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Consistent with federal law, University Policy No. 1020: Policy on a Drug-Free University will not change.

According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC),

using marijuana has short- and long-term adverse effects on brain health. As the concentration of tetrahydrocannabinol (THC) - the active ingredient in marijuana that makes a user feel high - increases, so do the effects on the brain.

Frequent users of marijuana can experience issues with attention, memory, learning, motor coordination, and decision making. These issues can have implications on a user's mood and can impact relationships with loved ones and colleagues. Using marijuana during teen or adolescent years can cause long-term or

permanent damage to brain development, affecting memory, attention, and learning.

Additionally, marijuana impacts physical health and well-being. The National Institute on Drug Abuse states that people who smoke marijuana frequently tend to have the same breathing issues as those who smoke tobacco and are more likely to develop chronic bronchitis, respiratory infections, and pneumonia. Smoking marijuana in any form harms lung tissue and causes damage

See **Marijuana**, page 4



After being cancelled in 2020 because of the pandemic, the State Fair of Virginia will return this fall to its permanent home in Caroline County.

State Fair of Virginia to return in September

The State Fair of Virginia will be back this fall to its permanent home at The Meadow Event Park in Dossell in Caroline County.

The 2021 State Fair will run from September 24 through October 3. Online ticket sales will begin September 1. For ticket information and other details, visit StateFairVa.org.

"This event holds a special place in so many hearts across the commonwealth," said Marlene Jolliffe, the fair's executive director. "From those planning how to win a blue ribbon for their baking, to our youth working hard to get animals ready for competition and our vendors sharing

their wonderful products, the fair is a celebration of tradition and communities."

Guests can expect several fan favorites this year, including midway rides, racing pigs, and chainsaw artist Ben Risney. The fair will also host a variety of live music and two nights of rodeo. For those seeking iconic fair food, everything from funnel cakes to cotton candy and turkey legs will be available.

The event showcases the best of Virginia, and hobbyists can show off their creations in artistic, culinary, and horticulture

See **State Fair**, page 2

Moss Arts Center announces fall lineup of in-person performances

Welcoming back in-person performances for its 2021-2022 season, the Moss Arts Center has released its fall lineup of events that includes musical performances from classical to contemporary, an audacious dance company that turns the dance floor on its side (literally), innovative theatre works, thought-provoking perspectives from a celebrated author, and contemporary voices of Native American artists.

"We've chosen 'gathering' as the theme for our newest season," said Ruth Waalkes, executive director of the Moss Arts Center and associate provost for the arts at Virginia Tech. "This reflects the excitement of our community to gather once again and experience the power of the arts, live and in person, as well as the gathering momentum of artists as they prepare to bring their vital voices and perspectives to stages and concert halls across the country."

Subscriptions are now available for the fall performances, which are as follows:

1. **BANDALOO**
Friday, Sept. 17, 2021, 5 and 6 p.m. and Saturday, Sept. 18, 2021, 1 and 2 p.m.

The season kicks off in September with the unforgettable sight of dancers rappelling down the side of the center. The exterior of the Moss Arts Center becomes an outdoor dance floor for **BANDALOO**, performers who inspire wonder and challenge what is possible. Join a celebration of the human

spirit and community with these free outdoor performances.

2. "Welcome to Indian Country"

Wednesday, Sept. 22, 2021, 7 p.m. and Thursday, Sept. 23, 2021, 7 p.m.

Commissioned in part by the Moss Arts Center, "Welcome to Indian Country" is a new evening of stories, poetry, and music—from jazz to Appalachian—celebrating Native peoples and culture. Together, the performers exemplify the vibrant life of modern indigenous people, honoring their ancestors and capturing the joy they feel as part of a Native community while sharing their expressions with the world. Presented in partnership with Virginia Tech's American Indian and Indig-

enous Community Center.

3. Miwa Matreyek: "This World Made Itself" and "Infinitely Yours"

Tuesday, Sept. 28, 2021, 7:30 p.m. and Wednesday, Sept. 29, 2021, 7 and 8:30 p.m.

Los Angeles multimedia artist Miwa Matreyek interacts with her digital animations as living shadow silhouettes at the cross-section of cinema and theatre. "Infinitely Yours" and "The World Made Itself" explore global warming and the vastly changing Earth.

4. "Duets"—Dianne Reeves, Chucho Valdés, and Joe Lovano
Thursday, Sept. 30, 2021, 7:30 p.m.

Savor a rare evening of jazz

See **Moss Arts**, page 5



Pink Martini featuring China Forbes.

PHOTO BY CHRIS HORNBECKER.

New book explores coal's legacy and Appalachia's future



Virginia Tech research personnel sample a reconstructed stream on a coal-mined landscape in Wise County, Virginia. Photo by Carl Zipper for Virginia Tech

area that is among the non-tropical world's most biodiverse regions? And what will be the future for people who live and work there?

Carl Zipper, professor emeritus in the College of Agriculture and Life Sciences School of Plant and Environmental Sciences, co-edited "Appalachia's Coal-Mined Landscapes: Resources and Communities in a New Energy Era" with Jeff Skousen, a professor of soil science in the Division of Plant and Soil Sciences at West Virginia University. After careers researching environmental effects of fossil-fuel production including Appalachian coal mining, Zipper and Skousen collaborated with multiple authors from across Appalachia to produce the book, which was published in late 2020 through Springer.

Much of the coalfield work and research conducted by Zipper and colleagues at Virginia Tech was through the Powell River Project, a public-private research and outreach partnership between Virginia Tech, other educational institutions, environmental organizations, and natural resource industries that serve the Southwest Virginia coalfield region.

See **Coal's Legacy**, page 4

Hokie BugCamp returns this month

Hokie BugCamp will return for a seventh season on Friday and Saturday, July 30 and 31, from 10 a.m. until noon at Heritage Park, 2300 Glade Road in Blacksburg.

All CDC and local COVID-19 guidelines will be fol-

lowed to keep campers and volunteers safe. An outdoor bug hunt will combine with take-home Hokie BugBoxes.

Budding entomologists ages 9-13 years will get hands-on experience collecting, identifying, handling, and pinning a

wide variety of insects with Virginia Tech graduate students, faculty, and staff in the woods and open areas of Heritage Park.

Entomology activity kits will be available for campers to extend their bug study and build their own insect collections at home.

The fun activities at the 2021 Hokie BugCamp will include the following:

1. Hands-on collecting: With nets in hand, young entomologists will learn how to collect and identify insects, where to look for hard-to-find critters, and how to scoop and transfer specimens.

2. Insect pinning and ID: Once collecting jars are full, campers will learn how to pin, label, and display their insects as they begin to build their own collections.

3. Learning from the experts: Virginia Tech graduate students, faculty, and staff will be on hand to help these budding entomologists hone their skills.

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The 2019 pre-COVID Hokie BugCamp. Photo by Whitney Weaver, Virginia Tech



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The 2019 pre-COVID Hokie BugCamp. Photo by Whitney Weaver, Virginia Tech

UPCOMING EVENTS

Saturday, July 3:

Teen DnD

At the Montgomery-Floyd Regional Library online at 4 p.m. DnD is now virtual on Discord. The library staff suggests downloading Discord on your device for ease of access, but this is not required. Email shodges@mfrl.org for the discord server link.

Teen Game Night

At the Montgomery-Floyd Regional Library online at 5:30 p.m. Join in for a live, interactive game night online. Teens will play jackbox party night games on family friendly settings. Email shodges@mfrl.org for more info.

Christiansburg July 4th Celebration

The Town of Christiansburg Fourth of July celebration will be held from 10 a.m. until 4 p.m. on West Main Street. The festival will feature live music performances by Gate 10, Flannel Jukebox, and Don and the Deltones Plus. Food and vendors will be along Main Street, and a special Kids Zone will be available.

The event for the whole family is free and will be capped off at 9:15 with fireworks best viewed from the Uptown Christiansburg or Walmart parking lots.

Sunday, July 4:

City of Radford "Spirit of America" July 4th Celebration

The City of Radford presents a full day of live music, free kids activities, inflatables and attractions, food and craft vendors, and fireworks to close the event. Music will be headlined by Country Music Association Hall of Fame member and Statler Brother Jimmy Fortune. Opening for Fortune will be country music singer Wade Hayes. The schedule of events: 1-6 p.m. – Rides and Games; 1:30-2:30 p.m. – Faithful Praise (gospel); 2:45-3:45 p.m. – Glen Shelton; 4-5 p.m. The Castaways (Beach Music); 5-5:45 p.m. - Opening Ceremonies with Mayor David Horton and the National Anthem sung by Glen Shelton, followed by patriotic readings from Dr. Dick Harshberger; 6-7p.m. - Wade Hayes (country); 7:15-8:45 p.m. – Jimmy Fortune (country); and 9:30 p.m. – fireworks sponsored by Third Security

Blacksburg Fireworks Show

The Town of Blacksburg's 2021 fireworks show will take place at 9:30 p.m. rain or shine at the old Blacksburg High School property on Patrick Henry Drive.

Talking about Books

At the Christiansburg Library from 11 a.m. until noon. Discussed in person and virtually will be "Deacon King Kong" by James McBride.

