



A U.S. Air Force HH-60W Jolly Green II from the 41st Rescue Squadron hoists pararescuemen during training at Moody Air Force Base, Georgia, in September. U.S. Air Force photo by Staff Sgt. Melanie A. Bulow-Gonterman.

## Military aircraft to fly over Lane Stadium during today's football game

A U.S. Air Force HH-60W combat rescue helicopter will fly over Lane Stadium at the start of today's football game against Syracuse.

Coordinated by Virginia Tech's Air Force ROTC, the fly-over is subject to change based on weather and operational requirements. Kickoff is scheduled for 12:30 p.m.

The aircraft and its crew hail from the 41st Rescue Squadron at Moody Air Force Base, Georgia. The squadron specializes in combat rescue of downed aircrew. Its members rapidly mobilize and deploy to provide combat and peacetime search

and rescue efforts in support of national security interests.

The HH-60W, also known as the Jolly Green II, is the newest combat search and rescue aircraft for the Air Force and a variant of the Army's UH-60 Black Hawk. The HH-60W is primarily used in combat rescue operations, but also conducts civil search-and-rescue, humanitarian aid, and disaster relief missions.

The aircraft commander for today's flight is Maj. Adam Cade, a 2010 graduate of the Corps of Cadets and Air Force ROTC. He earned a bachelor's degree in mechanical engineering from the College of En-

gineering and is an instructor evaluator pilot with the 41st Rescue Squadron.

The co-pilot is Capt. Nathan Delaney, who commissioned through Syracuse University. The aircraft is crewed by two special missions aviators, Senior Master Sgt. Robert Alvarado and Senior Airman Asher Ray. In addition, Technical Sgt. Christopher Bradner and Technical Sgt. John Fain will provide support from the 41st Rescue Generation Squadron.

The aircraft will be on display from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Sunday on the Drillfield. The public is welcome to attend.

## Halloween tales: New Englanders once blamed vampires for TB deaths

More than 200 years after the Salem Witch Trials, ripples of another hysteria struck New England: the fear of vampires. During the 19th century, the spread of tuberculosis, or consumption, claimed the lives of entire families in Rhode Island, Connecticut, Vermont, and other parts of the Northeast.

Between 1786—when health officials first began recording mortality rates—and 1800, the disease claimed two percent of New England's population.

The death toll was not only terrifying; it was also a horrific way to die. "Consumptives lost weight, coughed up blood, their skin turned ashen, and they sometimes died a slow death, almost as if something was 'sucking the life' out of them," says retired Connecticut state archaeologist, Nicholas Bellantoni.

New Englanders didn't deny the reality of consumption. But before the germ the-

ory, at a time when physicians were unable to explain how certain infectious diseases were spread, hopeless villagers believed that some of those who perished from consumption preyed upon their living family members. Some described New England vampires as a microbe or "bacterium with fangs."

Exhuming the dead to stop vampire attacks

To prevent an ongoing vampire attack and the disease from spreading, panicked citizens dug up bodies and performed various rituals, including burning internal organs.

One such exhumation took place in March 1892 at the Chestnut Hill cemetery in Exeter, Rhode Island. Local people brought shovels and picks and, together, exhumed the corpses of Mary Brown and her daughters, 20-year-old Mary Olive and 19-year-old Mercy Lena.

Each of the women had

grown sickly, wasting away and eventually succumbing to a mysterious affliction. Doctors thought they knew the cause of death, but the concerned citizens had another theory.

George Brown was among those who believed something "more" might be lurking on his farm. Shortly after Mercy Lena passed away, his son Edwin fell ill too. Desperate to save the last of his kin, George gave the townspeople permission to dig up the bodies of his wife and daughters.

Once unearthed, the crowd discovered that the corpses of Mary and Mary Olive had rotted away. Mercy's body, on the other hand, was "oddly well preserved" despite lying in a crypt for several months. It looked as if her hair and nails had grown, and, when pierced, her delicate skin still contained drops of blood. For those who had gathered, these telltale signs confirmed their suspicions. Mercy was a vampire.

A village doctor witnessed the makeshift graveside autopsy and reiterated the suspected cause of death. He explained how the cold New England weather would have kept her body preserved. The townspeople wouldn't listen. Panicked, they removed Mercy's heart and burned it on a nearby rock. It is believed that, in ritualistic fashion, Edwin then consumed the ashes. Unfortunately, it did nothing to slow the progression of his illness. The young sales clerk died a few months later.

The Brown exhumations in Rhode Island, known then as "The Vampire Capital of America," was just one among tens of similar exhumations throughout New England at the time. Henry David Thoreau even mentions one in an 1859 journal.



As families lost one loved one after another to tuberculosis in the 19th century, some believed the undead were preying upon them. Panicked New Englanders exhumed bodies to prevent ongoing vampire attacks. At one such exhumation, the townspeople removed the heart of 19-year-old Mercy Lena Brown and burned it on a nearby rock.

## Montgomery County installs electric car charging station

Driving an electric car in the New River Valley just got a little easier with the addition of a charging station at the Montgomery County Government Center located at 755 Roanoke St. in Christiansburg.

According to the U.S. Department of Energy, Virginia has 893 stations with 2,465 charging outlets with public access. Fewer than two dozen are located in the New River Valley.

The level two charging station has two charging ports, allowing two cars to charge at the same time. Most electric vehicles can get 10 to 20 miles from one hour of charging on a level two charger.

Funding for the electric charging station was allocated by the Board of Supervisors to support the county's sustainability initiatives.

"I am a huge supporter of sustainability initiatives throughout the county," said Montgomery County Board of Supervisors member April DeMotts. "In 2019, I asked my fellow supervisors to allocate funding in support of such initiatives. This electric charging station is just one of the many things we have done and plan to do to make sure that we are being good stewards not only with the taxpayers' dollars, but also with the environment."

Montgomery County Sustainability Manager Bill Long hopes the station will be utilized by local residents as well as employees at the

Montgomery County Government Center. "I could see people charging their cars while they attend a board of supervisors meeting," Long said.



The electric charging station at the Montgomery County Government Center in Christiansburg has two charging ports, which allows two cars to charge at the same time.

## USS Oklahoma sailor from Virginia accounted for from World War II

WASHINGTON—The Defense POW/MIA Accounting Agency (DPAA) announced Tuesday that navy ship's cook first class Rodger C. Butts, 47, of Portsmouth, Va., killed during World War II, was accounted for on Sept. 28, 2020.

On Dec. 7, 1941, Butts was assigned to the battleship USS Oklahoma, which was moored at Ford Island, Pearl Harbor, when the ship was attacked by Japanese aircraft. The USS Oklahoma sustained multiple torpedo hits, which caused it to quickly capsize. The attack on the ship resulted in the deaths of 429 crewmen, including Butts.

From December 1941 to June 1944, Navy personnel recovered the remains of the deceased crew, which were subsequently interred in the Halawa and Nu'uaniu cemeteries.

In September 1947, tasked with recovering and identifying fallen U.S. personnel in the Pacific Theater, members of the American Graves Registration Service (AGRS) disinterred the remains of U.S. casualties from the two cemeteries and transferred them to the Central Identification Laboratory at Schofield Barracks. The laboratory staff was able to confirm the identifications of only 35 men from the USS Oklahoma at that time. AGRS subsequently buried the unidentified remains in 46 plots at the National Memorial Cemetery of the Pacific, known as the Punchbowl, in Honolulu. In October 1949, a military board classified those

who could not be identified, including Butts, as non-recoverable.

Between June and November 2015, DPAA personnel exhumed the USS Oklahoma unknowns from the Punchbowl for analysis.

To identify Butts's remains, scientists from DPAA conducted dental and anthropological analysis. Additionally, scientists from the Armed Forces Medical Examiner System used Y chromosome DNA (Y-STR) analysis.

Butts's name is recorded on the Walls of the Missing at the Punchbowl, along with the others who are missing from WWII. A rosette will be placed next to his name to indicate he has been accounted for.

Butts will be buried in Newtown, Penn. The date has yet to be determined.



Navy ship's cook first class Rodger C. Butts of Portsmouth was killed during the Japanese attack on Pearl Harbor on Dec. 7, 1941.

## VT expert: Consumers right to be concerned about inflation

Mike Ellerbrock is a professor of Environmental and Natural Resource Economics in the department of Agricultural & Applied Economics. He says inflation is rising at its highest rate in more than a decade and is now impacting most, if not all primary consumer items. He shared these thoughts about what this means for today's consumers and the economy.

What do the numbers tell us about the overall rate of inflation in 2021?

Since 2011, inflation has been low at about 1.5%, until this year when it is expected to rise above 4%, and then moderate to around 2% in 2022 after seasonal adjustments.

Is there reason for the average consumer to be concerned about what's going on with prices?

Yes — because the current increases are mainly in food, shelter, and fuel — primary consumer items, which can exacerbate the situation if shoppers panic and accelerate their purchases. Expectations are influential drivers of consumer behavior. The multi-trillion-dollar Biden stimulus programs aimed

See Inflation, page 7



PHOTO BY KAROLINA GRABOWSKA FROM PEXELS

Inflation is rising at its highest rate in more than a decade and is now impacting most, if not all primary consumer items, according to Virginia Tech economist Mike Ellerbrock.



# UPCOMING EVENTS

## Saturday, Oct. 23:

**Cupcake Wars**  
At the Blacksburg Library at 2 p.m. Come in for an epic and edible competition at the library. Supplies will be provided, but they are limited. Ages 9 and up. Email [mroach@mfrl.org](mailto:mroach@mfrl.org) with any questions.

**Trunk or Treat**  
At the Meadowbrook Library at 3 p.m. Dress the kids up in their Halloween costumes and bring them to the library. This event is for children 12 and under. The Trunk or Treat will be held in the parking lot near the playground behind the library. Sponsors with decorated vehicles will provide trunks filled with treats for the children. Sponsors include the Meadowbrook Public Library, Friends of the Library-Meadowbrook Chapter, and other community groups. No pets allowed except service animals. For more information contact the Meadowbrook Public Library.

## Sunday, Oct. 24:

**Fall Plant Swap**  
At the Blacksburg Library at 2 p.m. Bring a plant, take a plant. Packets of seeds and bulbs are welcome, too. If you have extra garden, landscape, or houseplants, perhaps you'd like to pot them up and trade for something new. The swap begins at 2:30 p.m. This event is free and open to everyone. Those with items to swap can participate in the first round; everyone can participate in the second round of choosing. For more information, call 552-8246 or 552-6331.

## Tuesday, Oct. 26:

**Science Fiction and Fantasy Book Club**  
At the Blacksburg Library at 6:30 p.m. To be discussed is "XX" by Rian Hughes. Call ahead to reserve a copy.

**Wellness Book Club: "Think Like a Monk"**  
At the Christiansburg Library at 6:30 p.m. To be discussed this month is "Think Like a Monk" by Jay Shetty. Pre-register with the Town of Christiansburg Recreation Department at 540-382-2349.

## Wednesday, Oct. 27:

**Sustainable Blacksburg to Host Lunch and Learn about Composting**  
Sustainable Blacksburg will host "Composting: Campus + Community" Lunch and Learn at noon, at the Blacksburg Library. Presenters will discuss the science behind composting, as well as current options and future plans for composting and the diversion of organic waste on the VT campus and in the community.

Participants will learn about the pros and cons of true composting vs. anaerobic digestion and the technical, financial, and regulatory challenges to enacting community scale composting programs. Potential campus/community partnerships will also be discussed. Presenters include Prof. Greg Evanylo, VT Professor in the School of Plant & Environmental Sciences; Blake Bensman, VT Residence Life and Dining Services Sustainability Manager; and Carol Davis, Town of Blacksburg Sustainability Manager. Participants may attend virtually at [tinyurl.com/bbbug-composting](http://tinyurl.com/bbbug-composting)

**Lunch and Learn: "Twenty Trees That are Better Than a Bradford Pear"**  
At the Blacksburg Library at noon. "Twenty Trees That Are Better

Than a Bradford Pear," by Carl Absher, retired arborist.  
Callery Pear is a small tree native to Southeast Asia that was introduced to the USA in 1964 as the 'Bradford' pear. Since then, multiple varieties of callery pear have been introduced to the nursery market that all have great spring flowers and good fall coloration. However, they all invade our local ecosystems and suppress native plants. To be discussed in this presentation is the callery pear and its problems, some native trees that are preferable to the callery pears, and some places to purchase them. This is a hybrid event. To attend on Zoom, register on [tinyurl.com/InvasivePear](http://tinyurl.com/InvasivePear). Come to the library to attend in person.

**Author Talk with Jack Walker**  
At the Blacksburg Library at 6:30 p.m. Author Jack Walker talks about his new book, "Hammer's Quest." Set in 1908 Navasota, Texas, Texas Ranger Frank Hammer confronts white supremacy.

## Friday, Oct. 29:

**Radford Trick or Treat Trail and Harvest Festival**  
4 to 6 p.m. in downtown Radford. Stop at downtown businesses for treats and have fun at the Harvest Festival, sponsored by Oasis Church, held in the Virginia Street and East Main parking lot.

**Stuffed Animal Taxidermy**  
At the Meadowbrook Public Library at 2:30 p.m. Transform stuffed animals into a unique work of art. Recommended for ages 10 and up. All supplies are provided. Registration is required.

## Sunday, Oct. 31:

**Grove United Methodist Church Trunk or Treat**  
An afternoon of safe

fun. Trunk or treating features trunks filled with treats provided by Grove UMC members and students from the Wesley Student Center at Radford University. The event is free. For more information, call 540-639-2807.

