



## Virginia Tech Athletics extends contracts for six head coaches



Aerial image of athletics complex at Virginia Tech. Photo courtesy of Virginia Tech Athletics.

Virginia Tech Director of Athletics Whit Babcock announced Friday that the contracts or letters of appointment of six Tech head coaches have been extended.

Mike Young (men's basketball), John Szeftc (baseball), and Carol Robertson (women's golf) are now under

contract through the 2027 seasons while Jim Thompson (men's tennis) is under contract through 2026, Dave Cianelli (track and field, cross country) is under contract through 2024, and Terry Ann Zawacki-Holdren (women's tennis) is now under contract through 2023.

"All of these coaches have displayed their commitment to helping our student-athletes develop in many areas of their lives while upholding our high standards of academic and athletic excellence at Virginia Tech," Babcock said. "Based on a number of factors, we felt it prudent to extend the agreements of all these coaches. We are proud of our entire roster of head coaches at Virginia Tech, and we are particularly pleased that we have retained the talents of these six individuals for the Hokies going forward."

Young earned ACC Coach of the Year honors in 2020-21, guiding the Hokies to the NCAA Tournament in his second year at the helm of the program. The Radford native guided the Hokies to a 4-0 record against AP Top 25 opponents last season, including victories over Virginia, Duke, and Villanova. Young owns a 31-23 record in two seasons with the Hokies with

See **Contracts**, page 4

## Wonder Universe: A Children's Museum now has a display at the Christiansburg Farmers Market



Wonder Universe: A Children's Museum now has an exhibit at the Christiansburg Farmers Market, a tractor children can climb on.

Wonder Universe is a 15,000-square-foot hands-on children's museum located in Christiansburg with an emphasis on the power of play for everyone, regardless of income.

The children's museum opened its doors in Uptown Christiansburg (formerly known as the New River Mall) shortly before the COVID-19 pandemic hit. Now, it's full-speed ahead as the facility expects to fully reopen to in-person visits later this year.

Sarah Nucci, the museum's new executive director, said a November ribbon cutting marked the beginning of a thrilling new chapter for the kids and families in the region.

"Not only are the current exhibit areas fun and new, but we will soon have engaging programs to complement them," Nucci said. "Play is how children learn, and Wonder Universe is here to help inspire kids and families to discover and learn, side-by-side."

Near the museum's tractor display at the farmers market sits a farm-to-table setup with vegetables and

produce. So partnership with the Christiansburg Farmers Market to provide a learning tool for youngsters was a natural.

The farmers market, in cooperation with the museum, has begun a kid's passport program where children will receive prizes for attending the market on the second Thursday of every month through October.

Kids can stop by the museum's booth on market days to receive a passport card that will prompt them to visit every vendor at the market. When they have every spot on the passport card punched, they return it for a prize courtesy of the museum.

Passport dates include June 10, July 8, Aug. 12, Sept. 9, and Oct. 14.

The museum's hours of operations are Tuesday through Saturday from 9:30 a.m. until 6 p.m. and Sunday from noon to 6 p.m. General admission is \$8 per person.

Special events, field trips, and birthdays can be scheduled through the Wonder Universe website located at <http://Wonderuniverse.org>.

## Vets and engineers team up to treat cancer

A dynamic collaboration between researchers in the veterinary college's new Animal Cancer Care and Research Center and Virginia Tech's Department of Biomedical Engineering and Mechanics has attracted substantial funding for a unique approach to treating osteosarcoma, a notoriously painful and aggressive bone cancer that primarily afflicts large-breed dogs, children, and adolescents.

Led by oncologic surgeon Joanne Tuohy, assistant professor in the Department of Small Animal Clinical Sciences, and biomedical engineer Eli Vlasisavljevich, assistant professor in the College of Engineering, the interdisciplinary team is working to refine a type of ultrasound technology, histotripsy, for the treatment of various canine cancers.

Typically requiring amputation of the affected limb and follow-up chemotherapy, treatment for osteosarcoma can be challenging for some pet owners, but the alternative — death due to tumor pain and metastasis — is far worse. And while treatment protocols and life expectancies haven't meaningfully improved in several decades, Tuohy is encouraged that histotripsy has the potential to help both dogs and humans with osteosarcoma.

"Cancer clinical trials offer exciting opportunities to advance treatments," Tuohy said. "But these trials require patience, coordination,

and solid cooperation among researchers, clinicians, owners, referring veterinarians, and, of course, the patients themselves."

One such patient is Balian, a 6-year-old Alaskan malamute that was diagnosed with osteosarcoma in February. Informed of the study by family friend Andrea Cangin '98, Balian's owner, Jake Polverini, was immediately on board. "Once we had accepted the fact that he was going to lose his leg," Polverini said, "we wanted to help make sure a future dog wouldn't lose a leg. No dog should have to go through this."

Histotripsy, the technology used in the study, focuses ultrasound beams to non-invasively create cavitation bubble clouds, mechanically breaking down cells inside a defined area. The technique doesn't use heat, an attribute that helps avoid damage to surrounding tissues.

"Even though this is what I do every day, I still think it sounds like sci-fi to be able to destroy tumors without making any incisions," said Vlasisavljevich, whose lab explores a range of physical mechanisms through which ultrasound interacts

See **Cancer**, page 4



Brittany Ciepluch (back, right), clinical assistant professor of surgical oncology in the Department of Small Animal Clinical Sciences, and veterinary technicians prepare Balian for a scan at the Animal Cancer Center.

## Touch-a-Truck NRV event to return; tickets now on sale

The sixth annual Touch-a-Truck NRV event, sponsored by the New River Valley Home Builders Association, will return to the back parking lot of Uptown Christiansburg on Saturday, Aug. 14, from 10 a.m. until 3 p.m.

Tickets are \$5 per family (valid for up to four attendees) and \$2 per individual and are now on sale. Children two and under are free.

Tickets may be purchased online ahead of time. They will also be available for sale at the door. Net proceeds from ticket sales will go towards do-

nations to local trades education programs and the home builders association's builders care fund, which funds scholarships for future construction and trade students, charitable activities, and local workforce development initiatives.

The day provides children with the chance to learn about careers that involve big trucks, from construction to landscaping and even law enforcement vehicles. The children will get to have a safe and hands-on learning experience by safely exploring the vehicles, blasting the sirens, and honking horns

while asking questions with the men and women who operate them on the job. For those with sensitive ears, the event will be horn and siren-free from 10 a.m. to noon.

The home builders association is extending the invitation to be a part of the experience to any NRV business or individual who has a vehicle that matches the event's goal of education. To show off a vehicle or to help sponsor the event, contact the New River Valley Home Builders Association at [info@nrvhba.com](mailto:info@nrvhba.com) or 540-443-0090.

The Touch-a-Truck Planning Committee is actively working with the local health department and is committed to providing a safe and fun event for the community. For event updates, COVID-19 policies, and more information, visit [www.touchatrucknrvalley.com](http://www.touchatrucknrvalley.com) or the Touch-a-Truck NRV Facebook page.

The various vehicles and the vehicles they sponsor include the big rig, 84 Lumber; the snowplow, Slate Creek Builders, Gay and Neel, Inc., Meridian Waste, and Shelter Alternatives, Inc.; and the bucket truck, Chandler Concrete and SAS Builders. Event supporting sponsors are Baseline Solar Solutions, Draper Aden Associates, Shentel, Signarama, and Uptown Christiansburg.

## Steppin' Out returns in August to celebrate 40 years in Downtown Blacksburg



Steppin' Out, Southwest Virginia's premier street festival, will return to Blacksburg on Aug. 6 and 7 to mark its 40th anniversary.

"This year's event will be an extra-special celebration," said Amelia Tuckwiller, Event Coordinator at Downtown Blacksburg, Inc. (DBI). "We are commemorating 40 years at the same time that we're reuniting after missing last year's festival. It will be a great celebration of art and music, but also of Blacksburg and its resilient spirit."

DBI canceled Steppin' Out 2020 because of safety concerns surrounding COVID-19.

This year's event will feature more than 200 exhibitors from around the country selling distinctive handcrafted items, including jewelry, pottery, textiles, metal work, basketry, stained and fused glass, yard art, fine art, furniture, toys, and artisan foods. In addition, more than two dozen musical performances are scheduled, providing entertainment all afternoon and well into the evening Friday and Saturday.

Downtown Blacksburg merchants are looking forward to the return of Steppin' Out as well, with many holding sidewalk sales and other promotions. Downtown restaurants will provide festival-goers with plenty of delicious food options.

"Our downtown businesses are a big part of the festival's success, and we know they're happy to see people coming back through their doors," Tuckwiller said. Commemorative T-shirts will feature a design by New River Valley artist Allen Martin, who said he was excited to be involved in the 40th annual festival.

"I have been attending Steppin' Out since I was young, and it's very exciting to be a small part of the amazing festival," he said.

Admission to the festival is free, and Town of Blacksburg metered parking will also be free. In addition, Blacksburg Transit will provide shuttles at no charge for festival-goers who want to avoid traffic.

Vendors and volunteers can visit the Steppin' Out website to register.



The sixth annual Touch-a-Truck NRV event, sponsored by the New River Valley Home Builders Association, returns to the back parking lot of Uptown Christiansburg Aug. 14 from 10 a.m. until 3 p.m.



# UPCOMING EVENTS

## 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 us to discuss this book on Wednesday, July 14, 2021 at noon. No formal commitment is needed - just drop in when the book appeals to you.

### Evening Book Talk; The Island of Sea Women

Christiansburg Library; 6:30 - 7:30 p.m. This month, discussing "The Island of Sea Women" by Lisa See, in person and virtually.

## Wednesday, July 14 – Saturday, July 17:

### Freedom Fellowship Vacation Bible School

Wednesday, July 14 – Friday, July 16 – 6:30 – 9 p.m. and Saturday, July 17 – 11:30 a.m. – 2 p.m. 1730 West Street, Radford (near Bisset Park). The fun will include songs, skits, Bible lessons, crafts, games and food each day.

