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## Spring Powwow organizer hopes to raise Native awareness on campus

By Travis Williams

When Melissa Faircloth began her graduate studies at Virginia Tech, she noticed something was different compared with her previous campus experiences.

"I was used to my alma mater, ECU [East Carolina University], having a long-standing powwow," said Faircloth, a member of the Coharie tribal community who just completed her doctoral degree in sociology. "Not only would I attend that one, I would go with friends and make the rounds to other universities' powwows. So I was really interested that there wasn't such a thing for a lot of Virginia universities that could create visibility and awareness and also offer something celebratory and culturally engaging for Native students."

Starting from scratch in 2017, Faircloth, fellow student Caylin Stewart, and Program Support Technician Sarah Woodward spearheaded the university's first Spring Powwow. Having never organized such a ceremony, Faircloth reached out to Rufus Elliott, Virginia Tech's first Monacan alumnus, for guidance.

"While I attended a lot of powwows, I'd never really been on a planning committee," Faircloth said. "I had an understanding of all the components as an attendee, but not having planned such an event, I

sought out his mentorship to make sure we weren't missing anything. That external support was really helpful in getting the first one going."

Now the director of Virginia Tech's American Indian and Indigenous Community Center, Faircloth has helped organize and oversee the annual powwow in some form for the past five years. Because of restrictions related to the COVID-19 pandemic, the 2020 event was canceled and the 2021 version was held in a virtual format.

"It definitely wasn't the same feeling or vibe as it is being in person. Powwows are very colorful. There's usually lots of food, there's singing, there's drumming. So you have all these things engaging all the senses that don't have the same impact online," Faircloth said. "But we were also happy to have a presence and even used the intermission space as an opportunity for several campus partners and myself to speak to prospective students about the resources that exist for Native students at Virginia Tech."

Returning to an in-person format, the 2022 Spring Powwow is scheduled to be held on the Graduate Life Center Lawn today, April 23, from noon to 5 p.m. And along with the traditional event components, this year, for the first time, T-shirts will be available to attendees for free.



PHOTO BY MELISSA FAIRCLOTH FOR VIRGINIA TECH

**Christian Stewart, a student studying wildlife conservation, wears traditional regalia as he takes part in a previous powwow.**

"Each year we try to support a Native artist, and this year, the shirts were designed by Sadie Red Wing," Faircloth said.

Red Wing is a Lakota graphic designer and advocate from the Spirit Lake Nation of Fort Totten, North Dakota, and an as-

stant professor at the Ontario College of Art and Design University in Toronto.

"She was inspired by patchwork that she used to see her grandmother and other women in the community do," Faircloth said. "They're very cool and colorful."



SUBMITTED PHOTO

**A \$5 million pledge by VT alumnus Win Sheridan in support of the Virginia Tech football program will help fund a redesign and renovation of the Hokies' locker room facility.**

## Virginia Tech alum Win Sheridan makes \$5 million pledge to football program

Virginia Tech director of athletics Whit Babcock announced Wednesday that Virginia Tech alumnus and longtime benefactor Win Sheridan has pledged \$5 million to the Virginia Tech football program.

Sheridan's gift will help fund a complete redesign and renovation of the Hokies' locker room fa-

cility. A variety of design options and upgrades are currently under consideration. Conceptual renderings for the project will be shared at a later date once further details are finalized and approved.

"I am extremely enthusiastic about the direction of the Virginia Tech football program under the leadership of head coach

Brent Pry," Sheridan said. "Coach Pry was working under Coach Beamer when the Hokies truly emerged onto the national stage with a historic win in the 1995 Sugar Bowl, a victory that helped propel Tech to the national championship game following the 1999 season."

See Pledge, page 4

## University celebrates opening of facility for The Market of Virginia Tech

By Jimmy Robertson

Celebrating a program that helps Virginia Tech students facing food insecurity, university leaders and donors on Saturday held a ceremonial opening of the facility that now houses The Market of Virginia Tech.