**First Annual Hacksburg Pumpkin Chunkin'**  
From 9 a.m. until 3 p.m. at 1331 Research Center Dr. Hacksburg will be running its own pumpkin chunkin' competition. Gather up a team to build a trebuchet capable of throwing pumpkins at targets. The official rules were sent out on Oct. 4. Email [rsvp@hacksburg.org](mailto:rsvp@hacksburg.org) for a copy. Teams will have a registration fee, but anyone can come to watch for free. Tours of Hacksburg will also be available. For answers to any question, email [board@hacksburg.org](mailto:board@hacksburg.org) or come to one of the open Tuesday meetings, each week at 7:30 p.m.

**Introduction to Cryptid Hunting**  
At the Blacksburg Library at 2 p.m. Have you ever wanted to see what is going bump in the night? Are you certain that Bigfoot was watching you during your last camping trip? Is it a bunny or a Jackalope? Come to this Introduction to Cryptid Hunting class to learn about all the wonderful, crazy legends and myths that live in the United States, from the Mothman to the Fresno Nightcrawlers. Email Cryptozoologist Sally at [sstauffer@mfrl.org](mailto:sstauffer@mfrl.org) with any questions.

## Wednesday, Nov. 3:

**Artist Talk with Matt Gentry**  
At the Hahn Horticulture Garden from noon to 1 p.m. A collection of Gentry's watercolor paintings of Virginia Rivers will be displayed. He will talk about his process and present his plein-air painting setup. The event is free and will be held outside on the patio behind the pavilion (The presentation will move inside if the weather

doesn't cooperate.) Parking passes will be provided to attendees.

## Thursday, Nov. 4:

**American Legion meeting**  
American Legion, Harvey-Howe-Carper Post 30 will meet on Thursday, Nov. 4, at 7 p.m. at the VFW Post Home on 102 Watts St. in Radford. The Boys and Girls State Representatives from Radford High School will be recognized at the meeting. For further information, call 540-250-2283 or 540-239-9864.

## Friday, Nov. 5 and Sat. Nov. 6:

**Radford Library Book Sale**  
The Radford Public Library will hold a book sale on Friday, Nov. 5, and Saturday, Nov. 6, from 10 a.m. until 5 p.m. Hardback books will sell for \$1.00 and paperbacks for \$.50. Children's books are half the price of adult books. Wear a mask and come support the Radford Public Library.

## Tuesday, Nov. 9:

**Sons of Confederate Veterans meeting**  
The Sons of Confederate Veterans, Stuart Horse Artillery Camp 1784, will meet at 7 p.m. at Aly's Italian Family Restaurant at 3204 Riner Road. Members of the United Daughters of the Confederacy (UDC) are invited. Member William Reed will give a talk on "Confederate Small Arms." For further information call 540-320-4315 or 540-239-9864.

## Wednesday, Nov. 17:

**Hahn Horticulture Garden In-Person Learn at Lunch**  
"Ramps" with Pabitra Aryal from noon to 1 p.m. Aryal, a Ph.D. candidate in VT's College of Agriculture and Life Sciences' School of Plant and Environmental Sciences, is researching the onion's cousin by growing ramps from seeds and bulbs to study the germination time of the plant. Come learn more about ramps and her research. This is a free event, with no registration needed. VT

requires face masks in public spaces, so everyone will need to wear a mask at this event. Parking passes will be provided to attendees.

## Through October:

**Grab-and-Go Meals**  
All the month of October at the Meadowbrook Public Library free grab-and-go meals and snacks. Children 18 years and younger can come and get a week's worth of meals and snacks. Each box will contain a five-day supply. This is free to all children and teens during library hours. Sponsored by Feeding Southwest Virginia, an equal opportunity provider.

**Radford Farmers Market**  
The Radford Farmers Market continues each Saturday through Oct. 30, from 9 a.m. to 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 continues through Thursday, Oct. 28, in the Christiansburg Recreation Center parking lot from 3 to 7 p.m.

## Ongoing:

**Passports at Radford Library**  
Radford Public Library is a Passport Acceptance Office. Call (540) 731-3621 to set up an appointment time. Those planning overseas travel should get their passports as early as possible. The current wait time is 18 weeks.

**"Paper Alchemy" exhibit**  
On display in the gallery in Radford University's Covington Center. This is an exhibition of jewelry and other objects made from Thurmanite, a material invented by James Thurman, an artist who teaches at the University of North Texas. Thurmanite is a unique composite material made of layers of recycled paper bonded together with an environmentally friendly plant-based resin. "Paper Alchemy" is a dynamic demonstration of the artist's range of inventive problem-solving and creativity.



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# Jason Ballard for Delegate

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## Vote Jason Ballard For Delegate

### Election Day Tuesday, November 2nd

Paid for by the Radford City Republican Committee





## Blue Ridge PBS documentary “The Story of the New River” playing this weekend

A documentary from Blue Ridge PBS, “The Story of the New River,” premiered Thursday and is running as a marathon today, Oct. 23, and Sunday, Oct. 24, on the two Blue Ridge PBS streaming YouTube channels, Blue Ridge Streaming and Project Southwest.

The documentary is also running today and Sunday on the PBS education channel ECHO on YouTube and on broadcast 15.5.

The 90-minute documentary chronicles the history of the New River and highlights a number of fascinating stories as told by area historians and local residents with ties to the river.

Three years in the making, the documentary features drone videography and a number of historical re-enactments. April Martin, the historian and education director of the Wilderness

Road Regional Museum, assisted in the production to preserve historical accuracy.

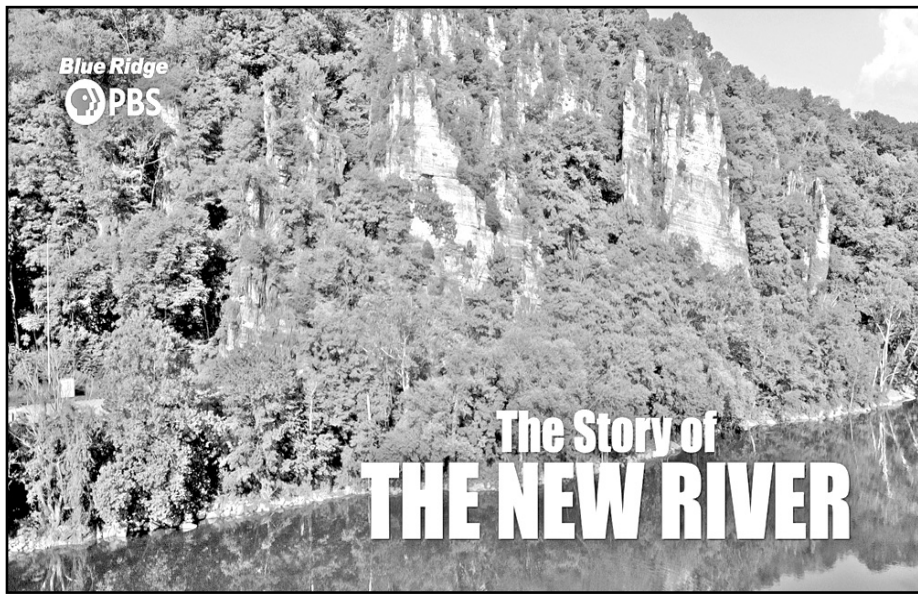
Additional local historical consultants include Tal Stanley, Professor of Civic Innovation at Emory and Henry College; Tim Thornton, Instructor of Appalachian Studies at Radford University; Ken Miller, historian at the Norfolk & Western Historical Society in Roanoke, and Daved Sandefur, historian at the Grayson County Historical Society.

Blue Ridge PBS President and CEO William Anderson said, “The documentary is very much a regional history lesson for viewers in Southwest Virginia and beyond. PBS is known for history programming, and Blue Ridge PBS is well-known for telling the stories of our area. ‘The Story of the New River’ is no exception. We are truly the

region’s storyteller.”

The documentary features original music recorded by local band Eight Point Star. The soundtrack CD features several songs written about the New River and its history, along with a few traditional old-time tunes including a remake of “New River Train,” originally recorded by Henry Whitter of Grayson County sometime around 1924.

“The Story of the New River” is dedicated to long-time Giles County resident Jim Connell. Connell passed away earlier this year and is featured in the documentary as a descendant of Adam Harman, the local farmer who discovered Mary Draper Ingles after her escape from Indian captivity in 1755. The Mary Draper Ingles story about her journey back to Virginia along the New River features



PBS documentary “The Story of the New River” chronicles the history of the New River and features a host of local people and locations.

prominently in the documentary.

Founded in 1967, Blue Ridge PBS is based in Roanoke and is the sole public multimedia enterprise serving four million individuals in portions of four states.

The station’s coverage area includes Southern and Southwest Virginia and bordering counties in Tennessee, West Virginia, and North Carolina.

Blue Ridge PBS broadcasts on five chan-

nels: WBRA-TV 15.1, Southwest Virginia Public Television 15.2, PBS Kids 15.3, Create 15.4, ECHO 15.5 and three channels streaming online via YouTube: Blue Ridge Streaming, Project Southwest, and ECHO.

## A message to students regarding a better game day



The Lane Stadium crowd during the Virginia Tech-Pittsburgh game on Oct. 16. Photo by Christina Franusich for Virginia Tech.

Dear Virginia Tech students,

We’d like to share our heartfelt thanks for your

tremendous cooperation during the football game at Lane Stadium last Saturday. Your response to

the situation made a major difference in areas that needed to be addressed: students who entered

the stadium held tickets; you moved quickly to your seats above the portal to allow all fans to take their seats; and you followed direction from stadium staff and public safety personnel.

The feedback we’ve received from the community has been excellent. The steps we took together to ensure a safe and positive experience worked and, most important, you answered the call to represent the best of the Hokie Spirit.

For the game against Syracuse today, we still need your help to ensure a positive experience for Hokie fans. We will continue to follow the same protocols as last week:

Student attendance will be restricted to sea-

son ticket holders and a limited number of student lottery winners.

Students are expected to follow all new guidance for gate entry.

Students will be expected to move to seats above the portals immediately to allow for all fans to take their seats safely and quickly.

The Virginia Tech Police Department will deploy law enforcement officers and security personnel in Lane Stadium to support a positive and safe fan experience.

Students entering the game illegally or who violate line protocols will be referred to Student Conduct. Students who violate our Student Code of Conduct risk significant consequences.

In addition, violators of safety/security protocols or criminal law will be subject to a ban from Virginia Tech athletic facilities by the police department.

Game day is such a special time on the Blacksburg campus. Thank you for living up to our Principles of Community, for conducting yourselves in a way that allows all of us to continue sharing this full in-person experience with all of you, and for honoring what it means to be a Hokie.

Whit Babcock, Director of Athletics  
Frank Shushok Jr., Vice President for Student Affairs

Mac Babb, Chief of Police Virginia Tech Police Department

## Consumers find comfort in ice cream, milk, butter, and yogurt during pandemic

WASHINGTON—When the going gets tough, familiar comforts beckon from the fridge, according to new U.S. Department of Agriculture data showing an increase of per-capita dairy consumption over the past year.

Despite major food service sector disruptions caused by the COVID-19 pandemic, the USDA’s Economic Research Service reports American demand for dairy products including fluid milk, ice cream, butter, and yogurt increased by three pounds per person. This was 655 pounds total in 2020 compared to 539 pounds in the previous year.

The increase of dairy indulgence could be linked to more at-home dining, baking, and comfort-eating. The updated look at domestic dairy demand indicates pandemic shoppers may have found comfort in butter and ice cream.

That’s good news for Virginia’s dairy farmers, said Virginia Farm Bureau Federation Dairy Advisory Committee chair Leigh Pemberton. Virginia’s dairy industry has suffered financial stress for years with nearly one dairy closing every week in 2019. But the new ERS data show American dairy consumption is on a growth trajectory.

Pemberton hopes it stays that way.

“When people stayed home and had to start eating cereal, they bought more milk,” he said. “We’ve seen fluid milk consumption go up in the last year overall, and it still is.”

He added that families prepared more food at home when dining options changed, fueling demand for dairy products. Sales of baking-related products increased 24% in the U.S. last year as many consumers turned to home-based

activities, according to the Home Baking: U.S. Market Trends and Opportunities report released by Packaged Facts.

“It would be interesting if we continue this trend when the world hopefully comes back to what it was before 2020,” Pemberton

said. “Are those buying habits ingrained enough that it will stick? You’ve got to look for the good in the bad, and I’m staying positive, hoping that dairy consumption will continue to increase going forward.”

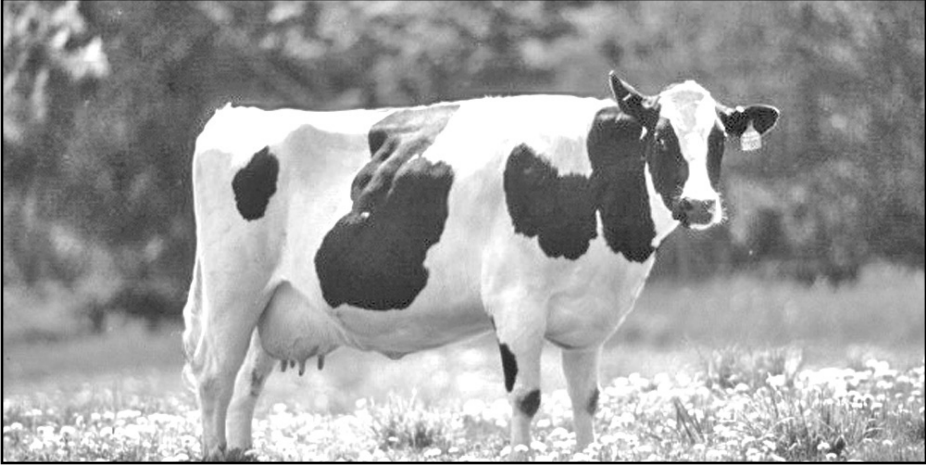
Commodity experts

agree the pandemic is having a significant impact on how consumers view and consume food.