## Saturday, July 17:

### Grown-up Dungeons & Dragons lvl 3

Hosted by Radford Public Library on Discord. Join for a Discord D&D One Shot for level 3 adventurers. First time gamers and veteran adventurers are all welcome, hosts will provide you with the resources you need to participate. Email duncan.hall@radfordva.gov or message the library on Facebook for details and a Discord invite. This event is for patrons ages 18+

### American Legion Yard Sale

The American Legion,

Harvey-Howe-Carper Post 30 will hold a yard sale from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. at the Legion building on 27 W. Main St. in Radford. For further information, please call 250-2283 or 239-9864.

## 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.

### Pilot Community Center auction

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 fund-raisers 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 19 - Thursday, July 22:

### CHS Volleyball Camp

From 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. at the Christiansburg Recreation Center. Register your 9-12-year-old by calling 540-382-2349 or visit www.christiansburg.org/register. The registration deadline is Friday, July 16. The

registration fee is \$30.

## Tuesday, July 20:

### 100+ Women Who Care NRV Summer 2021 Quarterly Meeting

Blacksburg Country Club banquet hall and on Zoom; 7- 8 p.m. Meetings are always one hour or less! Every quarter, each member contributes \$100 directly to a charity selected by majority vote, with at least \$10,000 being donated in total to the elected organization. No membership dues or additional commitments of time or money, and members can enter the quarterly drawing to represent a favorite not-for-profit to the group for consideration of that meeting's entire donation amount. All funds remain in the NRV area. Contact: nrv100wwc@gmail.com, www.100womenwhocare.nrv.com, or Sarah Black at (937) 205-3722.

### Tween Book Club

MFRL Library Online; 3 p.m. Calling all tweens! If you are between the ages of 9 and 12 years and looking for a place to chat about some cool books, this is it. Whether you are new to book clubs, or a book club pro, we would love for you to join our discussion. This month we will be reading Mrs. Frisby and the Rats of NIMH. If you are interested in joining, email mroach@mfrl.org for more information.

### Popsicle Stick Canvas Art

Meadowbrook Public Library; 5 - 6 p.m. Popsicle stick canvas art. All supplies will be provided. Come join a fun painting session for teens and adults. Paint a beau-

tiful silhouette scene on 5.5 x 6 inch wooden canvas. Pre-registration by phone or in person is required and only 15 spots are available. Program will be in the picnic shelter if it rains.

### Pressure Canner Testing – Virginia Cooperative Extension

Meadowbrook Court Yard; 3 - 6 p.m. Bring your dial gauge canner to have it tested for accuracy. Let us help you get ready for the canning season. We can test dial gauges for National (those made by the National Pressure Cooker Company, Eau Claire, Wisconsin), Magic Seal ( sold at Montgomery Ward), Maid of Honor (sold at Sears, Roebuck, and Company), and Presto Pressure Canners. Call 540-745-9307 to sign up for your time slot.

## Wednesday, July 21:

### Art Club: Virtual Meeting

Christiansburg Library; 3 p.m. Who was Amrita Sher-Gil? Learn about her life and be inspired by her oil paintings to create our own portraits. Catch our tutorial on Facebook or YouTube! Stop by the library for curated crafts.

## Monday, July 26 – Friday, July 30:

### Smithfield Summer Camp

Smithfield Plantation; 9 a.m. - 12 p.m. Campers to Smithfield's summer camp will experience life on the early Virginia frontier in a unique and historic environment through interactive activities geared towards children ages 8 – 10. Register through Blacks-

burg Parks and Recreation, keyword search: "Smithfield".

## Saturday, August 7:

### Pilot Community Center auction

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 fund-raisers 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 location is Chloe Bishop, 5950 Riner Road.

## On-going:

### Now through July 17:

### MFRL Summer Reading Program

Summer Reading for kids and teens is easier than ever this year! Sign up in person or online. Choose how long you want to read every day. Log the days you read, and win a free book when you read for 10 days, and a raffle entry for amazing prizes when you read for 15 days. Adults, register online and log your reading to be automatically entered in weekly prize drawings.

### Now through July 31:

### Radford Public Library's Summer Reading Program

Now though Saturday, July 31, the library will be running its yearly SRP for kids, teens, and adults! The SRP promotes reading daily to earn prizes and to earn entries to win raffle baskets! SRP is a fun

way to promote literacy, encourage reading as a healthy habit, and help readers experience reading as fun and adventurous.

## Now through Aug. 29:

### Glencoe Mansion, Museum and Gallery exhibit "Mountain Rail Tails"

Glencoe Mansion, Museum and Gallery is preparing to open its newest art gallery exhibit, "Mountain Rail Tails," featuring photography by Dale R. Carlson of Blue moonistic 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.

## Now through September:

### Blacksburg's Market Square Jam 2021

Blacksburg's Market Square Jam 2021 has begun and will continue each Wednesday from 7 - 9 p.m. through September at Market Square Park. This season marks the jam's 10th anniversary.

## Now through October:

### Radford Farmers Market

The Radford Farmers Market will be held each Saturday through October 30, 9 a.m. - 1 p.m. in the NRVCs parking lot (Old Wade's parking lot) on West Main St.

### Christiansburg Farmers Market

Every Thursday through October Christiansburg Farmers Market at the Christiansburg Rec Center parking lot from 3 to 7 p.m.

# Housing Connections to accept housing choice voucher applications

Housing Connections, Inc., and Virginia Housing will open the Housing Choice Voucher

Waiting List on Wednesday, August 4, 2021, to take applications. The program will take

applications online only from 8:30 a.m. until 4:30 p.m. The website to access the online application is

vhda.apply4housing.com. The Housing Connections, Inc., waiting list area covers Craig, Floyd, Giles, Montgomery, and Pulaski counties.

The online application allows applicants to apply at their convenience from any laptop or desktop computer or mobile device during the time period that applications are accepted. Those who apply will be chosen randomly by lottery to be added to the waiting list.

Not everyone who applies will be added to the waiting list.

Applicants will receive a confirmation number once their application is submitted indicating the application was received, but this does not guarantee placement on the waiting list.

Applicants can check on the status of their applications starting at 10:00 a.m. on August 5, 2021, by going to [vhda.apply4housing.com/status](http://vhda.apply4housing.com/status).

Applications will not be taken by phone, mail, or in person. If the applicant is a person with a disability who requires an accommodation in order to apply, contact the Housing Connections staff for assistance to apply during the opening time period.

For more information about the application process, contact Housing Connections, Inc., at 540-921-1392 or visit [www.virginiahousing.com](http://www.virginiahousing.com).

## 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](http://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](mailto:gallimore.matt@gmail.com)

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



Blue Ridge Land & Auction Co., Inc



# News Messenger

Serving Montgomery County Since 1869

<p><b>DIGITAL ONLY</b></p> <p>One Year Digital Subscription \$29.00</p>	<p><b>DIGITAL &amp; PRINT</b></p> <p>Yearly Print &amp; Digital Subscription \$72.00</p>	<p><b>PRINT ONLY</b></p> <p>Yearly Print Only Subscription \$44.00 Radford \$53.00 Virginia \$57.00 Out of State</p>
---	--	--

Subscribe online at [montcova.com](http://montcova.com) or mail to address below

## SUBSCRIPTION TO NEWS MESSENGER

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_

Check Enclosed \_\_\_\_\_ or call (304) 647-5724 to pay by credit card

Mail to: Circulation Department, NEWS MESSENGER, P.O. BOX 429, Lewisburg, WV 24901 or call us at (304) 647-5724.

# Christiansburg Aquatic Center August fitness schedule

Morning Fit (Monday/Wednesday), 9:15-10:15 a.m., August 2-16. Fee is \$25 for residents, \$35 for non-residents.

This shallow water workout combines calisthenics style movements with variations of upper and lower body resistance exercises. Participants will jog, kick, march, and jump through the water to improve their cardiovascular fitness, muscular endurance, and flexibility.

The instructor in the slide side of the leisure pool, the deep beach area, is Danielle Bland.

Maximum enrollment is 12.

Warm Water Workout (Monday/Wednesday), 10:30-11:30 a.m., August 2-16. Fee is \$30 for resi-

dents, \$40 for non-residents. This warm water exercise program is designed for individuals with arthritic and mobility limitations. It is for those whose goals include increasing strength, flexibility, and range of motion in a relaxing and low impact atmosphere.

Danielle Bland will teach the classes in the therapy pool with a maximum enrollment of 10.

Due to limited spacing and class popularity, the center is limiting one session of Warm Water Workout per person per month.

Rolling in the Deep (Tuesday/Thursday), 9:30-10:30 a.m. August 3-19. Fee is \$30 for residents and \$40 for non-residents.

Strap on an aqua belt and join in for a deep wa-

ter class in the competition pool. Participants will need to bring their own aqua belt and resistance gloves (gloves are not required) and can expect to perform aerobic exercises such as jogging, skiing, and more to develop core strength.

Location: Competition Pool. Instructor: Jillian Kowalcik will teach these classes in the competition pool with a maximum enrollment of 20.

Warm Water Workout (Tuesday/Thursday), 9:15-10:15 a.m. August 3-12. Fee is \$24 for residents and \$34 for non-residents.

Danielle Bland is the instructor in the therapy pool with a maximum enrollment of 10.

Due to limited spacing and class popularity, the cen-

ter is limiting one session of Warm Water Workout per person per month.

Warm Water Workout (Tuesday/Thursday), 10:30-11:30 a.m. August 3-12. Fee is \$24 for residents and \$34 for non-residents.

Danielle Bland will teach these classes in the therapy pool with a maximum enrollment of 10.

Due to limited spacing and class popularity, the center is limiting one session of Warm Water Workout per person per month.

Hydro Power (Tuesday/Thursday), 5:45-6:30 p.m. August 3-19. Fee is \$30 for residents and \$40 for non-residents.

This aqua class combines cardiovascular training and muscle conditioning

through methods of interval training, abdominal work, and muscle enduring activities. These combinations provide a great workout with the use of equipment such as pool noodles and water weights in the leisure pool.

The instructor is Jillian Kowalcik with a maximum enrollment of 18.

Swim and Trim (Wednesday), 7-7:45 a.m. August 4-18. Fee is \$15 for residents and \$25 for non-residents.

\$15 R/\$25 N

Participants start their day off right with a new routine consisting of half dryland workout and half water workout. It's guaranteed to hit all the right muscles and have participants ready to conquer the rest of their day. Participants should bring their own mat or an extra towel for the deck exercise portion.

