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Virginia Tech Board of Visitors to meet Aug. 29-31



During the three-day meeting, board members will receive reports on the Innovation Campus, the College of Engineering, and student wellness and success and hear an update on current operations related to the COVID pandemic.

The Virginia Tech Board of Visitors will hold its quarterly board meeting on Tuesday, Aug. 31, at 1:15 p.m. in Room 2100 Torgersen Hall (600 Drillfield Drive) on the Blacksburg campus.

On Sunday, Aug. 29, a retreat will be held in open session for all returning board members from noon to 5 p.m. at the Hahn Garden Pavilion and Horticulture Garden (200 Garden Lane, Blacksburg). Board members will receive information on and discuss the current state of the university in the context of achieving long-term university goals.

On Monday, Aug. 30, the board's Executive Committee will meet in closed session at 8 a.m. in 1872 Sa-

lon at the Inn at Virginia Tech (901 Prices Fork Road, Blacksburg). At 10:30 a.m., all board members will meet in Latham Ballroom A/B at the Inn at Virginia Tech for an open information session.

During the board's three-day session, the following committee meetings will be held:

On Tuesday, Aug. 31, the Academic, Research, and Student Affairs Committee will meet in open session at 8 a.m. in Latham Ballroom A/B. At 9:30 a.m., the Academic, Research, and Student Affairs Committee and the Finance and Resource Committee will meet jointly in closed session in Latham Ballroom A/B.

On Aug. 30, the Buildings and Grounds Committee will assemble in the lobby of The Inn at 9:30 a.m. to tour the recently renovated President's Suite in Lane Stadium. At 1:15 p.m., the committee will tour Randolph Hall (460 Old Turner St., Blacksburg), Holden Hall (445 Old Turner St., Blacksburg, under construction), and the recently opened Creativity and Innovation District Living-Learning Community (185 Kent St., Blacksburg). Following the tours, the committee will meet in open session in Latham Ballroom A/B. At 4:45 p.m., the Building and Grounds Committee and Finance and Resource Management Committee will meet jointly in open session in Latham Ballroom A/B.

On Aug. 30, the Compliance, Audit, and Risk Committee will meet in closed session at 9 a.m. in Latham Ballroom A/B.

The Finance and Resource Management Committee will meet Aug. 31 at 10 a.m. in open session in Latham Ballroom A/B.

During the three-day meeting, board members will receive reports on the Innovation Campus, the College of Engineering, student wellness and success, and will receive an update on current operations related to the COVID-19 pandemic. The board will also consider a design review of the proposed Hitt Hall.

Public comment will not be received at the meeting. Complete information may be found at the Virginia Tech Board of Visitors website.

New map to showcase 60-mile trail network in Montgomery County

Friends of the Huckleberry along with the Town of Blacksburg, the Town of Christiansburg, and Montgomery County have released a high-quality, waterproof, tear-resistant paper map, which is available for purchase for \$10 at Bike Barn, Blacksburg Books, East Coasters (both Blacksburg and Roanoke locations), Rising Silo Brewery, and Run-About Sports.

For the first time since the Huckleberry Trail was established, this map shows the entire trail as well as the many trails the Huckleberry connects to, including the new McDonald Hollow Trail Network, Gateway Trail, Mountain Bike Skills Park, the Poverty Creek Trail System, Pandapas Pond, the Coal Mining Heritage Loop Trail, and

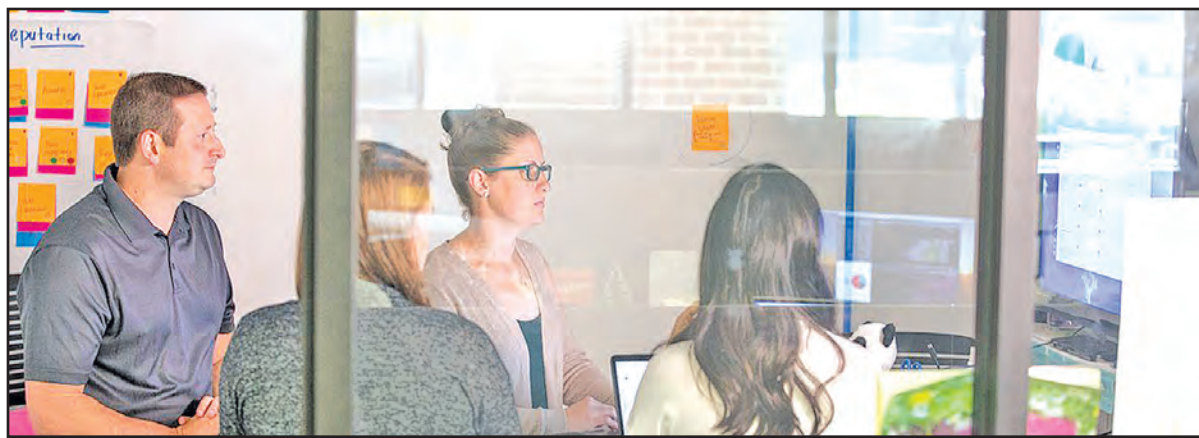
neighborhood trails. In total, the network of paved and natural surface trails exceeds 60 miles.

To produce the new map, Friends of the Huckleberry reached out to professional cartographers at Pisgah Map Company. With a unique fusion of elegant design and trail-born intuition, PMC has been using its Western North Carolina roots to build the best maps on the market. The design and print costs for the new map were shared among Friends of the Huckleberry and the local governments. The new Huckleberry Trail map contains street level details and is easy to understand and use.

The new map is part of a larger objective that

See Trail, page 6

Magazine names Montgomery companies among fastest growing in the country



Two Montgomery County tech companies, Modea and Harmonia, have made Inc. magazine's list of the 5,000 fastest growing companies in the United States. According to Virginia Business, only 310 companies across the state of Virginia were included on the prestigious list. This marked the third time Modea has been ranked while Harmonia has made the list 11 times since 2009.

VT's Class of 2025 has arrived

Virginia Tech has welcomed new and returning students to campus for the start of the 2021-22 academic year, planning for a fully in-person college experience this fall after the COVID-19 pandemic resulted in 15 months of closures and remote instruction.

A snapshot of the incoming class of first-year and transfer students reveals academic talent and the most diverse group of new Hokies ever. The data, as of Aug. 17, 2021, indicated that in its sesquicentennial year, the university has edged

closer to achieving enrollment goals outlined in its strategic plan, The Virginia Tech Difference: Advancing Beyond Boundaries.

Comprehensive strategies to grow underrepresented minority and underserved populations helped increase the number of incoming underrepresented and underserved students to 39.3 percent. Virginia Tech has set a strategic goal of achieving 40 percent of underrepresented minority and underserved populations by 2022. The snapshot shows that 20 percent of

the incoming class is first generation. Just under 17 percent can receive federal Pell Grants.

The incoming class is Virginia Tech's most racially diverse, posting historic highs for African Americans (8.7 percent) when combining African American (6.8 percent) and two or more races that indicate African American (1.9 percent). Hispanic/Latino students represent 10.5 percent of the incoming class. This amounts to a 93 percent increase in African Americans and a 64 percent increase in Hispanic/Latinos compared to the class of freshmen and transfers that arrived in 2017, the year before changes in admission began at Virginia Tech.

Despite challenges faced during the COVID-19 pandemic, Virginia Tech attracted a record 42,103 freshman applications during the 2021 admissions cycle, a 36 percent increase over the previous cycle and a testament to the university's strong academic reputation and continued efforts to expand its reach. Overall, first-year African American applications rose 68 percent compared to 2020. First-year applications from Hispanic students were up 42 percent.

Transfer applications increased 4.8 percent to 3,080, in part to

See Arrived, page 6



Virginia Tech's incoming class of first-year and transfer students is the most diverse group of new Hokies ever and is among the most academically talented groups ever.

Wizardly event in Radford's Bisset Park to support adult literacy



Participants in the 2019 Triwizard TriMile Race show off their Harry Potter wizardly garb. This year's event is set for Saturday, Aug. 28, in Bisset Park.

RADFORD - The Literacy Volunteers of the NRV are calling all wizards of Gryffindor, Hufflepuff, Ravenclaw, and Slytherin to come to Bisset Park and have the courage, strength, and power to conquer the Potter in the Park 2021 Triwizard TriMile Race on Saturday, Aug. 28, Hogwarts Move-In Day.

The race sets off at 9:45 a.m.

The Harry Potter-themed event asks participants to "run, walk, apparate, or fly three miles through the wizarding world of Bisset Park in Radford or be a virtual runner using an invisibility cloak."

The Wizard race entry fee is \$25. The fee for four wizards is \$80. Pets are also encouraged to attend.

One hundred percent of the proceeds will go to support Literacy Volunteers of the NRV's adult literacy programs. Raffle tickets will be on sale with chances to win a set of four House pillows, a literacy-themed Potter quilt, and a guitar. All racers will receive a magical Potter T-shirt, a lightning bolt tattoo, and some other fun goodies.

Participants should register at <http://www.lvnrv.org/potterinthepark> to ensure a T-shirt.

"Better bring your magical creature to protect you in the Forbidden Forest, \$10 for beasts," says the event description.

Magical creatures will receive a Potter-themed bandanna from Prof. Trelawney (Cynthia Wayne.)

Participants will self-sort into Houses upon registration with Prof. McGonagall (Anna Dalton) overseeing the sorting. The House Cup winner will be the house with the most registrants.

The festivities will include a "butterbeer" tasting and Potter trivia wheel in association with the Radford Public Library.

In addition to magical medals for the fastest male and female racers, awards will be bestowed upon the male and female wizards with the fastest times in the following age categories: three through five, six through nine, 10 through 12, 13 through 15, 16 through 19, 20 through 29, 30 through 39, 40 through 49, 50 through 59, 60 through 69, and 70 and older.

Bestly awards will be donated by New River Engraving.

A costume contest will be held, and awards will be granted in the categories of youth, adult, and magical creature/pet.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Thursday, Aug. 26:

In-Person Dungeons and Dragons

Radford Public Library is offering an in-person one-shot session of library D&D at 4:30 p.m. To get help creating a level four adventurer, email duncan.hall@radfordva.gov. Otherwise, feel free to just show up. All ages are welcome.

Saturday, Aug. 28:

Dialogue on Race 2021 Summer Summit

From 4 to 5:30 p.m. at Montgomery County Moose Lodge No. 1470, 115 Fairview Rd. NE, Christiansburg. The theme is Student Voices: Reflections on Race and Racism in our Schools. Register at <https://events.r20.constantcontact.com/register/eventReg?oeidk=a07eib8sm17c5bacc8a&oseq=&c=&ch=>.

Triwizard Tri-Mile Trail Race

At Bisset Park at 9:30 a.m. The race is a fundraiser for Literacy Volunteers of the New River Valley. Register for the race at www.lvnrv.org/potterinthepark. For more information, call (540) 382-7262 or send an "owl" to info@lvnrv.org. Follow <https://www.facebook.com/LVNRV/> for race updates.