“Many have learned or relearned how to prepare meals from scratch, and there has been a shift to comfort-type foods and dishes,” said Tony Banks,

Virginia Farm Bureau senior assistant director of agriculture, development, and innovation. “Milk

and dairy products fit this shift in home meal prep. We hope this is a trend that can continue.”



To find comfort during the pandemic, consumers turned to dairy and their fridge for ice cream, butter, yogurt, and milk.

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# OPINION

## Buddy King: Boys to men

I am working on a project for one of my daughters that basically involves writing a memoir. I am given a topic each week on which to write a short chapter. Last week's subject, which arrives each Monday morning via email, was "What is a book you have read as an adult which had an impact on your life?"

I chose "The Boys in the Boat," a book I read about five years ago about a group of young men who attended the University of Washington during the height of the Great Depression. They were almost all from lower middle class families, at best, and struggled mightily to work their way through college and to create a decent future for themselves, a better one than their poor, uneducated parents had faced. They came from tough, blue collar stock: farmers, loggers, fishermen, and dock workers.

The common thread among the young men followed in the book was the crew team at UW. During this period in American history, rowing, or "crew" as it was sometimes called, held the national stage, along with horse racing and boxing and baseball.

I learned that it was one of the most highly followed sports in the country in the 1920's and 1930's. Races were often attended by over 100,000 spectators lining the banks of the rivers and lakes where the competitions were held, and the most important competitions were broadcast on national radio. Hard to imagine now when rowing is almost purely an aficionado sport followed at best by close family and friends. A prep school activity.

The main protagonist of "The Boys in the Boat" was a young man named Joe Rantz, who came from such meager beginnings that his father and stepmother actually had to leave him behind when they moved from their home and took their large family to Seattle for work. Joe was 11 years old when this happened, and he lived in the woods and foraged for himself for several years.

Eventually, he was taken in by the family of a girl he knew from school and was able to finish high school and be admitted to the University of Washington. He never gave up on the goal of an education even after having been abandoned and made to feel worth-

less. Joe showed up on campus in Seattle, and, because of his tall, athletic build, he was recruited to the crew team. At this time, rowing was primarily an East Coast sport, dominated by elitist Ivy League schools like Harvard and Princeton and Cornell. But there was also a fierce competition on the "Left Coast" between Washington and Cal Berkeley, exacerbated by the fact that the longtime Cal coach had left Berkeley for the job at Washington, considered an inferior school and crew.

A major storyline of this book involved the 1936 Olympics and the fact that rowing was one of the major competitions at these games. For World War II historians, the 1936 Olympics hold a special spot. They were the games hosted by Adolf Hitler and his rising Nazi party, in hindsight a subterfuge to mask the hideous atrocities and world domination ambitions of this evil nation. These were the Berlin games, most famous because of the amazing performances of American black athletes like track stars Jesse Owens and Mack Robinson (Jackie's older brother). But the rowing competition

also held the world's attention. Interestingly, the crew that represented the USA in the Olympics in this era was not an "all-star team" of rowers from the various squads around the country, but rather it was made up of the nine-man crew of the university that would win the NCAA championship before the games that year. Probably this was in recognition of the critical significance of teamwork and camaraderie necessary to win in this amazingly grueling sport. Perhaps travel costs were a factor as well.

In a couple of amazing upsets, the Huskies of the University of Washington beat the Golden Bears of Cal in the West Coast competition and then made the cross-country trip to win the national championship against the Ivy Leaguers on the Hudson in New York. Thus, the poor kids from Washington state became the US Olympic crew team for the 1936 Berlin Olympics.

The Husky/USA team then went on to win the gold medal in a fierce competition with the Germans and Italy. This loss was considered to be one of Hitler's major failures at these games, where he had hoped to showcase his "master race" and exploit the weakness of America. Just a few years later, the competitors from

these two crews were in battle against each other on the fields of France and Belgium and Germany and in the air above those fields and on the Atlantic.

These young boys, who endured so much just for the chance to have a chance, made successful lives for themselves, epitomizing the Greatest Generation. For the most part, they became successful businessmen, professionals, civic leaders, husbands, and fathers. The book about them reminded me of my father and the other men in my hometown who grew up under similarly dire circumstances, went to war, and then made purposeful lives for themselves and their families and their communities. The "boys to men" chronicled in this great book made me grateful for the opportunities I have had and also saddened me because of how little appreciation there seems to be now for their accomplishments and the values they embodied.

*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.*

Submit letters to the editor to editor@ourvalley.org

### News Messenger

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## COVID-19 update: Cases in New River District continue to decline

At her weekly press update Tuesday, Dr. Noelle Bissell, director of the New River Public Health District, told the assembled media that COVID-19 cases continue to decline not only in the district but across the state and the nation.

But, she said, the district is still at high community transition as defined by the CDC. This means, she said, that according to regulations from the Virginia Department of Labor and Industry, all employees throughout the region are required to wear masks indoors, whether or not they are vaccinated.

Cases among school-aged children are also going down, Dr. Bissell told the media. "This makes sense," she said, "because transmission in the schools has been minimal. [More than] 70 percent of all transmission has been in the household, so as adults don't get COVID, they don't share it with younger children. The schools are doing very well.

"This morning," the health director said, "hospitals in the New River Health District reported 37

patients with COVID and one person under investigation. This is fewer cases than last week, so the downward trend is starting to be seen in hospitalizations as well. Our hospitals are still very busy, but they remain at normal operations."

Dr. Bissell expressed hope that the Delta variant has seen its last large surge because, she said, it "is so highly transmissible. It has hit our unvaccinated population with very high case numbers. Epidemiological analysis and serology studies show that for each reported case there are likely three to four additional ones. Community immunity and vaccinations together have greatly increased the number of people who have antibodies to COVID. We do not expect that COVID will go away, but that we will likely see smaller waves that ebb and flow, not unlike flu and other respiratory illnesses."

Dr. Bissell reported that the FDA vaccines and related biological products advisory committee recommended last week booster shots for the Moderna and Johnson & Johnson vaccines. "This week," she said, "the FDA is expected to fully authorize them, and the CDC Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices will meet to discuss their recommendations. We do expect the booster shots to be authorized in the next week or so, and those who got Moderna will be eligible for a half-dose booster at least six months after their second shot. People who got a Johnson & Johnson shot will be eligible two months after their shot.

"The FDA's vaccines

products advisory committee has also scheduled a meeting on Oct. 26 to discuss authorization of the Pfizer vaccine for children ages 5-11," Dr. Bissell reported.

"Once these are authorized, we and our pharmacy/pediatrician partners are prepared to offer vaccines to the younger school children. The FDA may address mixing vaccines at this meeting as well.

"With the new cases going down, we are seeing less demand for testing. This should help resolve the difficulty in finding rapid tests. Testing is still available daily Monday through Friday at health departments throughout the district with just over a 24 hour-turn-around.

"As more people look for electronic proof of vaccination, the Virginia Department of Health has instituted a QR code access to COVID vaccination records," Dr. Bissell said. "For this to work there must be a phone number connected to the record, which may require calling the state Monday through Friday from 8 a.m. until 6 p.m. at 877-829-4682 (877-VAX-IN-VA).

"Employers are required by Virginia's Department of Labor and Industry to have a COVID response plan, which includes knowing which employees are vaccinated and which have had COVID, in addition to requiring all employees to mask indoors during times of high or substantial community transmission.

"Some employers are requiring testing as part of their back-to-work policies

after having COVID. Anyone with any symptoms of respiratory illness should get a COVID test."

The health district director reported that in a national 2021 National Health Security Preparedness Index, compiled by the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation, the University of Colorado School of Public Health, and the University of Kentucky Center for Business and Economic Research, Virginia tied for first place for state readiness to respond to public health threats during the pandemic. "We tied with Maryland, Massachusetts and Nebraska," she said.

"In Virginia, public health is funded by the state with a match from the localities. Once again, I'd like to thank the communities in the New River Valley for their unique level of cooperation in funding and working with our public health team.

"Families are starting to plan for the holidays," Dr. Bissell said. "This year, please plan for safe gatherings. We don't want to cause another uptick in cases. Halloween parties outdoors are ideal, but be careful of carpooling. For the winter holidays, please plan to be careful, stay outdoors as much as possible and remember to wash your hands. If you are visiting vulnerable family and friends, be extra careful. Our behavior should be informed by a risk assessment of the activities we are considering.

"Lastly," she said, "please make sure to get a flu shot. We are already seeing flu. People getting COVID boosters can get their flu vaccine at the same time."

**CROSSWORD**

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- CLUES ACROSS**
- 1st, 2nd & 3rd in baseball
  - Sew up a hawk's eyes
  - N'Djamena is the capital
  - Be a connector
  - To accustom
  - Cornflower
  - Former CIA
  - Bark sharply
  - Actress Barkin
  - Cathode-ray tube
  - Shallowest Great Lake
  - Surface of a plane figure
  - Bird of prey
  - A large number
  - Chums
  - Express pleasure
  - Capital of Yemen
  - Sanctify
  - Hyperbolic cosecant
  - Central Standard Time
  - Seed of the legume family
  - Drove in golf
  - Without difficulty
  - Without (French)
  - Politicians (informal)
  - Not happy
  - Spiritual being
  - Male child
  - The cry made by sheep
  - Handheld image enlarger
  - Inventiveness
  - Column style
  - Impudence
  - 33 1/3 records
  - Berkeley's sister city
- CLUES DOWN**
- Lymph node plague swelling
  - Freshwater duck genus
  - Dog attacks
  - Eilat Airport
  - Visualize
  - A young pig
  - Wyatt \_\_, OK Corral
  - Point one point S of due E
  - Those who give freely
  - Small slice of meat, especially veal
  - Dislike intensely
  - Egyptian sun God
  - Animal lair
  - Dutch flowers
  - A Greek harp
  - O. Twist's author's initials
  - Periods of time
  - \_\_ Claus
  - Actress Lupino
  - Green regions of desert
  - Any competition
  - Salem, MA, teachers college
  - Container for display
  - Ink writing implement
  - Hogshead (abbr.)
  - As much as one can eat
  - Puts in a horizontal position
  - Colangent (abbr.)
  - Vitamin H
  - Book hinges
  - Voiced musical sounds
  - In the year of Our Lord
  - Japanese entertainment firm
  - Comedian Carvey
  - Bird reproductive bodies
  - Rests on a chair
  - River border
  - Largest continent
  - Plural of ascus
  - Prefix for ill
  - Small bark
  - Geographic Information System
  - Mauna \_\_, Hawaiian

## Financial focus: Build your 'cash' account before retiring

If you're going to retire in the next few years, you'll want to start thinking about making some changes to your investment portfolio. And one area you may want to look at is whatever type of cash account you might have because, when you're retired, the amount of cash you have readily available may be even more important than when you were working.

Your cash management account could pay a slightly higher rate than a typical savings account as well as serving as a holding place for funds that may eventually be transferred to other investments. Furthermore, it can provide you with these benefits:

You can pay for emergency expenses. You might be retired, but life goes on, and

life is full of unexpected expenses such as a new furnace or a costly auto repair. It's a good idea for retirees to keep at least three months of living expenses in a separate cash account, which can help pay for emergencies without forcing them to dip into their longer-term investments.

You can save for a short-term goal. You may have several short-term goals, such as a long vacation or a kitchen remodeling project. If you are trying to reach this type of goal within a year or two, you may want to start moving funds into your cash management account. For goals with longer time frames, you may want to consider using other types of investments appropriate

See **Financial Focus**, page 8



## VT College of Agriculture and Life Sciences announces 2021 award winners

At the 26th annual Celebration of Faculty and Staff picnic, the College of Agriculture and Life Sciences recognized numerous faculty and staff for their contributions and dedication to the college.

The Andy Swiger Land Grant Award recognizes faculty members whose accomplishments help to fulfill the land grant mission of addressing state and national needs through teaching, research, or Virginia Cooperative Extension.

This year, the award recipient is Richard Helm, an associate professor in the Department of Biochemistry for establishing the Virginia Tech-Mass Spectrometry Incubator in 2007 and his continued work as its director. Additionally, Helm worked to transform the Steger Hall facilities into the first COVID-19 testing site at Virginia Tech.

The operation of this facility serves as a critically important resource not only for the faculty in the College of Agricultural and Life Sciences but also for the whole university. Helm

single-handedly started the efforts to acquire the instrumentation and physically established the infrastructure and personnel that became VT-MSI.

Karen Barnhart, a human resources coordinator in the College of Agriculture and Life Sciences, was named the 2021 College of Agriculture and Life Sciences Employee of the Year.

Her nominators praised her excellent customer service and how she approaches her job with professionalism and positivity each and every day. They also said that she embodies Ut Prosim (That I May Serve) in her service to her unit, the departments, and the college.

Each year, the College of Agriculture and Life Sciences celebrates and recognizes the accomplishments of its students and faculty in the core area of diversity and inclusion.

The Diversity and Inclusion Service Award was established in 2006 as the Diversity Enhancement Award, and in 2013, separate categories for faculty, staff, and

students were created.

The three faculty and staff winners of the College of Agriculture and Life Sciences Diversity and Inclusion Service Award were Chloé Lahondère, an assistant professor in the Department of Biochemistry; Sarah Misyak, a research assistant professor in the Department of Human Nutrition, Foods, and Exercise; and Tiffany Drape, an assistant professor in the Department of Agricultural, Leadership, and Community Education.

For the third year, the college's Faculty Association presented the Ut Prosim Excellence in Service Award to a faculty member who demonstrated excellence in service to their unit, the college, and Virginia Tech. This year's honor was bestowed upon Eric Kaufman in the Department of Agricultural, Leadership, and Community Education.

