora officinarum* (mandrake) and *Datura stramonium* (jimsonweed), all of which would have produced hallucinogenic chemicals known as tropane alkaloids.

According to some historical accounts, rather than ingest these mind-altering substances by eating or drinking, which would have caused intestinal distress, witches chose to absorb them through the skin—often in the most intimate areas of their bodies. In his book *Murder, Magic, and Medicine*, John Mann cites a 15th century text by the theologian Jordanes de Bergamo, who wrote that "the vulgar believe, and the witches confess, that on certain days or nights they anoint a staff and ride on it to the appointed place or anoint themselves under the arms and in other hairy places."

Beginning in the 17th century, accounts of witches using broomsticks to fly up and out of chimneys became more commonplace, even as women became more closely associated with the household and domestic sphere than ever before. According to one custom, women would prop a broom up outside a door, or place it up a chimney, to let others know they were away from the home. Perhaps because of this, popular legend embraced the idea that witches left their houses through their chimneys, even though very few accused witches ever confessed to doing so.

### HALLOWEEN MATCHMAKING AND LESSER-KNOWN RITUALS

But what about the Halloween traditions and beliefs that today's trick-or-treaters have forgotten all about? Many of these obsolete rituals focused on the future instead of the past and the living instead of the dead.

In particular, many had to do with helping young women identify their future husbands and reassuring them that they would someday—with luck, by next Halloween—be married. In 18th-century Ireland, a matchmaking cook might bury a ring in her mashed potatoes on Halloween night, hoping to bring true love to the diner who found it.

In Scotland, fortune-tellers recommended that an eligible young woman name a hazelnut for each of her suitors and then toss the nuts into the fireplace. The nut that burned to ashes rather than popping or exploding, the story went, represented the girl's future husband. (In some versions of this legend, the opposite was true: The nut that burned away symbolized a love that would not last.)

Another tale had it that if a young woman ate a sugary concoction made out of walnuts, hazelnuts and nutmeg before bed on Halloween night she would dream about her future husband.

Young women tossed apple peels over their shoulders, hoping that the peels would fall on the floor in the shape of their future husbands' initials; tried to learn about their futures by peering at egg yolks floating in a bowl of water, and stood in front of mirrors in darkened rooms, holding candles and looking over their shoulders for their husbands' faces.

Other rituals were more competitive. At some Halloween parties, the first guest to find a burr on a chestnut hunt would be the first to marry. At others, the first successful apple-bobber would be the first down the aisle.

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**Yard Sales - Radford City**

**Yard Sale**  
 Saturday, October 30th  
 10am-4pm  
 Number 84 Fairlawn Storage  
 Next to Cemetery  
 Next to Sheetz  
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 Furniture, chairs, electronics, old computers, old printers, Knick knacks, and surprises.

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 The Salem Times-Register 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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**Legals - Botetourt County**

**PUBLIC ONLINE AUCTION**  
 Secure Store-  
 70 Market Ridge Ln, Daleville, VA 24083, has a possessory lien on all of the goods stored in unit 560 and unit 515. The auction will end on 10/20/2021 at 12 Noon. All these items of personal property are being auctioned online through [lockerfox.com](http://lockerfox.com). These auctions will run until October 20, 2021. Pictures of the unit can be inspected online. Cash payments only. For more details visit [www.lockerfox.com/storage-auctions/us/](http://www.lockerfox.com/storage-auctions/us/)

**VIRGINIA: IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE COUNTY OF BOTETOURT**  
 COUNTY OF BOTETOURT, VIRGINIA, a Political Subdivision of the Commonwealth of Virginia, **Case No. CL21-566**  
 Complainant, v. E.H. NELSON, ET AL.,

**ORDER OF PUBLICATION**

The object of this suit is to enforce the lien of the Complainant, County of Botetourt, Virginia, for delinquent real estate taxes against certain real property located in the County of Botetourt, Virginia, described as follows: Tax Map No. 34-21 & 34-21A Account No. 18589 & 18590

All those certain tracts or parcels of land, situate, lying, and being in the Fincastle Magisterial District, Botetourt County, bounded and described as follows, to-wit:

First: Beginning at a stake at A in an old road, corner to Lot Nos. 3 and 4 in a survey of lots made by Jacob M. Lemon in 1891, and running N 35.75 E 93

**Legals - Botetourt County**

feet to a stake at C (4.40 feet, S 84 W from a Black Oak stump) on the side of the hill, thence along the same S 66.75 E 153 feet to a stake at A, thence S 36.75 W 85 feet to a stake, corner to Lot Nos. 5 and 6, and with the former, N 77 W 56.5 feet to a stake at X, and thence N 67 W 100 feet to the beginning.