Sunday, Aug. 29

Glencoe Mansion to host closing reception for

"Mountain Rail Tales"

Glencoe Mansion, Museum, and Gallery will conclude its summer gallery exhibit "Mountain Rail Tales," featuring the photography of Dale R. Carlson of Bluemoonistic Images with a closing reception on Sunday, Aug. 29, from 2:00 to 4:00 p.m. Everyone is welcome, and there is no admission charge. Glencoe is located at 600 Unruh Dr. in Radford.

Thursday, Sept. 2:

American Legion meeting

American Legion, Harvey-Howe-Carper Post 30 will meet at 7 p.m. at the VFW Post Home on 102 Watts St. in Radford. Representatives from Boys State and Girl's State will be recognized at this meeting. For further information, call 250-2283 or 239-9864.

Wednesday, Sept. 8:

Blacksburg Rent Relief Workshop

Virginia's Rent Relief Program can provide funds to assist in paying rent, late fees, and other lease-related costs back to April 2020 for those impacted by COVID-19. Learn about the requirements and get help completing online applications at Blacksburg's Rent Relief Workshop at 7:30 p.m. at the Blacksburg Montgomery

Floyd Regional Library. For more information, call the library at 540-552-8246.

Brown Bag Book Club

At the Radford Public Library at noon, the Brown Bag Book Club will be discussing Kate Moore's "Radium Girls." Bring a lunch and make some new friends at this casual book discussion. In October, the brown baggers will be discussing the classic Halloween read "Frankenstein" by Mary Shelley.

Saturday, Sept. 11:

NRV Regional Household Hazardous Waste Collection & Document Shredding

Residents served by the New River Resource Authority are invited to participate in the region's household hazardous waste collection and document shredding Event. Residents interested in this event will need to call the New River Resource Authority at 540-674-1677 to schedule an appointment. The event will be held at 7100 Cloyd's Mountain Road, Dublin, from 9 a.m. until 2 p.m. No commercial waste or commercial vehicles will be accepted.

Tuesday, Sept. 14:

The Sons of Confederate Veterans meeting

The Sons of Confederate Veterans, Stuart

Horse Artillery Camp 1784, will meet at 7 p.m. at Aly's Family Italian Restaurant at 3204 Riner Road. Members of the United Daughters of the Confederacy (UDC) are invited to attend this meeting. For further information, please call 320-4315 or 239-9864.

Radford City Police Department Civilian Response and Casualty Care course

The Radford City Police Department is offering a free course to the public designed to give life-saving skills. This in-person course of Civilian Response and Casualty Care (CRCC) provides a coordinated effort through a "whole community approach" to establish stakeholders within the community and empower citizens to become "immediate responders" who do what they can where they are and with what they have to work with until first responders arrive. Interested persons can sign up for the course at www.radford.va.us and choose either a morning session (8 a.m. until noon) or an afternoon session (1 to 5 p.m.).

Wednesday, Sept. 15:

Virginia Tech Women's Club Annual Welcome Reception

The Virginia Tech Women's Club (VTWC) will host its Annual Wel-

come Reception at The Holtzman Alumni Center from 4 to 5:30 p.m. Because of concerns about COVID-19 and the Delta Variant, the reception will not be held at the Grove. Instead, an indoor/outdoor facility will be the new venue so that CDC and VT safety guidelines can be followed. Attendees are asked to wear a mask.

Honorary President Dr. Laura Sands, and women's club president Dr. Debra Call will host the event, which includes refreshments. The reception is free and open to the public. All women who are interested in supporting Women at VT by awarding scholarships, serving the community, enjoying a multitude of interest groups, traveling to local sights, and listening to engaging community speakers are invited to attend the reception. For more information or to join this group of women, contact VTWC65@gmail.com.

Thursday, Sept. 23:

What Isn't Remembered

At the Radford Public Library from 7 to 8 p.m. Kristina Gorcheva-Newberry, winner of the 2021 Raz/Shumaker Prairie Schooner Book Prize in Fiction, is a Russian-Armenian émigré who moved to the U.S. in 1995 after witnessing

perestroika and the collapse of the Soviet Empire. She graduated from both Radford and Hollins universities. She has published over 50 stories and received eight Pushcart nominations.

Through September:

Blacksburg's Market Square Jam 2021

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

Simply Elemental Art Exhibit

The Simply Elemental art display in the Hahn Horticultural Garden (on the Virginia Tech campus) will be on display through Sept. 30.

Through October:

Radford Farmers Market

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

Local college students graduate, earn academic honors

Blacksburg's Daniel Folta named to Lee's dean's list

Daniel Folta of Blacksburg has been named to the dean's list for the spring 2021 semester at Lee University in Cleveland, Tenn. Dean's List recognition is earned by full-time, on-campus students with a semester grade-point-average between 3.7 and 4.00.

Lee University is a private, comprehensive university in the foothills of the Appalachian Mountains. Over the

past two decades, Lee has become one of the largest Christ-centered private universities in the nation. During that period, the university has undergone a remarkable transformation that has included significant growth in academic programs, athletics, student enrollment, faculty expertise and diversity, and an expanded sense of mission and vision.

Blacksburg's Kennet Manley graduates from Berea College

Kennet Manley of Blacksburg received a Bachelor of Science in Agriculture and Natural Resources from Berea College, conferred on June 10, 2021.

Located in Berea, Ky., Berea College, the first interracial and coeducational college in the South, focuses on learning, labor and service. The college admits only academically promising students with limited financial resources primarily from Kentucky and Appalachia but welcomes students from

41 states and 76 countries.

Every Berea student receives a Tuition Promise Scholarship, which means no Berea student pays tuition. Berea is one of nine federally recognized Work Colleges, so students work 10 hours or more weekly to earn money for books, housing, and meals. The college's motto, "God has made of one blood all peoples of the earth," speaks to its inclusive Christian character.

Three from Radford earn dean's list honors at Emory & Henry

Three students from Radford -- Logan Graham, Sophie Graham, and Zackie Pendergrass -- have been named to the spring 2021 dean's list at Emory & Henry College in Emory, Va.

To be named to the Dean's list, students must be a full time student and receive a 3.6 GPA for the

semester.

Located in the Highlands of Virginia, Emory & Henry College has devoted itself since 1836 to the belief that education can have a transformative effect on an individual, a place, and ultimately the wider world.

Emory & Henry College is consistently ranked among the nation's best private liberal arts institutions. The college's many accolades include the Presidential Award for Service Learning, the highest national recognition for community service and service learning; top tier recognition in Washington Monthly, USA Today, and Newsweek; and listing among the top 40 schools in Colleges that Change Lives.

Blacksburg's Ethan McDowell earns dean's list honors at Emerson College


Ethan McDowell, a native 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, 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. Supported by state-of-the-art facilities and a renowned faculty, students participate in more than 90 student organizations and performance groups.

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919 Newbern Rd – This property consists of +/- .398 acres with an owned 2 bedroom, 2 bath 1991 singlewide mobile home which is rented for \$350 / mo. There is space for another mobile home on the lot in which renter pays \$175 / mo. for lot rent only. (2nd mobile home is not included in the sale)


929 Newbern Rd – This property consists of a 1,084 sq. ft. salon, a separate carwash and +/- .9 acres. The salon has 1 bath, shampoo area and plenty of storage space. Has a covered porch area, gas furnace and electric wall heater. The car wash has 2 bays and according to owner, brings in around \$800 / mo.

Preview Date – Thursday August 26th @ 4 PM

Terms – 10% Buyer's Premium will be added to final high bid to arrive at contract price. Earnest Money Deposit of \$2,500 required on day of sale. Close on or before October 25th 2021. Subject to seller confirmation. Property sold as is, where is with any and all faults. Buyer is expected to complete their own due diligence. Auction starts ending at 4 PM on September 7th 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. Download Bidder Information Pack at VaAuctionPro.com

Contact Matt Gallimore, Broker/Auctioneer at 540-239-2585 or email Gallimore.Matt@gmail.com; or Mauyer Gallimore at 540-250-5051

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Christ Wesleyan Church's special service to feature chalk art evangelist



Christ Wesleyan Church, 525 Harkrader St. in Christiansburg, will present a special service Sunday, Sept. 5, at 11 a.m. featuring chalk art evangelist the Rev. Dwight Haynes and his family.

Christ Wesleyan Church will open its doors to everyone for a special service, Good News Chalk Talks, featuring chalk art evangelist the Rev. Dwight Haynes, and his family on Sunday, Sept. 5, at 11 a.m.

This unique ministry will feature Christian music by the Rev. Haynes and his wife, Ann, and a Bible message illustrated on a large canvas in full color along with black-light effects. For more information about the Good News Chalk Talks ministry and this service, phone 574-306-7682 or read more online at www.ChalkTalks.net.

The Rev. Dwight Haynes is a master chalk artist and biblical evangelist. He holds a master's degree in religious education from Liberty University and a Bachelor of Theology degree with youth and music minors from Piedmont Inter-

national University.

The Rev. Haynes and his wife have utilized God's ministry gifts since 1994 as a gospel chalk-artist, serving as a home missionary to nursing and retirement homes, pastoring churches in Virginia and North Carolina, and as an international missionary-evangelist.

He has travelled with his talents to minister in many of this country's states and in England, Scotland, and Southeast Asia.

Having served as a Christian school administrator, the Rev. Haynes and his wife parent and home-school their children with biblical conviction. The reverend is also the co-founder and a consulting director of Life Development International, a missionary-training ministry based in Southeast Asia.

USDA report: Value of Virginia cropland tops national average, which set an all-time high

WASHINGTON—The U.S. Department of Agriculture's annual land values report, released on Aug. 6, indicates that U.S. cropland is now valued at an average of \$4,420 per acre, the highest on record and up almost 8% from \$4,100 in 2020, which was the previous record high. The report also set the average value of an acre of Virginia cropland at \$4,680.

USDA also reported that farm real estate value, which measures the value of all land and buildings on farms, also increased to a record-high \$3,380 per acre from \$3,160 in 2020. Virginia's real estate value also was higher than the national average at \$4,700 per acre.

Tony Banks, senior assistant director of agriculture, development, and innovation for Virginia Farm Bureau Federation, noted the increase—and relative stability—of cropland values in Virginia generally is beneficial for farmers.

"Stable land values help farmers who own their land because it improves their equity positions and their ability to see returns on their investments," Banks said. "That equity can then help farmers ob-

tain loans for increased production or help serve as collateral for other future investments."

The stability of land values also reduces the potential for large swings in the cash rental rates farmers pay, which was the case in 2021, Banks said.

