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A scene from the 3.2-Mile Run in Remembrance in 2019.

PHOTO BY ERIN WILLIAMS FOR VIRGINIA TECH

Five things to know about today's Run in Remembrance

The silence at 9:43 a.m., followed by the joyful yelling of loved ones as they cheer on the runners and walkers. There are a variety of emotions today, April 16, the Day of Remembrance when the Virginia Tech community gathers for the 3.2-Mile Run in Remembrance.

For the first time since 2019, the annual run to honor the 32 students and faculty members who lost their lives 15 years ago will happen in person on campus today. Because of the pandemic, runners and walkers participated virtually for the past two years. Hokies from around the world still are encour-

aged to participate in the run virtually. For those curious about what is involved in this annual event, here are some tips from fellow Hokies who have participated in past years.

- 1. You don't have to run.**
While it is in the name of the event, running is not required. Participants are welcome to walk, jog, or push a stroller the entire route. Everyone is encouraged to choose their own pace.
- 2. Registration is encouraged but not required.**
Participants can wake up Saturday morning and show up at the run. Reg-

istration is not required but is encouraged. Registration is currently open. Those who received a Run in Remembrance T-shirt from early registration should take care not to forget to wear it.

- 3. You can volunteer.**
Participants who want to support the event without walking or running can volunteer to help before, during, and after the event. Volunteers help set up, hand out bibs, and work water stations across the course. Sign up to volunteer online.
- 4. Participants will see the best**

views of Virginia Tech.
The route begins on the Drillfield and passes multiple campus sights, such as the Duck Pond, the Pylons, and Lane Stadium. All of Virginia Tech's best views are available throughout the course, and participants can stop and take photos at any point.

5. As always, Hokies remember.
At 9:43 a.m., just before the run begins, a moment of silence will take place to honor those who lost their lives on April 16, 2007. The race begins and ends near the April 16 memorial on the Drillfield.

Blacksburg Fork & Cork returns April 23

After a two-year hiatus due to COVID cancellations, Blacksburg Fork & Cork is returning on Saturday, April 23, from 1 p.m. to 6 p.m., with VIP early access at noon.

The event goes on rain or shine and will be held in a new location at Historic Smithfield, adjacent to the Virginia Tech campus. This regional festival is returning for its 12th year and, as before, will feature award-winning Virginia wines, popular food trucks and delicious fare, live music, and a variety of unique merchandise from Blacksburg, the New River and Roanoke Valleys, and beyond.

"We are so excited for the return of Blacksburg Fork & Cork," said Ann Cassell, president of The Blacksburg Partnership, the organization hosting the event.

"This festival has a dedicated following, and Historic Smithfield offers a beautiful new environment for festival goers," said Cassell. "We are thrilled to be able to feature Virginia wines, regional food vendors, and local specialty products. We are hopeful that it will be a gorgeous spring day for attendees to enjoy live music, great food, delicious wine, and the company of friends."

Local folk singer/songwriter Kat Mills will kick off the festival entertainment at noon, followed by Nashville artist and Season 16 American Idol contestant, Carly Moffa, the festival headliner. Both performers will be featured on the festival's main stage, sponsored by the Moss Arts Center.

Tickets are on sale now and are available for purchase online at www.blacksburgforkandcork.com. Attendees are encouraged to purchase tickets in advance. Regular admission tickets can be purchased on site the day of the festival. VIP tickets are pre-sale only, are for ages 21+ and are available in limited quantity. VIP tickets allow the ticket holder one-hour early access to the festival grounds beginning at noon and including all the benefits of a regular tasting ticket plus access to the VIP area with specialty tast-

See Fork & Cork, page 4

VT Religion and Culture Department to screen and discuss 'Dr. Strangelove'

By Kelsey Bartlett

The Department of Religion and Culture will host "Dr. Strangelove & the Apocalypse," a film screening and discussion, on April 18 at 7 p.m. in 3100 Torgersen Hall in celebration of the work of the late VT Professor Stephen Prince.

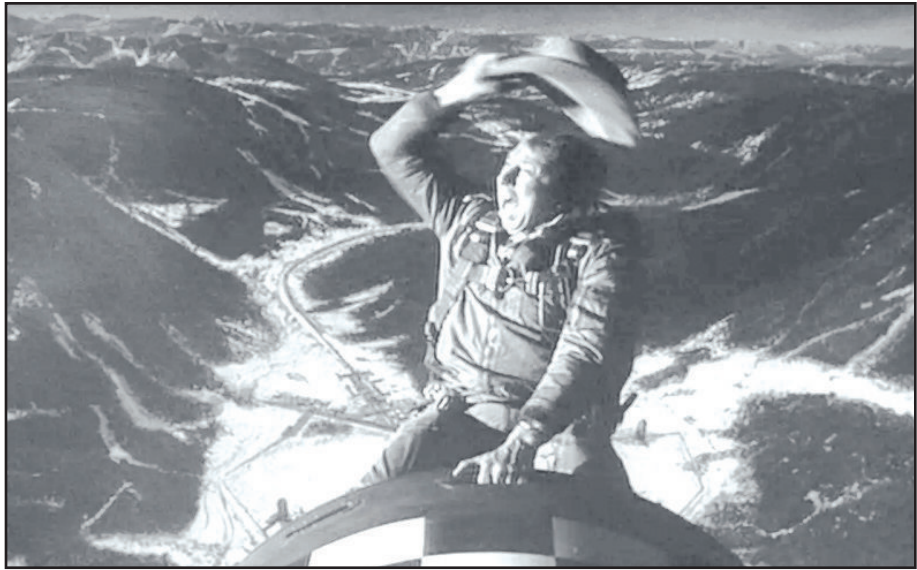
The event is free and open to the public with discussion led by Shaily Patel, an assistant professor of religion and culture at Virginia Tech, along with Brian Britt and Matthew Gabriele, both professors of religion and culture.

Prince was a professor of cinema in Virginia Tech's School of Performing Arts for 32 years, and he served as president of the Society for Cognitive Study of the Moving Image. He passed away in December 2020. The last of his 17 books, "Apocalypse Cinema," was published posthumously in July 2021.

No other genre captivates audiences quite like apocalypse cinema, the subject of Prince's final book.

Viewers eagerly pack theaters to watch films such as "Contagion" and "Avengers: Endgame." But the fascination isn't new. It dates as far back as the silent film area, when 1927's "Metropolis" ruled the screen.

Maybe it's the seat-grIPPING action and adrenaline rush that keep audiences coming back for more. But as morbid and fatalist as



SUBMITTED PHOTO

The Department of Religion and Culture will host "Dr. Strangelove & the Apocalypse," a film screening and discussion, on April 18 at 7 p.m. This famous shot from "Dr. Strangelove, or: How I Learned to Stop Worrying and Love the Bomb," shows Major "King" Kong — a B-52 pilot played by Slim Pickens — gleefully riding a hydrogen bomb in the 1964 classic.

depictions of the end of the world may seem, most films about the apocalypse are actually rooted in humanity. That's what Professor Prince loved about the films.

"Generally, when someone says 'apocalyptic,' we think of barren landscapes, dangers everywhere, and scant resources," said Patel.

"But when we think about apocalyptic movies, there's always an element of hope."

Britt approached Gabriele after realizing the department had a shared interest in apocalyptic thought, and he wanted to honor

See Strangelove, page 4

Christiansburg Rec Center to host New River Valley Job Fair Expo April 20

The Christiansburg Recreation Center, 1600 N. Franklin St., in Christiansburg will host the New River Valley Job Fair Expo on Wednesday, April 20 from 9 a.m. until noon.

Positions are available for all skill levels from entry to advanced.

Event sponsors are Christiansburg Parks and Recreation, the Pulaski County

Department of Social Services, New River Community College, and Virginia Career Works.

Participating companies are 1901 Group Americare Plus, Americold Logistics, Blacksburg Transit, Blue Ridge Residential Services, Carilion Clinic Celanese, Citizens CMG Leasing, Inc.,

See Job Fair, page 4

Soil analysis in Gina Hall case shows evidence of human bones

(Editor's note: This is part three of a series looking at new details in the 41-plus murder case of Radford University student, Gina Hall.)

The mystery surrounding the death of Radford University student, Gina Hall over 40 years ago still haunts her sister, Dlna Bodmer.

She has turned to new technology that has led to several spots where soil samples have been taken. Bodmer is convinced those are locations where Gina's remains were scattered.