Second: Being known as Lot No. 4 in the Lemon Addition to Oriskany.

And being the same property conveyed to E.H. Nelson and J.H. Nelson from Floyd A. Tucker by Deed dated July 1, 1916 and recorded December 1, 1919 in the Office of the Circuit Court Clerk of Botetourt County, Virginia, in Deed Book M, at Page 295.

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

Tax Map No. 24-22  
 Account No. 18591

All that certain tract or parcel of land, situate, lying, and being in the Fincastle Magisterial District, Botetourt County, bounded and described as follows, to-wit:

First: Being known as Lot No. 3 on a survey of lots made by Jacob M. Lemon in 1891.

Second: Beginning at a stake in A in an old road, corner to Lot Nos. 3 and 4 of the above mentioned survey and running in a northward direction with the line of land now or formerly owned by E.H. Nelson and J.H. Nelson to the corner of said lot and on line of tract of land now or formerly owned by A.L. Reid, thence with the same in a westward direction to the corner of a lot now or formerly owned by Mrs. C.E. Tyree; thence with the same to the corner of Lot Nos. 2 and 3 to the beginning.

And being the same property conveyed to E.H. Nelson and J.H. Nelson from Ed Wofford by Deed dated June 1, 1917 and recorded December 1, 1919 in the Office of the Circuit Court Clerk of Botetourt County, Virginia, in Deed Book M, at Page 296.

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

Tax Map No. 34-5A  
 Account No. 18640

All that certain tract or parcel of land, situate, lying, and being in the Fincastle Magisterial District, Botetourt County, bounded and described as follows, to-wit:

Beginning at an iron stake, by four small \_\_\_\_\_, on the side of the ridge, corner to what is now or formerly known as the "Odd Fellows Lot", and running thence with the same, S 25 W 285 feet to an iron stake, and thence S 48.5 E 71.5 feet to a stake, corner to lot of land now or formerly owned by the Nelson, and running thence with the same, S 58 E 183 feet to a stake, N 41.5 E 25 feet to a stake, S 61 E 55 feet to a post, thence with the following new lines, N 30 E 300 feet to a stake on the top of the ridge and thence N 63.5 W 330 feet to the beginning, containing 2.25 acres, more or less.

And being the same property conveyed to E.H. Nelson from Ed Wofford by Deed dated July 17, 1921 and recorded June 5, 1970 in the Office of the Circuit Court Clerk of Botetourt County, Virginia, in Deed Book 190, at Page 574.

This description is made subject to all easements, conditions, agreements, restrictions, and reservations of record which affect the property herein described including but not limited to those recorded in Deed Book 190, at Page 574.

IT APPEARING that an Affidavit has been made and filed stating that due diligence has been used, without effect, to ascertain the identity and location of certain parties to be served, that the last known addresses for the

**Legals - Botetourt County**

Respondents herein are as follows: E.H. Nelson, who is believed to be deceased and whose last known address is unknown; J.H. Nelson, who is believed to be deceased and whose last known address is unknown; Valerie J. Whiteside, whose last known address is 2254 Hopewell Road, Mechanicsville, Virginia 23111; and that any officers, heirs, devisees, and successors in title of the Respondent named herein are made parties Respondent to this action individually and/or by the general description of Parties Unknown, it is hereby ORDERED that the parties herein and all Parties Unknown and/or whose location cannot be ascertained appear on or before November 11, 2021 in the Clerk's Office of the Circuit Court of the County of Botetourt, Virginia, and do what may be necessary to protect their interests in this cause.

Entered on the 28<sup>th</sup> day of September, 2021.

