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Food Lion helps launch expanded food pantry at Radford High School

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RADFORD - The Paw Pantry awaits hungry students at Radford High School, stocked full of food for anyone who needs it.

The high school has had a smaller food pantry for years as part of the school's division-wide Bobcat Backpacks program, which provides students with a bag of food each Friday to supplement their food for weekends. Now, support and funding from the Tyler Avenue Food Lion, as well as the Food Lion Feeds foundation, has expanded the pantry's offering.

Food Lion Store Manager J.D. Jones, along with Assistant Store Manager Mike Walters and Customer Service Manager Noel Lambert, recently visited RHS to



PHOTO BY HEATHER BELL

The Paw Pantry, a new food pantry, is up and running at Radford High School with the help of Food Lion on Tyler Avenue. Celebrating its completion is (left to right) Bobcat Backpacks Co-Founder Jenny Riffe, RHS Guidance Counselor Heather Rowland, RHS Assistant Principal Cameron Sellers, RHS Principal Tara Grant, Food Lion Store Manager J.D. Jones, Food Lion Assistant Manager Mike Walters, and Food Lion Customer Service Manager Noel Lambert.

See **Food Pantry**, page 2



Radford University President Bret Danilowicz, Ph.D. addressed incoming freshmen at the New Student Convocation on Aug. 19.

New class of Highlanders welcomed in at Radford University

RADFORD - Hundreds and hundreds of young Highlanders, now sampling the first days of their first year at college, filled Bondurant Auditorium on Aug. 19 for a meeting with another important freshman: Radford University President Bret Danilowicz, who's just two months into his term.

As the president's New Student Convocation got underway that evening, Danilowicz mingled in the crowds before taking the podium to offer everyone an overview of their class and a preview of things to come.

"We're starting our journey together, me as president and you as students," Danilowicz told the students. "In four years, I want you to be crossing the stage to the cheers of your family and friends as you receive your degree from me, because you are the Class of 2026. Welcome!"

All told, Radford University has 1,151 freshmen this semester, according to Housing and Residential Life.

While most of those hail from Virginia, Danilowicz said, some 28 states are represented by the incoming class, which also includes new students from Canada, Hungary, Japan, Nigeria, Saudi Arabia, Spain, and the United Kingdom.

"All of you are welcome. You make us better as an institution, and you also help bring a global perspective to our conversations in the classroom," he said.

About 38% of the freshmen - approximately 435 - are first-generation college students while another 137 are legacy Highlanders, with a parent or grandparent who previously graduated from Radford.

The new president asked

See **New Class**, page 6

First Friday Concert series kicks off in September with The Groove Houndz



The Groove Houndz are Bob Piscura, Steve Novak, and Melanie Robinson (left to right). They will be performing a free concert for the first installment of the Fine Arts Center for the New River Valley's First Friday Listening Room concert series at Max on Main this Friday, Sept. 2.

The Fine Arts Center for the New River Valley is launching its 2022-23 First Friday Listening Room concert series at Max on Main this Friday, Sept. 2.

PULASKI - Local favorites The Groove Hounds will kick off a free concert series Friday, Sept. 2, at Max on Main, downtown Pulaski's most popular new venue.

The Fine Arts Center for the New River Valley has sponsored the free First Friday Listening Room concerts for several years and is continuing its sponsorship of the concert series again this year.

Tickets for the First Friday Listening Room concert series are free but must be reserved in advance due to limited seating. Tickets can be reserved online at Eventbrite.com.

See **First Friday**, page 5

Faulkner, Hemingway, Fitzgerald: RUC English professor's literary travels take her to the giants

RADFORD - In the kitchen of William Faulkner's Rowan Oak estate sits a black rotary telephone in the corner of two painted white walls, both of which are covered with handwritten messages from people who had called the writer over many years.

One message, for example, might

read "Call Steve, and then Steve's phone number would be beside it," said Courtney Watson, an associate professor of English at Radford University Carilion (RUC). "There are generations of all this writing on the kitchen wall."

It's a fascinating preserved detail

that gives tourists at the Oxford, Miss., estate insight into the writer's life. It's also a detail that most visitors don't see. "If you're nice to the grad student who runs the place, sometimes you can go off tour and find the kitchen," Watson said with a smile.

But included in the official tour is another remarkable detail from Faulkner's life. When you walk up the steps to his study, you will find scrawled on the walls, in red and black grease pencil, the outline from his Pulitzer Prize-winning novel, "A Fable."

"It's actually written on the walls!" Watson said, still surprised from the first time she witnessed the oddity.

Faulkner wrote out what was to happen in "A Fable" over eight days, from one Sunday to the next. He began outlining the novel on papers which he taped to the

See **Literary Travels**, page 6

Man killed after shooting incident involving Blacksburg, Montgomery officers

BLACKSBURG - A man is dead after firing on officers following a welfare check at a residence on Yellow Sulphur Road in Blacksburg on Friday.

According to the Virginia State Police, Bureau of Criminal Investigation (Salem Division), which is investigating the incident at the request of the Blacksburg Police Department, the shooting occurred Friday, Aug. 26, in the 3000 block of Yellow Sulphur Road in Blacksburg.

"The incident began at approximately 2 a.m. when Blacksburg Police Department received a call for a welfare check at the residence," the Virginia State Police stated. "Officers from Blacksburg Police Department and deputies from the Montgomery County Sher-

iff's Office arrived on scene, and attempted to de-escalate the incident. The male subject at the residence was speaking with officers, when the subject went into the residence and returned with a firearm. The subject discharged the firearm at the officers, and the officers returned fire, striking the subject."