Lab analysis is back on soil taken at five different locations around the New River Valley that shows chemical

See Soil, page 4

UPCOMING EVENTS

Now through Tuesday, April 22:

Montgomery Chamber Best Places to Work Survey
Virginia Tech's Center for Economic and Community Engagement and the Montgomery County Chamber of Commerce are asking businesses to participate in the annual Best Places to Work survey. Chamber membership is not required, and the survey is open to all businesses in Montgomery County. The survey has two components, one for the employer and the other for employees. The top 20 Best Places to Work will be announced on May 18 at the Leadership in Changing Times and Best Places to Work Conference. This survey will be open until April 22. For more information, visit <https://bit.ly/lcbestplaces22>. Contact marketing@montgomerycc.org with any questions.

Now through April 30:

Free prom dresses
By appointment only at the Meadowbrook Public Library, which 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.

Now through May 7:

Blacksburg Parks & Rec toddler and children art classes
Art & More for 2's \$1
For 2-year-olds, 9:45 to 10:45 a.m. at the Parks and Recreation administrative offices. Fee is \$42 for residents, \$52 for non-residents. This class will introduce toddlers to art in a semi-structured setting. The classes will consist of a variety of art projects, story time, and songs. Parent participation is required.
Art Smart \$1
For three- and four-year olds at the Blacksburg Parks & Recreation administrative offices from 11 a.m. until noon. Fee is \$42 for residents, \$52 for non-residents.
Toddlers will be exposed to different media while learning how to use colors, shapes, patterns, and sizes. They will be encouraged to use imagination, expression, and communication through art. The emphasis will be on fun and social interaction.
Register online at www.blacksburg.gov/recreation, by phone 540-443-1140 or 540-443-1100, or in person at any Blacksburg Parks and Recreation facility.

Saturday, April 16:

Radford Easter egg hunt
At Bisset Park; 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. The schedule by age groups is as follows: noon: ages 3-5; 12:25 p.m.: ages 6-8; 12:30 p.m.: ages 9-12; 12:45 p.m.: ages 3 and under. Bounce houses, fire trucks, police cars, food trucks, and photos with the Easter Bunny will be a part of the fun. Children should bring a basket.

Monday, April 18:

Free GED classes with NRCC
At the Radford Public Library; 9 a.m. to noon. Free GED prep classes offered by New River Community College in the library's community room. Call (540) 674-3682 for additional information.

Bad guys
At the Christiansburg Library; 2 p.m. Participants will attempt to get through a laser maze without setting off an alarm and defeat a hoard of zombie kittens to save the world. Fans of the series "The Bad Guys" can join in for fun activities inspired by the books. Contact spahl@mfrl.org for more information.

Pokémon Club
At the Christiansburg Library; 4:30 p.m. Pokémon fans can bring their DS or Pokémon cards and get ready to battle, trade and make new friends. All ages.

Crafternoon Delight
At the Radford Public Library; 1 to 2 p.m. For adults. Participants may bring their supplies and knit, crochet, and needlepoint at the library. Some crafting supplies will be provided.

Tuesday, April 19:

Family reads with LVNRV
At the Radford Public Library; 5:30 to 7 p.m. Literacy Volunteers of the New River Valley will provide English as a Second Language (ESL) lessons to parents of children ages 3-8 (older siblings are welcome). The 7-week program started Tuesday, April 12. Children will have fun activities to work on while parents learn to read English. Call (540) 382-7262 or email Anne Abbott at aabbott@lvnr.org for more information.

Wednesday, April 20:

Loops group
At the Blacksburg Library; 2 p.m. Attendees can bring their projects and join the library's loops group for community and conversation. Everyone is welcome.

Art Club: Recycled art
At the Christiansburg Library; 2 p.m. Participants will create a unique art piece out of recycled materials. For ages 8 and up. Registration is required.

MFRL Library Board of Trustees meeting
The Montgomery-Floyd Regional Library Board of Trustees will meet at 7 p.m. at the Blacksburg Library.

Free GED classes with NRCC
At the Radford Public Library; 9 a.m. to noon. Free GED prep classes offered by New River Community College in the library's community room. Call (540) 674-3682 for additional information.

Thursday, April 21:

"Still Upright and Headed Downstream" author's talk
At the Radford Public Library; 7 to 8 p.m. Author John Lane is an emeritus professor who taught creative writing and environmental studies at Wofford College. As an avid kayaker, he has written often about water and rivers. He will visit the library to discuss his new collection of poetry and prose, written over thirty-five years, about kayaking, rivers, and river people.

Talking About Books: "The Code Breaker"
At the Christiansburg Library; 11 a.m. Discussed this month is "The Code Breaker: Jennifer Doudna, gene editing, and the future of the human race" by Walter Isaacson, in-person and virtually.

Early birders with New River Land Trust
At the Blacksburg Library; 4:30 p.m. Join the New River Land Trust for a bird scavenger hunt and other bird-related activities.

Peep Houses
At the Christiansburg Library; 4:30 p.m. Build a cozy graham cracker home for little marshmallow Peeps. Registration is required. All ages are welcome.

Saturday, April 23:

Spring children's consignment sale
Blacksburg United Methodist Church (BUMC) will hold its semi-annual consignment sale of children's items at the Whisner Building of the main church campus, 111 Church St. from 9 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. Families can get great deals on gently used kids' clothes and shoes, toys, books, games, movies, baby gear and accessories, sports equipment, maternity clothing, and more. Many items are like new (some are even brand new). Some items will be half price between 12:30 and 1:30 p.m. Proceeds will benefit local charities. Due to contact with young children, masks will be required.

Bingo for All Ages
At the Meadowbrook Public Library; 1 p.m. Come out for an afternoon of free bingo with a variety of prizes at the library. For all ages and registration is required as space is limited.

Craft Supply Swap
At the Blacksburg Library; 2 p.m. Clean out your craft area and bring items in to swap with other crafters. The event is free and open to everyone. All leftovers will go to benefit library craft programs and the Creative Reuse Center.

Sunday, April 24:

Chess Club
At the Blacksburg Library; 3 p.m. Ages 8 and up are welcome to come sharpen their chess skills. Supplies will be provided. All skill levels are welcome.

Monday, April 25 through Wednesday, April 27:

Lifeguard instructor training
The Christiansburg Aquatic Center will offer lifeguard instructor training April 25-27. The schedule for Monday, April 25, is 8 a.m. until 5:30 p.m. The schedule for Tuesday, April 26, is 8 a.m. to 6 p.m., and the schedule for Wednesday, April 27, is 8 a.m. until 12:30 p.m. The fee for the course is \$300. Persons interested in taking the course should contact Caroline Ratkus at cratkus@christiansburg.org.

Tuesday, April 26:

Radford University guitar ensemble concert
"African Influences" at the Davis Performance Hall in the Covington Center on Radford University's campus; 7:30 p.m. Free and open to the public.

Thursday, April 28:

IBLA Foundation grand prize performance concert
At the Davis Performance Hall in the Covington Center on Radford University's campus; 7:30 p.m. Free and open to the public.

Thursday, April 28, and Friday, April 29:

Dancing on the Edge
At the Bondurant Auditorium on Radford University's campus; 7:30 p.m. Tickets: Adults \$7; Children \$3.50; Students free with RU ID. For tickets, visit www.radfordactivities.com or call 540-831-5420.

Saturday, April 30:

Dancing on the Edge
At the Bondurant Auditorium on the Radford University campus; 2 p.m. Tickets: Adults \$7; Children \$3.50; Students free with RU ID. For tickets visit www.radfordactivities.com or call 540-831-5420.

Thursday, May 12:

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, in Radford. All skill levels of quilters are welcome. For more information, call Anna Handy, 540 320 7791.

Ongoing

Free GED classes with NRCC
At the Radford Public Library; 9 a.m. to noon. Free GED prep classes offered by New River Community College in the library's community room. Call (540) 674-3682 for additional information.

THE NRV MPO SEEKS PUBLIC INPUT FOR TRANSPORTATION PLANNING

The New River Valley Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) is developing its 2022-23 Unified Planning Work Program. The UPWP provides an annual schedule of activities, lists planning tasks and studies, and identifies funding sources.

A draft plan is available for review at the offices of the Towns of Blacksburg and Christiansburg, the City of Radford, and the Montgomery and Pulaski County offices. It is also available on the MPO website: www.montgomerycountyva.gov/mpo

Deadline for written comments: 5:00 PM April 20, 2022

Oral comments will also be taken at the MPO Policy Board meeting at 2:00 PM on May 5, 2022 at the Montgomery County Government Center if it is held.

