



## Blacksburg Rotary names Kelly B. Walters its 2020 First Responder of the Year



Accepting Kelly Walters' First Responder of the Year award was his daughter, Nancy.

On Thursday, March 11, the Rotary Club of Blacksburg honored Kelly B. Walters as its 2020 First Responder of the Year.

Walters passed away in December. Accepting the award was Walters' daughter, Nancy. Captain Walters first joined the

Christiansburg Rescue Squad in 1964 (then known as the Christiansburg Lifesaving and First Aid Squad), and for over 50 years he tirelessly served the community.

In addition to the award, the club donated \$500 in Walters' name to a charity selected by his family.

An excerpt from the NRV First Responders Facebook page says, "Kelly Walters was a legend in the first responder community. The lives he's saved himself and by proxy of his many students are too numerous to count. The man dedicated his life to helping others, and he did it well."

The Blacksburg Rotary Club's previous First Responder of the Year recipients are Neal Turner, Montgomery County Emergency Services Coordinator and Michael Linkous, Blacksburg Volunteer Fire Department in 2019; Wendell Flinchum, Virginia Tech Police Department in 2018; and Danny Yopp, Christiansburg Volunteer Fire Department in 2017.

## Blacksburg Clothesline Project to draw attention to gender-based violence



The Clothesline Project, consisting of some 620 shirts made by residents of the New River Valley to call attention to gender-based violence, will be on display on College Avenue in downtown Blacksburg between Draper Road and Main Street from 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. on Tuesday, March 23, and Wednesday, March 24.

Rain dates are March 30 and March 31.

Victims of violence and their friends or family members may share their stories by creating a T-shirt for the Clothesline Project anytime during March. Those interested in creating a shirt may contact Susan at anderson@vt.edu for more information or for a T-shirt kit with materials provided at no charge.

For the Clothesline Project, survivors of violence and friends and families of the victims of violence create shirts emblazoned with direct messages and strong illustrations. The shirts demonstrate the pain and suffering of the survivors, aid in their healing process, and celebrate their strength and courage in overcoming the past.

The shirts are hung side by side on a clothesline, as though the survivors are standing there themselves, shoulder to shoulder, bearing witness to the violence committed on a daily basis. The shirts are color coded: white for those who have died from violence; yellow or beige for survivors who have been battered or assaulted; red, pink, or orange for those raped or sexually assaulted; blue or green for survivors of incest or child sexual abuse; purple or lavender for those attacked because of their sexual orientation; and black for survivors handicapped by violence.

The local Clothesline Project was initiated in 1994 by the Montgomery County chapter of the National Organization for Women (NOW). Local sponsors include Montgomery County NOW, the United Feminist Movement, the Women's Center at Virginia Tech, and the Women's Resource Center of the New River Valley.

## Christiansburg hires new planning director

The Town of Christiansburg has announced that Margaret "Margy" Barden has joined the staff as the new planning director.

She began her new position on Monday, March 15.

Barden brings more than 27 years of planning and consulting experience to the position. Most recently, she was a private contractor based in North Carolina, focusing on real estate development, business management, urban and regional planning, human services and economic development.

She previously worked in local government as a senior planner for the City of Greenwood Village in Colorado; as the planning and community development di-

rector for the Town of Culpeper in Virginia; and as a comprehensive and historic preservation planner for Culpeper.

Barden has a bachelor's degree in City planning from the University of Virginia. She has received a Certified Zoning Administrator designation through the Virginia Association of Zoning Officials and has been a member of the American Institute of Certified Planners.

Over the course of her municipal planning career, Barden has focused on downtown revitalization and economic and community development for small to mid-sized communities.

"Margy's diverse planning background made her an excellent choice for this position,"

Town Manager Randy Wingfield said. "Her local government experience is strong and relevant, and her work as a private contractor gives her a unique perspective when it comes to real estate development and land use matters. We're excited for her to join our team and bring those skills to the town."

Barden is a native of Virginia. "I'm excited to join the Town of Christiansburg and am looking forward to helping shape the next comprehensive plan," Barden said. "Christiansburg already seems like a great place to live, work and play, and I'm ready to get to work and keep building upon the positive momentum."

Barden's salary will be \$83,012.80.

## Groundbreaking begins construction of VT's Global Business and Analytics Complex



PHOTO BY RYAN YOUNG FOR VIRGINIA TECH

Virginia Tech leaders at the groundbreaking for the Data and Decision Sciences Building. From left, College of Science Interim Dean Ron Fricker, College of Engineering Dean Julia Ross, and Pamplin College of Business Dean Robert Sumichrast.

A virtual groundbreaking ceremony on Friday, March 12, launched the construction of Virginia Tech's Data and Decision Sciences Building, a new five-story Hokie-stone-clad structure that is the first of a four-building project known as the Virginia Tech Global Business and Analytics Complex (GBAC).

The approximately 115,000-square-foot Data and Decision Sciences Building will house faculty and classes from multiple colleges, including the College of Engineering, the College of Science, and the Pamplin College of Business.

Its function is to bring together under one roof computer science, engineering, and data-related disciplines to provide opportunities for students, faculty, alumni, and even industry leaders to work side-by-side to address some of the world's significant data challenges.

The Data and Decision Sciences Building's features will include a

multilevel commons area, team rooms in which students across disciplines can work together, specialized labs, and data visualization classrooms.

The Data and Decision Sciences Building is expected to be complete by 2023 and will define the gateway to campus from the northwest side, said Liza Morris, assistant vice president for planning and university architect at Virginia Tech.

"It will be a significant change to campus," she said. "We will start to architecturally define that corner. It will start to shape campus as you approach from that vantage point."

GBAC is one of the top six fundraising priorities of Boundless Impact: The Campaign for Virginia Tech. Major fundraising is ongoing to help bring the full project to fruition.

The state's capital budget allocates \$69 million toward construction of the Data and Decision Sciences Building.

"This is an exciting and important milestone for Virginia Tech, and the commonwealth," VT President Tim Sands said during the virtual groundbreaking ceremony. "The Global Business and Analytics Complex exemplifies our Beyond Boundaries vision to prepare a new generation of leaders, professionals, and entrepreneurs. Integrating business disciplines with data and decision sciences will create the kind of learning environment our faculty and students need in the era of big data."

"This building will still be a hub for learning and discovery, not only for those of us who are based here in Blacksburg, but for our colleagues in Roanoke; in greater Washington, D.C.; and in Virginia Tech's many other locations," said Pamplin College of Business Dean Robert Sumichrast during the online groundbreaking.

-- Written by Jenny Boone

## News Brief: Crouch to run for Christiansburg mayor

Amanda Crouch, a Christiansburg nurse, has announced she will run for mayor later this year. She said in a Facebook post that building and teamwork have been among her core strengths throughout her career.

"I firmly believe the people of Christiansburg need a solid support system and a go-getter to improve our town," she said. "As

mayor, I intend to show each and every person how we as a community all become pieces of a puzzle. We all are needed to make our community stronger. Everyone has a voice and ideas that deserve to be heard. We all fit together like a jigsaw puzzle."

Incumbent Mayor Michael Barber has previously announced he will seek reelection.

## Several arrested in Fairfax Street incident of Feb. 22

The Radford City Police Department has arrested a number of individuals in connection with the Feb. 22, 2021, incident on Fairfax Street, which has been described as "an off-campus fracas involving Radford University students."

They all were arrested on the following charges and were held on secured bond at the New River Valley Regional Jail: breaking and entering, conspiracy to commit breaking and entering, assault by mob, felony destruction of property, conspiracy to commit destruction of property, felony destruction of property, and conspiracy to commit destruction of property.

Arrested were Martin Connor Cuvillo, 19; Logan Michael Hall, 19; Garrett Nathan Kaplan, 21; Joshua Dixon Markwood, 20; Jacob Matthew McDonough, 22; Nicholas T Ortiz, 20; Trenton Pettigrew, 22; Joel Zair Varone, 21; Scott Alexander Volles, 21; and Trey W Walters, 21.

The following individuals are still wanted with warrants in relation to this case: Dominic Lee Barbour, 21; Corey Johnson, 20; and Reese Noel 19.

Anyone with information as to the whereabouts of the latter three individuals is asked to contact the Radford City Police Department at 540-731-3624.



# UPCOMING EVENTS

## Wednesday, March 17:

**Art Club virtual meeting** - Art Club virtual meeting from 2:00 to 3:00 p.m. at the Christiansburg Library. Create a pop-art inspired animal drawing and learn about artist Andy Warhol. Stop by the library for a curated craft kit and catch a video tutorial on the Christiansburg Facebook Page.

## Thursday, March 18:

**Talking About Books: Nonfiction** - Virtual meeting from 1 a.m. until noon at the Christiansburg Library. To be discussed this month is "Righteous Mind" by Jonathan Haidt.

**Knitting 102** - A virtual meeting from 5:00 to 6:00 p.m. Montgomery Floyd Regional Library/Blacksburg Library. Knitting 102 will pick up with picking up. Learn how to retrieve dropped stitches, increase and decrease your work, and cast off your finished project.

The workshop will take place over a go-to-meeting. Call the Blacksburg Library at 540-552-8246 for more information and a workshop link.

## Friday, March 19:

**Hahn Horticulture Garden Spring Plant Sale** - The 2021 spring

plant sale is a joint fundraising event between the garden and the VT Horticulture Club. It will be a two-week online sale this year due to the limitations on in-person gatherings.

The sale website will go live on Friday, March 19, and will close on Friday, April 2. After check-out, customers will select a pick-up date between April 22-24. The horticulture club's plant list for the annuals and perennials is not available, but a PDF list of trees and shrubs that the garden will be selling is available at <https://hahngarden.vt.edu/documents/HHG-plant-sale-2021-woody.pdf>.

Quantities are limited, so order early for the best selection.

## Monday, March 22 through Tuesday, April 2:

**Noise alert: Steam ventilation** - From March 22 - April 2, if the weather is unseasonably warm resulting in temperatures above normal, the university and surrounding community members may notice elevated noise levels in the proximity of the Virginia Tech power plant due to the steam venting process associated with the commissioning of the plant's new boiler. This notice is provided as a precautionary measure to inform the sur-

rounding community of the possible need to vent steam. There are no immediate plans to vent steam during this period. However, if temperatures are unseasonably warm, steam produced by the new boiler may need to be vented, resulting in elevated noise levels in the proximity of the power plant and in the surrounding area. Possible intermittent noise will be limited to normal work hours (between 8 a.m. and 5 p.m.), Monday through Friday only. All efforts will be made to reduce noise levels as much as possible. The Division of Campus Planning, Infrastructure, and Facilities thanks the university community and local residents in advance for their patience and understanding. Questions related to the steam venting process (and during the process) may be directed to [vtrepair@vt.edu](mailto:vtrepair@vt.edu) or 540-231-4300.

## Ongoing:

**Head Start Enrolling** - New River Community Action is now accepting applications for three- and four-year olds for Head Start for the 2021-22 school year. Head Start offers a no-charge pre-school for income eligible families. Families may apply by calling the local Head Start center, applying online

at [newrivercommunity-action.org](http://newrivercommunity-action.org) or by picking up an application form in person at the local center.

Applications are accepted year-round. The phone numbers for the three local Head Start centers are Christiansburg 540-381-7559, Radford 540-731-4107 and Blacksburg 540-552-0490. Anyone applying in person should bring proof of the child's birth and proof of the family's income such as a 1040, a W-2, pay stubs, child support income, money received from grants, and unemployment income.

## All month of March:

**Grab-and-Go-Crafts** - All the month of March at the Meadowbrook Public Library. Call the library to request take-and-make craft kits available for grab-and-go with curbside pickup. The kits are free but supplies are limited.