Officers administered first aid, but Joshua David Amodeo, 29, of Blacksburg, died at the scene.

No officers or deputies were injured in the incident and it remains under investigation.

At the completion of the investigation, the Virginia State Police will turn the findings over to the Blacksburg Commonwealth Attorney's Office for adjudication.

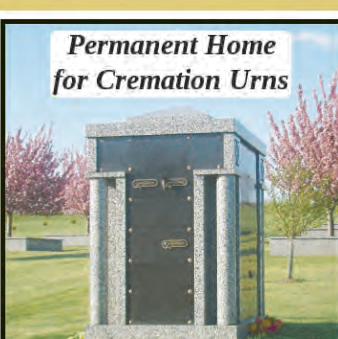


William Faulkner's Rowan Oak estate. He wrote the outline for his Pulitzer-Prize winning novel "A Fable" in grease pencil on the walls of the home's kitchen.

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PETS OF THE WEEK



Meet Precious. She came to the Animal Care and Adoption Center due to no fault of her own and has been a resident for a short amount of time. She is a friendly feline who loves affection and attention. She is litterbox trained and may prefer the great indoors. Stop by the center to meet this purrecious girl.



Simba is ready to head home. He can be a bit of a shy boy until he feels comfortable, and then he opens up and is friendly. Simba enjoys tasty treats and will gladly sit for a nibble. He also likes playing with squeaky toys.

Virginia Ag in Classroom celebrates 30 years of connecting children with agriculture

Every year, an estimated 500,000 Virginia schoolchildren can better understand the value of agriculture thanks to Virginia Agriculture in the Classroom.

The program, housed at Virginia Farm Bureau Federation since 1992, has connected children with agricultural concepts through professional development and resources for educators, school grants, teacher awards, volunteer initiatives and fundraisers.

In the last year, a record-breaking \$430,000 was raised to support AITC activities.

Tammy Maxey, who has led Virginia AITC for 16 of the last 30 years, was recently named executive director of the Virginia Foundation for Agriculture in the Classroom.

A former teacher, principal and 2020 president of the National AITC Organization, Maxey said Virginia AITC continues to grow.

As the COVID-19 pandemic began, there was no road map for sharing educational resources in the era of social distancing and school closures.

“But it gave us room to grow in other ways,” she recalled. “We needed to serve our children and educators regardless of whether we could go to a school or see one another. Every bit of our growth the last few years was virtual. It forced probably 10 years of change overnight.”

AITC administrators redesigned content development and program delivery formats, resulting in a new continuum of virtual lessons. Now its website, social media pages and YouTube channels are filled with activities for educators and children.

In 1981, national AITC was initiated by U.S. Secretary of Agriculture John Block to improve

agricultural literacy among the nation’s students. In Virginia, the organization was established through a partnership between Virginia Cooperative Extension and Farm Bureau.

“In its first year, we saw 100 teachers and did a couple of trainings,” Maxey said. “Pre-pandemic we directly trained up to 3,000 teachers. Now we have professional development for teachers and name a teacher of the year. We offer grants and have an army of volunteers and AITC ambassadors.”

“Reading agriculture-themed books to children gives us an opportunity to share agriculture with students who might not be familiar with the industry,” said Virginia Farm Bureau President Wayne F. Pryor. “And it helps them understand why it is so important in Virginia and in their own communities too.”



In 2022, Virginia Agriculture in the Classroom (AITC) is celebrating its 30th year of connecting children in the commonwealth’s classrooms with agriculture. Every year, an estimated 500,000 Virginia schoolchildren get a better understanding of the value of agriculture thanks to AITC.

NRCC to offer Lean Six Sigma training in Christiansburg

New River Community College has an upcoming Lean Six Sigma training session that can help businesses reduce costs and increase productivity.

Yellow Belt is an eight-week course for entry-level employees seeking to improve their role in the company by using the concepts and methodologies of Six Sigma. The train-and-do process uses classroom activities, combining lecture and simulation exercises.

According to the American Society for Quality, one corporation reported \$1.6 million in savings within the first year of implementing a Six Sigma initiative.

The training will be held in Christiansburg on Fridays beginning Oct. 14 from 1 p.m. to 5 p.m. The regular price for the program is \$1,200, but with special state funding, the discounted price is \$400.

Additional financial assistance may also be available.

The course is one of 11 NRCC FastForward programs that provide affordable and short-term training through the Office of Workforce Development.

To register, visit www.nr.edu/fastforward/yellow-belt.php; call 540-674-3613 or email WFDtraining@nr.edu.

LARGE ESTATE SALE



The Estate of Fleetwood and Vera Agee will be liquidated on Thurs, Fri, and Sat, **September 8th, 9th, and 10th, from 8:00 AM - 2:00 PM, at 607 Eighth St. in Radford, VA.** There are several couches, chairs, bedroom suits, desks, tables, lamps, pictures, a huge variety of clothing, shoes, glassware, linens, jewelry, and tools, as well as, holiday items, washer/dryer, freezer, other appliances, many electronics, and a 1995 Toyota Camry LE with only 42,695 original miles. Also, antiques and collectibles, plus many RETRO and VINTAGE items to include a Hermes portable typewriter, Lane cedar chest, Miyata bicycle, Pleasure Chest Buddy cooler, Singer sewing machine, records, CD’s, tapes, and much more! Reductions on Friday and Saturday. **CASH ONLY!** Come and check out these awesome deals!!!

