



**“What Color Is Water,” an exhibit of some 100 paintings, opens Thursday, Nov. 4, at the Montgomery Museum of Art and History. The paintings were collected during a two-year Art Reach water awareness project inspired by artist Robin Scully’s interest in connecting people to their water resources.**

## “What Color Is Water?” display at Montgomery Museum begins Thursday

“What Color is Water?” an exhibit by artist Robin Scully, will be on display at the Montgomery Museum of Art and History from Thursday, Nov. 4, through the end of the year.

The exhibit focuses on Scully’s studio practice with her role as the art program director and curator of Perspective Gallery at Virginia Tech. Included in the exhibit are

about 100, 9 x 9-inch paintings collected from the community during a two-year Art Reach water awareness project inspired by Scully’s interest in connecting people to their water resources.

Art Reach is the name of the community arts outreach program Scully created to build opportunities for the arts outside of the gallery walls. She believes that by vi-

sualizing clean water we can promote an understanding of our role in being good water stewards. In addition to the artworks created by the community, Scully has included several of her water-inspired paintings and ceramic bowls, a reference to the connection our mountain watersheds have to the ocean.

See **Art Exhibit**, page 2

## Virginia Tech Senior Associate Athletic Director Tom Gabbard to retire

VT Senior Associate Athletic Director Tom Gabbard will conclude 24 years of distinguished service to Virginia Tech Athletics at the conclusion of the 2021 football season.

Gabbard has overseen a dramatic transformation of athletics facilities during his tenure, leaving a lasting impact not only on the physical footprint of Tech Athletics, but on the many Hokies coaches, teams, and student-athletes that he has diligently served for nearly a quarter century.

Gabbard has worked with current Tech athletics director Whit Babcock as the senior associate athletics director for facilities and operations since 2014. He originally came to Blacksburg in 1998 to join the late Jim Weaver, who served as VT’s athletics director from September 1997 until 2013.

Weaver and Gabbard had collaborated at UNLV in the early 1990s during Weaver’s tenure as the Rebels’ athletics director.

Gabbard began his time at Tech as the associate athletics director for internal affairs and has held a variety of leadership roles during his career with the Hokies.

“Tom Gabbard will be missed as a key member of our executive team,” Babcock said. “His loyalty, integrity and work ethic are tremendous. His impact on this campus, the community, and our facilities will last for generations of Hokies. I am extremely grateful for my eight years working alongside him following his many years under Jim Weaver,” Babcock said. “He has made me a better AD and a better person. He is a first-class individual, a true Hokie, and an amazing friend. He plans

on staying in the Blacksburg community, and I’m looking forward to him assisting us in a part-time role in the future when we need to lean on his experience and expertise. I am so excited for Nancy and him and his well-deserved retirement.”

The \$21.1 million Beamer-Lawson Indoor Practice Facility, the nearly \$20 million Student-Athlete Performance Center and the \$20 million English Field at Atlantic Union Bank Park baseball facility are three of the most prominent recent projects that Gabbard has overseen on behalf of Tech Athletics.

Gabbard also served as the athletics liaison in the design of the \$105.5 million residence hall in the Creativity and Innovation District that opened 176 Tech student-athletes and other highly-recruited students on the Virginia Tech campus in 2021. The facility provides living space for 596 Tech students, along with a wide variety of academic, social, research, and collaboration spaces.

During Gabbard’s tenure in Blacksburg, virtually all of Tech’s competition and practice facilities have benefited from new construction projects or major restorations such as the Hahn Hurst Basketball Practice Facility and the transformation of Rector Fieldhouse. More projects, like a completely reimagined and renovated Cassell Coliseum, are in the works.

“I can’t begin to thank Jim Weaver enough for extending me the opportunity to come to Virginia Tech and for Whit Babcock giving me the chance

See **Gabbard**, page 3



**Tom Gabbard has overseen a dramatic transformation of athletics facilities during his 24 years of distinguished service to Virginia Tech athletics.**

## Cadet William Edinger will receive the flags at today’s football game at Georgia Tech

Cadet William Edinger, a senior in Air Force ROTC majoring in human nutrition, foods, and exercise in the College of Agriculture and Life Sciences, will travel with the Virginia Tech football team to Atlanta today to render honor to the American, Virginia state, and the team’s spirit flags at the game against Georgia Tech.

The Virginia Tech Corps of Cadets and the Virginia Tech football team continue their proud partnership to

highlight the colors during the pre-game ceremony at every football game.

Three football players, chosen because of their performance in the last game or at practice, carry the American flag, the state flag, and the team’s spirit flag and lead the team onto the field. They deliver the flags to cadets at the south end of the field.

The cadets, also selected based on their performance in the corps, render honor to the flags and carry them off

the field. At home games three first-year cadets are selected, and one or two upper-class cadets travel with the team and receive the flags at away games.

Edinger is the executive officer for Alpha Company, one of 14 units within the corps. His primary job for the past eight weeks has been to oversee the development of his company’s first-year cadets and mentor the 11 upper-class

See **Edinger**, page 3

## United Way holiday meal box drive Nov. 5-7 with various drop-off locations



**Christiansburg Kroger will serve as a drop-off point for holiday meal boxes during the United Way’s drive Nov. 5-7.**

United Way of the New River Valley will conduct its holiday meal box drive 2021 Friday, Nov. 5, through Sunday Nov. 7, with the Christiansburg Kroger serving as a drop-off point for meal box donations.

The meal box drive is an effort to ensure that local families have a holiday meal on their table this holiday season.

On the meal box drive needs list are the following items: gift cards for frozen turkeys, canned hams, Bisquick, corn meal/corn muffin mix, flour, sugar, Jell-O, pudding mix, canned vegetables, yams, French’s fried onions, canned pumpkins, cooking oil, stuffing mix, instant

mashed potatoes, rice, dried beans, canned fruit, canned gravy, canned milk, canned cream of mushroom soup, boxed macaroni and cheese, marshmallows, salt, pepper, foiled roasting pans, pie pans, and boxed dessert mixes.

In addition to the Christiansburg Kroger location, items from the needs list may be dropped off at any of the following company locations: Best Buy, Blacksburg Boxing & Fitness, Brown Insurance Agency, Campus Automotive, Carter Bank & Trust, CMG Leasing corporate office, Core Physical Therapy, Foxridge/Hunt, Hubble Lighting, Ozmo, Rise, Studio Blush, and VT Gives.



**According to VT consumer food safety expert Joell Eifert, candy is generally safe to eat months after Halloween is in the rear view mirror.**

## How long after Halloween is it safe to eat leftover candy?

Is month-old Halloween candy safe to eat? If so, how much longer is that the case? Should you just throw the whole bag out? According to Virginia Tech consumer food safety expert Joell Eifert, the answer is bittersweet, but still likely longer than you think.

“Consumers often have the misconception that the best by date on food packaging equates to food safety,” Eifert said. “In the case of most commercially processed foods, it’s contamination during processing and packaging that leads to foodborne illness, not the age of the food. So, even after some time passes, candy should be safe to eat as long as it was properly handled and it remains unopened prior to eating.”

This notion is just one of many misbeliefs that people have about when to toss their leftover sweets, Eifert said. For example, consumers often throw out chocolate once it begins to develop a whitish coating on it, mistaking it for mold. This phenomenon,

known as chocolate “bloom,” is completely safe.

“If chocolate is stored in warmer temperatures, the fat can begin to separate from the cocoa,” Eifert said. “This separation is what causes the coating to form. However, bloom does not destroy the flavor of the chocolate, and it’s perfectly safe to eat.”

So, your candy will be safe to eat months after Halloween is in the rear view mirror. But that’s not to say that all of it will be just as fresh and appetizing a year from now. That depends on a number of factors, said Eifert.

“Candy can develop off-odors and changes in flavor, appearance and texture,” she said. “Although there may be no food safety issues with the candy, you may choose not to eat it for other quality reasons. Shelf life of candy is a function of storage conditions, packaging, and ingredients. Some can be good for several years, but some will last only a few months.”

See **Candy**, page 2



**Cadet William Edinger prepares to demonstrate rappelling from a 40-foot tower to a group of first-year cadets below. Photo by Randal Fullhart for Virginia Tech.**



# UPCOMING EVENTS

## Through October:

### Grab-and Go-Meals

The Meadowbrook Public Library is offering free grab-and-go meals and snacks through the end of the month. 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. The meals are free to all children/teens during library hours. The meals are sponsored by Feeding Southwest Virginia, which is an equal opportunity provider.

## Saturday, Oct. 30

### Radford Farmers Market

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

## Sunday, Oct. 31:

### Grove UMC Trunk or Treat

An afternoon of safe fun trunk or treating from 4 to 6 p.m. Trunks filled with treats will be 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. to 3 p.m. at 1331 Research Center Drive. Hacksburg will be running its own pumpkin chunkin' competition. Competitors can

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. Anyone with questions may 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 our country, from the Mothman to the Fresno Nightcrawlers. E-mail [Cryptozoologist Sally at sstauffer@mfri.org](mailto:CryptozoologistSally@mfri.org) with any questions.