Crafts and the dates they will be available are through March 20: Shark magnet clips; March 22-28: Spring and Easter crafts.

**StoryWalk** - All the month of March, at the Christiansburg Library. Exercise your brain and body as you read and walk the trail. Begin at the library at the College Street entrance of

Downtown Park. This month's book is "The Big Red Barn."

**Teen/Adult Craft-Felt Smartphone Cover** - All the month of March, at the Meadowbrook Public Library. Request a teen/adult craft to receive supplies to make your own felt phone cover. While supplies last.

## Through March 31:

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

the collective progress on the 2,021-mile path across the state. With each act reported, participants will be entered into drawings for additional prizes.

**Virginia Tech Parking Survey** - Virginia Tech has released a 2021 Parking Survey. All those who utilize parking and transportation in and around the Virginia Tech Blacksburg campus are invited to participate, including visitors and Blacksburg residents. The survey will close March 31, 2021, at 5 p.m.

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

## Through Saturday, April 24:

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

## NRV Health District: Vaccines available for 16-64 with underlying conditions, new clinics at Blacksburg High and Grace Life Church

CHRISTIANSBURG -- The New River Valley Public Health Task Force is now providing COVID-19 vaccinations to those ages 16 to 64 with certain underlying medical conditions and has announced a new series of clinics across the district.

After operating a vaccine clinic continuously for more

than two months at Blue Ridge Church in Christiansburg, this week's schedule includes clinics at Blacksburg High School on Wednesday and Grace Life Church in Christiansburg on Thursday.

Future vaccination schedules and locations will vary and will be listed each week at [www.NRVRoadtoWellness.com/](http://www.NRVRoadtoWellness.com/)

where-to-get-vaccinated.

Pre-registration and appointments are required. To pre-register, visit [www.NRVRoadtoWellness.com](http://www.NRVRoadtoWellness.com).

The task force is especially seeking to locate anyone age 65 and up who wishes to receive a vaccine but does not yet have

an appointment. Anyone meeting those criteria should call the Vaccine Scheduling Center at 540-838-8222.

"The entire New River Valley, particularly the 60,000 that have been vaccinated thus far - and all those they now protect - owes the people of Blue Ridge Church a huge expression of

gratitude for their commitment to our community's collective well-being," said Noelle Bissell, M.D., director of the New River Health District. "They have been a faithful and generous resource, in service to our efforts to limit the spread of COVID illnesses, hospitalizations and deaths."

## Population shift from rural to urban has Virginia farmers worried their concerns will not be heard

As populations shift from rural to urban areas and political maps are reexamined, agricultural advocates hope farmers and rural Virginians can maintain a cohesive voice.

A diverse group of eight Virginians will join eight legislators in serv-

ing on the state's new redistricting commission. They soon will be tasked with redrawing the state's political maps using new U.S. Census data.

A panel of retired judges chose 64 finalists from 1,200 applicants selected by General As-

sembly leaders. The judges then picked six men and two women of varied race, age, political affiliation and geographical location to fill the eight citizen seats on the 16-member commission.

The commission's eight legislative seats

were chosen by the General Assembly's four political caucuses and also represent the state's geographical makeup.

Del. Les Adams, R-Chatham, was one of the two House Republicans appointed to a seat on the commission. He rep-

resents Henry and Pittsylvania counties, where his father and grandfather farmed. He said the constitutional amendment creating a redistricting commission was widely endorsed.

"People recognized that the time was right to provide political balance to a process that carries such an important responsibility for self-government," Adams said. "I look forward to fulfilling the duties that the people have set before us."

Virginia Farm Bureau Federation board members are anticipating the potential impact the commission's decisions may have on rural communities. Tazewell County cattle producer Emily F. Edmondson represents farmers in Southwest Virginia where less residential density means less representation in the General Assembly.

"We have a relatively cohesive voice out here," Edmondson said, "though it's a small voice."

Tobacco, beef, poultry and hemp producer Robert J. Mills Jr. agreed. He serves Farm Bureau producer members in rural Campbell, Halifax and Pittsylvania counties on the VFBB board, and those farmers have expressed some apprehension about redistricting.

"The size of districts in the Southside and Southwest Virginia are just getting larger, because new districts are being created in Northern or Eastern Virginia," Mills said. "So I do hear concern

that we're losing more ground."

It's important that members of organizations like Farm Bureau and the Virginia Agribusiness Council have conversations with leadership in urban areas, he said.

"For me, as a farmer who loves rural Virginia, it's really hard to digest bills that are sent down from Fairfax and Northern Virginia to regulate me and how I do business on the farm. Perhaps if some rural districts expand, they may pick up pieces of urban areas, resulting in more rural representation in Richmond," Mills said.

Adams said he's in their corner. "The needs of our rural communities are always at the forefront of my service and will certainly be represented on this commission," he said.

Kristie Helmick Proctor, executive director of the Virginia Rural Center, is looking for solutions that will benefit all Virginians. The center's mission is to enhance the prosperity of rural communities and retain those populations.

"We encourage the redistricting commission to consider solutions that will not involve pitting rural interests against urban and suburban interests," Proctor said. "But instead, look at where our interests align and the important role each region plays in the ongoing health and prosperity of our commonwealth as a whole."

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# VTTI Director: Major problems face GM with its decision to sell only zero-emission cars by 2035



PIXABAY

The historic move by General Motors to sell only zero-emission cars by 2035 will help the U.S. auto industry fight climate change, but infrastructure upgrades are needed to support the transition, says expert Hesham Rakha, who is the Director of

the Center for Sustainable Mobility at the Virginia Tech Transportation Institute (VTTI).

“All-in-all this is a very good decision, but further research is needed to study the network-wide impacts of wide-scale battery electric vehicle roll-

out,” says Rakha. “The question remains where and how the electricity that enables zero-emission vehicles comes from. Until we have a zero emissions battery, and all electricity is created using zero emissions, no car manufacturer can sell zero

emission vehicles.

“Having a large fleet of battery electric vehicles will have a significant impact on the electrical grid system, and this is critical to a successful implementation and full rollout of battery electric vehicles,” says Rakha. “Having more charging stations in key transportation locations will also be needed.”

Rakha says that new traffic control strategies will also need to be developed. “Electric vehicles operate optimally at lower speeds and in stop-and-go conditions, which means that they thrive on traffic congestion,” he says. “Consequently, there will be a need to develop traffic control strategies that simultaneously address conflicting energy, efficiency and safety objectives.”

As interest in electric cars increases, Virginia Tech researchers are studying the potential energy

and efficiency benefits of these vehicles. A recent report published by the Transportation Research Board studied the potential benefits of an eco look-ahead control, designed to optimize energy consumption, for battery electric vehicles. They found a significant reduction in energy consumption on downhill roads for the electric vehicles compared with internal combustion engine vehicles.

Another study explored a model for electric vehicles to optimize their travel through traffic intersections (thereby conserving fuel) using Signal Phasing and Timing information from the traffic light, as well as surrounding traffic information received from in-vehicle sensors.

VT’s Center for Sustainable Mobility (CSM) conducts research relevant to society’s transportation mobility, energy, environ-

mental and safety needs. The center translates the results of research into realistic and workable applications, creates and provides tools needed to apply developed knowledge and processes and educates qualified engineers to meet today’s transportation demands and tomorrow’s transportation challenges.

*Hesham Rakha is the director of the Center for Sustainable Mobility at VTTI. His areas of research include traffic flow theory, traveler and driver behavior modeling, dynamic traffic assignment, transportation network control, optimization, use of artificial intelligence and machine learning techniques in transportation, intelligent vehicle systems, connected and autonomous vehicles, transportation energy and environmental modeling, and transportation safety modeling.*

# Estate plan crucial to securing ownership of family farmland

A formal succession plan for family land ownership can secure and sustain prosperity for future generations. This reality has enhanced opportunities for some Virginia farm families, but has hurt others.

A February webinar, organized by the Alliance for the Shenandoah Valley, explored the topics of family land, farming and race. It also addressed Virginia’s recent efforts to slow the loss of family-owned farmland and how to ensure that historically underrepresented groups can continue farming.

Ebonie Alexander, executive director of the Black Family Land Trust, said

the 1920s were the height of African American U.S. land ownership, at about 15 million acres. Between then and early 2000, 90%-97% of those land assets were lost due to systemic discriminatory practices. Alexander said that heirs’ property—informal generational property transfers that occur without wills or estate plans—resulted in fractional ownership.

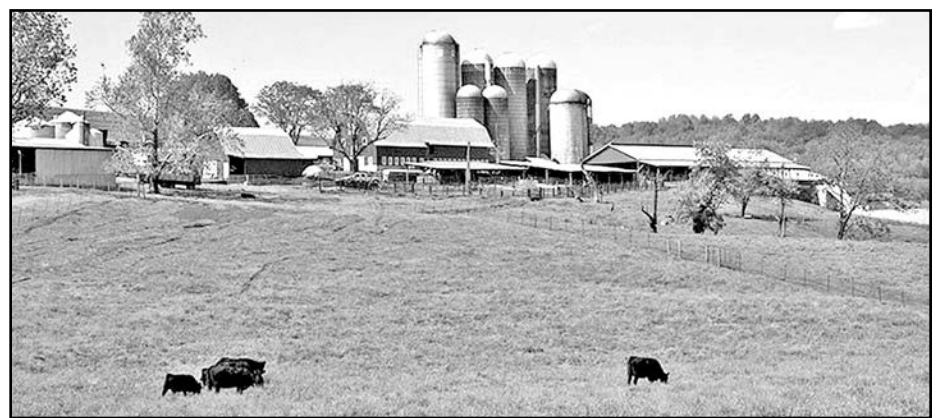
“Heirs’ property is one of the leading causes of land loss in the African American community today,” Alexander explained. She said the loss can be attributed to a lack of access to competent legal services and affordable

resources to build solid wills and estate plans.

“Land should be a performing asset for current and future generations,” she said. “A landless people is a powerless people.”

Alexander said heirs’ property is universally problematic and read from a recent report that said only 72% of college-educated white people and 32% of college-educated Black people have wills. Those percentages drop among people with less education.

P. Dianne Martin, Southern Farm Bureau Life Insurance Co. estate planning specialist, said many landowners mistakenly believe “everything will take care



While estate planning is necessary to secure family land ownership for future generations, Southern Farm Bureau’s estate planning specialist says many landowners mistakenly believe “everything will take care of itself” when they die.

of itself” when they die, or feel uneasy revealing details regarding their estates.

“Planning needs to be done and reviewed when

laws change and when the dynamics of the family change,” said Martin, who helps farmers connect with attorneys offering reason-

able rates. “All parties need to meet face-to-face and discuss the challenges that land ownership brings and make a plan now.”

# Virginia Tech team helping to tackle the untold stories of the Civil War through augmented reality



PHOTO ILLUSTRATION COURTESY OF THOMAS TUCKER

This simulation of a possible augmented reality experience shows Tudor Hall Plantation. The National Endowment of Humanities is funding the planning for the project, which seeks to bring history to life.

The grass-covered knolls and surrounding woods of the Pamplin Historical Park in Petersburg, Virginia, seems like an unassuming landscape. With its well-kept facilities and trails, the property reveals little of its war-torn past. Only small mounds remain from its Civil War-era fortifications and earthworks.

And yet tourists, students on field trips, and history buffs flock to the park, hoping to get a glimpse of its infamous past.

But many do not know that the ground they stand upon holds vital clues. To help reveal a more in-depth picture of the Civil War, the National Endowment for the Humanities is fund-

ing a planning grant for “Experiencing Civil War History through Augmented Reality: Soldiers, Civilians, and the Environment at Pamplin Historical Park.” The grant recipients are from Virginia Tech, Virginia Commonwealth University, and the park, along with its National Museum of the Civil War Soldier.