The Market is a food assistance program launched in September 2020 thanks to \$1.5 million donated by alumni couple Hema Sanghani '99 and Mehul Sanghani '98 of McLean, Va. The program has attracted hundreds of additional donations, including a recent five-figure gift from former Hokie quarterback Tyrod Tay-

lor, now with the New York Giants.

On Saturday, Taylor joined with the Sanghanis, Virginia Tech President Tim Sands, and other university leaders to cut the ribbon for The Market facility. The facility, which has been in use since the start of this 2021-22 academic year, is on University City Boulevard a short distance from campus.

"We have always felt a certain burden by those who experience food insecurity," said Hema Sanghani, who earned her Virginia Tech degree in

See Facility, page 4



SUBMITTED PHOTO

**The food access program launched by a gift from alumni couple Mehul and Hema Sanghani has seen hundreds of donations from Hokies, including NFL quarterback Tyrod Taylor.**

## Crash fatalities reached 14-year high on Virginia roadways in 2021

Nine hundred and sixty-eight people died in crashes on Virginia roadways in 2021, a 14-year high. That total represented a 14.3% increase over 2020 and the highest number of fatalities since 2007.

So far in 2022, 245 people have been killed in crashes on Virginia roadways, a 12% increase compared to this point in 2021.

Thus, the Department of Motor Vehicles (DMV) is urging Virginians to respond with simple actions that can help reduce the number of deaths on the commonwealth's roadways.

"There are immediate, simple actions Virginians can take to save lives on our roadways," said Acting DMV Commis-

sioner Linda Ford, the Governor's Highway Safety Representative. "Slow down, buckle up, focus on the task of driving and never drive impaired. It truly is that simple."

"This is critically important as fatalities continue to increase this year," Ford said. "Vehicles and roadways are safer than they ever have been, yet we continue to lose lives to senseless crashes."

According to final crash statistics from DMV's Highway Safety Office, fatalities increased across a number of categories including speed-related fatalities; commercial motor vehicle-involved fatalities; and fatalities of motorcyclists, pedestri-

See Crash, page 4

## Crashes kill two in Floyd

A pair of vehicle crashes in Floyd County resulted in the deaths of two individuals.

The first accident involved a single vehicle on Monday, April 18, on Route 58 at 10:46 a.m., just east of Route 780 in Floyd County.

According to the Virginia State Police, which is investigating the accident, a 2020 Ford Explorer was traveling west on Route 58 when the vehicle ran off the left side of the roadway, struck an embankment, and overturned.

Michael A. Borer, 61, of Ottawa, Ohio, was the Explorer's driver. He was wearing his seatbelt and was not injured. The passenger in the rear seat, Alicia Michelle Borer, 30, was ejected from the vehicle during the crash and

died at the scene.

The second crash involved two vehicles on Tuesday, April 19, on Route 8, and left Taylor Leigh Bedsaul, 25, of Floyd dead at the scene. According to the Virginia State Police, which is investigating the accident, a 2001 GMC Sonoma was traveling south on Route 8 when the vehicle lost control, crossed the centerline and struck a 2019 Honda CRV that was traveling north.

Bedsaul was the driver of the GMC and was not wearing her seatbelt. Thomas M. Jasikoff, 69, of Fort Myers, Fla., was the Honda's driver. He was wearing his seatbelt and was transported to the hospital for injuries received in the crash.

Speed was a factor in the second crash.



# UPCOMING EVENTS

## Now through April 23:

### Blacksburg fire hydrant flushing

The Town of Blacksburg is flushing fire hydrants in the Northeast Quadrant of town through today, April 23. This can cause temporary pressure fluctuations and discolored water, which will subside after flushing is complete. For more information, call 540-443-1300.

## Now through April 30:

### Free prom dresses

By appointment only at the Meadowbrook Public Library. Prom dresses of all sizes are available for free to anyone in Montgomery County, Floyd County, and throughout the NRV. Call (540) 268-1964 to make an appointment to try on and choose a free prom dress.

## Saturday, April 23:

### Blood drive

A Red Cross blood drive in memory of Mark Stewart is being held in the main room of Professional Rehabilitation Associates, 1200 Tyler Ave., Radford, from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. Call 1-800 RED CROSS (1-800-733-2767) or visit RedCrossBlood.org and enter "Mark" to schedule an appointment.