## Tuesday, Nov. 2:

### Christiansburg Town Hall, Aquatic Center closed

The Christiansburg Town Hall will be closed in observance of Election Day. The Aquatic Center will also be closed. The Christiansburg Recreation Center will be open; however administrative offices will be closed. Solid waste normally collected on Tuesdays will be collected on Monday, Nov. 1, 2021,

along with Monday's regularly scheduled collection.

## Wednesday, Nov. 3:

### Artist Talk with Matt Gentry

At the Hahn Horticulture Garden from noon to 1 p.m. Gentry will display a collection of his watercolor paintings of Virginia Rivers and will discuss his process and demonstrate his plein-air painting setup. The event is free and will be held outside on the patio behind the pavilion but will move inside if the weather doesn't cooperate. Parking passes will be provided to attendees.

## Thursday, Nov. 4:

### Blacksburg Community Input Meeting on Progress Street Streetscape

A Progress Street streetscape meeting will be held at 6 p.m. at the Blacksburg Community Center, 725 Patrick Henry Dr. The Town of Blacksburg is looking for input on the future design and layout of Progress Street, specifically the section between Jackson Street and North Main Street. Those who can't attend in person can give their input on the town's community engagement site <http://LetsTalkBlacksburg.org>.

### 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 Boy's and Girl's State Representatives from Radford High School will be recognized at this 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. Please wear a mask and come support the Radford Public Library.

## Tuesday, Nov. 9:

### The Sons of Confederate Veterans meeting

The Sons of Confederate Veterans, Stuart Horse Artillery Camp 1784 will meet at 7 p.m. at Aly's Italian Family Restaurant at 3204 Riner Rd. 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 until 1 p.m. A

Ph.D. candidate in the College of Agriculture and Life Sciences' School of Plant and Environmental Sciences, Pabitra Aryal is researching the onion's cousin by growing ramps from seeds and bulbs to study the germination time of the plant. 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.

## Ongoing:

### Passports at the Radford Public 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, since the current wait time is about 18 weeks.

### "Paper Alchemy" exhibit

Currently on display in the gallery in the Covington Center of Radford University. 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 artists' range of inventive problem-solving and creativity.

# Candy

from page 1

Eifert offered a helpful guide based on information from the National Confectioner's Association for deciding how long each item in your candy collection should stick around:

- Chocolate - All chocolate is made of cocoa butter and/or cocoa powder, and the fats in chocolate normally oxidize over time when exposed to oxygen, causing it to become stale or causing off-odors and flavors. The higher

the cocoa content the longer the product will last, so dark chocolate has a much longer quality shelf life than white chocolate.

Dark chocolate can be kept for one to two years if wrapped in foil and stored in a cool, dark and dry place, such as a pantry or a basement. Milk and white chocolate have a more limited storage time, no more than 8-10 months.

- Hard candy - Hard candies can last up to a

year when stored at room temperature or in a cool, dry location.

- Jellied candies - If the packaging has been opened, soft candies should be stored away from heat and light at room temperature (about 70 degrees). Stored in this manner, the candy should last six to nine months. If the packaging has not been opened, soft sweets will last approximately 12 months.

- Candy corn - If the packaging has been

opened, candy corn should be stored under the same conditions as soft candies and will last approximately three to six months. Unopened packages will last about nine months.

- Gum - As long as the packaging remains sealed, most gum products have a shelf life of six to nine months. To maximize freshness, keep chewing gum packages in a cool, dry place and out of any direct sunlight.

- Caramel - Caramel

treats should be kept covered, away from heat and light at room temperature. Stored properly, caramel should last six to nine months and even up to 12 months in some cases.

However, Eifert stressed that if you don't know what conditions the candy was stored in, if it doesn't look or smell right, or if it has mold growth, it's probably best to throw it out just to be safe.

-Written by Alex Hood

Joell Eifert has over 20 years of food science experience within the industrial, regulatory and academic sectors. Her academic career has been spent predominantly in an Extension and Outreach role with her most recent position being Director of the Food Innovations Program within the Virginia Tech Department of Food Science and Technology.



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## Art Exhibit

from page 1

"What Color Is Water" was created through the gallery Art Reach program. Scully and her student staff collaborated with Dr. Michael Rosenzweig, the director of SEEDS Blacksburg Nature Center and a senior instructor in the department of biology at Virginia Tech, to teach people about our regional water resources. While painting, discussions on where our water comes from, where it goes, what color it is, and what makes it that color were an important aspect of the project. Water from both east flowing and west flowing watersheds are included in the installation,



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representing the major waterways in the New River Valley on either side of the eastern continental divide. Scully is an artist, curator, activist, and mother. She has been involved in the arts as a public-school teacher, a university faculty member, a gallery director, and a professional practicing artist. Her experience designing and hand building her home in the Appalachian Mountains of Virginia has led her to her current focus on place-based art.

A passionate leader who believes in the power of teaching through the arts, Scully has developed curricula, exhibits, and outreach programs that transcend arts-only pedagogical approaches. Through her work as the art program director at Virginia Tech's Student Engagement and Campus Life, she can connect students to the larger community through social practice art programs that utilize academic programs as a catalyst for student involvement. With the goal of making the arts "more approachable," Scully is concerned with developing art patrons for the 21st century who see their role as supporting members to a growing network of art activists. By moving art beyond the museum and gallery and making it accessible through events such as the exhibit at the Montgomery Museum, pop-up programs, and other innovative methods of encouraging traditional non-artists to be involved in the arts, Scully is creating a new pathway to arts support.



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### Election Day Tuesday, November 2nd

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# Virginia Tech Board of Visitors to meet Nov. 7-8

The Virginia Tech Board of Visitors will hold its quarterly board and committee meetings on Sunday, Nov. 7, and Monday, Nov. 8.

The board will meet on Nov. 7 at 1:15 p.m. for an open information session in Latham Ballroom A/B. The board will then hold its quarterly board meeting on Monday, Nov. 8, at 1:15 p.m. in Room 2100 in Torgersen Hall (620 Drillfield Drive) on the Blacksburg campus.

Committee meetings and information sessions will be held Nov. 7 and Nov. 8 at the Inn at Virginia Tech and Holtzman Alumni Center (901 Prices Fork Road) unless otherwise noted.

On Sunday, Nov. 7, the Academic, Research, and Student Affairs Committee will meet in open session at 3 p.m. in

Latham Ballroom A/B. Also on Nov. 7, the Buildings and Grounds Committee will assemble in the lobby of The Inn at 9:50 a.m. for a walking tour of the campus. Later that day, this committee and the Finance and Resource Management Committee will meet jointly in open session at 5:30 p.m. in Latham Ballroom A/B.

And on Nov. 7, the Compliance, Audit, and Risk Committee will meet in closed session at 9 a.m., followed by an open session in Latham Ballroom A/B. At 11:15 a.m., this committee and the Governance and Administration Committee will meet jointly in closed session in Latham Ballroom A/B.

On Nov. 8, the Building and Grounds Committee will meet at 8:30 a.m. in open session at Latham Ballroom C/D/

E/F. The Finance and Resource Management Committee will meet Nov. 8 at 8 a.m. in open session in Latham Ballroom A/B. Later that day, at 11 a.m., this committee and the Academic, Research, and Student Affairs Committee will meet jointly in closed session in Latham Ballroom A/B.

The Governance and Administration Committee will meet Nov. 8 in open session at 10 a.m. in Latham Ballroom C/D/E/F.

During the two-day meeting, board members will consider a resolution to establish an administrative and professional faculty representative to the board and will receive reports on Virginia Tech's new National Security Institute, the university's strategic plan, agricultural facilities,

student financial aid resources, Inclusive VT, campus sustainability, and the 2021 campus

climate survey. Public comment will not be received at the meeting. Complete in-

formation may be found at the Virginia Tech Board of Visitors website.