Talking About Books

At the Meadowbrook Public Library at 6 p.m. To be discussed is "The Dutch House" by Ann Patchett. Call to reserve your copy.

Monday, July 5:

City of Radford Offices Closed

The City of Radford offices will be closed for the July 4th holiday. Solid waste collection normally on Monday will be collected on Tuesday, July 6. The Drop Center and the Radford Public Library

will also be closed on July 5.

Town of Christiansburg Offices Closed

In observance of Independence Day, Christiansburg Town Hall will be closed on Monday, July 5. The Christiansburg Aquatic Center and the Christiansburg Recreation Center will be closed on Sunday, July 4, and Monday, July 5. Solid waste normally collected on Mondays was collected on Friday, July 2, with Friday's regular collection.

Town of Blacksburg Offices Closed

All Town of Blacksburg administrative offices will be closed on Monday, July 5, in observance of the July 4th Holiday. Blacksburg Community and Aquatic Centers are closed Sunday, July 4, and will be open regular hours Monday, July 5. There will be no refuse/recycling service in the SE Quadrant on Monday, July 5. Make-up service is Wednesday, July 7.

Tuesday, July 6 - Friday, July 9:

Archery Clinic

Christiansburg Parks and Recreation is having an archery clinic July 6-9 for ages 7-13 from 10 a.m. until noon at the Triangle Archery Club. Sign up by calling 540-382-2349 or by visiting www.christiansburg.org/register. The registration deadline is July 2, and the registration fee is \$30.

Wednesday, July 7:

Virtual Event: Shadow Puppetry

Matt Sandbank is a nationally touring shadow puppeteer based in Austin, Texas. Join in virtually for a collection of wordless shadow shorts that will surprise and delight audiences with visual storytelling. Come and see the show via Zoom Webinars. Webinar ID: 819 0720 7445 Passcode: 563317

Thursday, July 8:

Talking About Books

At the Meadowbrook Public Library at 11 a.m. To be discussed is "Braiding Sweetgrass" by Robin Wall Kimmer. Call to reserve your copy.

DnD One shot

Thursday July 8 (and Thursday, July 15) at 1 p.m. at the Montgomery Floyd Regional Library online. Create a level-one character and join in for a special teen DnD mini-campaign game. Email shodges@mfrl.org for the discord server link.

Friday, July 9:

Blood Drive

The bloodmobile will be at Professional Rehab Associates, 1200 Tyler Ave., Radford from 1 p.m. until 6 p.m. Call 1-800-REDCROSS or visit RedCrossBlood.org to schedule an appointment.

Saturday, July 10:

New River Valley Garden Tour

The cost is \$15 with the tour conducted from 9 a.m. until 5 p.m. rain or shine. Advance tickets, maps, and brochures are now available at each branch of the Montgomery-Floyd Regional Library

Mt. Tabor Ruritan Fish Fry

Mount Tabor Ruritan Club will hold its July Fish Fry from 5 to 7 p.m. at Slusser's Chapel Picnic Shelter, 1543 Mount Tabor Rd, Blacksburg. To be offered are single servings of fish, fries, slaw, homemade desserts, and beverages. The cost is \$8 for adults and \$5 for children under 12. Children under three eat free. Carry-outs will also be \$8. DJ Gene Broadus will be spinning some music, and the fish fry will be held rain or shine. Call or text 540-449-6178 for further information.

Saturday, July 17; Saturday, Aug. 7

Pilot Community Center auctions

At its most recent meeting, members of the Pilot Community Center decided to hold auctions to raffle off three gift cards of \$25 each at Linkous Auctions. These will be the community center's only fundraisers until the fall to have money for other renovations. Community members will be set up from 9 a.m. until noon and then will take the tickets to Larry Linkous, who will draw the winning tickets and announce the winners. The auction schedule and set-up locations are July 17, Old Sourwood Road; and Aug. 7, Chloe Bishop, 5950 Riner Road.

Monday, July 12:

Break-in Bags

Beginning at 10 a.m. at the Blacksburg, Christiansburg, Jessie Peterman Memorial and Meadowbrook Public Library branches. Solve three puzzles to find the numeric code that will open the lock and free your loot. Recommended for ages 10 years and up. Supplies limited.

STEM Club

At the Christiansburg Library at 1 p.m. Watch the library's virtual STEM club. Pick up the activity materials in advance from July 5 through July 10. Email shodges@mfrl.org for any questions.

Monday, July 12 - Wednesday, July 14:

Basketball Clinic

Christiansburg's Parks and Recreation Department will host a basketball clinic from July 12-14 for ages 5-14 at the Christiansburg Recreation Center. The registration fee is \$30. Register by July 9 at 540-382-2349 or www.christiansburg.org/register.

Tuesday, July 13:

MCPS public hearing on health, safety plan

Montgomery County Public Schools will hold a public hearing on the 2021-2022 Health and Safety Plan on July 13. Online comments will also be accepted. More information is available at https://buff.ly/3zC1Jl2.

Sons of Confederate Veterans meeting:

The Sons of Confederate Veterans, Stuart Horse Artillery Camp 1784, will meet at 7 p.m. at Aly's Italian Family Restaurant on 3204 Riner Road. Members of the United Daughters of the Confederacy (UDC) are invited to attend. The evening will include a discussion on the 50th Virginia Infantry Regiment. For further information, please call 320-4315 or 239-9864.

Wednesday, July 14:

Radford Library Brown Bag Book Club

The Brown Bag Book Club is getting together again. Read "Follow the River" by James Alexander Thom and join the club to discuss this book at noon. No formal commitment is needed. Just drop in when the book appeals to you.

Wednesday, July 14 – Saturday, July 17:

Freedom Fellowship Vacation Bible School

The Wednesday through Friday sessions, July 14 through July 16, will be held from 6:30 p.m until 9 p.m. The Saturday session will be held from 11:30 a.m. until 2 p.m. All sessions will take place at 1730

State Fair

competitions. The fair's many competitions provide valuable opportunities for youth involved in agriculture and allow them to benefit from the State Fair Youth Scholarship fund. Since 2013 the fair's scholarship program has awarded nearly 1,500 scholarships and has given over \$570,000 to support youth education in agriculture. The fair offers more than \$80,000 each year in scholarship funds through 4-H, FFA, and vocational competitions as well as specific equine, fine arts, and horticultural competitions.

West Street, Radford (near Bisset Park). The fun will include songs, skits, Bible lessons, crafts, games, and food each day.

Saturday, July 17:

Caturday

All day at the Christiansburg Library. Sign up at the front desk for a 15-minute slot to read to a cat from the Montgomery County Animal Care and Adoption Center to practice reading and socialize shelter cats. All ages. Email shodges@mfrl.org for more information.

Monday, July 19 - Thursday, July 22:

CHS Volleyball Camp

From 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. at the Christiansburg Recreation Center for ages nine through 12. Register by calling 540-382-2349 or visit www.christiansburg.org/register. The registration deadline is Friday, July 16. The registration fee is \$30.

Ongoing:

Through July 12:

Registration for 4-H Summer Day Camps

Montgomery County 4-H is offering two summer day camps in late July, Taste of 4-H Adventures and Outdoor Enthusiasts. Registration for one or both camps at https://tinyurl.com/21mont4hsummercamps is ongoing until 5 p.m. on Monday July 12.

Now through July 17:

Montgomery Floyd Regional Library Summer Reading Program

Sign up in person or online. Participants may choose how long they want to read every day, log the days they read, and win a free book when they read for 10 days, and a raffle entry for prizes when they read for 15 days. Adults can register online and log their reading to be automatically entered in weekly prize drawings.

Through July 31:

Radford Public Library's Summer Reading Program

Through Saturday, July 31, the library will be running its annual summer reading program for kids, teens, and adults. The summer reading program promotes reading daily to earn prizes and to earn entries to win raffle baskets. The program is a fun way to promote literacy, encourage reading as a healthy habit, and help readers experience reading as fun and adventurous.

Through Aug. 29:

Glencoe Mansion, Museum and Gallery exhibit "Mountain Rail Trails"

Glencoe Mansion, Museum and Gallery is presenting its exhibit, "Mountain Rail Trails," featuring photography by Dale R. Carlson of Bluemoonistic Images. The exhibit will be on display through August 29 and dovetails nicely with the train observatory platform and exhibit found at the edge of the grounds of Glencoe. Everyone is welcome to visit the museum and there is no admission charge. Glencoe is located at 600 Unruh Dr. in Radford.

Through September:

Blacksburg's Market Square Jam 2021

Blacksburg's Market Square Jam 2021 will continue each Wednesday from 7 p.m. until 9 p.m. through September at Market Square Park.

Through October:

Radford Farmers Market

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

Christiansburg Farmers Market

The Christiansburg Farmers Market will be held every Thursday through October at the Christiansburg Recreation Center parking lot from 3 to 7 p.m.