When Paul Quigley, the project director and principal investigator, gazes at the Breakthrough Battlefield at Pamplin Historical Park, he sees a history filled with earthworks, human relationships, and social change.

“We want audiences to think about the battlefield and the homefront as part of the same history,” he said. “What kinds of people, other than soldiers, were involved in the Civil War? What roles did they play, and what effects did the war have on their lives and social relationships? We will tell stories about households, which Civil War-era historians are studying more and more as a venue of transformative social changes tied up with military events.”

Quigley and two overlapping project teams, one focused on humanities and the other on digital media, will work together to provide new technology to bring innovative humanities scholarship to broader audiences. The teams envision using augmented reality to help people understand history within its

physical context. Pamplin Historical Park offers a battlefield, four museums, and historic Tudor Hall, which served for a brief time as the Confederate headquarters for the troops in the area.

“This is also a way to get people to think about the impact the environment had on the way battles progressed,” said Quigley, who is the James I. Robertson Jr. Associate Professor of Civil War Studies at Virginia Tech and director of the Virginia Center for Civil War

Studies. “The way military commanders used environmental features, ranging from trees, topography, water, and even light, could easily change a battle’s trajectory. The initial stages of the battle took place at night, so the darkness affected the decisions made by military commanders.”

The clash — known as the Breakthrough Battle of Petersburg — took place on April 2, 1865. Quigley said it led to the

See **Augmented**, page 5

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# Riner structure fire destroys three vehicles



PHOTO COURTESY OF RINER FIRE DEPARTMENT

Sunday afternoon, the Riner Fire Department with help from the Christiansburg and Radford fire departments responded to a structure fire at 2720 Dry Valley Road. Three vehicles, including an SUV, were destroyed in the blaze.

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# OPINION

## Perfection? Once upon a time, I was blessed with it

As I am no longer just standing on the doorstep of old age but am kicking the darned door down, I cannot help but all too keenly be aware of the regrets and mistakes I have accumulated across the decades. For the most part, they're like Frank Sinatra's claim in one of the greatest songs of the modern pop and rock era: Paul Anka's "My Way." He's had a few, but then again, they're too few to mention.

I kind of feel the same way. I can rationalize that any life lived with zest and enthusiasm, with risks taken, is bound to include mistakes. It is bound to inflict some pain on others of varying degrees of innocence. The cold-blooded term is "collateral damage."

That rationalization does not erase the regrets from life's iPad, but it does help a little to assuage an otherwise guilty conscience. Perhaps the most profound wisdom granted to us by age is the realization that though everything didn't

turn out the way we might have wished, we did the best we could with what we had to work with at the time.

We do not get the chance to do it over again, and even if we did, we'd probably borch it the second time around. I'm quite positive I would.

Some things, though, about my life, I would not change one iota. Some aspects of my life -- some precious times -- were idyllic. Even perfect.

This is a rather rambling lead-in to a lengthy phone conversation I had with my sister Monday morning. It was not a particularly good weekend around this old codger's household. I spent it in the emergency room and the hospital thanks to some rather intense chest pains. Sports fans, at my age, chest pains are not to be taken lightly.

After some tests and X-rays and the like, the report was good. Whatever those pains are, and nobody's figured them out yet, they're not related to heart troubles. The

old ticker's still ticking right on time.

But the wife and I let the family know what was going on: my son, my sisters, her brother. And so my sister called me Monday to check on me.

And we got to reminiscing. We agreed on one thing for sure. We were blessed with the perfect parents.

A lot of that might have had to do with the time we grew up in. A time before computers and smartphones. A time in which never for a moment did we experience fear. As my sister remarked, we had much more freedom than today's kids do. Living in a small town, we could head out in the morning and not come back until late in the afternoon and never, ever feel frightened, concerned, or worried. We had freedom to be kids.

For another thing, my parents were hot. We had pictures of them in the first years after daddy came home from the war and they were

traveling all over the place to see the likes of Glenn Miller. Man, how my daddy could dance. The women would line up, which would, not surprisingly, annoy the daylights out of my momma, who wanted her personal version of Fred Astaire all to herself.

When my sister and I think and talk about our folks, both of whom have long since left us, we don't get sad or tear up. We inevitably wind up laughing and feeling warm and blessed. I'm talking good times the whole time we grew up.

Mom and dad wrapped a cocoon around my sisters and me. Inside it, they placed laughter and love. Truth is, we did everything together as a family growing up because inside that cocoon was right where we wanted to be. Who in his right mind would want to leave or be anywhere else?

Even after we grew up, we didn't want to leave. For us, the perfect weekend was to get with the folks somewhere. In later years, it was at a lake, boating, swimming and skiing.

I don't get maudlin about my folks. I just remember that I had the good sense to love them and appreciate them while they were still alive. Besides, how can I be maudlin about this incredible woman who was my mother and who finally and reluctantly gave into one of age's infirmities, got a hearing aid, and then regaled us with the account of the first time she flushed the toilet while she was wearing the thing and she had the volume turned up. She thought the darned toilet was jumping off the wall it was so loud.

How can you not just desperately share love and laughter with someone like that?

Thank you, Mom and Dad. If I've turned out to be anything worthwhile at all, it's all because of you.

*The author is a man of a certain age who still -- decades after they have both died -- pauses practically every day to give thanks to God for his parents.*

## Virginia among states least dependent on federal assistance

Federal assistance to states has come into the spotlight recently during the coronavirus pandemic where some states have received far more money per case than others. In order to find out exactly how big the difference

in federal dependence is from state to state, the personal finance website WalletHub compared the 50 states in terms of three key metrics: the dollar amount of federal contracts received, the dollar amount of other

financial assistance received and the gross domestic product per capita.

The survey revealed that with the lowest numbers being states receiving the most federal assistance, Virginia placed 40th in the rankings of the 50 states. That ranking was aided by the state government's standing as 49th among the states in dependency on the feds.

The federal govern-

ment has shelled out around \$750 billion to states during the pandemic crisis and has faced questions about whether the distribution has been truly equitable and efficient.

For example, in the initial \$150 billion given to states from the stimulus package, which was allocated by population, New York got less than \$24,000 per positive case while Alaska received over \$3.3 million.

For years, Americans have looked at federal assistance programs with growing scrutiny, and under the former administration, the number of people dependent on government assistance was decreasing prior to the coronavirus crisis. Regardless of overall trends, though, it is clear that some states receive a far higher return on their federal income-tax contributions than others.

According to WalletHub, the five states most dependent on federal aid are 1) New Mexico 2) Kentucky 3) Mississippi 4) West Virginia and 5) Montana.

In order after Virginia, the states ranked 41 through 50 as being the least dependent on federal assistance are California, Washington, Minnesota, Massachusetts, Illinois, Utah, Iowa, Delaware, New Jersey, and Kansas.

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## Virginia's gas prices continue to rise

Virginia gas prices have risen 8.4 cents per gallon in the past week, averaging \$2.75/g as of Monday, according to GasBuddy's daily survey of 4,081 stations in Virginia.

Gas prices in Virginia are 34.9 cents per gallon higher than a month ago and stand 65.7 cents per gallon higher than a year ago.

According to GasBuddy price reports, the cheapest station in Virginia is priced at \$2.39/g while the most expensive is \$3.29/g, a difference of 90.0 cents per gallon.

The national average price of gasoline has risen 5.9 cents per gallon in the last week, averaging

\$2.86/g. The national average is up 33.2 cents per gallon from a month ago and stands 64.0 cents per gallon higher than a year ago.

Historical gasoline prices in Virginia and the national average going back ten years: March 15, 2020: \$2.10/g (U.S. Average: \$2.22/g); March 15, 2019: \$2.36/g (U.S. Average: \$2.54/g); March 15, 2018: \$2.35/g (U.S. Average: \$2.52/g); March 15, 2017: \$2.09/g (U.S. Average: \$2.28/g); March 15, 2016: \$1.78/g (U.S. Average: \$1.94/g); March 15, 2015: \$2.27/g (U.S. Average: \$2.43/g); March 15, 2014: \$3.28/g (U.S. Average: \$3.52/g); March 15, 2013: \$3.59/g (U.S. Average: \$3.69/g); March 15, 2012: \$3.73/g (U.S. Average: \$3.82/g); March 15, 2011: \$3.48/g (U.S.

Average: \$3.56/g).

Gas prices in Roanoke sit at \$2.69/g., up 10.4 cents per gallon from a week ago.

In Richmond, gas prices are at \$2.75/g., up seven cents per gallon from a week ago.

In West Virginia, gas prices are at \$2.80/g., up 7.6 cents per gallon from a week ago.

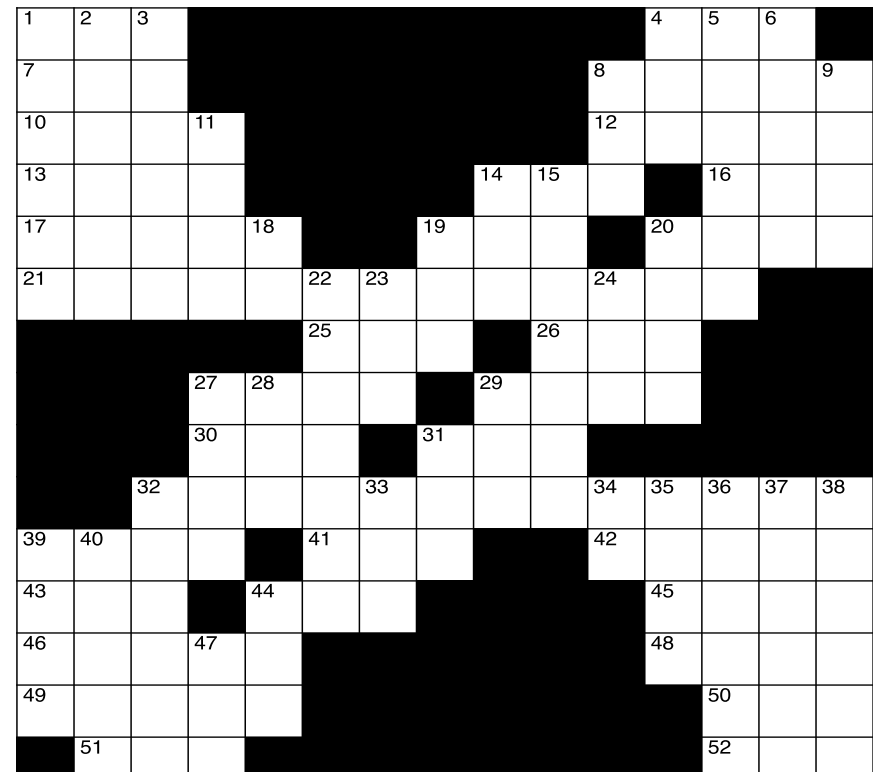
"As Americans turn optimistic on COVID-19 pandemic recovery, we've been seeing an insatiable demand for gasoline, which continues to recover far faster than oil production," said Patrick De Haan, head of petroleum analysis for GasBuddy. "According to GasBuddy data, last week's gasoline demand was just 1% below the pre-pandemic level, an extremely bullish factor likely to continue driving gas and oil prices up in the short

term," according to De Haan.

"The recovery in the last few weeks has been astounding. Both the speed and overall volume increases we've seen in our data lend credibility to the recovery and perhaps will lead to continued price increases due to the continued imbalance between supply and demand," said De Haan.

"It's no longer a question of if we'll see gasoline demand return to near normal this year but when and whether oil producers will rise to the occasion and be able to quickly ramp up output, or whether we will see the highest summer prices since 2014 until they jump into action. Only time will tell, but it's looking like things are heating up far more than expected since the start of the year."