Comments can also address transit projects for which Federal operating and capital assistance will be sought under 49 USC Section 5303, as well as other transportation modes.

The NRV MPO ensures nondiscrimination and equal employment in all programs and activities in accordance with Title VI and Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964. If you need more information or special assistance for persons with disabilities or limited English proficiency, contact Dan Brugh at: brughjd@montgomerycountyva.gov or 540-394-2145, TTY/TTD 711.



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Choir! Choir! Choir! brings ‘Don’t Stop Believin’: Epic anthem singalong’ to Blacksburg

Ecstatic voices join together, filling the Moss Arts Center’s theatre when the audience takes the spotlight for a sing-along like no other. Choir! Choir! Choir! brings “Don’t Stop Believin’: Epic Anthem Singalong” to Blacksburg on Saturday, April 23, at 7:30 p.m.

Free and open to the public, the performance will be held in the center’s Anne and Ellen Fife Theatre, located within the Street and Davis Performance Hall at 190 Alumni Mall. Registration is required for the event.

Choir! Choir! Choir! has amassed a passionate community of singers and a thriving international fan base on YouTube, with tens of millions of views on some videos. The Toronto-based singing group, led by creative directors Nobu Adilman and Daveed Goldman, takes a nontraditional approach. There are no auditions, and the audience is the choir. Equal parts singing, comedy, and community-building, the night unfolds like a dream: Audience members show up, learn an original arrangement to a popular song, and go home feeling great.

The Moss audience will learn and perform the wildly popular rock anthem “Don’t Stop Believin” by Journey. Released in 1981, the song became a top-10 hit worldwide and has become a staple of popular culture. According to Nielsen Music, “Don’t Stop Believin” is

the most downloaded song of the 20th century, and last year it hit 1 billion streams on the popular music streaming service Spotify.

Choir! Choir! Choir! offers an opportunity to celebrate music and push the boundaries between practice and performance, artist and audience, offering therapeutic benefits with the ultimate side effect: a powerful community.

The group has performed with renowned artists such as Patti Smith, David Byrne, Rick Astley, Tegan and Sara, and Rufus Wainwright and has performed onstage at New York’s Carnegie Hall and Radio City Music Hall with the likes of Debbie Harry and the Flaming Lips. The duo has created content for NBC’s “Jesus Christ Superstar” with Brandon Victor Dixon from “Hamilton.” They have performed at the Metropolitan Museum of Art in New York for New York Pride and hosted their own float in Toronto Pride.

Engagement Event
Adilman and Goldman of Choir! Choir! Choir! will participate in a discussion with Virginia Tech students in a theatre arts course on applied collaborative techniques.

The Moss Arts Center adheres to the guidelines of the Virginia Department of Health and Virginia Tech in its operations, including protocols for face cover-



PHOTO COURTESY OF JOSEPH FUDA

Nobu Adilman and Daveed Goldman with Choir! Choir! Choir! lead a crowd in a singalong.

ings and cleaning and sanitation. More information about these requirements is available on the Moss Arts Center website.

Paid parking is available in the North End Parking Garage on Turner Street. Virginia Tech faculty and staff possessing a valid Virginia Tech parking per-

mit can enter and exit the garage free of charge. Virginia Tech has also partnered with ParkMobile to provide a convenient, contactless electronic payment option for parking, which may be used at any parking meter, campus parking space, or lot with standard F/S, C/G, or R parking.



SUBMITTED PHOTO

Miss Mountain Empire Pageant winners are announced

The Miss Mountain Empire Scholarship Organization recently announced its pageant winners from throughout Southwest Virginia. They are: pictured (left to right) Miss Mountain Empire’s Outstanding Teen: Nevaeh Blackburn; Miss Mountain Empire: Gabrielle Majors; Miss Southwest Virginia: Kendall Paige Parrett; Miss New River Valley: Erika Allen; and Miss New River Valley’s Outstanding Teen: Abigail Long.

VT, public, private coalition in running for \$100 million in transportation funding

A suite of projects intended to bolster the region’s stake in the autonomous and electric vehicle sectors is in the running for up to \$100 million in federal funding.

Virginia Tech said a coalition of 50 public and private organizations led by the university is one of 60 finalists for awards through the \$1 billion Build Back Better Regional Challenge, funded through the American Rescue Plan with the goal of boosting economic recovery from the pandemic recovery.

The group’s proposal focuses on how to make moving goods from place to place greener and more efficient, and it builds on the region’s existing transportation cluster, which includes companies such as Volvo Trucks, Eldor Corporation, and Torc Robotics, as well as research groups such as the Virginia Tech Transportation Institute.

The proposal centers on three projects: a test bed for autonomous commercial vehicles, a test zone for delivery drones, and a training and entrepreneurial support network for the sector.

The third project would build a network of universities, community colleges, and other agencies to provide training, technical assistance, and entrepreneurial development to support the industry.

A new manufacturing technologies training studio would be created at the Virginia Tech Corporate Research Center. More than two dozen partners, including Virginia Western Community College; GENEDGE Alliance, which delivers custom solutions to solve the operational and business challenges Virginia’s engineering, manufacturing, and technology firms

face; and the New River Valley Regional Commission would create programming.

Montgomery-Blacksburg Kiwanis Club, Prices Fork Elementary staff Brunswick stew fundraiser sells out

Members of the Kiwanis Club of Montgomery Co.-Blacksburg and the staff and teachers at Prices Fork Elementary School made and sold 610 quarts of Brunswick stew at the school on April

9. The club actually sold out on April 6, the first time that had ever been accomplished for pre-orders. John Drew Clary was the stew master for the fundraiser, which was supported by a crew of

local volunteers and students from Virginia Tech’s Circle K, Blacksburg High School’s Key Club, and scouts from BSA Troop 74. The club’s next fundraiser is the June 4 Kiwanis golf tournament.



SUBMITTED PHOTO

The Kiwanis Club of Montgomery Co.-Blacksburg and the staff and teachers at Prices Fork Elementary School made and sold 610 quarts of Brunswick stew on April 9.

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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

LEGAL NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING OF THE TOWN OF CHRISTIANSBURG PLANNING COMMISSION

The Town of Christiansburg Planning Commission will hold a Public Hearing on **Monday, May 2, 2022 at 7:00 PM** in the Council Chambers of the Christiansburg Town Hall, 100 E. Main Street, Christiansburg, Virginia 24073. The purpose of the public hearing is to receive public comments concerning:

Conditional Use Permit request by **McNeil Property Management LLC, owner**, to allow a private school in the General Business District (B-3) on property located at **1650 Cambria St. NE, Tax Parcel 467-(A)) - 55, Parcel ID 020103.**

Legals - Montgomery County

The property is designated as Business/Commercial on the Future Land Use Map of the 2013 Christiansburg Comprehensive Plan.

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



Legals - City of Radford

Notice of Public Hearing

The Radford City Council and Planning Commission will hold a joint public hearing to receive comments regarding a request from the Oakmont Atlantic, LLC, for a Special Use Permit to develop residential dwellings above the main floor, Tax Parcel’s 13-(2)- SEC 1 – 31, 32, 33, 34, 35, located 644 West Main Street, Radford VA 24141. The hearing will be held on Monday, April 25, 2022 beginning at 7:00 P.M. E.S.T., at 10 Robertson Street, Radford, VA. Interested parties are invited to attend the public hearing and present their views on the proposed Special Use Permit. Written comments may be sent to 10 Robertson Street, Radford 24141; please allow adequate mailing time: Melissa Skelton, Community Development Director.

Soil

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compounds indicative of the presence of human decomposition.

For the past year, those samples had sat on Bodmer's back porch as she wondered if the answers she has sought for all these years was right in front of her. Those finds include a simple bracelet similar to the one Gina was seen wearing when she left Diana's apartment on that tragic night.

The bracelet and large bone fragments were found on a steep place near Graysontown Road, which has been used as a dump area for the past 20 to 40 years. The same site is located adjacent to a spot reported to investigators where a farmer saw Stephen Epperly, who was convicted of the murder, cutting fish bait or that is what Epperly told him.

"The cutting up bait was just his first thought when he saw it, but he was always adamant that what he saw was Epperly and another man cutting up Gina... not bait," Bodmer said in an interview a year ago.

"After the human remains detection dogs confirmed Meadow Creek and other positive areas, I decided to excavate the Meadow Creek dismemberment site and the Draper Valley site with Dr. Vass on site scanning the buckets with his Quantum Oscillator Instrument as we dug," Bodmer said.