### Spring children's consignment sale

Blacksburg United Methodist Church is holding 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. today. Great deals are available 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 brand new. 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. Spend an afternoon of free bingo at the library with a variety of prizes. For all ages. Registration is required as space is limited.

### Craft supply swap

At the Blacksburg Library; 2 p.m. Participants can bring items in to swap with other crafters. The event is free and open to everyone. All leftovers will go to benefit the 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 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 is 8 a.m. until 5:30 p.m. The schedule for Tuesday is 8 a.m. to 6 p.m., and the schedule for Wednesday is 8 a.m. until 12:30 p.m. The fee is \$300. Contact Caroline Ratkus at cratkus@christiansburg.org to sign up.

## Monday, April 25:

### Tot storytime

At the Christiansburg Library; 10 a.m. Share stories, rhymes, music and movement. Develop early literacy skills and encourage a love of reading. For ages 0 to 2.

### Talking about Books: "Beekeeper's Apprentice"

At the Blacksburg Library; 11 a.m. Discussed this month is "Beekeeper's Apprentice." Call (540) 552-8246 to reserve a copy.

## 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.

### Toddler storytime

At the Blacksburg Library; 10 a.m. Share stories, rhymes, music and movement. Develop early literacy skills and encourage a love of reading. For ages 2 to 3.

### Tot storytime

At the Blacksburg Library; 11 a.m. For ages 0 to 2.

### Peep houses

At the Blacksburg Library; 4:30 p.m. Participants will build a cozy little graham cracker home for their marsh-

mallow Peep buddies. Registration is required. All ages are welcome.

### Science fiction and fantasy book club

At the Blacksburg Library; 6:30 p.m. To be discussed is "A Fire Upon the Deep" by Vernor Vinge. Call (540) 552-8246 to reserve a copy.

## Wednesday, April 27:

### Pre-K storytime

At the Blacksburg Library; 11 a.m. Share stories, rhymes, music and movement, and a craft as a family. Develop early literacy skills and encourage a love of reading. For ages 3 to 5.

### Lunch and Learn: Invasive plants

At the Blacksburg Library; noon. Learn to identify some of the most unwanted invasive plants with local expert Beth Umberger, who has been leading invasive plant removal efforts in Stadium Woods and local parks for many years. In addition to her presentation, Umberger will have samples of some of the worst invasive plants for in-person participants to see up close.

### Loops group

At the Blacksburg Library; 2 p.m. Participants can bring a project and join the library's loops group for community and conversation. Everyone is welcome.

### Teen book club: "Firekeeper's Daughter"

Virtual/Online at www.mfml.org; 4 p.m. To be discussed this month is "Firekeeper's Daughter" by Angeline Boulley. Email mroach@mfml.org with any questions.

## Thursday, April 28:

### IBLA 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.

### All ages storytime

At the Meadowbrook Library; 10:30 a.m. Share stories, rhymes, music and movement, and a craft as a family. Develop early literacy skills and encourage a love of reading.

## 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 are \$7 for adults and \$3.50 for children. RU students are free with ID. For tickets visit www.radfordactivities.com or call 540-831-5420.

## Friday, April 29:

### All ages storytime

At the Christiansburg Library; 11 a.m. Share stories, rhymes, music and movement, and a craft as a family. Develop early literacy skills and encourage a love of reading.

### Teen game day

At the Blacksburg Library; 1 p.m. Spend an afternoon playing games like Among Us and Jackbox in person with other teens. Participants should bring a device and download Among Us prior to the program. Pizza and beverages will be provided. Registration is required.

### Faux stained glass

At the Christiansburg Library; 2 p.m. Participants can turn a simple picture frame into a beautiful stained glass creation with just a couple of supplies, which will be provided. Ages 10 and up. Registration is required.

## Saturday, April 30:

### American Business Women's Association April luncheon meeting

11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the Holiday Inn Christiansburg-Blacksburg, 99 Bradley Dr., Christiansburg. Cost is \$14.25. Instead of hearing from a guest speaker this month, the association will use its time together to get to know one another better. RSVP by contacting Terri Welch at christiansburg@wineanddesign.com.