Send community news and photos to communitynews@ourvalley.org

VDOT

from page 4

along northbound I-81, improving the southbound exit 137 off-ramp intersection at Wildwood Road and adding interchange lighting at exits 137, 140 and 141 are also included in the project. Expected completion in early 2026.

I-81 TROUTVILLE REST AREA CLOSURE - The Troutville Rest Area located on southbound Interstate 81 near mile marker 158 in Botetourt County is currently closed until later in the month of September. Supply chain issues have delayed manufacture and delivery of

metal bases for the new lighting poles that must be installed before the facility can be reopened. The Virginia Department of Transportation's contractor Branch Civil Inc. has developed a plan to install temporary lighting. It will take additional time to install the temporary lighting, so reopening the facility will be postponed until later in September.

Signage indicating the closure is posted in the rest area. A temporary concrete barrier wall will remain in place in front of the facility. The rest area facility,

ramps and parking lot are closed to the public. This project will extend the ramp into the rest area by 500 feet and the ramp out of the rest area by 2,100 feet. It will also include expanding the truck parking area at the facility by about 10-13 spaces. Work is expected to be completed in early fall 2022.

REST AREA OPTIONS: While the Troutville Rest Area is closed, southbound I-81 drivers can use the Fairfield Rest Area at mile marker 195 in Rockbridge County or the Radford Rest Area at mile marker 108 in

Montgomery County. In addition, the Troutville Weigh Station, located on southbound I-81 at mile marker 149, will have portable toilets and parking will be temporarily available for commercial vehicles.

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 been underway. All lanes now open and will remain open through winter with

periodic lane closures at night as needed. The final surface paving and markings for northbound is underway this summer during nighttime hours, 8 p.m. to 6 a.m. Drivers can expect rough pavement. Estimated completion date of the project is summer 2022.

I-81 BRIDGE DECK REPAIRS - Weather permitting, crews will repair bridge decks on Interstate 81. Between mile markers 138 to 152, right and left lane closures will be in place

See VDOT, page 6

OBITUARIES

Brown, Arleen Jane

Arleen Jane Brown "Nanny," 72, of Christiansburg, passed away Tuesday, Aug., 23, 2022, at her home.

She was born in Blacksburg on Jan. 16, 1950, to the late Frank and Revella Alls Brown. Also preceding her in death were her brother, Larry Brown, and her sister, Becky Campbell.

Those left to cherish her memory are her daughters, Sherri Sons and Terri Meadows; a brother Lee Brown (Connie); sisters Bonnie Sage, Judy Brown, Barbra Brown, and Joyce Snider (John); grandchildren Brandon Garland, Debra Sons, Erin Sons, Halie Meadows, and Sarah Meadows; five great-grandchildren and

many nieces, nephews and friends.

She had a big personality for such a tiny lady. She was funny without trying and had jokes for days. She loved people and never met a stranger. She valued her family over everything and did her best to stay close and in touch. She loved her grandbabies and was always thinking of them. She loved watching the wildlife at her home and made sure she fed her critters every day. Her laughter, her smile, her attitude, her many quirks and signature catchphrases will be remembered always. She will be greatly missed.

A memorial service was held Saturday, Aug. 27, 2022, at McCoy Funeral Home.

Farmer, Clara Jean Ferguson

"She was ready for her wings to fly home, but our hearts were not ready to let her go."

Clara Jean Ferguson Farmer passed away peacefully on Thursday, Aug. 25, 2022, in Blacksburg after years of declining health.

She was born in Union, W.Va., but was raised in Giles County. She graduated from Narrows High School and attended Radford Women's College.

Jean packed a lot of life into her 86 years. For more than 25 years, she worked at Virginia Tech, first in the Student Health building, then in the basketball office as an administrative assistant to the basketball coaches and team. She really found her life's calling in that role.

She loved her Hokies and treated the team like family, helping them through many of their collegiate careers. She loved traveling to the away games and post-season tournaments so she could cheer on her "basketball sons."

Her greatest love of all was for her family. Her support for her parents, sisters, brother, husband, sons, daughter, and grandchildren never wavered. She met the love of her life, Dwight Farmer, at a football game when she was in high school and married him the following year. They were married from 1952 until his death in 1989.

She always said she was like a Cardinal, she had one life love and it was him. She and "Cracker" raised their children in Fairlawn where they were active in their community, helping to found the Riverlawn Recreation Association.

She was preceded in death by her parents, Bill and Maude Ferguson; her husband, Dwight "Cracker" Farmer; a son,



Doug Farmer; and grandchildren Andy Farmer and Sheila Caudillo.

She is survived by her sons, Mike Farmer (Carol) of Chesapeake, Va., Bill "Bebop" Farmer (Karen) of Shelton, Conn., and Scott Farmer (Brenda) of Claytor Lake, Va; her daughter, Cindy Farmer Wood (Bill) of Greensboro, N.C.; her grandchildren Jerry, Joey, and Sonja

Caudillo, Matt Farmer, Jon Farmer, Merle and Steve Sprague, Neil and Dwight Farmer, and Kylie and Abby Wood; and a host of great-grandchildren, nieces, and nephews.

The family would like to say a special thank-you to Jacqui McDuffie and Matthew Graham of Medi Home Health & Hospice, who cared so wonderfully for their mother. Theirs was a special relationship gifted by God.