Dr. Arpad Alexander Vass, a University of Tennessee professor who has invented a machine to detect DNA buried beneath the surface of the ground, is playing a role in the murder case.

Bodmer contacted Vass and brought him to the New River Valley in hopes of finding her sister's resting place. She thinks the "Grave-Detection Machine" or Inquisitor Machine as Vass refers to it has pointed to at least eight spots where family DNA was found.

Vass's machine has been put to the test in graveyards and many criminal cases. A patent was approved four years ago for the machine that is based on quantum physics and locates people on a "subatomic level by matching a reference sample such as fingernail clippings from a living relative."

The "steep" site seems to be, according to Bodmer, her sister's final resting place.

On February 26, 2021, Bodmer brought cadaver dogs up from Florida. They led investigators to several areas at the "steep" site location where they alerted in two separate places. Both alerts aligned with the instrument's positive signals. Bodmer and others removed shale rock and debris before finding the bracelet buried about two feet down.

"We dug and scanned for hours and found three

significant-sized bones that will be analyzed by a forensic anthropologist," Bodmer said. "Once that report comes back, it should confirm the bone has been cut."

Cadaver dogs have strengthened this finding in several locations including the new one, and Bodmer is determined to prove her sister was not the only victim in the case.

She cited the Lester Farm near the Izaak Walton League in Hiwassee where cadaver dogs confirmed several areas of interest. Those, according to Bodmer, include the final resting place for Angela Rader, a Roanoke teen who came up missing in 1977.

During a visit to the Epperly's former home, investigators including Bodmer found bone fragments beneath the floor of a closet where he slept. New owners of the home allowed Bodmer and others to examine a lead from the Grave Detection machine.

The next step is a test for DNA, which could confirm that some of the remains are Gina's.

Bodmer continues to be, as she puts it, "Gina's voice, because she can't be."

The bones, bracelet, fibers, etc. were taken to be

See **Soil**, page 6

Job Fair

from page 1

Commonwealth Senior Living, Community Housing Partners, Consolidated Construction Services Inc., Corning Incorporated, Express Employment Professionals, Food City, Gay and Neel, Inc., Goodwill Industries of the Valleys, HCA LewisGale Hospital Montgomery, Heritage Hall Blacksburg, Highland

Memory Gardens, Highland Ridge Rehab Center, Hollingsworth & Vose In-Motion, Interim Healthcare of Southwest Virginia, Kollmorgen Corporation, Luttrell Staffing Group Mar-Bal Inc., Martin's Pharmacy, Member One FCU, Montgomery County Government, Montgomery County Public Schools,

MOOG, Mountain Lake Lodge, National Bank of Blacksburg, New River Valley Regional Jail, New River Valley Senior Services, Northrop Grumman Ozmo, Inc., Phoenix Packaging Operations, Pulaski County Public Schools, Rainbow Riders Childcare Center, Richfield Living Sodexo Healthcare,

Show-Case Shutters Inc., Somic America Spectrum Brands, Strengthening Our System, Inc., Town of Christiansburg, Valley Staffing Virginia Tech, Virginia Tech Police, Volvo Trucks North America, Warm Hearth Village, Western Virginia Regional Jail, and Wolverine Advanced Materials.

News Messenger

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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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Strangelove

from page 1

Prince's work as well as celebrate his time at Virginia Tech. They chose the 1964 Stanley Kubrick-directed film "Dr. Strangelove, or: How I Learned to Stop Worrying and Love the Bomb," for the viewing, Gabriele said, because it is one of the films Prince focused on in his book. The film also remains relevant, given its focus on conspiracy theories and potential nuclear threats.

Patel said that while the film is not necessarily "hopeful on the surface," it contains a definite element of hope. She said the event also will discuss how satire is used as cultural criticism and how popular media portrays cultural values.

"It's a satire of the mismanagement of nuclear weapons," Patel said of the film. "And given current events, it could be very, very bleak. But to me, satire only works because the audience recognizes that things are absurd as they stand and that there are better ways forward."

Patel notes that in the introduction of "Apocalypse Cinema," Prince writes that moviegoers "depending on their

mood or interests, can choose different versions of the way things will end." He argues that popular media isn't just idle entertainment or escapism — though it can be — but rather a response to and exploration of social and cultural underpinnings.

Britt, who previously served as interim director of the School of Performing Arts, considered Prince a friend. Britt said Prince had a way of guiding discussions "gently and productively" and spoke of movies with "warmth and enthusiasm."

"When he told me he was writing a book about apocalypse and film, I immediately thought it would be nice to connect him to colleagues in my department who share this interest," Britt said. "Steve's discussion of 'Dr. Strangelove' is one of the longest in 'Apocalypse Cinema,' and so even though we can no longer talk with him about it, his voice and appreciation for the film are vivid enough to support a meaningful conversation."

Fork & Cork

from page 1

ings not available to regular ticket holders, select VIP amenities, and light snacks.

Non-drinking VIP tickets are \$25 pre-sale only.

Regular tasting tickets (ages 21+) are \$35 pre-sale and \$40 at the gate the day of the festival.

The regular tickets allow ticket holders access to the festival grounds, wine samplings, food trucks, festival vendors, and live music. Regular tasting ticket holders may purchase glasses or bottles of wine.

Non-drinking admission only tickets are \$15 pre-sale and at the gate the day of the festival.

Children 12 and younger are free with an accompanying adult aged 18 and older.

A photo ID is required for age verification of all participating adult attendees. Festivalgoers must have a

wine tasting ticket to sample, as well as to purchase, wine by the glass or bottle.

In addition, more than 110 volunteers are needed for a variety of festival tasks. All volunteers receive a Blacksburg Fork & Cork volunteer T-shirt, complimentary access to the festival before or after their shift, and (if 21+ years old) a souvenir wine glass for sampling. Volunteers are still needed. To become a volunteer or to learn more, visit www.blacksburgforkandcork.com/volunteer.

All proceeds from this event support The Blacksburg Partnership in its mission to improve the quality of life in Blacksburg. The Blacksburg Partnership, a non-profit, independent organization focused on economic development and community improvement with the

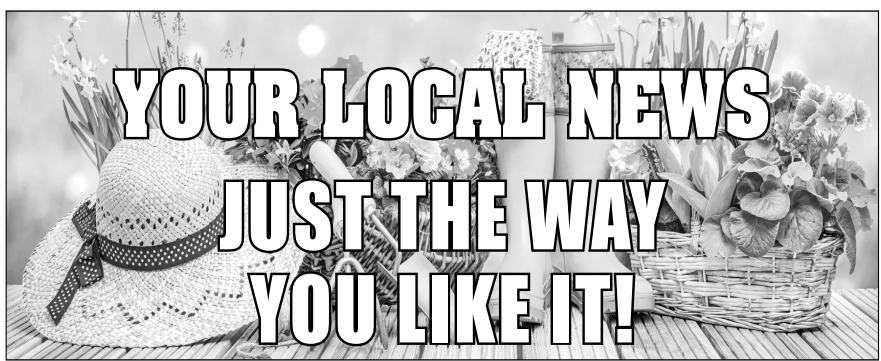
goal of making Blacksburg a more vibrant place to live, work, learn, and play.

Partnership projects include the revitalization of retail districts, NRV Passenger Rail, Blacksburg Young Professionals, and community arts endeavors such as Gobble de Art (the Hokie Birds you see all over town). The Blacksburg Partnership is known for two signature events: Blacksburg Fork & Cork and Blacksburg Brew Do.

Two new events will be added to the calendar this year as well: "Croquet Soirée" June 24-25, a traditional croquet tournament delivered in an unconventional (and fun) way; and "Runway 5K," a 5K footrace on the runway of the Virginia Tech Montgomery Executive Airport later this year (the date to be announced).