### Dancing on the Edge

At the Bondurant Auditorium on Radford University's campus; 2 p.m. Adult tickets are \$7; children's tickets are \$3.50; RU students admitted free with ID. For tickets visit www.radfordactivities.com or call 540-831-5420.

### Healthy Kids Day

The YMCA at Virginia Tech will celebrate Healthy Kids Day from 10 a.m. until 3 p.m. on the field and tennis courts between Cassell Coliseum and the YMCA Lancaster House on Washington St. SW. in Blacksburg. Healthy Kids Day is a national initiative to improve the health and well-being of kids. It is a free "summer kick-

off" event with music, games, healthy snacks, crafts, and educational activities for families. Local organizations will also be promoting various summer programs and activities for kids.

### All ages storytime

At the Blacksburg Library; 11 a.m. Share stories, rhymes, music and movement, and a craft as a family. Develop early literacy skills and encourage a love of reading.

### Spring plant swap

At the Blacksburg Library; 2 p.m. Participants can bring plants, bulbs, and seeds to swap. Vegetable plants, house plants, landscape plants, and flowers are welcome. 2 to 2:30 p.m. to bring plants in and 2:30 p.m. for the first swap, 2:45 p.m. for the second round.

### Mother's Day gift

At the Meadowbrook Public Library; 2 p.m. Participants can make a special Mother's Day gift and give it to someone special. They can fill a fancy teacup with tea and treats and then gift-wrap it.

## Thursday, May 5:

### Virginia Tech Forest Landowner Extravaganza

The College of Natural Resources and Environment and the Department of Forest Resources and Environmental Conservation are hosting from 12:30 p.m. to 5 p.m. The day begins with a catered lunch with speakers. After lunch, participants can choose from five opportunities; transportation to off-campus sites will be provided. They are Preparing for Generation NEXT Legacy Planning (workshop); Tree Identification and Forest Ecology at Pandapas Pond (walking tour); Agroforestry Options at the Catawba Sustainability Center (walking tour); a tour of Virginia Tech's Urban Forest (walking tour); or Ongoing Research and Innovations in Forest Products (workshop). The event takes place concurrently with the Virginia Forestry Summit at Virginia Tech May 3 through May 5. The cost is \$10 for summit attendees and \$15 for others. Register at www.vt.edu. For questions contact Jennifer Gagnon at 540-231-6391 or jgagnon@vt.edu.

### American Legion meeting

American Legion, Harvey-Howe-Carper Post 30 will meet at 7 p.m. at the VFW Post Home on 102 Watts St. in Radford. For further information, call 540-250-2283 or 540-239-9864.

## Tuesday, May 10:

### Sons of Confederate Veterans Meeting

The Sons of Confederate Veterans, Stuart Horse Artillery Camp 1784 will meet at 7 p.m. at Aly's Italian Family Restaurant at 3204 Riner Road. Members of the United Daughters of the Confederacy (UDC) are invited to attend. Camp member James Evans will give a talk on the "CSS Hunley." For further information, call 540-320-4315 or 540-239-9864.

## 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.

## Tuesday, May 17:

### PATH Committee meeting

The New River Health District's PATH (Partnership for Access to Healthcare) Committee will convene from 8:30 to 10 a.m. at the Cross Point Foursquare Conference Center at 900 Life Dr. in Christiansburg for a discussion of PATH's future. The meeting will be in person with remote access available. Coffee and light refreshments will be served.

## Thursday, May 26:

### Scrabble Tournament for Literacy

The 14th annual Scrabble Tournament for Literacy will raise funds for Literacy Volunteers of the New River Valley (LVNRV) to help local adults learn to read. At the German Club Manor on Virginia Tech's Blacksburg campus from 5:30 to 8:30 p.m. Radford City Mayor David Horton will be the emcee with local food offerings available. Teams of three will play two games of Scrabble against two different teams with the scores from both games added together to determine the winner. Awards will be given to the top scorer, the longest word, the highest score word, and the most creative team name. Register as a team for \$100 or sign up as an individual for \$35, and the organization will match a player with a team. To register, go to www.lvnrv.org, email info@lvnrv.org, or call 540-382-7262.