Joel R Branscom  
 Judge

I Ask For This:  
 Andrew M. Neville, Esq. (VSB No. 86372)  
 John A. Rife, Esq. (VSB No. 45805)  
 Jeffrey A. Scharf, Esq. (VSB No. 30591)  
 Mark K. Ames, Esq. (VSB No. 27409)  
 Paul L. LaBarr, Esq. (VSB No. 91609)  
 Gregory L. Haynes, Esq. (VSB No. 37158)  
 Taxing Authority Consulting Services, PC  
 P.O. Box 31800  
 Henrico, Virginia 23294-1800  
 Phone: (804) 864-0080  
 Facsimile: (804) 545-2378  
 TACS No.: 639636

**Legals - City of Radford**

**ORDER OF PUBLICATION**

Commonwealth of Virginia VA. CODE § 8.01-316  
**Case No. JJ003213-14-00**  
 Radford City Juvenile and Domestic Relations District Court Radford City DSS v.  
 Alyssa Parris  
 The object of this suit is to: Terminate the residual parental rights of Alyssa Parris, legal parent of Zyan Parris a minor, in that said parent has, without good cause, failed to correct the conditions which resulted in the child entering foster care and it is not reasonably likely that they will be able to do so in a reasonable amount of time, failed to maintain continuing contact with the child and substantially plan for the child's future. Residual parental rights include, but are not limited to, the right to visitation, consent to adoption, the right to determine religious affiliation, and the responsibility for support. The termination of your residual parental rights will permanently end all of your rights and responsibilities to the child named in the petition. It is ORDERED that Alyssa Parris appear at the above-named Court and protect his or her interests on or before December 6, 2021.

9/14/21  
 Melinda D. Bishop  
 Deputy Clerk

**ORDER OF PUBLICATION**

Commonwealth of Virginia VA. CODE § 8.01-316  
**Case No. JJ003213-15-00**  
 Radford City Juvenile and Domestic Relations District Court Radford City DSS v.  
 Dante Larnell Hayes  
 The object of this suit is to: Terminate the residual parental rights of Dante L. Hayes, legal parent of Zyan Parris a minor, in that said parent has, without good cause, failed to correct the conditions which resulted in the child entering foster care and it is not reasonably likely that they will be able to do so in a reasonable amount of time, failed to maintain continuing contact with the child and substantially plan for the child's future. Residual parental rights include, but are not limited to, the right to visitation, consent to adoption, the right to determine religious affiliation, and the responsibility for support. The termination of your

**Legals - City of Radford**

residual parental rights will permanently end all of your rights and responsibilities to the child named in the petition. It is ORDERED that Dante Larnell Hayes appear at the above-named Court and protect his or her interests on or before December 6, 2021.

9/15/21  
 Melinda D. Bishop  
 Deputy Clerk

**Legals - City of Salem**

**Notice is hereby given to**

all interested persons that the Council of the City of Salem, at its regular meeting on Monday, October 25, 2021, at 6:30 p.m., in the Community Room of 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 the request of .Com Properties 8, LLC, property owner, for rezoning the property located at 1796 Apperson Drive (a portion of Tax Map # 257-2-1.1) from HBD Highway Business District to LM Light Manufacturing District.

Copies of the proposed plans, ordinances or amendments may be examined in the Office of 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 COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF SALEM, VIRGINIA BY  
 H. Robert Light  
 Clerk of Council

**NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING**

Notice is hereby given to all interested persons that the Board of Zoning Appeals of the City of Salem, Virginia will hold a public hearing, in accordance with the provisions of Sections 15.2-2204 and 15.2-2309 of the 1950 Code of Virginia, as amended, on October 28, 2021, at 4:00 p.m. in the Council Chambers of City Hall, 114 North Broad Street, in the City of Salem, Virginia, to consider the following applications.

The request of Richard E. and Betty W. Bryson, property owners, for a variance from Section 106-202.3(B)(1) of the City of Salem Zoning Ordinance pertaining to site development regulations, for the property located at 1507 Millwood Drive, Tax Map # 205-1-2.4. The petitioners are requesting a variance of 9 feet of side-yard setback to allow a carport addition. Section 106-202.3(B)(1) states that a side-yard setback of ten percent (9.0 feet) is required.

The request of Richard H. and Elizabeth K. Macher, property owners, for a variance from Section 106-204.3(B)(2) of the City of Salem Zoning Ordinance pertaining to site development regulations, for the property located at 1900 South Clearing Road and 1900 block South Clearing Road, Tax Map # 277-1-4 and 285-13-1, respectively. The petitioners are requesting a variance to allow the construction of a 28' x 22' pool house and 16' x 32' pool in the side yard. Section 106-204.3(B)(2) states that accessory structures must be built behind the rear building line of the principal structure (or in the rear yard).