### CROSSWORD PUZZLE



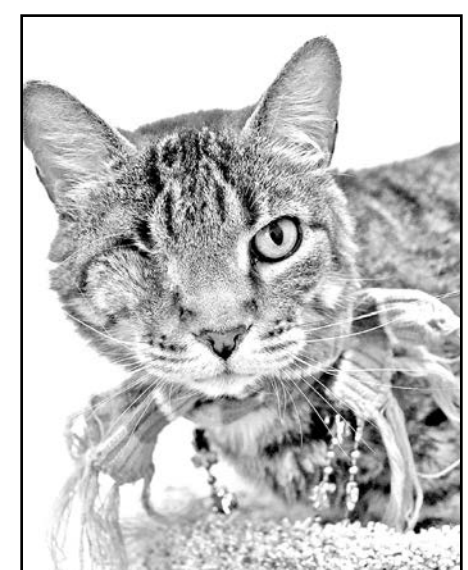
- CLUES ACROSS**
- 1. "Be back later"
  - 4. Hoover's office
  - 7. Brew
  - 8. Philo and Reglis are two ("Star Wars")
  - 10. Actress Remini
  - 12. Moghul emperor
  - 13. Alaskan glacier
  - 14. Constrictor
  - 16. Prohibit
  - 17. Ancient Brittonic tribe
  - 19. Chinese pastry
  - 20. Razorbill is of this genus
  - 21. Beloved holiday decoration
  - 25. Dutch football club
  - 26. Aggressive dog
  - 27. Small piece of glass
  - 29. "South Park" creator
  - 30. Leisure activity
  - 31. Someone's story
  - 32. Record-setting swimmer
  - 39. Hillside
  - 41. Unit of measurement
  - 42. Famous for its potatoes
  - 43. Insect secretion
  - 44. Gate in Marrakesh
  - 45. Cain and
  - 46. A set of moral principles
  - 48. Repair
  - 49. Two-terminal semiconductor device
  - 50. Strongly alkaline solution
- CLUES DOWN**
- 1. Sea
  - 2. Cleans things
  - 3. More skinny
  - 4. Supervises flying
  - 5. Talk rapidly and excitedly
  - 6. Intestinal
  - 8. Don't know when yet
  - 9. Soluble ribonucleic acid
  - 11. Chinese and Vietnamese ethnic group
  - 14. Wild cattle genus
  - 15. Rock formation
  - 18. Makes up
  - 19. Resembles a pouch
  - 20. Having an aerial quality
  - 22. Windpipe
  - 23. Million barrels per day (abbr.)
  - 24. Bitterly regret
  - 27. Soft creamy white cheese
  - 28. Renamed when EU was incorporated
  - 29. ' death do us part
  - 31. Sound unit
  - 32. Men proud of their masculinity
  - 33. Clergy member's vestment
  - 34. Hello
  - 35. Mild yellow Dutch cheese made in balls
  - 36. Marks
  - 37. Derived from benzene
  - 38. Low-melting alloy
  - 39. Lost blood
  - 40. Quantitative relation
  - 44. Academic degree
  - 47. Many subconsciouses

## PETS-OF-THE-WEEK

At this time, visits to the Montgomery County Animal Care and Adoption Center are limited to one party at a time in the lobby area. Animal areas are not open to the public. To schedule an appointment to meet a prospective pet call (540) 382-5795 or email animalcenter@montgomerycountyva.gov.



Due to no fault of her own, Raven has returned to the Animal Care and Adoption Center, and she is ready to find her forever home. She is a sweet gal who enjoys being with her favorite people to get some affection. Raven would do best in a home where she is the only pet. She is house trained.



Moody is hoping some green will provide good luck in finding his new home. Despite his name, he is a go-with-the-flow kind of cool cat and didn't mind dressing up for his portrait. Moody lost one of his eyes early on in life, but that hasn't stopped him from enjoying the joys of life, including nuzzles and head scratches.

# Augmented from page 3

eventual defeat and surrender of Robert E. Lee's Confederate troops a week later. This marked the beginning of the end of the war.

Part of the overall grant plan is to include a fortification exercise. Quigley said the earthworks used in this battle were a precursor to the trench warfare of World War I.

"You can see bumps in the ground, usually just a few feet high," he said, "so not nearly as high as they would have been during the Civil War. Although it's cool to see where they were, it doesn't give you a visual sense

of exactly what they looked like. So one thing we're going to do is allow visitors, through augmented reality, to play with different fortifications and 'add' them to the landscape.

"Then they will receive audio or visual feedback from historians, who will provide more information," Quigley said. "And living historians will portray characters from the era — men and women, Black and white people. We can make it so much more interactive than a simple video."

Quigley said the project is about finding alternative ways

to think about military history. This particular site is perfect because it includes both a battleground and a historic plantation. The team will address a variety of questions. What happened to the household during the war when a large majority of men left to fight? In what position did that leave female members of the household?

"How did the war affect the nature of white people's power over Black people?" Quigley asked. "How did enslaved people leverage the crisis or improve their situation to rebel in some way against slaveholders'

authority? Running away is the obvious one. Even when people didn't run away, though, their work may have slowed down. They knew the traditional power of the slaveholder over the slave was crumbling, and they used that to their advantage."

On the teams is Todd Ogle, the associate director for immersive experiences from the Center for Human-Computer Interaction. Since reading a book on the Battle of the Second Manassas 15 years ago, Ogle has wanted to bring historical documents, photographs, and map information, often found

in libraries and archives, to light on a Civil War battlefield. This project is providing him with the opportunity.

"At the time, smartphones didn't exist, and mobile augmented reality was still in the laboratory research and development phase of its lifecycle," Ogle said. "Even now, sharing such hidden histories has not become widespread even though the technical affordances exist. I'd like to push this out to as wide an audience as possible."

-Written by Leslie King

## OBITUARIES

### Lafon, Janice

### Carolyn Tucker Widrig

Janice Carolyn Tucker Widrig Lafon, 79, of Blacksburg, went to glory on Sunday, March 7, 2021, and is dancing with the angels in Heaven.

Jan was born in Detroit on March 21, 1941, to her parents, Gerald and Laverne Tucker. Her brothers include Jerry Tucker, Ronald Tucker and Ted Tucker. She was

preceded in death by her parents and her brothers, Richard and Tom Tucker.

Jan was 56 years young when her youngest started college. She was the second female paramedic in the state of Virginia. She started running at age 47. She started biking and biked the coast of California at age 60 and started ballroom dancing at the age of 68 and danced for 10 years.

Jan received her nursing degree from Wytheville Community College and had worked caring for and loving each patient over her long nursing career of 39 years. A patient she cared for over 20 years ago said, "I may have only got to meet Jan once, but she sure did leave a great lasting impression on me. I've been in all of our local hospitals and LewisGale multiple times over the last 20 years since my illnesses first started. I've had so many nurses, but there's only a handful that I can remember, and she is one of them."

Jan studied and became a nurse while raising six children. Her nursing career led her to caring for patients at Princeton Community Hospital in Princeton, W.Va., and LewisGale Hospital, Salem. Her compassion for people was one of her best gifts. She cared for her patients and worked full-time right up until she retired at age 78 and never missed a step. She could outwork nurses who were half her age. She also had a great love for politics and had a great knowledge of America's political landscape.

Her children and grandchildren were her life. Sadly, Jan was preceded in death by her son, Dan Widrig, and a grandson, Reagan Widrig. Her children include son Scott Widrig and his wife, Annette; daughter Jerie Anne Whitehead and her husband, Jeff; sons, Jamie Widrig, Chris Widrig and Amanda Musick, and B.J. Lafon and wife, Nicole.

Jan's pride and joy were her grandchildren and great-grandchildren. Her grandchildren are Sarah Vaught and husband Dale, Wes Widrig and wife Kim, Kiva Troise and husband Joe,



Grant Widrig, Joseph Widrig, Cody Whitehead and wife Chelsea, Levi Whitehead and wife Kelsey, Autumn Snider and husband Logan, Journey Widrig, Jordan Widrig and wife Kaitlyn, Savannah Poff and husband Andy, Tristian Widrig, Emma Sullivan, Micaiah Widrig and Paul Osborne, and Penelope, Genevieve and Cleo Lafon. Her great-grandchildren are Olivia Vaught, Mya Gustafson, Landon, Laithan and Selah Lankford, Octavia, Charlie and Daniel Widrig, Julia Whitehead, and Hallie Snider.

Large family gatherings at her home brought a smile to her face like nothing else, and summer beach trips were her specialty. She had hoped to make at least one more trip to the Outer Banks this summer, but God had another plan. She made us promise to carry her ashes to the beach to be near her son, Dan. Describing Nana Jan Lafon is done best by granddaughter, Kiva, who said, "I can't imagine a world without her in it. I don't know what I'm going to do without her," and grandson Cody, who said, "We lost our foundation, our CEO, our chief, our leader, our best friend, our everything. She was the rock we all stood firm on. She loved us harder than humanly possible. She was everything for all of us. I hope she's dancing in Heaven right now." Son B.J. said, "Mom has her angel wings now and is watching over all of us."

In lieu of flowers, the family requests donations be made to: a GoFundMe: "One Last Gift of a Mother's Love for Her Son" <https://gofund.me/d37ac929>. Due to the pandemic and COVID restrictions, a private family service will be held.

Friends may attend a Zoom service at the following link on March 27, 2021, at 1 p.m. After the service, the family will also be live on ZOOM at 5 p.m. to share stories about their hero. Please join at the link below for her service at 1 p.m. or share your story with the family at 5 p.m. <https://us-02web.zoom.us/join/89497154571> Meeting ID: 894 9715 4571 Password: love.

The family would love and request those who are willing to share stories or memories of Jan in the virtual guest book on the funeral home page to do so as well. Arrangements by McCoy Funeral Home, Blacksburg.

### Martin, Jr., Lee Edward

Lee Edward Martin, Jr, 76, passed away on Friday, March 12, 2021. He was predeceased by his parents, Lee and Jean Reynolds Martin.

He is survived by his loving wife, Anna, and his brother and sister-in-law, Danny and Linda Martin. Also left to lovingly remember Lee are his very special friends, Ricky and Sandy Fisher and their daughters, Morgan

and Maggie; six nephews, five nieces, two brothers-in-law and their spouses, one sister-in-law and her spouse, and his father's second wife, Lucy Martin.

A special thanks to all his nurses and Dr. Sowinski.

A private graveside service will be held.

Arrangements by McCoy Funeral Home, Blacksburg.

### Quesenberry, Patricia Lynn

Patricia Lynn "Patty" Quesenberry, 66, of Pulaski, went to her heavenly home on Friday, March 12, 2021.

Patricia was preceded in death by her parents, Betty Joyce Quesenberry "Sissy" and Donald Cecil Quesenberry.

She is survived by her children, Betty Follette, Janie Dean, and Tammy Dean; grandchildren Sarah Farmer, Hannah Bolash, Brandon Dean, Isaiah Drummond, and Angel



Dean; great-grandchildren, Julianna Farmer, Alexis Bolash, Catherine Farmer, and Isabel Dean; a special daughter, Tarya Keith; a special son, Allen Bolash; her sisters and brother; and many other relatives and friends.

Services will be private.

The Quesenberry family is in the care of Mullins Funeral Home & Crematory in Radford. [www.mullinsfuneralhome.com](http://www.mullinsfuneralhome.com).

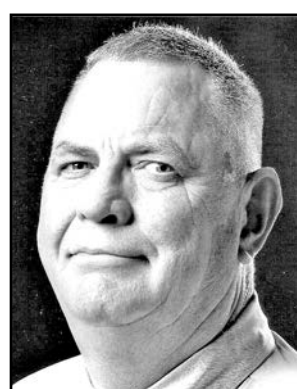
### Saubert, Robert Wayne

Robert Wayne Saubert, 73, of Radford, died peacefully at his home on Thursday, March 11, 2021.