Jillian Kowalcik is the instructor in the leisure pool with a maximum enrollment of eight.

The registration date for town residents is July 12 at 8:30 a.m. For non-residents, the registration date is July 14 at 8:30 a.m.

Upon registration, participants should check with the front desk to be sure their contact information is accurate.

Programs do have registration maximums. If those are met, waitlists will be available.

Class participation numbers are based upon current mandates and may be altered accordingly.

# Local college students earn academic honors, graduate

## Blacksburg's McDowell named to Emerson dean's list

Ethan McDowell of Blacksburg has been named to Emerson College's dean's list for the spring 2021 semester. McDowell is majoring in journalism and is a member of the Class of 2022. The requirement to make Emerson's dean's list is a grade point average of 3.7 or higher.

Based in Boston, Mass., opposite the historic Boston Common and in the heart of the city's Theatre District, Emerson College educates individuals who will solve problems and change the world through engaged leadership in communication and the arts, a mission informed by liberal learning. The college has 3,700 undergraduates and 1,400 graduate students from across the United States and 50 countries. Students participate in more than 90 student organizations and performance groups.

## Three Blacksburg students named to Hollins dean's list

Anna Sallee, Shuchi Sanyal, and Courtney Wilson, all from Blacksburg, have been named to the spring 2021 dean's list at Hollins University.

To attain this distinction, students must earn at least a 3.5 average on a 4.0 grading scale.

Hollins is an independent liberal arts university offering undergraduate education to women, selected graduate programs for men and

women, and community outreach initiatives. Founded in 1842 as Virginia's first chartered women's college, its distinctions include a nationally ranked creative writing program, one of the oldest study abroad programs in the country, and extensive internship opportunities.

## Local students graduate from the University of Utah

Thomas Howe of Blacksburg and Logan Forster of Kathleen were among the members of the Class of 2021 of the University of Utah who recently completed their degree requirements.

Howe earned a Master of Science degree with a major in mechanical engineering.

Forster earned a Master of Science degree with a major in nuclear engineering.

The University of Utah, located in Salt Lake City in the foothills of the Wasatch Mountains, is the flagship institution of higher learning in Utah. Founded in 1850, it serves over 32,000 students from across the U.S. and the world. In 2019, the university was selected as a new member of the Association of American Universities, an invitation-only, prestigious group of 65 leading research institutions marked by excellence in academic expertise and research impact, student success, and securing resources in support of core missions.

## Blacksburg's Anna Kender earns Bucknell dean's list honors

Anna Kender of Blacksburg has achieved dean's list status at Bucknell University for spring 2021.

A student must earn a grade point average of 3.5 or higher on a scale of 4.0 to receive dean's list recognition.

Located in Lewisburg, Penn., Bucknell University is a highly selective private liberal arts university that offers majors in the arts, engineering, humanities, management, and social and natural sciences, along with broad opportunities outside of class, to its 3,600 undergraduates. Graduate programs are available in select disciplines. Students benefit from a small student-faculty ratio of 9:1, personal attention from faculty, leadership opportunities, and excellent graduation rates and career outcomes.

## Blacksburg's Cameron Earle named to WPI spring dean's list

Blacksburg resident Cameron Earle was named to Worcester Polytechnic Institute's spring 2021 dean's list.

The criteria for the WPI dean's list differs from that of most other universities as WPI does not compute a grade point average (GPA). Instead, WPI defines the dean's list by the amount of work completed at the A level in courses and projects.

WPI, a global leader in project-

based learning, is a distinctive, top-tier technological university founded in 1865 on the principle that students learn most effectively by applying the theory learned in the classroom to the practice of solving real-world problems. Recognized by the National Academy of Engineering with the 2016 Bernard M. Gordon Prize for Innovation in Engineering and Technology Education, WPI's pioneering project-based curriculum engages undergraduates in solving important scientific, technological, and societal problems throughout their education and at more than 50 project centers around the world. WPI offers more than 70 bachelor's, master's, and doctoral degree programs across 17 academic departments in science, engineering, technology, business, the social sciences, and the humanities and arts.

## Kaimai Shi named to Georgia Tech dean's list

Kaimai Shi of Blacksburg made the dean's list for the spring 2021 semester at the Georgia Institute of Technology. This designation is awarded to undergraduate students who have earned a 3.0 or higher academic average for the semester.

Georgia Tech is a top 10 public research university developing leaders who advance technology and improve the human condition.

The institute offers business, computing, design, engineering, liberal arts, and sciences degrees. Its nearly 40,000 students, representing 50 states and 149 countries, study at the main campus in Atlanta, at campuses in France and China, and through distance and online learning.

As a leading technological university, Georgia Tech is an engine of economic development for Georgia, the Southeast, and the nation, conducting more than \$1 billion in research annually for government, industry, and society.

## Riner's Jessica Musselman earns Freed-Hardeman president's list honors

Jessica Musselman of Riner was named to the President's List at Freed-Hardeman University for the spring 2021 semester.

Musselman is earning a Bachelor of Science degree in biochemistry.

To be on the President's List, a student must be full-time and have a 4.0 grade point average.

The mission of Freed-Hardeman University is to help students develop their God-given talents for His glory by empowering them with an education that integrates Christian faith, scholarship, and service. With locations in Henderson, Memphis, and Dickson, FHU offers bachelor's, master's, specialist's, and doctoral degrees.

# Students use drones to measure soil moisture levels for research project

Three Virginia Tech seniors researched how drones could identify soil moisture for a class project in School of Plant and Environmental Sciences Professor Kang Xia's Monitoring and Analysis of the Environment course.

Matt Darrah, Grady Hesse, and Ryan Humphry were introduced to precision agriculture as a management practice where autonomous survey devices are sent out to collect land and soil samples to routinely identify areas that need supplemental nutrients.

"We saw there was work done in the past with drones to look at differences in vegetation, but we didn't see anything on predicting soil moisture levels and soil organic matter contents," said Hesse, of Berryville, Va., an environmental science graduate.

They wondered if this could be replicated with a drone.

"That could be

groundbreaking," said Darrah, of Las Vegas, Nev., and an environmental science graduate. "On top of it being cool to fly drones, we thought we could partake in potentially revolutionary research as undergraduates."

The study investigated Soil Adjusted Vegetation Index (SAVI) and Normalized Difference Vegetation Index (NDVI) data, two spectral indices for soil, gathered from drones to determine the moisture levels of bare soil.

Homefield Farm, a partnership between Dining Services and the College of Agriculture and Life Sciences and the only certified organic operation owned by a university in Virginia, was the site of the students' research. The six-acre, student-run farm is located eight miles west of the Blacksburg campus and provides about 50,000 pounds of fresh produce to dining centers and Homefield's farm stand on campus. The farm is

part of Virginia Tech's College Farm Operation, which also includes Kentland Farm.

"With all the help of the faculty and staff involved, it made this a meaningful research project for us," Darrah said.

The students determined that more work is needed on this front, particularly the development of proper indices for soil properties, including soil moisture. The trio found that the

correlation between their NDVI and SAVI data sets was insignificant and not strong enough for reliable use.

At the end of the semester, the group – along with the other students in the course – shared these results and findings via Zoom. The group discussed their aerial images and how they correlated the results.

"My favorite part of the project was when we saw our results," said Humphry, of Yorktown,

Va., also an environmental science graduate. "We saw that we might be right in some aspects and wrong in others. But

I think it was impressive just to see what we were able to accomplish in just one semester during a pandemic."



Matt Darrah, Grady Hesse, and Ryan Humphry prepare to fly a drone at Homefield Farm to measure soil moisture. Photo courtesy of Darrah, Hesse, and Humphry.

- Forestry Mulching/Brush Cutting
- Right of Way & Land Clearing
- Stream & Pond Services
- Light Excavating & Grading
- Pipe & Culvert Cleaning/Jetting

APX Services LLC  
540-566-6920

**AFFORDABLE DENTURES & IMPLANTS™**

Delivering a smile for every budget.

FREE X-RAY & CONSULT FOR NEW DENTURE PATIENTS\*

Ask about our Best Price Guarantee\*\*

ROGER D. CAMPBELL, DMD  
GENERAL DENTIST

AFFORDABLE DENTURES & IMPLANTS - CHRISTIANSBURG

175 CONSTON AVE  
CHRISTIANSBURG, VA 24073

888.925.6677

\*Free X-ray & consult offer has a minimum value of \$75 and covers a consult & a traditional 2-D X-Ray at initial visit. \*\*Bring in a treatment plan from any competitor and we will beat the total treatment plan for comparable services. Treatment plan must come from a licensed dentist within the past six months for comparable services and is subject to verification. Some plans are excluded. Full details of the Best Price Guarantee are available from our web site or at this practice. [Valid until December 31, 2021]

02345-1

AFFORDABLEDENTURES.COM

**KIDS BOWL FREE ALL SUMMER**

2 FREE GAMES OF BOWLING A DAY THIS SUMMER

To register your child for free games, go to [www.KidsBowlFree.com/NRV](http://www.KidsBowlFree.com/NRV)

Safe, Fun Environment all Summer  
No rain, no heat - just fun

575 Arbor Drive, Christiansburg  
[www.nrvsuperbowl.biz](http://www.nrvsuperbowl.biz)



# OPINION

# Virginia health department confirms second age 0-9 COVID-19 fatality

The Virginia Department of Health (VDH) announced recently that a child in the Rappahannock Area Health District has died from complications of COVID-19.

VDH will disclose no further information about the child to protect privacy and

out of respect for the patient's family. This is the second reported death of a child under 10 years old with COVID-19 in Virginia.

"We extend our condolences to the family of this child in this time of great loss," said State Health Commissioner

M. Norman Oliver. "Across the country, COVID-19 continues to cause illness and death. The more contagious Delta variant is now the most predominant strain across the country.

"We urge everyone age 12 and older who is eligible to

get vaccinated to do so as soon as possible," Oliver said. "We have made so much progress in these past months against this virus, but a tragic event like the death of this young child is a stark reminder that our work continues. Even as many of the restrictions of the past

year on gathering and mask-wearing are no longer in place, we urge everyone to take precautions to protect themselves and those around them."

