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Blacksburg

Christiansburg

Wednesday, March 2, 2022

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LewisGale Hospital Montgomery breaks ground on surgical improvement, expansion project

Officials with LewisGale Hospital Montgomery held a groundbreaking ceremony Thursday to celebrate a \$15.9 million expansion of the hospital's surgery department.

The 7,500-square-foot addition to the hospital's existing surgery department will include two operating rooms, a 15-bed post-anesthesia care unit, storage, and support space. The project also includes renovating 4,800 square feet of the existing surgery department.

"We are excited to kick off this expansion and renovation project at LewisGale Hospital Montgomery, which has been several years in the making," said Alan Fabian, the hospital's chief executive officer. "This is a significant milestone in our pursuit to better meet the growing needs of the New River Valley community. For more than 50 years, our hospital has a history of providing families access to quality healthcare. We look forward to opening the new surgery department and

continuing to provide quality, compassionate care for our patients well into the future."

The surgical improvement and expansion project brings the hospital's total capital investment since 2019 to nearly \$35 million, including recently renovated state-of-the-art cardiac catheterization, advanced medical equipment, new patient safety, and quality efforts.

The project is scheduled to be completed in the spring of 2023.



LewisGale Hospital Montgomery officials broke ground Thursday on a \$15.9 million expansion of the hospital's surgery department.

Virginia state parks hiring hundreds of part-time, full-time positions in 2022

Virginia's state parks are now seeking to fill numerous part-time and full-time positions at the commonwealth's 41 parks in 2022.

The opportunities are varied, from working outdoors to sharing educational or historical expertise to planning events and programs, all providing the chance to gain unique and valuable experience, knowledge, and skills.

Daily duties will vary for each job with different needs at each park location. For example, new hires may have the opportunity to present nature, culture, and history programs for all ages; provide friendly customer service at a

park contact station, camp store, or visitor center; and/or perform the routine grounds care, maintenance, light construction, and cleaning tasks necessary to operate state park facilities.

Available jobs are listed online with the requirements and all interested persons have to do is apply at <https://www.dcr.virginia.gov/document/general-state-job-application.doc>.

Part-time jobs include maintenance ranger, contact ranger, groundskeeper, housekeeper, trades technician, office assistant, administrative assistant, park interpreter, education support specialist, food service, and lifeguard.

Among the additional park positions now available are park ranger, chief ranger, office manager, housekeeping park ranger, resource specialist, and headquarters management.

The following parks have an online version of the application for part-time employment opportunities: Bear Creek Lake, Cumberland; Belle Isle, Lancaster; Claytor Lake, Dublin; First Landing, Virginia Beach; Holliday Lake, Appomattox; Machacomoco, Hayes; Pocahontas, Chesterfield; Twin Lakes, Green Bay; and York River, Williamsburg.



Customer service and park ranger jobs are open at First Landing State Park.

Christiansburg moves ahead with study of College Street flooding issues

Residents in and around College Street in Christiansburg have faced flooding issues for a number of years, and now town leaders are taking a step to address those problems.

Eighteen known drainage issues have been identified after a preliminary engineering study. Last week, the town council approved the creation of a resiliency plan. Once the plan is completed, the town will apply for funding through a Community Flood Preparedness Fund with up to a 50 percent match.

Alternate funding sources could also come from the Virginia Department of Transportation Revenue Sharing program.

Initially, the town contracted with A. Morton

Thomas and Associates in the fall of 2020 to develop alternatives for solutions to the flooding. The engineering firm engaged residents about their willingness to allow easement and/or property acquisitions for a possible catch-all pond that would be located along the upper part of College Street.

Thomas and Associates submitted four options:

Option A would include buying as many as five affected properties and demolishing the homes. The area would be susceptible to the flooding, but the homes would no longer exist. The cost for this option is listed at \$900,000.

Option B would be buying the five affected properties, demolishing the homes and building the catch-all pond.

This option would also include installing larger 36" pipes upstream and replacing those downstream. The approximate cost is \$3 million.

Option C would involve building a pond at the upper reach of the flood basin in question with an estimated cost of \$2.35 million.

Option D would include buying the five affected properties and then installing the appropriate size of piping in that area of the town with an approximate cost of \$3.39 million.

This past week, the town council agreed to the secondary study with staff seeking easements to replace the pipes along College Street. The idea of a catch-all pond is still on the table, but its exact location is yet to be determined.



The arrival of the Jazz Age in 1920s America with music from New Orleans and Louis Armstrong, the rise of filmmaking, and Hollywood's growing influence reshaped women's roles, styles, and fashion.

Blacksburg Museum to present 'Fashions of the Jazz Age' exhibit

Blacksburg Museum and Cultural Foundation will present a fashion exhibit titled "The Twenties: Virginian Women's Fashion After the Great War" March 8 through April 26 in the main galleries of the Alexander Black House, 204 Draper Road SW in Blacksburg.

Admission is free. The exhibit's hours are from 10 a.m. until 4 p.m. Tuesday through Saturday.

The 'Roaring 20s' was a time of flappers, bathtub gin, and the Charleston. Women of the time were removing their corsets,

raising their hemlines, bobbing their hair, and fighting for their freedoms and the right to vote.

The social aftermath of a world war reduced the confines of the class system abroad and in the U.S. while a general feeling of novelty associated with modernity and a break with tradition swept across the country. Cultural shifts were brought about by technology of the mass-produced automobile, moving pictures, and cheap radio sets. These adjustments in popular

See Fashion, page 3

Christiansburg fugitive charged with rape in Minnesota

A 37-year-old Christiansburg man is behind bars in Minnesota after being arrested by the U.S. Marshals Fugitive task force on charges he sexually assaulted a 14-year-old family member while on vacation in Ohio.

According to police reports, the incident took place in June, but Joseph Schroepfer could not be located until earlier this week. The Chippewa (Ohio) County Sheriff's Office said family members came to Ohio from Virginia

on vacation where the suspect assaulted the girl multiple times.

A DNA swap matched Schroepfer to the incident, and authorities have now charged him with six counts: three for first-degree criminal sexual assault, and one each for kidnapping/restraining by force, accosting a child for immoral purpose, and sexual assault in the fourth degree.

Schroepfer is being held in Minnesota awaiting extradition to Ohio.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Wednesday, March 2:

Business over Breakfast
Radford Chamber of Commerce Business over Breakfast meeting; 8 a.m. at Sweet and Savory. Two speakers will discuss business-related topics. Register in advance at www.radfordchamber.com.

Thursday, March 3:

“An Evening with Judy Carmichael”
Public Radio WVRU presents “An Evening With Judy Carmichael,” Grammy nominated stride-style pianist, vocalist, and radio host, in the Davis Performing Center in the Covington Center for the Arts, Radford University campus; 7:30 p.m. Admission is free and open to the public.

American Legion Meeting
American Legion Harvey-Howe-Carper Post 30 will meet at 7 p.m. at the VFW Post Home, 102 Watts St. in Radford. If Radford City Public Schools are closed on Thursday or Friday of this week due to weather, the meeting is canceled. For further information, call 540-250-2283 or 540-239-9864.

Friday, March 4:

Christiansburg Aquatic Center Free Fitness Fling
Christiansburg Aquatic Center; 9:30 to 11 a.m. and 5:30 to 7 p.m. A 10-to-12-minute sampling of various

fitness classes offered at CAC will be presented. Participants can also use the time to ask instructors questions about the classes.

Glencoe Mansion Photography Exhibit for Women’s History Month

Glencoe Mansion, Museum & Gallery presents its new gallery exhibit, “We the Women: Portraits of Empowerment” featuring the photography of Alex Moral. To celebrate Women’s History Month, the exhibit will be on display throughout the months of March and April. Glencoe Mansion will host an opening reception for Alex Moral on Friday, March 4, from 5 to 6:30 p.m.

Saturday March 5:

Creative Writing Group
Meadowbrook Public Library, 10:30 a.m. In person or on Go-To-Meeting for support, feedback, and writing tips. Email cminnick@mfrl.org or call 540-268-1964 for more information. A Go-To-Meeting account is not needed to join.

Caturday
Meadowbrook Public Library; noon to 1 p.m. Sign up at the Meadowbrook Public Library for a 15-minute slot to read to a cat from the Montgomery County Animal Care and Adoption Center to practice reading and to socialize shelter cats. For all ages. Due to limited availability of guest cat(s), call the library at (540) 268-1964 before coming to verify that Caturday has

not been canceled.

Teen DND
Blacksburg Library, 2 p.m. DND for Teens.

Monday, March 7:

Crafternoon Delight for Adults Only

Learn how to knit or crochet with library staff at the Radford Public Library; 1 to 2 p.m. Needles, crochet hooks, and yarn will be available for tutorials and practice during this session of Crafternoon Delight. This friendly group knits, crochets, embroiders, felts, and paints. Knowledgeable staff can help participants with their needlework craft. Projects will be available so participants can come learn how to put a blanket together for Project Linus with supplies provided.

Tuesday, March 8:

Sons of Confederate Veterans Meeting

Sons of Confederate Veterans, Stuart Horse Artillery Camp 1784, will meet at 7 p.m. at Aly’s Family Italian Restaurant, 3204 Riner Road. Members of the United Daughters of the Confederacy (UDC) are invited to attend. Will Reed will continue with Part Three of his series on “Confederate Small Arms.” If Montgomery County Public Schools are closed on Tuesday or Wednesday of this week due to weather, the meeting is canceled. For further information, call 540-320-4315 or

540-239-9864.

Talking About Books: “Three-Year Swim Club”

Blacksburg Library; 11 a.m. To be discussed is “The Three-Year Swim Club” by Julie Checkoway. Call (540) 552-8246 to reserve a copy.