The college presents two annual awards for Research Excellence to faculty members who have reached a level of research achievement judged to be the most



**Tiffany Drape, Rich Helm, Karen Barnhart, Chloé Lahondère, Mark Hanigan, Eric Kaufman, and others received awards at the 26th annual College of Agriculture and Life Sciences Celebration of Faculty and Staff picnic.**

significant within their discipline. One award recognizes excellence in conducting basic research and the other rewards excellence in applied research.

Mark Hanigan, the David R. and Margaret Lincome Professor of Agriculture in the Department of Dairy Science, received the Excel-

lence in Basic Research Award for his work on how animal nutrition scientists view amino acid requirements. Initial estimates indicate full adoption of the group's system could result in \$600 million of annual economic gain for the industry and a 15 percent reduction in nitrogen excretion.

Jeffery Alwang, a professor in the Department of Agriculture and Applied Economics, received the Excellence in Applied Research Award for his work on understanding how policies and agricultural technologies affect the well-being of the rural poor, including those in developing countries.

## The Hokie Hike is back for its second year



**The Atlanta Hokies on the trail during the inaugural 2020 hike.**

Fall is here and the Hokie Hike is back.

Thousands of Hokies hit the trail for the in-

augural event last year, completing hikes all over the world.

"It was a way to con-

nect with each other in a different way than our usual social events," said Allison Elkins of the At-

lanta Hokies. "It is family-friendly too, so a couple people brought their young kids last year. We are doing something good for our health with exercise and fresh air, while also sharing in the beauty of our area that reminds us a little bit of our time in Southwest Virginia."

This year's event kicked off Oct. 16 at Homecoming Weekend and will include new ways for Hokies to enjoy time outside while showing their Hokie spirit.

The 2021 event includes official in-person meetups with alumni chapters like the Atlanta Hokies. There is also a children's registration option. The College of Natural Resources and

Environment will host several hikes close to Virginia Tech. Venture Out and the Virginia Tech Running Club are also hosting trail runs.

Participating in the hike is easy. Hikers may register online and then hike anywhere until Nov. 20. They may share their journey on the Hokie Hike leaderboard and on social media with #HokieHike.

Participants will receive a box of all-new Hokie hiking swag, including a shirt and cooling towel, and a portion of each registration fee is a gift to support outdoor recreation for current students.

"Rec Sports works to enhance the quality of life for the university

community by encouraging participation in activities that promote healthy lifestyles and social interactions," said Alison Cross, director of Recreational Sports. "The Hokie Hike not only helps raise funds for our programming, it embodies the spirit of what we do."

This year Elkins is looking forward to exploring new parts of Georgia.

"I have not done any hiking around here, so it's nice to drive a little bit outside the city and see the beauty of the state. And doing it with Hokies is great motivation," she said.

*Written by Julie Flanagan*

## From camera traps to tank tracks: Hokies manage conservation work on military base

A team of research scientists from the Conservation Management Institute (CMI) housed in VT's College of Natural Resources and Environment is conducting multiple conservation projects on a unique landscape in Virginia's Piedmont region: an active military base.

At the Fort Pickett Army National Guard Maneuver Training Center in Blackstone, Va., recent projects include a bird survey conducted across a range of habitats, stream research focusing on rare freshwater mussels and threatened Roanoke logperch, studies of bat and squirrel populations, and a comprehensive effort to conserve an endangered species of sumac.

Though it seems counterintuitive, military installations are among the most well-managed landscapes in the United States, having a higher density of

endangered or threatened plant and animal species than national parks and forests.

Located about 60 miles southwest of Richmond, Fort Pickett traces its history as a military installation to World War II. Now operated by the Virginia Army National Guard, the center has facilities to provide training for both military and non-military personnel. The post is used by active and reserve component military units from all services, as well as organizations like the various federal law enforcement agencies, the Virginia State Police, and even Canadian forces. These personnel conduct small arms live-fire, combat skills practice and maneuver tactics, and even heavy-weapons training involving tanks and other armored fighting vehicles on the landscape.

At the same time, the

installation is a resource for Virginia residents, who can access the numerous ponds, lakes, and forests that make up a significant portion of the property's 40,000-plus acres.

"We are something of an open post," said Lt. Col. James Shaver Jr., chief of plans, training, and security at Fort Pickett. "We have an active recreation program, so Virginia citizens and others can come on post and get permission to hunt, fish, kayak, and cut firewood."

"A military base like Fort Pickett has all the same uses as a national forest, with the added challenge of having to be a training site for the military," said Verl Emrick, a research scientist who has been conducting conservation work at the site for more than two decades. "What we provide facilities like Fort Pickett is the most up-to-date information about

how to best maintain their landscape so that they can make informed management decisions."

"This area is an important wildlife habitat," said

Kenneth Oristaglio, Fort Pickett's natural resources manager. "We're currently completing a survey of animal species, and we're seeing camera captures of

black bear cubs, turkey, deer, and bobcats. We have four eagle nests that we know of and probably more that we haven't documented."

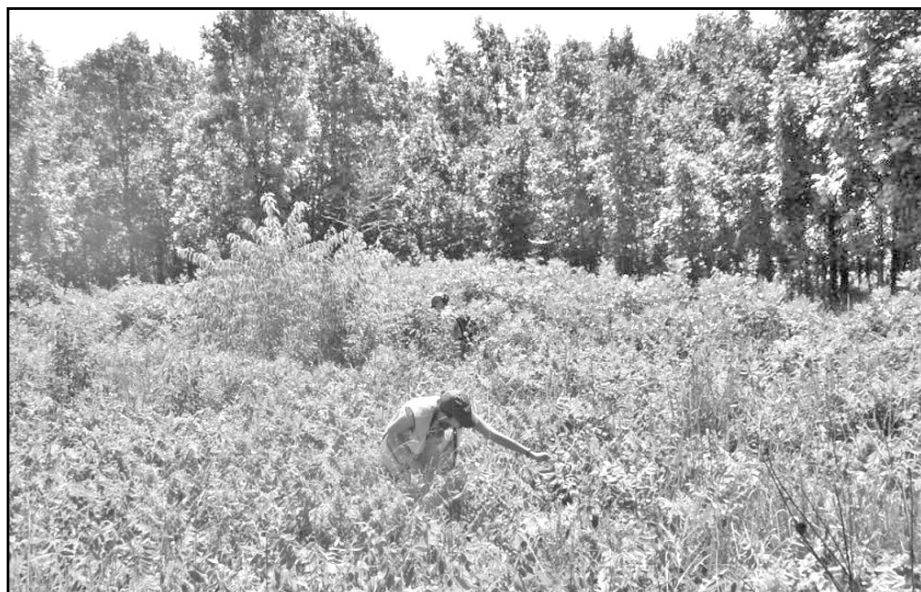


PHOTO BY VERL EMRICK

**Student Jessica Fitzpatrick and project associate Ingrid Mans collect data on the density of Michaux's sumac at Fort Pickett.**

### ONLINE ONLY AUCTION

**Ends Thursday October 28th at 4 PM  
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This property would be a wonderful family home with a few updates or great for an investment property! Purchase this sweet homestead to live your dream life, away from the hustle and bustle of the city. Property is just a short 15 minute drive to the Town of Floyd VA and within 45 minutes of Roanoke VA.

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**Terms - 10% Buyer's Premium will be added to final high bid to arrive at contract price. Earnest Money Deposit of \$2,500 required day of sale. Close in 45 days. Subject to seller confirmation. Property sold as is, where is with any and all faults. Buyer is expected to complete their own due diligence. Auction starts ending at 4 PM on October 28th 2021. Download Bidder Information Pack at VaAuctionPro.com**

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# Grant beefs up grazing initiative that benefits Virginia farmers, environment

Rolling green pastures dotted with grazing cows are a common sight in Virginia. However, there's more strategy behind those grazing cows than most people know, such as the impact on the land, water quality, and farm profitability.

In 2015 a small team of Virginia Cooperative Extension agents, farmers, and representatives from state and federal conservation agencies from Northern Piedmont and Northern Shenandoah Valley created the Graze 300 VA Initiative "to enable Virginia farmers to achieve 300 days of livestock grazing per year by facilitating better pasture management and environmental stewardship." Since then, Graze 300 VA has grown to 30 Extension agents and specialists working together with farmers across Virginia.

This year, the Graze 300 VA movement is beefing up its mission thanks to a grant from

the Virginia Tech College of Agriculture and Life Sciences and the Virginia Agricultural Experiment Station. Out of 71 proposals submitted, 32 projects were funded. Graze 300 VA was the only one led by Extension agents.

Virginia Cooperative Extension agents Carl Stafford, Bobby Clark, and John Benner, and Inga Haugen are leading the program's efforts.

The grant will help build on existing Graze 300 VA successes, research social factors that influence farmer change, provide in-depth grazing management training, develop better educational resources for Virginia's farmers, and broaden the use of technology, including designing a grazing app to advance the Graze 300 VA initiative.

Most farmers graze about 220 days per year, from spring until fall, and supplement with hay during the four-month

cold season. Winter feeding can account for more than 50 percent of production costs due to the cost of making hay. Inflation and spikes in the cost of farm equipment, fuel, and fertilizer make traditional grazing less profitable than in years past. Currently, only a handful of farmers in Virginia regularly reach a 300-day grazing season.

According to the team's background work, if 20 percent of Virginia farmers adopt better grazing management practices and extend their grazing season closer to 300 days per year, Virginia farms could increase profitability by more than \$6 million per year.

"We have collected several case studies of farmers who have successfully extended their grazing season and have become more profitable," Benner said. "We continue to share these experiences with other farmers."

"Farm profitability helps

to ensure that Virginia's rural communities are resilient and vibrant," Clark said. "Over the long term, farm profitability is a repetitive cycle. We teach farmers more profitable technologies, and as farmers adopt these technologies, it becomes the new normal. The net benefit of this cycle ensures citizens have a safe, affordable, and consistent supply of food."

Extending the grazing season also has environmental and production benefits. In well-managed pastures, the sod is thicker. This reduces runoff, soil erosion, and nutrient losses. Therefore, farmers use less fertilizer. Additionally, because thicker sod captures more water in sudden rainfall events, the pastures are more productive during dry summers when occasional storms are the only source of moisture.

The team is also partnering with farmers, agribusinesses,

and several agencies to improve water quality. According to Clark, extending the grazing season will improve water infiltration, nutrient use efficiency, and soil organic matter while encouraging fewer barren areas in fields. A longer grazing season also reduces the amount of sediment, nitrogen, and phosphorus that ends up in surface waters that could eventually run into streams and rivers.

"It's economics and environment and doing what is best for the landscape," said Haugen, who was a grazing dairy farmer before she was a librarian. "A type of farming that works on flatlands, like vegetable or crop farming, might be a poor choice in the mountains. This program works with what folk are doing and helps them to be better in many areas. It benefits them and our communities that share the water, air, and soil, and then also our downstream neighbors."

## ANGLICAN CATHOLIC

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

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

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

## BAPTIST

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

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

## CHURCH OF CHRIST

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

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

## CHURCH OF GOD

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

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

## CHURCH OF THE BRETHREN

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

## ECKANKAR

**Eckankar, the Path of Spiritual Freedom**, is located at 1420 3rd St. SW, Roanoke, VA 24016. However, due to COVID-19, the Light & Sound Services and other ECK programs are currently available online through Zoom. Visit [www.eck-va.org](http://www.eck-va.org) for program listings, [# Montgomery County WORSHIP DIRECTORY](http://www.</a></p>
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## CARRY ON

Read Philippians 1:1-30

In a week's time, news headlines revealed: One evangelical leader was hospitalized with a serious illness, a pastor of a huge congregation was embroiled in scandal, and a Christian leader in Pakistan was murdered because of his faith. When Christian leaders step out of the picture, how are those who follow them to respond? Paul gives us the answer.

Whatever happens, conduct yourselves in a manner worthy of the gospel of Christ (Philippians 1:27).

Paul wrote this while imprisoned and facing potential death. He didn't want his situation to bring fear to the believers in Philippi, or to make them lose their step in following Christ.

So how are we to respond when leaders are out of commission and maybe our hearts are in pain? We are to continue. We're to hold on to our faith. We're not to fear the future without that leader, or be afraid of being the next victim of persecution.

Instead, we're to look to the Leader who has never failed us. He's the one who will always be available to give advice, hope, courage, and direction.

Thought for Today: While we can be thankful for the ones who lead us on earth, our main leader is Christ.

Quicklook: Philippians 1:19-28

**If your church is not listed and if you are interested, call Randy Thompson at 540-389-9355 or email at [advertise@ourvalley.org](mailto:advertise@ourvalley.org)**

meetup.com/Roanoke-Spiritual-Experiences-Group, or call 540-353-5365 and leave a message. We will return your call. Also visit [www.eckankar.org](http://www.eckankar.org) for more information about how the teachings of Eckankar lead you to spiritual freedom.

## EPISCOPAL

**Grace Episcopal Church**, 210 4th Street, Radford, 639-3494. A friendly, mission-oriented spiritual community sharing the Word of God. ALL ARE WELCOME. In person and live-streamed services 10:30AM Sundays. Holy Eucharist twice a month. Morning Prayer twice a month. Fellowship and refreshments follow services. Find us on Facebook: Grace Episcopal Church and [www.graceradford.org](http://www.graceradford.org).

## LUTHERAN

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

## MULTI-CULTURAL

**NON-DENOMINATIONAL Christian Growth Center**, 1850

Electic Way, Christiansburg, VA 24073 (beside Hubbell Lighting). Sunday Worship: 9:30am Prayer, 10:00am Service \*Nursery Available. Lead Pastor: Todd Hallinan. Founding Pastor: Rob Sowell. Mission: Sow, Grow, & Go Sow Faith! Grow in Righteousness! Go into all the world in the authority of the believer! 540-382-2908.