This death is reflected on the VDH COVID-19 data dashboard for Thursday, July 8, 2021.

# WalletHub lists Virginia among safest states during pandemic

As the U.S. continues its efforts to overcome the COVID-19 pandemic, staying safe is one of Americans' top concerns. As the personal finance website WalletHub noted, though, some states are already safer than others based on how well they have kept the pandemic under control and how much they are vaccinating.

In order to find out the safest states during the COVID-19 pandemic, WalletHub

compared the 50 states and the District of Columbia across five key metrics. The data set used includes the rates of COVID-19 transmission, positive testing, hospitalizations and death, as well as the share of the eligible population getting vaccinated.

Released Thursday, the survey's results listed Virginia as the 19th safest state in the country during the pandemic.

The website took notice of

the move toward normality, noting that safety is essential for getting the economy back on track, as the lower COVID-19 transmission and deaths are in a state, the fewer restrictions there will be and the more confidence people will have to shop in person. While most states have fully reopened, the website noted that the country will be able to get completely back to life as normal only once most of the population is fully

vaccinated against the coronavirus. The good news is that the U.S. is picking up speed with vaccination as around 48% of the population was fully vaccinated against COVID-19 as of July 7.

The five key metrics WalletHub used in its survey are vaccination rate, positive testing rate, hospitalization rate, death rate, and transmission rate.

The survey determined that the ten safest places during the

pandemic in order of the safest are Vermont, Massachusetts, Connecticut, Hawaii, New Mexico, Rhode Island, New Hampshire, Maine, the District of Columbia, and Delaware.

On the other hand, according to WalletHub, the ten least safe states in the country are Idaho, Florida, Mississippi, Louisiana, Arizona, Wyoming, West Virginia, Nevada, Arkansas, and Missouri.

# WalletHub survey puts Virginia as nation's 20th-most energy-expensive state

The personal finance website WalletHub this week sounded the alarm:

"Crank up the air conditioner and the utility budget. July tends to be the hot-

test month of the year."

To better understand the impact of energy on finances relative to residents' location and consumption habits, WalletHub compared the total monthly energy bills in each of the 50 states and the District of Columbia. Their analysis used a special formula that accounts for the costs of electricity, natural gas, motor fuel, and home heating oil.

Overall, Virginia didn't come out too badly, ranking at No. 20 on the list of the most energy-expensive states with a total average monthly cost of \$323. This total came from an average monthly electricity bill of \$149, the ninth-most expensive bill in the country; an average monthly natural gas bill of \$27, the 30th-most expensive bill in the country; an average month-

ly motor fuel expense of \$142, the 29th-most expensive bill in the country; and an average home heating oil bill of \$5, the 14th most expensive bill in the country.

The state with the highest average monthly energy cost was Connecticut at \$411, followed by Wyoming (\$403), Massachusetts (\$380), Georgia (\$374), Alabama (\$371), Maine

(\$370), Alaska (\$366), Mississippi (\$358), Indiana (\$356), and New Hampshire (\$355).

The least expensive places (42 through 51) were Nebraska (\$303), Iowa (\$301), Louisiana (\$301), Illinois (\$300), Idaho (\$298), Arizona (\$295), Oregon (\$275), Colorado (\$269), Washington (\$262), and the District of Columbia (\$217).

## News Messenger

Established 1869

(540) 389-9355

P.O. Box 1125 • Salem, VA 24153

USPS 016-490 Online: www.ourvalley.org

Michael Showell, *Publisher*

Ed McMinn, *Editor*

editor@ourvalley.org

Heather Bell, *Community News Editor*

communitynews@ourvalley.org

Lynn Hurst, *General Manager*

lhurst@ourvalley.org

Randy Thompson, *Advertising Consultant*

advertise@ourvalley.org

Give us your view:

editor@ourvalley.org

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.

The News Messenger (USPS 016-490) is published twice a week for \$44 a year in Montgomery County, \$53 elsewhere in Virginia, and \$57 out of state by Virginia Media Inc., P.O. Box 429, Lewisburg, WV 24901. Periodical postage paid at Christiansburg, VA. POSTMASTER: Send address changes to NEWS MESSENGER 1633 W. Main St., Salem, VA 24153.

## Contracts

from page 1

a 22-8 record at Cassell Coliseum. The 2019 Sporting News National Coach of the Year arrived in Blacksburg following a record-setting 17-season tenure at Wofford. He owns a 330-267 career record as a head coach.

Szefc guided the Hokies to 16 ACC victories in 2021, Tech's highest conference win total since 2010. Szefc's squad opened the 2021 ACC season with series wins at No.-6 Miami and against No.-25 North Carolina. The Hokies also registered a three-game sweep at No.-15 Pitt. The Hokies finished the 2021 campaign at 27-25 overall, marking Tech's best seasonal victory total since 2013. Sze-

fc came to Tech after leading Maryland to three NCAA appearances and a 180-122 record as the Terrapins' head coach, ending that school's 43-year NCAA Tournament drought. He owns a 477-349-3 career head coaching record.

Cianelli has arguably coached Tech's most habitually successful program during his 21-year tenure leading the track and field/cross-country teams for the Hokies. Under his tutelage, the men's indoor track squad won the 2021 ACC indoor title by the largest margin in modern conference history. It marked the 17th overall team ACC championship claimed by the Hokies under Cianelli. His teams have produced 17 NCAA individual champions, 310 All-American honors achieved by 110 student-athletes, and eight Olympians.

Robertson has built Tech's

women's golf program from its inception and guided the Hokies to the third round of the NCAA Tournament for the first time in school history in 2021. Under her leadership, Tech has qualified for the NAAs for three straight years and achieved its highest-ever national ranking this past season, reaching No. 14 in the Golfstat rankings. A finalist for the WGCA National Coach of the Year, Robertson has tutored individual standouts Amanda Hollandsworth and Emily Mahar, who have both qualified and competed at the U.S. Women's Open.

Thompson has served as men's tennis coach since 1998, making him the longest-tenured active head coach at Virginia Tech. Since his arrival in Blacksburg, the program has made the NCAA Tournament 15 times, including 12 berths over the

past 14 seasons. Thompson has coached a pair of All-America performers in Aaron Marchetti (1999) and Joao Monteiro (2016). In addition, he has helped produce 25 All-ACC honorees, including Amerigo Contini and Andreas Bjerrehus, who both earned all-conference honors four times each for the Hokies.

Zawacki-Holdren has guided Tech's women's tennis program since 2004. The Hokies own a pair of NCAA Tournament appearances, including a 2015 campaign that saw Tech reach the second round for the first time in program history. In her 18 years at the helm, Zawacki-Holdren has produced eight nationally ranked singles players, four nationally ranked doubles teams, and seven All-ACC selections, including first-team All-ACC honoree Francesca Fusinato.

## Cancer

from page 1

with tissues in the body, including cancerous tumors.

When the ultrasound technology breaks apart the tumor cells, they release proteins, and the body's immune system begins to recognize them as invaders. A strong enough immune response could even begin to recognize and attack metastatic growths or regrowth of the same tumor, which is highly desirable with an aggressively metastatic cancer like osteosarcoma that kills the majority of patients by its propensity to spread throughout the lungs.

Although histotripsy and related ultrasound-based immunotherapies are being developed for use in humans, there is little data on their use in dogs or on these types of tumors. As a result, Vlasisavljevich and Tuohy have designed a series of clinical studies that, if successful, will support the use of histotripsy as a treatment for canine osteosarcoma.

The team's first study, conducted two years ago with local veterinarians and owners, tested histotripsy on the amputated limbs of tumor-bearing dogs. Because the researchers were not treating live patients — referred to as ex vivo, literally "outside a living body" — they were able to validate that the approach would be safe and would provoke the kind of immune response needed for success.

On the heels of the first study's positive results, a grant from the American

Kennel Club moved the study to the next phase — in vivo, or inside the bodies of dogs affected by osteosarcoma.

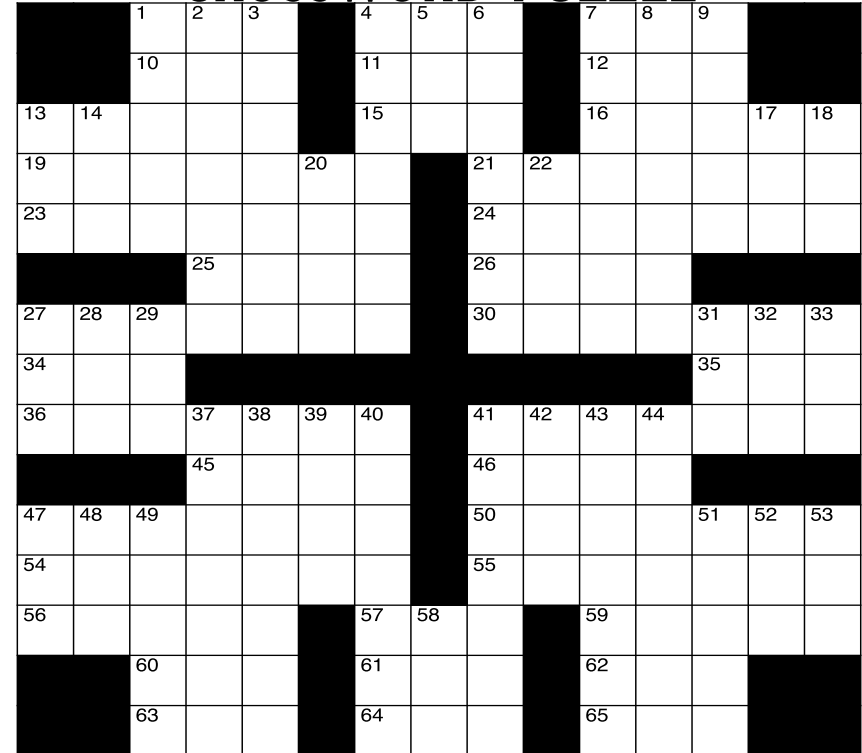
A case in point is Balian, whose amputation took place in early March. "He's bouncing around, hopping through the yard like a champ," said Polverini. "He still makes friends everywhere he goes."