The National Agricultural Statistics Service recently published data regarding cash rental rates for U.S. cropland, finding the average rate was \$141 per acre, up from \$139 in 2020. In Virginia, cash rental rates for cropland decreased slightly in 2021, dropping to \$61 per acre from \$62 in 2020.

Grain farmer Craig Giese, who farms over 500 acres of rented land in Lancaster County, noted the continued increase in land value doesn't necessarily mean Virginia farmers will pay higher rent prices.

"Land values obviously will have some correlation to rent prices, but rent prices mostly are related to commodity prices," Giese said. "It's always a delicate balance of where commodity prices are and what your rent is, but in years like this, with farmers getting good prices, we can afford to pay a little more."



A recent report from the USDA placed the average value of U.S. cropland at \$4,420 an acre, an all-time high, and the average value of Virginia cropland higher than that at \$4,680 an acre.

Best way to prevent snake bites? Leave them alone



While Virginia has 32 species of snakes, only three are venomous. The Virginia Department of Health reports that the commonwealth has only one deadly snake bite every 10 to 15 years.

There are 32 species of snakes in Virginia, but only three are venomous, and death from snake bites is extremely rare.

About 8,000 people in the U.S. are bitten by venomous snakes each year, and up to 10 of them die as a result, according to the Virginia Herpetological Society. According to the Virginia Department of Health, only about one death from snake bites occurs every 10-15 years in the state.

The state's herpetologist, John "J.D." Kleopfer, said 99% of all encounters between humans and snakes can be resolved safely if people heed his four words of advice: "Just. Leave. Them. Alone."

"Bad things often happen when people take matters into their own hands," said Kleopfer, who has served as the state herpetologist with the Virginia Department of Wildlife Resources for 15 years. "If people leave snakes alone, then they don't need to worry

whether they're venomous or not."

Of Virginia's three venomous snakes, only the eastern copperhead is found statewide. The other two—the northern cottonmouth and the timber rattlesnake—have limited geographical distribution.

Venomous snake bites are considered medical emergencies and need to be treated quickly. However, the chances of being enven-

omated are extremely low.

"Although venomous snakes occasionally may pose a risk to one's personal health and safety, the vast majority of species do not present an imminent danger or threat to us," said Dr. James Parkhurst, an associate professor in Virginia Tech's Fish and Wildlife Conservation Department.

Most snakes are even beneficial. Larger snake species help manage rodent populations by eating mice, rats and voles, Parkhurst said. Many smaller snakes feed on insects and other invertebrate pests common in gardens and landscaped areas. Black racers and eastern king snakes will often prey on other snakes, including venomous species.

Some snakes serve as a food resource for other predators, such as raccoons, opossums, skunks, and birds of prey. "Thus, snakes are important players in the food web and are a key component of healthy ecosystems," Parkhurst said.

As people are spending time outside during the

summer months, they should take certain precautions, Kleopfer said. Snakes are most active at night and in warm weather, so watch where you step, and use a flashlight when walking at night. Protective clothing also is important when spending time in places where snakes may be hiding, like brush or debris.

Never handle a snake, even if you think it is dead. Recently killed snakes can bite by reflex, even detached snake heads.

One of the best ways to

prevent venomous snake bites is to "get to know which snakes live in your area," Kleopfer said. He said the Virginia Herpetological Society provides statewide identification charts and even has a feature where residents can upload images of snakes and get them identified. Visit virginiaherpetologicalsociety.com for more information.

"Remember, snakes are not out to get you and will not chase you," Kleopfer said. "If you leave them alone, they will leave you alone."

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OPINION

Buddy King: My “annual” physical

I am always on the lookout for a nice topic for a column, to give the Man of a Certain Age (my competing columnist at the moment) a break and to keep my damn cat (A Cat of a Certain Age) from trying to steal my thunder. I found one recently.

Last week I had my “annual” physical at one of our nation’s great medical facilities. I put “annual” in quotes because I once went 4,015 days between “annual” physicals. 2006 - 2017. Unfortunately, I have never given this part of my life enough emphasis, and during the period of my late wife’s decline, I paid no heed to my health at all. That was my natural inclination anyway.

I believe in medical science, I believe in vaccines, etc., but I also tend to feel bulletproof and optimistic and that there’s someone out there watching over me. I am whatever is the opposite of a hypochondriac. All of that has worked pretty well so far, subject to some dissenting opinions, a few of which I heard last week.

The annual physical at this wonderful hospital is a requirement of my law firm for partners who get past a certain age. Before that age, it is an every-3-year event. It is also sometimes honored in the breach more than the observance, at least by me. It is also considered a “perk” by many

of our lawyers. “Oh, isn’t it wonderful that we get to go to this place and not eat or drink anything for 12 hours and then we get poked and probed and prodded and interrogated by complete strangers while we sit around in our underwear!” I guess if this is a perk, the next thing the firm will do for us is an all-expense paid vacation in Kabul.

The first special moment of this “perk” this time involved taking blood out of my body for tests. I have been a blood donor for years and am not squeamish about the process, but at one point I was wondering whether there was going to be more blood in the vials than would be left in me. They stopped when I started to sag, I think.

The next step was my meeting with the nutritionist, an attractive woman shaped like a 3-wood, with a slightly larger head. Not surprisingly, she and I have fundamental differences about what is nutritious. She went through her litany of what I should be eating. She never mentioned cheeseburgers, much less chicken fried steak or country ham, so she obviously had zero credibility. I did hear the word pizza, but the toppings apparently were discussed in a foreign language. Anyway, we agreed to disagree and parted as friends. I think.

Next was my “life coach.”

This is where medical science seems to take a break, and we get into the metaphysical. I was asked to grade on a scale from zero to ten my level of satisfaction with various aspects of my life, some of which I didn’t even realize I had. It ranged from work to spiritual. I am excellent at pulling numbers out of thin air, so I think this part went well. After a short while though, I realized my life coach was probably 20 years younger than me, so maybe I should have been coaching him on life rather than vice versa.

Next stop was the exercise physiologist. A nice young lady with lots of ideas. The highlight was when she was testing me for range of motion, and she told me to extend my leg in a certain direction as far as I could. I told her we were already there. I did not pass this part.

The experience declined from there with probing and more needles and other things I’d just as soon not discuss or revisit. It did remind me of my first trip to the clinic many years ago when I became “eligible” for my first colonoscopy. It was not quite the milestone that turning 21 had been. One of my contemporaries in the firm was with me, and he too got to enjoy this unique experience. When we were walking out of the testing area, he turned to

the person who had administered the navigation and said, “Remind me to do something nice for you someday.” I asked if we tipped there or if it was added to the bill. This was close to 30 years ago, and when we left the clinic and compared reports, we decided we didn’t have much time left, so we came home by way of Pittsburgh and had a wonderful dinner at one of our favorite restaurants with lots of red wine. We then got good cigars and smoked them while standing on the banks of one of the three rivers and contemplating the meaning of life. Surprisingly, and fortunately, the clinic’s dire predictions have not yet been borne out.

After all of the stops along the way, my day ended with a meeting with the doctor assigned to me, who reads all of the reports, pulls everything together and then pronounces sentence. Reading his chart upside down, I am pretty sure I saw that he had scratched out “baseline” and written in “finish line.” I did not take that as a positive sign.

I like my personal doctor at the clinic very much. I was assigned to him in 2017 when I returned from my 11-year hiatus. He and I are about the same age and have many of the same interests. On my last visit, I had discovered that he loved baseball as much as I did, and we corresponded on

the topic after that meeting. This time around, he noticed that I was wearing a Grateful Dead mask and he told me that he too was a Dead Head.

We had a nice discussion of the Dead and then a spirited debate over the change of the name of the Cleveland Indians to the Cleveland Guardians. Neither of us much liked Guardians, my doc favoring Spiders while I preferred Blue Sox. This led us to a final area of common interest.

As he read through my charts, apparently including my answers to the pre-visit questionnaire, he said, “Hey, I like beer too!” As he read on, apparently getting to consumption patterns, he said, “but not as much as you!”

In all seriousness, I am grateful for the efforts and attention of the entire group of prodders and interrogators. I just wish my doc and I had the same idea on the appropriate dosage of beer. I do note that four different folks at the clinic said I could drink two beers a day. By my calculation, 4 x 2 = 8 beers. I can live with that. Or not.

Evans "Buddy" King is a proud native of Christiansburg, CHS Class of 1971. He resides in Clarksburg, W.Va., where he has practiced law with the firm of Steptoe & Johnson, PLLC, since 1980. He can be reached at evans.king@steptoe-johnson.com.

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WalletHub: Virginia is ninth-worst state for women’s equality

In releasing its report Monday on the status of women’s equality in the United States, the personal finance website WalletHub ranked Virginia as the ninth worst state for the women.

The website also had some disheartening news overall for the state of women’s equality in this country.

While women’s rights in the U.S. have made leaps and bounds since the passage of the 19th Amendment, the website said, many women still struggle to break the glass ceiling because of unequal treatment in society. Unfortunately, the gender gap in 21st-century America has only expanded. In 2021, the U.S. failed to place in the top 10 — or even the top 25 — of the World

Economic Forum’s ranking of 156 countries based on gender equality. The U.S. ranked 30th, which is better than last year’s rank of 53rd.

The workplace provides even more evidence of inequality, according to WalletHub. Despite their advances toward social equality, women are disproportionately underrepresented in leadership positions. Women make up more than 50 percent of the population, but constitute only around 27% of legislators and 25 percent of Fortune 500 board seats.

Women also faced inequality during the COVID-19 pandemic. Women were initially laid off at a greater rate than men and re-employed more slowly. The gap has begun to close as more than half of job gains in May went to women, and the June unemployment rate for women was 5.5%, compared to 5.9% for men.

To determine where

women receive the most equal treatment, WalletHub compared the 50 states across 17 key indicators of gender equality and three key dimensions: 1) Workplace Environment, 2) Education & Health, and 3) Political Empowerment.

The metrics used in the workplace environment dimensions were 1) income disparity 2) higher-income disparity 3) disparity in the share of executive positions 4) disparity in the share of minimum wage workers 5) the unemployment-rate disparity 6) the entrepreneurship-rate disparity 7) the disparity in the average number of work hours 8) the job security disparity 9) the economic security disparity, and 10) the disparity in the poverty rate.

Metrics used to determine the overall state rankings in the education and health dimension were 1) the disparity in advanced educational attainment 2) the disparity in math test scores, and

3) the disparity in doctor-visit affordability.

Metrics used to determine the overall state rankings in the political empowerment dimension were 1) the disparity in the share of the lawmakers in the U.S. Senate 2) the disparity in the share of lawmakers in the U.S. House of Representatives, 3) the disparity in the share of the lawmakers in the state legislature, and 4) the disparity in the share of state-elected executives.

The states WalletHub ranked as the best for women’s rights were 1) Nevada 2) Hawaii 3) Vermont 4) Maine 5) New York 6) California 7) Iowa 8) West Virginia 9) Michigan and 10) Massachusetts.