## PENTECOSTAL HOLINESS

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

**Compassion Church**, 1820 Second Street, Radford, 639-6287, Our music is passionate, our worship is real, and Pastor Chandler Jones brings relevant messages for everyone at any place on their journey, Sunday Worship Experience at 9:30 AM & 11:00 AM, Wednesday Family Night at 7 PM, Children Ministry provided for all services. Our vision is to see all Saved. Freed. Restored. Fulfilled. Find us on facebook and Instagram

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

## UNITED METHODIST

**Asbury United Methodist Church**, 500 Stuart Street, Christiansburg. 540-382-0743. Rev. Dr. Patricia Jones. Sunday School, 9:45 a.m., Sunday Worship, 11:00 a.m. All are welcome.

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

**St. Paul United Methodist Church**, 220 W. Main St., C'Burg. Rev. Mike Derflinger (540) 382-2410. Sunday Worship 10 a.m., Sunday School 9 a.m. Live streaming Sunday Service - [www.twitch.tv/stpaulumc](http://www.twitch.tv/stpaulumc)  
**Wesley Memorial United Methodist Church**, 350 Stafford Drive, Christiansburg, VA 24073, Sunday School 10am, Sunday Worship Service 11am.

## WESLEYAN

**Christ Wesleyan Church**, 525 Harkrader Street, Christiansburg. Public Worship service at 11:00 AM. Sunday School for adults - 10:00 AM. Pastor: Gale Janofski 574-306-7682. Website: [christwesleyanchurch.org](http://christwesleyanchurch.org)



# OBITUARIES

## Brown, Peggy Hamblin

Peggy Hamblin Brown, 78, of Blacksburg, passed to a better home, Wednesday, Oct. 13, 2021. She was born in Radford on Sept. 15, 1943, to the late Albert C. and Carrie Lindsey Hamblin.

She grew up in Bel-spring and was a member of the Methodist church. After she married Robert O'Neil (Bob) Brown, she joined St. Michael Lutheran Church.

Peggy retired from Virginia Tech after more than 40 years of service in veterinary science. She was very active in the Potpourri Club, Red Hats, many knitting groups, and she loved Moss Art. She loved traveling, helping with various charities, cooking, but most of all, spending time



with her family, grandchildren, and close friends.

She is survived by her husband of 54 years, Robert O'Neil Brown; daughters and sons-in-law, Melissa (Missy) and Bernie Piszczor, Tamara (Tammy) and Doug Veit; and grandchildren, Delanie Veit, Sophia Veit, and Sarah Piszczor.

A funeral service was held on Tuesday, Oct. 19, 2021, at 2 p.m. at St. Michael Lutheran Church with the Rev. Paul Henrickson and Scott Obenchain officiating. Interment followed at Roselawn Memorial Gardens in Christiansburg. The family received friends from 5 to 7 p.m. on Monday, Oct. 18, 2021, at McCoy Funeral Home, Blacksburg.

## McCoy, Delma Cleo

Cleo went to her eternal home Monday, Oct. 11, 2021. While she leaves a tremendous void, we rejoice with her as she sees Jesus face to face on those streets of gold. No more sickness, no more madness, no more pain.

Cleo was born Mar. 29, 1927, to James F. and Minnie H. Thornton and was the second oldest of seven children. She lived throughout the New River Valley attending elementary and high school wherever her dad found construction work. In 1944 in the midst of World War II, she married the love of her life, Private Jessie Lee McCoy.

Cleo worked for 20 years at Imperial Reading as a seamstress in Christiansburg and 10 years at Virginia Tech in the Tailor Shop. Her focus was first her Lord, then family, and next her church family at Community Christian Church in McCoy. She served on the Missions Committee there for many years sometimes housing missionary guests of the church. She was always ready to prepare a dish to share with church visitors or a fellowship meal. She was a member of the widows group at the church. Cleo firmly believed God should be the first priority in a person's life so she served in other areas as needed when her health allowed.

Cleo was preceded in death by her parents, James F. and Minnie Thornton; her husband of 63 years, Jessie Lee McCoy, her infant son Steven Lynn McCoy; her brother Oden Thornton and wife Louise; her brother Garnett Thornton and wife Margaret; her brother Johnny Thornton;



her sister Diane Sheppard; sister-in-law Reba Porterfield; brother-in-law Donald McCoy and wife Oeda; brother-in-law Doug McCoy and wife Polly; brother-in-law Arnold and wife Josephine; brother-in-law Aubrey and wife Lourine; brothers-in-law Ellwood White and R.C. Miller.

Survivors include her children Garry Lee McCoy (Cheryl); Judy McCoy Keister (Mike); and grandchildren: Ryan Keister; Julie M. Pittenturf (Chris); Brock Keister (Michelle); and Lauren K. Surface (J. T.).

She is also survived by her loving and supportive siblings and spouses Carmell Miller, sister; Curtiss Thornton, brother (Barbara); Dana White, sister-in-law; and brother-in-law Frank Sheppard. In addition, she is survived by numerous nieces and nephews.

In recent years, Cleo's great-grandchildren brought her much joy! Even when she was in pain, these folks could bring a smile. They include Joshua, Caleb, and Ellia Pittenturf; Kyle and Mabry Keister; and Corbin and Aiden Surface.

We were blessed with 94 and-a-half years with Cleo. She was thankful to all of you for loving her so well.

Funeral services were conducted Wednesday, Oct. 20, 2021, at 11 a.m. in the Community Christian Church, McCoy, with Mr. Chris Brandow officiating. Interment followed in the Albert-Scott Family Cemetery. The family received friends from 10 to 11 a.m. prior to the service at the church. Arrangements by McCoy Funeral Home, Blacksburg.

## Long, Mary Louise

Mary Louise Long, 87, of Blacksburg, passed away Saturday, Sept. 18, 2021.

She was preceded in death by her parents, Alfred Roosevelt Smith and Mary Lee Smith, five brothers, and two sisters.

Left to cherish her memory are brothers Charles (Betty) Smith,



John (Sally) Smith, and Cotton (Nora) Smith; a sister, Sally Harmon; and a number of nieces, nephews, other family members, and friends.

Services will be private in Big Sand Cemetery in Floyd.

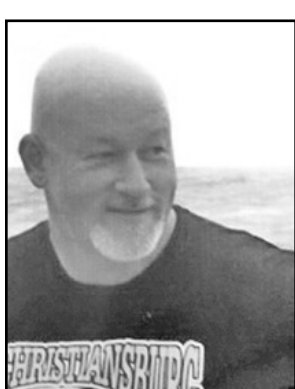
The Long family is in the care of Mullins Funeral Home & Crematory in Radford.

## Meredith, Eldon Cecil

Eldon Cecil Meredith, 52, of Christiansburg, went to be with his heavenly father Monday, Oct. 11, 2021.

He was born in Blacksburg on Jan. 27, 1969, to the late Albert Cecil and Reba Akers Meredith. He was also preceded in death by his sisters, Diane Dove and Beverly McGuire.

He is survived by his wife, Michelle L. Meredith; a daughter, Amy Michelle Meredith; a son, Kevin Cecil Meredith; a stepdaughter, Britney Leigh Anne Turner; stepsons John-Mark Turner and Brady Turner; grandchildren Archer Evan Meredith, Hayden Surratt, Declan Turner,



Ethan Ahmann, and Arcadia Trump; sisters and brothers-in-law, Terry and David Light, Darlene and John Wirt, and Debra and Sam Kittinger; a brother and sister-in-law, Jason and Erica Meredith; and numerous nieces, nephews and cousins.

A funeral service was held Saturday, Oct. 16, 2021, at 2 p.m. at River-view Holiness Church with Pastor Jason Meredith officiating. Interment followed at Akers Family Cemetery. The family received friends from 6 to 8 p.m. on Friday, Oct. 15, 2021, at River-view Holiness Church.

Pastor Jason Meredith officiating. Interment followed at Akers Family Cemetery. The family received friends from 6 to 8 p.m. on Friday, Oct. 15, 2021, at River-view Holiness Church.

## Semones, Dennis

Dennis Semones of Christiansburg stepped into Heaven on Oct. 10, 2021.

He is survived by his faithful wife, Betty Beamer Semones, with whom he celebrated their 50th anniversary in 2017; three sons and their wives, Michael and Patti, Mitchell and Leigha, and Brandon and Alison; 12 grandchildren: Kaitlyn, Kaleigh, Kensie, Ryan, Caleb, Matthew, Cristen, Eden, Erik, Luke, Isaac, and Ella; brother and sisters Larry Semones, Brenda Semones, Sandra and her husband John Lewis, Neil and his wife Rita Semones; close family members Billie Jean Hill, Barnett and Bonnie Beamer, and Frank and Cheryl Beamer; aunt Stella Jones Frye and her husband Carlos; and numerous nephews, nieces, and cousins, and many close friends.

Dennis was preceded in death by his father and stepmother Gentry and Lois Semones, and his mother and stepfather Alice and Gordon Jenkins; and brothers-in-law Henry Hill and Kenneth Lewis.

Dennis graduated from Hillsville High School in 1963 where he was class president. He earned a scholarship to play football and study at Virginia Tech. He went on to earn a degree in business administration and finance in 1967. He also earned a Master's Degree in school administration and guidance in 1970. He was employed at Cave Spring High School as a teacher, coach, and guidance counselor. He went on to become the principal at Floyd County High School for 13 years. Dennis then became the principal at Glenvar High School in 1985. He retired



from Roanoke County Schools in 2001. He later served at-risk children in Radford City Schools until 2020.

Dennis was a member of St. Paul United Methodist Church and served on several committees. He was a member of the Christiansburg Lions Club and served as president. Dennis was an avid golfer and enjoyed the day he hit a hole

in one with his sons present. He was a huge Virginia Tech sports fan, served as a Hokie Representative, and also was Vice-President of the Blacksburg Sports Club.

Dennis will be remembered as a man dedicated to his family, a loving husband, a supportive father, and a fun-loving grandfather. He was hardworking, kind hearted, and had a spirit of friendliness and hospitality that could be felt in social gatherings of friends and family. He will be missed dearly.

The funeral service was held at 1 p.m. on Friday, Oct. 22, 2021, at St. Paul Methodist Church in Christiansburg. The family received friends from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. prior to the service. Following the service, a graveside ceremony was held at Wilkinson Cemetery in Hillsville. In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to a tax-deductible mission fund to support Dennis's granddaughter Kaleigh as she serves in missions overseas in Turkey for the next two years. Checks may be made to Dwelling Place, 3325 North Franklin St., Christiansburg, VA 24073 with "Kaleigh Semones" in the memo or online at [www.bit.ly/semones](http://www.bit.ly/semones) to make a donation.

## Shelor, Betty Bower

Betty Bower Shelor, 75, of Christiansburg, went to be with her Lord and Savior on Saturday, Oct. 16, 2021, at Roanoke Memorial Hospital.

She was born in Christiansburg on Aug. 16, 1946, to the late Kyle and Lucille Britt Bower. She was also preceded in death by her brother, Kyle Bower, Jr.; and her brother-in-law, Leo Middleton, Jr.

She is survived by her husband, David E. Shelor, Sr.; daughter and son-in-law Shelia and Ralph Collins; sons and daughters-in-law, Jeff and Tabatha Dulaney, Lee Dulaney, Chris and Kande Shelor, and David and Leisa Shelor; grandchildren Sasha McCraw and hus-



band, Michael; Samantha McCollum and husband, Will; Jarrid Dulaney and wife, Kaitlin; Casi Dulaney, Zach Dulaney, Jeffrey Dulaney, Trey Shelor, Chas Shelor, Mason Shelor, and Brock Shelor; a great-grandchild Karmen Thompson; her sister, Barbara Middleton; and several nieces and nephews.

A funeral service was held on Thursday, Oct. 21, 2021, at 2 p.m. in the McCoy Funeral Home Chapel with the Rev. Kevin Albert officiating. Interment followed at Sunset Cemetery in Christiansburg. The family received friends from 5 to 7 p.m. on Wednesday, Oct. 20, 2021, at McCoy Funeral Home in Blacksburg.

## Inflation

from page 1

at infrastructure job creation simultaneously raise fears of inflation and excessive government borrowing.

There seems to be a variety of opinions on what causes prices to escalate. What's your take?

After hibernating for 18 months, consumers are anxious to return to normal patterns of spending. In response to the pandemic, the U.S. labor force is undergoing an historic transition:

Even with signing bonuses, 50% of small companies can't find enough willing workers for minimum wages.

Laid-off workers are increasingly reluctant to return to work without higher wages and better benefits, driving wages up 3.6% in recent months.

Many day care centers and after-school programs are understaffed and not fully open.

High paid professional workers have decided they prefer to work remotely or they will retire early.

Temporary unemployment benefits are apparently not the main cause of the la-

bor shortage;

We are seeing an unprecedented cultural shift in what workers want, i.e., more fulfilling jobs/careers, more family time, better health, safer working conditions, better work/life balance.

We are witnessing a classic "Wage/Price Spiral" where rising wages and prices chase each other ... chicken and egg effect.

Is there a connection between supply chain issues and inflation?

Yes. Ports, warehouses, and trucking lines are seriously understaffed. Rising fuel costs hamper operations and delivery schedules.

CROSSWORD ANSWERS																	
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As an economist, what do you feel is most important for consumers to know about inflation?

It's not a bad idea to refrain from luxury purchases for a while.

Watch the benchmark

interest rates set by the Federal Reserve to moderate inflation. They have been near zero for an extended period, which ironically diminishes the Fed's ability to use ever-lower interest rates to stimulate the economy.

The Fed may increase interest rates a bit in the near future to calm inflationary fears among borrowers, lenders, and investors.

Regarding the debt ceiling debate, if Congress reneges on paying our na-

tional debts, it will send global economic shock waves that reduce America's credit rating and the international value of the dollar, putting our financial markets in turmoil and consumers in jeopardy.