Although the ultimate goal is to avoid amputation entirely by offering the histotripsy treatment alone, Tuohy cautions that immunotherapy will likely be part of a multimodal approach, not a replacement for all other therapies. "If there's one thing we've learned about cancer in the past half-century, it's that we must be humble," she said. "We don't expect to find a silver bullet in cancer treatment with the technologies available."

Vlasisavljevich, whose mother died of liver cancer when he was 4 years old, agrees. "Clinical research can be difficult," he said, "and there are no sure things." However, the incremental progress, the collaboration with a passionate interdisciplinary team, and especially the success stories of patients who have been helped by his research give him hope: "This is an extremely rewarding job. You've got to use setbacks to inspire you to keep going," Vlasisavljevich said.

— Written by Mindy Quigley, clinical trials coordinator in the veterinary college's Department of Small Animal Clinical Sciences.

## CROSSWORD PUZZLE



### CLUES ACROSS

- 1. Sr. enlisted Army member
- 4. Payroll firm
- 7. Monetary unit of Macao
- 10. Cooking vessel
- 11. Cow sound
- 12. Hairpiece
- 13. Spoon-shaped surgical instrument
- 15. Mother
- 16. Remove from record
- 19. Foolish
- 21. Mailman
- 23. Unit of data size
- 24. Stirred
- 25. Deceptive movement
- 26. We all have one
- 27. Direct from pasture beef animal
- 30. A person's own self
- 34. Helps little firms
- 35. Deep, red-brown sea bream

### CLUES DOWN

- 36. Tumbler
- 41. A short section of a musical composition
- 45. Young woman (French)
- 46. Wings
- 47. Wine bottles
- 50. Thin layers of rock
- 54. Opposite to
- 55. American state
- 56. Uncertainty about something
- 57. Basics
- 59. Indian seaport
- 60. Owed as a debt
- 61. Buffer solution
- 62. Unit of work or energy
- 63. Soviet Socialist Republic
- 64. One point south of due east
- 65. Born of

### CLUES DOWN

- 1. Small stem bearing leaves
- 2. Female Bacchanalians
- 3. Mediterranean city
- 4. Measures electric current
- 5. Arrived extinct
- 6. Edible butterflyfish
- 7. Causing wonder or astonishment
- 8. Behaviors showing high moral standards
- 9. Ancient Irish alphabets
- 13. Footballer Newton
- 14. Utilize
- 17. Sum of absolute errors
- 18. Opposite of the beginning
- 20. Shoe company
- 22. Algerian port city
- 27. Girls organization (abbr.)
- 28. Type of cell (abbr.)
- 29. Swiss river
- 31. When you hope to get there

### CLUES DOWN

- 32. Fall behind
- 33. Expresses distaste, disapproval
- 37. Volume containing several novels
- 38. Less sharp
- 39. Food for the poor
- 40. Having made a valid will
- 41. Royal estates
- 42. Relating to wings
- 43. Japanese three-stringed lute
- 44. Taking something through force
- 47. Angry
- 48. Before the present
- 49. Showy ornaments
- 51. Norway
- 52. Comedienne Gastereyer
- 53. Consume
- 58. Founder of Babism

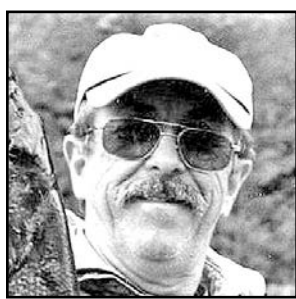
# OBITUARIES

## Branscom, Cecil Buford

Cecil Buford Branscom, 76, passed away at his home in Radford on Thursday, July 8, 2021.

Cecil was the owner and operator of Branscom Roofing, and he served the New River Valley during the span of his adult life. As a young man, he served as an Army medic in the United States Military during the Vietnam War.

When Cecil was a boy, he discovered his first love: fishing. He was most at home and happy when floating on a river, and he traveled extensively to fulfill his passion of fishing. While in his late fifties, Cecil also enjoyed flying powered parachute aircrafts, which fulfilled his adventurous spirit and offered him a unique point of view of the New River Valley.



One of his most gratifying loves was helping animals. During his lifetime, he saved numerous animals and advocated for their humane care. Cecil had many beloved and spoiled pets. He will be deeply missed by his family and friends.

He was preceded in death by his parents, Hubert and Doyle Branscom.

Survivors include his sister and brother-in-law, Sharon and Foster Ridpath; a brother and sister-in-law, H. C., Jr., and Sue Branscom; several nieces and nephews; and many other relatives and friends.

Services will be private.

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

## Huff, Kelly

Kelly Huff, 62, of Fairlawn, passed away on July 6, 2021.

She was preceded in death by her parents, Toy Melvin Conner and Revie Marie Conner; and her brothers, Joseph Preston Conner and Tracy Lee Conner.

Kelly is survived by her significant other, Jeff Hasson; a son, Travis W. Huff (Melinda); a granddaughter, Cierra Huff; siblings Toy Michael Conner, Sherry Edna Huff, Kimberly Lane McDuffie, Devonne Alaine Conner, and



Kirby Lyle Conner (Myra); as well as her lifelong friend, Sandy Martin.

Kelly was a devoted mother, grandmother, sister, and aunt. She had the most giving, loving heart and the most beautiful smile. She loved family time, spending time with her nieces and nephews.

The family would like to thank Lori, Marissa, and all the kind staff of hospice.

In accordance with Kelly's wishes, there will be no services.

## Moore, Laura "Cissy" Jan Burleson

Laura "Cissy" Jan Burleson Moore, 62, passed away Wednesday, July 7, 2021, at her home in Radford.

She was preceded in death by her parents, Bill and Mary McPeak Burleson.

Survivors include her husband, Randy M. Moore, Sr.; a son, Neal McClellan; a daughter, Shawnea Gravley; a granddaughter, Chalei Albert; grandsons Christian and Ethan McClellan; a sister, Sonia Hodge; brothers David and Russell Burleson; and



many other relatives and friends.

The family received friends from noon until 2 p.m. on Sunday, July 11, 2021, at Mullins Funeral Home in Radford. Funeral services began at 2 p.m. with the Rev. Danny Newman officiating. Interment followed in the Burleson Family Cemetery in Pembroke.

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

## Caldwell, Allison Pulliam

Allison Pulliam Caldwell, 91, recently of Roanoke, but formerly a resident of Radford for almost 30 years, went to be with the Lord on Tuesday, July 6, 2021.

He was born in Columbus, Miss., on Nov. 19, 1929, to Charles and Laura Lee Caldwell.

He leaves his adoring wife of 39 years, Patsy; his five children, Laura Whitcomb and her husband Howard, Ila Bayrer, Douglas Caldwell, Nancy Martin, and K. C. Martin; four grandchildren, eight great-grandchildren, many friends and relatives, and a special cousin, Marylyn Wood.

He was predeceased by his mother, Laura P. McCollum, and her husband, Mac McCollum.



Al enjoyed meeting people on road trips or at his rug store; the fellowship at his church, Fairlawn Baptist; time with his family; and keeping up with news and current events. He loved a good joke or a great story. His great smile and keen sense of humor will be missed by his many

friends.

The family will receive friends from 4 until 6 p.m. on Thursday, July 15, 2021, at Mullins Funeral Home in Radford. Graveside services with full military honors will be held at noon on Friday, July 16, 2021, at the Southwest Virginia Veterans Cemetery in Dublin.

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

## White, Elma June

Elma June White, 87, formerly of Dublin, passed away Wednesday, July 7, 2021, at her home in Sherrills Ford, N. C., surrounded by her family.

June was preceded in death by her parents, Ruby Sheppard and her step-father, Frank Sheppard; and her husband, William "Bill" E. Williams.

Survivors include her former husband and friend, Robert E. White; daughters and sons-in-law, Linda and Joe Linkous, Debbie and Dewey Lytton, and Renee and Bryon Kimbrough; son and daughter-in-law, Billy and Pam Williams; grandchildren Tony Barbettini, T.J. Nance, Matt Lytton, Zach



White, Devin Kimbrough, Abbie Williams, and Meredith Williams; eight great-grandchildren; a brother and sister-in-law, Otis and Carol Davidson; several nieces and nephews; and many other relatives and friends.

The family will receive friends from 10 until 11 a.m. today, Wednesday, July 14, 2021, at Mullins Funeral Home in Radford. Funeral services will begin at 11 a.m. with Pastor Kelly Howlett officiating. Interment will follow in Highland Memory Gardens in Dublin.

The White/Williams families are in the care of Mullins Funeral Home & Crematory in Radford. [www.mullinsfuneralhome.com](http://www.mullinsfuneralhome.com).

## Fitzgerald, John Kennedy

John Kennedy Fitzgerald, known to his friends as Fitzzy, passed away on Sunday, July 4, 2021, at his farm on Catawba Road in Blacksburg.

He is survived by his wife of 25 years, Liz Fitzgerald. A Connecticut native and Virginia resident, John was an avid horseman and animal lover. He was well known as a Grand Prix rider on the East Coast jumping cir-



cuit, especially for his dashing performance in speed classes. He will be remembered in the New River Valley for the many times he competed at the Roanoke Valley Horse Show.

A celebration of John's life will take place at a later date to honor his memory. In lieu of flowers, make a donation in John's name to your favorite animal charity.

## Butterfield, Thomas 'Tom'

Thomas "Tom" Butterfield passed away peacefully on June 26, 2021, at the age of 75.

Born on February 11, 1946, and raised in Merrick, N.Y., Tom was preceded in death by his parents, Fred and Marcella Butterfield. He is survived by his wife, Irene; three daughters, Christin (Wayne), Alex (Malcolm), and Lauren (Matt), a grandson, Carson; and two siblings, Christi and Patti (Carol).

Tom honored faith, family, and friends in his life. He was dedicated to the Blacksburg community from the moment he began attending Virginia Tech as a member of the Corps of Cadets. Tom remained at Tech after graduation and served as the art director at Squires Student Center, establishing the Perspective Art Gallery in 1970.

An artist and a crafts-

man, Tom used his talents to create a variety of artwork including the Town of Blacksburg logo and the liturgical furnishings for St. Mary's Catholic Church. His longstanding commitment to the Catholic community included both the Newman Community and St. Mary's Catholic Church where he helped establish the Men's Bible Study.

Tom enjoyed kayaking with close friends on the rivers of South Carolina (the Low Country).