The ten states WalletHub’s survey determined to be the worst in the country for women’s rights were 41) Louisiana 42) Virginia 43) Oklahoma 44) Alabama 45) Georgia 46) Kansas 47) South Carolina 48) Texas 49) Idaho and 50) Utah.

Virginia soldier from Korean War accounted for

WASHINGTON—The Defense POW/MIA Accounting Agency (DPAA) announced Monday that Army Sgt. Elwood M. Truslow, 20, of Batesville, Va., killed during the Korean War, was accounted for on June 7, 2021.

In late 1950, Truslow was a member of Company L, 3rd Battalion, 31st Infantry Regiment, 7th Infantry Division. He was reported missing in action on Dec. 12, 1950, after his unit was attacked by enemy forces as they attempted to withdraw near the Chosin Reservoir, North Korea. Following the battle, his remains could not be recovered.

On July 27, 2018, following the summit between President Donald Trump and North Korean Supreme Leader Kim Jong-un in June 2018, North Korea turned over 55 boxes purported to contain the remains of American service members killed during the Korean War. The remains arrived at Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam, Hawaii, on Aug. 1, 2018, and were subsequently accessioned into the DPAA laboratory for identification.

To identify Truslow’s remains, scientists from DPAA used anthropological analysis as well as circumstantial evidence. Additionally, scientists from the Armed Forces Medical Examiner System used mitochondrial DNA (mtDNA), and autosomal

DNA (auSTR) analysis.

Truslow’s name is recorded on the Courts of the Missing at the National Memorial Cemetery of the Pacific in Honolulu, along with the others who are still missing from the Korean War. A rosette will be placed next to his name to indicate he has been accounted for.

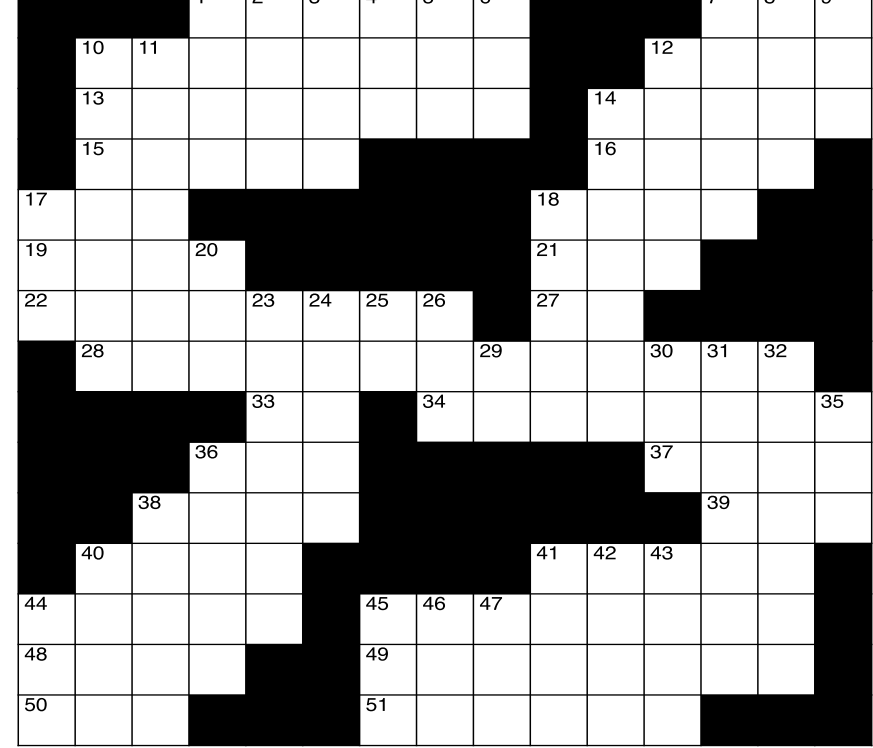
Truslow will be buried at Arlington National Cemetery. The date has yet to be determined.

For family and funeral information, contact the Army Casualty Office at (800) 892-2490.

To see the most up-to-date statistics on DPAA recovery efforts for those unaccounted for from the Korean War, go to the Korean War fact sheet on the DPAA website at: <https://www.dpaa.mil/Resources/Fact-Sheets/Article-View/Article/569610/progress-on-korean-war-personnel-accounting/>. defense department’s mission to account for Americans who went missing while serving our country, visit the DPAA website at www.dpaa.mil, refer to social media at www.facebook.com/dodpaa or <https://www.linkedin.com/company/defense-pow-mia-accounting-agency>.

Truslow’s personnel profile can be viewed at <https://dpaa-mil.sites.crm-force.mil/dpaaProfile?id=a0Jt000000Vbu7KEAR>.

CROSSWORD PUZZLE



- | | | | |
|--|---|---|--|
| <p>CLUES ACROSS</p> <p>1. Nature expedition</p> <p>7. Take the energy from</p> <p>10. Bungled</p> <p>12. Young salmon</p> <p>13. Botanical gardens</p> <p>14. Source of chocolate</p> <p>15. Country singer LeAnn</p> <p>16. Yoke!</p> <p>17. Unit of energy</p> <p>18. Plant of the lily family</p> <p>19. Tusked wild pig</p> <p>21. Form of “to be”</p> <p>22. Formerly</p> <p>27. Letter of the Greek alphabet</p> <p>28. Former First Lady</p> <p>33. News organization</p> <p>34. Shining brightly and intermittently</p> <p>36. Brew</p> | <p>37. Teams’ best pitchers</p> <p>38. Edible fruit</p> <p>39. Pitching stat</p> <p>40. ___ or bust</p> <p>41. Baby product manufacturer</p> <p>44. Monetary unit of Finland</p> <p>45. Small spherical structures in cells</p> <p>48. Pouches</p> <p>49. Reached</p> <p>50. Investment account</p> <p>51. Oft-repeated slogan</p> <p>CLUES DOWN</p> <p>1. Nuclear undersea weapon</p> <p>2. Helps the skin</p> <p>3. Evergreen coniferous trees</p> <p>4. Relieve of employment</p> | <p>5. A way to drench</p> <p>6. Journalist Tarbell</p> <p>7. ___ and Venzetti</p> <p>8. Alcoholic liquor</p> <p>9. An athlete who plays for pay</p> <p>10. Where to get drinks</p> <p>11. Japanese art form</p> <p>12. Baseball great</p> <p>Satchel</p> <p>14. Winged angelic beings</p> <p>17. One point south of due east</p> <p>18. Group of islands in Polynesia</p> <p>20. A place to play: ___ center</p> <p>23. Masses of gray matter in the brain</p> <p>24. Belgian city (alt. sp.)</p> | <p>25. Milliliter</p> <p>26. Beloved Will Ferrell film</p> <p>29. Railway above ground</p> <p>30. Satisfaction</p> <p>31. Aggregate of molecules</p> <p>32. Type of barometer</p> <p>35. Type of college teacher (abbr.)</p> <p>36. Long periods of time</p> <p>38. Native people of Nebraska and S. Dakota</p> <p>40. Deliver</p> <p>41. Thin, narrow piece of wood</p> <p>42. Modern Israel founder</p> <p>43. Small NY college</p> <p>44. Pounds per square inch</p> <p>45. Veterans battleground</p> <p>46. Hollywood talent agency (abbr.)</p> <p>47. Popular kids’ channel</p> |
|--|---|---|--|

Do you compost? Use these tips to get the most out of yours



Compost is useful for improving soil health, boosting beneficial microbial populations, recycling nutrients, and increasing organic matter in the soil.

Composting is a great way to use up household food waste as well as boost garden productivity. Unfortunately, many gardeners make composting mistakes that can lead to problems like compost that fails to decompose or attracts rodents.

Greg Evanylo, Virginia Cooperative Extension specialist and professor in the School of Plant and Environmental Sciences, recommends that home gardeners implement these compost best practices:

Make sure the compost pile is big. If space is an issue, decrease the pile surface area by creating a compost bin. The bigger your pile, the more heat it will generate.

The average pile size should be a minimum of one cubic yard.

Make sure to turn your pile to get oxygen into it. Without enough oxygen, the microbes will starve, and the pile will go anaerobic. This isn't good. Turning also ensures that all the waste is being broken down evenly.

Make sure to monitor your moisture levels. To do this, perform a squeeze test. Scoop a handful of your compost and squeeze. Does it leak any water? If so the compost is too wet. When squeezed and no water comes out, but it sticks to-

See **Compost**, page 6

Virginia Department of Transportation road watch

The following is a list of forecasted highway projects that may impact traffic traveling in the 12-county Salem Transportation District this week. Work schedules and construction project timelines are always subject to change and weather dependent. The Salem District covers Bedford, Botetourt, Carroll, Craig, Floyd, Franklin, Giles, Henry, Montgomery, Patrick, Pulaski, and Roanoke.

MONTGOMERY COUNTY

I-81 NORTHBOUND AT EXIT 105 NEW RIVER BRIDGE REPLACEMENT IN MONTGOMERY COUNTY – Lane and shoulder closures may be in place near exit 105. Lane closure may be in effect during the week from 8 p.m. to 7 a.m. Shoulder closures may be in effect at any time during the week. Slow rolls may be performed on I-81 in the north and southbound lanes from mile marker 104 to 106 from 9 p.m. to 5 a.m. Speed limit is reduced to 60 miles per hour in the work zone. Shoulder closures will remain in place through the duration of the project. Project completion is estimated by June 2022.

SLOW ROLLS: Slow rolls may be utilized periodically on both the northbound and southbound lanes from mile marker 98-109 for structural steel deliveries and setting beams.

I-81 BRIDGE REPLACEMENT AT EXIT 114 IN MONTGOMERY COUNTY – The bridge replacement of the two Interstate 81 bridges over Route 8, northbound and southbound, is underway. Drivers can expect alternating lane and shoulder closures, northbound and southbound, from mile marker 114 to 115. Exit 114 ramp shoulder closures will be ongoing from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. Speed limit is reduced to 60 mph in the work zone. Route 8 will have alternating northbound and southbound shoulder and lane closures, day or night, as needed between the I-81 on and off ramps. A temporary traffic signal will direct traffic on Route 8 throughout the duration of the project. Access to all properties will be maintained during construction. Estimated completion is summer 2021.

RAMP CLOSURES: Weather permitting, the I-81 northbound exit 114 on and off ramps may be closed during nighttime hours from 11 p.m. to 6 a.m. Message boards will update drivers.

Nighttime lane closures may be in place periodically on I-81 southbound from 9 p.m. to 6 a.m. the following morning.

DMV Notice: The bridge on I-81 northbound at mile marker 114 currently has a restricted width for wide loads of 26 feet or larger.