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- CLUES ACROSS**
- Easy as 1-2-3
 - Goat and camel hair fabric
 - A woman's undergarment
 - British bathrooms
 - Assemblages of parts into one entity
 - Semitic fertility god
 - Dull & uninteresting
 - Yemen capital
 - Stare impertinently
 - Banished persons
 - Heart failure & energy supplement
 - Reduction in force
 - Women's ___ movement
 - Polynesian wrapped skirt
 - Double-reed instruments
 - Own (Scottish)
 - Summer window dressings
 - Many not ands
 - Paddle
 - Being a single unit
 - Silly behavior
 - Insecticide
 - A blank area
 - Reduces stress
 - Morning moisture
 - Tear away roughly
 - Elevated
 - Cristobalite
 - Baseball's Ruth
 - Indian monetary unit
 - Contest of speed
 - Having a slanted direction
 - Gross receipts
 - A river in NE Spain
 - The brain and spinal cord (abbr.)
 - Dyneyg Inc. on NYSE
 - Japanese monetary unit
- CLUES DOWN**
- Linen vestment worn by priests
 - The trunk of a tree
 - Transmission line cable
 - Freshwater duck genus
 - Bulk storage container
 - Oil obtained from flowers
 - Shopping containers
 - Abnormal breathing
 - Brew
 - Bake eggs in their shells
 - Serviceable
 - A person in the navy
 - A child's slight injury
 - Fain
 - Supports trestletree
 - Parian Chronicle
 - Discovery site
 - Greek famous for fables
 - Farcical afterpiece
 - Dispatches by mail
 - Hall of Fame (abbr.)
 - Aah
 - Unnaturally pale
 - Before
 - Fixed in one's purpose
 - Madames
 - Frosts
 - City drains
 - Baseball playoff
 - Cruise
 - Steeple
 - Precipitation
 - Cas ___; winter melons
 - A unit of two
 - Viewed
 - Taxis
 - 4840 square yards
 - London radio station
 - Perform work regularly
 - Longest geological time



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OBITUARIES

Garst, Wayne

Funeral services for Wayne step-children Vickie Foy (Matt) and Garst were held Friday, April 15, 2022, in the McCoy Funeral Home Chapel with Dr. Tommy McDearis officiating. Interment followed in the Memorial Gardens of the New River Valley. The family received friends Thursday at McCoy Funeral Home, Blacksburg.

In lieu of flowers, the family asks that donations be sent to the Blacksburg Fire Department.

Wayne is survived by his wife, Alison Garst; daughters Emily Garst (John Tedesco) and Katie Prewitt;



Connor York; his mother, Mary Frances Garst; sisters Libby Heinemann and Mary Hendrickson; a brother, Jerry Garst; and nieces Morgan, Kellie, Leslie, Lindsay, and Kari, along with numerous great nephews and one great niece.

He was preceded in death by his father, Don Allen Garst.

As we all know, Wayne spent his whole life helping people. He will continue to save lives through the gift of organ donation.

McClelland, Dr. George Brown

George (Mac) Brown McClelland, niece Belle Absher, 78, of Blacksburg, passed away March 26, 2022, in Stuart, Fla.

He was born in Melbourne, Fla. on May 13, 1943, and was preceded in death by his parents, George Brown McClelland, Sr., and Clara Stewart McClelland of Melbourne.

Mac is survived by his loving wife, Susan (Absher); his two sons, Todd (Erica) and Brett; his granddaughter, Olivia Grace; his in-laws, Greg and Janet Absher; a nephew Jason Absher; great-nephews Austin and Tabor Absher; and great-



Mac was blessed to be loved and respected by so many people, from his multitude of friends to his patients to his chiropractic colleagues.

Mac was a local boy, having attended middle and high school in Radford. He lettered in football, basketball, and track at Radford High School. He went on to compete on Davidson College's golf team.

After Davidson, Mac decided to become a Doctor of Chiropractic (DC). He graduated from the National College of Chiropractic in

www.montcova.com

See Obituaries, page 6

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. Follow us on Facebook

St. Philip's Anglican Church, 306 Progress Street, NE, Blacksburg, Virginia 24060, (540) 552-1771, 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 for mid-week 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 nurture meaningful connections to God and others through worship, spiritual growth, and 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: fbcradford.org 540-639-4419. Worship is in-person and live-streamed on Facebook and on our YouTube channel: First Baptist Church Radford.

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

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: Hal Sonafank, 1-336-583-4822. Sunday School 10 a.m.; Morning Worship 11 a.m.; Bible Study 10:30 a.m. Tuesdays. Website: 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!

(DOC - DISCIPLES OF CHRIST)

Snowville Christian Church, 5436 Lead Mine Rd., Hiwassee, VA 24347, Pastor: Jerry King, Website: www.SnowvilleChristianChurch.com (and Facebook), Office: 540-633-3761, Email: office@SnowvilleChristianChurch.com, Sunday Worship Service: 11:00 a.m., Sunday School: 10:00 a.m., Thursday Bible Study: 6:00 p.m., We are: "Inspiring hope, helping people grow their faith, and sharing God's love with others!"

Montgomery County WORSHIP DIRECTORY

GOODBYE TO GUILT

Read Psalms 101:1-8; 103:1-22

Do you feel guilty long after a situation has been resolved? Do you continue to mentally kick yourself for rash words uttered in anger? Do errors you could have avoided keep you awake at night?

Such lingering self-reproach is unhealthy. When you realize you've made a mistake, take the necessary steps to correct it; then let it go. Focusing on past problems will not lead to a productive future.

If you have repented of sin and confessed it to the Lord, do not doubt God has forgiven you. His Word makes that emphatically clear.

As far as the east is from the west, so far has he removed our transgressions from us (Psalm 103:12).

God totally wipes clean our forgiven past. He not only removes the guilt of our sin, but the punishment we deserve. Because Jesus died for our sins, we can live eternally. He set us free from sin and guilt.

Guilt exposes the wrong committed. A forgiven sinner has no reason for guilt to remain (1 John 1:9). If you struggle with guilt, ask God to help you find release.

Thought for Today: Let guilt guide you to God. He has the solution.

Quicklook: Psalm 103:1-12

If your church is not listed and if you are interested, call Randy Thompson at 540-389-9355 or email at advertise@ourvalley.org

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 for program listings, 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 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.

LUTHERAN

Luther Memorial Lutheran Church ELCA, 600 Prices Fork Rd, Blacksburg. Weekly Online Worship at 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 luthermemorialblacksburg@

gmail.com, or contact the church office, (540) 951-1000. Rev. Monica Weber, pastor.

MULTI-CULTURAL NON-DENOMINATIONAL Christian Growth Center, 1850 Electic Way, Christiansburg, VA 24073 (beside Hubbell Lighting). Sunday Worship: 9:30am Prayer, 10:00am Service *Nursery Available. Lead Pastor: Todd Hallinan. Founding Pastor: Rob Sowell. Mission: Sow, Grow, & Go Sow Faith! Grow in Righteousness! Go into all the world in the authority of the believer! 540-382-2908.

PENTECOSTAL HOLINESS Merrimac Pentecostal Holiness Church, Rev. Richard Hall (540) 552-7194. pastorhall29@gmail.com. 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.

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

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 540-510-0952. The building is totally handicapped accessible. Website: christwesleyanchurch.org

Obituaries

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Illinois and then headed to Vietnam to serve his country, 1970-1971 (US Army, Infantry; Captain). Upon returning from Vietnam, he went into practice with his father, who retired soon after. Mac continued the practice until 2010.

During this time, Mac was heavily involved in his profession, serving in many organizations and achieving the highest office in each one, including Chairman of the Board of the American Chiropractic Association (ACA), the highest office in the profession. He was active in the profession not only within the United States, but also worldwide. He was heavily involved in chiropractic research, and the "ACA Researcher of the Year" award was renamed the "George B. McClelland Researcher of the Year" award in 2005.

Due to his exemplary service in so many ways, his name was read into the United States Congressional Record.

In addition to his service to his country and his profession, Mac was involved in the community, reaching

the top levels of those organizations as well. He was President of the Montgomery County Chamber of Commerce and the Blacksburg Country Club.

Mac enjoyed socializing and military history, but his favorite pastime was golf and anything golf related. He was an outstanding golfer, and was known as such throughout the area, winning many tournaments including several Blacksburg Country Club championships and the Greater Blacksburg Open.

A celebration of Mac's life will be held sometime in the summer of 2022. In lieu of flowers,

memorial contributions may be made to Blacksburg Battles Cancer, which raises funds for cancer-focused non-profit organizations serving the local community (c/o 1064 Clubhouse Drive, Blacksburg VA 24060 or <https://www.blacksburgbattlescancer.org/donate>) and/or the NCMIC Foundation, dedicated to funding chiropractic research and education (<https://www.ncmicfoundation.org/how-to-give/>).

Martin, Norman Stanley

Norman Stanley Martin, 79, of Christiansburg, died Monday, April 11, 2022, at Roanoke Memorial Hospital.

He was born in Montgomery County on August 16, 1942, to the late Daniel and Zeffie Loretta Lawson Martin.

He was preceded in death by his wife, Rena Magdeline Martin; brothers Jerry Martin and Daniel (Genie) Martin; and sisters Susie Jewell and Bertha Martin.