The celebration of Jean's life will be a Hokie affair. It will be held Thursday, Sept. 1, 2022, at Luther Memorial Lutheran Church, 600 Prices Fork Road, Blacksburg, Va. The family will greet friends starting at 12:30 p.m. at the church. Burial will follow at Sunrise Burial Park, 7228 RoundHouse St., Fairlawn, VA.

The family is asking that those joining them in this celebration of one of the greatest Hokie fans of all time wear orange and maroon and their best Hokie fan gear. T-shirts and casual attire are very welcome.

In lieu of flowers donations can be made in Jean's name to the Va Tech Hokie Club (earmarked for the VT Basketball Program) PO Box 10307, Blacksburg VA 24062-0307 and Medi Home and Health Hospice 319 N. Washington Ave., Pulaski, VA 24301.

Robeson, Andrew

Andrew Robeson, professor emeritus of Virginia Tech, beloved family patriarch and lifelong member of the Blacksburg community, reached the end of a deeply rich life on July 10, 2022. He was 96 years old.

He was preceded in death by his parents, Frank Leigh Robeson and Mary Majhews Robeson; sisters Helen Robeson, Mary Wood Pendleton, Martha Robeson and Amenta Sjogren; and by his beloved wife Jean, who passed away Feb. 10, 2022.

He is survived by his four children: Martha Rodgers (John), Catherine Cunningham (Michael), Andrew Gordon Robeson (Elaine), and James Robeson; six grandchildren and nine great-grandchildren, along with a number of beloved nieces and nephews.

Born in Blacksburg on April 20, 1926, Andy enlisted in the Navy just before turning 18 and served aboard the USS Oglethorpe, a transport operating in the Pacific Theater at the end of WWII. After the war, he returned to VPI to complete a BS in physics, followed by an MS and PhD from UVA.

In 1944, a blind date for a dance at the University of Richmond led to his meeting Jean White of Culpeper, Va. They were married June 19, 1948. After a brief professorship at Emory University in Atlanta, Andy came home to Blacksburg. One year of teaching at VPI preceded a year at Oak Ridge School of Reactor Technology, from which he returned to Blacksburg to serve for 25 years as a member of the physics and engineering faculty specializing in nuclear science.

Taking early retirement in 1982, his



career focus shifted to consulting for the nuclear power industry, a role that fed his and Jean's love for travel. The extended family frequently joined them at assignments across the U.S. where they never failed to find a scenic location for holiday adventures.

Andy was a founding member, a faithful servant, and a constant source of leadership and maintenance at Northside Presbyterian Church. His love of baseball and golden retrievers was well-known, as was his passion for antique cars. Many Blacksburg residents will recall his 1910 Stanley steam-powered horseless carriage blowing its train whistle in town parades.

Andy and Jean toured the country with various antique car clubs, often bringing family along for the ride. The house Andy and Jean built on Kelsey Lane was a showcase of his building and design talent, utilizing many repurposed materials from former Tech buildings and salvaged items from other sources. Andy promised his bride that he would take care of her in their home until the end of their lives. He succeeded with the help of a wonderful network of caregivers who have become family, as well as a dedicated Carilion Clinic Hospice care team.

A memorial service will be held at 2 p.m. on Saturday, Oct. 8, 2022, at Northside Presbyterian Church, Blacksburg, with a reception following the service. In lieu of flowers, the family suggests a donation to Blacksburg Volunteer Rescue Squad, 1300 Progress St., Blacksburg, VA 24060; or Northside Presbyterian Church, 1017 Progress St. Blacksburg, VA 24060; or a charity of your choice.

Carico, Kathy Vires

Kathy Vires Carico, 53, of Woodlawn, passed away on Tuesday, Aug. 23, 2022, at Novant Forsyth Medical Center.

Kathy was born in Radford to the late Eddie Wayne and Edith Altizer Vires. In addition to her parents, she was preceded in death by two brothers, Eddie (Dee) Vires and Michael Vires.

Survivors include her husband, Delane Carico; a son, Justin Carico; a stepdaughter, Shonda Carico; a sister, Melinda Azbell; her father-in-law, Larry Earon Carico; her sister-in-law and spouse, Drs. Kerri and Anthony Gray; a special friend, Chelsey Snavelly; and

several nieces and nephews.

Funeral services were held on Tuesday, Aug 30, 2022, at Vaughan-Guynn-McGrady Chapel with Pastor Mike Wells officiating. Burial followed in the Ellis Melton Cemetery.

The family received friends at the funeral home on Tuesday prior to the funeral service. The family requested donations to be made to the American Kidney Fund 11921 Rockville Pike, Suite 300, Rockville, MD 20852.

A guest book is available online by visiting www.vaughanguynnandmcgrady.com. Vaughan-Guynn-McGrady Chapel is serving the family.

Smith, William Sidney

William Sidney Smith, 59, of McCoy, died Friday, Aug. 26, 2022.

He was born in Radford on Feb. 20, 1963, to the late Sherman Ellis and Goldie Reed Smith.

He was also preceded in death by a brother, Samuel Ellis Smith; his paternal grandparents, Ruby and Irvin Smith; and his maternal grandparents, William Sidney and Mary Purdy Reed.

He owned and operated Blacksburg Auto Parts, his family business, which has been in Blacksburg for over 60 years, as well as Auto Experts, which he operated for over 15 years. Sid enjoyed farming, trout fishing, deep sea fishing, apple butter making, gardening, and ham and sausage making. He was also an avid race car fan, especially of Rusty Wallace.