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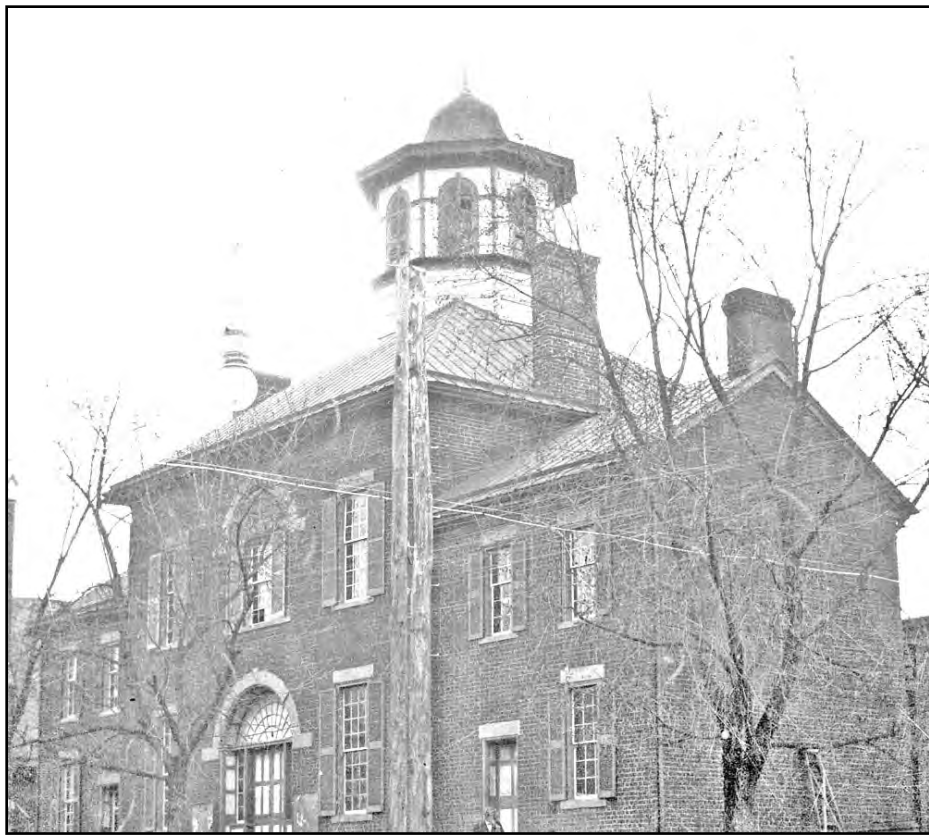
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Historic Montgomery



The 1836 Montgomery County Courthouse on the town square in Christiansburg is shown in this c. 1905 photograph. This courthouse was replaced in 1909. (This image from the D. D. Lester Collection and many more are available from the Montgomery Museum of Art & History.)

New book celebrates best writing from 40 years of RU summer conferences

Selected essays, poetry and works of fiction and nonfiction have been compiled into one book showcasing and celebrating the best writing from Appalachian writers and students from a popular summer conference held on the banks of the New River at Radford University.

“Writers by the River: Reflections on 40+ Years of the Highland Summer Conference” is published by McFarland Publishing Company and features the writings of 41 authors, many of whom are Radford University faculty and students who have taught or studied at the conference since its inception in 1978.

“It is a wonderful collection filled with warm words from some of Appalachia’s best-known writers as well as writers on the rise,” said Appalachian Studies Professor Emeritus Grace Toney Edwards, who co-edited the book along with Pulaski,

Va.-based writer Donia S. Eley.

“Writers by the River” can be purchased on the McFarland Publishing website, at the Radford University Bookstore and at Glencoe Mansion, Museum and Gallery in Radford.

In the book, readers will find works from numerous Radford University faculty members, including Professor of English Rick Van Noy and Director of Appalachian Studies Theresa Burriss.

Retired faculty members from the departments of English and Appalachian Studies whose works are included in “Writers by the River” are Edwards, Ricky Cox, Chelsea Adams, Jim Minick, Parks Lanier, Don Secreast, and Ruth Derrick.

The Highland Summer Conference is now held each summer at Radford University’s Selu Conservancy and “brings together and inspires writers as they

participate in the communal art of creating and sharing,” said Edwards, who retired from Radford University in 2010 and was the founding director of the Appalachian Regional Studies Center and chair of the interdisciplinary Appalachian Studies Program.

The 44th Annual Highland Summer Conference is scheduled for July 19-23, 2021, and will be held in-person and virtually. Co-facilitating the conference will be poet Diane Gilliam and poet and essayist Leatha Kendrick.

Gilliam and Kendrick will be featured at public readings at 7 p.m. July 20 and 22 in McConnell Library on the Radford University campus. Conference participants will read regional authors and participate in a workshop that gives them opportunities to write and have their writing read and evaluated by the workshop teacher and other participants.

COVID-19 update: Young adults have lowest vaccination numbers in health district

As the push to vaccinate as many people as possible continues in the New River Valley, the New River Health District says one demographic seems to be lagging behind. It’s those who are 30 years old and younger who are eligible for a COVID-19 vaccine.

“A lot of people in the younger population tend to feel that COVID may not be quite as risky for them, and in most cases, that’s true,” said Noelle Bissell, the district’s health director, while talking with members of the press media at this week’s news conference. “But that’s not 100 percent true. We do have otherwise young and healthy people who have gotten sick with COVID and have died.”

The district’s staff and volunteers continue to travel to community events and other sites to offer COVID-19 vaccines. The district also will continue to work with universities to vaccinate college

students, including those who are international and may not have had access to the vaccine, Bissell said.

Virginia Tech requires COVID-19 vaccinations for all students for the fall semester, and students must receive them by Aug. 6. University employees are strongly encouraged to be vaccinated.

Currently, 39.9 percent of the New River Valley population is fully vaccinated, a percentage that doesn’t change dramatically from week to week, Bissell said. That’s because demand for vaccines has dropped off across the region and nationally.

“When we are talking about doing events from week to week we are not talking about vaccinating thousands of people,” she said. “We’re talking about vaccinating, if we’re lucky, 100 people. Our focus now is not wasting an opportunity.”

President Joe Biden set a national goal that at least

70 percent of a state’s population would be vaccinated by July 4th. In Virginia, 70.9 percent of adults 18 and older have received at least one vaccine dose, according to the Virginia Department of Health.

A variant of COVID-19, the Delta variant, is circulating in Southwest Virginia, but it has not yet been detected in the New River Health District, Bissell said. She expects the Delta variant to become the dominant strain. All three versions of the coronavirus vaccine protect against this strain, she said.

Bissell reminded people that receiving a vaccine protects the individual and protects members of the public who cannot be vaccinated for various reasons. This is the concept of herd immunity.

“It’s important to have as many people protected as we can,” she said. “Every single vaccine we give is a success at this point.”

BugCamp from page 1

campers (and younger siblings) will be challenged to find a list of the region’s most common summer critters.

5. Insect trading post: A chance for campers to share what they find and trade with others to build variety in what they take home. Additional specimens from the Virginia Tech Department of Entomology will be on hand for observation or trade as well.

6. Hokie BugBoxes: Take-home entomology kits will be available for purchase (\$60 ea.). Each box includes a camp shirt plus everything campers need to continue

their study and build their own insect collections at home (collecting net, viewing jar, ID guides, pinning supplies, display box, and access to special online activities).

7. An Insect Collection Contest: Campers will be invited to continue building their collections through the summer and enter them in the Insect Collection Contest at Hokie BugFest this fall. (Collections from previous years will be on display.)

Hokie BugCamp is sponsored by the Virginia Tech Department of Entomology, Virginia Tech Pesticide Programs, and Virginia Cooperative Extension 4-H.

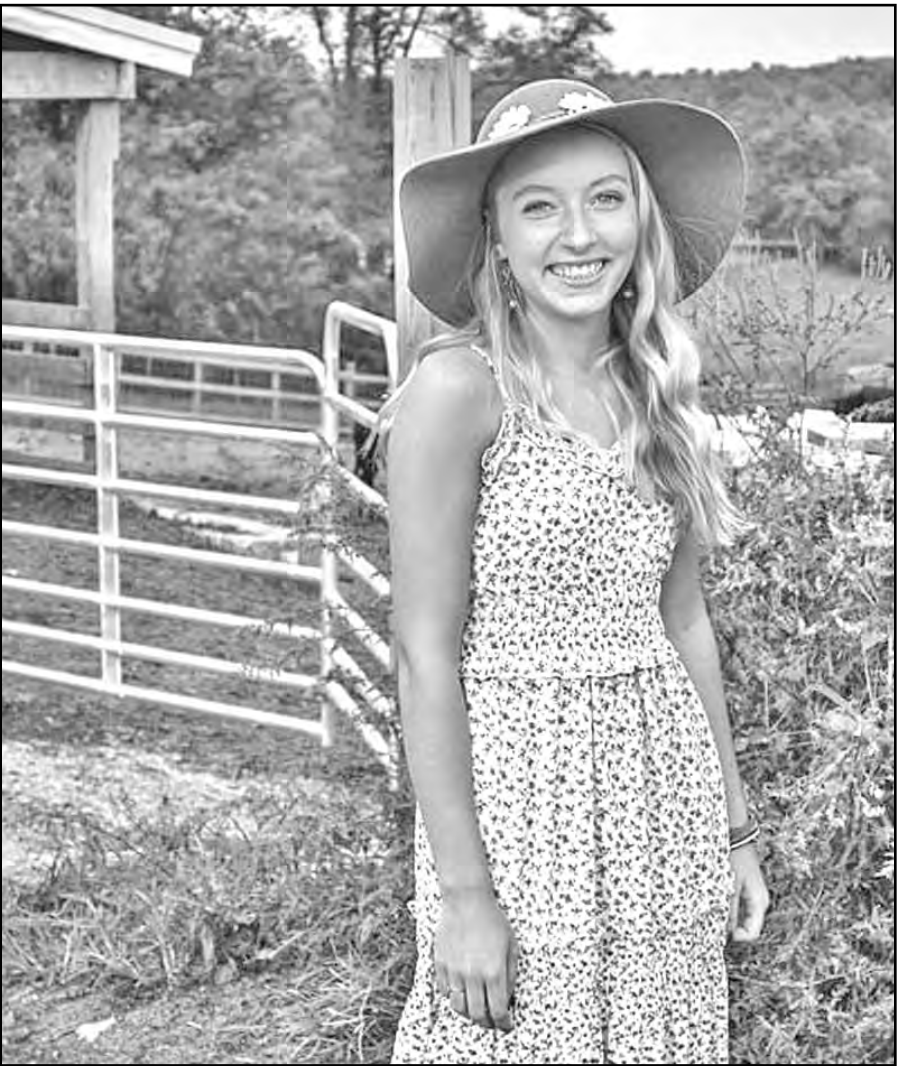
Prospective RU student wins future leaders scholarship