## 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.

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# NRV Leading Lights holds recognition event



NRV Leading Lights honored Josiah Shrestha of Blacksburg High School for his volunteer work in the community.



Leading Lights community volunteers from Montgomery County honored on April 12 were (left to right) Sherri Blevins, Teresa Cassell, Donna Christian, John Beasley, Andrae Hash, Polly Myers, Peggy Rasnick, and Sandra Hagman.



Past Leading Lights honoree Martha Ann Stallings of Blacksburg served as this year's guest speaker.

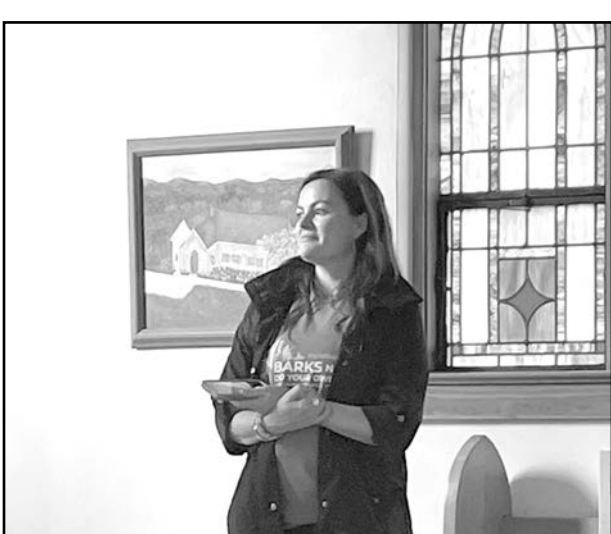


SUBMITTED PHOTOS

Vern Simpson of Montgomery County was honored as a Distinguished Recipient at Leading Lights' award ceremony.

## Radford Rotary Club hears presentation on St. Francis service dog program

The Radford Rotary Club was treated to a presentation about the Saint Francis Service Dog program on April 13. The presenters were Erin Morris, St. Francis's marketing and public relations manager; Tiffany Moeltner, St. Francis's training program manager, and Koa, a St. Francis service dog-in-training. Dogs are trained for individuals with physical or developmental disabilities and facilities such as educational, health care, and courtroom settings. These dogs learn more than 50 skills and tasks, Koa demonstrated her training skills effectively.



SUBMITTED PHOTO

Erin Morris, marketing and public relations manager for the St. Francis Service Dog program, presented to the Radford Rotary Club Wednesday, April 13, a demonstration from a service dog-in-training named Koa.

## Vocal ensemble Tallis Scholars pairs a Renaissance masterwork with a new composition for an imaginative program



The Tallis Scholars performs.

PHOTO COURTESY OF RODRIGO-PÉREZ

Through exceptionally stunning recordings and performances, the Tallis Scholars has established itself as the leading advocate of Renaissance sacred music throughout the world and is widely renowned for its pristine sound.

The ensemble returns to the Moss Arts Center with an imaginative program commissioned in part by the Moss on Thursday, April 28, at 7:30 p.m.

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.

Called "the rock stars of Renaissance vocal music" by The New York Times, Tallis Scholars was founded in 1973 by director Peter Phillips, who has worked with the ensemble to create, through good tuning and blend, the purity and clarity of sound that he feels best serve the Renaissance repertoire, allowing every detail of the musical lines to be heard.

For the Moss performance, the ensemble bridges the 15th and 21st centuries, pairing a masterwork of Renaissance polyphony with a new composition by composer David Lang.

Antoine Brumel's colossal "Earthquake Mass," scored for 12 voices, is a marvel in its imagination and scale. The intricate, dense music comes alive through the clarity, precision, and purity of tone that has been the hallmark of the Tallis Scholars's performances for decades. Brumel's work is matched with Lang's new work, "sun-centered."