He is survived by his wife of 32 years, Lisa Linkous Smith; a brother, David Smith; an aunt, Joyce Davies; an uncle, James and Nancy Smith; Lisa's grandmother, Ruth Johnston; mother-in-law Brenda Linkous; brothers-in-law Michael Linkous and Matthew Linkous; a special niece, Gracie Linkous; special friends Jeff and Diana Vaught and Dreama and Ricky Price, and all his employees; his loving and furry companions, Molly and Rusty; and numerous other family and friends.

A funeral service was held on Tuesday,



Aug. 30, 2022, in the McCoy Funeral Home Chapel with Pastor Scott Obenchain and the Rev. Kevin Albert officiating. Interment followed at Centennial Christian Church cemetery. The family received friends on Monday, Aug. 29, 2022, at McCoy Funeral Home, Blacksburg.

An additional celebration of life will be held on Saturday, Oct. 8, 2022, at 2 p.m. at Sid's home. In lieu of flowers, the family asks that memorial contributions may be made to Montgomery County Animal Care and Control, 480 Cinnabar Road, Christiansburg, VA 24073.

First Friday

from page 1

Each Friday, Max on Main will open at 5 p.m. with an abbreviated version of its popular menu along with drinks. The concerts run from 6 to 8 p.m. with free parking downtown. On tap for Oct. 7 is Wytheville resident Georgia Randall and her soulful guitar performing a mix of gospel, blues, Motown, and rock-and-roll,

including some of her own compositions. Ragtime Fred and the duo of Bud Bennett and Beth Kelsey out of Blacksburg, pick out updated versions of familiar tunes on banjo and acoustic bass on Friday, Nov. 4. Tickets are currently available on Eventbrite.com for all three concerts.

The Fine Arts Center is

located at 21 West Main St. in downtown Pulaski, and Max on Main is located directly across the street. The Center is open Tuesdays, Thursdays, Fridays, and Saturdays from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. For more information visit the center's website at FACNRV.org, email at info@FACNRV.org, or call 540-980-7363.

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RADFORD SPORTS

Week 2 Previews: Christiansburg, Radford try for 2-0

Severe storms played havoc with high school games this past week. Three Montgomery County teams took over an hour and half to open their 2022 season.

Christiansburg and Radford both picked up wins (Christiansburg over Floyd, and Radford in a Thursday matinee over George Wythe.) Auburn, Eastern Montgomery, and Blacksburg all started the year 0-1.

The Christiansburg-Abingdon game was moved to Thursday because of the officials shortage in Southwest Virginia.

This created a domino effect in the Christiansburg Middle School and Christiansburg High School junior varsity football schedules. The Blue Demon JV team will play at Abingdon on Wednesday, Aug. 31, with a 6 p.m. kickoff. The Christiansburg middle school squad will play at home vs Abingdon on Wednesday, Aug 31, with a 6 p.m. kickoff.

Akers official at Pulaski
Pulaski County Public

Schools has announced the decision to remove the interim head coach title from Cam Akers, naming him the official head coach of the Cougar football program.

After college, Akers returned to Pulaski County as an assistant football and track coach. He eventually moved to Floyd County as an assistant and then to Floyd County under longtime Head Coach Winfred Beale. From there, he was named the head coach at Auburn High School in 2016.

Akers returned home to Pulaski County as an assistant coach under former Head Coach Mark Dixon, who recently retired. Akers finished his time at Auburn with a record of 20-30 despite having a limited number of players.

"We're pleased to have Coach Akers as our new head coach and look forward to watching him continue to move our football program in the right direction," said Dr. Kevin Siers, Pulaski County's Superintendent

of Public Schools. "He's already shown himself to be a strong motivator and organizer. He's proven to be an effective leader since moving into the interim position and has continued to build strong relationships with the players and assistant coaches. His goal of creating program continuity with the middle school and recreation league teams sets us up to see a lot of Cougar football wins in the future."

Games this week:
Blacksburg at Lord Botetourt
In last week's loss to Giles, Blacksburg's Spencer Campbell had 114 yards passing on five of seven attempts. David Ajayi added 104 yards rushing on seven attempts with a touchdown. Carter Ackerman had three catches for 87 yards.

Botetourt fell 28-14 to E.C. Glass.

Abingdon at Christiansburg
Abingdon picked up a 47-6 win last week over John Battle. Ectar Taylor rushed for 99 yards as the team totaled 232 yards

with six different players scoring touchdowns. The team was also five of 10 for 67 yards through the air.

Christiansburg tallied over 300 yards rushing as a team and spread the ball around with four different people scoring.

Gate City at Radford
Gate City is coming off a 27-13 loss to Richlands. Radford won an adjusted Thursday night game at George Wythe.

Craig at Auburn
Auburn's Landon Marrs threw a 66-yard touchdown in a 51-7 loss to Narrows. Craig slipped by Bland as Zachary Peters ran for 63 yards and two touchdowns.

Eastern Montgomery at Rural Retreat

Eastern Montgomery will face its second out-of-district power from Southwest Virginia. Rural Retreat is coming off a win over Ft. Chiswell.

In the loss to Holston on Friday, Eastern Montgomery was limited to 107 yards of total offense. Gage Akers did rush for

37 yards.
Rural Retreat's Ely Blevins threw for 108 yards, including a touchdown, and rushed for another score. Gatlin Hight added 110 yards on the ground.

Predictions: Lord Botetourt 48, Blacksburg 14; Christiansburg 40, Abingdon 21; Radford 27, Gate City 21; Craig 27, Auburn 7; Rural Retreat 38, Eastern Montgomery 7.