The family will be having a private service. A celebration of Tom's life will be held at a later date. In lieu of flowers, the family requests offerings be made in his honor to the charity of your choice. Online condolences may be shared with the family on McCoy Funeral Home's website at [www.mccoyfuneralhome.com](http://www.mccoyfuneralhome.com).

## Eakin, Lila Garman

Lila Garman Eakin, 79, of Catawba, went to be with the Lord on Sunday, July 4, 2021.

She was preceded in death by her parents, Marvin and Dollie Garman; a sister, Josephine Stephenson; and a granddaughter, Lori Eakin.

She is survived by her husband of 60 years, Warren Eakin; sisters Alpha Sue King (Lloyd), Claudine Ratcliffe, and Vivian Jones; sons Ronald and Roger (Jackie); grandchildren Ronald, Jr. (Hannah) and Alisha Lyle; great-grandchildren

Lila, Elliot, and Reagan; and an aunt, Effie Kelly.

The family wishes to thank Kindred Hospice, especially Lila, Lindsay, Ally, Jennifer, Karen, and Steve.

Funeral services were held on Friday, July 9, 2021, at 1 p.m. in the McCoy Funeral Home Chapel with the Rev. Kenny Davis officiating. Interment followed at Cedar Lawn Memorial Park in Roanoke.

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

## Legal Notice

NOTICE TO THE PUBLIC OF A PETITION BY APPALACHIAN POWER COMPANY, FOR REVISION OF A RATE ADJUSTMENT CLAUSE PURSUANT TO § 56-585.1 A 6 OF THE CODE OF VIRGINIA WITH RESPECT TO THE DRESDEN GENERATING PLANT CASE NO. PUR-2021-00047

\*Appalachian Power Company ("APCo") requests a total of \$28.5 million for its G-RAC. According to APCo, this amount would increase the bill of a residential customer using 1,000 kilowatt hours of electricity per month by approximately \$0.08.

\*A Hearing Examiner appointed by the State Corporation Commission will hear public witness testimony on the case on November 16, 2021, at 10 a.m., and testimony and evidence of the Company, the Staff, and any respondents on November 17, 2021.

\*Further information about this case is available on the Commission's website at: [sec.virginia.gov/pages/Case-Information](http://sec.virginia.gov/pages/Case-Information).

On June 1, 2021, Appalachian Power Company ("APCo" or "Company") filed a petition ("Petition") with the State Corporation Commission ("Commission") pursuant to § 56-585.1 A 6 of the Code of Virginia, for approval to recover costs associated with APCo's Dresden Generating Plant through its generation rate adjustment clause ("G-RAC"). Specifically, APCo proposes an annual revenue requirement of \$28.5 million to be collected over the 18 months following implementation of the revised G-RAC.

In support of its request, the Company states that this total revenue requirement is composed of: (i) an actual under recovery of \$1 million of the Company's G-RAC costs for the period ended March 31, 2021; (ii) the projected under recovery of \$0.3 million for the period of April 1, 2021, through April 30, 2022; and (iii) the projected base annual revenue requirement of \$27.66 million for the period of May 1, 2022, through April 30, 2023. The Company proposes to recover the revenue requirement in two separate factors: one to reflect the base annual revenue requirement of \$27.66 million and one to reflect the annualized under-recovery amount of \$0.87 million, resulting in a total annual revenue requirement of \$28.5 million. APCo requests approval to implement the proposed G-RAC on and after May 1, 2022, and to recover the requested revenue requirement over 18 months, consistent with its request in this Petition to file its next G-RAC Petition in 18 months. The Company asserts that if approved, the proposed revenue requirement will result in a minimal increase of \$0.08 to the monthly bill of a residential customer using 1,000 kilowatt hours of electricity per month when compared to rates effective May 1, 2021.

Interested persons are encouraged to review the Petition and supporting documents for the details of these and other proposals.

TAKE NOTICE that the Commission may apportion revenues among customer classes and/or design rates in a manner differing from that shown in the Petition and supporting documents and thus may adopt rates that differ from those appearing in the Company's Petition and supporting documents.

The Commission has taken judicial notice of the ongoing public health emergency related to the spread of the coronavirus, or COVID-19, and the declarations of emergency issued at both the state and federal levels. In accordance therewith, all pleadings, briefs, or other documents required to be served in this matter shall be submitted electronically to the extent authorized by 5 VAC 5-20-150, *Copies and format*, of the Commission's Rules of Practice and Procedure ("Rules of Practice"). Confidential and Extraordinarily Sensitive Information shall not be submitted electronically and should comply with 5 VAC 5-20-170, *Confidential information*, of the Rules of Practice. Any person seeking to hand deliver and physically file or submit any pleading or other document shall contact the Clerk's Office Document Control Center at (804) 371-9838 to arrange the delivery.

Pursuant to 5 VAC 5-20-140, *Filing and service*, of the Commission's Rules of Practice, the Commission has directed that service on parties and the Commission's Staff in this matter shall be accomplished by electronic means. Please refer to the Commission's Order for Notice and Hearing for further instructions concerning Confidential or Extraordinarily Sensitive Information.

The Commission entered an Order for Notice and Hearing that, among other things, scheduled public hearings on APCo's Petition. On November 16, 2021, at 10 a.m., a Hearing Examiner appointed by the Commission will hold a telephonic hearing, with no witness present in the Commission's courtroom, for the purpose of receiving the testimony of public witnesses. On or before November 10, 2021, any person desiring to offer testimony as a public witness shall provide to the Commission (a) your name, and (b) the telephone number that you wish the Commission to call during the hearing to receive your testimony. This information may be provided to the Commission in three ways: (i) by filling out a form on the Commission's website at [sec.virginia.gov/pages/Webcasting](http://sec.virginia.gov/pages/Webcasting); (ii) by completing and emailing the PDF version of this form to [SCCinfo@sec.virginia.gov](mailto:SCCinfo@sec.virginia.gov); or (iii) by calling (804) 371-9141. This public witness hearing will be webcast at [sec.virginia.gov/pages/Webcasting](http://sec.virginia.gov/pages/Webcasting).

On November 17, 2021, at 10 a.m., either in the Commission's second floor courtroom located in the Tyler Building, 1300 East Main Street, Richmond, Virginia 23219, or by electronic means, a hearing will be convened to receive testimony and evidence from the Company, any respondents, and the Commission's Staff. Further details on this hearing will be provided by subsequent Commission Order or Hearing Examiner's Ruling.

Electronic copies of the Petition and other supporting documents, as well as the Commission's Order for Notice and Hearing, may be obtained by submitting a written request to counsel for the Company, Noelle J. Coates, Esquire, 3 James Center, American Electric Power Service Corporation, 1051 East Cary Street, Suite 1100, Richmond, Virginia 23219, or [njcoates@aep.com](mailto:njcoates@aep.com).

On or before November 10, 2021, any interested person may file comments on the Petition either electronically by following the instructions on the Commission's website: [sec.virginia.gov/casecomments/Submit-Public-Comments](http://sec.virginia.gov/casecomments/Submit-Public-Comments), or by filing such comments with the Clerk of the State Corporation Commission, c/o Document Control Center, P.O. Box 2118, Richmond, Virginia 23218-2118. All comments shall refer to Case refer to Case No. PUR-2021-00047.

On or before September 7, 2021, any person or entity wishing to participate as a respondent in this proceeding may do so by filing a notice of participation with the Clerk of the Commission at: [sec.virginia.gov/clk/efiling](http://sec.virginia.gov/clk/efiling) or at the physical address listed above. Such notice of participation shall include the email addresses of such parties or their counsel. A copy of the notice of participation as a respondent also must be sent to counsel for the Company. Pursuant to 5 VAC 5-20-80 B, *Participation as a respondent*, of the Commission's Rules of Practice, any notice of participation shall set forth: (i) a precise statement of the interest of the respondent; (ii) a statement of the specific action sought to the extent then known; and (iii) the factual and legal basis for the action. All filings shall refer to Case No. PUR-2021-00047. For additional information about participation as a respondent, any person or entity should obtain a copy of the Commission's Order for Notice and Hearing.

On or before September 7, 2021, each respondent may file with the Clerk of the Commission, either electronically or at the physical address set forth above, and serve on the Commission's Staff, the Company, and all other respondents, any testimony and exhibits by which the respondent expects to establish its case, and each witness's testimony shall include a summary not to exceed one page. In all filings, respondents shall comply with the Commission's Rules of Practice, as modified by the Commission's Order for Notice and Hearing, including, but not limited to: 5 VAC 5-20-140, *Filing and service*, and 5 VAC 5-20-240, *Prepared testimony and exhibits*. All filings shall refer to Case No. PUR-2021-00047.

Any documents filed in paper form with the Office of the Clerk of the Commission in this docket may use both sides of the paper. In all other respects, except as modified by the Commission's Order for Notice and Hearing, all filings shall comply fully with the requirements of 5 VAC 5-20-150, *Copies and format*, of the Commission's Rules of Practice.

The Commission's Rules of Practice, APCo's Petition, the Commission's Order for Notice and Hearing, and other documents filed in this case may be viewed on the Commission's website at: [sec.virginia.gov/pages/Case-Information](http://sec.virginia.gov/pages/Case-Information).

APPALACHIAN POWER COMPANY





**STATEWIDE ADS**

**STATEWIDE ADS**

**STATEWIDE ADS**

**STATEWIDE ADS**

**STATEWIDE ADS**

**STATEWIDE ADS**

**STATEWIDE ADS**

**TRANSFORM YOUR BATH OR SHOWER IN AS LITTLE AS ONE DAY**

**CALL NOW**

**\$500 Off**

**NO PAYMENTS & NO INTEREST FOR 18 MONTHS\***

Offer Expires 9.30.2021

**BCI BATH & SHOWER** Military & Senior Discounts Available

**844-945-1631**

\*Includes product and labor. Bath, shower or walk-in tub and wall surround. This promotion cannot be combined with any other offer. Other restrictions may apply. This offer expires Sept. 30, 2021. Each dealership is independently owned and operated. \*\*Third party financing is available for those customers who qualify. See your dealer for details. ©2021 BCI Acrylic, Inc.