PHOTO BY MARY DESMOND FOR VIRGINIA TECH

**A banner celebrating Virginia Tech's 150th anniversary hangs on a lamppost near Burruss Hall.**

## VT's inaugural undergraduate student senate ready to take office

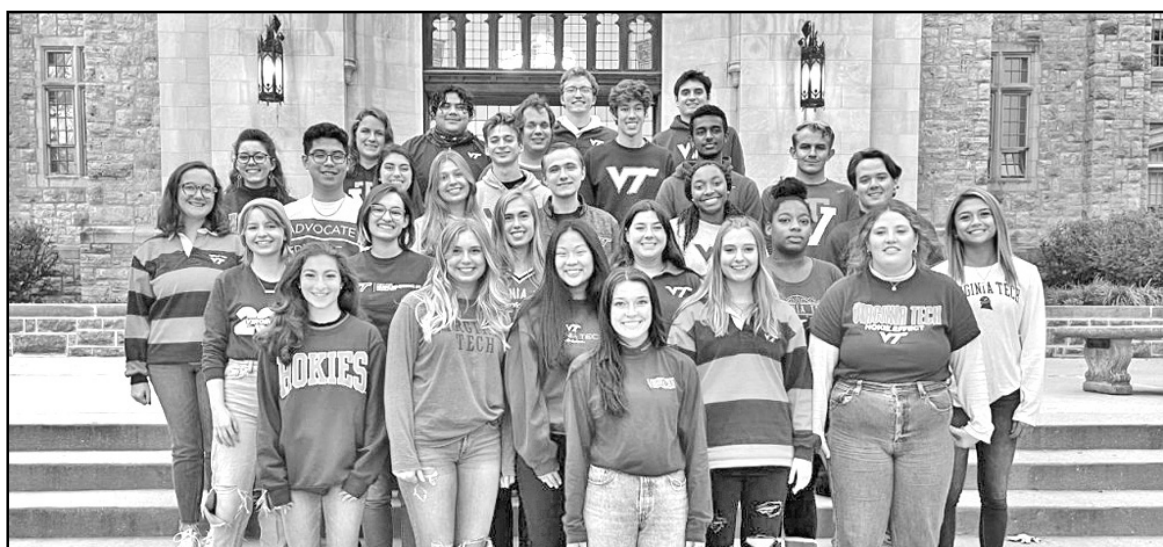


PHOTO BY JUWAN JACOBS

**The inaugural class of Virginia Tech's undergraduate student senate outside of Burruss Hall.**

After two weeks of rigorous campaigning, Virginia Tech's inaugural undergraduate student senate (USS) has been elected.

Led by an executive cabinet, the USS is one of the five university senates that champions the voice of the undergraduate students. The USS's core values of approachability, accessibility, representation, stewardship, and integrity will guide the work. The 97 USS representatives are dedicated servant leaders who lift up Ut Prosim (That I May Serve) in their work as advocates, change makers, and collaborators.

Virginia Tech's Principles of Community are part of the critical foundation for the USS. Centered in lifting the needs and experiences of all undergraduate students, the USS representatives will have extensive opportunities for discussions on ways to remove barriers for undergraduate students.

On Nov. 3, the newly elected USS class will be inaugurated. The campus community is invited and encouraged to take part in this tradition.

For more information on ways to engage with the USS representatives, visit [ussatvt.com](http://ussatvt.com) and in future VT Student News editions.

## Gabbard from page 1

to continue working at a place and in a community that I love so much," Gabbard said. "There have been so many wonderful people that have made my time at Tech so memorable it would be impossible to name them all. It's simply been a privilege to work with so many talented individuals and to witness so many coaches, student-athletes and teams represent the Hokies so well over the years.

"I'll always be a Hokie and I'll forever be indebted for the countless friendships and memories that my family has made because of our association with Tech Athletics," Gabbard said.

In addition to his role overseeing athletics facilities and their managers and game operations staff, Gabbard served as longtime sport administrator for men's basketball and both the men's and women's tennis programs. In addition to having sport oversight for men's golf, he was intimately involved with the inception of Tech's women's golf program, which has flourished under his administrative guidance.

Gabbard came to Blacksburg after serving six years in the athletics administration at UNLV. He was instrumental in several major facilities projects at UNLV, including the

construction of the Lied Athletic Complex, Wilson Baseball Stadium, the Fertitta Tennis Complex, and the Redd Basketball Offices.

Gabbard went into athletics because of his experience with building construction. He had a 20-year real estate career in Florida before his time at UNLV.

He is a 1968 graduate of the University of Florida with a bachelor of science in business administration.

Gabbard is a Vietnam veteran (1970-71) who achieved the rank of first lieutenant in the U.S. Army's artillery branch.

## Edinger from page 1

cadets who served as their training cadre.

"Each week he sits down with the cadre on top of his very busy schedule to write plans and help them develop themselves as well as the freshmen of Alpha Company," said Cadet Liam Murphy, who commands Alpha Company. Murphy is a senior in Naval

ROTC majoring in mining engineering in the College of Engineering.

In addition to his corps duties, Edinger also has a leadership role in Air Force ROTC, maintains 17 credit hours of classes, and works two jobs.

"He is an outstanding cadet and role model," Murphy said.

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*Re-Elect*  
**Mayor Mike Barber**  
November 2nd, 2021

# OPINION

## Home Country: From horror to laughter

**Slim Randles**  
Contributing writer

I was recently invited to join Bob Milford, manager of the prestigious Diamond W Ranch, on a drive-around tour of the place. It's a huge, private ranch with tiny ex-logging roads winding around through 13,000 acres of pine trees and rocks. A real paradise.

But I was horrified to see wooden street signs nailed to trees wherever two of these old logging trails came together.

"Oh no," I said, out loud.

"What's the matter?" Bob asked.

"I see you're planning a subdivision here."

Bob started laughing when I pointed at the signs. "Those are for the owners," he explained. "They live back East and visit here one weekend a

year. When they get out here, they take the pickup and drive around and get lost.

"Once I got a call on the cell phone from the owner, who said he was lost and couldn't find his way back to the house. So I asked him where he was and he said he was right there, sitting on a rock and close to a pine tree."

He chuckled. "That narrowed it down to about 13,000 acres. Well, I managed to find him, and after that, I put these signs up. I tell them now, if they get lost, to drive until they come to Home Road and then head downhill. It solved the problem."

*Brought to you by "The Backpocket Guide to Hunting Elk, Practical Advice from a Guide and Outfitter," by Slim Randles. Now sold through Amazon.com.*

## COVID-19 update: Cases among school-age children are going down

According to Dr. Noelle Bissell, the director of the New River Health District, the number of new COVID cases in our district, the state, and the nation, continues to decline. This includes cases among school-aged children.

Dr. Bissell delivered the news Monday at her weekly press conference.

"Seventy percent of all transmission has been in the household, so as the adults don't get the COVID, they don't share it with the younger children," she told the media.

"Our hospitals are still stressed. Hospitalizations lag behind new cases by a number of weeks, and many of the people hospitalized with COVID stay for a long time (weeks)," Dr. Bissell said. "This morning, hospitals in the New River Health District reported 38 patients with COVID and three persons under investigation. This is about the same as last week. Our hospitals report that they are full; they continue to see sicker patients who put off care during the pandemic, traumas/emergencies and other communicable diseases like flu and RSV as well as COVID."

"Although our hospitals are still very busy, they remain at normal operations."

She urged the media to help relieve the stress on the district's hospitals by not going to the emergency room for a test or for routine health care.

"We are still in high community transmission and working to prevent our most vulnerable from getting COVID. Anyone with a known exposure to someone with suspected or confirmed COVID-19 should get tested five to seven days after exposure, regardless of symptoms or vaccination status," she said. "Anyone with symptoms

should stay home from work or school."

One of the groups at high risk for bad outcomes if they get the virus is pregnant women, the health director said. "Yet, only 25% of pregnant women are vaccinated. We ask everyone to encourage those who are pregnant to get a vaccine to protect themselves and their babies. The vaccine is safe during pregnancy, and having COVID can be devastating for both mother and child," Dr. Bissell warned.

"Getting vaccines to unvaccinated people is still the best way to end this pandemic," the district health director said, "but we are also offering booster shots to increase existing immunity levels that can wane over time."

"As of this past Friday, people are eligible for booster doses of all three FDA authorized vaccines: Pfizer, Moderna, and Johnson and Johnson. The boosters are available, but the eligibility situation can be confusing."

"Anyone older than 18 who had a Johnson & Johnson vaccine more than two months ago is eligible for a booster, which is a full dose. Boosters for people who completed their second shot of the Moderna or Pfizer vaccine more than six months ago are available for those in a fairly broad eligibility group. This includes anyone 65 or older, and anyone 18 or older living in long-term care settings who have underlying medical conditions, and who work or live in high-risk settings. The Moderna booster is a half dose and the Pfizer is a full dose."

"The general recommendation is to stick with the original vaccine; however, individuals may choose another one. Please remember that one's immunity does not just disappear at six months and one day. All

of our vaccines remain highly effective at protecting against severe disease, hospitalization and death.

"Carilion's data show that more than 80% of those hospitalized/in the ICU/on ventilators and dying are unvaccinated. Ballard's data is more than 90%."

She said the "New River Health District is not at this time planning large vaccination events for booster shots. We have plenty of vaccine supply and many locations to get the vaccine. The New River Health Department is vaccinating from 8:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. from Monday through Friday. Mondays and Thursdays, we are at the Montgomery County Health Department, Tuesday at Floyd, Wednesday at Giles and Pulaski, and Friday at Radford. Our local pharmacies are also administering first, second, and third and booster doses, and they have evening and weekend hours."

"People can also find a vaccine through vaccinefinder.gov or by calling 1-877-VAX-IN-VA (877-829-4682). In addition, the Virginia Department of Health has opened a Community Vaccination Center in Roanoke at the old Sears store in Valley View Mall. All COVID vaccines and boosters are available. It is operating Monday through Saturday from 10 a.m. until 8 p.m."