He is survived by his sons and daughters-in-law, Michael and Lisa L. Martin, Richard and Lisa M. Martin, and Donald Martin; grandchildren Scott Martin (Tiffany),

Zachary Martin, Alicia Early (Kyle), Lucy Martin, Connor Martin, Justin Martin, and Hunter Martin; great-grandchildren Averie, Graceyn, Peyton, Brysen, and Harper; a sister, Deloris Linkous; a brother and sister-in-law, Phillip and Nadine Martin; and a sister-in-law, Iola Melton.

Funeral services were conducted Thursday, April 14, 2022, in the McCoy Funeral Home Chapel with the Rev. Phillip Martin officiating. The family received friends prior to the service at McCoy Funeral Home 150 Country Club Dr. SW, Blacksburg.



Webb, James Allen

James Allen Webb, 53, passed away Friday, April 8, 2022, at his home in Pulaski.

He was a truck driver with Smith Trucking.

Survivors include his wife, Tressa Jo Wright Webb; daughters Kaytlin Haygood (Cameron) and Samantha Orange; sons Dexter Wright and Michael Orange, Jr.; grandchildren Camden Dooley and Carlee Dooley; his parents, George Thomas and Linda Griner Webb; a brother, Tommy Webb, Jr.; sisters Amanda Wilcox (Thomas)



and Karen Hendron (Richard); a special puppy, Yoshie Bear; and many other relatives and friends.

The family received friends on Tuesday, April 12, 2022, at the Mullins Funeral Home & Crematory. Funeral services were held at 1 p.m. Interment followed in Highland Memory Gardens in Dublin.

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



PHOTO BY CHASE PARKER FOR VIRGINIA TECH

Celebrated authors pose for a group picture at the Virginia Tech Authors Recognition Event.

University Libraries honors Virginia Tech authors during recognition event

Virginia Tech and University Libraries recently honored more than 200 authors who wrote 250 books in the three years since the last Virginia Tech Authors Recognition Event was held in Newman Library.

"We have been doing this since spring 2006, and the last time we did this was March 2019. We scheduled the event for March 2020 late in the month. We had to cancel, and we all know why," University Libraries Dean Tyler Walters said during his welcome remarks at the event. "It's been three years, so we've got a lot of books and a lot of authors to celebrate tonight."

Since 2006, the recognition event has grown and changed. In 2010, the name changed from the Virginia Tech Faculty Authors Recognition Event to The Virginia Tech Authors Recognition Event to also incorporate books and related materials from staff and student published authors. Also in 2010, the University Libraries included film and music because they too are critical publications

for many disciplines at Virginia Tech. The event also honors those who publish in open access journals with the help of the University Libraries Open Access Subvention Fund.

"The diversity of topics is really important," said Walters. "It shows off Virginia Tech's role in the world. Obviously, we are historically known for agriculture and engineering. But topics are wide ranging. There's a book about hip hop, there's a children's book, there are history books, and books about human computer interactions. It runs the gamut. It shows how comprehensive Virginia Tech really is and the wide variety of places it can make an impact and help people."

During the months prior to the event, the University Libraries purchased books authored by Virginia Tech faculty, staff, and students since the 2019 recognition reception. A large display of books, musical scores, and other ancillary items offered attendees a chance to enjoy the wide breadth

of scholarship being celebrated. This year, the University Libraries created a form for authors to submit their titles if they did not see their publication already listed on the event's libguide informational site. The 2023 submission form is available for authors to submit for consideration recently published or soon-to-be-published books for recognition during the next celebration.

Provost Cyril Clarke took time during the celebration to peruse the books on display and remark on the diversity of topics and its importance.

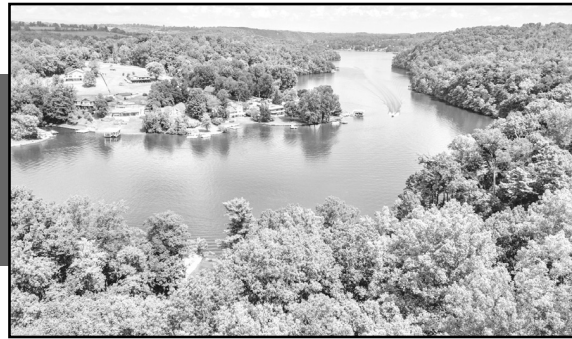
"I wouldn't have had the opportunity to engage and enjoy that diversity of topics had it not been for the diversity of scholarship represented in these books here," he said. "Thank you to the library for what you do in enabling and facilitating scholarship, and thank you and congratulations to the many authors and all that you've accomplished that is presented today, but no less represents the work of several years. Well done."

ONLINE AUCTION

Ends Thursday, May 5th @ 4 PM

Lots for Sale on Claytor Lake in Pulaski VA!
Graham Morris Ln, Pulaski VA 24301

Bid Now at VaAuctionPro.com



You have the opportunity to purchase lakefront property in Pulaski VA! There are 5 lots available which range from 2 - 6 acres. The depth along the bank ranges from 12-15' and is about 70' in the middle. The lots are located on Graham Morris Lane which is a private drive in Pulaski County on the Peak Creek Section of Claytor Lake. Each lot is mostly wooded, has frontage on Claytor Lake, are approved for well and 3 BR septic and have dock permits.

Extensive, deliberate, and careful consideration was taken by engineers, soil scientists, developer, & APCO to ensure each lot within Grahams Pointe has great shoreline, road access, buildable areas, & dock permits, while preserving the lake view & private setting of the neighborhood and each individual lot.

The lots will be sold in five separate offerings. Bidders desiring more than one lot will need to be high bidder on all lots desired. Each offering will stay open until all bidding is complete and all offerings will close simultaneously.

Offering # 1 - 2.73 Acres

Accessed by Left Fork Ln off Graham Morris Ln. Perked for 3 BR Home. Has a Dock Permit and 250' of Claytor Lake Shoreline.

Offering # 3 - 2.944 Acres

Accessed by Graham Morris Ln. Perked for 3 BR Home. Has a Dock Permit and 325' of Claytor Lake Shoreline.

Offering # 2 - 3.403 Acres

Accessed by Graham Morris Ln. Perked for 3 BR Home. Has a Dock Permit and 159' of Claytor Lake Shoreline.

Offering # 4 - 4.417 Acres

Accessed by Graham Morris Ln. Perked for 3 BR Home. Has a Dock Permit and 528' of Claytor Lake Shoreline.

Offering # 5 - 6.175 Acres

Accessed by Graham Morris Ln. Perked for 3 BR Home. Has a Dock Permit and 657' of Claytor Lake Shoreline.

Preview Dates - Saturday April 23rd at 11 AM
& Wednesday April 27th at 3 PM

Terms - 10% Buyer's Premium will be added to final high bid to arrive at contract price. \$10,000 Earnest Money Deposit per lot 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. Download Bidder Pack at VAAuctionPro.com

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or Danielle Dillon, Realtor at 540-597-7268 or
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Blue Ridge Land
& Auction Co., Inc

Soil

from page 4

examined by an anthropology team. Bodmer believes a bracelet found at a Montgomery County dig is the one her sister was wearing on the night she disappeared.

Bodmer admits it is a long shot to gain DNA on those fragments found in the Epperly home because the fragments that remain were so tiny. "But it is worth trying since the bone was not out in the elements like Gina's for 40 years, which makes it all even more difficult," Bodmer said.

The DNA testing is

expected to take place this summer. All of this discussion comes as a documentary begins production in Radford on the case, based on a book titled "Under the Trestle."

Bodmer has been critical of the production but remains optimistic she will soon have answers about Gina's final resting places. She believes the current script will not give the true details of the case and of Gina's life.

The sister points out that the environmental conditions make it

more challenging unless a substantial size of bone is found to work with. So far, that has not happened as the fragments found have been small.

"That last excavation gave us the bone with the best possibility to retrieve DNA and profile specifically to Gina," Bodmer said. "So I am in no hurry. I am not carrying through with this DNA testing to prove to anyone that we have indeed unearthed what was possible to retrieve, as best as we could after 40 years," she said.

"I will finish what we started in order to help further validate the process that was used to locate these remote places, impossible to have ever found for the betterment of humanity, and at least try to help other victims' families also have closure. Those four females deserve their voice to be heard also," Bodmer said.



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- * Spin Bumpers
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Activities for all ages in a safe, healthy and fun atmosphere

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Send community news and photos to communitynews@ourvalley.org

MONTGOMERY SPORTS

Auburn's Ethan Millirons, Radford's Laney Cline earn basketball honors



Auburn's Ethan Millirons has been named the Class 1 Player of the Year.