Area Top 5: 1) Christiansburg, 2) Narrows, 3) Galax, 4) Salem, 5) Glenvar.

VHSL wrestling note: Beginning with the 2022-2023 VHSL wrestling season, schools will use the weight classes newly approved by the NFHS wrestling rules committee. The 14 new weight classes are 106, 113, 120, 126, 132, 138, 144, 150, 157, 165, 175, 190, 215, and 285.

Former Blue Demon injured.

Tyrique Taylor suffered a torn ACL in an Emory and Henry scrimmage two weeks ago and will sit out his freshman season at the school.

Louisville picked first in ACC volleyball, VT 12th

Louisville has been selected as the preseason favorite to win the 2022 ACC volleyball championship following a vote of the league's head coaches. The Cardinals received 10 first-place votes.

Louisville, which won the ACC last season with a perfect 18-0 record, returns all but two starters to its lineup, including preseason All-ACC selections Claire Chaussee, Anna DeBeer, Aiko Jones, Elena Scott, and Amaya Tillman.

Both the Cardinals and the Pitt Panthers advanced to last season's NCAA championship semifinals. Both teams finished with more than 30 wins.

Pitt finished second in the voting with 185 points, followed by Georgia Tech (173), Miami (150) and Florida State (145). North Carolina earned 134 points and was picked sixth with NC State (116), Duke (105), Notre Dame (87) and Clemson (72) rounding out the top 10. The Tigers were followed by Wake Forest (63 points), Virginia Tech (48), Boston College (39), Virginia (36), and Syracuse (31).

Louisville's five preseason All-ACC selections led the conference while Georgia Tech, North Carolina, and Pitt had three each. Miami had two players named to the preseason team, and Florida State and Syracuse had one each.

Three ACC teams are ranked in the preseason American Volleyball Coaches Association Top 25 Poll: No. 4 Louisville, No. 6 Pitt and No. 9 Georgia

Tech. Miami, North Carolina and Florida State also received votes. Georgia Tech's No.-9 ranking is the highest preseason ranking in program history.

In 2021, the ACC had two teams in the national semifinals for the first time in league history, and its six NCAA teams tied the league record. The ACC's three teams in the regional finals and third round, and five teams in the second round were all the most in conference history.

The regular season began Friday, Aug. 26, with all 15 league teams in action. ACC Network is slated to air 21 conference volleyball matches with coverage beginning on Sunday, Sept. 4, with 2021 national semifinalist Louisville hosting Ohio State at 2 p.m. More than 150 ACC volleyball matches are slated for ACC Network Extra.

2022 ACC Volleyball Pre-season Coaches Poll

1. Louisville, 191 points (10 first place votes)
2. Pitt, 185 points (5 first place votes)
3. Georgia Tech, 173 points
4. Miami, 150 points
5. Florida State, 145 points
6. North Carolina, 134 points
7. NC State, 116 points
8. Duke, 105 points
9. Notre Dame, 87 points
10. Clemson, 72 points
11. Wake Forest, 63 points
12. Virginia Tech, 48 points
13. Boston College, 39 points
14. Virginia, 36 points
15. Syracuse, 31 points

Blacksburg falls to Giles 35-21



Blacksburg's Carter Ackerman takes a short third-down pass from quarterback Spencer Campbell and sprints to a touchdown on the Bruins' first series against Giles for an early 7-0 lead in their home opener for the 2022 season, but Giles went on to win the game 35-21.



Blacksburg quarterback Spencer Campbell breaks through a Giles tackle to score on a short touchdown run in the third quarter.

PHOTOS BY JON FLEMING

Christiansburg shuts out Floyd 41-0



Kendric Long (left) sacks Floyd's quarterback in Christiansburg's 41-0 win. Long rushed eight times for 97 yards including a touchdown. Max Fernandez scored twice for the Blue Demons.



Curtis Altizer (left) and Dishon Garrison (right) halt Floyd's running back Trevor Miller (C).

PHOTOS BY KYMN DAVIDSON-HAMLEY

VDOT from page 6

(Stone Mountain Road) is closed for repair of a substructure and installation of a concrete slab span. This closure will be located 0.65 mile south of Route 743 (Bold Branch Road) and 0.50 of a mile north of Route 737 (Ayers Road). The road is scheduled to be open on September 23 at 4 p.m.

ROUTE 221 INTERSECTION IMPROVEMENTS – A project to improve safety and operations at three signalized intersections is underway. Two intersections are on Route 221 in Bedford County in the Salem District and one is at Route 460 Business (Timberlake Road) and Route 622 (Waterlick Road) in Campbell County in the Lynchburg District. In Bedford County, this project will improve two adjacent signalized intersections in the Forest area on Route 221 at Route 1425 (Graves Mill Road) and at Route 1426 (Gristmill Drive). Most work will be performed during nighttime hours, Monday through Friday, 6 p.m. – 7 a.m. the next morning. Drivers may see shoulder and lane closures during daytime hours on the weekends. The project is expected to be completed in spring 2023.

ROUTE 655 INTERSECTION AND SAFETY IMPROVEMENTS – Construction to improve the intersection and shoulders began on Route 655 and various locations from 0.91 mile north of the Route 653 and 655 (Goodview Road and Route 616 (Horseshoe Bend Road) to 0.038 mile north of the Route 655 (Good View Road) and Route 616 (Horseshoe Bend Road) is in progress. Flagging operations at the intersection of Goodview Road and Horseshoe Bend are in place during the week and work hours of 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. The expected completion date is the

end of September 2022.