Brown Bag Book Club

Radford Public Library; noon to 1 p.m. To be discussed is the Printz-Award-winning book “Everything Sad Is Untrue (a true story).” Participants can join in person or access the group remotely via Zoom.

Thursday, March 10:

River City Quilt Guild

The River City Quilt Guild meets the second Thursday of each month at 9:30 a.m. at Grove United Methodist Church, 1020 Tyler Avenue, Radford. Members welcome all skill levels of quilters. For more information, call Anna Handy, 540 320 7791.

Sunday, March 20:

Unveiling Ceremony of the African-American Memory and Storyboard Project

The unveiling ceremony for the Christiansburg Institute’s African-American memory and storyboard project will be held in downtown Christiansburg at the courthouse square at 3 p.m.

Wednesday, March 23:

Radford Army Ammunition Plant Community Meeting

Christiansburg Public Library; 6 p.m. This community meeting will discuss modernization and environmental projects and compliance and corrective actions at the Radford Army Ammunition Plant. Staff members from the U.S. Army and BAE Systems will be on hand to engage with the public. Questions may be directed beforehand to usarmy.radford.peo-eis.list.rfaap-public-affairs@mail.mil.

Now through April 30

Free prom dresses
Through April 30, by appointment only, at the Meadowbrook Public Library. The library has prom dresses of all sizes available for free to anyone in Montgomery County, Floyd County, and throughout the New River Valley. Call (540) 268-1964 to make an appointment to try on and choose a free prom dress.

Ongoing

Blacksburg Aquatic Center closed for repairs

Repairs on the hot tub, gutters, and deck surface at the Blacksburg Aquatic Center are ongoing. The aquatic center will remain closed for several more weeks. A re-opening date will be announced once it is confirmed.

MACADODO'S

Christiansburg's BEST St. Patrick's Day Party is BACK!

St. Patrick's Day Thursday, March 17th 9am until 2am

St. Patricks menu available all week long

Prizes and Giveaways Balloon Drop

Phat Boyz from Roanoke, Virginia Live from 6-10pm

MACADODO'S

Christiansburg

Call for more information (540) 381-8872

Send community news and photos to communitynews@ourvalley.org

Virginia Tech receives Anthem Award for Black College Institute

February 25, 2022 -- Virginia Tech's Black College Institute (BCI), a four-day summer academic enrichment program for talented rising high school juniors and seniors, has received a silver Anthem Award in the special projects category.

The Anthem Awards were developed to recognize the breadth of purpose-driven projects around the globe by honoring the organizations, brands, and people creating long-lasting impact.

At Virginia Tech, BCI has done just that since its introduction in 2017. Designed to ensure that underrepresented and/or first-generation prospective students are aware of opportunities at Virginia Tech, any student with an interest in the university is welcome. Free of charge to students, the competitive program, which received more than 1,200 applications in 2021, is managed by Enrollment Management and the Office for Inclusion and Diversity.

“As the founder, it has been exciting to see BCI evolve and grow from 68 participants in 2017 to 520 in the 2021 BCI virtual program,” said Vice President for Strategic Affairs and Diversity Menah Pratt-Clarke. “We are honored that the Anthem Award’s world-renowned judges recognize the powerful vision for this program. BCI illustrates Virginia Tech’s support for InclusiveVT, the institutional and individual commitment to Ut Prosim (That I May Serve) in the spirit of community, diversity, and excellence.”

BCI provides a platform for students to embrace the Ut Prosim motto by completing service-learning projects with university and local partners. Students engage with various academic disciplines through hands-on learning and workshops about issues such as navigating and completing the college process and applying for scholarships and financial aid.

The students experience campus life by eat-

ing in the dining halls and staying in the residence halls while exploring Virginia Tech’s departments and organizations, building lasting connections, and engaging in fun team-building activities.

“The only thing that makes me happier than to see the students’ excitement during BCI is to watch those same students grow and reach milestones as students at Virginia Tech,” said Assistant Provost for Diversity and Inclusion Crasha Townsend. “The program is only five years old, and I’m confident I soon will be reading about some of the superstar BCI alumni as they begin making huge impacts in our society. They truly are the leaders of tomorrow.”

One of those superstars is Taylor Whitehurst, a junior at Virginia Tech who attended BCI as a high school junior. “From the moment I stepped on the campus of Virginia Tech, I fell in love, and I felt welcomed,” Whitehurst said. “I even had



Participants in the 2018 Black College Institute visited the Virginia-Maryland College of Veterinary Medicine. Photo by Dan Miroli for Virginia Tech

the opportunity to meet with influential campus figures, such as Dr. Menah Pratt-Clarke and Dr. Crasha Townsend, while exploring majors and possible careers I had never even considered.

“Eager to hit the ground running, I returned to campus in August 2019 as a college

freshman and almost immediately began making my mark on campus,” said Whitehurst, who has served as a BCI student staff leader and an intern in SOAR, the Student Opportunity and Achievement Resources office.

This year, two in-person BCI sessions will be held for high school

seniors, June 19-23 and June 26-30, and a virtual BCI will be held for high school juniors, June 12-15.

Award winners were announced on Feb. 15 and were celebrated at a virtual conference and virtual awards show on Feb. 28. Fans can watch the virtual show at www.anthemawards.com.

Luther Memorial Lutheran Church offering scholarships to area students

Blacksburg -- Luther Memorial Lutheran Church is offering two \$500 scholarships this

spring through the Luther Memorial Wilson Family Endowed Scholarship Program funded through es-

tate donations by Jim and Betty Wilson and their son, Tom Wilson.

One scholarship is for

any Lutheran student or member of The Well Campus Ministry entering or enrolled in college or technical school, and the other scholarship is for any BI-POC (Black, Indigenous Person of Color) student in the Blacksburg community entering college or enrolled in a college or technical school.

The application process began March 1. Applications are due on May 1 and will be reviewed in May and awarded in June, payable directly to the student’s learning institution.

The Rev. Monica Weber, pastor at Luther Memorial, said, “We are so blessed to be able to offer these scholarships through the generosity of our parishioners. Scholarships

help provide more students the opportunity to earn an education they may not otherwise be able to afford and allow them more time to concentrate and focus on their studies.

“Without scholarships, many students who could most benefit from higher education are finding it harder and harder to af-

ford,” Rev. Weber said. “We encourage all Lutheran or BIPOC students in the Blacksburg community to apply.”

For more information and to access the application forms for these two scholarships, visit the Luther Memorial Lutheran Church website (<https://lmlc.org/news>).



Blacksburg’s Luther Memorial Lutheran Church is offering two \$500 scholarships to area students this spring.

Fashion

from page 1

taste were reflected in visual arts, music, literature, dance, and fashion.

Women began wearing chemise dresses that no longer defined their waists, but hung loosely from shoulder to knees. Costume jewelry became popular, along with sportswear designs, silk stockings, velvet, and furs. Rouged lips and an increased use of makeup were fashionable.

Blacksburg Museum and Cultural Foundation in partnership with the Oris Glisson Historic Costume and Textile Collection at Virginia Tech will celebrate these cultural shifts with this fashion exhibit.

“The Oris Glisson Historic Costume and Textile Collection is excited to partner with the Blacksburg Museum and Cultur-

al Foundation, dedicating its main gallery space in the Alexander Black House to display women’s garments from the late 1910s and 1920s,” said museum curator Dina Smith-Glaviana, Assistant Professor of Fashion Mer-

chandising and Design at Virginia Tech. “Not only will holding an exhibition off-campus make a selection of the collection’s holdings more accessible to the local community, but setting the exhibition in a historical and aes-

thetically pleasing venue will contribute to what we believe will be a very engaging historic clothing exhibition,” said Smith-Glaviana.

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OPINION

Buddy King: 'I heard it on the radio'

Well, it seems another "work stoppage" is about to hit Major League Baseball. I forget or haven't paid close enough attention to know whether this one is a players strike or an owners lockout. Either way, it feels the same.

The traditional "pitchers and catchers report" date has now passed by a couple of weeks. This is the date in mid-February when the millionaires go to spring training in Florida or Arizona, a harbinger of the real spring, a date baseball fanatics use to help get through the cold and dreariness of winter in most of the country.

This time around, the billionaires who pay the millionaires have apparently locked them out of camp while they negotiate a collective bargaining agreement. I am no different now than I was as a kid: Why can't they just work it out?

For those interested in part of the background as to how we got to where we are, I heartily recom-

mend "The Lords of the Realm" by John Helyar, written after the 1994 mid-season strike (which cost us a World Series that season and me a trip to brand new Jacobs Field in Cleveland). Helyar has one of the great quotes of all time, after hearing Jerry Reinsdorf, owner of the Chicago White Sox, referred to as one of the smartest owners in baseball. Helyar wrote, "That is the equivalent of being one of the world's tallest midgets."

At the end of the day, regardless of strike or lockout, my year is thrown out of kilter when spring training is canceled or delayed and the teams don't "head north to start the season" around the first of April. So I have decided to do a column on my favorite baseball announcers of all time to pass the time.

A little background is required. I grew up in an era when, and a place where, there was limited access to baseball on television. We were not in the local market of any major league

team and were limited to national telecasts. Yes, you guessed it. I was one of those kids who went to bed in the summer with a transistor radio next to his ear.

Our location in the mountains of Virginia further limited access to the games because of reception issues. Most games sounded like there were horrific thunderstorms right outside the broadcast booth. I called them "Rice Krispy" games - snap, crackle, pop. So, many of the radio guys I list here worked at 50,000 watt stations (look it up) that were able to penetrate the "Montgomery County market." Here go some memories.