He had multiple degrees, including a bachelor's of business from the University of Kansas, a JD from Drake University, and a master's in accounting from Virginia Tech.

Wayne was a special agent for the Justice Department, a practicing attorney and a retired Emeritus Professor of Accounting.

He was preceded in death by his parents, Robert and Hyldred Saubert; his brothers, Frank and James Saubert; and a sister, Robyn Parsons.



Survivors include his wife of 49 years, Lynn Kay Saubert; a son, Bradley Saubert; a grandson, Zachary; a brother and sister-in-law, Doug and Karen Saubert; a sister and brother-in-law, Jana and Tim Brodnax; and many other family members and friends.

A celebration of his life will be held at a later date.

In lieu of flowers, donations can be made to the Radford Animal Shelter, 110 Pulaski St, Radford, VA 24141. The Saubert family is in the care of Mullins Funeral Home & Crematory. [www.mullinsfuneralhome.com](http://www.mullinsfuneralhome.com).

### Spence, Sharron Smith

Sharron Smith Spence was born and raised in Vienna, Va., to Louise (Reese) and F. Glenn Smith, who have pre-deceased her. She was a beloved sister to Gary Smith, who also pre-deceased her. Sharron took personal care of her parents and her brother in their final days, a wonderful testament to who she was.

She married the late Billy Gene Spence. Together they raised their daughter, Deborah, in Dugspur, Va. They enjoyed many weekends and vacations traveling in their "carry-all" to camping destinations around Virginia and their time with friends (the Longerbeam family) on the Shenandoah River.

Sharron graduated from Washington School for Secretaries and spent her career working as a legal secretary with many prestigious law firms until her re-



retirement from Davis, Davis & Davis.

Sharron is survived by her devoted daughter, Deborah (Thomas) and grandsons Nicholas and Aidan, whom she cherished and loved, and her best four-footed friend, Boots the cat. Deborah took care of her mom during her illness, and her family was with her when she passed.

In keeping with Sharron's final wishes, funeral services will be private with inurnment at The Southwest Virginia Veterans cemetery with her late husband Gene. A celebration of life will be held in the coming weeks.

The Spence family is in the care of Mullins Funeral Home & Crematory in Radford, Virginia. [www.mullinsfuneralhome.com](http://www.mullinsfuneralhome.com).

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

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**AUTOMOBILES FOR SALE**  
 Get rid of the old rattletrap while it still runs

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# Marketplace



THE FINCASTLE HERALD

The Vinton Messenger

THE NEW CASTLE RECORD

SALEM TIMES-REGISTER

News Messenger

RADFORD News Journal

## Yard Sales - Salem

### 2 Day Moving Sale

March 19, 2021 - Office Equipment and Office Furniture, Conference Table, 4 side chairs, executive desk, leather desk chairs (2), secretary chairs, computer equipment, fax machine, waiting room furniture, heavy duty shredder, 2 credenzas, misc. office items;

### March 20, 2021 -

Household items, child's desk with hutch and chair, stereo system w/ 2 speakers, wall pictures, bookcase, oak wooden bench, solid oak antique desk, outdoor lawn equipment, and hand tools, (2) push mowers (Honda, Craftsman), Echo gas hedge trimmer, misc. items, (2) chain saws (Stihl, Craftsman). The first day the sale will be inside (2 people may enter at a time with masks). The second day will be held mostly outside with some larger items that may be viewed inside. 8:30am - 2:30pm, **March 19, 2021 - March 20, 2021** 521 Roanoke Blvd. Salem, VA 24153

## Acreage & Lots

### Land for Sale

2.85 acre Lot  
Approximately 600 Mountain Valley Road  
Buchanan  
360 view  
Tax Map #77(1)1  
Veneer Timber Logs  
10,000 value  
Driveway in, permits ready to build  
\$47,600  
Call 540-793-1942  
Leave a message

## Auctions

### PUBLIC NOTICE

The contents of the listed unit will be sold at Public Auction March 26, 2021 at 11am at 1st Security Self Storage 5 Midway Plaza Dr. Christiansburg, VA. D12  
1st Security reserves the right to refuse any bid. Terms: CASH OR CREDIT CARD AT SALE.

## For Rent - Apartments

### 2, 3, 4 BR Townhouse Style

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



## For Sale - Firewood

### FIREWOOD

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

## For Sale - Misc

### FOR SALE

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

## Help Wanted - General

### Part Time Newspaper Production Help

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

## Help Wanted - General

### INSURANCE OFFICE HIRING

FULL-TIME CSR \$30,000-\$35,000 DEPENDING ON EXPERIENCE

Includes Benefits and Vacation

P&C Insurance License required within 60 days of hire.

Must exhibit great customer service and time management skills.

Contact Tina Lane @ 992-2678

### Job Opening:

The Craig New Castle Public Service Authority has an opening for a full-time position as Operator/Trainee for the Authority. The Position requires the applicant to be able to do a wide variety of tasks which include but are not limited to, meter reading, grass mowing, pipeline construction, lab work, operation of the water and sewer plants, equipment and vehicle operation and maintenance, sewer and water line repairs and maintenance, and all other aspects of running and operating the Craig New Castle Public Service Authority. The Craig New Castle Public Service Authority is offering Operator Trainees an annual salary of \$25,000 which will include full health and dental insurance, life insurance, vacation and sick leave, paid holidays, and a retirement plan. Salaries for applicants who already possess certifications in wastewater and or water operation will be negotiable.

Application will be accepted until position is filled. Resumes can be emailed to psasgans@gmail.com or mailed to P.O. Box 128 New Castle, VA 24127, and application can be picked up in the office.

Craig New Castle Public Service Authority is an equal opportunity employer.

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

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

Great for a High School Student or a 2nd job  
Paid Vacation  
Estimated 26 hours per week.

Great Pay  
If interested, please E-mail  
[Melissa@paintbankgeneralstore.com](mailto:Melissa@paintbankgeneralstore.com) or call (540) 897-5099.

## Legals - Botetourt County

### VIRGINIA: IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE COUNTY OF BOTETOURT

COUNTY OF BOTETOURT, VIRGINIA, a Political Subdivision of the Commonwealth of Virginia, Complainant,

v. POLK BAULDOK, ET AL, Respondent(s).

**Case No. CL20-1238**  
**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. 38-64 Account No. 18946 All that certain lot, piece, or parcel of real property, lying and being situate in Botetourt County, Virginia and being 4.78 acres more or less, known as Tax Map Number 38-64. And being a portion of the real property conveyed to Polk Bauldock from George Bauldock and Hannah Bauldock, his wife, by Deed dated July 27, 1886 and recorded on July 27, 1886 among the records of the Botetourt County Circuit Court Clerk's Office in Deed Book 44 at Page 65. This description is made

## Legals - Botetourt County

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

Tax Map No. 38-65 Account No. 18947 All that certain lot or parcel of land, situate, lying and being in Eagle Rock, Botetourt County, Virginia, containing 12.23 acres more or less, now or formerly owned by George Bauldock, and being known on the Tax Rolls as Tax Map Number 38-65, Account Number 18947. This description is made subject to all easements, conditions, agreements, restrictions, and reservations of record which affect the property herein described.

Tax Map No. 38-66 Account No. 18948 All that certain lot, piece, or parcel of land, lying and being situate in Eagle Rock, Botetourt County, Virginia, located near Lapsley's Run Road containing 5.1 acres more or less, being known on the Tax Rolls as Tax Map Number 38-66, Account Number 18948. And being the same property conveyed to Hannah Bauldock by Deed dated February 14, 1921 and recorded February 25, 1921 among the records of the Botetourt County Circuit Court Clerk's Office in Deed Book N at Page 406. This description is made

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

Tax Map No. 38-67 Account No. 18949 All that certain lot, piece, or parcel of land, lying and being situate in Eagle Rock, Botetourt County, Virginia, located near Lapsley's Run Road containing 0.63 acre more or less, being known on the Tax Rolls as Tax Map Number 38-67, Account Number 18949. And being the same property conveyed to Hannah Bauldock from Jno. B. Wilhelm, et als, by Deed dated July 15, 1911 and recorded September 24, 1913 among the records of the Botetourt County Circuit Court Clerk's Office in Deed Book H at Page 333. This description is made subject to all easements, conditions, agreements, restrictions, and reservations of record which affect the property herein described.

Tax Map No. 38-68 Account No. 18950 All that certain lot, piece, or parcel of land, lying and being situate in Eagle Rock, Botetourt County, Virginia, located near Lapsley's Run Road containing 0.75 acre more or less, being known on the Tax Rolls as Tax Map Number 38-68, Account Number 18950, formerly owned by Hannah Bauldock. This description is made subject to all easements, conditions, agreements, restrictions, and reservations of record which affect the property herein described.

Tax Map No. 27B(1)SEC44A-5A Account No. 18332 All that certain lot, piece, or parcel of land, lying and being situate in Botetourt County, Virginia containing 1.5 acres more or less, being known on the Tax Rolls as Tax Map Number 27B(1)SEC44A-5A and further being designated as Lot Nos. 1 and 2 as shown on a survey made by C. W. Switzer, Sur. Botetourt County, dated August 31, 1916, which survey was recorded on July 31, 1923 in the Circuit Court Clerk's Office of Botetourt County, Virginia in Deed Book P at Page 376.

And being the same property conveyed to Hannah Bauldock by W. W. Cash and Mattie V. Cash, his wife by Deed dated July 30, 1923 and recorded July 31, 1923 in Deed Book P at Page 377 and by Deed dated January 2, 1924 and recorded January 19, 1924 in Deed Book P at Page 601.

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 Instrument Number 100001589. 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

## Legals - Botetourt County

addresses for the Respondents herein are as follows: Polk Bauldock, who is believed to be deceased and whose last known address is c/o Eva Grant, 7610 Reading Road, Suite 30, Cincinnati, Ohio 45237; Josephine Bauldock Penn, who is believed to be deceased and whose last known address is unknown; Gladys Penn, who is believed to be deceased and whose last known address is unknown; Carey W. Penn, who is believed to be deceased and whose last known address is unknown; Myrtle Bauldock, who is believed to be deceased and whose last known address is unknown; Antonio Bauldock, who is believed to be deceased and whose last known address is unknown; Florence Bauldock Moore, who is believed to be deceased and whose last known address is unknown; Linwood L. Moore, who is believed to be deceased and whose last known address is unknown; Linwood L. Moore Jr., who is believed to be deceased and whose last known address is unknown; Katherine Priscilla Moore Fisher, who is believed to be deceased and whose last known address is unknown; Morris Fisher, who is believed to be deceased and whose last known address is unknown; Kevin Fisher, who is believed to be deceased and whose last known address is unknown; Philip Fisher Sr., whose last known address is unknown; Florence Moore Dillard, who is believed to be deceased and whose last known address is unknown; Gary Moore, whose last known address is unknown; William John Moore, who is believed to be deceased and whose last known address is unknown; Norman Moore, who is believed to be deceased and whose last known address is unknown; Margaret Western Moore, who is believed to be deceased and whose last known address is unknown; John Moore, who is believed to be deceased and whose last known address is unknown; Karen Moore Haynes, whose last known address is unknown; James Franklin Moore, who is believed to be deceased and whose last known address is unknown; Margaret Moore, who is believed to be deceased and whose last known address is unknown; William Keith Moore, who is believed to be deceased and whose last known address is unknown; Karen Moore Haynes, whose last known address is unknown; James Franklin Moore, who is believed to be deceased and whose last known address is unknown; Margaret Western Moore, who is believed to be deceased and whose last known address is unknown; John Moore, who is believed to be deceased and whose last known address is unknown; Norman Moore, who is believed to be deceased and whose last known address is unknown; Florence Richards Moore, who is believed to be deceased and whose last known address is unknown; Guy Warner Moore, who is believed to be deceased and whose last known address is unknown; George Amos Moore, who is believed to be deceased and whose last known address is unknown; Margie S. Provo Moore, who is believed to be deceased and whose last known address is unknown; Rickey Provo, who is believed to be deceased and whose last known address is unknown; Sonya Provo, whose last known address is unknown; Timothy Adams Sr., whose last known address is unknown; Darren Adams, who is believed to be deceased and whose last known address is unknown; Iven Hueston Moore, who is believed to be deceased and whose last known address is unknown; George Bauldock, who is believed to be deceased and whose last known address is unknown; Elizabeth Bauldock, who is believed to be deceased and whose last known address is unknown; Elise Bauldock, who is believed to be deceased and whose last known address is unknown; Naomi Bauldock, who is believed to be deceased and whose last known address is unknown; Eva Bauldock Grant, who is believed to be deceased and whose last known address is unknown; Virginia Ann Bauldock Jones aka Jenny Bauldock Jones, who is believed to be deceased and whose last known address is unknown; Franklin Bauldock, who is believed to be deceased and whose last known address is unknown; Dorothy Bauldock, who is believed to be deceased and whose last known address is unknown; Robert Lee Bauldock, who is believed to be deceased