ROUTE 643 PAVING PROJECT – Beginning soon, exact date to be determined, a project is being scheduled to resurface an unpaved portion of Route 643 (Yellow Sulfur Road). The work area begins .7 mile south of the intersection with Route 642 (Jennelle Road) and ends 1.7 miles north of the bridge over Route 460. Traffic impacts will include intermittent flagging operations between these

intersections. This project has an estimated completion date of May 2022.

LANE CLOSURES: Intermittent single lane closures utilizing flagging operations will be in place between the intersection of Teaberry Road and Jennelle Road.

ROUTE 11 BRIDGE DECK REPLACEMENT – Work is underway on Route 11 southbound to replace the bridge deck over the Norfolk Southern Railroad. The bridge is located .4 miles north of the intersection with Route 748 (Big Spring Drive) and .4 mile south of the intersection with Route 603 (North Fork Road). The left lane of both Route 11 north and south is closed with a detour in place until the completion of the project. Once in place, the detour will re-route Route 11 south traffic through the left lane of Route 11 north, limiting each direction to a single lane. The expected completion date is November 2021.

TRAFFIC SWITCH: A new traffic pattern is in place detouring Route 11 southbound traffic through the left lane of Route 11 northbound between the intersections above, limiting each direction to a single lane.

ROUTE 636 BRIDGE REPLACEMENT AT SENECA HOLLOW – Work has begun replacing the bridge on Route 636 over the Roanoke River at Seneca Hollow. A road closure is in place from Echo Hills Road to .36 mile south of Route 460. A detour is also in place. The detour will restrict access to Route 460 at Seneca Hollow and will require travelers to enter/

exit Route 460 at Friendship Road near Wheeling Hollow. The project is expected to be completed in fall 2021.

UTILITY WORK ON ROUTE 460 - MMI will be installing fiber optic along Route 460 from the Giles County line to the Floyd County line. This work will be ongoing. Motorists should expect shoulders and/or lane closures for travel in both directions.

VARIOUS ROADS FOR UTILITY WORK – Utility crews will be working on overhead lines along a general corridor alignment following Route 114 (Peppers Ferry), Route 460 Business (Franklin Street) and Route 11/460 (Roanoke Road). The work zone will span from the Pulaski/Montgomery county line to the Montgomery/Roanoke county line. In addition, various side roads will be impacted by intermittent closures for crossings. Motorists should expect shoulder closures and lane closures for travel in both directions. Intermittent full closures of the roads will be required for periods lasting no longer than 15 minutes. Work hours are scheduled for 9 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. daily. Advance warning for weekend work involving closures of primary highways on weekend mornings from 6 a.m. to 10 a.m. will be provided via message boards once scheduled. Work is scheduled to last until fall 2021.

INTERSTATE 81 I-81 PAVING OPERATIONS – Weather permitting, crews will pave, patch and repair pavement on

various routes. Lane closures may be in place during nighttime hours, 9 p.m. to 6 a.m. the following morning. Drivers should watch for signs and expect possible delays.

Botetourt County: Milling and paving will take place on I-81 northbound between mile marker 171.5 in Botetourt County to the Rockbridge County Line between the hours of 9 p.m. and 6 a.m., Sunday night through Friday morning.

Botetourt County: Alternating lane closures will be in place between mile marker 167 and 169 on northbound I-81 between the hours of 7 p.m. and 6 a.m. the following morning, Sunday night to Friday morning.

Botetourt County: Alternating lane closures will be in place between mile marker 155 and 158 on southbound I-81 between the hours of 9 p.m. and 6 a.m. the following morning, Sunday night to Friday morning.

I-81 BRIDGE DECK REPAIRS – Weather permitting, crews will repair bridge decks on Interstate 81. Between mile markers 141 and 143, right and left lane closures will be in place northbound and southbound during nighttime hours, 9 p.m. to 6 a.m. the following morning. Drivers should watch for signs and expect possible delays.

I-81 POTHOLE OPERATIONS –

Weather permitting, crews will patch potholes along southbound and northbound Interstate 81. Mobile right and left lane closures will be in place and moving along northbound and southbound lanes during nighttime hours, 9 p.m. to 6 a.m. the following morning. Drivers should watch for moving vehicles and equipment. Expect possible delays.

INTERSTATE 581 I-581/220 EXPRESSWAY PAVING OPERATIONS – Weather permitting, crews will pave, patch and repair pavement on various routes. Lane closures may be in place during nighttime hours, 9 p.m. to 6 a.m. the following morning. Drivers should watch for signs and expect possible delays.

ROUTE 581 BRIDGE WORK OVER WILLIAMSON ROAD – Work is underway to rehab the bridge on I-581 that crosses over Route 11 (Williamson Road) in Downtown Roanoke. On Route 11 (Williamson Road) drivers can expect intermittent and alternating lane closures between the intersections with Rutherford Avenue and Wells Avenue. Any impacts to I-581 will be minimal. The project is expected to be complete at the end of 2021.

A right lane closure may be in place on Route 11 northbound between the

intersections of Rutherford Avenue and Wells Avenue periodically.

I-581 BRIDGE REPAIR AND MAINTENANCE – Weather permitting, crews will repair bridge decks on Interstate 581 between exit 6 and exit 4W and exit 3C to exit 6, northbound and southbound. Right, center and left lane closures may be in place northbound and southbound during nighttime hours, 7 p.m. to 6 a.m. the following morning. Single lane closures may be in place during daytime hours, 5 a.m. to 8 p.m. Drivers should watch for signs and expect possible delays.

I-581/220 LANE & RAMP CLOSURES FOR PAVING AND MAINTENANCE OPERATIONS IN ROANOKE COUNTY – Weather permitting, crews will be milling and paving along Interstate 81. Right and left lane closures will be in place along northbound and southbound lanes during nighttime hours. Drivers should expect possible delays.

I-581 BRIDGE DECK REPAIRS – Weather permitting, crews will repair bridge decks on Interstate 581. Right, center and left lane closures will be in place northbound and southbound during nighttime hours, 10 p.m. to 6 a.m. the following morning. Drivers should watch for signs and expect possible delays.

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



**Bidding 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**

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Trail from page 1

Friends of the Huckleberry established for 2021, and that is to create and provide resources for trail users to explore the Huckleberry Trail and to use the trail to connect to other recreational, natural, and cultural resources in the area.

A GPS-enabled electronic version of the map will be available later this fall on a well-known phone app. Friends of the Huckleberry will share updates on its availability on its website and social media.

In addition to the new maps, Friends of the Huckleberry purchased new mileage markers for the newest sections of the Huckleberry Trail, and they will be installed by the end of August. The Huckleberry Trail is 14.7 miles long and consists of several segments. The original trail runs between the Blacksburg Library and the Christiansburg Recreation

Center and is 8.25 miles long. Huckleberry North runs from the roundabout west of Route 460 to Heritage Park and is approximately five miles long. Huckleberry South runs from the intersection of Cambria Street NW and Providence Boulevard and is 1.39 miles long. The mileage markers have new logos for the north and south segments so that users will know which portion of the trail they are on.

Friends of the Huckleberry raised \$15,000 in sponsorships to help with the purchase of the mileage markers. Past and new sponsor logos appear on the mileage markers. Additional sponsorship opportunities exist, and more information about sponsoring a mileage marker can be obtained by visiting the new website at: <https://huckleberrytrail.org>.

Arrived from page 1

Virginia Tech's effort to recruit students in Virginia's community college system through the Hokie Corner program. Hokie Corner connects admissions and academic advising staff with prospective transfer students to help guide them through the transfer process.

The combined grade point average (GPA) for incoming first-year students rose slightly to 3.98, up from 3.97 in 2020. The college GPA for incoming transfer students was 3.55, up from 3.49 in 2020. Research indicates that a student's GPA is a much better predictor of college success than SAT scores. Virginia Tech adopted a test-optional policy for the entering class of 2021 and has expanded that policy to the entering class of 2022.

The 6,918 students in this first-year class represent 47 different states and 51 different countries. The 981-member transfer class represents 21 different states and 20 different countries.

"Many students in the incoming class applied to Virginia Tech and accepted offers of admission having not set foot on campus," said Juan Espinoza, associate vice provost for enrollment management and director of admissions. "It speaks to the reputation and strength of our exceptional programs and the various virtual recruitment initiatives and programming conducted by the admissions team."

In-person tours were suspended in March 2020 when the COVID-19 pandemic struck and did not resume until June 1, 2021.

Compost from page 5

gether, the moisture level is perfect.

"What gardeners are ultimately trying to achieve with composting is the development of a soil amendment that will improve the properties of their soil for gardening," Evanylo said.

According to Evanylo, compost is useful for improving soil health, boost-

ing beneficial microbial populations, recycling nutrients, and increasing organic matter in the soil.

Composting is also good for the environment. Organic wastes in landfills get converted to methane, a potent greenhouse gas that contributes to climate change. When food scraps are recycled into a compost pile, waste is kept out of a landfill.

Compost dos and don'ts:

DO

Have a 2:1 brown to green ratio. For example, two parts dry leaves (brown) to one part food waste (green).

Have an average particle size distribution: some large pieces, some

small, but mostly in the middle.

Monitor your moisture levels. Water the compost as needed, but not too often or too much; do a squeeze test to check.

Bury food waste and keep covered with browns to help avoid insect and rodent problems.

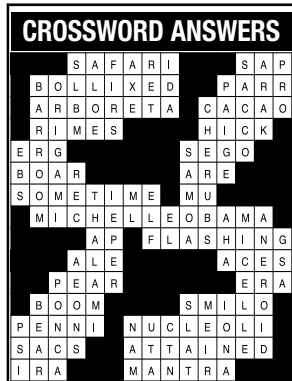
DON'T
Compost treated wood or chemicals (paint, pressure treatment, etc.).

Inoculate your compost. Microbes exist naturally.

Compost meats, dairy, or pet waste.

Compost any diseased plants if the pile is less than 130-150 degrees.

- Written by
Devon Johnson



ONLINE ONLY AUCTION

Brick Home for Sale in Riner VA!

3245 Riner Road, Christiansburg, VA 24073



Ends Tuesday August 31st at 4 PM
Bid Now at VaAuctionPro.com

Beautiful, well maintained brick ranch home for sale. Built in 1946 and is in good condition. There are 2 bedrooms on the main level along with one bath. Large covered slate porches on the side and front of the home. Features forced air oil heat and central air. The main level has 1,365 +/- sq. ft. Has a full, partially finished basement. There is a large patio off the family room. Plenty of room in the finished area for a bath and bedroom. Total basement square footage is 1,560 with an estimated 700 sq. ft. finished with carpet floors. A portion of the unfinished basement is a nice storage area under side deck with outside access. There is also a single garage in the basement, great for storage or parking. Beautifully landscaped & well maintained yard. Paved driveway, detached garage and detached carport.

Located just minutes from Riner and Christiansburg VA. It is also just short drive to Blacksburg VA and Radford VA, home of Virginia Tech and Radford University!