"At all of the health department locations, we are offering both COVID and flu vaccines. Please consider getting a flu vaccine at the same time. We are seeing Flu A and Flu B in our region. The health department, through the Business Continuity Team, has offered flu and COVID vaccine clinics with many of our local employers. Avoiding the flu this year is very important for helping to reduce stress on our hospitals."

Submit letters to the editor to editor@ourvalley.org

### News Messenger

Established 1869

(540) 389-9355

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

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## OBITUARY

### Monroe, Richard Walter

Richard Walter Monroe, 77, of Blacksburg, passed away peacefully on Monday, Oct. 18, 2021. Born Aug. 25, 1944, he was the son of the late Stanley Searle Monroe and Ruth Hunaker Monroe. He was preceded in death by his sister, Judith Ann Monroe, and his brother, William Matthew Monroe.

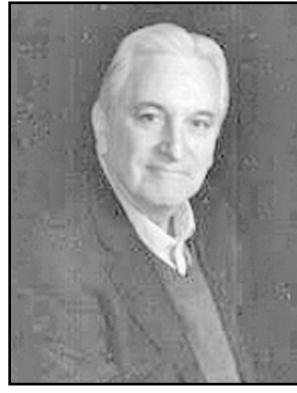
He is a graduate of Anandale High School (1962) where he was a star athlete, and Virginia Tech (1966). Richard earned a bachelor's degree in business management and a regular Army commission as a Second Lieutenant in the armored cavalry. While at Virginia Tech, he was assigned to H Company. He was a Regimental S-3 operations officer and a leader in the Corps of Cadets. He was also a member of the Color Guard, the VPI Cotillion Club, and many other honorary military societies.

After graduation from Virginia Tech, Richard attended the Armor Officer Basic Leaders Course in Ft. Knox, Ky., with a follow-on assignment to the Third Squadron, 14th Armored Cavalry Regiment in Bad Hersfeld, Germany. He served there for two years as a troop commander, a staff officer, and the squadron executive officer. During this period, he was promoted to the rank of Captain.

After Germany, he was deployed to Vietnam as an advisor to the South Vietnamese Sixth Armored Cavalry. While in Vietnam, his unit conducted daily reconnaissance missions to protect and support other infantry companies. He rode on an armored carrier and was involved in several enemy fire fights and major battles which earned him a bronze star. At the end of this tour, he left the Army to pursue a civilian career.

In February of 1970, Richard was hired by Reynolds Metals Company, a Richmond-based international aluminum company. After 26 years with Reynolds, he joined Owens Corning for six years and finally a private investment group for four years. After 36 years in the corporate world and four years of military service, Richard retired with his wife Mary Margaret to Blacksburg.

While retired in Blacksburg, Richard served as board secretary and general



director of the Corps of Cadets Alumni Association for seven years. He also served as president, vice president and treasurer of the Virginia Tech Cotillion Club Alumni Association over the course of a 13-year period. He was also a member of Blacksburg United Methodist Church.

Richard will be remembered for his quick-witted sense of humor, his endless generosity, and his love for the great outdoors. He often spoke of his love and respect for the lifelong foundation that his experience in the Corps of Cadets afforded him.

He is survived by his wife of 51 years, Mary Margaret Marston Monroe; his children, Jennifer Monroe Holliday and Spencer Grant Monroe; a son-in-law Todd Holliday and daughter-in-law Kelli Simpson Monroe; grandchildren Grant Monroe Holliday, Samuel Ayers Holliday, and Keeton Elizabeth Monroe; a brother, Jonathan Searle Monroe; a cousin, Elizabeth Brand Monroe; sisters-in-law Rosa Crocker Monroe and Deborah Cahoon Monroe; nephews James Lord Borck and Owen Searle Monroe; nieces Kimberly Borck Pollard, Amity Borck Dey, Frances Tucker Monroe, Megan Monroe Guerrero, Meredith Monroe Rodriguez, and twenty great-nieces and great-nephews.

The family is grateful for the love and support from family, friends, and many medical professionals. A memorial service will be held in honor of Richard on Nov. 17, 2021, at 2:30 p.m., preceded by a visitation at 2 p.m. at Blacksburg United Methodist Church. The family requests that you kindly wear a mask.

In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions can be made to Blacksburg United Methodist Church, P.O. Box 931, Blacksburg, VA 24063 or the Virginia Tech Corps of Cadets Alumni Association, Class of 1966 Emerging Leader Scholarship Fund, 141 Lane Hall (0213), 280 Alumni Mall, Blacksburg, VA 24061 or online at vtcc.vt.edu/alumni.

Arrangements are in the care of McCoy Funeral Home, Inc., 150 Country Club Drive SW, Blacksburg, VA 24060; (540)-552-3211. Online condolences can be shared at www.mccoy-funeralhome.com.

CROSSWORD grid with numbers 1-63 indicating starting positions for clues.

- CLUES ACROSS: 1. Syrian president, 6. Grand Caravan brand, 11. Immeasurably small, 14. Myriagram, 15. Yellow-fever mosquito, 16. Radioactivity unit, 18. Anklebone, 21. Adobe house, 23. Direct to a source, 25. Piper \_\_, actress, 26. Leuciscus leuciscus, 28. Moral excellences, 29. Describes distinct concepts, 31. Rubberized raincoat, 34. Inhabitants of the Earth, 35. Distress signal, 36. Destroyed by secret means, 39. Skin abrasions, 40. Caesar or tossed, 44. Supplied with a chapeaux, 45. Fictional elephant, 47. Forced open, 48. Pole (Scottish), 50. Browning of the skin, 51. Boy Scout merit emblem, 56. British thermal unit, 57. Decomposes naturally, 62. Freshet, 63. Lawn game, 7. Former CIA, 8. Didymium, 9. Gram, 10. Audio membranes, 11. 8th Jewish month, 12. Touchdown, 13. Madames, 14. Metric ton, 17. Fabric colorants, 19. Capital of Bashkortostan, 20. Extra dry wine, 21. An Indian dress, 22. Expenditure, 24. Ribbed or corded fabric, 25. Can top, 27. So. African Music Awards, 28. Weather directionals, 30. A scrap of cloth, 31. Gin & vermouth cocktails, 32. A way to lessen, 33. Contended with difficulties, 36. Egyptian beetle, 37. CNN's Turner, 38. A quick light pat, 39. Shipment, abbr., 41. Resin-like insect secretion, 42. Goat and camel hair fabric, 43. Superficially play at, 46. Network of veins or nerves, 49. Atomic #44, 51. Wager, 52. The time something has existed, 53. Physician's moniker, 54. Talk excessively, 55. Pre-Tokyo, 58. Out of print, 59. Ducktail hairstyle, 60. Carrier's invention, 61. Canadian province



# Virginia shines at “North America’s Premier Farm Show” in Georgia

MOULTRIE, Ga.—Virginia’s historical significance in agriculture is widely known, and the state is a major contributor to the industry’s current technological innovations and sustainable practices. This reputation garnered Virginia the designation of “Spotlight State” at the Sunbelt Ag Expo in Moultrie, Ga., Oct. 19-21.

Known as “North America’s Premier Farm Show,” the 43rd annual expo featured the latest in agricultural technology, hosting more than 1,200 exhibitors representing almost 4,000 different product lines. These exhibitors showcased the latest agricultural innovations to help farmers enhance their economic and environmental sustainability.

The 2021 expo spotlighted the state with the slogan “Virginia Agriculture, 400 Years

of Progress.” Agriculture and forestry combined are Virginia’s top industries thanks to diverse topography that enables farmers to cultivate a wide variety of commodities. The exhibit highlighted Virginia’s innovative industry that continues building on its centuries-old reputation.

Mike Parrish, co-chair of the Virginia Spotlight State Committee and a Virginia Cooperative Extension agent in Dinwiddie County, said, “We want to represent the state as a whole and showcase the successes of Virginia agriculture. By starting a conversation about the historical significance of agriculture in the state, we can also help people understand how we’ve contributed to the advancement of U.S. agriculture through research and technology.”

Individual farmers also were recognized for their contributions to the industry. Since its inception in 1990, the Swisher/Sunbelt Expo Southeastern Farmer of the Year Award has evolved into a prestigious honor that recognizes outstanding agribusiness leaders. Ten states participate in the program: Alabama, Arkansas, Florida, Georgia, Kentucky, Mississippi, North Carolina, South Carolina, Tennessee, and Virginia.

Hanover County Farm Bureau member Charles Edwin “CJ” Isbell of Keenbell Farm was designated Virginia Farmer of the Year.

Keenbell Farm specializes in grass-fed beef, pasture-raised pork, free-range poultry, turkeys, eggs, and grains. Each state winner received cash awards, other prizes, and an expense-paid trip to the Sunbelt Expo.

“It was a very humbling experience, being around so many other outstanding farmers with impressive operations,” Isbell said. “And it was great that Virginia was the spotlight state, and I could be there to represent the commonwealth with lots of fellow Virginians, plus Farm Bureau and Virginia Cooperative Extension.”