ROUTE 623 CULVERT REPLACEMENT – A section of Route 623 (Turkey Foot Road) in Campbell County on the Bedford County line is closed to replace a culvert that carries Buffalo Creek. This structure is located .18 mile north of Route 460 and 0.68 mile south of the Bedford/Campbell County line. There will be signage for a detour. The road was scheduled to open at the end of July but has now been rescheduled to open September 9, 2022, due to recent flooding on the project, additional bedrock removal, and utility work.

ROUTE 619 CULVERT REPLACEMENT – A project to replace a culvert on Route 619 is underway. Route 619 will be reduced to one lane with a temporary signal controlling traffic from Route 1460 to Route 839. Expected completion of the project is the end of September 2022.

ROUTE 715 BRIDGE REPLACEMENT – A bridge replacement project over Norfolk Southern Railroad has closed Route 715 (Lowry Road). The bridge is located 0.085 mile south of Norfolk Southern Railroad to 0.048 mile north of Norfolk Southern Railroad on Route 715. Message boards will alert drivers. This replacement will change the current single lane steel and wooden bridge to a two-lane concrete bridge. A detour will be in place. Travelers will use Route 671 (Timber Ridge Road) to Route 221 (Forrest Road). The detour will remain in place until project completion which is scheduled for Fall 2022.

SURFACE TREATMENT OPERATIONS – Weather permitting, crews will begin surface treatment operations on various routes. Lane closures may be in place and flaggers may control traf-

fic at times during daylight hours. Drivers should watch for signs and expect possible delays. The road surface may be rough for several weeks after surface treatment is applied. Once it packs down, the road surface will be brushed and return to a more smooth surface.

ROUTE 122 UTILITY WORK - MMI will be installing fiber optic along 122 from the Franklin County line to the Town of Bedford line and Route 460 eastbound from the Town of Bedford to Alum Springs Road. This work will be ongoing. Motorists should expect shoulder or lane closures for travel in both directions. Intermittent slow rolls will be required for periods lasting no longer than 15 minutes.

ROUTE 619 CULVERT REPLACEMENT – Crews are replacing a culvert on Route 619 with a road closure in place. The closure is being operated by temporary signals that are placing traffic in a single lane configuration on Route 619. A flagging operation will be used as needed on Route 619 from Route 1460 to Route 839 during the hours of 7 a.m. to 5:30 p.m., Monday through Friday.

ROUTE 221 – Drivers should expect flagging and pilot truck operations northbound and southbound with alternating lane closures during nighttime hours.

B O T E T O U R T C O U N T Y

ROUTE 11 BUCHANAN BRIDGE PROJECT – A construction project on the Route 11 Bridge in the Town of Buchanan is underway. Water Street is closed and drivers should expect lane closures with flagging operations to begin in about two weeks. Message boards are present to alert and update drivers.

ROUTE 1095 (HIGH-

LAND DRIVE) PIPE FAILURE CLOSURE – Route 1095 (Highland Drive) near its intersection with Sanderson Road has been immediately closed until further notice due to a pipe failure. The road is currently impassable and is being assessed for repairs and materials. Drivers will need to seek alternate routes to avoid the area such as Murray Court to Richardson. Please adhere to closure signs. The road is expected to be closed approximately at least through Mid-December 2022.

ROUTE 622 CLOSURE – A road closure will be in place on Route 622 (Prices Bluff Road) beginning September 19 at 8 a.m. to install a concrete slab span located 0.23 miles from Route 696 (Locust Bottom Road) and 0.40 miles from Route 622 (Bridge Street.) The road is scheduled to reopen on October 28, 2022 at 4 p.m.

ROUTE 611 (GREYLEDGE ROAD) – A 1.5 mile section of Route 611 (Greyledge Road) is closed due to flooding that damaged the roadway. Extensive repairs will be needed and a detour will be in place. There is no estimated time for the road to reopen.

ROUTE 817 (OLD RAIL ROAD) BRIDGE WORK – Old Rail Road in Oriskany is closed for repairs to the bridge over Craig's Creek, the historic McCallister Truss Bridge. The bridge is located 0.60 miles from Route 704 (Branchwater Road) and 0.20 miles from Route 770 (Edlo Lane). The bridge will be closed during daytime hours, 8 a.m. through 5 p.m., Monday through Thursday, when the water level is low. Work on this bridge is restricted when water in the creek is high. All traffic between 8 a.m. and 5 p.m. will use the Edlo Ford. Signs have been posted to alert drivers. Estimated time for completion Fall 2022.

CARROLL COUNTY ROUTE 645 CULVERT REPLACEMENT – Partial removal and

demolition of the existing culvert on Route 645 (Stone Mountain Road) is underway. The road will be closed for removal of existing culvert and installation of a new box culvert. A detour will be in place at the intersections of Route 645 and Route 618 and Route 645 and Route 638. Estimated completion is April 2023.

ROUTE 52 – Drivers should expect flagging and pilot truck operations with alternating lane closures during nighttime hours.

SURFACE TREATMENT OPERATIONS – Weather permitting, crews will begin surface treatment operations on various routes. Lane closures may be in place and flaggers may control traffic at times during daylight hours. Drivers should watch for signs and expect possible delays. The road surface may be rough for several weeks after surface treatment is applied. Once it packs down, the road surface will be brushed and return to a more smooth surface.