HARRY CARAY. Later, the longtime TV guy for WGN out of Chicago, doing Cub games from Wrigley Field after a brief flirtation with the White Sox. His "Chicago period" came after he had been exiled as the voice of the St. Louis Cardinals for reasons I won't write about. I listened to him on KMOX from St. Louis and had the pleasure of meeting his widow just a few years ago at the Harry Caray Bar in Chicago. Harry was famous for singing "Take me out to the Ballgame" from his booth during the seventh-inning stretch at Wrigley and for occasionally broadcasting with his shirt off while sitting in the stands with the Cub Bleacher Bums.

BOB PRINCE. The Gunner. Longtime Pirate announcer. Just as interesting and idiosyncratic as Harry. I got him on KDKA from the Burgh. He made any game interesting on the radio, regardless of the score or the lack of action.

Had so many catch phrases they could fill a book: "a bloop and a blast" (a cheap hit and a homer), "can of corn" (easy fly ball), "kiss it goodbye" (yelled when the Pirates homered), and "we had 'em all the way" (his iconic sign off after a close Bucs win). Graced the Pirates broadcast booth from 1948-1975 with a brief return in 1985.

JOE NUXHALL. Still the youngest player in MLB history. A left-handed pitcher (more on that later), he debuted for the Cincinnati Reds during World War II at AGE 15. There was a player shortage during the war, which led to Joe, as well as to Pete Gray, a one-armed outfielder for the St. Louis Browns during this period. Nuxhall did Reds games from the time of his retirement as a player in 1967 until his death in 2007. I loved his sign-off at the end of his broadcasts: "This is the old left hander, rounding third and headed for home." He did it for 40 years.

CHUCK THOMPSON. Iconic radio guy for the Baltimore Orioles and television guy for the Baltimore Colts. Perhaps the greatest voice in the history of sports broadcasting. My Dad and I listened to him do O's games on an FM station out of Roanoke in the mid 1960's. I can still hear him coming on the air touting a beer (Carling Black Label or National Bohemian - Natty Bo - I think), saying, "Here we are on the shores of the Chesapeake Bay, the Land of Pleasant Living." Chuck was a WW II hero, winning medals at the Battle of the Bulge, and a true

gentleman. He also had many catch phrases when his beloved Orioles did something good: "Ain't the beer cold?" and "Let's go, Miss Agnes" were two of my favorites. The voice of the Colts during the Johnny Unitas years.

MEL ALLEN. Longtime radio broadcaster for the New York Yankees. Real name was Melvin Allen Israel. He also had a distinguished career as a college football play-by-play guy, doing his first game while still a student at the University of Alabama where he was pals with future legendary coach Bear Bryant. Allen teamed for several years with Phil Rizzuto and Jerry Coleman on Yankee games and was probably the most famous sports broadcaster of the 1950's. He was unceremoniously canned by the Evil Empire (the Yankees) around the time when iconic Yankee manager Casey Stengel was also let go. This started the Curse of the Pinstripes (just kidding, but it should have). I have a high quality DVD of the seventh game of the 1960 World Series, the legendary game when Bill Mazeroski hit a homer in the bottom of the ninth to win the series for the Pirates over the Yanks, still the only World Series to end on a walk-off homer in the seventh game. Fittingly, the announcers for this NBC broadcast were Mel Allen and Bob Prince.

VIN SCULLY. The GOAT. No list of baseball play-by-play guys could be complete without Vinny. Since all of my listening life has been spent on the East Coast, and since Vin spent most of his baseball radio life on the Left Coast, my

time with him was largely from his NBC days. But he is best known for his days with the Dodgers, in Brooklyn from 1952 (fresh out of Fordham) through 1958, and then in Los Angeles until his retirement at the end of the 2016 season at age 88. Vin was so influential in the early years of games in L.A. that every fan at the park was said to have a transistor radio and would not cheer until his broadcast had confirmed what they had just seen. I bought the MLB package his last several years in part to hear Vin do the games. His autobiography is "Pull up a Chair."

Out of space to list other great baseball announcers. Apologies to the likes of Red Barber (Dodgers) and then Yankees and then NPR) and Russ Hodges (Giants) and Marty Brennaman (Reds) and Jack Buck (Cardinals) and Lindsay Nelson (Mets) and Harry Kalas (Phillies) and Joe Castiglione (Red Sox) and Ernie Harwell (Tigers) and many more.

Doing this column reminds me of Terry Cashman's great song "I Saw it on the Radio." Listen to it sometime.

And if you need a baseball fix, go on the web and try to find some of these great voices. They sound like summer to me.

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.

Even the cold weather has its merits

Slim Randles Home Country

It's natural to mumble nasty things about the cold weather. We all do it from time to time. But even the cold has its merits.

One big plus is that it makes fireplaces a reasonable addition to our lives. In cold weather, we can build a fire in our home with a clear conscience. This is something that doesn't translate well to summer heat, but when it's cold, here comes the fire.

Strange, isn't it, our love affair with a fireplace? Makes absolutely no sense. Today, we can make houses so impervious to cold that every time we light a candle, the temperature goes

up ten degrees. So what do we do? We cut a hole in this sealed anti-cold unit so we can sit and look at the flames, the way our ancestors have done since they learned to walk upright and invented kindling.

But we don't care. We'll spend a lot of extra money to buy a house with a fireplace and not think a thing about it. Because this fireplace is the spiritual center of a home, as it's always been. It's the gathering place. It's the place to read, to learn, to meet and tell stories. It's the core of our universe.

The fireplace – and those waiting for us there – is what we dream about when we're miles from home in the woods or desert. It warms us, inside

and out, cooks our food, and answers our questions.

Questions? Sure. When the fire's burning low, and you can just see the little blue lick flames curling around the glowing embers late at night and when we've about talked out the day's adventures, we can look at those embers and find answers to questions we didn't even know we had. And we feel sorry for people who don't have these advantages.

Brought to you by the genuine cowboy music and musings of Steve Cormier up in New Mexico's Sandia Mountains. Check him out at stevecormier.net.

Virginia gas prices still going up

Average gasoline prices in Virginia rose 4.0 cents per gallon last week, averaging \$3.43/g Monday, Feb. 28, according to GasBuddy's survey of 4,081 stations in the commonwealth. Prices in Virginia are 24.1 cents per gallon higher than a month ago and stand 81.2 cents per gallon higher than a year ago.

According to GasBuddy price reports, the cheapest station in Virginia was priced at \$2.95/g Monday while the most expensive was \$4.15/g, a difference of \$1.20/g.

The national average price of gasoline rose 7.5 cents per gallon in the last week, averaging \$3.59/g Monday. The national average is up 23.2 cents per gallon from a month ago and stands 87.6 cents

per gallon higher than a year ago, according to GasBuddy data compiled from more than 11 million weekly price reports covering over 150,000 gas stations across the country.

"The Russian invasion of Ukraine has sparked high level concern that oil production could eventually be stifled, or even sanctioned, from the world's second largest oil producer, leading to less supply as demand grows," said Patrick De Haan, head of petroleum analysis at GasBuddy. "That possibility has pushed up the national average price of gasoline considerably in the last week, and the situation could worsen at any time, keeping gas prices elevated for the foreseeable future," said De Haan. "In

addition to the unstable situation with the Russian invasion, we're also entering the time of year that seasonality pushes gasoline prices up by anywhere from 25 to 75 cents by Memorial Day. It's simply looking like a perfect storm for motorists at the pump, with little to no relief anytime soon."

GasBuddy is the authoritative voice for gas prices and the only source for station-level data spanning nearly two decades. GasBuddy's survey updates 288 times every day from the most diverse list of sources covering nearly 150,000 stations nationwide, the most comprehensive and up-to-date in the country. GasBuddy data are accessible at http://prices.GasBuddy.com.

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- Missing soldiers
- Capital of Japan
- Diamond month (abbr.)
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- Philippine island & seaport
- Legally argued
- Belonging to singer Fitzgerald
- Bowler hats
- Has a strong odor
- Doyens
- London Gallery
- Rural delivery
- Rods
- Stonhenge plain
- Withdraw from membership
- Execute or perform
- Central or Yellowstone
- Municipality in Norway
- Bay of NW Rep. of Ireland
- Skin designs
- Son of Jephunneh
- Baseball's Ruth
- Clare Booth __, Am. writer
- Black tropical American cuckoo
- Filled with fear or apprehension
- 6th Jewish month
- Wide metal vessel used in cooking
- Make by pouring into a cast
- Columbian city
- Heat unit
- Carpenter, red and army
- Adam and Eve's garden

CLUES DOWN

- Big man on campus
- Made public by radio or television
- Labelled
- Inform positively
- Drinks habitually
- Supplemented with difficulty
- SW Scottish river & port
- American poet 1874-1963
- Pads
- Ingestion or intake
- Tie up a bird before cooking
- Bulrushes of the genus Scirpus
- Turned rod on a spinning wheel
- Having or covered with leaves
- The 44th U.S. Pres
- Midway between S and SE
- Tuberculosis (abbr.)
- Inspected accounting procedures
- A twilled woolen fabric
- Potato state
- The work of a sailor
- Involving 2 dimensions
- Fanatical or overzealous
- Consolation
- Wild sheep of north Africa
- Erect leafless flower bearing stalk
- Afrikaans
- Weighing device
- Very dry champagne
- Emerald Isle
- A resident of Benin

Submit letters
to the editor to
editor@ourvalley.org

Three NRV businesses named Best Places to Work in Virginia

Montgomery County, VA – According to Virginia Business Magazine, Modea, Aeroprobe, and Community Housing Partners (CHP) are three of the best places to work in Virginia.

The three companies were featured in the magazine's 12th Annual Best Places to Work in Virginia List.

Modea and Aeroprobe were both featured on the "Small Employers" (up to 99 U.S. employees) list, while CHP was featured on the "Large Employers" (over 250 U.S. employ-

ees) category.