He said being named Virginia Farmer of the Year was an honor, given the award’s long-standing history and the names that preceded him.

“It may be my name on the recognition, but it’s truly an award for the family,” Isbell said. “Without the support of my wife and my father, and the customers who patronize our business, we wouldn’t be where we are.”

## Jana Moser Moore named director of VT’s Office of Veteran Services

Janette “Jana” Moser Moore, assistant director for student services for the Virginia Tech Language and Culture Institute, has been named director of the university’s Office of Veteran Services (OVS).

In her new position, Moore provides oversight and leadership for OVS and the Veterans Resource Center (VetZone). Veterans and military-connected students work with OVS for the certification of Veterans Affairs educational benefits and to connect with financial, academic, and social resources necessary for a successful transition to and through their course of study at Virginia Tech.

“I am excited to now be with the Office of Veteran Services,” said Moore. “The population we serve is a diverse mix of veterans, reservists, National Guard, active duty, and dependent students. Their overall goals and needs for support are very similar, yet they come from different backgrounds.”

“Services and support for them requires an acknowledgment of those varied experiences and perspectives. I look forward to working with these students to maximize their Virginia Tech experience.”

Moore began her professional career in military education, teaching enlisted personnel skills

to improve test scores to assist in their goal of changing their military occupational specialty. Stationed with her husband in Germany, she also taught a German language and culture basic skills class to incoming soldiers.

“While assisting service members with their education, I learned so much about how the military works,” Moore said. “It was such a pleasure to see them reach their goals while working, deploying, and juggling school and family.”

Moore later moved into academic advising and policy work with institutions of higher education located on Fort Bragg. Her professional experience

then grew to encompass management, SOC (Servicemembers Opportunity College) compliance, federal tuition assistance reporting, the GI Bill, policy writing and registrar responsibilities.

Moore earned a bachelor’s degree from the University of Southern Mississippi and a master’s in education from the University of Oklahoma. She has over 20 years of experience in higher education including policy and regulations, academic advising, staff training, and supervision.

Written by Chenaye Blankenship



## OBITUARIES

### Dillon-Long, Patsy Jean

Patsy Jean Dillon-Long, 66, passed away in Blacksburg on Oct. 21, 2021.

She was born in Blacksburg on May 2, 1955, the youngest of three children, and married William Robert “Bob” Long II on July 25, 1981.

Patsy graduated from Virginia Tech in 1977 and Radford University in 1984. In college, she played volleyball and basketball. She also served as a justice for the Honor Court system, was on the Dean’s Advisory Committee, and was a member of Zeta Tau Alpha sorority.

Patsy worked for Virginia Tech for many years, including positions with the Virginia-Maryland College of Veterinary Medicine and Continuing and Professional Education, as well as for the Via College of Osteopathic Medicine. However, she was happiest on the tennis court, taking walks on the Huckleberry Trail, or cheering for the Hokies.

Patsy was always willing to lend a help-



ing hand, volunteering with the Montgomery County Emergency Assistance Program, the Blacksburg United Methodist Church, and Zeta Tau Alpha. She was named the Montgomery County Chamber of Commerce Citizen of the Year in 2004 for her nine years as President of the Montgomery County Christmas Store.

Patsy is survived by her husband, Bob; two children, William (and Stephanie) Long of Roanoke, and Courtney (and Trevor) Sakry of Blacksburg; three grandsons, Remy, Caleb, and Miles; sister Ann Crawford of Christiansburg; and niece Christy Dillon of Christiansburg.

A celebration of Patsy’s life was held at Blacksburg United Methodist Church. Masks were required. To attend the service virtually, visit <https://youtu.be/7fvDSZINzZ4>. In lieu of flowers, donations can be made to the Montgomery County Christmas Store. Arrangements by McCoy Funeral Home, Blacksburg.

See more on page 7

### Marshall, Gregory Charles

Gregory Charles Marshall, 64, of Bland, passed away Tuesday, Oct. 26, 2021.

He was preceded in death by his parents, Wilmer Sal’lee Marshall and Elizabeth Ann Keith Marshall; and his mother-in-law, Virginia James.

Survivors include his wife, Darlene D. Marshall; a daughter and son-in-law, Brandi and Jody Ray; a son, Travis Marshall and fiancée, Audrey; seven grandchildren, Ashley (Jan), Will, Peyton, Jarod, Samara, Haylie, and Griffen; three great-grandchildren, Rhett, Ryland, and Donald; brothers Brad and Tim Marshall; a cousin, Sarah Crigger; a niece and



nephew, Casey and Matthew Marshall; and many other relatives and friends.

The family will receive friends from 3 until 4 p.m. today, Saturday Oct. 30, 2021, at the Fries Recreation Center. Memorial services will follow at 4 p.m. with Dr. Tim Porter officiating.

In lieu of flowers, please consider donations to the Fries Recreation Center, 316 W. Main St., Fries, VA 24330 or God’s Pit Crew, 2499 North Main St., Danville, VA 24540.

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

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

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You have the opportunity to purchase a gorgeous property for sale in Floyd VA. This property features 37.79 +/- acres of land on Beaver Creek Rd. Looking for land with great building spots, long range views and creek frontage? This is it! Build your dream home in the large open field which showcases gorgeous mountain views. This property would be great for use as a recreational retreat, hobby farm or private homestead. The property is in an excellent location near Route 8 between Floyd VA and Christiansburg VA. Property is accessed by right of way at 779 Beaver Creek Rd.

**Terms** – 10% Buyer’s Premium will be added to final high bid to arrive at contract price. Earnest Money Deposit of \$5,000 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 November 10th 2021. Download Bidder Information Pack for complete terms and conditions, purchase contract and maps.

Contact Matt Gallimore, Broker/Auctioneer at 540-239-2585 or email [gallimore.matt@gmail.com](mailto:gallimore.matt@gmail.com); Darrell Hylton Realtor at 540-250-0850 or email [dwh@swva.net](mailto:dwh@swva.net)

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## Supply chain shortfalls to impact small business owners this holiday season, says VT business professor

Shoppers will need to be flexible and patient this holiday season as the ripple effect of the COVID-19 pandemic continues to impact the supply chain of consumer goods, especially the inventory and supply for small businesses, according to Virginia Tech professor of business information technology Barbara Hoopes.

"Supply chain challenges will definitely affect holiday shopping," said Hoopes. "Small businesses in particular may be disproportionately affected since they don't have reserves to handle the disruptions like some larger organizations do."

Hoopes said that pre-pandemic, retailers were already moving holiday promotions into the fall in order to predict demand and smooth holiday deliveries. "This year will be worse than average and don't count on last-minute deliveries to be reliable," she said.

Hoopes offers the following advice for holiday shoppers:

Support small and local businesses with your holiday purchases.

Shop early as inventory and supply may be a challenge.

Purchase gift cards.

Be willing to accept delivery after Christmas, and if necessary, give a picture or note to the recipient.

Consider giving experiences rather than things.

Hoopes cautions that supply chain challenges are likely to linger fairly deep into 2022, and warns that consumer suppliers should rethink their supply chains with an eye toward risk management and resiliency.

She also has advice for consumer suppliers:

Use local/regional/domestic suppliers wherever possible, even if slightly more expensive.

Consider reducing single-point risk by identifying alternate sources of supply, but not all from the same market or region.

Get to know your suppliers well. Seek transparency into their situations so that you are prepared for any second-hand shocks.

Don't make purchasing decisions on cost alone - consider other factors such as reliability, risk reduction, location.

For critical items, consider vertical integration options; that is, control more of your own supply

chain.

Consider creating moderately larger inventory buffers so that you are somewhat protected against supply delays - this may allow you to take advantage of quantity discounts to reduce unit costs.

Be careful not to overbuy, however; estimate demand using reasonable trends and forecasting. The "bullwhip effect" is real and can leave you with unsold inventory.

Don't rely on overnight or expedited air services. These avenues are just as clogged as shipping and trucking in many cases.

Reliance on a single revenue stream concentrates risk. Consider alternate revenue streams, including products, services, and alternate ways of reaching customers.

*Barbara Hoopes is the academic director of Virginia Tech MBA Programs and associate professor of Business Information Technology. She teaches for the Virginia Tech MBA programs in the greater Washington, D.C., metro region in the areas of operations management, global supply chain management, and business analytics.*

## Local author donates book to Radford Public Library



Recently, local author D. J. Mathews (left) donated a copy of her book "Great American Women in Science and Environment" to Youth Services Librarian David Banker at the Radford Public Library. Author Mathews is a master naturalist member and a former college instructor who taught logic and writing at Radford University. The Radford Public Library purchased additional copies of Mathews's book in addition to her donation. Copies are in processing and will soon be available for check out at the library. Mathews writes about other science and consumer related topics at her website, [www.greatamericanidea.com](http://www.greatamericanidea.com).