## Legals - Botetourt County

and whose last known address is unknown; Esther Marie Bauldock Glover, who is believed to be deceased and whose last known address is unknown; Hannah Bauldock, who is believed to be deceased and whose last known address is unknown; George Bauldock, who is believed to be deceased and whose last known address is unknown; Samuel Bauldock, who is believed to be deceased and whose last known address is unknown; Myrtle Bauldock, who is believed to be deceased and whose last known address is unknown; Antonio Bauldock, who is believed to be deceased and whose last known address is unknown; James Garfield Bauldock, who is believed to be deceased and whose last known address is unknown; Deston Bauldock, who is believed to be deceased and whose last known address is unknown; Cora Lee Bauldock, who is believed to be deceased and whose last known address is unknown; Polk Bauldock, who is believed to be deceased and whose last known address is unknown; Marcella Bauldock, who is believed to be deceased and whose last known address is unknown; Robert Leftwich Bauldock, who is believed to be deceased and whose last known address is unknown; Nina Crawford Bauldock, who is believed to be deceased and whose last known address is unknown; Amelia Bauldock aka Armelia Bauldock, who is believed to be deceased and whose last known address is unknown; 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 April 16, 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 27<sup>th</sup> day of February, 2021.

Joel R. Branscom  
Judge

### I Ask For This:

Mark K. Ames, Esq. (VSB No. 27409)  
John A. Rife, Esq. (VSB No. 45805)  
Jeffrey A. Scharf, Esq. (VSB No. 30591)  
Andrew M. Neville, Esq. (VSB No. 86372)  
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

## Legals - City of Radford

### LEGAL NOTICE

Tyler Avenue/East Main Street Connector – Phase 1  
City of Radford  
Notice of Public Review

Find out about a project to construct Phase I of a new 2 lane connector road from Tyler Avenue to East Main Street. Phase I shall include reconstruction of the existing skewed Tyler Avenue/Auburn Avenue intersection, construction of approximately 620LF of the Connector Road, and the construction of approximately 900LF of re-aligned Auburn Avenue.

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

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

## Legals - City of Radford

received, notice of date, time and place of the hearing will be posted.

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

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

## Legals - City of Salem

### IN THE COURT OF COMMON PLEAS OF THE 26TH JUDICIAL DISTRICT COLUMBIA COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA

IN RE: ADOPTION OF:

L. H. NO.: 2020 OC 264  
ADOPTION NOTICE

TO: Corina Y. Houk  
973 Paint Bank Road  
Salem, VA 24153

A petition has been filed by Julie and Benjamin Shultz asking the court to put an end to all rights you have to your child. The court has set a hearing to consider ending your rights to your child. That hearing will be held via zoom on March 22, 2021 at 9:00 a.m. The court has not yet produced the zoom link, a copy of the zoom link will be mailed to you once I receive it, or you can contact the Columbia County Courthouse for the link. You are warned that even if you fail to appear at the scheduled hearing, the hearing will go on without you and your rights to your child may be ended by the court without your being present. You have a right to be represented at the hearing by a lawyer. If you wish to defend, you must enter a written appearance personally or by attorney and file your defenses or objections in writing with the court. You are warned that if you fail to do so the case may proceed without you and a judgment may be entered against you without further notice for the relief requested by the plaintiff. You may lose money or property or other rights important to you. YOU SHOULD TAKE THIS PAPER TO YOUR LAWYER AT ONCE. IF YOU DO NOT HAVE A LAWYER, GO TO OR TELEPHONE THE OFFICE SET FORTH BELOW. THIS OFFICE CAN PROVIDE YOU WITH INFORMATION ABOUT HIRING A LAWYER. IF YOU CANNOT AFFORD TO HIRE A LAWYER, THIS OFFICE MAY BE ABLE TO PROVIDE YOU WITH INFORMATION ABOUT AGENCIES THAT MAY OFFER LEGAL SERVICES AT A REDUCED FEE OR NO FEE.

North Penn Legal Services  
168 East Fifth Street  
Bloomsburg, PA 17815  
(570) 784-8760  
Pennsylvania Lawyer Referral Service  
Pennsylvania Bar Association  
P. O. Box 186  
Harrisburg, PA 17108  
(717) 692-7375

**AMERICANS WITH DISABILITIES ACT OF 1990**  
The Court of Common Pleas of Columbia County is required by law to comply with the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990. For information about accessible facilities and reasonable accommodations available to disabled individuals having business before the Court, please contact our office. All arrangements must be made at least 72 hours prior to any hearing or business before the Court. You must attend the scheduled conference or hearing.

**LAW OFFICES HUMMEL, LEWIS & SMITH, LLP**  
Rebeka M. Buczeskie, Esquire  
Attorney for Petitioners

## Legals - Montgomery County

### ORDER OF PUBLICATION

Commonwealth of Virginia Va. Code Ann. §§ 8.01-316-.317

**Case No. CL21000021-00**  
Pulaski County Circuit Court  
Hope Marie Moles LONG v

Robert William LONG, Jr.

The object of this suit is to obtain a divorce from the bond of matrimony from the Defendant on the grounds of living separate and apart for a period exceeding one year. It appearing by affidavit that the Defendant's last known address of residence was 1670 Spruce Drive, Christiansburg, Virginia 24073; that the Defendant's present whereabouts are unknown; and that diligence has been used by or on behalf of the Plaintiff to ascertain Defendant's whereabouts without effect; that the Plaintiff previously sought service of process on the Defendant at his last known address stated above; and the Sheriff of Montgomery County, Virginia has filed a return of service stating that the process has been in his hands for 21 days and that he has been unable to make service of process; it is ORDERED that the Defendant appear before this Court on or before April 15, 2021 at 9:00 a.m. and protect his interest herein.

It is ORDERED that Robert William Long Jr. appear at the above-named court and protect his interests on or before April 15, 2021 at 9:00 a.m.

2-16-2021  
Trish L. Albert  
Deputy Clerk

### ORDER OF PUBLICATION

COMMONWEALTH OF VIRGINIA

VA. CODE §§ 1-211.1; 8.01-316, -317, 20-104

**Case No. CL21000326-00**  
MONTGOMERY CIRCUIT COURT

55 EAST MAIN STREET, CHRISTIANSBURG, VA 24073

CHARLES PHLEGAR  
KAREN PHLEGAR v.

JAMES FULTON HOGE, DECEASED

UNKNOWN OF HEIRS OF JAMES FULTON HOGE

The object of this suit is to REMOVE THE REMAINS FROM ABANDONED FAMILY GRAVEYARD It is ORDERED that THE UNKNOWN HEIRS OF JAMES FULTON HOGE, DECEASED appear at the above-name court and protect his/her interests on or before APRIL 26, 2021.

FEBRUARY 24, 2021  
Deputy Adams  
Bridget Clerk

### Public Auction

To enforce our owner's lien(s) by Craft Self Storage, 540-260-9563, 100 Roger St. Christiansburg VA, per 55-416 Code of Virginia, Virginia Self Storage Act; the following units will be sold by absolute auction unless payment in full is made to Craft Self Storage prior to auction start.

Units H-23 and G-24. Auction date March 20 2021 at 10:00 A.M. Only registered bidders will be allowed into facility. Register at main office beginning at 9:30 am. No Parking in Bank or B&K lots allowed. Call for make-up date in case of bad weather.

## Legals - Town of Vinton

### NOTICE:

COUNTY OF ROANOKE, VIRGINIA v. BARBARA WILCHER MOORE, ET AL

Roanoke County Circuit Court Hearing on 4/8/2021 at 10:00 AM regarding proceeds from sale of property. Any legal heirs with an interest in Ms. Moore's estate must appear at this hearing to protect their interests.

**A GREAT DEAL IN THE CLASSIFIEDS!**  
*To place your ad, call 389-9355*

**ADVERTISE!**



Legals - Town of Vinton

LEGAL NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN: Pursuant to the provisions of Section 15.2-2204 of the 1950 Code of Virginia, as amended, the Board of Zoning Appeals of the Town of Vinton, Virginia, hereby gives notice of a public hearing to be held on Tuesday, March 30, 2021, at 7:00 p.m. The Board of Zoning Appeals will also hold a work session at 6:15 p.m. prior to the public hearing. The purpose of the public hearing is to receive comments concerning: 1. A request by the Town of Vinton, for a variance of specific requirements set forth in the FO-Floodplain Overlay District of the Vinton Zoning Ordinance. The purpose of this request is to allow for the redevelopment of the historic Gish Mill properties, located at 305 and 0 Gus Nicks Boulevard, Vinton, Virginia, Tax Map Numbers 060.11-04-22.00-0000 and 060.11-04-23.00-0000. The variance, if granted, will include all necessary redevelopment activities for the conduct of a functionally dependent use provided that: a. The criteria of Article IV, Division 13, Sec. 4-73 of the zoning ordinance are met, and b. The structure or other development is protected by methods that minimize flood damage during the base flood and create no additional threats to public safety. Further information concerning the public hearing, may be obtained from the Planning and Zoning Department located at 311 South Pollard Street, Vinton, Virginia 24179, by phone-540-983-0605. Interested persons may be heard at the above public hearing. In light of the ongoing COVID-19 emergency, participation in this public hearing by BZA members, staff, and the public will be available through electronic or other alternative means. The public may comment on this request by emailing nmclung@vintonva.gov, by calling 540-983-0605 or writing to the Principal Planner, Town of Vinton, 311 S. Pollard Street, Vinton, Virginia 24179. Voicemails, emails and other messages containing comments on the request will be provided to the BZA members. The public also may be able to comment during the electronic work session. Citizens interested in this option must register in advance by calling the Town Clerk's Office at 540-983-0607 or sending an email to sjohnson@vintonva.gov by

Legals - Town of Vinton

12 Noon on Monday, March 29, 2021. The public can observe this meeting through a livestream on the Town's Facebook page at www.facebook.com/vintonva a. Additional information concerning the meeting and the public hearing will be made available on the Town's website at least three days before each meeting date. Comments and grievances can be submitted in writing to the Town Manager's Office, Town of Vinton, Virginia at 311 South Pollard Street, Vinton, VA 24179 or by phone at (540) 983-0607, or Virginia Relay Service 711 until March 30, 2021 at 5pm. Persons requiring special assistance to attend and participate in this public meeting should contact the Town Manager's Office at (540) 983-0607.