Property is located in the Riner VA area but has a Christiansburg address. Located in the Auburn School District.

Preview- Saturday August 14th @ 1 PM

General Terms and Conditions - 10% Buyer's Premium will be added to final high bid to arrive at contract price. \$5,000 Earnest Money Deposit due day of sale. Close in 45 days. Subject to seller confirmation. Property sold as is, where is with any and all faults. Buyer is expected to complete their own due diligence. Auction starts ending at 4 PM on August 31st 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. Download Bidder Information Pack for complete terms and conditions, purchase contract and maps.

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OBITUARIES

Dodson, Patricia "Pat" Ann Quesenberry

Patricia "Pat" Ann Quesenberry Dodson, 73, of Newbern, passed away on Aug. 20, 2021, after a long-fought battle with ALS.

Pat was the daughter of Beverly "June" Dalton Quesenberry and the late James Elwood Quesenberry. She is survived by her daughter Ashley D. Simmers, and her husband, Daryn; a son, Christopher J. Dodson; step-children Ronald Ray Dodson, Jr., Michael E. Dodson, and Alisha M. Clark; her niece Sarah Q. Wagner, and her nephews Mark Quesenberry and Brian Quesenberry.

Pat was preceded in death by her loving husband of 41 years Ronald "Ron" Ray Dodson, Sr.; and her broth-



er, James Steven "Steve" Quesenberry.

Pat was a member of the First Church of the Brethren and a retired choir teacher from Auburn High School. She had a passion for music and a love for God, her family, and her students.

Visitation will be from 6 to 8 p.m. today, Wednesday, Aug. 25, 2021, at McCoy Funeral Home, Blacksburg. The funeral service will be at 11 a.m. on Thursday, Aug. 26, 2021, at First Church of the Brethren, Pulaski, and a graveside service will follow at Highland Memory Gardens.

The family asks that in lieu of flowers donations be made to the ALS Association. Arrangements by McCoy Funeral Home, Blacksburg.

Naff, Judith (Digga) Hornbarger

Judith (Digga) Hornbarger Naff, 81, passed away Wednesday, Aug. 18, 2021 at her home surrounded by her daughters.

She was preceded in death by her parents, Horace and Dorothy Hornbarger; and her husband Kenneth Wayne Naff.

Survivors include her daughters and sons-in-law, Suzanne and Frank Sink, Dana and Mike Collins, and Jennifer and RG Wilson; grandchildren Stephanie (Stephen), Samantha (Justin), Bradley, Kemper, Trey, Katelynn, Abby, and Zach; great-grand-

children Riley, Austin, and Eli; sisters and brothers-in-law Norma and Dale Fisher, and Ann and Tommy Gagnet.

She also leaves to cherish her memory her faithful companions, Ginger, Lucy, and Josephine.

A private service will be held at a later date. Her daughters would like to thank the staff of Intrepid Hospice in Radford for their loving and compassionate care of their mother.

The Naff family is in the care of Mullins Funeral Home & Crematory in Radford. www.mullinsfuneralhome.com.

Taylor, William Irving

William Irving Taylor was born in Auckland, New Zealand, July 23, 1923, and was awarded the first PhD in chemistry in New Zealand from the University of Auckland in 1948. He then traveled to Switzerland to further hone his talent for natural product structure determination at ETH Zurich, a public research university, where he met wife-to-be, Giuliana Val-sangiaco.



He retired in 1987 to Radford to be with his son, Frank, and wife, Ellen, who were beginning to raise a family, and near his other son, Mark, who had settled in Covington, Va. Giuliana, by then his wife of 54 years, passed away on Jan. 14, 2007. The last two years of Bill's life were spent

with John-Stephen in St. Louis, where Bill passed away peacefully on Aug. 3, 2021.

His studies took him then to Ottawa and then Cambridge, England, before he finally returned to Switzerland and married Giuliana on Aug. 14, 1952. They then crossed the Atlantic so Bill could start as an associate professor of chemistry at the University of New Brunswick.

They celebrated the birth of his first child, John-Stephen, in 1954. Bill joined Ciba Specialty Chemicals in 1955 to eventually become Director of Biochemistry Research in Summit, N.J., where sons Frank (1957) and Mark (1960) were born. There he determined the structure of ibogaine, which is now being used to treat addiction and other disorders, among many other compounds.

In 1968 he became Director of Chemical Synthesis and Development at International Flavors and Fragrances (IFF). In 1978, he and Giuliana moved to London where he served as Vice President of Research and Development for IFF. Throughout his prolific career, he authored 138 publications, a book on indole alkaloids, and

An avid reader with a sharp mind to the end, Bill was most happy discussing chemistry, biology, physics, and mathematics with anyone and everyone. His passion instilled a love of science and nature in his children and grandchildren. His interest in science and nature inspired his three sons to pursue careers in science, teaching, and engineering, as have many of his grandchildren.

He loved crossword and jigsaw puzzles, as well as solitaire, and could always be found around his house trimming bushes and mowing the lawn, getting books at the library, and running errands around town in his Jaguar.

He is survived by his sister, Lovest Reynolds, his three sons John-Stephen (Paula), Frank (Ellen), and Mark (Nathalie); as well as his grandchildren, William (Ann Katherine), Julianna Healy (Jon), Katherine, Sarah, Alexandre, and Charlotte Taylor; and four great-grandchildren, Henry, Lucy, Josie Taylor and Bettie Healy.

Ward, Elizabeth Ann Martin

Elizabeth Ann Martin Ward, 79, of Pulaski, passed away Friday, Aug. 20, 2021.

She was a member of the Pulaski Church of Christ and was retired from Pulaski Furniture. She was preceded in death by her parents, Roy and Viola Martin; and her husband, Joseph Law-

rence Ward.

Survivors include a niece, Kathy Murphy, a nephew, Gary Martin, and many friends.

Burial will be private.

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

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Legals - Botetourt County

Public Notice Environmental Permit

PURPOSE OF NOTICE: To seek public comment on a draft Virginia Pollutant Discharge Elimination System permit from the Department of Environmental Quality that will allow the release of industrial wastewater and stormwater into a waterbody in Botetourt County, Virginia PERMIT NO.: VA0072397 NAME AND ADDRESS OF FACILITY: Roanoke Cement Company LLC, 6071 Catawba Road, Troutville, Virginia 24175 DEQ CONTACT: Becky L. France, 540-562-6793, becky.france@deq.virginia.gov, 901 Russell Drive, Salem, VA 24153 The full public notice is available at <https://www.deq.virginia.gov/permits-regulations/public-notices/water/virginia-pollution-discharge-elimination-system-vpdes>

Legals - City of Radford

VIRGINIA: IN THE CIRCUIT COURT FOR THE CITY OF RADFORD

THE CITY OF RADFORD, VIRGINIA, a political subdivision of the Commonwealth of Virginia, **Case No. CL21-6456** Plaintiff, V. COLE-PHILLIPS BUILDING CO., and MICHAEL H. COLE and PARTIES UNKNOWN, any heirs, devisees, and successors in title, including Successors in interest of Cole Phillips Building Co., A General Partnership collectively made Defendants, Defendant(s).

ORDER OF PUBLICATION

The object of this suit is to order abatement of nuisance or allow for razing of a structure owned by Cole Phillips Building Co., and located at 103 Polk Street in the City of Radford, Virginia, and enforce a lien for the costs of the same. An Affidavit having been filed stating that due diligence has been used, without effect, to ascertain the location of the named Defendant(s), that the Defendant(s) may be non-residents of Virginia and maintain no domicile within the borders of the Commonwealth, or are deceased, or that there may be parties who have an interest in the property but are unknown, namely, the heirs, devisees, and successors in title of the named partnership, made Defendants by the general description of Parties Unknown, it is hereby ORDERED that the named Defendant(s) and all Parties Unknown appear on or before September 24, 2021, and do what may be necessary to protect their interests in this cause.

Entered: 7/22/2021
Melissa White
Circuit Court Clerk/Judge
City of Radford, Virginia

I Ask For This:
Michael R. Bedsaul, Esq. (WSB # 41273)
Mary Foil Russell (VSB No. 46440)
Sands Anderson PC
P.O. Box 2009
Christiansburg, Virginia 24068-2009
540-260-9011 (phone)
540-260-0022 (facsimile)

Legals - City of Salem

ORDER OF PUBLICATION

COMMONWEALTH OF VIRGINIA VA. CODE §§ 1-211.1; 8.01-316, -317, 20-104
Case No. CL21-888
ROANOKE COUNTY CIRCUIT COURT
305 E. MAIN ST SALEM, VA 24153
ALTIZER, ZANDER LEE v. MCGUIRE, CONNER LEE
The object of this suit is to: NAME CHANGE OF MINOR
It is ORDERED that Ashley Altizer appear at the above-named court and protect his/her interests on 8/27/21 @ 11:00 AM

Enter 7/16/21
Judge Dorsey

Pursuant to the Single Family Mortgage Foreclosure Act

of 1994, 12 U.S.C. Chapter 38A and the Secretary's Foreclosure Commissioner designation, a COMMISSIONER'S SALE of 1407 Longview Avenue, Salem, VA 24153 (Short Legal Description: LT 6 BLK 3 SEC 1 MIDDLETON GARDENS) will occur at public auction outside the main entrance to the building of the Circuit Court of Salem, VA located at 2 East Calhoun Street, Salem, VA 24153-7933 on September 9, 2021 at 11:00 AM, pursuant to a default of a note secured by a deed of trust executed by Calvin C. Overstreet by Nellie C. Overstreet, his attorney in fact, and Nellie C. Overstreet recorded 2/10/2012, in the Circuit Court for Salem, VA, as Instrument No. 120000317, and the Assignment in favor of the Secretary of HUD recorded 1/18/2018, in the Circuit Court for Salem, VA as Instrument No. 180000119. TERMS OF SALE can be reviewed by the recorded notice of default on file with the Salem Circuit Court for which all terms are incorporated herein into this notice. A 10% deposit is immediately required for winning bidder in certified funds. Anderson Law, 2492 N. Landing Rd, #104, Va Beach, VA 23456, <http://www.virginialawoffice.com/hud> Run date 8/19/2021, 8/26/2021, and 9/2/2021