### 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, [www.meetup.com/Roanoke-Spiritual-Experiences-Group](http://www.meetup.com/Roanoke-Spiritual-Experiences-Group), or call 540-353-5365 and leave a message. We will return your call. Also visit [www.eckankar.org](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

### OVER THE TOP

Read Numbers 16:1 through 17:13

Gordon trudged into the house after a long day of work on his birthday, a year older and feeling every minute of it. He expected a quiet birthday dinner with his family, so he was stunned when he saw balloons and cake and friends shouting, "Surprise!" He was more than surprised. He was amazed at how much his family and friends clearly loved him.

God vowed to make the staff of his chosen priest miraculously sprout, but He couldn't resist going above and beyond.

The next day Moses entered the tent and saw that Aaron's staff, which represented the tribe of Levi, had not only sprouted but had budded, blossomed and produced almonds (Numbers 17:8).

God has a way of amazing His people by meeting their needs in over-the-top ways. There's no better example than Jesus. Sure, God had promised a Messiah, but His own Son? It was stunning, unexpected, and it demonstrated that God was willing to go farther than we could ever imagine to save us.

Prayer Suggestion: Thank You, God, for the miraculous, amazing, over-the-top way You saved me.

Quicklook: Numbers 17:1-12

**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)**

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

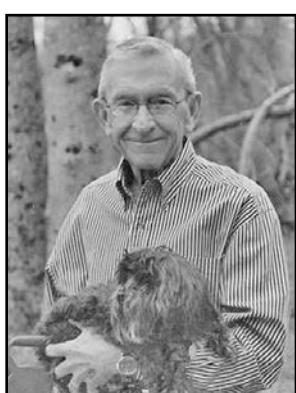
**Christ Wesleyan Church**, 525 Harkrader Street, Christiansburg. Public Worship service at 11:00 AM. Sunday School for adults - 10:00 AM. Pastor: Gale Janofski 574-306-7682. Website: [christwesleyanchurch.org](http://christwesleyanchurch.org)



# OBITUARIES

## Deemer, USMC (Ret.), Maj. James C.

Maj. James C. Deemer, USMC (Retired), 86, of Blacksburg, died Tuesday after a long illness. His family began missing him even before Jimmy, as he was known, left the earth where he once golfed, joked, and battled the wisteria. Because of his 21 years serving in the Marine Corps, you might think he'd be tough, and he was in many ways. Mostly, he was the gentlest Marine you'd ever know.



Born in Blacksburg to the late Karl Ottmar Deemer and Coralie Slusser Deemer, he remembered playing on the slag pile in the Slusser Coal Mine his grandfather once owned. A gifted athlete, he loved sports and played basketball at Blacksburg High School.

But it was golf that became his early favorite from the time he picked up his father's wooden clubs as a young boy. One of his first jobs was caddying with his brother at the Hill Course. He attended the University of Florida on a golf scholarship, then transferred back home to his beloved Virginia Tech, earning a bachelor's degree in business.

In 1958, he joined the Marine Corps, something he had wanted to do in honor of his favorite uncle, a decorated Marine in World War II. Jimmy was a career Marine who served two tours in Vietnam and often repeated the USMC motto, Semper Paratus, "always faithful."

In Vietnam, Jimmy served as an aerial observer and was shot down twice, receiving a Purple Heart for his injuries. The war took its psychological toll, as wars do. When he talked of Vietnam, he could describe the people he knew vividly, but could rarely recall their names. After he retired in 1979, he began a career in real estate, living in Virginia Beach before returning to the Blacksburg of his childhood.

In 1988, he met Linda, "my wife, the love of my life," and in 1989, the southern

gentleman married the outspoken New Yorker at the home of a dear friend. They were married for 32 years. They worked together, traveled until they couldn't, celebrated date night on Fridays until they couldn't, and always enjoyed their families.

Jimmy was predeceased by his parents; sister Elvira "Vicky" Deemer Michael; brother-in-law Bobby Michael; sister-in-law Mary Ellen Deemer; and brother-in-law Kenneth Strier.

Those left to cherish his memory include Linda, the wife and partner who lovingly cared for him these last years and always; his brother, William M. Deemer of Blacksburg; his son, James C. Deemer Jr., of Ormond Beach, Fla.; his bonus children, Madelyn and William "Butch" Lazorchak of Arlington, Va., and Andrew Rosenberg and Melanie Ross of Brooklyn, N.Y.; his grandchildren, Cole and Dillon Deemer, Graham and Karina Lazorchak, and Jules Rosenberg; a sister-in-law, Ellen Strier; loving nieces and nephews Brownie, Billy Jr., Michele, Robert, Richard, Shari, and Michelle; and many friends.

The family thanks Carilion Hospice for their wonderful care and especially Cindy, Marissa, Julie, and Tom, as well as private caregivers Chris and Stephanie.

In lieu of flowers, the family requests that donations be made to Blacksburg High School with the memo line "Jimmy Deemer Golf Scholarship Award" (or call the school for instructions), Carilion Hospice, or the charity of your choice.

Visitation will take place on Sunday, Oct. 31, from 3 p.m. to 5 p.m. at McCoy Funeral Home. Services will be held on Monday, Nov. 1, at 11 a.m. at McCoy Funeral Home, followed by military honors and interment at Westview Cemetery on East Roanoke Street. The family requests that masks be worn during all indoor services.

## Meredith, Alice Loisene Flinchum

Alice Loisene Flinchum Meredith passed away peacefully at her home in Radford at the age of 89 on Monday, Oct. 25, 2021.

She was preceded in death by her parents, Elbert and Alice Smith Flinchum; 10 brothers and sisters; her husband, Winford T. Meredith; and beloved grandson and granddaughter Michael Keith Meredith and Susan Angela Meredith Beall.

She is survived by daughters Regina Meredith and Tammy (Steve) Duncan; sons Kenny, Ronnie (Elaine) and Johnny (Phyllis) Meredith; grandchildren, Michael, Andrea, Heather, and Jessica along with seven great-grandchildren; sisters-in-law, Adell Adkins and Helen Flinchum; as well as many nieces and nephews.

When we think of our mom, our queen, and as most people know her, Loisene, we remember many mouth-watering home cooked meals, especially her macaroni and cheese. She would go all out for holiday meals, starting to prepare everyone's favorites early in the morning. When her own children were at home, she cooked not only for them, but their many friends who came to visit. To the children she babysat, she was lovingly known as "Nana."

Alice loved to go thrift-store shopping and loved collecting dolls, teapots, bottles, bells, crystal, baskets, and pieces to add to her Christmas dishes and china set. She had beautiful displays of the things she acquired.

Over the years mom enjoyed traveling to Williamsburg, Memphis, Myrtle Beach, Nashville, Florida, Branson, and numerous other places. If there was an opportunity to go, she was ready to pack a bag. She loved being outdoors, the beauty of flowers, and when she was able, working in her building. She was ahead of her time by having her own "she shed" before it was a popular thing.

She had a tremendous love for God and often encouraged us when we faced a challenge by reciting Matthew 18:19. While working around the house, she would sing



old hymns and sometimes make up songs that fit her spiritual feeling at that time. At bedtime, she could be heard singing or praying for her family as she fell asleep. Mom would often say she just wanted to get back to church one more time. She loved listening to the Bible on CD when her eyes began to fail.

During the last two years of her life, she faced several medical challenges. We called her our "Sherman tank" and our "Miracle Mom" because she always seemed to bounce back when it seemed impossible. The last months of her life were spent with cattle in the fields, surrounded by a peace and tranquility that she so richly deserved.

Many special people deserve thanks for taking care of Mom: Dr. Timothy Byrnes/Vistar; Dr. Thomas Conlee/Jefferson Surgical; Dr. Mark Kasmer/Carilion Orthopedics; Dr. Janet Bechtel/Southwest Podiatry; Kindred Home Health, especially Robin; Good Samaritan Palliative and Hospice Care; the Roanoke Memorial 7th floor PCU medical and nursing staff; the NRV Carilion ER, ICU, and PCU medical staff, and Dr. Daniel Kelly and Kaye for being with us for so many years. We will never forget the love and kindness of Pastor Donald Jones, Debbie Southern, and her Bob White church family for all their many prayers.

Family and friends celebrated the life of Alice with a visitation at the Bob White Boulevard Church of God on Friday, Oct. 29, 2021, followed by a funeral service officiated by Pastor Donald Jones. Services concluded with interment at Highland Memory Gardens.

While flowers are appreciated we ask that you consider doing the following today: Choose someone in your life right now whom you need to show your love and appreciation to and send flowers to that person. Our lives will never be the same without you, Mom, Nanny, and Nana, but we will remember 2 Samuel 12:21-23, and we will strive to be with you again.

## Morgan, Marie Johnson

Marie Johnson Morgan, 89, of Christiansburg, died Sunday, Oct. 24, 2021 at her home. She was born in Giles County on April 2, 1932 to the late Henry and Lula Paige Johnson. She was also preceded in death by her husband, Joseph Earl Morgan; daughter, Kim Morgan; son-in-law, Leonard (Lenny) Session; and eleven siblings.



She was a faithful member of Schaeffer Memorial Baptist Church, where she served as the church clerk, sang in the choir, and was on the usher board. She retired from the Radford Army Ammunition Plant after many years of service.