At this hearing, all parties in interest will be given an opportunity to be heard, present evidence, and show cause why such requests should or should not be granted. For additional information, contact the Office of the Zoning Administrator, 21 South Bruffey Street, Salem, Virginia (Phone 375 3032).

THE BOARD OF ZONING APPEALS OF THE CITY OF SALEM  
 BY: Mary Ellen H. Wines, CZA, CFM  
 Zoning Administrator

**Legals - Craig County**

**ABC NOTICE**

Family Dollar Stores of Virginia, Inc., trading as Family Dollar #27581, 222 W Main Street, New Castle, Craig County, Virginia 24127.

The above establishment is applying to the VIRGINIA ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGE CONTROL (ABC) AUTHORITY for a Wine and Beer Off Premises license to sell or manufacture alcoholic beverages.

Sandra Boscia, Assistant Secretary

NOTE: Objections to the issuance of this license must be submitted to ABC no later than 30 days from the publishing date of the first of two required newspaper legal notices. Objections should be registered at [www.abc.virginia.gov](http://www.abc.virginia.gov) or 800-552-3200.

**Legals - Town of Vinton**

**LEGAL NOTICE**

**Walnut Avenue Bicycle and Pedestrian Accommodations Project**  
**From: W. Lee Avenue To: 1st Street**  
**Willingness to Hold a Public Hearing**

**Find out about a proposal** to provide bicycle and pedestrian accommodations along Walnut Avenue from W. Lee Avenue to 1st Street as identified in the 2010 Vinton Area Corridors Plan and approved by the Roanoke Valley Transportation Planning Organization (RVTPO) in March 2018 and May 2021. The Project will improve bicycle and pedestrian access and safety along Walnut Avenue and provide connections to and from Tinker Creek and Glade Creek Greenways.

You may view the Project information on the web at [www.vintonva.gov/walnut2](http://www.vintonva.gov/walnut2), or by visiting to the Town of Vinton Municipal Building, Planning and Zoning Department, 311 S. Pollard Street, Vinton, VA 24179. Please call 540-983-0605 in advance of your visit to assure that staff is available to meet with you and answer your questions.

If your concerns cannot be satisfied through informal discussion, the Town of Vinton is willing to hold a public hearing. You may request that a public hearing be held by sending a request in writing to Anita McMillan, Planning and Zoning Director, Town of Vinton Municipal Building, Planning and Zoning Department, 311 S. Pollard Street, Vinton, VA 24179. Your request must be received on or prior to October 28, 2021. If a request for a public hearing is received, a notice of date, time, and place of the hearing will be publicly posted.

Town of Vinton 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 more information in regards to your civil rights on this Project or need special assistance for persons with disabilities or limited English proficiency, please contact Anita McMillan at the phone number listed above.

State Project: RSTP-U000-149-253, UPC: 113565

**Legals - Town of Vinton**

**TOWN OF VINTON NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING**

Pursuant to the provisions of Sections 15.2-1800(B) and 15.2-2100(A) of the Code of Virginia (1950), as amended, the Town Council of the Town of Vinton, Virginia, hereby gives notice of a public hearing to be held on Tuesday, October 19, 2021, at 6:00 p.m., or immediately thereafter, in the Council Chambers of the Vinton Municipal Building, 311 South Pollard Street, Vinton, Virginia. The purpose of the public hearing is to receive public comments on the proposed conveyance of one-half (1/2) undivided interest in six parcels of real estate that are located in the Vinton Business Park to the Roanoke County Economic Development Authority in order to facilitate future conveyance of the Properties to interested purchasers. Specifically, the parcels are: Tax Map No. 071.07-03-01.00-0000, Lot No. 1, 12.16 acres; Tax Map No. 071.07-03-04.00-0000, Detention Lot, 11.31 acres; Tax Map No. 071.11-01-01.00-0000, Lot No. 2, 18.53 acres; Tax Map No. 071.11-01-01.02-0000, Lot No. 4, 16.86 acres; Tax Map No. 071.07-03-03.00-0000, Lot No. 5, 8.54 acres and Tax Map No. 071.07-03-02.00-0000, Lot No. 6, 4.47 acres.