Nathaniel S. McClung, Principal Planner

PUBLIC NOTICE

The Planning Commission of Town of Vinton, Virginia, hereby gives notice of a work session on Thursday, March 25, 2021, at 6:30 p.m. The purpose of the work session is to receive comments and discuss the request to rezone the historic Gish Mill properties, located at 305 and 0 Gus Nicks Boulevard, Vinton, Virginia, Tax Map Numbers 060.11-04-22.00-0000 and 060.11-04-23.00-0000, from M-1 Limited Industrial to Mixed Use Development (MUD) District, and to review the proposed Capital Improvement Plan (CIP) of the Town of Vinton. Further information concerning the work session, may be obtained from the Planning and Zoning Department located at 311 South Pollard Street, Vinton, Virginia 24179, by phone: 540-983-0605. Interested persons may be heard at the above work session. In light of the ongoing COVID-19 emergency, participation in this work session by Planning Commission members, staff, and the public will be available through electronic or other alternative means. The public may comment on this request by emailing nmclung@vintonva.gov, by calling 540-983-0605 or writing to the Principal Planner, Town of Vinton, 311 S. Pollard Street, Vinton, Virginia 24179. Voicemails, emails and other messages containing comments on the request will be provided to both the Commission and Council members. The public also may be able to comment during the electronic work session. Citizens interested in this option must register in advance by calling the

Legals - Town of Vinton

Town Clerk's Office at 540-983-0607 or sending an email to sjohnson@vintonva.gov by 12 Noon on Wednesday, March 24, 2021. The public can observe this meeting through a livestream on the Town's Facebook page at www.facebook.com/vintonva a. Additional information concerning the work session will be made available on the Town's website at least three days before the meeting date. Comments and grievances can be submitted in writing to the Town Manager's Office, Town of Vinton, Virginia at 311 South Pollard Street, Vinton, VA 24179 or by phone at (540) 983-0607, or Virginia Relay Service 711 until March 25, 2021 at 5pm. Persons requiring special assistance to attend and participate in this public meeting should contact the Town Manager's Office at (540) 983-0607.

NOTICE OF INTENT TO COMPLY WITH DISABILITIES ACT

Reasonable efforts will be made to provide assistance or special arrangements to qualified individuals with disabilities in order to participate in or attend the meetings. Please call (540) 983-0605 at least 48 hours prior to the meeting so that proper arrangements may be made.

LEGAL NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN:

Pursuant to the provisions of Section 15.2-2204 of the 1950 Code of Virginia, as amended, the Town of Vinton, Virginia, hereby gives notice of a joint public hearing to be held by the Planning Commission and the Town Council on Tuesday, April 6, 2021, at 7:00 p.m. The purpose of the public hearing is to receive comments concerning: 1. Petition of the Town of Vinton, to rezone the historic Gish Mill properties, from M-1 Limited Industrial to Mixed Use Development (MUD) District, in order to redevelop them into mixed-use properties that will accommodate restaurant, retail, residential, and lodging uses. The properties are located at 305 and 0 Gus Nicks Boulevard, Vinton, Virginia, Tax Map Numbers 060.11-04-22.00-0000 and 060.11-04-23.00-0000. Further information concerning the public hearing, may be obtained from the Planning and Zoning Department located at 311 South Pollard Street, Vinton, Virginia 24179, by phone: 540-983-0605. Interested persons may be heard at the above public

Legals - Town of Vinton

hearing. In light of the ongoing COVID-19 emergency, participation in this public hearing by Planning Commission members, Council members, staff, and the public will be available through electronic or other alternative means. The public may comment on this request by emailing nmclung@vintonva.gov, by calling 540-983-0605 or writing to the Principal Planner, Town of Vinton, 311 S. Pollard Street, Vinton, Virginia 24179. Voicemails, emails and other messages containing comments on the request will be provided to both the Commission and Council members. The public also may be able to comment during the electronic public hearing. Citizens interested in this option must register in advance by calling the Town Clerk's Office at 540-983-0607 or sending an email to sjohnson@vintonva.gov by 12 Noon on Monday, April 5, 2021. The public can observe this meeting through a livestream on the Town's Facebook page at www.facebook.com/vintonva a. Additional information

Legals - Town of Vinton

concerning the public hearing will be made available on the Town's website at least three days before the meeting date. Comments and grievances can be submitted in writing to the Town Manager's Office, Town of Vinton, Virginia at 311 South Pollard Street, Vinton, VA 24179 or by phone at (540) 983-0607, or Virginia Relay Service 711 until April 6, 2021 at 5pm. Persons requiring special assistance to attend and participate in this public meeting should contact the Town Manager's Office at (540) 983-0607.

Anita J. McMillan, Planning and Zoning Director

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Historical events throughout the month of March

- March may be most synonymous with the start of spring and St. Patrick's Day, but there's much more to the third month of the calendar year. The following are notable events that occurred between March 1 and March 31 throughout history.
• March 1: The Articles of Confederation are established in 1791. Nine years later, Congress would authorize the first United States Census on this date.
• March 2: Fans are treated to a sci-fi masterpiece when images of a giant gorilla first appear in the film "King Kong," which premiered in New York in 1933.
• March 3: Telephone inventor Alexander Graham Bell is born in Edinburgh, Scotland. In March of 1876, he electronically transmitted sounds.
• March 4: In 1681, King Charles II of England grants a large parcel of land in the New World to William Penn to settle an outstanding debt. That area would later become Pennsylvania.
• March 5: The Boston Massacre occurs in 1770.
• March 6: Fort Alamo falls to Mexican troops led by General Santa Anna in 1836.
• March 7: The Beatles release the album "Past Masters, Volumes 1 & 2" in 1988.
• March 8: The New York Stock Exchange is founded in 1817.
• March 9: In 1864, Ulysses S. Grant is commissioned as a lieutenant general and becomes commander of the Union armies.
• March 10: Daniel Boone begins his expedition of Kentucky in 1775.
• March 11: The Lend-Lease program begins in 1941, enabling Britain to receive American supplies.
• March 12: The island of Bermuda is colonized by the British in 1609.
• March 13: Sir William Herschel discovers Uranus in 1781.
• March 14: Albert Einstein is born in Germany in 1879.
• March 15: Julius Caesar is assassinated,

The month of March

- fulfilling the prediction of "Beware the Ides of March."
• March 16: Nathaniel Hawthorne's "The Scarlett Letter" is published in 1850.
• March 17: Golda Meir becomes the prime minister of Israel in 1969.
• March 18: In 1974, the five-month Arab oil embargo against the United States is lifted.
• March 19: In 1965, teenage diver E. Lee Spence discovers the wreck of the Confederate cruiser the S.S. Georgiana, which is valued at more than \$50 million.
• March 20: In 1852, "Uncle Tom's Cabin" is first published.
• March 21: Johann Sebastian Bach is born in Germany in 1685.
• March 22: In 1765 the Stamp Act was approved.
• March 23: Patrick Henry utters "Give me liberty, or give me death" in 1775.
• March 24: In 1988, the Exxon Valdez spills 11 million gallons of oil.
• March 25: RCA first produces color TVs in 1954.
• March 26: Playwright Tennessee Williams is born in 1911.
• March 27: Juan Ponce de Leon sees Florida in 1513.
• March 28: In 1979, a nuclear power plant on Three Mile Island overheats.
• March 29: Future U.S. president John Tyler is born in 1790.
• March 30: Vincent Van Gogh is born in Holland in 1853.
• March 31: "Oklahoma!" opens on Broadway in 1943.

Professions that may be thriving in 2030

New Year's resolutions can serve as valuable motivational tools as people look to make positive changes in their lives. Health-related goals like quitting smoking and losing weight annually appear at or near the top of lists documenting the most popular resolutions. But many people also see New Year's resolutions as a great vehicle to kick-start positive changes in their professional lives. According to Statista, finding a new job was the eighth most popular New Year's resolution in 2019. And finding a new job figures to be an even more common resolution for 2021, as the global COVID-19 pandemic of 2020 has sparked a recession that saw millions of people across the globe lose their jobs. Professionals who want to switch careers in the near future may want to consider professions that are expected to experience significant growth in the years ahead. According to the Bureau of Labor

Did you know? The official beginning of spring is a highly anticipated day among people who can't wait to put away their winter coats and soak up some warm sunlight. But the day of the spring equinox is just as worthy of celebration for its uniqueness as it is for its symbolic connection with the end of winter. According to the Old Farmer's Almanac, on the spring equinox, which is sometimes referred to as the "vernal equinox" or the "March equinox," the sun crosses the celestial equator going south to north. Equinoxes (there's another one in September each year) are the only two times a year that the sun rises due east and sets due west for everyone on Earth. As the sun passes overhead on the equinox, the tilt of Earth is zero relative to the sun. That means that the planet's axis neither points toward or away from the sun. Though it's understandable why so many people appreciate the spring equinox, which ushers in increasing sunlight hours and later sunsets, the day's uniqueness makes it even more worthy of celebration. This year the spring equinox happens on Saturday, March 20 at 5:37 a.m. EDT in the northern hemisphere.

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# MONTGOMERY SPORTS

## Game previews: Teams honor injured teammates

**Marty Gordon**  
NRVsports@ourvalley.org

In the wake of new injuries, Blacksburg's Parker Epperley and Christiansburg's Caleb Henley have been honored by their teammates with helmet stickers with their numbers.

Both players lost their spring seasons thanks to torn ACLs. They both have had surgeries, and the two have supported each other as they struggled with the injury and not being able to play.

They have been injured again. A senior, Henley missed all of basketball season because of rehab from a previous tear. He suffered a second one in preseason football practice.

A junior, Epperley played in Blacksburg's first game of

the season, but after a tackle by an opponent, he was diagnosed with another ACL tear. He is only a junior and could be back on the field by mid-August if his new round of rehab goes as planned.

Turf seems to be the way to go. Christiansburg will have played all of its six scheduled spring games this season on artificial grass. Those sites included their own, Blacksburg, Hidden Valley and Patrick Henry.

**Previews:**  
Hidden Valley (0-3) at Blacksburg (0-3)

Last week: Hidden Valley could not find the end zone in a loss to Christiansburg. The Blue Demons held the Titans under 100 yards of total offense in the contest.

Blacksburg has also struggled to find the end zone

and fell 56-0 to unbeaten Pulaski.

Prediction: Blacksburg 30, Hidden Valley 28

Eastern Montgomery (2-2) at Bland (0-3)

Last week: Bland took it on the chin 57-8 thanks to Ft. Chiswell.

Eastern Montgomery ran into a Pioneer District buzz-saw in Narrows (43-0).

Prediction: Eastern Montgomery 24, Bland 18.

Glenvar (1-2) at Radford (2-0)

Last week: Radford remained unbeaten with a 40-0 win over Alleghany as the Bobcats rushed for 225 yards. Quarterback Zane Rupe rushed for 74 yards on eight attempts. The defense held Alleghany to 89 total yards. PJ Prioleau leads the team after two games with



The No.-12 sticker on Blacksburg High's football helmets pays tribute to junior Parker Epperley, injured in the first game of the season.

118 yards rushing and three touchdowns. Rupe is 14-of-32 passing for 186 yards with three touchdowns.

Glenvar shut out Floyd 34-0.

Prediction: Radford 37, Glenvar 28

Christiansburg (1-2) at

Patrick Henry (3-1)

Last week: Christiansburg picked up its first win of the season, a 26-0 win over Hidden Valley.

Patrick Henry claimed a 32-18 defeat of Cave Spring.

Prediction: Christiansburg 36, Patrick Henry 28

Auburn (1-2) at George Wythe (1-1)

Last week: George Wythe fell 7-0 to Galax.

Auburn hit the road and came home with a 41-13 loss to Grayson County.