Legals - City of Salem

Public Notice Environmental Permit

PURPOSE OF NOTICE: To seek public comment and announce two public hearings on (1) a draft permit from the State Water Control Board that will allow the filling of wetlands and streams in Giles, Craig, Montgomery, Roanoke, Franklin, and Pittsylvania Counties, Virginia and (2) the Board's intent to provide Section 401 Water Quality Certification for activities authorized by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers. **PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD:** The public comment period is from August 28, 2021 to October 13, 2021. **PUBLIC HEARINGS:** The Pigg River Community Center, 2410 South Main Street, Rocky Mount, Virginia 24151 on September 27, 2021 from 6:00pm to 9:00pm, and Radford University - Kyle Hall, Howe Street, Radford Virginia 24141 on September 28, 2021 from 6:00pm to 9:00pm. The public hearing will adjourn when everyone present has had an opportunity to speak, or the facility closing time, whichever occurs first. Persons planning to attend the public hearings are advised to check the DEQ website at the link below for any changes to the meeting format or public health protocols. **PURPOSE OF THE HEARING:** To obtain input from the public related to this project for the Board to consider. **PERMIT NAME:** Virginia Water Protection Permit issued by the State Water Control Board **EFFECT OF PERMIT:** Pursuant to Va. Code 62.1-44.15-20.D, issuance of the permit shall, in conjunction with Certification No. 17-001, constitute the certification required under Section 401 of the federal Clean Water Act for the project. **APPLICANT NAME, ADDRESS AND PERMIT NUMBER:** Mountain Valley Pipeline, LLC; 2200 Energy Drive, Canonsburg, PA 15317; WVPP No. 21-0416 **PROJECT DESCRIPTION:** Mountain Valley Pipeline, LLC has applied for a new permit for the Mountain Valley Pipeline Project. The project is a 42-inch natural gas pipeline located along an approximate 107-mile-long corridor from the Virginia-West Virginia state line in Giles County southeast through Craig County, Montgomery County, Roanoke County, Franklin County, and Pittsylvania County to the Transco Village (located approximately three miles east of Chatham, Virginia). The permit will allow the applicant to work in surface waters consisting of wetlands and streams. The proposed activity would permanently affect 1.19 acres of palustrine forested wetland (PFO), 0.76 of an

Legals - City of Salem

acre of palustrine scrub-shrub wetland (PSS), 0.04 of an acre of palustrine emergent wetland (PEM), and 63 linear feet of streams. The proposed activity would temporarily affect 3.91 acres of palustrine emergent wetlands (PEM) and 17,065 linear feet of streams. The activity proposed in the permit will affect surface waters in the Middle New, Upper James, Upper Roanoke and Banister watersheds. To compensate for the surface waters affected, the applicant would provide 7,114 wetland mitigation credits and 298 stream mitigation credits, and restore temporarily impacted areas to their original condition. The State Water Control Board's preliminary decision is to issue the permit. **HOW TO COMMENT:** DEQ accepts comments by hand delivery, e-mail, fax or postal mail. All comments and requests must be in writing and be received by DEQ during the comment period. Submittals must include the names, mailing addresses and telephone numbers of the commenter/requester and of all persons represented by the commenter/requester. The Board also accepts oral comments at the public hearing. To make a statement at the public hearing, write your name on a sign-up sheet available before the hearing. You may sign up only for yourself. The hearing officer sets the time allowed for each statement. When a hearing is held, the final decision is made by the State Water Control Board. **HOW A DECISION IS MADE:** After public comments have been considered and addressed by the permit or other means, the State Water Control Board will make the final decision.

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Contractors must submit their application on the electronic M7B bidding site at <https://www.plow4va.com/>. All new and returning Contractors must be active in the Virginia eProcurement Portal (eVA) in order to do business with the Commonwealth of Virginia (<https://eva.virginia.gov>).
Applications received by 7:00 PM on Friday September 24, 2021 may be eligible for a mobilization bonus. See the EVA posting for additional information, including contract requirements.
Questions can be directed to the Christiansburg Residency from 8:00 AM to 5:00 PM Monday – Friday. Phone: 540-381-7201
Email: SalemDistrictSnow@vdot.virginia.gov
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VDOT
Virginia Department of Transportation
ADVERTISEMENT FOR SNOW REMOVAL EQUIPMENT SERVICES WITH OPERATOR SIGNUP
The Virginia Department of Transportation invites heavy equipment owners to sign up for the rental of their equipment with operators for SNOW & ICE REMOVAL purposes in Salem Residency which includes the counties of Roanoke, Botetourt and Craig during the winter of 2021-2022. Price per hour shall include operators, fuel, tire chains, supplies and required insurance. VDOT will need dump trucks, pickups with plows, motorgraders, backhoes, dozers, track loaders, tractors, rubber-tire loaders and farm tractors. All equipment shall be equipped for night work and be in good mechanical condition to ensure a safe and dependable 24/7 operation. VDOT reserves the right to determine acceptability of equipment size and condition for the task. Contractors submitting prices meeting the requirements of the Agreement may be contracted with and may be eligible to receive a mobilization payment.
Contractors must submit their application on the electronic M7B bidding site at <https://www.plow4va.com/>. All new and returning Contractors must be active in the Virginia eProcurement Portal (eVA) in order to do business with the Commonwealth of Virginia (<https://eva.virginia.gov>).
Applications received by 7:00 PM on Friday September 24, 2021 may be eligible for a mobilization bonus. See the EVA posting for additional information, including contract requirements.
Questions can be directed to the Salem Residency from 8:00 AM to 5:00 PM Monday – Friday. Phone: 540-387-5497.
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MONTGOMERY SPORTS

Return of high school football

High school football season is finally here and will be played in the fall. After COVID-19 took out last year's fall matchups and caused lots of masked spring contenders, our student-athletes will have a chance to hear fans in the stands and enjoy a little normalcy in a full-10 game season.

The pandemic forced unprecedented challenges for administrators, coaches, and journalists. Now, there is great optimism as we look to the new season.

Virginia was one of 11 states that moved football to the spring, and there were several competitive teams in a six-game schedule.

Friday night football in the fall is where it should be. All is right with the world as we know it.

High school football is important to all our communities and

brings people together to cheer for the home team. I just hope fans will start coming back to the stands. The student-athletes deserve to hear the cheers of the crowd once again.

Across the country, an estimated 1.1 million youngsters played high school football in the last full season, 2019.

The National Federation of High Schools, along with the Virginia High School League, says fans will see little changes this year, but there will be an emphasis of attention by officials. Those items that stand out will be more attention to sportsmanship, intentional grounding, ineligible players downfield, and the line of scrimmage formations.

A drop in student enrollment means at least two area schools are moving to Class 1. Giles will



From the Sidelines

Marty Gordon

join the Mt. Empire District after leaving the Three Rivers, and Ft. Chiswell will join them in Class 1 Region C.

The Mt. Empire District now includes Giles, Ft. Chiswell, George Wythe, Galax, Auburn, Bland, and Grayson. The MED is starting to resemble the old New River District.

Blacksburg has adjusted its September home game with Lord Botetourt to Thursday as Virginia Tech is scheduled to play North Carolina on a rare Friday night.

Christiansburg's road game at Abington remains on Friday. Other games that have been moved include Rural Retreat at Eastern Montgomery, Bland at Narrows, and George Wythe at Ft. Chiswell, which will now all be played on Thursday. Radford will travel to Gate City on Saturday afternoon, Sept. 4.

There are some schedule changes that might leave fans scratching their heads. The Christiansburg Blacksburg matchup is one of those. Typically, the Battle of the Burgs has always been the final game of the season. Not this year. Blacksburg will play at Christiansburg on Oct. 8 with Pulaski being the final game of the season for 2021.

Predictions for our local high schools this season:
Auburn 1-9. A new coach and

the addition of Giles County to the Mt. Empire District will spell trouble for a team that is dressing fewer than 15 players on a Friday night.

Eastern Montgomery 6-4. This could finally be the year Jordan Stewart finds a way to pick up the sixth win of the season.

Blacksburg 3-7. The Bruins will have several players grow up in a hurry after a miserable spring, but their schedule is loaded with powerhouse programs, meaning wins will be hard to come by.

Christiansburg 8-2. The Blue Demons finally have a team that will contend for a district title with the big dogs like Salem.

Radford 6-4. A new coach with a good Bobcat squad should be able to produce six wins in a depleted Three Rivers District.

Eight inducted into Blacksburg High School 2021 Hall of Fame class

Blacksburg High School Sunday announced its eight-member 2021 Athletic Hall of Fame class.

The inductees are Coach Warren Murphy, 1974-2004; Coach Bob Lee Trear, 1967-2002; Brian Crist, Class of 1990; Donald A. "Trey" Gresh, III, Class of 2009; Evan Marshall Gregg, Class of 2009; John Jennelle, Class of 1951 posthumous; Coach Bill Winfrey, 1972-2012 posthumous; and James "Jimmy" Wright, Class of 1970.

The inductees will be formally recognized at the BHS Football Game on Friday, Sept. 24.

Coach Warren Murphy directed the girls' basketball program for 12 years 1977-89, winning two state championships in 1978 and 1982. His 1981 squad was a state semifinalist with a 24-1 record, and his 1978 and 1982 teams were state champions with 26-1 and 26-0 records respectively.

For 18 years, he was the boys' basketball JV coach.

Murphy also served as the Blacksburg Athletic Director for 13 years (1992-2005) and was the State AA Athletic Director of the Year in 2000. In 2005, he was a National High School Athletic Coaches Association Nominee for Athletic Director of the Year.

He was four times the

New River District Girls Basketball Coach of the Year (1978, 1979, 1981, 1982). He was the Region IV girls' basketball Coach of the Year in 1978, 1981, and 1982.

Murphy was the Roanoke Times All-Timesland Girls Basketball Coach of the Year in 1982 and that same year was a National High School Athletic Coaches Association Nominee for National High School Girls Basketball Coach of the Year. His teams four times were the New River District Tournament Champions (1978-1979, 1981, 1982) and were the Region IV Tournament Champions three times (1978-1981, 1982).

Coach Murphy retired in 2004 and currently resides in Orlando, Fla., with his wife, Jan. Their daughter, Alison, lives in Fairfax County, Va., with her husband, Richard and their five children.

Coach Bob Lee Trear directed the boys' basketball program at Blacksburg for 29 years and was the longest serving boys' basketball coach in Timesland upon his retirement in 2002. He also coached JV football for 18 years (1970-88) and golf for 2 years (1975-76) and coached in two all-star games (1975 and 1977).

His basketball teams three times were the state runners-up (1975, 1977, 2002). They also won eight district

championships and 15 district tournament championships, six region championships and made four state final-four appearances. His squads were region runners-up five times.

Coach Trear's career record of 427-258 ranked seventh among active coaches upon his retirement.

He retired from teaching industrial arts/wood technology, photography, and printing in 2006 after 39 years. He and his wife, Karen, live in Blacksburg and have three children (Kelley, Robin and Lane) and six grandchildren.

Brian Crist, Class of 1990, was a multi-sport athlete at



FILE PHOTO

Former Virginia Tech quarterback Trey Gresh is a member of the latest Blacksburg High School Hall of Fame.

BHS, earning varsity letters in football, basketball, track, and baseball. He was a member of 1988 district championship football team

and the 1989 regional and state championship football team, the 1988-89 state semi-finalist, district and regional championship bas-

ketball team, and participated in the 1989 state track meet.