Lot references refer to the "Plat of Subdivision for Vinton Business Center, Property of Town of Vinton, Virginia, Vinton Magisterial District, The County of Roanoke, Virginia," dated October 16, 2003, and recorded in the Clerk's Office of the Circuit Court of Roanoke County on November 24, 2003, in Plat Book 27, Page 55 (Instrument Number 200329007).

Any additional information on this public meeting is available in the Town Manager's Office, located in the Vinton Municipal Building, (540) 983-0607. Persons requiring special assistance to attend and participate at this public meeting should contact the Town Manager's office at (540) 983-0607. Susan N. Johnson  
 Town Clerk

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# RADFORD SPORTS

## Radford moves to 5-2 with win over Carroll County



PHOTOS BY BRYANT ALTIZER

Darius Wesley-Brubeck rushes around the left side of the defense for a big gain in Radford's 36-7 win over Carroll County Friday night. He also scored on a pass from quarterback Marcell Baylor.



Radford quarterback Marcell Baylor tosses a pass in Friday's win over the Cavaliers. He threw two touchdowns and ran for another as he finished nine of 20 for 117 yards.



Landon Clark gets behind the Carroll County defense for a long pass reception and a touchdown late in the second quarter.



Parker Prioleau partially blocks a punt in the Bobcats' 36-7 win.

## Week Six of high school football: Blue Demons lead 3D points, Radford fifth in 2C football points

**Marty Gordon**  
NRVsports@ourvalley.org

The Virginia High School League has released its first football points list and Christiansburg controls the top spot in Class 3, Region D.

Christiansburg has 25 points to second place Hidden Valley's 24.714. Those numbers should change as those schools face each other this Friday night. Bassett is third in 3D with 21.933 points.

The rest of 3D in points:

4) Abingdon 21.5 5) Staunton River 18.25 6) Northside 18.0 7) Magna Vista 16.833 8) Lord Botetourt 16.8 9) Cave Spring 15.333 10) Tunstall 12.75.

In Class 1C, Giles (17.2) holds down the second spot behind Galax at 18.33. Eastern Montgomery is third at 14.6. The top 10 in 1C: 4) Grayson 14.5 5) Parry McCluer 14.0 6) George Wythe and Covington 13.75 8) Narrows 11.5 9) Craig County 10.6 10) Bland County 10.3.

Glenvar leads the Class 2, Region C in points at 22.33. Appomattox is second at 20.83 followed by 3) James River 18.5 4) Floyd 18.33 5) Radford 17.8571 6) Martinsville 17.3 7) Chatham 16.2 8) Gretna 16.0 9) Patrick County 15.5 and 10) Alleghany 11.2.

In 4D, Western Albermarle is heads above George Washington 29.0 to 25.8. Salem is third at 25.8 with E.C. Glass fourth at 25.2. The rest of 4D: 5) Halifax 23.285 6) Louisa 20.833 7) Orange 20.6 8) Amherst 19.6667 9) Pulaski 13.8 and 10) Blacksburg 13.2.

In most cases, as many as 10 teams from each region will make the playoffs.

Games this week:

Auburn (0-4) at Bland (2-4)

Last week: Auburn was shut out in a 33-0 loss to Grayson which held the Eagles to minus one yard in total offense. Jackson Brockman did rush nine times for 29 yards.

Bland fell to 2-4 at the hands of Rural Retreat in a 34-8 road game.

Prediction: Auburn 16, Bland 14

Pulaski (3-3) at Blacksburg (0-5)

Last week: Pulaski was thumped 55-6 by Salem, while Blacksburg was shut out by Christiansburg in the Battle of the Burgs.

The Bruins were held to 77 yards of total offense, only three through the air.

Prediction: Pulaski 34, Blacksburg 16

Christiansburg (5-1) at Hidden Valley (5-1)

Last week: Hidden Valley took its first loss of the season to Patrick Henry. Quarterback Sam Dragovich has completed 115 passes in 201 attempts with 16 touchdowns and 1,734 yards this season.