She is survived by her children, Marilyn Session, Mario Morgan and wife,

Deborah, and Yolanda Burton; grandchildren, Bryan Session, Brandon Session and wife, Kristen, Tyler Morgan, Tanner Morgan, Brianna Tolley and husband, Chandler, and Grayson Burton; as well as a host of nieces, nephews, and other family members.

A funeral service will be held today, Saturday, Oct. 30, 2021, at 2 p.m. in the McCoy Funeral Home Chapel with the Rev. Kenneth B. Wright officiating. Interment will follow at Roselawn Memorial Gardens, Christiansburg. The family will receive friends from 1 to 2 p.m. prior to the service at McCoy Funeral Home and asks that masks be worn during all services.

## Underwood, Donna Ruth

Donna Ruth Underwood, 62, of Dublin, passed away on Saturday, Oct. 23, 2021, surrounded by her family.

She is survived by her husband, John Underwood; sons Charles (Amanda) Pennington and Michael (Stacy) Pennington; a daughter, Angela (John) East; grandchildren MJ Pennington, Jordann Pennington, Ashley Pennington, Addison Pennington, Jade Kincaid, Adam Pennington, Amya East, Carlee King, Eli Tawney, Gage Tawney, and Micah Tawney; a great-granddaughter, Alex Haley; sisters Goldie Peak, Patsy Brizendine, Bonnie Adams, and Kathy Gravley; and several nieces and nephews.



Donna was preceded in death by her parents, Stanley and Ruth Adams; her son, Andrew Scott Pennington; her in-laws, Eckman and Mary Underwood; and brothers Stanley Adams, Jr., Johnny Adams, and Ronnie Adams.

The family received friends on Wednesday, Oct. 27, 2021, at the Mullins Funeral Home in Radford. Funeral services were held on Thursday, Oct. 28, 2021, at the Mullins Funeral Home in Radford with Pastor Lanny Belcher officiating. Interment followed in the Old Dublin Cemetery in Dublin.

The Underwood family is in the care of Mullins Funeral Home and Crematory in Radford.

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

### Legals - Montgomery County

**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-

### Legals - Montgomery County

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 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-

### Legals - Montgomery County

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 requestor, 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

### Legals - Montgomery County

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@deq.virginia.gov](mailto:lynn.wise@deq.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.

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### Legals - Montgomery County

**Town of Christiansburg Notice of Public Hearing**  
Notice is hereby given that on November 9, 2021 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.

### Legals - Montgomery County

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.

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# MONTGOMERY SPORTS

## Masks required for events at Cassell this season

**Marty Gordon**  
NRVsports@ourvalley.org

COVID continues to affect all areas of our society including the 2021-2022 basketball season at Virginia Tech. In keeping with current guidelines related to wearing masks at university events, Virginia Tech will require masks regardless of vaccination status for all indoor events scheduled for Cassell Coliseum.

The events include wrestling matches, men's and women's basketball games, and the 2021 fall commencement ceremonies. Masks are already required to be worn for volleyball matches within Cassell.

According to information released earlier this week, proof of vaccination or a negative test will not be required to attend an event at Cassell Coliseum. Masks can

be removed when spectators are actively eating or drinking.

Fans will also see some changes to the concession stand areas in Cassell. In efforts to improve the flow and speed of transactions, concession stands will move to cashless payment this season and will require a debit or credit card for purchase. This practical adjustment designed to minimize wait times eliminates the exchanging and handling of currency as the overwhelming majority of concession stand purchases are already made via credit card.

Fans who do not have access to a debit or credit card should consider buying a prepaid credit card at Kroger in advance of the game. To those who wish to still pay in cash, the Hokie Shop will have a limited amount of gift

cards available for cash purchase.

After debuting at Lane Stadium this fall, fan-friendly concession pricing will also be implemented at Cassell Coliseum this season. Fans can expect to find classic gameday items like hot dogs, popcorn, nachos, Coca-Cola fountain drinks, and bottled water available for \$2.50 each.

Additionally, select beer and seltzers will continue to be available for purchase in Cassell Coliseum. All fans will be required to show proper identification to purchase any alcoholic beverages.

Virginia Tech's clear-bag policy remains in place for Cassell Coliseum. This policy helps provide a safer environment for spectators and expedites fan entry into the arena. Approved bags

are limited to bags that are clear plastic, vinyl or PVC and do not exceed 12" x 6" x 12"; one-gal-

lon clear plastic freezer bags (Ziploc bag or similar); and small clutch bags approximately the

size of a hand with or without a handle or strap and no larger than 4.5" x 6.5."



Virginia Tech is requiring masks for all fall indoor events at Cassell Coliseum. This includes wrestling matches, volleyball matches, men's and women's basketball games, and the 2021 fall commencement ceremonies.

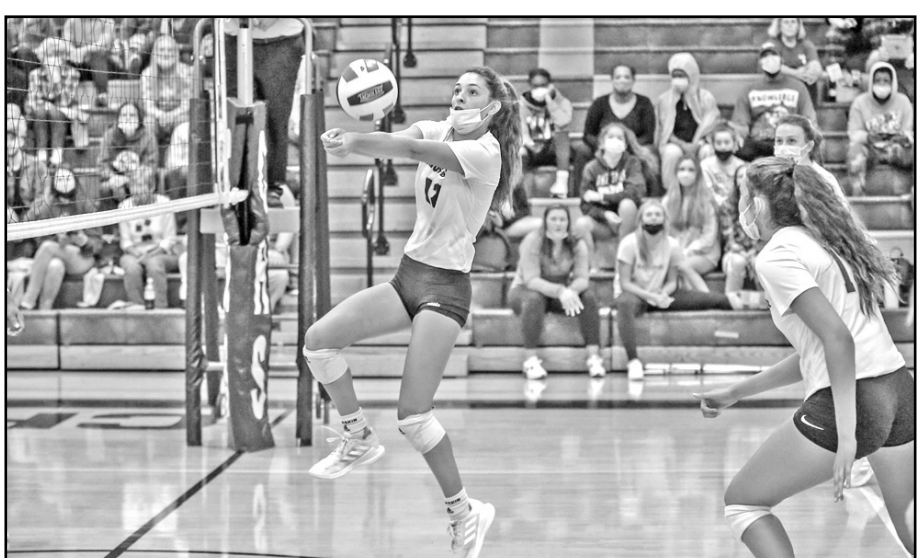
## Blacksburg volleyball defeats Christiansburg



Christiansburg's Addison Reazor powers through with her hit for the point in the Blue Demons' 10-25, 25-22, 13-25, 11-25 volleyball loss to cross-county rival Blacksburg.



Braelynn Williams had 10 kills and three blocks for Christiansburg, which is now 11-9 on the season.



Ella Poff sets the bump pass for Blacksburg.



Peyton Seeley places the pass for her Blacksburg teammates in the win over Christiansburg.

PHOTOS BY ASHLEY AKERS

## Millirons commits to New York's St. Thomas Aquinas

**Marty Gordon**  
NRVsports@ourvalley.org

Auburn High School's Ethan Millirons has announced plans to continue his playing career at one of the top Division II college basketball programs in the country. The 6-1 guard is headed to St. Thomas Aquinas College in upstate New York.

In his last full high school season as a sophomore, Millirons averaged 22 points per game, 4.3 assists per game, five rebounds per game and 67 made threes to go along with a 47% field goal percentage and an 89% free throw percentage.

Millirons holds the school records for points in a season, 3-pointers made, free throw percentage and 3-pointers in a game (7). He was named all-Mountain Empire District, Region C, and Class 1 player of the year.

St. Thomas Aquinas College is a private liberal arts college in Sparkill, N.Y., with a current enrollment of 1,180.

The St. Thomas Aquinas College men's basketball team captured the East Coast Conference championship for the fifth time in its last six seasons in 2021 and has been slotted as the nation's preseason #8 squad by the National Association of Basketball Coaches (NABC). The poll comes on the heels of the team's #10 standing in the NCAA's Division II Men's Basketball Power 10 rankings and #1 selection in the ECC Preseason Coaches' Poll.