Radford High's Laney Cline has been named the all-county/all-city girls basketball Player of the Year.

FILE PHOTOS

Marty Gordon

NRVsports@ourvalley.org

Ethan Millirons led the Auburn High School boys' basketball team to another state title this past March, and this week, he was named the Class 1 player of the year by the Virginia High School Coaches Association.

His father and coach, Terry Millirons was voted the VHSCA coach of the year.

Radford's Laney Cline was named the all-county/all-city girls' basketball player of the year. She was joined

on the 2022 team by Auburn's Allyson Martin, Eastern Montgomery's Lilly Underwood, Christiansburg's Katie Hoover, and Blacksburg's Morgan Cheynet.

This past year, Millirons broke Auburn's career record for points and assists as he led the Eagles to the VHSL Class 1 championship.

Millirons also took all-county/all-city News Messenger/News Journal top honors. He was the 2022 player of the year, and his father was the coach of the year.

Radford's Gavin Cormany, Eastern Montgomery's

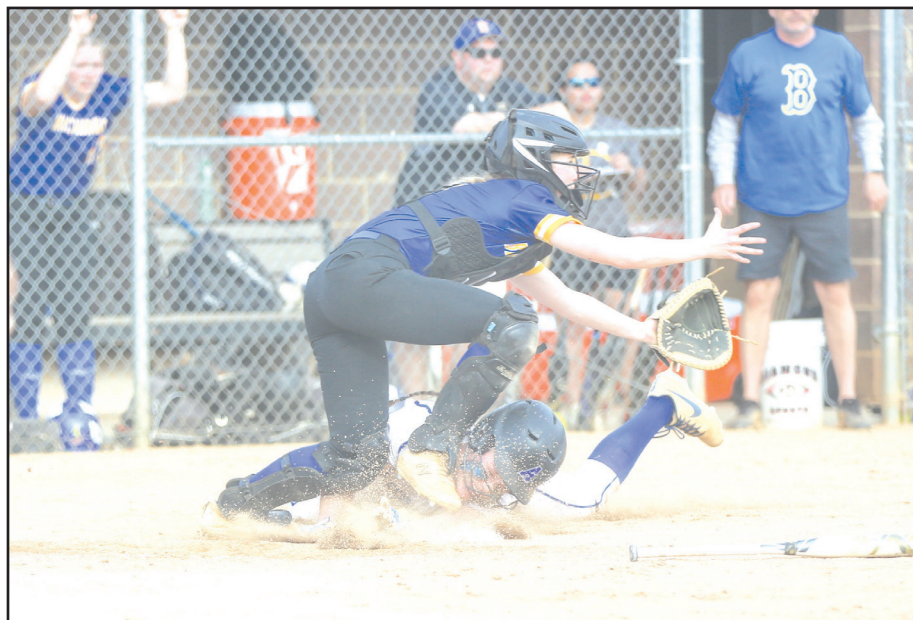
Cameron Simpson, Christiansburg's Tyrique Taylor and Blacksburg's Owen Walters were named to the all-county/all-city team.

The girls' co-coaches of the year were Radford's Tim Worles and Auburn's Tabby Kratz.

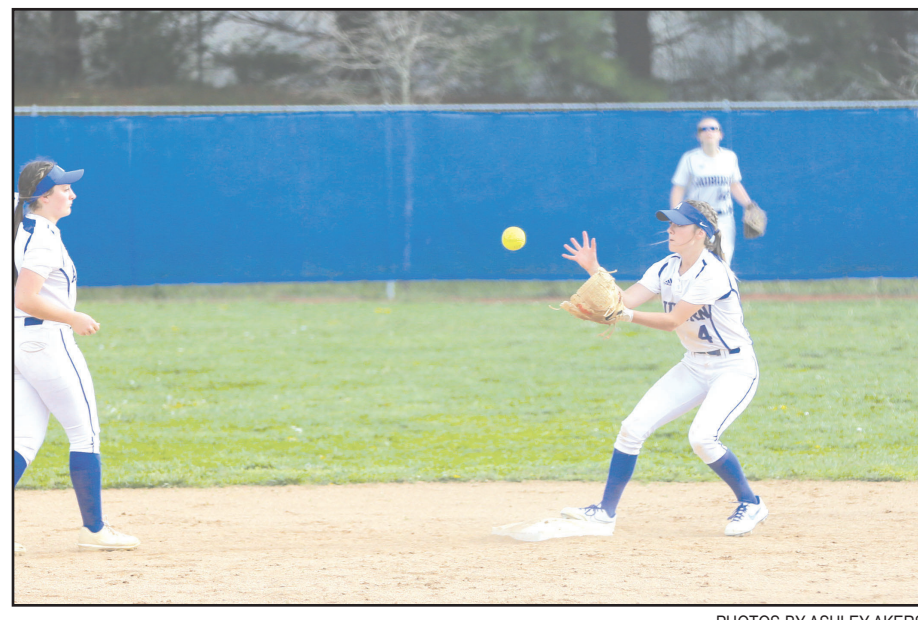
Auburn's Allyson Martin was named to the VHSL's Class 1 first team while teammate Hannah Huffman was named to the second team.

Radford's Gavin Cormany was placed on the Class 2 second team while across the court, Laney Cline was named to the girl's Class 2 first team.

Auburn downs Blacksburg in softball



Auburn's Emma Greenhalgh slides in at home plate covered by Blacksburg catcher Katie Anathema. Greenhalgh is safe as Auburn took the 5-3 win on Wednesday.



Auburn's Rachel Brotherton receives the toss from teammate Avery Zuckerwar for the out at second in Wednesday's action against Blacksburg.

PHOTOS BY ASHLEY AKERS

Radford University gains basketball transfers

Marty Gordon

NRVsports@ourvalley.org

Murray State's DaQuan Smith has announced plans to transfer to Radford University as a graduate student transfer this coming year. Smith joins former Murray State assistant Shane Nichols who came to Radford as a coach under his brother Darris Nichols.

The 6-1 guard shot 81 percent from the free throw line this past season and 33 percent from behind the arc. He saw action in all 25 games with eight starts and had two double-figure scoring games as Murray State was 31-3, losing in the

NCAA second round.

The previous year, Smith made 45 3-pointers and was second on the team with 110 assists. The Holly Springs native led his high school to the 3A state championship game as a senior, scoring 30 or more points in nine games including a career-high of 50 points in a regular season contest. Smith was a four-time Mississippi all-state selection.

Shane Nichols left Murray State after six years where he was a part of the greatest period in program history that includes three-straight Ohio Valley Conference regular season championships (2017-18, 2018-19 and 2019-20) and

two OVC Tournament titles (2017-18, 2018-19). He also helped recruit Smith to play at the school.

Radford head men's basketball coach Darris Nichols has also announced the addition of junior college transfer Justin Archer from Florida Southwestern State College.

"Justin is a rough and rugged, throwback type forward," said Nichols. "He comes from a great family and is a good person on and off the court. He will be a valued member of our team, university and community."

In his lone season with Florida Southwestern, Archer played in 17 games,

starting six. He averaged 6.3 points and 4.1 rebounds per game. Archer's career-best outing came in a November contest against Victory Rock Prep in which he poured in 27 points on 13 of 14 shooting from the field. He also pulled down six rebounds.

Prior to Florida Southwestern College, Archer played a year at Vincennes University, earning NJCAA All-American honors with 11.5 and 5.8 rebounds per game. He scored in double figures 15 times during that 2020-21 season.

Coming from North Brunswick, N.J., Archer played prep ball at Trinity Pawling where he was a four-year letter winner.

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Salem lacrosse downs Christiansburg 19-1



Candace Spaulding prepares to take a shot on the Salem goal in Christiansburg's 19-1 loss.



Maddie Dalton (center) and defender Emily Smith defend the goal against an attempt by Salem's Bailey Stratton.

PHOTOS BY KYMN DAVIDSON-HAMLEY

West Virginia standout commits to RU and other sports news

Marty Gordon

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Radford University has received a soccer commitment from Fairmont, W.Va. standout Bubby

Towns. He has been a first-team all-state selection and led his school to back-to-back state titles, three sectional titles, and three regional ones.

This past year, he set a new school record with his 100th career goal.