Caleigh Chaffin of Willis has been awarded a 2021 Virginia’s Future Leaders Scholarship by the VCTA-Broadband Association of Virginia, the Donald A. Perry Foundation, and Citizens Telephone Cooperative.

Chaffin plans to attend Radford University to major in early childhood education/early childhood special education and minor in business management.

The scholarship is among 45 awarded to Virginia students this year by cable systems across the commonwealth.

Now in its 21st year, the Virginia’s Future Leaders Scholarship program is a statewide education initiative of the Virginia cable industry. To date, over \$1,000,000 in scholarships has been awarded to outstanding Virginia students attending Virginia colleges and universities.



Caleigh Chaffin of Willis, who plans to attend Radford University, has won one of 45 scholarships awarded to Virginia students by cable systems across the commonwealth.

ONLINE ONLY AUCTION Commercial Development Opportunity in Blacksburg VA 26.7 Acres on Harding Rd, Blacksburg VA 24060



Bidding Opens Aug. 26th & Ends Sept. 9th at 4 PM Go to VaAuctionPro.com

26.7 acres of open development land in the Town of Blacksburg VA. Within walking distance to downtown Blacksburg & VA Tech. Property has ideal topography for development with 1,365 +/- ft of road frontage on Harding Road. Town water & sewer at site and readily available along with Natural Gas & Gigabit Internet Connectivity. Property is gently sloping and allows for potentially unblocked mountain views from every lot. Property is equally suited for Single or Multi-Family Development, Student Housing, 55+ Active Adult or Retirement Community and/or Private Estate.

There is extensive local & regional public transportation network (Blacksburg Transit) & Smart Way Commuter Bus with direct links to Airport, & Northern VA. Newly approved rail service and Amtrak Station scheduled for 2024. Existing Bus Stop within 100 ft of property. Walkable Community to all convenient amenities.

Download Bidder Pack for Maps, Terms, Zoning, Sample Purchase Contract, sample development plan. Sample Development is not approved & is shown only for illustration purposes of what might possibly be accomplished. Bidders are expected to do their own research and due diligence for their own ideas for intended use approval and feasibility.

Terms – Bidding opens on August 26th. 10% Buyer’s Premium will be added to final high bid to arrive at contract price. Buyers are expected to complete due diligence prior to bidding. Earnest Money Deposit of \$150,000 required on day of sale. Close in 60 Days. Subject to seller confirmation. Property sold as is where is any and all faults. Auction starts ending at 4 PM on September 9th 2021. Please note that during the last two minutes of bidding, if a new bid is placed, the clock is automatically extended an additional two minutes.

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

102 S. Locust Street,
Floyd, VA 24091
(540) 745-2005
VaAuctionPro.com
Lic# 2907004059



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OPINION

Remembering a heroic, poetic life

I found out years later she cried the morning I left home for college. Typically, she got her tears out of the way before I even got up that morning so as not to cast a pall over that which I was so excited about.

Again, typically, she wrote a poem about the day. She did that at most momentous events in her life. Of all she did in her life in the name of a paycheck, she never did for money that for which she probably had the greatest talent: writing.

She would not have been a novelist but a poet or a writer in the vein of Erma Bombeck, one of the country's greatest female humorists who became nationally recognized for her syndicated column. Bombeck also wrote some 15 books, most of which were best sellers. She died long ago, way back in 1996.

This writer who cried for me eschewed the telephone and never had a fax around anywhere. Instead, she sat down and wrote letters, the old-fashioned kind with salutations and envelopes and stamps. Of course, nobody does that anymore. I feel sorry for what they're missing. Computers are cold, heartless. Letters painstakingly written by hand are warm, loving, and eminently special.

I called; she wrote. I got the better end of the deal. Finding a letter from her amid the bills and the catalogs was like finding buried treasure. Her letters were jewels, for likely as not, each epistle was a series of anecdotes, a wry commentary on life's foibles and misadventures.

Her greatest work, however, was not written. She lived it. Her life was a Homeric epic with its

share of Bob Dylan's cruel twists of fate.

She could have been raised the pampered scion of a plantation owner, but the bottom fell out of the turpentine market and her parents had to move and scratch and claw to make a living. Her father was the dashing type, coming home each day from riding his horse on his rounds on the plantation. More often than not, he had rattlesnake fangs in his boots.

She could have had an idyllic wedding ceremony with honeymoon, which she really did. But my father was married in his uniform, and 10 days after the ceremony, he was gone. She was not to see him again for three years, most of the time spent not knowing if he were alive or in one piece. She said she felt like she had lived in sin for 10 days and then gone

back home. She told me once she cried because she could not remember what my father looked like he had been gone so long.

She could have sat at home to raise her children, but instead she went to work, a silent women's libber who balanced it all without complaining or whining. One of the last jobs she had was that of the city clerk, and she ran the city like she ran the rest of her life: efficiently and honestly.

She raised her family, getting her man and her children off in the morning with full stomachs and warm clothes and welcoming them home in the evening with food on the table and a house that was warm, cozy, and wonderful. It was no accident of mere geography that the neighborhood brats and later the teen-aged friends congregated at our house. She could have quit when my

father died suddenly of a massive heart attack, wrenched from her life in a sudden, devastating matter of minutes. Instead, she chose to show the greatest courage of her life even when, only a few weeks later, she fell and broke her hip. She got back on her feet with a little help from modern medicine and spit right in Life's eyes. With her usual fortitude she even bested cancer. She did it with a laugh and a poem, of course.

She was a real-life hero, and they're in short supply today, dying off as the greatest generation disappears one by one. But she will always be a hero to me. She was my mother.

The author is a man of a certain age who was blessed with his parents and now is blessed with the love of his life, his wife of 37 years.

New law requires motorists to change lanes to pass bicyclists

A new law in Virginia that took effect on Thursday, July 1, requires motorists to change lanes when passing a bicyclist if the lane of travel is not wide enough to accommodate three feet in dis-

tance between the motor vehicle and the bicycle.

Current law allows, but does not require, a motorist to move into the other lane when passing a bicyclist in order to ensure at least three feet of distance

between the bicyclist and the overtaking vehicle.

In addition to bicycles, this provision also applies to people riding on an electric personal assistive mobility device, moped, animal, or animal-drawn

vehicle.

"This law increases safety for bicyclists by providing more space between them and much larger vehicles when motorists pass on our roadways," said DMV Com-

missioner Richard D. Holcomb, the Governor's Highway Safety Representative. "We all share our roads, and we all share the responsibility to look out for each other."

The new law also re-

moves restrictions on bicyclists riding two abreast. This provision applies to people riding on an electric personal assistive mobility devices or motorized skateboards or scooters.

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The News Messenger is a newspaper of, by and for the people of Montgomery County. We encourage letters from our readers on topics of general interest to the community and responses to our articles and columns. Letters must be signed and have a telephone number where you can be reached for verification. All letters will be verified before publication. We reserve the right to deny publication of any letter and edit letters for length, content and style.

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WalletHub ranks Virginia as fourth most independent state

With Independence Day right around the corner and states having received an additional \$195 billion in federal COVID-19 aid this year, the personal-finance website WalletHub Wednesday released its report on 2021's most independent states and ranked Virginia as the nation's fourth most independent state.

To determine the most self-sufficient states, WalletHub compared the 50 states based on five sources of dependency: consumer finances, the government, the job market, international trade, and personal vices. The website then broke down those categories into 39 key indicators of independence to determine which states are the most self-

sustaining.