Virginia Business Magazine worked with Best Companies Group out of Pennsylvania to compile the list. Employers were evaluated on categories such as number of paid holidays, retirement benefits, diversity training, and telecommuting options for employees. After evaluating the employers and compiling a list of the top 100 places to work in the commonwealth, Virginia Business divided the list into categories for large, medium, and small employers.



Aeroprobe, located at 200 Technology Drive in Christiansburg, has been listed among the best places to work in Virginia by Virginia Business Magazine. The company was included in the small employers list (up to 99 employees).

NRV Leading Lights volunteer award nominations deadline extended to March 8

Christiansburg – NRV Leading Lights is actively seeking volunteer award nominations and has extended the deadline until March 8, 2022.

Leading Lights awards are focused on the impact of a volunteer's work and leadership. The nomination form can be found online at www.leadinglightsnrv.org/nominations.

Those who have been nominated before but not selected as a Distinguished Recipient may be nominated again. Individuals and organizations are highly encour-

aged to submit nominations for outstanding New River Valley volunteers they know or volunteer with.

Administrators, teachers, guidance counselors, club sponsors, and youth mentors are asked to nominate young people for the high school and college awards. Groups and organizations cannot be nominated for awards.

Awardees are engaged in diverse volunteer activities across the NRV. Collectively they spend thousands of hours over their lifetimes volunteering with clothing banks, rescue

and disaster relief teams, as youth mentors, managing holiday programs, overseeing weekend food backpack programs, helping at local food kitchens, serving with civic groups, community building, and volunteering with many other local charitable activities and programs.

Awards are given in three categories: community (seven awards), high school (two awards), and college (two awards). In the community award category, an award is reserved for a volunteer in each county/city of the New River Valley (Floyd County, Giles County,

Pulaski County, Radford City), two in Montgomery County (due to population size), and one across the entire NRV to recognize lifetime volunteer achievement.

Nominees must be current residents of the NRV or, if being nominated for a student category, they must be currently enrolled in a school/college in the NRV. Distinguished Recipients in each category will be selected on the following criteria:

Strong community involvement; a demonstrated lifestyle of dedicated, continuous, long-term

involvement to the community; proven leadership; and creativity in initiating and implementing projects that lead to a better quality of life

The NRV Leading Lights organization recognizes volunteers in the New River Valley each year who are making community-changing impacts culminating in an annual celebratory event scheduled for April 12, 2022. The organization honors Distinguished Recipients by making a monetary donation to the non-profit of their choice.

PETS OF THE WEEK



Recardo is a gentle older cat looking for his purrfect match. He enjoys affection and attention. Recardo will happily nuzzle his favorite human's hand to get a pat on the head or scratch under his chin. Stop by the Animal Care and Adoption Center to meet this sweet boy.



Luna is a friendly gal who enjoys playing, exploring, and eating pawsome treats. From time to time, she shows off her singing skills by belting out a serenade of "wooning" sounds, as is the case with some Huskies. She is estimated to be 11 years old but tends to have the energy of a younger pup. In her time at the ACAC, Luna has shown that she gets along with other dogs.

Hokie Nation comes together for record Giving Day at Virginia Tech

Virginia Tech challenged its community, and, once again, that community responded in record fashion.

The university's fourth Giving Day resulted in 15,787 alumni, faculty, staff, students, parents, and friends coming together to celebrate Virginia Tech and give over \$8.4 million in support.

The number of donors and of dollars raised both set records. Giving Day 2021 saw nearly 12,400 donors contribute \$6.3 million, combined.

Giving Day 2022, which concluded at midnight Feb. 25, offered opportunities for Hokie Nation to give back to a host of departments, programs, student organizations, and teams of their choosing.

"Giving Day has become an important tradition that allows our far-reaching Virginia Tech community to join in a show of support for the university's comprehensive global mission," said Virginia Tech President Tim Sands. "We are grateful for the generosity of all the supporters who are helping us advance education, research, and our commonwealth's future."

Giving Day donations will go to a wide variety of the university's colleges and programs, benefiting students and faculty from all disciplines, as well as numerous communities that are served by Virginia Tech's broad outreach and engagement. Largely an online affair, Giving Day was originally scheduled to run for 24 hours starting at noon Feb. 23. After systems were temporarily overwhelmed during a period of high website traffic the morning of Feb. 24, the event was extended to midnight so that everyone who wanted to participate would get the chance.

"Yet again, the Virginia Tech community has come together for an unprecedented show of support," said Brittany Staggers, the university's assistant director for digital philanthropy, who also co-chaired the Giving Day initiative. "The generosity of Hokie Nation in backing current and future Hokies is overwhelming and is a wonderful example of the spirit that permeates everyone associated with this university. We're so grateful to everyone who contributed."

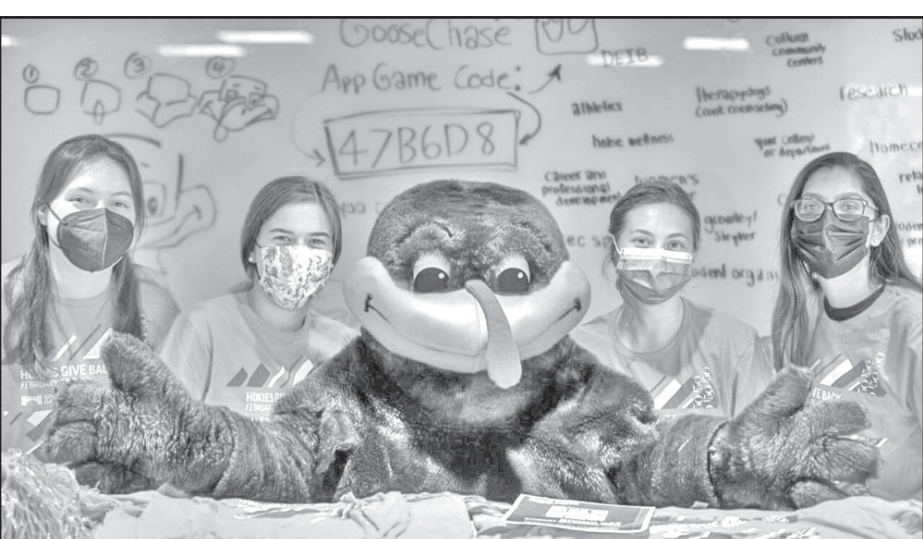
Virginia Tech received

gifts from Hokies in all 50 states and in 29 countries outside the United States.

Much of the credit for this global generosity goes to Virginia Tech's 1,088 Giving Day ambassadors, who along with donating promoted Giving Day to their networks of friends, family, and colleagues, using social media and other means. Paul '97 and Jennifer '99 Reeder of Nokesville, Va., were among those ambassadors.

"As we pick our own paths through life, whether developing a career, chasing a passion, or finding other important ways to support our families and communities, distance builds between us and our alma mater," said Paul Reeder, who also serves as the campaign committee chair for the Student Affairs Alumni Advisory Board. "But Virginia Tech is different, and it's noteworthy how many alumni remain connected to the university."

Jennifer Reeder said, "Giving Day provides an opportunity to consciously remember that and give to Virginia Tech so that current and future students have the same benefits and opportunities that we had."



Student volunteers for Giving Day alongside the HokieBird in Squires Student Center. Photo by Ray Meese for Virginia Tech.



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Virginia Department of Transportation road watch

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

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

LANE CLOSURES:
A left lane closure will be in place on I-81 northbound between mile marker 104-106 beginning at 8 p.m. on Saturday, March 26, through 7 a.m. on Sunday morning, March 27.

Right lane closures may be in place on I-81 northbound between mile markers 104-105 during nighttime hours, 7 p.m. to 5 a.m. the following morning.

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

I-81 BRIDGE REPLACEMENT AT EXIT 114 IN MONTGOMERY COUNTY – The bridge replacement of the two Interstate 81 bridges over Route 8, northbound and southbound, is nearing completion. Remaining work involves lighting installations at the intersections and under the bridges. Lane closures may be possible. Work zone and reduced speed limit signs have been removed on I-81. Estimated completion is early 2022.

ROUTE 615 CULVERT REPLACEMENT – Beginning April

11, 2022, Route 615 (Pilot Road) will undergo a culvert replacement located at the intersection of Pilot Road and Old Pike Road, across from the Pilot Post Office. Single lane closures will be in place and will be maintained by utilizing temporary traffic signals. Lane closures on RTE 615 are expected to begin on 5/2/2022 and will be in place through August 2022. Expected completion is October 2022.

ROUTE 643 PAVING PROJECT – Beginning soon, exact date to be determined, a project is being scheduled to resurface an unpaved portion of Route 643 (Yellow Sulfur Road). The work area begins .7 mile south of the intersection with Route 642 (Jennelle Road) and ends 1.7 miles north of the bridge over Route 460. Traffic impacts will include intermittent flagging operations between these intersections. This project has an estimated completion date of May 2022.

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

ROUTE 636 BRIDGE REPLACEMENT AT SENECA HOLLOW – The bridge opened to traffic on February 4. Some residual work continues. There will be intermittent single lane closures with a flagging operation in place between the hours of 7 a.m. and 6 p.m., throughout the remainder of the project.

UTILITY WORK ON ROUTE 460 - MMI will be installing fiber optic along Route 460 and Route 8 from the Giles County line to the Floyd County line. This work will be ongoing. Motorists should expect shoulders and/or lane closures for travel in both directions.