In other sports news, the Arizona Diamondbacks have signed former Radford University reliever Ryan Meisinger to a minor league contract. He has pitched in the big leagues in three of the past four seasons, working 21 innings over 18 appearances with the Orioles as a rookie in 2018, posting a 6.43 ERA. Meisinger pitched briefly with the Cardinals in 2020 and saw action in seven games with the Cubs last year. The Dodgers claimed him off waivers last August, then left him off their 40-man roster about a week later.

Over his time in the majors, Meisinger has worked 31 frames with a 7.26 ERA. His 21.7% strikeout rate, 13.8% walk percentage and 37.6% ground-ball rate are all a bit worse than the respective big league averages. Meisinger has an impressive minor league track record, though, owning a sub-3.50 ERA at every level below MLB. He has a 2.97 mark in 103 career Triple-A innings, including a 3.35 ERA in 40 1/3 innings between the Cubs' and Dodgers' top affiliates last year.

During his three-year career as a Highlander, Meisinger became one of the most dominant closers in program and Big South history. Meisinger finished his career with a 12-1 record and 22 saves in 65 games. The righty is the program's all-time leader in ERA, finishing with a 2.60 mark. Meisinger's 22 saves rank He is expected to start the year at AAA Reno.

In other sports news, Lance Terry will look to become the next Big South transfer to make a splash in a Power 6 conference. The former Gardner-Webb shooting guard will transfer to Georgia Tech. Without Jose Alvarado and Moses Wright, Georgia Tech's offense took a big step back this season. The Yellow Jackets finished No. 225 nationally in adjusted offensive efficiency, according to KenPom. This marks the fifth time in six seasons that one of Josh Pastner's teams has

finished outside the Top 175 in adjusted offensive efficiency.

During his time with Gardner Webb, Terry appeared in 55 games (37 starts). He averaged 10.9 points and 2.7 rebounds per game. He is a 36.4 percent career 3-point shooter. Fifty-three percent of Terry's field goal attempts have come from beyond the arc. Terry played his best ball in the 2021-22 season: 31 starts, 14.3 points, 3.4 rebounds, 1.2 assists and 1 one steal per game. He also shot 81 percent from the free throw line.

South Bay Lakers guard Mac McClung has been named the 2021-22 Kia NBA G League Rookie of the Year, the NBA G League announced Wednesday. The award, voted on by the league's head coaches and general managers, recognizes the first-year professional who most significantly contributed to his team's success during the regular season.

McClung (6-2, 185, Texas Tech) averaged 21.7 points, 7.6 assists, 6.6 rebounds and 1.4 steals in 27 regular-season games. He ranked fifth in the NBA G League in assists and ninth in free throw percentage (88.5).

On Feb. 3, McClung recorded 29 points, 11 assists and 11 rebounds against the Salt Lake City Stars to become the first South Bay player to record a triple-double since 2018. He also scored a career-high 37 points against the Santa Cruz Warriors on Feb. 6.

McClung is South Bay's first NBA G League Rookie of the Year honoree. Behind the 3-year-old McClung, the Lakers went 21-11 and secured the No.-3 seed in the NBA G League Playoffs presented by Google Pixel.

McClung, who was not selected in the 2021 NBA Draft, played with the Los Angeles Lakers in the 2021 NBA Summer League. He was one of six South Bay players to earn a GATORADE Call-Up this season, signing two 10-day contracts with the Chicago Bulls. McClung appeared in one game with the Bulls. On April 9, he earned his third GATORADE Call-Up of the season, signing a two-way deal with the Los Angeles Lakers.

In still other sports news, Long Island Nets guard Craig Randall II and Texas Legends guard Carlik Jones finished second and third respectively in the voting for the 2021-22 Kia NBA G League Rookie of the Year Award.

Experimental rules approved for minor league baseball

Major League Baseball (MLB) Wednesday announced a variety of experimental playing rules that have been approved by the competition committee and the playing rules committee for use during the 2022 Minor League season.

Consistent with the preferences of fans, these rules are designed to improve the pace of play, create more action on the field, and reduce player injuries.

Many experimental rules were first tested on a limited basis in 2021. The use of the most promising rules has been expanded to additional levels of play, providing more players and fans with exposure to the rules and allowing the competition committee to better evaluate the impact of each rule on game play. Below is a summary of the experimental rules that will be tested during the 2022 minor league season:

PITCH TIMER: On-field timers will be used at all full-season affiliates to enforce regulations designed to create a crisp pace of play with batters required to be ready to hit and pitchers required to deliver the pitch within allotted periods of time. With runners on base, pitchers will have additional allotted time for each pitch but will risk automatic baserunner advancement if a third pick-off attempt or step-off within the same plate appearance is made without recording an out. These rules were used in tandem in the Low-A West and in the Arizona Fall League in 2021 and led to a significant improvement in pace of play and a reduction in average game time of more than 20 minutes.

LARGER BASES: The size of first, second and third bases will be increased from 15 inches square to 18 inches square at all full-season affiliates to reduce player injuries.

Bigger bases were used in 2021 at the Triple-A level and in the Arizona Fall League and were associated with a decrease in the severity of base-related injuries. In addition, the reduction in distance between bases led to a modest increase in the rate of successful stolen base attempts.

DEFENSIVE POSITIONING: In Double-A, High-A and Low-A, the defensive team must have a minimum of four players on the infield, with at least two infielders completely on either side of second base. These restrictions on defensive positioning are intended to allow infielders to better showcase their athleticism, to increase batting average on balls in play, and to restore a more traditional set of aesthetics and outcomes on batted balls.

AUTOMATED BALL-STRIKE ("ABS"): In select games in Triple-A and in the Low-A Southeast, ABS technology will be used to call balls and strikes. ABS was used in the Atlantic League in 2019, and in select games in the Low-A Southeast and Arizona Fall League in 2021.

TRIPLE-A: In Triple-A West, umpires will call balls and strikes through May 15, and the ABS system will be utilized in all games beginning May 17. In Triple-A East, ABS will be used throughout the season in all games played in Charlotte. In both leagues, the ABS strike zone will approximate the strike zone called by high-level umpires.

LOW-A: In Low-A Southeast, Major League Baseball will test a "Challenge" system in select games in which umpires call balls and strikes and the pitcher, catcher, and batter have the ability to appeal the umpire's call to the ABS system. In Challenge Games, each team will receive three appeals. Successful appeals will be

retained.

Michael Hill, Major League Baseball's Senior Vice President for On-Field Operations, said about the rules, "Given the positive results of recent years, we are continuing to prioritize the kinds of experimental rules that many baseball fans routinely discuss and want to learn more about. The testing throughout the minors will provide us with more valuable feedback and data that can be taken into consideration."

Raul Ibanez, Major League Baseball's Senior Vice President for On-Field Operations, said, "Many people in our game are just like our fans in that they want to see more athleticism and action. This next round of experiments will aim to emphasize the tremendous physical talent of our players and will create an environment that lends itself to an accelerated pace of play."

Theo Epstein, consultant to Major League Baseball, said: "This year's set of experimental rules was informed – and we believe improved – by the feedback of players, staff, umpires and fans, as well as by analysis of the impacts of last year's tests. We are excited to roll out the improved rule experiments to a bigger population of minor league players in an effort to ensure that any potential new regulations fulfill their objectives of creating more action, athleticism, and a better style of play."

Major League Baseball also continues its partnership agreement with the Atlantic League of Professional Baseball (ALPB), which was announced in 2019. This partnership agreement allows Major League Baseball to test experimental playing rules each season. Any new experimental playing rules for the 2022 season will be announced in the coming days.



SUBMITTED PHOTO

Lady Hornets win tournament

CROSSWORD ANSWERS

A	B	C		A	B	A		B	R	A				
L	O	O	S	U	N	I	T	S	B	A	A			
B	L	A	H	S	A	N	A	A	O	G	L	E		
E	X	I	L	E	S	R	I	B	O	S	E			
				R	I	F		L	I	B				
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H	A	E		F	L	O	W	E	R	B	O	X	E	S
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The Virginia Lady Hornets 09 Gaynor-Akers squad took the USA Softball Autism Awareness Benefit Tournament at Moyer Complex in Salem April 9-10. The team finished undefeated in seven games, outscoring opponents 81-3 and winning the tournament. Pictured (front row, left to right) are Addison "Shawty" Hylton, Kylee Snider, Sammie Brein, Aleah DeJesus, Johnnie Gaynor and Macie Akers; (back row, left to right) Coach "O" Gaynor, Sullivan Shealor, Bella Perkins, Aubrey Davis, Coach Rob Brein, Haleigh White, Addie Lowry, Addison Allen and Coach Mark Akers.

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