Virginia's ranking among some of the key metrics with the lowest numbers being the best was as follows: 1. Median debt per income, 29; 2. Share of adults saving for children's college education, 5; 3. Share of households receiving public assistance, 7; 4. Share of jobs supported by exported goods, 6; 5. Long-term unemployment rate, 28; 6. and the share of current adult smokers, 12.

Among the 39 metrics WalletHub used were employer-based retirement access and participation; median household income, the poverty rate, the age dependency ratio (the ratio of dependent people younger than 15 and

older than 64 to the working age population), the share of millennials living with their parents, the share of low-income households where no adults work; the share of 'underwater' mortgages, the homeownership rate, the foreclosure rate, the bankruptcy rate, the share of households receiving public assistance and SNAP food stamps, the share of occupied subsidized housing units, and the share of federal, state, and local government employees.

The three states ranked ahead of Virginia in the survey were Utah, Colorado, and Nebraska.

The states WalletHub ranked as the most dependent states among the 50 states were Mississippi, Kentucky, and Louisiana.

Coal's Legacy

from page 1

According to Zipper and other book contributors, more than 3,800 square miles of Appalachia, and

more than 10 percent of the land area in the most heavily mined counties have been surface-mined for coal.

These lands have altered soils and typically host plant communities that differ from the region's native forests, often with non-native invasive plants. They also give rise to waters that have carried pollutants from the mined areas for decades. These resource effects also impact animals, as both land-based wildlife and aquatic biota in mining-affected areas differ from those of the region's still-extensive native forests.

Human communities also bear the influence of the region's mining history as economic, educational, and human-health indicators in the most intensive coal-mining areas are below levels of nearby areas where mining did not occur or was less intensive. These effects remain evident even as coal

mining declines to levels last seen in the late 19th century.

Despite impairment by mining, the region's extensive and mostly unused mined lands have the potential for conversions to uses that support ecological and human needs. Where the terrain is favorable, seeding, fertilization, and vegetation management can convert degraded mine sites to livestock pasture.

Mined lands occupied by invasive plants can be made more similar to native ecosystems by controlling non-native species, mitigating soil limitations, and planting native trees. Degraded mine-site streams can be rebuilt to restore water function and aquatic habitats. If geologically stable and relatively flat-lying, the mined lands can support housing projects, industrial sites, and other large-scale building structures. Because of wide availability and lack of com-

peting uses, mined lands could be good locations for renewable energy projects.

Although these conversions are technically feasible, Zipper said, they require expertise and often significant expense.

"Appalachian coal was instrumental in America's development as a nation. But coal mining is the region's past, not its future. Yet as the region looks to the future, it bears the legacy of past mining," Zipper said.

"It's easy to lose sight of the big picture of Appalachian mining," Zipper said. "We want people to understand the important role of Appalachian coal in the development of this nation; but also the challenges faced by coal-mining communities as they look to the future and how the region's ability to meet those challenges going forward is influenced by the legacy effects of its coal-mining past."

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W				33				34			
Z	35							36		37	38
O								40			41
R								43		44	45
D								47	48		
E					51					52	
					54					55	

- CLUES ACROSS**
- 1. Total
 - 4. Parts per million
 - 7. A Dalton (Physics)
 - 10. Acid causing gout
 - 12. Grad
 - 14. Yes (Arabic)
 - 15. Pallas's cat
 - 17. Tonight's host
 - 18. Isinglass
 - 19. Frogs, toads, tree toads
 - 20. Solemnly renounce
 - 22. Billiards stick
 - 23. Twin City university
 - 25. Cause to be beloved
 - 28. Illuminated by stars
 - 31. Scratch
 - 32. Skullcap
 - 33. Iron Chancellor Von Bismarck
 - 34. Two things coming together
 - 38. One who imitates another
 - 40. Mistake
 - 41. A shade of a color
 - 42. Evening parties
 - 45. The first canonical hour
 - 48. Examines animals
 - 49. Fed
 - 51. One who left a dangerous place
 - 54. Fragrant iris rootstock
 - 56. Nothing more than specified
 - 58. Indigo
 - 59. ___ off: dismisses (Br. slang)
 - 60. Own (Scottish)
 - 61. Deep, slimy soul
 - 62. W. African language
 - 63. Office of Urban
 - Development
 - 64. Largest English dictionary (abbr.)
 - 65. Grassland, meadow
- CLUES DOWN**
- 1. The genus Rhus
 - 2. The 7th planet
 - 3. 17th century courtance
 - 4. Hill site of Rome's 1st settlement
 - 5. One of the common people
 - 6. Saccharum bengalense
 - 7. Liqueur-flavored liqueur
 - 8. A waterproof raincoat
 - 9. Actress Thurman
 - 11. An inferior dog
 - 13. A disdainful grimace
 - 16. Actress Bacall
 - 18. Moderate to inferior in settlement
 - 21. Atomic #86
 - 24. Queen's Gambit defense
 - 26. Behave in a certain manner
 - 27. The 17th Greek letter
 - 29. Not achieving a purpose
 - 30. Rubber wheels (Br. var.)
 - 34. Centrally placed
 - 35. Showed submission or fear
 - 36. One of the Greats
 - 37. "Honeymooners" neighbor
 - 38. Money-dispensing machine
 - 39. Actress Zadora
 - 43. Outpouring of gossip
 - 44. Smother
 - 46. Sodium
 - 47. Fraudulent scheme
 - 50. Short literary composition
 - 52. Freshwater mussels
 - 53. Ireland
 - 55. British Air Aces
 - 56. A Siemens
 - 57. Cologne

Marijuana

from page 1

to small blood vessels.

The perception that one cannot become addicted to marijuana is a myth. The CDC reports that approximately one in 10 people who use marijuana will develop an addiction. That number jumps to one in six for someone who begins to use as a teenager. People who become dependent on marijuana may need to increase how much of the drug they consume over time in order to achieve the same high.

Dependence and addiction to marijuana can also lead to a variety of negative consequences such as legal and financial difficulties, problems with interpersonal relationships, lack of mo-

ivation, and adverse educational and professional outcomes and achievement.

Virginia Tech employees and their dependents covered by Virginia Tech's health care plans have access to the Employee Assistance Program (EAP). For non-benefited employees, Hokie Wellness can help with available resources similar to what is provided through EAP.

Also, the Virginia Tech Recovery Community works to ensure that students do not have to choose between their recovery and their education. Anyone is welcome to attend meetings. To connect, either email rc@vt.edu or call 540-231-2233 to make an appointment.

Moss Arts

from page 1

duets by three masters. With a combined total of 12 Grammys, Cuban pianist Chucho Valdés, jazz vocalist Dianne Reeves, and saxophone titan Joe Lovano perform a magical evening of jazz standards.

5. DeLanna Studi: “And So We Walked” Monday, Oct. 11 and Thursday, Oct. 14, 2021, 7:30 p.m.

In 2015 Cherokee actor and writer DeLanna Studi retraced the path her great-great-grandparents took along the

Trail of Tears. A powerful one-woman show honoring Indigenous people everywhere, “And So We Walked” recounts Studi’s own journey to understand her identity. Studi performed excerpts of this work for the Moss online “HomeStage” series. This fully-staged production is presented in celebration of Indigenous People’s Day in partnership with Virginia Tech’s American Indian and Indigenous Community Center.

6. Imani Winds and Catalyst Quartet: “(Im)migration: music of change” Thursday, Oct. 28, 2021, 7:30 p.m.

Two leading chamber ensembles join forces for a concert highlighting the experience of migration. “(Im)migration: music of change” features music written or inspired by migrants and immigrants from the African and

Latin diaspora. Catalyst Quartet features alumni from the internationally-acclaimed Sphinx Competition while Grammy-nominated Imani Winds leads a revolution of the wind quintet. Performing both individually and together, the ensembles transform ancestral stories into music.

7. Pink Martini featuring China Forbes Saturday, Oct. 30, 2021, 7:30 p.m.

Always a sold-out party, the band Pink Martini is inspired by the romantic Hollywood musicals of the 1940s and ‘50s. With arrangements of Latin music, cabaret, and cinema scores, its sound defies categorization. Following last year’s wildly entertaining “HomeStage” series virtual performance by founders China Forbes and Thomas Lauderdale, this event features the entire band on the

stage of the Anne and Ellen Fife Theatre.

8. “An Evening with Jesmyn Ward” Wednesday, Nov. 10, 2021, 7:30 p.m.

MacArthur “Genius” Jesmyn Ward has been described as the standout writer of her generation. Raised in Louisiana, Ward is the first woman and the first person of color to win two National Book Awards for Fiction, joining the ranks of William Faulkner, Philip Roth, and John Updike. Her novels build deep empathy for the human condition. This event is presented in partnership with the Department of English Visiting Writer Series.

9. Conrad Tao, piano Friday, Nov. 19, 2021, 7:30 p.m.

Leading the new generation of classical music, pianist and composer Conrad Tao has amassed a steady stream of awards and

critical acclaim for his performances, compositions, and recordings. This fresh and insightful evening includes works by Beethoven and Schumann, as well as American composers John Adams and Fred Hersch, and a new Moss-commissioned work by Tao.