**GEORGE M. HARVEY, SR.**  
5/31/1928-2/24/2021

**CELEBRATION OF LIFE**  
There will be a Celebration of Life held at Harvey Chevrolet  
1500 Tyler Ave. Radford, VA on  
**October 30, 2021, at 11:00 AM.**

A short service will be followed by food, beverages, displays celebrating Mr. Harvey's life, lots of memories and fellowship.

# OBITUARIES

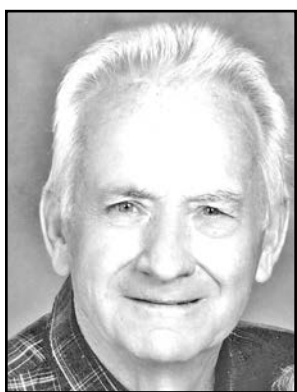
## Simpkins, Erby Cloyd

Erby Cloyd Simpkins, 92, of Radford, entered into eternal rest in the early morning hours of Wednesday, Oct. 13, 2021.

After serving in the U. S. Army during the Korean conflict, Erby began a successful career working in the construction industry where he acquired the reputation of being a perfectionist with his work.

He was the oldest and longest member of the Snowville Masonic Lodge #159 A.F. & A.M. Erby was of the Christian faith and was a member of Snowville Baptist Church. He always had a passion for hunting and was also a lifetime member of the Botetourt Hunt Club where he had many good friends and always looked forward to spending time with them.

After retirement, Erby enjoyed going to the Radford truck stop every morning for breakfast and visiting with his friends there. Like many men from his generation, Erby was a no-nonsense kind of guy and was always stern, but to the people closest to him and especially his wife and kids, he was a loving husband and father who was incredibly proud of



his family and loved them immensely.

He was preceded in death by his parents, Jake Anderson and Vera Meredith Simpkins; his loving wife of 63 years, Almetia Colleen Simpkins; a son, Douglas C. Simpkins; brothers Siebert, Ellis, Gene, Orville, Ernest, and Curtis; and sisters Ruth Terry and Hazel Wade.

Survivors include a son, Kirk Anthony Simpkins of Snowville; a sister, Donna Wilson of Radford; and many other relatives and friends.

Funeral services were held on Monday, Oct. 18, 2021, at the Mullins Funeral Home in Radford with the Rev. Neil Wood officiating. Interment with full military honors followed in Highland Memory Gardens in Dublin.

The family received friends Sunday evening at the funeral home.

Contributions may be made to Snowville Baptist Church or to the Snowville Masonic Lodge #159 A.F. & A.M.

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

## Brillhart, Carl Lee

Carl Lee Brillhart, 87, of Christiansburg, died Thursday, Oct. 14, 2021.

He was born in New Castle on Sept. 23, 1934, to the late Roy and Ivy Alls Brillhart. He was also preceded in death by his two brothers, Ralph and Leon.

He moved to Christiansburg in 2015 and was a barber for 40 years. He is survived by his life companion, T. Jean Thompson; a brother and sister-in-law, Marshall and Mary Marget Brillhart; cousins Wayne, William, Tommy, and Bobby Sowers, the homeplace family, many oth-

er cousins, nieces and nephews, and special friends, Clayton and Patti Allen.

Funeral services will be conducted today, Saturday, Oct. 23, 2021, at 11 a.m. in the Faith Missionary Baptist Church with Pastor Mike Vest and Pastor Neal Turner officiating.

In lieu of flowers memorial contributions may be made to St. Jude's 262 Danny Thomas Place, Memphis, TN 38105. The family will receive friends from 10 to 11 a.m. today, Oct. 23, prior to the service at the church. Arrangements by McCoy Funeral Home, Blacksburg.

## Davis, Dennis (Denny) W.

Dennis (Denny) W. Davis, 73, of Christiansburg, passed away on Oct. 12, 2021.

Denny was preceded in death by his parents, Frank and Florence Davis of Roanoke, and his brother, Tommy.

Left to cherish his memory are his wife and the love of his life, Pam; a sister, Brenda Stinnett (Lindsey) of Buchanan; a niece, two nephews, and many friends.

Denny served in the US Navy during

the Vietnam Era, graduated from Virginia Tech, and served as a police officer for Roanoke City prior to working and retiring from Hubbell Lighting as a Corporate Safety Director.

Visitation was held at 5 p.m. on Wednesday, Oct. 20, 2021, at McCoy Funeral Home in Blacksburg. A memorial service followed at 6 p.m. with Pastor Mark Briehl officiating. Arrangements by McCoy Funeral Home.

## Graveside services: Dollie Ford, Richard Ford

Friends and family are invited to attend a graveside service in honor of Dollie Lucille (Wright) Ford (July 26, 1932 - May 2, 2021) and her late husband,

Richard Lee Ford, Jr., (March 6, 1929 - Aug. 6, 2014), on Sunday, Oct. 24, 2021, at 2:00 p.m. at Sunrise Burial Park, 7228 Round House St., Fairlawn, VA.

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

## Financial Focus

from page 4

for the specific goal and your risk tolerance.

You can protect some money from market volatility. When you're a long way from retirement, you may not be particularly bothered when the financial markets drop, leading to a decline in the value of your investment portfolio. However, once you're retired, those downturns might not be quite so tolerable. As a retiree, you may want to maintain one year of expenses (adjusted for outside income sources such as Social Security) in a cash management account for spending purposes. Knowing you have this cash set aside may help you feel more com-

fortable when markets are volatile. Nevertheless, holding too much cash has risks of its own. Retirement can last for more than 30 years, so you'll want to be invested in enough equities and fixed-income vehicles to provide your portfolio with the balance and growth potential necessary to help you avoid outliving your money.

As you can see, building your cash management account can be helpful in several ways. So, in the years preceding your retirement, look for opportunities to add to this account. For example, you could use some of the money from a tax refund or a bonus at work. And, if you

haven't already done so, you might direct your bank to move a certain amount each month from your checking or savings account into your cash management. When you're retired, do what you can to replenish your cash account as much as possible.

Your cash management account is important at every point in your life, but it may take on even greater meaning when you're retired, so do whatever you can to keep it in good shape.

Submitted by Meghan Kuczmariski, Edward Jones Financial Advisor, 540-552-1241.

# Marketplace

ourvalley.org

THE FINECASTLE HERALD | THE Vinton Messenger | THE NEW CASTLE RECORD | SALEM TIMES-REGISTER | News Messenger | RADFORD News Journal

### Yard Sales - Montgomery County

**Great Sale**  
Sewers  
Serge, Serger threads, lots of material, craft and sewing books, and more.  
Twin Pet Stroller  
170 Summit Ridge Rd  
Christiansburg  
Sat. Oct 23<sup>rd</sup> 10-4

### For Sale - Misc

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

### Help Wanted - General

**Part Time Newspaper Production Help**  
The Salem TimesRegister has openings for afternoon/evening shift work inserting, labeling and bundling newspapers for delivery. No experience necessary. Hours may vary. Will train. \$7.50 per hour. Contact Lynn Hurst, General Manager, Salem-Times Register (540)389-9355 or email [lhurst@ourvalley.org](mailto:lhurst@ourvalley.org)

### Legals - Montgomery County

#### LEGAL NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

The Christiansburg Planning Commission will hold a Public Hearing on Monday, November 1, 2021 at 7:00 PM in the Council Chambers of the Christiansburg Town Hall, 100 E. Main Street, Christiansburg, Virginia 24073. The purpose of the public hearing is to receive public comments concerning:

### Legals - Montgomery County

Conditional Use Permit request by **MFF Holdings, LLC** to allow Multifamily Dwelling District (R-3) uses in the General Business District (B-3) for conversion of a former daycare center to a multifamily use with seven (7) apartments on property located at 95 Patricia Lane. Tax Map No. 501-(11)-26B, Parcel ID 180118, 0.928 Acre. The property is designated as Business/Commercial on the Future Land Use Map of the 2013 Christiansburg Comprehensive Plan.

Town Hall will be open and available to receive public comment in-person at the time of this Public Hearing. A copy of the application, the Town's Zoning Map, Zoning Ordinance, and Future Land Use Map may be viewed in the Planning Department Office, 100 E. Main Street, Christiansburg, VA 24073 during normal office hours of 8:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. Monday through Friday. Contact Benjamin Tripp, Planning Director, at (540) 382-6128 ext. 1120 or by email at [btripp@christiansburg.org](mailto:btripp@christiansburg.org) with any questions or if you require reasonable accommodations.

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

A Political Subdivision of the Commonwealth of Virginia, Case No. CL21001478-00 Complainant, v. E.L. HAWLEY HEIRS, ET AL., Respondent(s).

ORDER OF PUBLICATION The object of this suit is to enforce the lien of the Complainant, County of Montgomery, Virginia, for delinquent real estate taxes against certain real property located in the County of Montgomery, Virginia, described as follows: Tax Map No. 090-A-91 Account No. 220002

### Legals - Montgomery County

All that certain lot, piece, or parcel of real property, lying and being in the Riner Magisterial District of Montgomery County, Virginia, being 1.18 acres, more or less, fronting on Hawley Road, near Crab Creek, and being a portion of Lot No. 1 in the subdivision of the land of Stewart Hawley aka Stuart Hawley, as shown upon a certain plat dated April 10, 1933 and recorded in Deed Book 95 at Page 413, to which reference is hereby made.

This description is made subject to all easements, conditions, agreements, restrictions, and reservations of record which affect the property herein described including but not limited to those recorded in Deed Book 95 at Page 413.

IT APPEARING that an Affidavit has been made and filed stating that due diligence has been used, without effect, to ascertain the identity and location of certain parties to be served, that the last known addresses for the Respondents herein are as follows: E.L. Hawley aka Edward Lee Hawley, Sr., who is believed to be deceased and whose last known address is unknown; Edward Lee Hawley, Jr., who is believed to be deceased and whose last known address is unknown; John Herman Hawley, who is believed to be deceased and whose last known address is unknown; Glen Wood Hawley, who is believed to be deceased and whose last known address is unknown; Ethel Hawley Preston, who is believed to be deceased and whose last known address is unknown; Linda Pearl Hawley, who is believed to be deceased and whose last known address is unknown; Ara Ellen Hawley, who is believed to be deceased and whose last known address is unknown;

### Legals - Montgomery County

Kent Allen Hawley, who is believed to be deceased and whose last known address is unknown; Roy Crockett Hawley, who is believed to be deceased and whose last known address is unknown; Lois Elizabeth Burton Hawley, who is believed to be deceased and whose last known address is unknown; William Johnson Preston, who is believed to be deceased and whose last known address is unknown; Dorcas Ester Preston Hagar, whose last known address is 465 Iron Bridge Road, Monroe, Virginia 24574; Virginia Ruth Preston Rose, who is believed to be deceased and whose last known address is unknown; and that any officers, heirs, devisees, and successors in title of the Respondent named herein are made parties Respondent to this action individually and/or by the general description of Parties Unknown, it is hereby ORDERED that the parties herein and all Parties Unknown and/or whose location cannot be ascertained appear on or before November 29, 2021 in the Clerk's Office of the Circuit Court of the County of Montgomery, Virginia, and do what may be necessary to protect their interests in this cause.

Entered on the 18 day of October, 2021.

Amanda Lundberg  
Deputy Clerk

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

Paul L. LaBarr, Esq. (VSB No. 91609)  
Gregory L. Haynes, Esq. (VSB No. 37158)  
Taxing Authority Consulting Services, PC  
P.O. Box 31800  
Henrico, Virginia 23294-1800

### Legals - Montgomery County

Phone: (804) 545-2500  
Facsimile: (804) 545-2378  
TACS No.: 496156

#### Public Notice Environmental Permit

PURPOSE OF NOTICE: To seek public comment on a draft permit from the Department of Environmental Quality that will allow the release of treated wastewater into a water body in Montgomery County, Virginia. PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD: October 23, 2021 to November 22, 2021 PERMIT NAME: Virginia Pollutant Discharge Elimination System Permit - Wastewater issued by DEQ, under the authority of the State Water Control Board APPLICANT NAME AND ADDRESS: Town of Christiansburg, 100 East Main St. Christiansburg, VA 24073 FACILITY NAME, LOCATION AND PERMIT NUMBER: Christiansburg Wastewater Treatment Facility (WWTF), 2557 Crab Creek Rd, Christiansburg, VA 24073; VA0061751 PROJECT DESCRIPTION: The Town of Christiansburg has applied for reissuance of a permit for the publicly-owned Christiansburg WWTF. The applicant proposes to release treated sewage wastewaters with industrial contributions at a rate of six million gallons per day into a water body. The permit also authorizes a potential expansion to eight million gallons per day. Biosolids (sewage sludge) from the treatment process will be treated and land applied; new land application fields are being added through this permit reissuance. The facility proposes to release the treated sewage and industrial wastewater into the New River in Montgomery County in the Lower New River watershed. A watershed is the land area drained by a river and its incoming streams. The permit will limit the following pollutants to amounts that protect

### Legals - Montgomery County

water quality: physical and chemical properties, organic matter, solids, and bacteria. HOW TO COMMENT AND/OR REQUEST A PUBLIC HEARING: DEQ accepts comments and requests for public hearing on the draft permit 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. DEQ must receive hand-delivery and postal mail by close of business and email and fax comments by 11:59 p.m. on the last day of 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. A request for public hearing must also include: 1) The reason why a public hearing is requested. 2) A brief, informal statement regarding the nature and extent of the interest of the requester or of those represented by the requester, including how and to what extent such interest would be directly and adversely affected by the permit. 3) Specific references, where possible, to terms and conditions of the permit with suggested revisions. A public hearing may be held, including another comment period, if public response is significant, based on individual requests for a public hearing, and there are substantial, disputed issues relevant to the permit. CONTACT FOR PUBLIC COMMENTS, DOCUMENT REQUESTS AND ADDITIONAL INFORMATION: Lynn V. Wise, Blue Ridge Regional Office, 901 Russell Dr., Salem, VA 24153; Phone: (540) 562-6787; E-mail: [lynn.wise@deg.virginia.gov](mailto:lynn.wise@deg.virginia.gov) Fax: (804) 698-4178. The public may review the draft permit and application at the DEQ office named above by appointment or may request copies of the documents from the contact person listed above.