INTERSTATE 81 LANE WIDENING CONSTRUCTION EXIT 137 TO EXIT 141 – A \$179 million design-build project to widen both directions of I-81 between mile markers 136.6 and 141.8 from two to three lanes is set to begin. Continuing into the early summer, work will be performed on the inside and outside shoulders along a five mile section of both northbound and southbound Interstate 81 in Roanoke County and the city of Salem. The shoulders will be built up before a barrier wall can be installed for road crews

to work behind. The barrier wall will be installed along the shoulders in the spring and summer. Two lanes of I-81 traffic in each direction will remain open during the project with periodic lane closures scheduled during nighttime hours or outside of peak travel times as needed. Drivers can expect the following lane closures and upcoming impacts on northbound and southbound I-81:

Through mid-April, daytime right shoulder closures between 9 a.m. and 3 p.m., Monday through Thursday

From mid-March until mid-June, nighttime right lane and shoulder closures between 8 p.m. and 6 a.m., Sunday through Thursday

From mid-May to mid-June, alternating left and right lane and shoulder closures during nighttime hours between 8 p.m. and 6 a.m., Sunday through Thursday

The project also includes replacing six bridges, widening two bridges, installing approximately 2.6 miles of sound barrier walls along northbound I-81, improving the southbound exit 137 off-ramp intersection at Wildwood Road and adding interchange lighting at exits 137, 140 and 141 are also included in the project. Expected completion in early 2026.

I-81 TROUTVILLE REST AREA CLOSURE - The Troutville Rest Area located on southbound Interstate 81 near mile marker 158 in Botetourt County will be closed from late May 2022 until early September 2022. This project will extend the ramp into the rest area by 500 feet and the ramp out of the rest area by 2,100 feet. It will also include expanding the truck parking area at the facility by about 10-13 spaces. Visitors to the rest area may see some preliminary work, such as drainage improvements, as early as this spring. However, the major construction will begin after Memorial Day, and the rest area facility, ramps and parking lot will be closed to the public from late May until early September. Work is expected to be completed in early fall 2022.

INTERSTATE 81 BRIDGE HEIGHT RESTRICTIONS – Due to bridge painting, several height restrictions are in place along I-81 north and southbound. Maximum height allowed is 14'6" at the following bridges over I-81 at the

mile marker locations of 135, 109 and 108 through early February. Overheight vehicles will need to be rerouted. Message boards are in place.

INTERSTATE 81 LANE WIDENING CONSTRUCTION EXIT 141 TO EXIT 143 – A project to widen the lanes on I-81 in Roanoke in both northbound and southbound directions between Exit 141 to Exit 143 has been underway. All lanes now open and will remain open through winter with periodic lane closures at night as needed. The final surface paving and markings for northbound will resume with the next paving season in spring 2022. Drivers can expect rough pavement. Estimated completion date of the project is summer 2022.

I-81 BRIDGE DECK REPAIRS – Weather permitting, crews will repair bridge decks on Interstate 81. Between mile markers 147 to 162, right and left lane closures will be in place northbound and southbound during nighttime hours, 9 p.m. to 6 a.m. the following morning. Drivers should watch for signs and expect possible delays.

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

INTERSTATE 581 ROUTE 581 BRIDGE WORK OVER WILLIAMSON ROAD – Work is currently suspended. Rehab on the bridge on I-581 that crosses over Route 11 (Williamson Road) in Downtown Roanoke will resume in spring. On Route 11 (Williamson Road) drivers can expect intermittent and alternating lane closures between the intersections with Rutherford Avenue and Wells Avenue. Intermittent daytime and nighttime lane closures between the intersections above might be required, and will be in place utilizing flagging operations. Any impacts to I-581 will be minimal. The project is expected to be complete in the summer of 2022.

LANE CLOSURES:

A left lane closure will be in place on northbound and southbound I-581 from mile marker 0-1, Monday at 7 a.m. through Wednesday at 7 p.m.

A right lane closure will be in place on northbound and southbound I-581 from mile marker 0-1, Thursday at 7 a.m. through Saturday at 7 p.m.

A left and center lane closure will be in place on northbound and southbound I-581 from mile marker 0-1, Saturday at 5 p.m. through Sunday at 2 p.m.

A right lane closure may be in place on Route 11 northbound between the intersections of Rutherford Avenue and Wells Avenue periodically.

Nighttime left lane closures for both the northbound and southbound directions of Route 11 are possible between the intersections referenced above.

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

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

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

Left or right lane closures may be in place on I-581 northbound from Orange Avenue to Valley View Boulevard from 6 a.m. to 6 p.m.

Left or right lane closures may be in place on I-581 from Valley View Boulevard to Orange Avenue from 6 a.m. to 6 p.m.

Flagging operations may be in place on Liberty Road NW from Lukens Street NE to Hunt Avenue NW from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.

ONLINE AUCTION

Ends Friday March 18th @ 3PM

Farm for Sale in Floyd VA!

432 Bluebird Rd, Floyd VA 24091

Bid Now at VaAuctionPro.com



You have the opportunity to purchase prime farmland for sale in Floyd County VA. There are 2 offerings being sold at online auction. Offering 1 consists of +/- 30.5 acres and Offering 2 consists of +/- 25 acres. See offering descriptions below. For maps and other information, download the bidder pack linked below.

Offering 1 – This offering features +/- 30 acres of great pastureland with incredible views of Wills Ridge and Buffalo Mountain. There is a small pond on the tract which could be stocked and used for fishing! Approximately 4 acres of this offering is wooded and there are a few old farm buildings. Buy this property for farming, hunting, recreational use or for building a country home with views!

Offering 2 – This offering features +/- 25 acres with a 2 story 3 bedroom, 1 bath farmhouse. The home is on a well & septic and was built around 1900. There is a granary and a few old barns along with a small log cabin with rock chimney. The cabin is overlooking a small pond which would be great for fishing if kept stocked. Buy this property and enjoy the views of Buffalo Mountain and Wills Ridge. The land is mostly rolling pasture and would be great for farming. You could also purchase this property for hunting, recreational use or as a homestead.

Preview on Saturday March 5th @ 11 AM

Terms: 10% Buyer's Premium will be added to final high bid to arrive at contract price. Earnest Money Deposit of \$5,000 per tract required on 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. Download Bidder Pack at VaAuctionPro.com

Contact Broker/Auctioneer Matt Gallimore at 540-239-2585 or email Gallimore.matt@gmail.com; you can also contact Auctioneer/Realtor Terry Thompson at 540-230-2971 or email thompsonrealestate@swva.net

102 S. Locust Street,
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Blue Ridge Land & Auction Co., Inc

OBITUARIES

Estes, Frederick Eugene

Frederick Eugene Estes, "Freddie," of Riner, born Feb. 14, 1944, passed away Thursday, Feb. 24, 2022 from injuries sustained from a vehicle accident.

He was preceded in death by his parents, James Butler, Sr., and Mariam Gustava (Hoover) Estes; a son, Jeffrey Scott Estes; a grandson, Gregory Scott Estes; a grand-nephew, Dakotah Booth; and brothers Junior, Jim, Phillip, Don, and Rodger Estes.

He leaves to cherish his memory his sister, Evelyn Harrison; his sister-in-law, Mary Ann Estes; his son, Gregory Estes (Corina); his grandsons, Noah and Jeffrey Estes; his granddaughter, Misty Estes; his great-grandchildren, Kileigh and Logan; special nieces Debbie (Benjy) Bishop, Tammy (David) Booth, and Jean (Clinton) Marshall; a nephew, Bryan Harrison (Brenda); grand-nieces Desirae Booth,



Jamie (Spencer) Jamison, Kayli Harrison, and Krystin (Ethan) Aronson; grand-nephews, Talon and Caiden Booth and Logan Bishop; and four daughters along with numerous other family members.

Fred was an avid race car fan and also drove a race car in his youth. He looked forward to every day at Eagle Express making coffee and talking with those who

came in. He cherished every friendship he made. "Boy, Boy, Boy," Fred we are going to miss you so much.

Funeral services were conducted Tuesday, March 1, 2022, in the McCoy Funeral Home Chapel with Pastor Frankie Graham officiating. Interment followed in Roselawn Memorial Gardens, Christiansburg. In lieu of flowers, in honor of Fred's love for animals, donations can be made to Mountain View Humane 225 Industrial Drive, Christiansburg, Va. 24073.

Wynn, Jack

Jack Wynn, 76, passed away peacefully at his home in Blacksburg on Tuesday, Feb. 22, 2022 surrounded by loving family.

Jack was born April 5, 1945, in Gilmer, Texas, and was a veteran of the US Air Force. He was a Roanoke Police officer and a retired Norfolk Southern Police Detective.

Jack was preceded in death by his parents, B.B. and Jewel Evelyn (Adams) Wynn; his stepmother, Eva Wynn; his half-sister and brother-in-law, Winnie "Tootie" and Joe Miller; and his brother-in-law, Hubert Grayley.

He is survived by his loving wife of 53 years, Joyce (Kirk); a sister, Norene Gravelly, of Longview, Texas; a brother, Byron, and wife, Margie Wynn of Conroe, Texas; a daughter and son-in-law, Jenny and Philip, and a granddaughter, Faith Cooper, of Harrison, Tenn.; a step-grandson



and his wife, Christopher and Laura Cooper, of Deer Park, Ohio; a son, Jay, and grandsons Jack and Jared Wynn of Blacksburg; a daughter, Jessica, and a grandson, Braydon, and a granddaughter, Ashlee Mangrum of Longview, Texas.

A celebration of life will be held at Belmont Christian Church, 1500 Peppers Ferry Rd. Christiansburg, on Saturday, March 5 at 1 p.m. with family visitation one hour before. Entombment will be held at Memorial Gardens at 3 p.m.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to the UVA Cancer Center in honor of Jack Wynn and Dr. Mike Williams. Mail donations to: UVA Division of Hematology & Oncology, Lymphoma Research fund Dr. Michael Williams, Box 800716 UVA Cancer Center 1300 JPA, Charlottesville, VA 22908.