**AUCTIONS**  
ATTN. AUCTIONEERS: Advertise your upcoming auctions statewide and in other states. Affordable Print and Digital Solutions reaching your target audiences. Call this paper or Landon Clark at Virginia Press Services 804-521-7576, HYPERLINK "mailto:landonc@vpa.net" landonc@vpa.net

**HOME IMPROVEMENT**  
Vinyl Replacement Windows Starting at \$235\* Installed w/

Free Trim Wrap Call 804-739-8207 for MORE details! Ronnie Jenkins II Siding, Roofing, Gutters and More!

GENERAC Standby Generators provide backup power during utility power outages, so your home and family stay safe and comfortable. Prepare now. Free 7-year extended warranty (\$695 value!). Request a free quote today! Call for additional terms and conditions. 1-877-636-0738

The Generac PWRcell, a solar plus battery storage system. SAVE money, reduce your reliance on the grid, prepare for power outages and power your home. Full installation services available. \$0 Down Financing Option. Request a FREE, no obligation, quote today. Call 1-833-688-1378

Eliminate gutter cleaning forever! LeafFilter, the most advanced debris-blocking gutter protection. Schedule a FREE LeafFilter estimate today. 15% off Entire Purchase. 10% Senior & Military Discounts. Call 1-877-614-6667

Don't let the stairs limit your mobility! Discover the ideal solution for anyone who struggles on the stairs, is concerned about a fall or wants to regain access to their entire home. Call AmeriGlide today! 1-888-510-0805

Never Pay For Covered Home Repairs Again! Complete Care

Home Warranty COVERS ALL MAJOR SYSTEMS AND APPLIANCES. 30 DAY RISK FREE. \$200.00 OFF 2 FREE Months! 1-855-677-4975

ATTN. CONTRACTORS: Promote your business statewide and in other states. Affordable Print and Digital Solutions to reach Homeowners. Call Landon Clark at Virginia Press Services 804-521-7576, HYPERLINK "mailto:landonc@vpa.net" landonc@vpa.net

**DIVORCE - Uncontested**, \$395+\$86 court cost. WILLS-\$225.00. No court appearance. Estimated completion time twenty-one days. Hilton Oliver, Attorney (Facebook). 757-490-0126. Se Habla Espanol. BBB Member. HYPERLINK "https://hiltonoliverattorneyva.com" https://hiltonoliverattorneyva.com.

Up to \$15,000.00 of GUARANTEED Life Insurance! No medical exam or health questions. Cash to help pay funeral and other final expenses. Call Physicians Life Insurance Company-844-509-1697 or visit HYPERLINK "http://www.Life55plus.info/vapress" www.Life55plus.info/vapress

Portable Oxygen Concentrator May Be Covered by Medicare! Reclaim independence and mobility with the compact design and long-lasting battery of Inogen One. Free information kit! Call 888-608-4974

**A Smarter Way to Power Your Home.**

**REQUEST A FREE QUOTE!**

**ACT NOW TO RECEIVE A \$300 SPECIAL OFFER!\***

**1 (833) 688-1378**

\*Offer value when purchased at retail. Solar panels sold separately.

**Hiring NOW: Send resume to employment@GeoConstructors.com**

**GeoConstructors Inc.**, provides customers with innovative solutions to their foundation and grade challenges in VA, MD, DC, NY, NJ, NC, SC and PA. We are hiring experienced:

**Excavation Laborers with lagging experience**  
**Skid Steer Operators • Quality Control Production Inspectors**

Heavy road travel with a trip home every other weekend. Consistent overtime earnings, vacation, medical benefits, per diem, travel pay+ 401K match. EOE

# BUSINESS SERVICES DIRECTORY

**DR FAME**  
ALLERGY  
ASTHMA

**540-404-9598**  
1002 APPERSON DR • SALEM, VIRGINIA 24153  
WWW.DRTOMFAME.COM

**SENIOR FOR SENIORS**  
**PAINTING & RESIDENTIAL MAINTENANCE**

**Cell: 540-293-4271**

**RETIREMENT PLANNING**  
*Face it, you only get one shot at a successful retirement. We can help.*

**TALK TO WALT**  
WALTER S. KEARNS, JR., CFP® (540) 389-0300

**JUST FINANCIAL PLANNING, INC.**  
1630 ROANOKE BLVD., SALEM, WWW.JUSTFINANCIALPLANNING.COM

**embrace**  
home loans

**Robin Jewell**  
Senior Loan Officer / NMLS# 235597  
540.309.5013  
rjewell@embracehomeloans.com  
www.embracehomeloans.com/robin-jewell  
5044 Keagy Road, Suite H100  
Roanoke, VA 24018

Embrace Home Loans, Inc. (NMLS ID#2184) is licensed in VA. www.nmlsconsumeraccess.com

**EVANS ELECTRICAL & PLUMBING SERVICE**  
Fincastle  
**Residential • Commercial Industrial • Remodeling New Construction**  
473-2481 • 276-228-5863 cell  
Class A License • Insured Master Tradesman

**ROOF LEAKS?**

**CIRCLE R ROOFING OF VIRGINIA**

**Call for a FREE Estimate**  
**Rob Gendreau • 540.784.0500**

**MHC**  
Monroe Health Center

**Craig County Health Center**  
226 Market Street - New Castle, VA  
Phone: (540) 864-6390 Fax: (540) 864-6356

\*Physical Exams \* X-ray Services  
\* Laboratory Services \* Acute Care  
\*Mental Health Services \* Well Baby Checks

**ACCEPTING NEW PATIENTS**

**CARPET RE-STRETCHING!**  
**STEVEN W. DURRANCE FLOORS**

Repairs • New Sales • Expert  
**540-776-9591**  
**Cell: 540-353-7908**  
Licensed & Insured  
carpetroanoke.com

**Lisa Martin, REALTOR®**  
Serving the industry for 30+ years  
Roanoke Valley & Blue Ridge Mountains  
**Premier, REALTORS**  
(540) 597-0480  
Lisa@Lisa2buy.com • www.Lisa2buy.com  
1638 Roanoke Road, Suite 101  
Daleville, VA 24083

**BERKSHIRE HATHAWAY HomeServices**  
A member of the franchise system of BHH Affiliates, LLC

**Roof Replacement & Repair**

**Southern Trace Roofing**

All 1st Responders and Health Care Workers receive a 5% discount

540-966-0688 • PO Box 630, Daleville, VA 24083  
www.southerntracellc.com

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

**ADVERTISE!**

To place a classified ad, call 540-389-9355

**Sunflooring Inc.**  
**STEVE SMITH**  
With over 40 years of experience

Specializing in Hardwood Floors, Hardwood Refinishing, Laminate Flooring, Engineered Floors, Ceramic Tile, Carpet and Luxury Vinyl Plank

**540-556-3100**

**THE CLASSIFIEDS - Where the Deals Are!**

The best place to find it, sell it, buy it, and announce it.

**BUSINESS OPPORTUNITIES**  
Opportunity is knocking loud and clear.

**SITUATIONS WANTED**  
Find a job in your special field, or find the help you need.

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

**HOMES FOR SALE**  
**389-9355**

**Rory "Tater" Benson, REALTOR®**  
540.353.7173 cell  
540.989.4555 office  
tbenson@mkbrealtors.com

MLS, Leading Real Estate Companies in the World, Equal Housing Opportunity, Member ERCA Employee Relocation Council, MKB REALTORS

Are you turning 65 or new to Medicare?  
I can help you get Medicare ready.

Call a licensed Humana sales agent.

**BRANDI STOVALL**  
540-355-0894 (TTY: 711)  
Monday - Friday, 8 a.m. - 5 p.m.  
BSTOVALL@HUMANA.COM  
https://www.facebook.com/LicensedInsuranceAgentVA/

Humana.  
Y0040\_GHHHXDDEN21\_C

**HOUSE NEED A BATH?**

HOUSES DECKS PORCHES SIDEWALKS DRIVEWAYS GUTTERS

**Master Sergeant Taylor's Pressure Washing, LLC**  
Garry Taylor  
(252) 626-8708 USMC RETIRED drillinstr@gmail.com

**Shopping Starts Here**

**Newspaper Advertising Works!**

# ADVERTISE!



# MONTGOMERY SPORTS

## All-district, All-region teams: Eastern Montgomery's Elli Underwood 1C player of year

**Marty Gordon**  
NRVsports@ourvalley.org

Eastern Montgomery's Elli Underwood was announced Monday as the Region 1C soccer Player of the Year.

Radford High School placed four players on the Three Rivers District boys' soccer team. Seniors Austin Shepherd and Devin Culp were joined by sophomores Evan Rupe and Parker Prioleau. Five Bobcats were named to

the second-team: junior Jack Davis and seniors Zane Rupe, Mason Sproule, Grayson Herndon, and Sam Kennedy.

On the girls' side of the TRD, three Lady Cats were named to the first-team: Makenzie Page, Anna Turk, and Kathryn Vinson.

Radford's Sarah Lockett, Kora Epperly, and Emma McMurray were named to the second-team all-TRD.

Addie Saunders of Radford was named to the second-team

All-TRD softball list.

Local teams dominated the Region 1C girls' team.

Eastern Montgomery's girls' soccer team picked up their first state championship this past month. Underwood was honored as the Region 1C Player of the Year, and East Mont coach Whitney Shaver was named the region's Coach of the Year.

Eastern Montgomery placed 10 players on the region first-team: Madison Bruce, Sarah

Weatherspoon, Elli Underwood, Lilly Underwood, Madeline Mirrolli, Laken Smith, Jessie Blankenship, Lindsey Rader, Morgan Bahnken, and goalkeeper Logan Boone.

Auburn players named to the Region 1C soccer first-team included Katie Lite, Lily Messimer, and Katelyn Lafon.

One Eastern Montgomery player, Mackenzie Kidwell, was named to the second-team. Auburn had six players on the sec-

ond-team: Stacey Lewis, Mackela Richmeier, Kaitlyn Lytton, Abby Coe, Kelsie Groseclose, and goalkeeper Kristen Pack.

Auburn placed five players on the Region 1C baseball first-team. Pitcher Reed Underwood was joined by Tyler Sparrer, Parker Hale, Carter Keith, and Eric Altizer.