### Legals - Montgomery County

#### Town of Christiansburg Notice of Public Hearing

Notice is hereby given that on November 9, 2021 the Town Council of Christiansburg, Virginia (the "Town") will conduct a public hearing, which may be continued or adjourned, as required under applicable law, in accordance with Section 15.2-2606 of the Code of Virginia of 1950, as amended, with respect to the adoption by the Council of a resolution or resolutions, as may be necessary or convenient, regarding the proposed financing of the development of a multi-use and multi-purpose park on Peppers Ferry Road in Christiansburg, Virginia (the "Park Project"). The Town proposes to fund the project in part by the issuance of a general obligation bond or bonds to be issued in a principal amount not to exceed \$9,300,000. The purpose of the financing is to pay for the costs of the Park Project described above. The public hearing, which may be continued or adjourned, will be conducted at 7:00PM or as soon thereafter as they matter may be heard, by the Town Council in Council Chambers at the Town Hall located at 100 E. Main St, Christiansburg, Virginia. Interested persons may appear at such time and place and present their views whether orally or in writing or submit written comments prior to the hearing. The Town may set time limits on speakers and other rules and procedures for the conduct of this public hearing. Any persons with disabilities are urged to contact the Town Manager's Office at (540) 382-6128 prior to the public hearing to arrange for any necessary accommodations. For additional information, please contact the Town Manager's Office.



# MONTGOMERY SPORTS

## BHS wins boys, girls competitions at Metro Cross-Country Championships



Auburn's Katelyn Lafon led the Eagles girls team by finishing 17th (22:46.2) at the Metro Championships Wednesday at Blacksburg High School.



Eastern Montgomery freshman Olivia Wilbon races in Wednesday's Metro Championships.



Blacksburg's Kennedy Thomason leads a group of runners by the 2k mark at the Metro Championships. Thomason finished 24th for the Bruins who won both the girls and boys team competitions.



Chase Gwynn placed seventh for Auburn at the Metro Championships.



Eastern Montgomery freshmen Davon Gravley (left) and Koden Wines race each other to the finish line at the Metro Championships.



Jonathan Goerlich (right) and Conner Rutherford placed second and third for the Bruins to power Blacksburg to a team win at the Metro Championships.

PHOTOS BY JON FLEMING

## Radford standout headed to Eastern Mennonite

Radford High's Laney Cline has announced plans to attend Eastern Mennonite University (EMU) to play both basketball and volleyball.

Cline averaged 14 points and nine rebounds per game this past year for the Lady Cats basketball team and has recorded 15 kills, 10 digs, and 1.5 blocks per game this fall on the volleyball court.

Last year, she was first-team all-district and region and second all-state in basketball. She has also been honored on the first-team Three Rivers District for volleyball.

Upon a visit to the Harrisonburg liberal arts university, Cline clicked with the coaching staffs. "Also, EMU has an internship and study abroad program like no other college in Virginia. As a small school in a big city, this is definitely

what I wanted the most for college," she said.

EMU's current enrollment is 1,030, and the school is a part of the National Collegiate Athletic Association Division III, Old Dominion Athletic Conference.

Cline has plans to major in accounting with a minor in pre-law.

"My long-term goal is to hopefully be a 1,000-point scorer for EMU and then after college go into a master's program or law school," she said earlier this week. "My goals for basketball and volleyball are to help change the programs and make a big difference on the court."

The women's basketball head coach at EMU is Jenny Posey. 2020-21 is her third year at the program's helm. She is the 12th coach in program history. Before coming to EMU, Posey successfully re-tooled



Radford High School senior Laney Cline will play both volleyball and basketball at Eastern Mennonite University.

FILE PHOTO

the program at EMU's Old Dominion Athletic Conference rival Hollins University.

Earlier this year, EMU announced the hiring of Casey Steinbrecher as the head coach of the

women's volleyball team. He recently completed his 10th season at D-I James Madison Univer-

sity where he served as the associate head coach and recruiting coordinator.

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



# Virginia Tech hosts Syracuse today in ACC contest

Virginia Tech football looks to bounce back from its first conference loss of the season as the Hokies welcome Syracuse to Lane Stadium for a 12:30 p.m. kickoff today, Oct. 23, in a game televised on Regional Sports Network (RSN).

The Hokies (3-3, 1-1 ACC) host the Orange (3-4, 0-3 ACC) for the first time since the two schools joined the ACC. Syracuse's last game in Blacksburg ended in a 51-7 win for Tech on Oct. 11, 2003. The Hokies hold a 6-2 advantage over Syracuse all-time at home.

Tech was handed its first ACC loss of the season last Saturday in a 28-7 decision to Pitt. Quarterback Braxton Burmeister recorded his sixth passing touchdown of the season on a two-yard throw to wide receiver Tayvion Robinson, who leads the team with three receiving touchdowns. Wide receiver Tré Turner led the team in receiving with three receptions for 73 yards, including a 47 yarder, to become just the eighth Tech receiver to total 2,000 career receiving yards. Turner also tied VT Sports Hall of Famer Eddie Royal for ninth on Tech's career receptions list with 119.

Defensive back Nasir Peoples led the team in tackles for the second consecutive week and third time this season,

posting 11 (four solo) vs. the Panthers. The redshirt sophomore leads the squad with 50 tackles (28 solo) on the year. Defensive lineman Amaré Barno recorded a career-high nine tackles and was credited with three quarterback hurries against Pitt.

Syracuse went down to the wire against Clemson a week ago, falling 17-14 to the Tigers on a missed field goal attempt with 38 seconds remaining. Orange running back Sean Tucker racked up a game-high 157 rushing yard, while also recording two receptions for 20 yards in the loss. Tucker ranks second in the nation in rushing, averaging 135.4 yards per game. Syracuse's defense was paced by linebacker Mikel Jones who registered 11 tackles including one tackle for loss.

## GAMEDAY INFORMATION

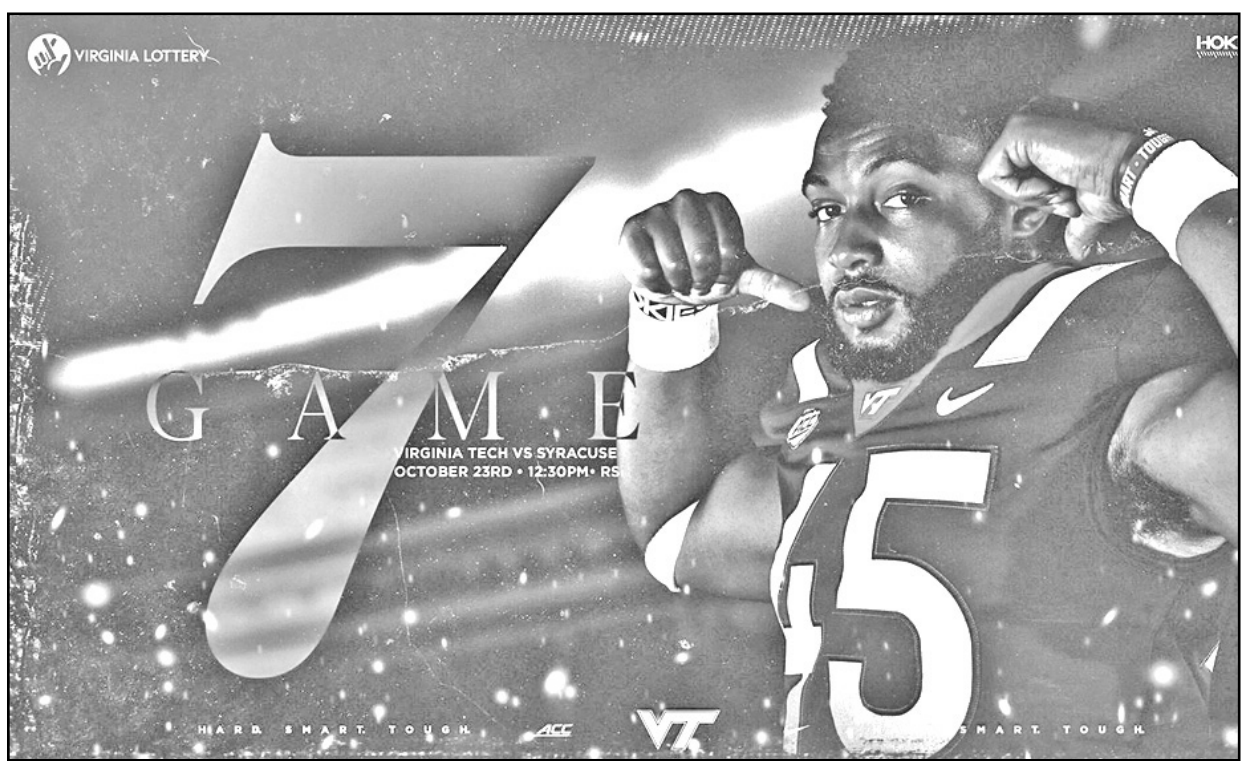
Saturday, Oct. 23 at 12:30 p.m.; Lane Stadium vs. Syracuse (3-4, 0-3 ACC); Head Coach: Dino Babers (sixth season); Record at Syracuse: 27-40; Career: 64-56 (10th season); Series: Syracuse leads 10-8.

## TV Broadcast

Regional Sports Network (RSN); Play-by-Play: Tom Werme; Analyst: James Bates; Sideline: Wiley Ballard.

## Local Radio

Virginia Tech Sports Network; Play-by-Play:



Jon Laaser; Analyst: Mike Burnop; Sideline: Wes McElroy.

## VT-SYRACUSE NOTES

- Syracuse makes its first appearance as an ACC opponent at Lane Stadium today (10/23).

- The Orange haven't visited Blacksburg in 18 seasons. The No. 4 Hokies handed Syracuse a 51-7 loss in Tech's final Big East campaign.

- Despite holding a Pitt team that entered last week's game averaging an FBS-best 52.4 points per game to a season-low 28 points and limiting quarterback Kenny Pickett to a season-low 208 passing yards, the Hokies suffered a 28-7 loss.

- Tech's two non-conference losses have been decided by a combined total of a mere nine points at West Virginia on Sept. 28 and vs. No. 14 Notre Dame on Oct. 9.

- Syracuse's last four games have all been decided by three points, including three straight three-point ACC losses: 33-30 at FSU, 40-37 OT vs. Wake, and 17-14 vs. Clemson.

- Syracuse is seeking its first ACC road win since collecting a 49-6 victory at Duke on Nov. 16, 2019.

- The Orange are 4-18 in ACC road games under head coach Dino Babers and have lost

10 straight conference games overall dating back to a 38-24 setback at Duke on Oct. 10, 2010.

- Next week, the Hokies begin a season-ending stretch with four of their final five games on the road, beginning at Georgia Tech.

- Tech owns a 36-4 record under Fuente when leading at the half, including a streak of eight straight wins.

- VT is 28-7 when scoring 30+ points under Fuente and 13-1 when scoring 40+ points.

- Syracuse is 3-23 under Babers when allowing 30 points or more and has lost nine straight such games dating back

to a 31-6 setback at UNC on Sept. 12, 2020.

- VT is 31-1 under Fuente when holding opponents to 21 points or less and has won 28 straight games when holding opponents to 17 points or less.

- The Hokies are permitting 19 points per game in ACC play.

- Syracuse is 0-19 under Babers when scoring 21 points or less.

- Virginia Tech, Penn State, Clemson, Georgia, Purdue and Arkansas are the only Power Five teams to hold an AP Top 25 foe to 10 points or less this season. Tech did it in a 17-10 win vs. No. 10 UNC to open the season.



The VT women are picked in the preseason top 25 for the first time since the 1999 season.

## VT women's basketball ranked 24 in initial AP poll

BLACKSBURG – The Virginia Tech women's basketball team will begin its 2021-22 season ranked in the AP Poll, where they were selected 24th by voters Tuesday. This marks just the second time and the first since 1999 that the Hokies will tip off the season as a ranked squad. They were tabbed 17th in 1999 and went on to

have a 20-11 season that ended in the Women's National Invitational Tournament's second round.

Tech has not been ranked since Jan. 23, 2017, when the women's squad reached as high as No. 15 in January of 2017 in head coach Kenny Brooks's first season in Blacksburg. The team started the season 15-0,

the best start to a season in Blacksburg since the 1998-99 team went 18-0.

Brooks and the Hokies will open the season at home on Tuesday Nov. 9, when they welcome Davidson to Carilion Clinic Court at Cassell Coliseum for a 5 p.m. tip-off. That game will be televised on ACC Network Extra.

### ONLINE ONLY AUCTION

**Ends Wednesday November 3rd @ 4 PM**  
**Land for Sale in Check VA at Auction!**  
**Sunny Ridge Rd, Check VA 24072**  
**Bid Now at VaAuctionPro.com**

You have the opportunity to purchase two wooded lots for sale totaling 5.63 acres in Check VA. They are split between two offerings. Offering 1 consists of 2.96 acres of wooded land and Offering 2 consists of 2.67 acres. Each lot has beautiful views of farmland on the backside and would be great for clearing to build. Bidders have the option to purchase one lot or both. To purchase both lots, bidder must have high bid on both lots. Both tracts will remain open until all bidding is complete. The properties are located between 1260 and 1402 Sunny Ridge Rd and accessed by right of way. These properties previously had restrictions which expired in 2008 and are no longer applicable.