See Fame, page 10

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Fame

from page 9

Crist earned All-New River District honors as a quarterback and defensive back, was named the 1990 Outstanding Athlete of the Year by the Blacksburg Sports Club, and went on to continue his football career as a starting quarterback for Hampden-Sydney College.

He has been a football coach at the Division 1 level for 25 years and has coached in two national championship games, winning the 1998 NCAA national championship. One of his teams also made a Final Eight appearance in the NCAA IAA playoffs.

Crist was a member of Coach Frank Beamer's staff for the 1995 Big East and Sugar Bowl championships.

Crist now lives in Canfield, Ohio, with his wife, Amy, (also a BHS alum), and they have four children: Jackson, Ali, Caroline and Logan.

Donald A. Gresh, III "Trey," Class of 2009

Gresh was a four-year starter at quarterback football and shortstop. He is the only BHS student athlete ever to earn 12 varsity letters in the major sports (four in football, four in baseball, one in basketball, and three in indoor track). He is Blacksburg High's all-time passing leader (6,753 yards). He was the team's MVP and team captain and was named the Most Outstanding Senior.

Gresh was All-River Ridge, all-region, and all-state in multiple sports and is only the second freshman ever to start the first game of his freshman season in varsity football. The first was Sidney Snell.

He was the only eighth grader to play JV football for an entire season, starting at quarterback and leading the team to an 8-2 record. He was the first eighth grader to play JV basketball.

He has the third highest batting average in school history. He was a member of the BHS 4x100 indoor track team that broke a 24-year school record and was a state qualifier in indoor track in the 55M, the 300M, and the 4x200.

He received a full scholarship to Virginia Tech, was a three-year letterman, and was the ACC Special Teams Player of the Week three times. He participated in the 2010 ACC championship Game when VT beat FSU in Charlotte, the 2011 Orange Bowl, the 2012 Sugar Bowl, the 2012 Russell Athletic Bowl, and the 2013 Sun Bowl.

Today, Gresh is the Chief Operating Officer for Family Office Research, an Investment Management & Advisory Firm in Northern Virginia. He resides in Sterling with his wife, Shannon Gresh (formally Shannon Mayrose), a 5-year soccer starter at VT, and now a school counselor for Fairfax Public Schools

Evan Marshall Gregg, Class of 2009

Gregg was a five-time Virginia state champion and record holder in the 50- and 100-freestyle and 200 individual medley. He set All-Timesland records in the 200 individual medley, the 100 freestyle, and the 00 backstroke

At BHS, he was the Most

Valuable Swimmer four years in a row and named the Most Valuable Bruin Athlete as a senior. He was a three-time All-Timesland Swimmer of the Year and was named the Roanoke Times male athlete of the year in 2009.

He went on to earn a scholarship and four letters in men's swimming and diving at the University of Michigan and was the co-captain of the team that won the NCAA championship in 2013. He was an All-American and a Big-Ten champion in 2012 and swam in the 100-meter butterfly in the 2012 U.S. Olympic trials.

After his BHS graduation, Gregg earned a Bachelor of Science from Michigan, a Master of Public Health from Virginia Tech, and a Doctor of Medicine from the Uniformed Services School of Medicine in Bethesda, Md. He is training to be a psychiatrist as an officer in the U.S. Air Force.

John Jennelle, Class of 1951 Posthumously

Jennelle was a 4-year letterman in football, played for Coach Joe Newman, and was the team co-captain his senior year. As a 160-lb. full-back his senior year, he led the district and the state in scoring with 24 touchdowns and nine point-after conversions. His 159 points set an all-time district record.

He was named captain of the 1950 All-District team and selected for the Modern All-Blacksburg team.

The president of Emory and Henry, Foys Gibson, invited Jennelle to a tryout for the football team, but upon graduation he elected

to serve in the U.S. Army where he was stationed in Bamberg, Germany, in the First Infantry Division (The Big Red One) and the 26th Regiment (Blue Spaders) Heavy Motor Company. Upon retirement from Poly Scientific in Blacksburg, Jennelle coached football for the Blacksburg Parks and Recreation Department.

He is survived by his daughter, Sharon Jennelle Snyder, who lives in Shepherdstown, W.Va., and three grandchildren: Tavish Jennelle, Zach Snyder, and Natalie Snyder, and one great-grandson, Silas Jennelle.

Coach Bill Winfrey, 1972-2012 Posthumously

Coach Bill Winfrey coached football at Blacksburg High School from 1972-2012. He helped coach two state championship teams in 1977 and 1989 and two state-runners up teams in 1984 and 1985.

Coach Winfrey ran the scout team for most of his 40 years at BHS. He also coached the offensive line. He served as the junior varsity football head coach for several years in the late '90's and early 2000's.

As the Director of Parks and Recreation for the Town of Blacksburg from 1972 to 1998, Winfrey opened the area's first public indoor aquatic center in 1992. The recreational fields at Kipps Elementary School in Blacksburg are named for him.

He was a 1949 graduate of Sigourney High School in Sigourney, Iowa, where he played football and ran track. He played football at Parsons College after high



FILE PHOTO

The late Bill Winfrey was the Director of Parks and Recreation for the Town of Blacksburg from 1972 to 1998. He is a member of the latest Blacksburg High School Hall of Fame.

school. Winfrey served in the U.S. Army during the Korean War, 1952-1954.

After graduating from the University of Northern Iowa in 1956, Winfrey coached football in Iowa and Texas. In 1966, he served as the secretary of the Iowa Football Coaches Association.

Coach Winfrey died Oct. 23, 2016. He is survived by his wife, Pam, his three daughters, Barbara, Merrie, and Susan and his grandson Nicholas Anthony.

James "Jimmy" Wright, Class of 1970

Wright was a 4-year letterman in track and cross country on two undefeated cross-country teams. He set and held the BHS 2-mile record for two years, made the JV basketball team as an eighth-grader, started on all offensive, defensive, and special teams on the eighth grade and JV football teams.

As the smallest defensive end to ever start for BHS, Wright led the team in backfield tackles and received the

Coaches Award. The Indians' 1969 defense gave up only 41 points in nine district games.

As a walk-on to Virginia Tech's wrestling team with no formal experience, Wright started and lettered as a freshman and placed third in the collegiate state championship as a junior.

He coached Bridgewater College's indoor and outdoor track and cross-country teams to third place or better conference finishes each of two seasons, qualified two male athletes to national qualifying times/distances, and started the first ever women's cross-country team.

Wright is active in his local (Baptist) church and as a volunteer with the local crisis pregnancy center. He is thankful to God for all these opportunities, but is especially thankful for his wife, Wanda; his sons, Jamie and Matthew; his daughters-in-law, Lisa and Amanda; and his grandchildren Roman and Lunden.

Holston, Blackshear look to provide Tech with solid one-two punch

PLAYERS TO WATCH

Jalen Holston and Raheem Blackshear appear poised to give Tech a solid one-two punch on the ground in 2021. After suf-

fering a season-ending injury in the 2019 opener, Holston demonstrated his physical downhill running style with a 14-carry, 58-yard performance vs. Virginia. He finished the sea-

son with 40 carries for 189 yards, including a pair of rushing scores vs. Miami.

The speedy Blackshear can line up in the backfield or in the slot, making him a difficult match-up for

opposing defenses. The Rutgers transfer rushed 68 times for 255 yards with two touchdowns a year ago and led the running back room with 18 receptions.

He produced a trio of 100-yard rushing games during his time at Rutgers and posted a season-high 59 yards last season at Duke. Don't be surprised if both Holston and Blackshear get ample opportunities to make plays in 2021.

OTHERS IN THE MIX

Keshawn King could be poised for a bigger role in 2021 after accumulating 79 carries for 340 yards and two touchdowns as a freshman in 2019. Much like Blackshear, he possesses good hands, catching nine passes for 154 yards as a freshman. Marco Lee was a top-10 finisher in

Tech's strength and conditioning program while Jordan Brunson, Tahj Gary, and Jalen Hampton also earned Hard Hats this spring.

All of those players need to make the most out of every rep during preseason camp with an abundance of talented performers in Tech's running back corps.

POSITION NOTES

Virginia Tech ranked sixth in the nation with 2,641 rushing yards last season, but will need to replace the production of Khalil Herbert, who ran for 1,182 yards in 2020.

The Hokies outrushed their opponents in eight of 11 games last season including a 260-yard disparity vs. Boston College.

Tech produced six games with 250+ rushing yards and owns a 12-2 record under Fuente in such contests.

Tech's tailbacks were used consistently in the passing game last season, combining for 31 receptions and 391 receiving yards in 2020.

POSITION OUTLOOK

Don't expect any one individual to replace the productivity of Herbert, who piled up 1,361 yards from scrimmage in 2020. The three-headed monster of Holston, Blackshear, and King appears poised to get the lion's share of touches in 2021. With multiple returning starters on an offensive line that helped Tech lead the ACC in rushing (240.1 yards per game), expect the Hokies to seek continued success on the ground. And don't forget, Quarterback Braxton Burmeister and Tech's receivers have also demonstrated the ability to excel as ball carries.



Running backs Jalen Holston and Raheem Blackshear will be counted on to provide the Hokies with a solid ground game this season in the wake of Khalil Herbert's departure. Herbert accounted for 1,182 yards in 2020.

First week of football includes big out-of-district contests

Marty Gordon
NRVsports@ourvalley.org

The first week of high school football gets underway this week. All five of our area teams are slated to play with Au-

burn and Radford playing at home, while the other three (Christiansburg, Blacksburg and Eastern Montgomery) will hit the road.

Radford hosts George Wythe

In a VHSL benefit game against Union this past week, George Wythe's Gatlin Hight scored a pair of touchdowns and rushed for 94 yards on 12 carries to lead the Maroons to a 29-15

win over Lee High.

Blacksburg travels to Giles.

The Spartans continue to fight the numbers game. Last year, the school did not have a junior varsity squad. This

year because of the drop in school enrollment, Giles received approval to drop to Class 1 and join the Mt. Empire District.

Last week in a benefit game against Christiansburg, Giles gave up over

500 yards of total offense and for the first time in several years did not manage over 30 yards on the ground, via the Single-Wing offense.

At least 10 sophomores make up the Giles roster. Khalik Saunders led Giles with 19 yards rushing in last week's loss.

Christiansburg is at Floyd.

The Blue Demons travel across the Little River to take on the Buffalos, who are coached by Winfred Beale, the longest active tenured coach in the state.

Christiansburg coach Alex Wilkens once played Beale, who heads into his 40th year of coaching with more than 200 wins and three trips to the state finals.

Eastern Montgomery at Holston

Jordan Ezzell and Gage Quina scored first-quarter touchdowns for Holston to highlight the Cavaliers' 14-12 win at Honaker in a VHSL Benefit Game.

Narrows at Auburn.

Narrows is the defending Pioneer District champ and gives Auburn a tough start for the 2021 season.

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