Marketplace



The Fincastle Herald | The Vinton Messenger | The New Castle Record | Salem Times Register | News Messenger | RADFORD News Journal

Wanted - To Buy

Cash paid
Coin Collections
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540-988-2420

For Sale - Firewood

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Call 540-529-2745
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For Sale - Misc

FOR SALE
Unprinted end rolls of newsprint. 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 - Drivers

HELP WANTED!!!!

Our construction company located in Buchanan is seeking individuals for CDL CLASS A or B driver positions. Must be available for all shifts including out of town work if needed. MUST HAVE A VALID DRIVERS LICENSE. Pay starting at \$18.00 for Class A with no construction experience and higher with experience!!! Many benefits available. Please submit resumes by fax to 540-254-2659. An application can also be submitted on our website at www.sandrasmarking.com <<http://www.sandrasmarking.com>>. If there are any questions, we can be reached at 540-254-2140. We are an Equal Opportunity Employer.

Help Wanted - General

Quality Inn Radford
Hiring Full-Part Time Front Desk Clerk/Night Auditor and Housekeeping. Apply in Person. Ph-540-639-3000

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

Legals - Botetourt County

TRUSTEE'S SALE OF 904 CRAIG CREEK ROAD, EAGLE ROCK, VA 24085.

In execution of a certain Deed of Trust dated October 28, 2005, in the original principal amount of \$53,200.00 recorded in the Clerk's Office, Circuit Court for Botetourt County, Virginia as Instrument No. 050006912. The undersigned Substitute Trustee will offer for sale at public auction in the front of the Circuit Court building for Botetourt County, Main Street, Fincastle, VA 24090 on April 4, 2022, at 5:00 PM, the property described in said Deed of Trust, located at the above address, and more particularly described as follows: A CERTAIN STRIP OF LAND SITUATE ON THE NORTH SIDE OF STATE HIGHWAY ROUTE #615 ABOUT ONE AND ONE-HALF MILES WEST OF THE HOME OF R. E. ROBINSON AND FLORA S. ROBINSON, AND BEING LOCATED BETWEEN STATE ROUTE NO. 615 AS NOW LOCATED AND OLD COUNTRY ROAD NO. 615; THENCE IN AN EASTERLY DIRECTION WITH THE MEANDERS OF OLD COUNTRY ROAD TO A STAKE ON SOUTH SIDE OF SAID OLD COUNTRY ROAD; THENCE IN A SOUTHERLY DIRECTION, PASSING ONE FOOT WEST OF A LARGE LOCUST TREE, IN A STRAIGHT LINE STATE ROUTE NO. 615; THENCE IN A WESTERLY DIRECTION WITH THE

Legals - Botetourt County

NORTH RIGHT-OF-WAY LINE OF STATE ROUTE NO. 615, TO THE POINT OF BEGINNING, CONTAINING ONE ACRE, MORE OR LESS. ALSO KNOWN AS TAX MAP NUMBER 27B(1)SEC 9-14-19. TERMS OF SALE: ALL CASH. A bidder's deposit of ten percent (10%) of the sale price or ten percent (10%) of the original principal balance of the subject Deed of Trust, whichever is lower, in the form of cash or certified funds payable to the Substitute Trustee must be present at the time of the sale. The balance of the purchase price will be due within fifteen (15) days of sale, otherwise Purchaser's deposit may be forfeited to Trustee. Time is of the essence. If the sale is set aside for any reason, the Purchaser at the sale shall be entitled to a return of the deposit paid. The Purchaser may, if provided by the terms of the Trustee's Memorandum of Foreclosure Sale, be entitled to a \$50 cancellation fee from the Substitute Trustee, but shall have no further recourse against the Mortgagor, the Mortgagor or the Mortgagee's attorney. A form copy of the Trustee's memorandum of foreclosure sale and contract to purchase real property is available for viewing at www.bwvsa.com. **BIDDERS ARE STRONGLY ENCOURAGED TO WEAR A COVER OVER BOTH NOSE AND MOUTH AND PRACTICE SOCIAL DISTANCING AT THE AUCTION.** Additional terms, if any, to be announced at the sale and the Purchaser may be given the option to execute the contract of sale electronically. This is a communication from a debt collector and any information obtained will be used for that purpose. The sale is subject to seller confirmation. Substitute Trustee: Equity Trustees, LLC, 8100 Three Chopt Road, Suite 240, Richmond, VA 23229. For more information contact: BWV Law Group, LLC, attorneys for Equity Trustees, LLC, 6003 Executive Blvd, Suite 101, Rockville, MD 20852, 301-961-6555, website: www.bwvsa.com. VA-333688-2.

TRUSTEE'S SALE OF 984 BLUERIDGE DRIVE, BLUE RIDGE, VA 24064.

In execution of a certain Deed of Trust dated January 24, 2006, in the original principal amount of \$149,377.15 recorded in the Clerk's Office, Circuit Court for Botetourt County, Virginia, in Book 0000 at Page 0026 as Instrument No. 060000515. The undersigned Substitute Trustee will offer for sale at public auction in the front of the Circuit Court building for Botetourt County, Main Street, Fincastle, VA 24090 on April 4, 2022, at 5:00 PM, the property described in said Deed of Trust, located at the above address, and more particularly described as follows: THAT CERTAIN LOT OR PARCEL OF LAND, WITH ALL THE APPURTENANCES THEREUNTO BELONGING, LYING AND BEING IN THE COUNTY OF BOTETOURT, STATE OF VIRGINIA, AND MORE PARTICULARLY DESCRIBED AS FOLLOWS, TO-WIT: BEING LOT 26, BLOCK F, SECTION NO. 4, ACCORDING TO THE MAP OF BLUE RIDGE HEIGHTS, RECORDED IN PLAT BOOK 4, PAGE 146, IN THE CLERK'S OFFICE OF THE CIRCUIT COURT FOR THE COUNTY OF BOTETOURT, VIRGINIA. TERMS OF SALE: ALL CASH. A bidder's deposit of ten percent (10%) of the sale price or ten percent (10%) of the original principal balance of the subject Deed of Trust, whichever is lower, in the form of cash or certified funds payable to the Substitute Trustee must be present at the time of the sale. The balance of the purchase price will be due within fifteen (15) days of sale, otherwise Purchaser's deposit may be forfeited to Trustee. Time is of the essence. If the sale is set aside for any reason, the Purchaser at the sale shall be entitled to a return of the deposit paid. The Purchaser may, if provided by the terms of the Trustee's

Legals - Botetourt County

Memorandum of Foreclosure Sale, be entitled to a \$50 cancellation fee from the Substitute Trustee, but shall have no further recourse against the Mortgagor, the Mortgagee or the Mortgagee's attorney. A form copy of the Trustee's memorandum of foreclosure sale and contract to purchase real property is available for viewing at www.bwvsa.com. **BIDDERS ARE STRONGLY ENCOURAGED TO WEAR A COVER OVER BOTH NOSE AND MOUTH AND PRACTICE SOCIAL DISTANCING AT THE AUCTION.** Additional terms, if any, to be announced at the sale and the Purchaser may be given the option to execute the contract of sale electronically. This is a communication from a debt collector and any information obtained will be used for that purpose. The sale is subject to seller confirmation. Substitute Trustee: Equity Trustees, LLC, 8100 Three Chopt Road, Suite 240, Richmond, VA 23229. For more information contact: BWV Law Group, LLC, attorneys for Equity Trustees, LLC, 6003 Executive Blvd, Suite 101, Rockville, MD 20852, 301-961-6555, website: www.bwvsa.com. VA-350877-1.

Legals - City of Radford

ORDER OF PUBLICATION COMMONWEALTH OF VIRGINIA VA. CODE §§ 1-211.1; 8.01-316. -317, 20-104 Case No. CL21006521-00 Radford Circuit Court 619 SECOND STREET, 24141 KESSINGER, JOSEPH L. v. KESSINGER, PATRICIA G. The object of this suit is to: TO OBTAIN A DICORCE FROM THE BOND OF MATRIMONY It is ORDERED that PATRICIA G. KESSINGER appear at the above-named court and protect his/her interests on or before APRIL 5, 2022.

February 8, 2022
Angel Turpin
Deputy Clerk

Legals - City of Salem

PUBLIC HEARING

The City of Salem School Board will hold a public hearing for comment on the FY 2022-2023 budget on **Tuesday, March 8, 2022.** The hearing will begin at 7:00 PM at the School Administrative Office, 510 South College Avenue, Salem. Any citizen of Salem who wishes to address the Board should contact Kathy A. Jordan, Clerk of the Board, at 389-0130 by Monday, March 7, in order to be placed on the agenda. Individuals who plan to address the Board are requested to: • provide their name and address, • address their remarks to the Board, • be brief, • provide a copy of their remarks for the record, and • be prepared to answer questions from the Board. • In unusual cases or cases of emergency, the Board, by consensus, may allow an individual or organization to speak if not on the agenda.

ORDER OF PUBLICATION COMMONWEALTH OF VIRGINIA VA. CODE §§ 1-211.1; 8.01-316, -317, 20-104 Case No. CL22000168-00

ROANOKE COUNTY Circuit Court 305 East Main Street, Salem, Virginia VICK, BROOKLYN RAYNE v. VAUGHT, BROOKLYN RAYNE The object of this suit is to: NAME CHANGE OF MINOR It is ORDERED that CECIL DURAN VICK appear at the above-named court and protect his/her interests on or before 04-01-2022 @ 11:30 AM

FEB 18 2022
Benjamin Guarrant
Deputy Clerk

Legals - City of Salem

Notice of Public Sale

Notice is hereby given that Storage King USA 201 Berkley Rd.NE. Roanoke VA 24012 will sell the contents of the storage units listed below at a public auction to satisfy a lien placed on the contents (Virginia Statute 55). The sell will take place at the website Storage Treasures.com on 03/15/2022 at 9:00 am. The sale will be conducted on Storage Treasures.com, under the guidance of Christopher Rosa (2907004316) on the behalf of the facility's management. Units will be available for viewing prior to the sale on Storage Treasures.com. Contents will be sold for cash only to the highest bidder. A 15% buyer's premium will be charged as well as a \$100 cleaning deposit per unit. All sales are final. Seller reserves the right to withdraw the property at any time before the sale or to refuse any bids. The property to be sold is described as "general household items" unless otherwise noted. 292-Annie Saunders-household goods.