**Terms** – 10% Buyer's Premium will be added to final high bid to arrive at contract price. Earnest Money Deposit of \$2,500 per tract required on day of sale (November 3rd 2021). Close on or before December 3rd 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 November 3rd 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.

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

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VaAuctionPro.com  
Lic# 2907004059**

**Blue Ridge Land & Auction Co., Inc**

## RU men picked fourth in Big South North preseason basketball poll

**Marty Gordon**  
*NRVsports@ourvalley.org*

The Darris Nichols era at Radford University has begun, and Wednesday the men's basketball team received three first-place votes and was picked to finish fourth in the Big South's North Division in the preseason poll at media days in Charlotte.

A year ago, Radford went 15-12 overall and 12-6 in conference play to place second in the regular season standings despite being picked sixth in the preseason poll. According to the school's sports information office, this past season included a 9-5 record in home games at the Dedmon Center.

Radford did not place a single player on the preseason first or second all-conference teams, also announced on Wednesday.

Nichols returned to his hometown this spring after the departure of Mike Jones to UNC-Greensboro. Nichols had previously served as assistant at the University of Florida. He was joined by his brother and former Radford High School standout, Shane Nichols, who left Murray State where he was an assistant.

Veteran players Chyree Walker, Dravon Mangu, Josiah Jeffers, and Lewis Djonkam all return from last year with Shaquan Jules, Keishon Porter, Joshua Walker, Bryan Hart, and Xavier Lipscomb coming back to join them.

Coach Nichols and his staff brought in a number of talented

new players via the transfer portal. Rashun Williams (South Florida), Tai'Reon Joseph (Austin Peay), Artese Stapleton (Lewis University), Camron McNeil (Spartanburg Methodist), and Roshaun Black (Seminole State College) transferred into the program. Derrick Jones, Jr., joins the Highlanders from the high school ranks.

Radford will take on Eastern Mennonite in an open-to-the-public exhibition game at 6:30 p.m. on Monday, Nov. 1.

2021-22 Men's Basketball Preseason Poll

- North Division Rank Team (first-place votes)
1. Campbell (20)
  2. Longwood
  3. N.C. A& T (3)
  4. Radford (3)
  5. Hampton
  6. High Point
- South Division Rank Team (first-place votes)
1. Winthrop (23)
  2. UNC Asheville (3)
  3. Gardner-Webb
  4. Presbyterian
  5. Charleston Southern
  6. USC Upstate.

Preseason All-Big South team First-Team

D.J. Burns Jr., Winthrop (Preseason Player of the Year); John-Michael Wright, High Point; Cedric Henderson Jr., Campbell; Tajion Jones, UNC Asheville; Rayshon Harrison, Presbyterian College.

Second-Team  
 Kameron Langley, North Carolina A&T; Jordan Whitfield, Campbell; LJ Thorpe, UNC Asheville; Russell Dean, Hampton; Justin Hill, Longwood.



# With no players on preseason teams, RU women picked sixth in Big South poll

**Marty Gordon**  
*NRVsports@ourvalley.org*

The Radford University women's basketball team this season returns lots of talent and plenty of new faces, but Wednesday they received no respect in the Big South preseason poll voted on by the league's head coaches and released during media day in Charlotte.

The Highlanders wound up in sixth place in the preseason

forecast, finishing behind High Point, Campbell, Longwood, North Carolina A&T, and Gardner-Webb respectively.

Radford returns seven players from the 2020-21 squad that includes a majority of their minutes, points, and rebounds. Last year's squad fought through the many issues the global pandemic presented to finish with a 9-9 conference record, ending the season with a 4-1 run. The Lady Highlanders are on a seven-year

streak of finishing with a conference record at or better than .500.

No Radford player was selected for the Big South preseason first or second all-conference teams.

Radford's 2021-22 season will tip-off on Wednesday, Nov. 10 on the road against Pittsburgh. Conference play begins on the road at UNC Asheville on Wednesday, Dec. 29. Radford's first home conference match is

set to be played against Winthrop on New Year's Day 2022.

2021-22 Women's Basketball Preseason Poll

Rank Team (first-place votes)  
 1. High Point (6); 2. Campbell (2) 3. Longwood (3) 4. North Carolina A&T 5. Gardner-Webb 6. Radford T-7. UNC Asheville T-7. Presbyterian 9. Hampton 10. USC Upstate 11. Winthrop 12. Charleston Southern.

Preseason all-conference

teams

First-Team  
 Skyler Curran, High Point (Preseason Player of the Year); Kyla McMakin, Longwood; Akila Smith, Longwood; Nadiria Evans, UNC Asheville; Shy Tulle, Campbell.

Second-Team  
 Jenson Edwards, High Point; Chanin Scott, North Carolina A&T; Taya Bolden, Campbell; Nylah Young, Hampton; Alasia Smith, Gardner-Webb.

# VT men's basketball picked to finish fifth

Members of the media at the 2021-22 ACC Tip-off event picked the Hokies to finish fifth in the league for the 2021-22 men's basketball season.

Duke was chosen as the preseason favorite to win the championship. The Blue Devils earned the distinction for the seventh time in the last nine seasons and were followed in the poll by Florida State, North Carolina, Virginia and Virginia Tech.

Duke received 47 of the 81 first-place votes. Florida State, which earned its highest preseason status in its ACC tenure, received 14 first-place votes. North Carolina had five first-place votes while Virginia recorded nine first-place votes. Virginia Tech earned five first-place votes and Louisville garnered the other first-place vote.

Louisville, Syracuse, Notre Dame, NC State, and

reigning ACC champion Georgia Tech were voted sixth through 10th, respectively. Clemson, Miami, Wake Forest, Pitt, and Boston College rounded out the poll.

Duke freshman power forward Paolo Banchemo earned Preseason ACC Player and Freshman of the Year honors. The 6-foot-10, 250-pound native of Seattle was a five-star recruit and ranked as the No. 3 overall player in ESPN 100's rankings for the class of 2021. He was ranked No. 1 in the state of Washington, No. 1 at his position in the ESPN 100, and was named the Washington Boys Basketball Gatorade Player of the Year as a junior. Banchemo averaged 22.6 points, 11 rebounds, 3.7 assists and 1.6 blocks per game his junior season at O'Dea High School.

He received 28 votes for

Preseason ACC Player of the Year, 12 more than Virginia Tech's Keve Aluma. Banchemo also earned 64 of the 81 votes for Preseason ACC Freshman of the Year.

Syracuse's Buddy Boehm earned 68 votes to lead all vote getters on the Preseason All-ACC Team. Boehm was joined on the first team by Aluma, Banchemo, North Carolina's Armando Bacot, and Miami's Isaiah

Wong.

On the preseason All-ACC Second Team are Georgia Tech's Michael Devoe, Virginia's Kihei Clark, Notre Dame's Prentiss Hubb, Duke's Mark Williams and Wendell Moore Jr., North Carolina's Caleb Love, and Louisville's Malik Williams. Moore Jr., Love and Williams finished in a three-way tie for the final spot on the second team.

The 2021-22 regular season opens Nov. 9 with 12 of the 15 ACC teams in non-conference action. League play begins Friday, Dec. 3.

The ACC's current member schools have captured eight of the last 20 NCAA Championships and 17 overall. The schools have combined for 62 Final Four appearances and a national-best 643 NCAA Tournament wins.

Additionally, four of the top eight and six of the top 30 winningest programs in NCAA Division I basketball history reside in the ACC. Two of the eight active Division I coaches in the Naismith Basketball Hall of Fame are competing in the ACC again this season: Duke's Mike Krzyzewski and Syracuse's Jim Boehm. That is the most of any league nationally.

# Lady Hokies picked fourth in ACC preseason poll

Reigning ACC champion NC State is the 2021-22 Atlantic Coast Conference women's basketball preseason favorite, according to separate polls of the league's 15 head coaches and the Blue Ribbon Panel.

Virginia Tech was picked to finish fourth in both polls released Wednesday.

The Wolfpack received 50 of 57 first-place votes from the Blue Ribbon Panel and 14 of 15 first-place votes from the league's head coaches. NC State has won back-to-back ACC Tournament titles and is the preseason favorite for the first time since the conference began such rankings prior to the 1991-92 season.

Louisville, the 2020-21 ACC regular-season champion, received the remaining first-place vote in the head coaches' poll and seven first-place votes from the Blue Ribbon Panel to finish second in both polls.

Georgia Tech and Virginia Tech were third and fourth in both polls, matching the highest preseason ranking for the Yellow Jackets and marking the highest preseason ranking ever for the Hokies. Florida State was fifth in both polls.

Notre Dame, North Carolina, and Duke were picked sixth, seventh, and eighth in both polls, followed by Miami, Clemson, and Boston College. Wake Forest, Syracuse, Pitt, and Virginia round out the Blue Ribbon Panel while Syracuse, Wake Forest, Pitt, and Virginia followed Boston College in the head coaches' poll.

NC State's Elissa Cunane, an Associated Press, ESPN and USBWA All-American following the 2020-21 campaign, was chosen as the ACC Preseason Player of the Year by the head coaches and the Blue Ribbon Panel. The Summerfield, N.C., native was a first-team All-ACC selection last year and was a semifinalist for the Wooden Award, given to the nation's most outstanding player.

Cunane was named the 2021 ACC Tournament MVP after averaging 23.3 points, nine rebounds and 62.5 percent (25-of-40) shooting in three Wolfpack

wins. Her 70 total points marked the fifth-most by a player in a single ACC Tournament in the last 20 years. She ended the season ranked sixth in the ACC in scoring (16.3), fifth in rebounding (8.3), second in field-goal percentage (.533) and third in free-throw percentage (.843).

Both preseason All-ACC Teams were the same with Boston College's Taylor Soule, Clemson's Delicia Washington, Georgia Tech's Lorela Cubaj and Lotta-Maj Lahtinen, Louisville's Hailey Van Lith, NC State's Jakia Brown-Turner, Notre Dame's Maddy Westbeld, and Virginia Tech's Elizabeth Kitley and Aisha Sheppard joining Cunane.

The Newcomer Watch Lists were nearly identical as well and included Louisville's Payton Verhulst, NC State's Diamond Johnson, and Notre Dame's Sonia Citron and Olivia Miles. Celeste Taylor of Duke was selected to the head coaches' list while North Carolina's Teonni Key garnered mention from the Blue Ribbon Panel.

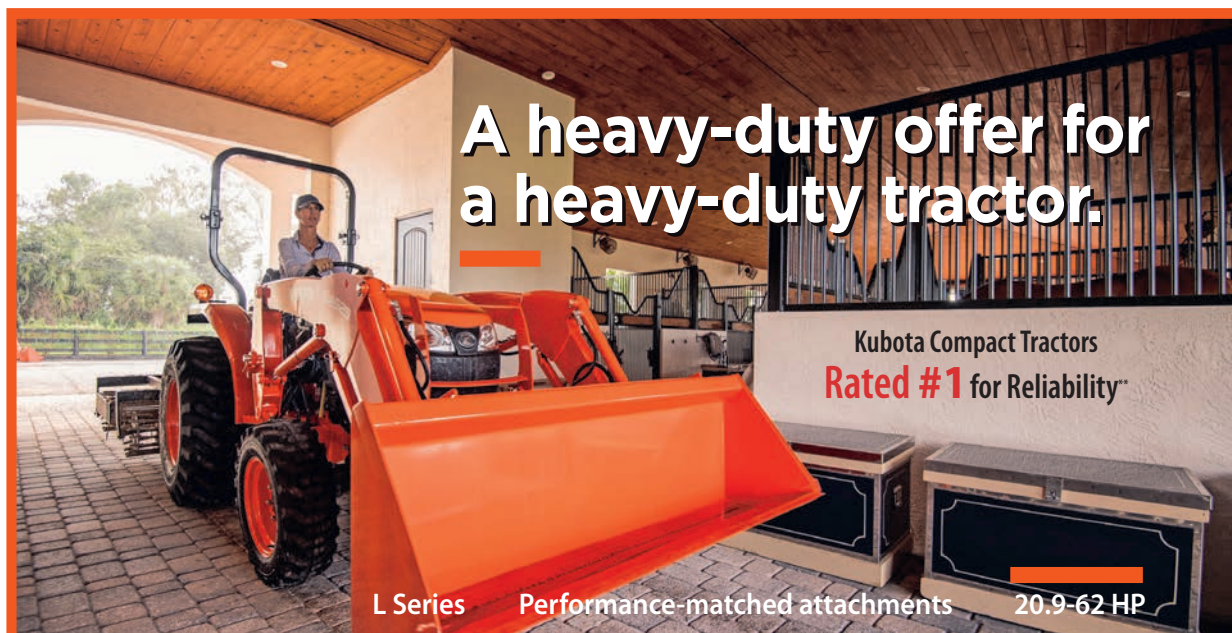
Five ACC teams are ranked in the Associated Press Preseason Top 25 Poll, tied for the most of any conference. NC State headlines the group at No. 5, while Louisville sits one spot behind the Wolfpack at No. 6. Florida State is ranked No. 16, Georgia Tech is No. 17 and Virginia Tech rounds out the poll for the league at No. 24. Notre Dame also received votes.

**Preseason ACC Women's Basketball Coaches' Poll**

1. N.C. State 2. Louisville 3. Georgia Tech 4. Virginia Tech 5. Florida State 6. Notre Dame 7. North Carolina 8. Duke 9. Miami 10. Clemson 11. Boston College 12. Syracuse 13. Wake Forest 14. Pitt 15. Virginia.

**Preseason ACC Women's Basketball Blue Ribbon Panel Poll**

1. N.C. State 2. Louisville 3. Georgia Tech 4. Virginia Tech 5. Florida State 6. Notre Dame 7. North Carolina 8. Duke 9. Miami 10. Clemson 11. Boston College 12. Wake Forest 13. Syracuse 14. Pitt 15. Virginia.



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