Tanner Evans returned five punts for a combined 185 yards for Christiansburg in a 43-0 blowout of Blacksburg. Casey Graham connected on 10 of 13 passes for 202 yards and three touchdowns while Stephan Myrthil rushed eight times for 80 yards. Graham has now completed 52 of 85 passes with five touchdowns and 993 yards on the season.

Prediction: Christiansburg 34, Hidden Valley 32

Bath (0-4) at Eastern Montgomery (3-2)

Last week: Eastern Montgomery's Seth Burleson rushed for 239 yards and two touchdowns as the team won its third game in a row in a 23-0 defeat of Craig County. Eli Brown added 61 yards and a touchdown.

Prediction: Eastern Montgomery 21, Bath 14

## Hokies resume ACC play Saturday with homecoming contest vs. Pitt

**BLACKSBURG** – After four straight non-conference games, Virginia Tech football returns to ACC play as it hosts Pitt for a 3:30 p.m. matchup Saturday. The contest will be televised to a national audience on ESPN2.

The Hokies (3-2, 1-0 ACC) and Panthers (4-1, 1-0 ACC) are the only teams remaining in the ACC Coastal division without a conference defeat. Tech is 2-0 at home against Pitt under head coach Justin Fuente, including a 28-0 victory last time the teams met in Lane Stadium, and is seeking its third straight ACC victory dating back to a 33-15 win over Virginia.

Tech is coming off a 32-29 loss to No. 14 Notre Dame, a game that was decided by an Irish field goal with 17 seconds remaining. Quarterback Braxton Burmeister threw for 184 yards and led the team in rushing with

49 yards, including a 19-yard touchdown run. Wide receiver Tré Turner moved into 10th on Tech's career receptions list with 116 after recording six receptions for 80 yards in the loss.

Defensive back Jermaine Waller earned College Cornerback of the Week honors Monday after registering his first career interception return touchdown on Saturday. The junior leads the ACC and is tied for the FBS lead with four interceptions on the season, and he joins Iowa's Riley Moss as the only Power Five players with four interceptions and an interception return touchdown. Defensive back Nasir Peoples led the team with 12 tackles versus the Fighting Irish and recorded his first career interception.

Coming off its bye week, Pitt most recently opened ACC play with

See Hokies, page 10



# Hokies

from page 9

a 52-21 win at Georgia Tech. Quarterback Kenny Pickett threw for 389 yards and four touchdowns in the game while wide receivers Taysir Mack (121) and Jordan Addison (117) each racked up over 100 yards receiving and one touchdown. The Panthers lead the nation in scoring, averaging 52.4 points per game.

### GAMEDAY INFORMATION

Saturday, Oct. 16, 3:30 p.m., Lane Stadium, vs. Pitt (4-1, 1-0 ACC).

Pitt head coach: Pat Narduzzi (seventh season); record at Pitt: 46-35; career: 46-35; VT leads series 11-9.

TV broadcast ESPN2  
Play-by-Play: Jason Benetti; Analyst: Andre

Ware' Sideline: Paul Carcaterra.

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

### VIRGINIA TECH GAME NOTES

Tech has outscored Pitt by a 48-14 margin in the Panthers' last two visits to Lane Stadium.

The Hokies held on for a 20-14 win (11/18/17) after safety Reggie Floyd made a touchdown-saving tackle of wide receiver Jester Weah at the one-yard line. An epic, four-play goal line stand by Tech's defense sealed the victory.

Pitt has converted only 18.5% (5-27) of its third-down tries in its last two trips to Blacksburg.



The Hokies own a +152-yard rushing edge (267-115) in those two games, scoring two ground touchdowns and allowing none.

Tech passers have completed 52.9% (27-51) of their attempts for 371 yards with three touchdowns and one interception in those two

contests Pitt quarterback Kenny Pickett is anticipated to make his third career start at Lane Stadium. In his two previous appear-

ances at VT, he has completed 51.0% (25-49) of his passes for 345 yards with no touchdowns and one interception while suffering six sacks.

# Finish the 5K



PHOTOS BY MARTY GORDON

Overall male winners of the Finish the Fight 5K held Saturday, Oct. 9, 2021 in Christiansburg were (from left) Lucas Holland, Michael Quigg, and Michael Baker. The race's top 15 finishers were 1) Lucas Holland, 00:20:39.02; 2) Michael Quigg, 3) Michael Baker, 4) Nicholas Rush, 5) Addie Tapp, 6) Nathan Rush, 7) Matthew Runion, 8) Mark Tapp, 9) Kelsey Frey, 10) Lisa Frey, 11) Bradley Metz, 12) Eric Frey, 13) Rebecca Tapp, 14) Michael Stohler and 15) Michaela Stover.