Legals - Montgomery County

ORDER OF PUBLICATION

Commonwealth of Virginia VA CODE § 8.01-316 **Case No. JJ018698-15** Montgomery County Juvenile and Domestic Relations District Court MCDSS /v. Charles E. Barkley, Jr. The object of this suit is to: Terminate the residual parental rights of Charles E. Barkley, Jr. legal parent of James Barkley a minor, in that said parent has, without good cause, failed to correct the conditions which resulted in the child entering foster care and it is not reasonably likely that they will be able to do so in a reasonable amount of time, failed to maintain continuing contact with the child and substantially plan for the child's future. Residual parental rights include, but are not limited to the right to visitation, consent to adoption, the right to determine religious affiliation, and the responsibility for support. The termination of your residual parental rights will permanently end all of your rights and responsibilities to the child named in the petition. It is ORDERED that Charles E. Barkley, Jr. appear at the above-named Court and protect her interests on or before March 14, 2022.

2-1-22
Amie Blankenship
Clerk

TRUSTEE'S SALE OF PROPERTY 1564 Alleghany Spring Road, Shawsville, VA 20158

Tax Map No. 097-A113A, Parcel ID 150126
In execution of a Deed of Trust dated March 3, 2008, in the principal amount of \$104,607.92, recorded in the Clerk's Office of the Circuit Court of Montgomery County, Virginia, of record as Instrument Number 08002073, Woods Rogers PLC, Trustee, will offer for sale at public auction outside the main entrance of the Montgomery County Circuit Court, 55 East Main Street, Christiansburg, VA 24073, on March 22, 2022 at 12:00 noon, the property described in said Deed of Trust lying in Montgomery County, Virginia, and further described as follows:

All of Lot 1, containing 1.695 acres, as shown on a plat of survey entitled, PLAT Showing Relocation/Vacation of Lot lines, for Timothy L. Wimmer and James L. Wimmer & Grace Kelley-Wimmer, Plan No. P-6912, dated August 16, 2007, revised December 10, 2007, prepared by Marvi D. Stine, L.S., of Highland Surveys P.C., which plat of survey is recorded in the Clerk's Office of the Circuit Court of Montgomery County, Virginia, as PB 28, pg 67.

TERMS: Cash - Bidder's deposit of ten percent (10%)

Legals - Montgomery County

of the sales price by cashier's or certified check may be required. Balance of purchase price shall be due and payable not later than ten (10) days after sale.

WOODS ROGERS PLC, Trustee

For Information Contact: Woods Rogers PLC, P.O. Box 14125, Roanoke, VA 24038-4125, Telephone: 540-983-7729

Legals - Town of Vinton

LEGAL NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN:

Pursuant to the provisions of Section 15.2-2204 of the 1950 Code of Virginia, as amended, the **Town Council** of the Town of Vinton, Virginia hereby gives notice of a public hearing to be held on **Tuesday, March 15, 2022, at 6:00 p.m.**, or as soon thereafter as the matter may be heard, in the Council Chambers of the Vinton Municipal Building, 311 South Pollard Street, Vinton, Virginia.

The purpose of the public hearing is to receive comments concerning: An ordinance repealing in its entirety the Vinton Town Code, Appendix B - Zoning Ordinance as adopted by Ordinance 634, enacted December 19, 1995, with amendments, and adopting by reference the Zoning Ordinance of the Town of Vinton, Vinton, Virginia.

Further information concerning this public hearing may be obtained in the Planning and Zoning Department located at 311 South Pollard Street, Vinton, VA 24179, (540) 983-0605, between 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Interested persons may be heard at the above public hearing.

Given under my hand this 3rd day of February, 2022.

Richard W. Peters, Jr.
Town Manager

NOTICE OF INTENT TO COMPLY WITH THE AMERICANS WITH DISABILITIES ACT. Reasonable efforts will be made to provide assistance or special arrangements to qualified individuals with disabilities in order to participate in or attend the meetings. Please call (540) 983-0605 at least 48 hours prior to the meeting so that proper arrangements may be made.

LEGAL NOTICE TOWN OF VINTON, VIRGINIA NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

Please be advised that the Vinton Town Council will hold a public hearing at its meeting on Tuesday, April 5, 2022, at 6:00 p.m. or as soon thereafter as the matter may be heard, in the Council Chambers of the Vinton Municipal Building, located at 311 South Pollard Street, Vinton, Virginia, on the following, to-wit:

TO SET A PERSONAL PROPERTY TAX RATE OF NOT MORE THAN \$1.00 PER \$100 ASSESSED VALUATION IN THE TOWN OF VINTON.

TO SET A MACHINERY AND TOOLS TAX RATE OF NOT MORE THAN \$1.00 PER \$100 ASSESSED VALUATION IN THE TOWN OF VINTON.

Persons requiring special assistance to attend and participate at this public hearing should contact the Town Manager's office at (540) 983-0607.

Susan N. Johnson
Town Clerk

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MONTGOMERY SPORTS

Blue Demon Baylee Reasor headed to E&H for softball

Marty Gordon
NRVsports@ourvalley.org

Christiansburg softball standout Baylee Reasor is looking forward to this spring's high school season, and this week she announced her plans to continue her career at Emory & Henry College.

"I chose E&H because I fell in love with the campus the first time I toured," she said. "I had already been on board with the athletic side of Emory, but I was very excited to find out that they are just as competitive academically. I have always known that I didn't want to go to a very big school. Growing up near colleges like Radford and Virginia Tech, I have learned that I appreciate the more intimate relationships with my professors; and that I learn better in a smaller classroom environment."

Last year's E&H softball team finished the season ranked 13th in NCAA Division III, posting a 3-2 record in the NCAA Division III Tournament, the deepest postseason run in program history. The Wasps (29-9, 13-3 Old Dominion Ath-

letic Conference (ODAC)) fell in the regional championship to national runner-up Texas Lutheran University to finish tied for ninth in the tournament.

The Southwest Virginia school moves up to Division II competition this spring as Tommy Forrester enters his ninth year as head softball coach. Forrester's teams have played in three of the last four NCAA Division III national tournaments (2017, 2019, 2021), and he has amassed 191 wins in his first eight years, second-most in program history.

The squad includes three area players: Makayla Dowdy (Blacksburg), Emily Scaggs (Auburn), and Olivia Yates (Floyd).

"What truly had me hooked from the beginning was the softball program at E&H," Reasor said. "Coach Forrester has been very inviting and supportive of me ever since I met him. His softball team that is currently at Emory reflects those qualities as well, and I can't wait to join them this fall."

This past year, she was the winner of the "2021 Home Run Club," a competition that her hitting coach,

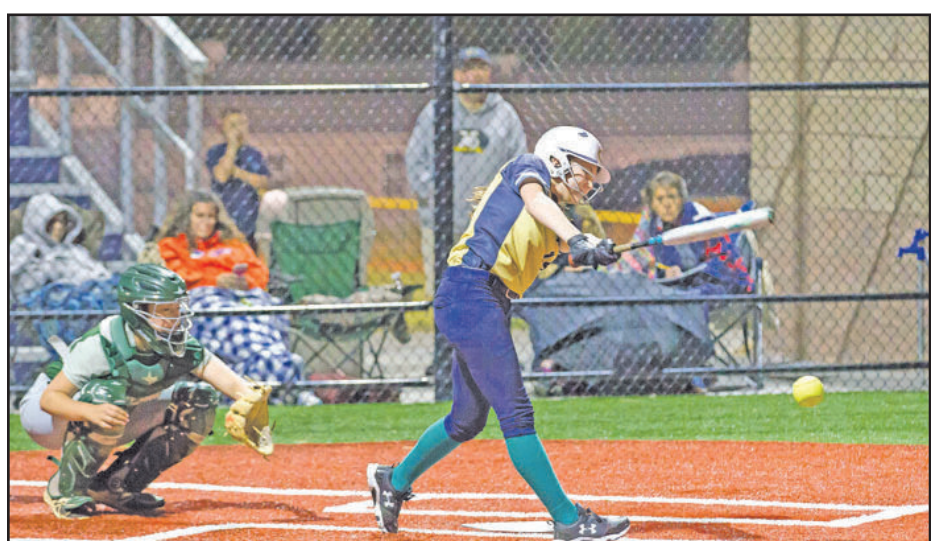
Dwayne Puryear at Blue Ridge Hitting Center, holds annually. She won the competition with 23 home runs last season.

She was also named the "Most Valuable Offensive Player" and first-team all-district for the 2021 season. Her freshman year, she was all-district and all-region and second team all-state.

But her success has not been limited to the softball field.

Academically, Reasor made the President's List at New River Community College in four straight semesters and was awarded first place in "Introduction to Public Speaking" at the regional competition for the Future Business Leaders of America (FBLA) in 2020.

She is also the President of the Senior Class, President of the BETA Club, Secretary of the Student Government Association, a member of the International Thespian Society, the International Honor Society, the Help Save the Next Girl CHS chapter, the Health Occupations Students of America (HOSA), the National Society of High School Scholars, the Fellow-



FILE PHOTO

Baylee Reasor has been a consistent hitter for the Christiansburg High School softball team for the past three years and is headed to Emory & Henry College in the fall.

ship of Christian Athletes, and Phi Theta Kappa (the national honor society for community colleges).