St. Thomas went 14-2 overall and 9-1 in the ECC during the 2020-2021 season, winning both the conference regular season and tournament titles. The Spartans ad-

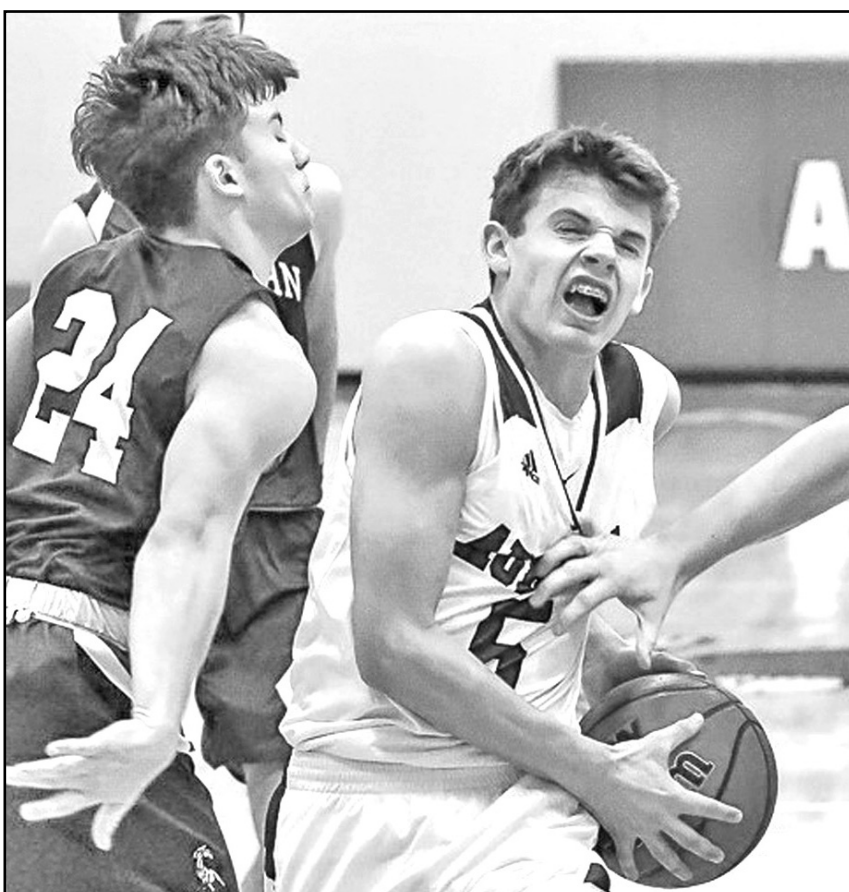
vanced to the NCAA Division II Tournament for the sixth consecutive season, eventually falling to ECC opponent Daemen, 71-70 in the East Region Finals.

Millirons said several reasons led him to choose the school, including the outstanding coaching staff.

"Tobin Anderson has built a great tradition in his tenure with the team, being 145-32 over the last six seasons with multiple NCAA tournament bids," Millirons said. "The winning speaks for itself.

"On my second visit, I got to know the coaches and the players. I like the family type environment and the relationships the staff and players have created," Millirons said. "It's a small college so it sort of feels like home. The connections the school and Coach Anderson have for what I want to do in the future were also factors in my decision. Being 20 miles from New York City, they can set me up long term."

Millirons plans to major in business or sports management.



Auburn's Ethan Millirons was the 2019-2020 state Class 1 basketball player of the year.

FILE PHOTO

**CROSSWORD ANSWERS**

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# Virginia Tech visits Georgia Tech for initial ACC road contest

BLACKSBURG – After playing six of its first seven games in Lane Stadium, Virginia Tech football prepares for its second road game of the season when the Hokies travel to Atlanta to take on Georgia Tech for a noon kickoff today, Oct. 30.

The game will be broadcast on Regional Sports Network.

Due to last season's altered ACC schedule, the Hokies (3-4, 1-2 ACC) and Yellow Jackets (3-4, 2-2 ACC) did not play for the first time in 16 years, dating back to Tech's joining the ACC. The teams last played in Atlanta in 2019. The Hokies won that contest 45-0, the first of back-to-back shutout victories that season. Virginia Tech holds a 10-7 all-time advantage in the all-time series.

Despite Tech's loss vs. Syracuse, the Hokies enjoyed a breakout performance from true freshman running back Malachi Thomas. The Hartwell, Ga., native recorded 21 carries for 151 yards with three touchdowns to become Tech's first running back to total 100+ yards and three touchdowns in a game since David Wilson did it vs. Appalachian State on Sept. 3, 2011. Thomas is also Tech's first true freshman running back to rush for over 100 yards since Keshawn King rushed for 119 yards vs. Furman on Sept. 14, 2019.

The Hokies also returned a blocked extra point for two points vs. Syracuse, marking the first time they had accomplished the feat since Aug. 30, 2008, vs.

East Carolina. Defensive back Chamarri Conner got the block and cornerback Dorian Strong scooped the loose ball, returning it 95 yards for the score. It marked the 17th non-offensive score under head coach Justin Fuente and the third one this season.

Tight end Drake DeUliis recorded his first career touchdown Saturday on a 22-yard reception from quarterback Braxton Burmeister. Wide receiver Tayvion Robinson led the team in receiving with three receptions for 57 yards including a 30-yard long. Safeties Nasir Peoples and Tae Daley tied for the team lead with 11 tackles in the game while Daley also forced a fumble. Linebacker Alan Tisdale and cornerback Brion Murray each broke up two passes.

The Yellow Jackets lost a high-scoring affair in Charlottesville as Virginia won a 48-40 contest a week ago despite Georgia Tech's racking up 570 yards of offense. Quarterback Jeff Sims threw for 300 yards with three touchdowns and running back Jahmyr Gibbs ran for 132 yards, including a 71-yard touchdown.

### GAMEDAY INFORMATION

Saturday, Oct. 30 – noon; Bobby Dodd Stadium; Atlanta; vs. Georgia Tech (3-4, 2-2 ACC).

Georgia Tech Head Coach: Geoff Collins (third season); record at GT: 9-20; Career: 24-31 (fifth season).

Series: VT leads 10-7.

TV Broadcast: Regional Sports Network (RSN)

Play-by-Play: Tom



VT's game today against Georgia Tech begins a stretch of four conference road games in five weeks.

Werme; Analyst: James Bates; Sideline: Wiley Ballard.

Local Radio: Virginia Tech Sports Network

Play-by-Play: Jon Laaser; Analyst: Mike Burnop; Sideline: Wes McElroy.

### VIRGINIA TECH GAME NOTES

The series with Georgia Tech took a one-year hiatus in 2020 after the Hokies registered a 45-0 victory in Atlanta in 2019 in the initial meeting between head coaches Justin Fuente and Geoff Collins.

Virginia Tech is seeking to win back-to-back games vs. Georgia Tech for the first time since winning four straight from 2010-13.

The Hokies are 1-2 in ACC play after their loss to Syracuse.

Virginia Tech has sustained a trio of heartbreaking losses that have been decided by a combined total of a mere 14 points. In addition to the Syracuse outcome, Tech lost by a 27-21 margin at West Virginia and was beaten 32-29 by No. 14 Notre Dame.

Georgia Tech is 3-4 and is coming off a 48-40 loss at Virginia (10/23). The Jackets haven't won or lost consecutive games this season.

The Hokies are 26-19 in ACC play under Fuente. Georgia Tech is 3-7 in ACC home games under Collins.

The Hokies and Yel-

low Jackets are 1-1 against common opponents, both owning a win vs. UNC and a loss vs. Pitt.

The Hokies will have a short turnaround as Tech travels to Boston College next Friday night.

### SCORING STATS TO WATCH IN ATLANTA

The Hokies own a 36-5 record under Fuente when leading at the half. Tech had a streak of eight straight wins in that circumstance halted by Syracuse.

Georgia Tech has led at the half in all three of its wins and trailed at half in all four of its losses in 2021.

Virginia Tech is

28-8 when scoring 30+ points under Fuente and 13-1 when scoring 40+ points.

Georgia Tech is 1-14 under Collins when allowing 30 points or more. That lone victory was a 56-33 win vs. Duke in November 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 allowing 26.3 points per game in ACC play.

Georgia Tech is 2-14 under Collins when scoring 21 points or less, including nine straight losses.

# Unbeaten Auburn advances to volleyball district championship game



Auburn took the opportunity this week to honor its volleyball seniors (left to right): Emma Vance, Sara Albert, Allyson Martin, Kaitlyn Lytton, Anna McGuire, and Haley Hollins. With the win in the Mt. Empire District semis, the two-time state champions remained unbeaten on the season.



PHOTOS BY ASHLEY AKERS

Emma Vance had four kills in the Mt. Empire District tournament semifinals played Tuesday at Auburn High School. The Eagles won 25-10, 25-4, 25-13 and advanced to the MED Finals. In the win Anna McGuire had 34 assists, Allyson Martin had 17 kills and 15 digs, Madeline Lavergne had 12 kills and 10 digs, and Avery Zuckerwar had three kills, four aces, and five digs.



The Auburn High School student section at the Tuesday game participated in a spirited senior citizens night.

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**1540 S Main Street**

**Monday-Saturday: 10:00am - 7:00pm**  
**Sunday: 12:00pm - 5:00pm**

**Roanoke | Lynchburg | Harrisonburg | Staunton**  
**Waynesboro | Bluefield | Blacksburg | Wytheville**

Previous purchases excluded. Discounts applied to regular MSRP price. Cannot be combined with any other offer. Offers are nontransferable and do not apply to sales tax, shipping, mattresses, homestore specials, clearance, manager specials, floor model, Protection Plus plans, warranty and service charges. See store for details. Finance is subject to credit approval. See store for details on all financing offers. Valid through 10/26/21.