Overall female winners of the Finish the Fight 5K held Saturday, Oct. 9, 2021 in Christiansburg were (from left) Addie Tapp, Kelsey Frey, and Lisa Frey. The order for the finishers 16 through 29 in Saturday's race was 16) Annalise Howard, 17) John Holland, 18) Sarah Belsan, 19) Rhonda Maloney, 20) Brody Stanley, 21) Taylor Johnson, 22) Eric Johnson, 23) Anna Bosco, 24) Gwen Million, 25) Jackson Rush, 26) Tiffany Rush, 27) Amy Robertson, 28) Abigail Rush and 29) Christopher Haden.

# Auburn High pitcher de-commits from UGA, commits to JMU

Marty Gordon  
NRVsports@ourvalley.org

After previously committing to the University of Georgia, Auburn High School junior softball pitcher Kirsten Fleet has changed her mind and committed to James Madison University.

Fleet set the stage in 2008 for new NCAA recruiting regulations when she received a scholarship offer while she was in the seventh grade.

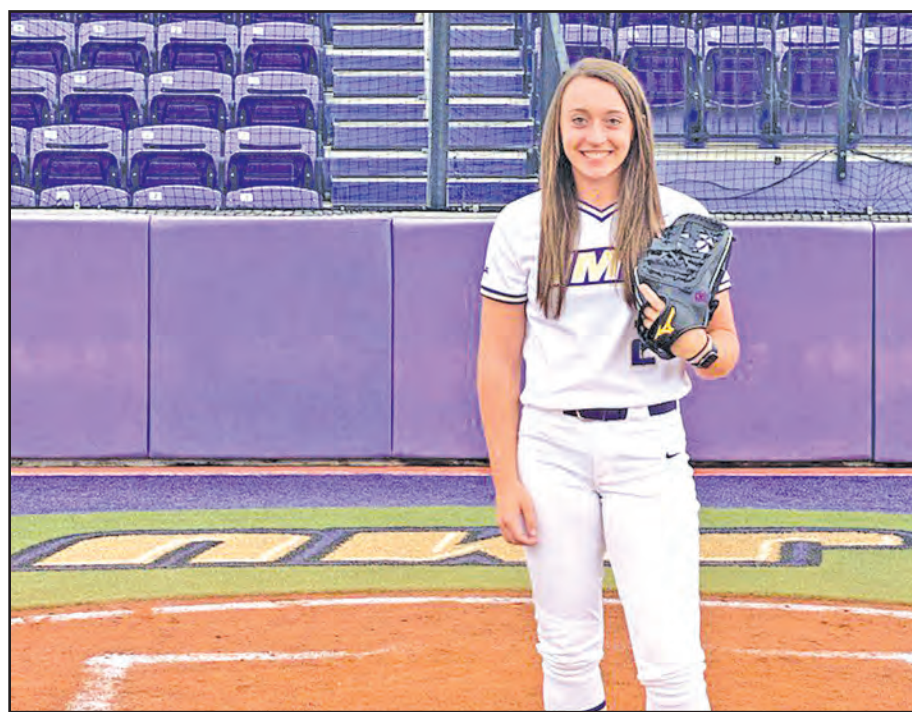
As a sophomore, she led Auburn to the Class 1 state title with 260 strikeouts in 120 in-

nings, a 16-2 record and a 0.29 earned run average. After visiting the James Madison campus this past weekend, she verbally committed to the College World Series semi-finalist.

Fleet had reopened her recruitment shortly after the College World Series when the Georgia head coach announced her retirement. James Madison grabbed everyone's attention this past spring with its outstanding play in the College World Series.

Fleet chose JMU over Auburn, Pittsburgh, and Appalachian State.

Auburn High School is expected to compete for another state title in the spring.



Auburn's Kirsten Fleet will play her college softball at James Madison University.

*Remember:*

- ★ December 7: Pearl Harbor Day
- ★ January 6: U.S. Capitol Day

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