Routes 740, 744, and 791 are undergoing surface treatment. Motorists should expect flagging operations on any of the routes in the area.

ROUTE 58 WESTBOUND BRIDGE REPLACEMENT – Work is underway to replace the bridge on Route 58 westbound over Crooked Creek near the Woodlawn area. The bridge is located between the intersections with Route 822 (Fieldview Road) and Route 887 (Glendale Road). Initially, the project will focus on constructing crossovers between the above-mentioned intersections with intermittent and temporary single lane closures in place. These crossovers are temporary during the bridge replacement with single lanes in each direction until the end of the project. Once the crossovers are complete, Route 58 westbound will be temporarily detoured through the left lane of Route 58 eastbound, limiting travel in each direction to a single lane. A right lane closure will be in place

traveling westbound and a left lane closure traveling eastbound. The project is scheduled to be completed in December 2022.

TRAFFIC SHIFT – A traffic shift is in place reducing both directions to one lane near Glendale Drive. It will be in place for approximately 12 months or until fall 2022. All eastbound traffic will use the existing right eastbound lane. All westbound traffic will be shifted to the existing left eastbound lane.

Right lane closures may be in place on Route 58 eastbound between Route 822 (Fieldview Road) and Route 887 (Glendale Road).

CRAIG COUNTY

ROUTE 311 BRIDGE REPLACEMENT OVER MEADOW CREEK – Temporary signals are controlling traffic across the bridge and will be in place throughout the project. Construction will begin on the northbound side of the bridge and once completed, work will switch to the southbound side. In addition, a section of Route 646 (Allen Street) between Route 650 and Route 311 will be closed during construction and a signed detour will be in place. All traffic will be detoured to Marshall Street and Kanawha Street to access either 311 or the homes located off Allen Street. Speed limit will be reduced to 35 mph in the work zone with a width restriction of 9 feet. Drivers should expect delays and allow extra travel time through the work zone. Weather permitting, the bridge is expected to be open to traffic by the end of 2022.

FLOYD COUNTY

RUBBER DUCK DROP ON ROUTE 705 (SLUSHER STORE ROAD) – On August 27 from noon until 2 p.m., the Rubber Duck Drop will take place on Route 705's (Slusher Store Road) bridge over Little River. Drivers should expect delays up to 15 minutes. Local law enforcement will be present to assist.



LIVE REAL ESTATE AUCTION

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 2 @ 12:00NOON
406 West Main Street, Christiansburg, VA 24073

IDEAL INVESTMENT PROPERTY Ideal for Multifamily Housing. These 3 Parcels combined, would be ideal for Multi-Family or Townhome Construction. This is a rare opportunity to purchase Real estate on Main Street, ripe for development. 406 West Main Street: Main Home Features include 2 Story Brick Home with 3 Bedrooms, 2 Baths, Living Room, Dining Room, Kitchen, Office, Den, Hardwood Floors, Paved Drive, Partially Finished Basement. Upper level of home features 2, 1 Bedroom Apartments. 408 West Main Street: Brick Ranch with 3 Bedrooms and 2 Baths with Full Basement on a Very Large Lot. Additional Parcel: Is a vacant lot next to Parcel one. This property would be ideal for building townhomes. Terms of Sale for Real Estate: Each Parcel will be auctioned individually and then offered as a whole. 10% down day of sale. Cash or Check. Balance due within 30 days at which time a deed will be delivered. Sale of property will be subject to Seller's confirmation. A 10% Buyer's premium will be added to the final bid price. Sale is Being Conducted by: Larry J. Linkous, VAAL #3 For Further Information, call: 540.961.2608 or check website at www.linkousauctioneers.com All information contained in this listing was derived from sources believed to be correct but is not guaranteed. Any announcement made from the auction stand shall take precedence over any printed material.



3862 South Main Street,
 Blacksburg, VA 24060
 p. (540) 961-2608 • f. (540) 961-2608
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www.linkousauctioneers.com

ONLINE AUCTION

Ends Thursday September 15th @ 4 PM
Land for Sale in Riner VA
TBD Pugh Rd NW., Riner, VA 24149
Bid Now at VaAuctionPro.com



You have the opportunity to purchase land for sale in Riner VA at Online Auction. There are 2 offerings being sold simultaneously. Both lots are located on Pugh Rd and are a mixture of wooded and open land. They would be great for building your dream home! Bidders desiring both lots will need to be high bidder on both lots. Each offering will stay open until all bidding is complete and all offerings will close simultaneously.

Offering # 1 - This offering consists of 7.02 acres of undeveloped land. It is primarily open with a small portion of wooded acreage. This would be an excellent homesite with gorgeous country views. You could also start a nice mini farm.

Offering # 2 - This offering consists of 25.7 acres of undeveloped land. It is primarily wooded with some cleared spots. This offering also features Laurel Branch running through a portion of it. This is a great tract for building a home or for recreational use!

Terms - 10% Buyer's Premium will be added to final high bid to arrive at contract price. Earnest Money Deposit of \$5,000 per tract required day of sale. Close in 45 days. Subject to seller confirmation. Property sold as is, where is with any and all faults. Buyer is expected to complete their own due diligence. Tracts are being offered individually and if bidder wishes to purchase both tracts, bidder will need to be the high/winning bidder on both offerings. Download Bidder Information Pack at VAAuctionPro.com

Contact Broker/Auctioneer Matt Gallimore at 540-239-2585 or email gallimore.matt@gmail.com

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