Eastern Montgomery's Brandon Work and Auburn's A.J. Reece were named to the Region 1C baseball second-team.

## Nichols brings in six recruits at RU

New Radford University men's basketball head coach Darris Nichols had to move fast to fill an empty roster after being named to the post just two months ago. Monday, the school announced the signing of six newcomers to the team for the 2021-22 season.

The list included 6-7 South Florida transfer Rashun Williams, who played for three years as a power forward. He saw consistent playing time while totaling 111 points, 80 rebounds, 9 blocks, 11 steals, and 14 assists.

Last season, he played a key part in defeating top-seeded Wichita State in the American Conference Tournament when he recorded six rebounds and scored eight points.

Before college, he played for the Calhoun County High School Cougars where he was two-time

Player of the Year and three-time Region Player of the Year in Georgia. His high school team won state championships in 2015 and was the runners-up in 2017. In the state semifinals against Randolph-Clay he scored a career-high 37 points.

6-2 guard Tai'Reon "Scootah" Joseph transferred to Radford from Austin Peay.

As a freshman, Joseph appeared in all 27 games while starting 12. He averaged 6.4 points per game with 16 steals, 29 assists, and 32 rebounds.

Before playing at Austin Peay, Joseph played four seasons at Scotlandville Magnet School, winning four straight state championships that included a win over the No. 12 team on the ESPN High School Top 25 in 2019-20. He was selected as a Louisiana Sports Writers Asso-

ciation All-State member as a senior after two straight years as an honorable mention on the list.

Darris Nichols and his brother, Shane Nichols, an assistant coach who comes from Murray State, were also able to attract three junior college players. 6-4 Roshawn Black played for the Seminole State College Trojans where he averaged 17 points per game while shooting 46% from three.

6-5 guard Camron "Cam" McNeil played at Spartanburg Methodist College for one season where he averaged 18.2 points, 6.6 rebounds, and 4.3 assists per game. McNeil was a consistent shooter all season long finishing at 46.1% from the field, 38.7% from three, and an 81.6% free throw percentage.

Before junior college, McNeil

attended Hargrave Military Academy in Chatham, Va.

Artese Stapleton comes to Radford from Lewis University where during his sophomore season he averaged 10.8 points and 3.8 rebounds per game.

Stapleton led the team in points (260), made field goals (95), field goals attempted (214), and assists (57) while also recording the second-most steals (28).

The Highlanders also signed 6-6 guard Derrick Jones, Jr., from the Blue Ridge School in Charlottesville. Jones recently finished up high school playing at both Albemarle and Blue Ridge High School. He earned multiple awards in 2019 including Player of the Week (twice), first team all-region, and second team all-state.

While playing for Blue Ridge,

he won two state championships in the VIC (B) region his junior and senior years with the team posting a 50-5 record over those two seasons. During the 2021 season, he was named Virginia State Tournament MVP after averaging 19.5 points, 1.6 assists, 8.5 rebounds, and two steals per game.

The new group will join nine returning players: redshirt senior Dravaon Mangum, Chyree Walker, sophomore guard Xavier Lipscomb, redshirt senior Lewis Djonkam, Josiah Jeffers,

Senior Shaquan Jules, graduate student Bryan Hart, sophomore Keishon Porter, and sophomore forward Joshua Walker.

Overall, the Highlanders will be returning 69% of both their scoring and minutes from last season. On the defensive end, Radford returns 70% of its rebounds, 90 total steals, and 40 blocks from last year's squad that finished the season with a 15-12 (12-6 Big South) record.

## Radford golfer wins on Blue Ridge youth golf tour

The Blue Ridge Youth Golf Tour took to the Greenbriar (West Virginia) course this past week, and Radford golfer Hudson Hurt won the 10-12 age group competition with a 9-hole score of 43.

In other results:

17-18 Age Group (competition in this age group was over 10 holes) Par 40:

Dalton Minnick of Abingdon prevailed in a three-way playoff by making a par on the third hole. Minnick posted a score of 47 over the 10-hole course and was tied

with Tanner Walls of Mathena, WestVa., and Logan Douthat of Pearisburg.

Douthat was first to be eliminated when he made a bogey on the first playoff hole allowing Minnick and Walls to continue as they made pars. The pair made pars again on the second hole, but it was Minnick who triumphed on the par-5 third hole. Strategically placing his drive in the fairway, Minnick hit his second shot to within 60 yards of the hole. A short wedge put his ball on the green where he putted twice for

his par to win the age group.

15-16 Age Group (competition in this age group was over 10 holes) Par 40:

Connor Catterson of Blacksburg made it to a one-hole playoff but lost to Walker Gillespie of Pearisburg. They each shot a 46 on the 10-hole course. Gillespie showed power off the tee ripping a drive 280 yards, allowing him to position the short wedge shot close to the hole. After Catterson narrowly missed his 25-foot birdie putt, Gillespie calmly sank his from inside 10 feet. Hunt-

er Howard of Shawsville, was a stroke back at 47 to capture third. Trey Tomlinson of Wytheville was fourth with a score of 48.

13-14 Age Group (competition in this age group was over 10 holes) Par 40:

Harris Camp of Roanoke posted a score of 45 and won the age group by two strokes. James Gayle of Bristol finished second at 47. Grayden Laird of Galax and McCarty Hinkle of Bluefield tied for third with scores of 48.

10-12 Age Group Par 35:

Hudson Hurt of Radford posted a 9-hole score of 43 to win the age group. Campbell Sayers of Marion played alongside Hurt and finished second with a score of 46. Liam Smith of Elliston finished third with a score of 47.

9 and Under Age Group Par 35:

In the youngest age group, Blacksburg's Daniel DeJesus shot a 66 to finish second to Tazewell's Connor Kitts, who shot a 63. Christopher Rizo of Tazewell was third at 67 followed by John Cline of Raven with a score of 68.

## Emory & Henry athletics stepping up to Division II

The National Collegiate Athletic Association (NCAA) announced Friday that Emory & Henry College has officially been accepted as a provisional member of Division II, ending a 48-year run as a charter member of Division III.

Emory & Henry will join the South Atlantic Conference (SAC) for the 2022-23 academic year after accepting a membership invitation to join the league last November. The college will participate in 19 of the SAC's championship sports, including the conference's combined men's wrestling championship with Conference Carolinas.

"This is a monumental moment in our institution's immense history as we continue to position Emory & Henry as the flagship higher education institution of Middle Appalachia for scholars and athletes," said Dr. John W. Wells, Emory

& Henry College President. "Reclassification has been a high priority within our strategic plan as we prepare for the future of higher education."

The college's acceptance became official Friday afternoon in a news release from the NCAA national office. Emory & Henry thus becomes just the fourth Division II member in Virginia.

"Today's announcement is a culmination of 18 months of work across many departments throughout campus," said Athletics Director Anne Crutchfield. "From the beginning, it has been clear that Emory & Henry aligns well with the

values, goals, and mission of Division II and the SAC. While a transition will take time, I anticipate that we will quickly become a highly competitive member of the SAC."

Emory & Henry will begin the first of three provisional years in August. If all benchmarks are met, the college would be eligible for full membership in August of 2024. The impact of the move to Division II and other strategic initiatives have helped produce record enrollment for the Fall 2021 semester.

The addition of Emory & Henry will increase the number of SAC members

to 14. The SAC currently consists of teams from South Carolina (Anderson, Coker, Newberry, Limestone), North Carolina (Catawba, Lenoir-Rhyne, Mars Hill, Queens University of Charlotte, Wingate), Tennessee (Carson-Newman, Lincoln Memorial, Tusculum), and Virginia (The University of Virginia's College at Wise).

"This is great news for both Emory & Henry and the SAC," said SAC Commissioner Patrick Britz. "I know President Wells, Anne Crutchfield, and numerous others on campus have worked tirelessly to get to this point, and we are confident the transition to Division II will be a smooth one.

The SAC looks forward to the Wasps joining the league in 2022-23."

The South Atlantic Conference currently offers football, baseball, softball, field hockey, women's volleyball, men's wrestling, men's and women's basketball, lacrosse, soccer, golf, tennis, cross country, and indoor/outdoor track & field. Field hockey and men's wrestling are technically part of the 'South Atlantic Conference Carolinas,' a joint sponsorship venture between the SAC and Conference Carolinas. Emory & Henry added both men's and women's wrestling in the fall of 2020.

**CROSSWORD ANSWERS**

S	M	A	A	D	P	A	V	O					
P	A	N	M	O	O	W	I	G					
C	U	R	E	T	M	A	M	E	R	A	S	E	
A	S	I	N	I	N	E	P	O	S	T	M	A	N
M	E	G	A	B	I	T	A	R	O	U	S	E	D
			D	E	K	E	N	A	M	E			
G	R	A	S	S	E	R	O	N	E	S	E	L	F
S	B	A									T	A	I
A	C	R	O	B	A	T	P	A	S	S	A	G	E
			M	L	L	E	A	L	A	E			
M	A	G	N	U	M	S	L	A	M	I	N	A	E
A	G	A	I	N	S	T	A	R	I	Z	O	N	A
D	O	U	B	T	A	B	C	S	U	R	A	T	
			D	U	E	T	A	E	R	G			
S	S	R	E	B	S	N	E	E					

**ANDERSON AUDIOLOGY**  
Hearing Aid Sales & Service, Inc.  
Locally Owned and Operated Since 1963

**Marie Church, M.S.**  
Audiologist & Hearing Aid Specialist

**Sherry Deeb, B.S. SLP/A**  
Hearing Aid Specialist

*Hear Better* ||||| *Live Better*

- Complete Hearing Evaluation
- Video Otoscopic Exam
- Risk-Free Trial

**We have Four Offices to serve you!**

**BLACKSBURG, VA** - 3607 S. MAIN ST - (540) 381-6967  
**WYTHEVILLE, VA** (276) 228-0866  
**DUBLIN, VA** (540) 674-4889  
**GALAX, VA** (276) 236-0778

**WIDEX**  
HIGH DEFINITION HEARING

Open Mon thru Fri, 8:30 am - 5:00 pm - anderson-audiology.com

**CHANGES TO EXPLORER GOLD BEGIN 7/12**

Route and schedule information available at [ridebt.org/christiansburg](http://ridebt.org/christiansburg)

**BT**