The Blue Demons begin their spring season next week, and Reasor is excited about it.

"We have so much talent and potential on the team, I truly can't wait to see how far we can go," she said. "It would be an honor for our team to participate in the postseason state level competition and win; that's our team's overall goal this sea-

son. However, that type of drive and dedication begins in practice, so that's what we're doing. One day at a time, one practice at a time, we are all pushing each other to become better athletes."

She hopes to continue that dedication at the next level.

"E&H currently has a lot of talent on their team, and I've seen it first-hand because I have watched games personally and online," Reasor said. "However, I always want to push myself to be

the best athlete I can be. I have no doubt that I will push myself to do the same thing at E&H. My goal at Emory is to be a starting outfielder and have a spot near the top of the batting lineup," she said.

At E&H, Reasor plans on majoring in biology and later attending Virginia Tech's medical school (VCOM). "I then want to study dermatology, so I can eventually earn my license and open my own local practice," she said.

Two more Blue Demons to play football at next level

Marty Gordon
NRVsports@ourvalley.org

Two more senior student-athletes from Christiansburg High School's 2021 football team will continue their playing career this fall at the college level. Kenyon Johnson-Buchannon is headed to Ferrum Col-

lege, and Stephan Myrthil will suit up for Bluefield University.

Their decisions mean five seniors from the 10-2 regional playoff participant from this past year will be playing somewhere this fall.

Both Myrthil and Johnson-Buchannon were named to the all-county team this past sea-

son. Offensively, Myrthil finished with 122 carries for 845 yards with 14 touchdowns. Johnson-Buchannon rushed for 715 yards on 116 carries.

Bluefield University is a private Baptist university in Bluefield, Va., with a current enrollment of 812. Athletically, the school is a member of the Divi-

sion II Mid-South Conference. Last fall, Bluefield finished 6-5 on the gridiron. Dewey Lusk is the 10th head coach in Bluefield College history and the third since the program was reinstated in 2012. He is a Christiansburg native.

Ferrum is located near Rocky Mount, Va., and has an en-

rollment of 1,022. Its athletic teams compete in Division III of the NCAA in the Old Dominion Athletic Conference (ODAC). This past year, the football team finished 6-4 and is coached by Radford High School alum Cleive Adams, who is in his second season at the school.

CHS diver commits to James Madison

Marty Gordon
NRVsports@ourvalley.org

Christiansburg diver Natalie Jones is headed to James Madison University.

In her four years at CHS, Jones has captured three state titles in 1-meter diving, set the school record in 2020, and beat this record recently at the state meet a few weeks ago. In December, she won the 3-meter event at a Charlotte swim invite.

James Madison has an outstanding swimming and diving program, and Jones said that was one reason for her decision. "Also, the campus re-

ally feels like home. In my free time I love hiking, and Harrisonburg is a gorgeous area with a lot of hiking opportunities," Jones said. "Overall, I am very excited about my next four years at James Madison University and am very grateful for everyone who has helped me get there."

Jones's goal is to have the smallest "splash" in the pool. "In all seriousness, though, I just want to keep pushing myself and physics to see how far I can go, and I believe JMU is the perfect place to help me become the best diver I can be," she said. "Another goal I have is to

continue to be a supportive teammate and help encourage my teammates to reach their goals."

Jones plans on majoring in psychology and/or political science. After college, she would like to use her degree to either enter law school and specialize in governmental law on the path to maybe become a Supreme Court Justice/clerk or attend graduate school and become a psychologist/therapist.

"While these two are very different from each other, I will use college to determine my strengths and weaknesses which will in turn help with the decision," she said.



Natalie Jones competes at the Christiansburg Aquatics Center during a recent regional swim meet. The Christiansburg diver will continue her career this coming year at James Madison University.

Appalachian League season will start despite MLB lockout

Marty Gordon
NRVsports@ourvalley.org

Appalachian League President Dan Moushon announced this week that the current lockout at the major league level will have little or no impact on his league's

season. Appy League season openers are slated for June 2 with players and staff reporting on May 30.

"It was an incredible year one (2021)," said Moushon. "We held the first All-Star Game in league history. It

was a dramatic game televised nationally on the MLB Network. The outcome of the all-star game was determined via the final swing in a homerun derby, and the championship game was a dramatic walk-off win in the bottom of the ninth."

The Pulaski River Turtles have released their roster and schedule with at least one familiar name. Avery Mabe, a native of Wytheville and a current UVA pitcher, will return to Southwest Virginia this summer.

A projected starting pitcher, Mabe is a University of Virginia sophomore and a 2020 graduate of George Wythe High School.

Manager Clark Crist looks forward to working with all of these young players. "We have a great group coming to Pulaski from all over the country; it's a great

collection of talent. We're ready to get to work," Crist said.

Seventeen different NCAA Division 1 schools are represented on the roster, including recent NCAA champions Virginia (2015), Vanderbilt (2014 and 2019), and Mississippi State (2021).

Two Virginia natives appear on the 2022 roster: Infielder Owen DeShazo from Glen Allen (Boston College commit) and Mabe, who amassed a stellar resume at George Wythe High School, earning All-Mountain-Empire honors as a junior. He was a two-time member of the Region 1C team.

Four members of the 2021 Pulaski River Turtles team are returning: Catchers Ryan Johnson and Irvin Escobar and pitchers Lucas Reed and Crayton Burnett. Johnson and

Reed were 2021 Appalachian League All-Star selections.

Pitcher Seth Tomczak (San Joaquin Delta) was drafted by the Arizona Diamondbacks in the 26th round of the 2019 MLB Draft.

Outfielders Rodney Green, Jr. (Cal) and Michael Bolton, Jr. (Purdue) are among the Appalachian League's top future draft prospects.

The reigning 2021 Appalachian League East Division champions, the River Turtles will begin the defense of their division crown against the Burlington Sock Puppets. Released today, the 2022 River Turtles' schedule includes 29 home games with 12 home games in June, 13 home games in July, and four home games in August. The regular season finale is sched-

uled for Thursday, Aug. 4. In total, the 2022 schedule boasts 58 dates. All home games will begin at 7 p.m.

This year will mark Pulaski's 56th season fielding teams in the Appalachian League. The River Turtles were nosed out by the Greeneville Flyboys 9-8 for the Appalachian League championship. They will host the Flyboys on June 21 in a rematch of the title tilt.



PHOTO COURTESY OF RIVER TURTLES

George Wythe High School graduate and current UVA pitcher Avery Mabe will join the roster of the Pulaski River Turtles this season.

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



PHOTO COURTESY OF VT ATHLETICS

Former Blacksburg High School and current Virginia Tech sprinter Cole Beck was named the ACC indoor championships top male track performer after his performance at this past weekend's meet in Blacksburg.

VT men and women claim ACC indoor track and field championships

Saturday, Feb. 26, 2022, will always be a special day in Virginia Tech history as both the Hokies' men's and women's track and field squads claimed ACC indoor championships, marking the first time in program history that both teams won ACC titles at the same indoor meet.

Even more special was that the Hokies won the championships in Blacksburg at Rector Field House as Tech served as the host for this year's edition of the conference indoor championships meet.

The men's team won convincingly with a score of 97 points while the women's team tied with Duke (86 points) in nail-biting fashion.

Friday's highlight came via Rachel Baxter, who finished out her ACC indoor vaulting career by breaking the ACC indoor pole vault record by clearing 4.61m (15' 1.5"), in the process winning the ACC title for the fourth straight year. Having become the first woman to win three consecutive indoor titles in 2021, Baxter now stands alone as the only vaulter, man or woman, to be crowned ACC champion four straight indoor seasons.

"Rachel has been close to a breakthrough every meet this year, and it was great to see her realize that breakthrough tonight," Assistant Coach Bob Phillips said. "She is a super hard working young woman who has so many more big jumps ahead of her."

Baxter's vault took over the top spot all-time in the ACC as she beat the previous record set by Duke's Megan Clark at 4.60m (15' 1") in 2016. Additionally, the grad student out of Orange, Calif.,

now holds the No.-5 mark all-time in the NCAA, the No.-10 best vault in the world this year, and is the only collegian to clear 15 feet so far in 2022. As an aside, Friday night marked the first time Baxter had cleared 15 feet in her career, and she broke her own school record that she set in 2020 by eight centimeters.

In addition to Baxter's fireworks, the Hokies claimed four more medals and set two school records Friday. Rebecca Mammel shattered the ACC Championships record for the women's weight throw with a heave of 23.08m (75' 8.75") to earn her first ACC title. Having delivered consistently dominant performances all year, Mammel set a new meet record and a new school record and moved into No. 4 in the NCAA and No. 10 in the world this year. Additionally, Mammel became the first VT women's weight thrower to pass the 23-meter mark.

In the men's 60m, Cole Beck ran the second-fastest qualifying time of 6.64 seconds to move into the finals, then posted the top time in the prelims of the 200m, going 21.01 to advance.

The former Blacksburg High School standout was named the indoor event's top men's track performer after winning the 200-meter final and finishing third in the 60 meters.

Virginia Tech's Victoria Gorlova, who won the triple jump, was named most valuable women's field performer.

Ben Fleming, another BHS graduate, teamed with Patrick Forrest, Christian Jackson, and Antonio Lopez Segura to win the men's distance medley relay with a time of 9:35.00.

Auburn girls advance to region finals



Hannah Huffman shoots a free throw in Auburn's 52-34 win over Ft. Chiswell on Saturday. Huffman finished with 10 points in the win.



Rhyland Rorrer drives the baseline. With the win, Auburn was slated to play Parry McCluer in the Region C championship game with both teams advancing to the state playoffs later this week.



PHOTOS BY ASHLEY AKERS

Allyson Martin takes a shot with the Auburn cheering section in the background. Martin led the Lady Eagles with 17 points.

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