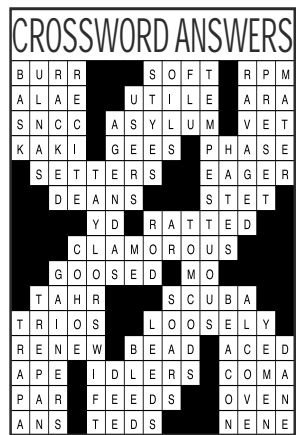
10. Roanoke Symphony Orchestra: “Holiday Pops Spectacular” Saturday, Dec. 4, 2021, 4 p.m.

A Moss tradition, one of the most popular evenings of the year makes its triumphant return: the “Holiday Pops Spectacular” with the Roanoke Symphony Orchestra. With much to celebrate this upcoming holiday season, join friends and family for a merry musical program for audiences of all ages.

Subscriptions offer discounted prices and priority seat selection. Two subscription lev-

els, Premier and Silver, are available for fall semester performances. The Premier subscription includes all performances at a 25 percent discount. For fall 2021, eight shows are included in the Premier Subscription, and Miwa Matreyek’s performance of “This World Made Itself” and “Infinitely Yours” can be added on. The Silver Subscription offers a 15 percent discount off ticket prices with a minimum of three performances.

Subscriptions can be purchased online; at the Moss Arts Center box office, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. on Wednesday through Friday and 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. on Saturday; or by calling 540-231-5300 during box office hours. Currently, only subscription packages are available for purchase. Tickets for individual performances will be available for purchase on August 4, 2021.



ANGLICAN CATHOLIC

St. Peter the Apostle Anglican Church, 230 W. First St., Christiansburg, VA. Fr Peter Geromel OHI Th.M., Vicar, Fr. Alex Darby, “Associate”, 540-382-0432/540-270-9166. Sundays: 8:00 am & 10:00 am Holy Eucharist followed by Christian Education and refreshments. Holy Communion most Thursdays at 12Noon, other Holy Days as announced. Traditional services use the 1928 Book of Common Prayer and 1940 Hymnal. Handicapped accessible. All are welcome. Come worship with us! Website: www.stpetersacc.org. Follow us on Facebook

St. Philip’s Anglican Church, 306 Progress Street, NE, Blacksburg, Virginia 24060, (540) 552-1771, www.stphilipsblacksburg.org. Reverend Fr. Wade Miller, Priest. Eucharist Sundays at 11am and Wednesday’s at 12pm.

St. Thomas Anglican Church - located at 4910 Hubert Rd, NW Roanoke, Va. Traditional Liturgical Lenten Services, Sunday at 10:30 am. Call (540) 589-1299 or visit www.sttof.org for midweek masses and events. (In Roanoke, go E on Hershberger, L on Hubert to 4910).

BAPTIST

First Baptist Church on 3rd Ave., 215 Third Ave. at the corner with Downey St. We are committed to personal spiritual growth and to providing leadership in community ministry. We celebrate the dignity and worth of all persons, created in the image of God. Sunday Bible Study Groups - 9:45, Sunday Worship - 11:00. Website: www.fbcradford.org, 540-639-4419. Worship is broadcast live on JOY radio, 93.1 FM and 890 AM.

Trinity Community Church, 1505 N. Franklin Street, C’burg. John Altizer, Lead Pastor, Brian Cockram, Associate Pastor, 382-8121. Worship at 10:45 a.m., Outreach Ministries - 6:00p.m. Wednesday, Growth Groups - 5:00p.m. Sunday, Youth and Children’s Ministry - 5:00p.m. Sunday, www.trinitycburg.org

CHURCH OF CHRIST

Blacksburg Church of Christ, 315 Eakin St., 552-1331. Sun. Bible Classes 9:30 a.m., Sun. Worship 10:30 a.m. & 6 p.m., Wed. Bible classes, 7 p.m., Outreach Minister Curt Seright, Community Minister Tom Gilliam.

Faith Christian Church of Christ, 305 3rd Street, Christiansburg, David Rhudy, Minister, 382-4628, Sunday School 10 am; Worship 11 am; Evening Worship 6:30 pm; Wednesday night Bible Study for Women and Men 6:30 pm. We welcome you to any and all of our services.

CHURCH OF GOD

New Hope Church of God, 1404 Mud Pike Rd., C’burg. Rev. T. Michael Bond, pastor, 731-3178. Sun. School 10 a.m., Worship 10:50 a.m., 6 p.m. Thurs., 7:00 p.m.

West Radford Church of God, 1824 West Main Street, Radford, VA 24141, Sunday School— 10:00A.M. Morning Worship— 11:00A.M., Children’s Church 11:00A.M. Sunday Evening— 6:00P.M., Wednesday Night— 7:00P.M., Pastor Danny Newman, Church Office— 540-639-6562 or 804- 921-0828.

CHURCH OF THE BRETHREN

Christiansburg Church of the Brethren, 310 South Franklin Street. Pastor: Paul J. Stover Jr. 540-797-5015. Sunday School 10 a.m.; Morning Worship 11 a.m.; Bible Study 10:30 a.m. Tuesdays. Website: www.christiansburgcob.org. A loving family, fueled by the Holy Spirit, grounded in God’s Word, and delivering Jesus forgiveness and love to all people. Come as you are... you are welcomed!

ECKANKAR

Eckankar, the Path of Spiritual Freedom, is located at 1420 3rd St. SW, Roanoke, VA 24016. However, due to COVID-19, the Light

& Sound Services and other ECK programs are currently available online through Zoom. Visit www.eck-va.org for program listings, www.meetup.com/Roanoke-Spiritual-Experiences-Group, or call 540-353-5365 and leave a message. We will return your call. Also visit www.eckankar.org for more information about how the teachings of Eckankar lead you to spiritual freedom.

LUTHERAN

Luther Memorial Lutheran Church ELCA, 600 Prices Fork Rd, Blacksburg. Weekly Online Worship at www.lmlc.org. We are a Reconciling in Christ congregation that welcomes and affirms all people just as they are. For information on Bible studies and Wednesday Vespers, email luthermemorial-blacksburg@gmail.com, or contact the church office, (540) 951-1000. Rev. Monica Weber, pastor.

MULTI-CULTURAL

NON-DENOMINATIONAL

Christian Growth Center, 1850 Electic Way, Christiansburg, VA 24073 (beside Hubbell Lighting). Sunday Worship: 9:30am Prayer, 10:00am Service *Nursery Available. Lead Pastor: Todd Hallinan. Founding Pastor: Rob Sowell. Mission: Sow, Grow, & Go Sow Faith! Grow in Righteousness! Go into all

the world in the authority of the believer! 540-382-2908.

PENTECOSTAL HOLINESS Merrimac Pentecostal Holiness Church, Rev. Richard Hall (540) 552-7194. pastorhall29@gmail.com. Sunday School at 10 a.m. and morning worship is 11 a.m. Evening service at 6 p.m. and Wednesday at 7 p.m.

Radford Worship Center, 1820 Second Street, Radford, 639-6287, Our music is passionate, our worship is real, and Pastor Hal Adams brings relevant messages for everyone at any place on their journey, Sunday Worship Experience at 9:00 AM & 10:45 AM, Wednesday Family Night at 7 PM, Children Ministry provided for all services, join us as Love, Grow, Serve, find us on facebook and Instagram

Walton Pentecostal Holiness Church, 4003 Morning Glory Rd., off Walton Rd. on Rt. 114. 731-1755. Lee Sarver, pastor. Sun. School 9:30 a.m., Worship 10:30 a.m. & 6: p.m., Wed., 7 p.m.

UNITED METHODIST Asbury United Methodist Church, 500 Stuart Street, Christiansburg. 540-382-0743. Rev. Ryan Schaeffer. Sunday School, 10:15 a.m., Sunday Worship,

11:30 a.m., Wednesday Bible Study 7pm, alternating month’s with Schaeffer Memorial Baptist Church, Senior Bible Study Thursday, 10:30 a.m. All are welcome.

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

St. Paul United Methodist Church, 220 W. Main St., C’burg. Rev. Mooncup “Paul” Song (540) 382-2410. Sunday Worship 10 a.m., Sunday School 9 a.m. Live streaming Sunday Service - www.twitch.tv/stpaulumc

Wesley Memorial United Methodist Church, 350 Stafford Drive, Christiansburg, VA 24073, Sunday School 10am, Sunday Worship Service 11am.

WESLEYAN

Christ Wesleyan Church, 525 Harkrader Street, Christiansburg. Public Worship service at 11:00 AM. Sunday School for adults - 10:00 AM. Pastor: Gale Janofski 574-306-7682. Website: christ-wesleyanchurch.org

Montgomery County

WORSHIP DIRECTORY

Wits’ End Corner

Read Psalms 106:1 through 109:31

Life can be like riding a ship rolling in the midst of a stormy sea: up one second reaching for the stars, the next second plummeting to the depths. The Psalmist wrote about those who “went out on the sea in ships.”

They reeled and staggered like drunkards; they were at their wits’ end. Then they cried out to the Lord in their trouble, and he brought them out of their distress (Psalm 107:27-28).

A. G. Ward wrote in the Pentecostal Evangel eighty-three years ago, “We have passed through many tests in the

past twenty-four years, often we have been at ‘wits’ end corner’ but again and again we have found ourselves singing.”