Prediction: Auburn 21, George Wythe 20.

## Narrows downs Eastern Montgomery



Eastern Montgomery defensive lineman Wyatt Stallard tackles Narrows running back Jacob Robertson during a home game Friday night. The Mustangs' offense struggled against the Green Wave, falling 43-0.



Eastern Montgomery's Anthony Travota attempts to escape a tackle by Narrows' Logan Green during a kickoff return against the Green Wave.



Eastern Montgomery's Adam Bahnken fires a pass along the sideline during the second quarter against Narrows.

## Hokies head to Big Dance with tenth seed in NCAA Tournament

The Virginia Tech men's basketball team nabbed a no.-10 seed in the 2021 NCAA Tournament. They will kick off the tournament in the South Region with the first game of the day Friday against seventh-seeded Florida at 12:15 on CBS.

The Hokies went 15-6 for the 2020-21 season, 9-4 in the ACC, which landed them a No.-3 seed in the league championship tournament.

Asked about his reaction to seeing Virginia Tech's name on the bracket, head coach Mike Young said. "To me, it's never been about the reaction to the seed, but rather enjoying the reaction of our kids when they see Virginia Tech pop up on the screen. This has been one of the most enjoyable groups I've had in my 30-plus years as a coach. These guys have always been about the team, and they have improved over the long haul of the season. They have weathered every storm thrown at them, and I expect them to continue to do the same when we get to Indianapolis.

"I couldn't be more thrilled about the opportunity to be a part of this year's NCAA Tournament," Young said. "There are so many people outside of this team that have made sacrifices to make this possible. From our leadership here at Virginia Tech, the ACC, the medical staff and so many others that made playing these games possible. We are very thankful."

Asked if he had watched Florida at all this year and what his first impressions of the Gators was, the head

Hokie said, "I have not seen Florida play much this year, other than peeking at a few games here and there. Their program was obviously in our thoughts earlier this year with Keyontae [Johnson], and I have a tremendous amount of respect for their program and the job Coach [Mike] White has done."

Graduate transfer forward Cordell Pemsal was asked what went through his head when he saw Tech's name pop up on Selection Sunday. He said, "This was my first time being able to participate in the [NCAA] Tournament, so I'm just happy and blessed. This is an opportunity for us in March to come out and make some noise. Everyone knows at this point that anything can happen. If we play hard and leave it all on the table, we will be able to go down and get some wins."

About Florida, Pemsal said, "I haven't gotten to watch Florida much this year. Honestly, I've been focusing more on us, and I've watched my boys back in Iowa. I haven't gotten the chance to watch Florida. I know Tre Mann is solid, that's their guy. We will obviously start watching film and start preparing for them this week and get ready for Friday."

Freshman forward David N'Guessan called it "pretty exciting" to see Tech's name in the tournament brackets. "It's my first time playing in March Madness after watching it on TV over the years. So I'm pretty pumped to be in it this year with the chance to compete with the best in college basketball."



## Anticipation building for start of Hokie spring football

After being hired as Virginia Tech's cornerbacks coach in January 2020, Ryan Smith was eager to get on the field with new defensive coordinator Justin Hamilton and the rest of a revamped defensive staff. Unfortunately, that opportunity never came due to COVID-19, quarantines and the subsequent changes in daily life as we knew it.

Fast forward to March 2021.

While COVID-19 is still a reality and vaccines are steadily being administered across the country, Smith and his fellow coaches are cautiously optimistic about the start of spring football, currently penciled in to begin on Saturday, March 20. Smith in particular is looking forward to his first spring on the field with his players.

According to Smith in a pre-spring interview, perhaps no

Tech player is more eager to get back on the field than cornerback Jermaine Waller. Dubbed "a warrior" by both head coach Justin Fuente and Smith, Waller played sparingly in 2020 as he fought through a variety of injuries. Fuente has indicated that the veteran corner is a "full go" for spring and has been furiously working out to get ready.

"He might be the definition

of self-motivated," Smith said of Waller. "He's going to show up every day and approach it like a professional. He's going to get the job done and go above and beyond what he has to do.

"He's developing as a leader," Smith said of his cornerback. "I think you're going to see a guy that's hungry and ready to attack the 2021 season. He's been crushing it."

Smith also addressed recruiting the state.

"We've been locked in as a program," he said. "Since day one when I got here, I knew that it was a major emphasis from Coach Fuente on down. I'm excited to work with J.C. (Price) with his knowledge of the state, his relationships up and down I-95, east on 64 to the 757, and

See **Anticipation**, page 10



# Hokies wrap up historic weekend at NCAA Indoor Championships

FAYETTEVILLE, ARK. -- Following a record-breaking Friday with top national performances, the Hokies track and field squads Saturday solidified the 2021 NCAA Indoor Championships as a meet that will go down in the Virginia Tech history books. With six All-American honors, including a third-place, school record 400m by Jacory Patterson, the Hokies earned their way to an all-time indoor championship weekend.

Patterson opened Saturday's action for the Hokies with a monstrous time of 45.14 in the 400m finals. With a 21.05 200m split, Patterson set the stage for a historic run. In a complete performance, the junior crossed the line with a new school record, a third-place finish in one of the toughest events at the meet, the third fastest time in the world this year, and the 20th fastest time in world history.

In the 800m finals, Lindsey Butler earned five huge points for the Hokies as well as first-team All-America honors by placing fourth, finishing with a time of 2:02.15.

Across the rest of Saturday's events, four more Hokies delivered top national performances.

Bashir Mosavel-Lo posted a strong 1:51.83 in the 800m, good for eighth place in the nation. Three Hokies went to work in a stacked 3,000m field, as Antonio Lopez Segura, Ben Nibbelink, and Ben Fleming posted All-American level times. Lopez Segura earned ninth place with a personal record 7:55.87, followed by Nibbelink and Fleming in 14th and 16th as all three earned second-team All-American honors.

The loaded meet saw the most events the Hokies have ever competed in at the indoor national championships, and team scores reflected that statistic. On the women's side, the Hokies tallied 15 points, the highest total since 2010, and the second-highest team finish in Hokies' women's history at 14th.

The Virginia Tech men's squad earned 11 points and placed 16th while also crowning nine All-Americans. Across both squads, the Hokies earned nine first-team All-Americans and four second-team All-Americans and set four school records across the championship meet.

"This was an outstanding na-

tional meet for both the women and men with great efforts across the entire team," Director of Track and Field Dave Cianelli said. "For the women to place 14th and the men 16th in the nation is a memorable performance. Both the men and the women have the chance to be even stronger at the outdoor national meet in June. We have a young team with almost every athlete returning in 2022. Our future is very bright."

The Hokies look to begin the outdoor season on March 26.

On the first day of the 2021 NCAA Indoor Track and Field Championships, the Hokies put on a show. Members of the Virginia Tech track and field team earned three first team All-American honors and set three new school records.

In the first event of the day, Essence Henderson defied all the odds she has faced throughout this season by smashing her own school record with a 56' 11.5" (17.36m) shot put. Henderson has struggled through injury all of 2021, but her massive throw showed her resilience and incredible ability as she placed fourth in the event and broke her

school record by over a foot.

"Essence was just incredible today; her focus all day was on another level," said Associate Head Coach Andrew Dubs. "Coming into this meet ranked 10th, finishing fourth in the way she did with a huge new lifetime best and scoring big for the team. What really is there to say?"

"Essence Henderson is the definition of resilience. What she has been through the last three months. What she has battled through. Her ability to come out of that, the way she has handled everything, how do you put that into words? How a person handles themselves in the face of adversity is the true definition of one's character. Today, that was defined in her ability to show up against all odds. It was an inspiring performance to start off the meet for our team."

Ben Nibbelink featured next in the mile prelims and delivered a performance for the ages. Setting a new Virginia Tech school record with a time of 3:58.24, Nibbelink ran the seventh fastest time in the prelims. His record-setting time was better than each time in the second heat, but he just narrowly

missed out on advancing to the finals due to automatic qualification of the top four spots in each heat.

In a traditionally strong event for the Hokies, this year's men's distance medley relay topped all others in Tech history. The squad of Ethan Mills, Patrick Forrest, Thierry Siewe Yanga, and Ben Fleming ran a time of 9:27.67, over 2.5 seconds faster than the Hokies' previous school record. Each member of the relay team ran incredible splits on each of the legs and placed fifth in the NCAA to earn first-team All-American honors.

"Really proud of all the efforts today," Distance Head Coach Eric Johannigmeier said. "Two school records, fifth place DMR, and a men's and women's finalist in the 800m is a good start to the meet for the distance group!"

Rachel Baxter continued her storied vaulting career at Virginia Tech with a feat few others have achieved. Placing fourth in the event with a vault of 14' 3.5" (4.36m), Baxter claimed first-team All-American honors for the second time in her career. This marked the fourth consecutive season Baxter has received an indoor All-American honor.

## Anticipation

from page 9

in Richmond. He's a rock star. He's got a lot of relationships with a lot of coaches.

"Being able to tag team

with him, with the emphasis we're putting on the state of Virginia, we want to keep Virginia boys home," Smith said. "We're also evaluating

guys who are a good fit for Virginia Tech. We're trying to build this thing with good players who have high character."

Another Tech assistant coach eager for his first spring as a position coach is Adam Lechtenberg, who was promoted to running backs coach in December 2019. Although he's been at Tech since 2017, the 2020 season marked his first campaign in charge of his own position group. Thanks in large part to running back Khalil Herbert and Tech's offensive front, the Hokies led the ACC in rushing by averaging 240.1 yards per game, the program's best mark since 2000.

Despite the loss of Herbert to the NFL, Lechtenberg is enthusiastic about a talented and deep running back corps on the field this spring. Returnees like Jalen Holston, Raheem Blackshear and Keshawn King have all shown glimpses of

their potential. Numerous young players are also competing for reps this spring.

"The biggest thing I want to have in my room is a competitive group," Lechtenberg said. "They need to compete for everything, and right now we do have a lot of guys. This spring we'll have to see who earns their roles and opportunities."

Lechtenberg has served in several different capacities since his arrival at Tech. In 2021, he is adding offensive recruiting coordinator to his duties. The Nebraska native was asked about how some of his off-the-field roles have helped him become a better coach.

"One of the things that does is give you a little more of a global perspective," Lechtenberg said. "Being involved in a number of different areas of an offense or a program has provided that for me. When I see a picture, I try to see the big picture. It's not just about

my guys and how they fit, it's about everybody and how they can help make the team better."

In an interview session, wide receiver Tayvion Robinson was asked about Tech's punt return duties, a role he flourished in as a freshman, but still made a couple of miscues fielding the ball last season.

"Mistakes happen and when it happened, I talked to my coaches, I watched film and I learned from it," Robinson said. "All I can do from it is learn. I'm looking forward to the spring and getting as many reps as possible and getting that back under my belt."

Defensive tackle Norell Pollard is eager to work with former Tech standout turned co-defensive line coach J.C. Price this spring.

"I feel like it's going to be a great experience and opportunity," Pollard said. "He's a fired-up guy. You can tell that he loves being

back here at his alma mater. I can't wait to work with him in the spring."

Tackle Luke Tenuta discussed having his father, Jon, on the defensive staff, as well as his anticipated move to left tackle this spring to fill the spot vacated by projected first-round NFL draft pick Christian Darrisaw.

"I think [having my dad on staff] is awesome. I'll get to spend more time with him, and he'll get to see me play. My mom's moving down here, so I think it's great."

About his move to left tackle, he said, "I'm excited wherever they need me to play, right or left (tackle). I honestly like the left side with my feet better. Obviously, it's the blind side for a right-handed quarterback so you have to make sure you're not getting beat. But it's really the same mindset as right tackle, your feet are just a little bit different."



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