Are you at the end of your rope? Cry out to the Lord. Your prayer life will be different. Your praise life will open up.

Your prayer should be like that of Jehoshaphat as he led God’s people when they were under attack: “We do not know what to do, but our eyes are upon you” (2Chronicles 20:12).

Prayer Suggestion: Lord, I trust You to still the storms in my life.

Quicklook: Psalm 107:23-32

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

OBITUARIES

Helsing, John "Eric"

John "Eric" Helsing, 87, of Blacksburg, passed away unexpectedly on Friday, June 25, at his home.

Eric was born in New Jersey on Nov. 6, 1933, to John and Martha Helsing and grew up in Tenafly, N.J. He earned a bachelor's degree in sociology in 1955 from Muhlenberg College in Allentown, Penn., and a law degree from Rutgers University Law School. He also served in the U.S. Army.

He married his beloved wife, Lorraine, on Sept. 16, 1961. That same year, he joined the law department at Mutual Benefit Life Insurance Company. Eric and Lorraine lived in Ft. Lee, N.J., before moving to Bernardsville, N.J., where they raised their three daughters.

In 1981, Eric was promoted to Sr. Vice President and Chief Operating Officer of the company's Western Home Office, so the family moved to Kansas City. He retired from Mutual Benefit in 1988 and then served for several years on the faculty of William Jewell College, in Liberty, Mo., becoming Chairman of the Department of Business Administration and Economics and the Major and Dorothy Hull Chair of Communication in Business and Leadership in 1990. He also served as Independent Chair



of the Board of Trustees for Commerce Funds in Kansas City from its inception in 1994 through 2010.

Throughout his career and into retirement, Eric enjoyed being an active community volunteer and served on many boards. After retiring from William Jewell College, Eric and Lorraine moved to Blacksburg, where they were gardeners, tennis players, and members of the New Mount Zion Lutheran Church.

In addition to Lorraine, his wife of 60 years, and their dog Gerath, Eric is survived by his sister, Ethel Van Arsdale; his three daughters, Dawn (Tony) Wolters, Karen (Dave) Helsing, and Deb Helsing (Mike Lamenza); two granddaughters, Josie and Miranda, and other extended family members.

The family would like to thank Eric and Lorraine's neighbors and Mount Zion Lutheran Church for their friendship and support. In lieu of flowers, memorials may be sent to New Mount Zion Lutheran Church, 2350 Poverty Creek Rd, Blacksburg, VA 24060.

Arrangements by McCoy Funeral Home, Blacksburg.

Mabry, Rachel Flinchum

Rachel Flinchum Mabry, 83, of Radford, passed away Sunday, June 27, 2021 at Radford Health and Rehab.

She was a member of the Radford Church of Christ and was especially known for her love for baking cakes and Christmas.

She was retired from Radford Hospital where she worked in billing. She was preceded in death by her husband, Donald Mabry; her parents, Noah and Ethel Flinchum; and a brother, Daniel Flinchum.

Survivors include her sister and brother-in-law, Barbara and Dale Elkins of Radford; nephew Douglas (Sherry)



Elkins of Radford; great-niece Elishia Elkins; great-nephew Cameron Elkins; and many other relatives and friends.

The family received friends on Wednesday, June 30, 2021, at the Radford Church of Christ, followed by funeral services with John Croft and Rudolph Shelburne officiating. Interment followed in West View Cemetery in Radford.

In lieu of flowers, the family requests that contributions be made to the Radford Church of Christ.

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

Moore, Priscilla Burns

Priscilla Burns Moore, 84, of Radford, passed away on Monday, June 28, 2021.

She was born and raised in Sligo, Penn., to the late Clair and Ruth Burns. Also preceding her in death were her brother, Richard Burns, and her sisters, Gladys Shoup and Kathleen Craig.

She is survived by her husband of 63 years, David Moore; a son, James and his wife, Chelsea Moore of Spotsylvania; a daughter, Susan and her husband, Mike Blankenship of Appomattox; eight grandchildren and three great-grandchildren; and many nieces and nephews.

Priscilla was a compassionate and gracious lady who deeply loved her family and her many friends and was happiest when surrounded by them.

She graduated from Sligo High School in 1954 and earned a B.S. degree in elementary education from Clarion State Teachers College in 1959. That same year she moved to Athens, Ohio, with her husband, Dave, where she taught special education for two years.

In 1961, they moved to Warren, Mich. where she taught first grade for two years before relocating to Radford where her husband accepted a position at Radford College. In 1965, they moved to Raleigh, N.C., where her husband began work on a Ph.D. During the next two years Priscilla gave birth to their two children while supporting her husband in his university



studies.

They moved back to Radford in 1967 where Priscilla completed an M.S. degree in elementary guidance. She was soon employed by the Radford City School System to establish the first elementary level guidance program in the three elementary schools. She continued her work as a guidance counselor, providing critically important

guidance and counseling for thousands of Radford City elementary students until she retired in 1999.

Priscilla loved to be with people and was a member of the First Baptist Church and P.E.O., a philanthropic organization that provides educational opportunities for female students worldwide. She enjoyed singing, dancing, shopping, and traveling, and she always looked forward to playing bridge with her many friends.

Funeral services will be held at the First Baptist Church in Radford at 2 p.m. on Monday, July 5, 2021 with the Rev. Diana White and the Rev. Kent Taylor officiating. The family will receive friends in the church sanctuary from noon until 2 p.m. prior to the service.

In lieu of flowers, contributions can be made to the First Baptist Church of Radford 215 3rd Avenue, Radford, VA 24141 or to the charity of your choice.

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

Miller, Travis Wayne

Travis Wayne Miller, 39, of Ripple Meade, Va., died June 24, 2021, at Roanoke Memorial Hospital with his loving family gathered around his bedside.

Born in Wise, Va., he was the loving son of Robin Cox Smith and the late Dennis Miller.

He was preceded in death by his grandparents, Dannie Cox and Eddie, and Zetta Miller.

He is survived by his loving children, Allie, Gavin, Ryleigh, and Liam; his loving companion Andrea Kast; sisters Sarah Whittaker and children, Connor, Justin, and Oaklee, and Sylvia Milam and son, Jordan; brothers Daniel Hopkins and children, Matthew, Nathan, and Kyndal and Daine Hopkins and children Brayden and Landon; his grandmother, Patricia Cox; and a host of aunts, uncles, cousins, and friends.

Travis loved his children and family dearly, and spending time with his family and



friends was his most favorite thing. He loved the outdoors and enjoyed fishing, hiking, and kayaking when he had the chance. He was a dedicated "Hokie fan" and was always up to watching a good football game. He will be remembered as a caring person who was always willing to help others. His legacy will live on in his children and his family with many memories of good times spent together.

He was a family man and proud of it; a father, a son, a brother, a nephew, a grandson, and a friend to all. He touched the hearts of all who knew him with his contagious smile and a laugh that brought joy to all.

His last selfless act here on this Earth was giving the gift of those in need of organs. He left this world way too soon, but what an impact he made on it.

Those who knew Travis, even just a little, lost a shining light in their lives.

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Legals - Montgomery County

ABC NOTICE

Om Agni LLC, trading as Duck In Deli 4, 1250 W Main St, Christiansburg, Montgomery County, Virginia 24073-4608.

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

Ekta Patel

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

ABC NOTICE

Vansh Air LLC, trading as Duck In Deli 5, 4120 Roanoke St, Christiansburg, Montgomery County, Virginia 24073-4608.

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

Kirtesh Patel

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

Legals - Montgomery County

ABC NOTICE

Om Agni LLC, trading as Duck In Deli 6, 900 Lusters Gate Rd, Christiansburg, Montgomery County, Virginia 24073-4608.

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

Ekta Patel

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

ABC NOTICE

Vansh Air LLC, trading as Duck In Deli 7, 809 Glade Rd, Blacksburg, Montgomery County, Virginia 24060-2717.

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

Kirtesh Patel

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Legals - Montgomery County

ABC NOTICE

ISH Aqua LLC, trading as Duck In Deli 8, 920 N Main St, Blacksburg, Montgomery County, Virginia 24060-3557.

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

Manishkumar Soni

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

ABC NOTICE

ISH Aqua LLC, trading as Duck In Deli 9, 2307 W Main St, Radford Virginia 24141-1695.

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

Manishkumar Soni

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MONTGOMERY SPORTS



PHOTO COURTESY OF CBDPR

Area youth supervisors thanked the retiring John Meyer (front left) of Pulaski County Recreation Department and Chuck Muncy (front right) of the Christiansburg Recreation Department for their long years of service during opening ceremonies of the recent Cal Ripken District 10 baseball tournament.

Longtime recreation employee Chuck Muncy retires

Marty Gordon
NRVsports@ourvalley.org

This week Chuck Muncy retired after 37 years at the local recreation department.

His fellow recreation colleagues recognized him during the recent District 10 Cal Ripken baseball tournament during which Muncy threw out the opening pitch as part of Friday's ceremonies.

In 2015, Muncy was honored with the Wayne LaPierre Sr. Baseball Community Service Award, which recognized his work with youth baseball and softball programs. The service award was presented by the Salem-Roanoke Base-

ball Hall of Fame that was founded in 1991 and includes the counties of Alleghany, Roanoke, Bedford, Botetourt, Craig, Floyd, Franklin, and Montgomery.

Over the past 15 years, Muncy has served as the youth supervisor for the Christiansburg Recreation Department. He has also coached youth football, basketball, baseball, and softball.

Muncy also helped jumpstart the Christiansburg Middle School baseball program and coached the team for several years.

During his tenure, he also served as the supervisor for the Harkrader Sports Complex.

Bruin pitcher signs with E&H

Marty Gordon
NRVsports@ourvalley.org

Blacksburg High School's Makayla Dowdy will continue her softball career at Emory & Henry College this coming fall. With friends and family present, she signed a letter of intent at the pitcher's mound at BHS on Tuesday.

This past season, Dowdy won 12 games with 99 strikeouts and hit six home runs. She finished with a staggering earned run average of 0.07.

Dowdy had 379 strikeouts as a pitcher during her three years on the varsity squad and was a four-year starter, garnering second-team all-River Ridge District as a freshman and first-team as a sophomore.

Her coach Marty McMahon called her a great leader in addition to being an outstanding pitcher.

She is expected to pitch and use her bat for the Wasps at Emory & Henry.

Coming off its runner-up finish in the Seguin Regional of the NCAA Division III Tournament, the Emory & Henry College softball team concluded its 2021 season ranked No. 13 by the National Fastpitch Coaches Association.

Emory & Henry (29-9 for the season, 13-3 in the Old Dominion Athletic Conference) posted a 3-2 record in the NCAA Division III Tournament, the deepest postseason run in program history. The Wasps fell in the regional championship to national runner-up Texas Lutheran University to finish tied for ninth in the tournament.

Tommy Forrester enters his eighth year as E&H's head softball coach. His teams have



PHOTO BY MARTY GORDON

Makayla Dowdy (in middle, second from left) has signed a letter of intent to play softball at Emory & Henry College this coming year. Pictured (front row, left to right) are Dowdy's father, Chris Dowdy, Makayla Dowdy, her mother, Cindy Dowdy, and her brother Bryce Dowdy; back row, left to right: Blacksburg High School softball head coach Marty McMahon and assistant coach Katie Muscatello.

played in two of the last three NCAA Division III national tournaments (2019 and 2021). He has amassed 191 wins in his first seven years, second-most in program history, and four wins shy of Shannon Piedmont, who accumulated 195 wins in her 10-year tenure from 1998 to 2007.

In a shortened 2020 season, the Wasps received an invitation and competed in the National Fastpitch College Associations (NFCA) Classic in Tucson, Ariz., and the Birmingham Southern College Spring Classic in Birmingham, Ala. Six of the team's 17 games were against nationally ranked competition. The Wasps defeated No. 15 Birmingham-Southern 5-0 to open the season and earned a split of the games at Roanoke College to begin conference play before

the season was cancelled due to precautions surrounding the COVID-19 pandemic.

In 2019, Forrester's team won 25 games and proved to be one of the top teams in NCAA division III by playing an elite schedule and earning an at-large berth into the NCAA Division III Softball Championship Demorest Regional. The Wasps were the regular-season runners-up in the conference and finished the year with four victories over teams that were featured in the final NFCA Top 25 ranking: NCAA Super Regional Qualifier Christopher Newport, NCAA Super Regional Qualifier Lynchburg, and two victories over national championship qualifier Randolph-Macon.

Dowdy hopes to major in elementary education at Emory & Henry.



Virginia Tech has granted men's basketball coach Mike Young a contract extension through the 2026-27 season.

VT extends Mike Young's contract

Marty Gordon
NRVsports@ourvalley.org

Earlier this week, Virginia Tech announced a contract extension through the 2026-27 season for men's basketball head coach Mike Young. Young had three years left on an existing contract that would have expired in 2024.

Young led the Hokies to an NCAA appearance this past season, his second in Blacksburg after leaving Wofford. The team finished with a 15-7 record and was third in the ACC.

Under the old contract, Young was due to make \$2 million, which included bonuses for being named the ACC coach of the year, making the NCAA tourney, and finishing in the top four of the ACC.

This past season, Young checked all of those boxes.

He also announced the establishment of a non-profit called MY TURN, which challenges bullying and was inspired by his late father, Bob Young, who was a principal and teacher in the Radford City school system.

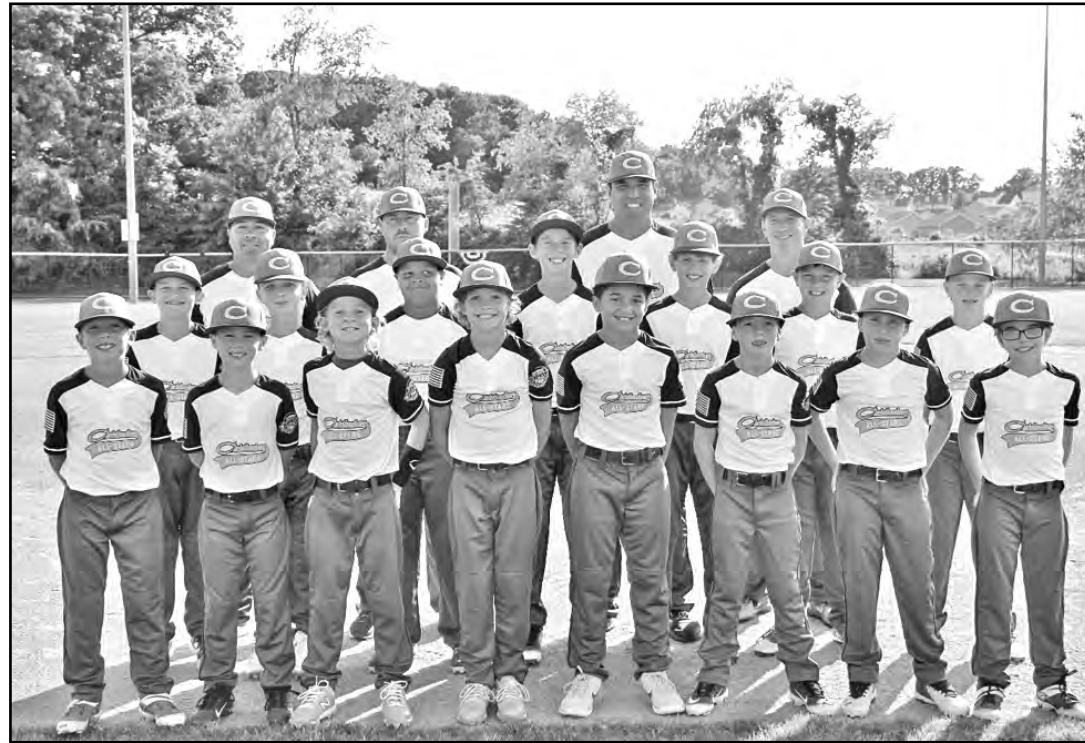
The program works with public schools in the New River Valley while also giving players the opportunity to serve others. As part of MY TURN, Young had his players read books to elementary kids through Zoom.

"They (the team) have been able to reap and sow some pretty good things out of that and grow with one another as well with acting out certain scenes and things of that nature," Young said.

Last year's success on the court for Young came during the harsh reality of the COVID-19 pandemic. He admitted there were plenty of challenges.

"Probably the biggest challenge has been being together in close quarters," the head Hokie said. "About everything we did was spaced out, and that included group huddles on the court, our team breakdown to end a practice, and watching film together. So, it was challenging, but I feel like our guys were able to stay focused with that and abide by the protocols that were set in place for good reason."

Christiansburg All-Stars win district title



SUBMITTED PHOTO

The Christiansburg Recreation Department's 10U all-star baseball team are the 2021 District 10 champions after finishing the district tournament with a 3-0 record. The team advances to play in the state tournament next week in Lyn Haven. Pictured (front row, left to right) are Luca Weightman, Pace Hall, Bryson Dow, Easton Murden, Brasen Hutchens, Kyler Johnson, Bryson Taylor, and Drew Peters; (second row, left to right) Landon Fairley, Charlie Mullins, Gatlen Good, Garrett Overbay, Walker Overbay, Rylan Lackey, and Milo Rasmussen; (back row, left to right) Coaches Cory Dow, Devin Taylor, Jim Overbay, and Richard Fairley.

Co. baseball all-stars finish second in tourney



SUBMITTED PHOTO

The Montgomery County 10-and-under all-star baseball team finished as the runners-up in this past week's District 10 tournament held at the Harkrader Sports Complex in Christiansburg. Pictured are (front row, left to right) Blake Shumate, Asher Price, Jantzen Lloyd, Grayden Lawson, Hunter Sheppard, Aaron Roark, Raylan Conner, Drayton Micham, Wyatt Stike, Braydan Barrow, Eli Martin, Kobi Perry and Lanyn Perry; (back row, left to right) Athletic Supervisor Ashley Hadidan, Coach Adam Lloyd, Coach Steve Lawson, Coach Arlis Conner, Athletic Supervisor Chris Slusher, and Head Coach Josh Mitcham.



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