Lang, who is co-founder and co-artistic director of the groundbreaking new music collective Bang on a Can, has composed dozens of award-winning works for choir and voice — from chamber works to oratorios to opera — and received the 2008 Pulitzer Prize for another a cappella work,

See Ensemble, page 6



SUBMITTED PHOTO

On April 30, the YMCA at Virginia Tech will celebrate the 30th anniversary of Healthy Kids Day, a free summer kick-off event with races, music, games, snacks, crafts, and educational activities.

## YMCA at VT to celebrate Healthy Kids Day April 30

On April 30, 2022, from 10 a.m. until 3 p.m. at the field and tennis courts between Cassell Coliseum and the YMCA Lancaster House on Washington Street in Blacksburg, the YMCA at Virginia Tech will celebrate the 30th anniversary of Healthy Kids Day®, a national initiative to improve the health and well-being of kids.

Healthy Kids Day® is a free "summer kick-off" event consisting of music, games, healthy snacks, crafts, and educational activities for families.

This year's Healthy Kids Day® festivities will include individuals from the 501st Legion Garrison Tyranus. An all-volunteer organization, the legion seeks to promote interest in Star Wars through the building and wearing of quality costumes and to facilitate the use of

these costumes for Star Wars-related events as well as contributions to the local community through costumed charity and volunteer work.

Local organizations will also be promoting various summer programs and activities that are perfect for kids. On the day of the event, all parents must check-in with the event's volunteers at the registration desk. Free parking will be available in the Cassell Coliseum lot on Beamer Way on Virginia Tech's campus.

As part of this year's Healthy Kids Day® festivities, the YMCA will be holding two races: the Fabulous 4Miler (a competitive, 4-mile race) and the 1-mile Fun Run (a family-oriented, 1-mile race). Individuals can register and learn more about these races at <https://vtymca.org/healthy-kids-day/>.



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Lynn Hurst, General Manager, Salem-Times Register (540)389-9355 or email lhurst@ourvalley.org

**Legals - Montgomery County**

Chambers of the Christiansburg Town Hall, 100 E. Main Street, Christiansburg, Virginia 24073. The purpose of the public hearing is to receive public comments concerning:

**Legals - Montgomery County**

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.

**Help Wanted - General**

**Part Time Newspaper Production Help**

The Salem TimesRegister has openings for afternoon/evening shift work inserting, labeling and bundling newspapers for delivery. No experience necessary. Hours may vary. Will train. \$7.50 per hour. Contact

**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

**Legals - Montgomery County**

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

**Legals - Montgomery County**

Town Hall will be open and available to receive public

SELL IT FAST

IN THE CLASSIFIEDS!



# Crash

from page 1

ans, bicyclists, teen drivers, and mature drivers. Virginia's increase in overall crash fatalities mirrors a startling national trend. According to the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, more than 31,000 people died in crashes in the first nine months of 2021, a 12% increase over the same time period in

2020 and the highest number of fatalities during the first nine months of any year since 2006.

Virginia's DMV and its highway safety partners embrace data-driven strategies to reduce crashes, injuries, and fatalities on Virginia roadways. These range from education and enforcement to grant funding, news me-

dia engagement, and advertising.

"This trend is poised to continue unless Virginians take action," Ford said. "Most people want to contribute to something greater; by driving safely, you can truly make a difference, not just in your life, but in the lives of everyone with whom you share the road."

# Facility

from page 1

finance. "Mehul and I both grew up with very humble beginnings. Our parents both immigrated to this country with practically nothing but the clothes on their back. We may not have had much growing up, and our parents even less, but I can confidently say there was always food on the table. Food is such a basic necessity,

and one that many of us often take for granted. There is an unfortunate stigma for those that ask for help with food.

"We hope this effort will inspire other campuses to take a deeper look into this issue challenging so many of our young students today," Hema Sanghani said. "We see a lot of room to grow The Market into something even

greater and look forward to working together with Virginia Tech for a very long time."

Taylor's donation continues his tradition of philanthropic efforts toward fighting hunger. In 2020, Taylor's foundation made a \$25,000 donation to the Virginia Peninsula Foodbank in his hometown of Hampton, Virginia, and last year his foundation teamed with Kroger and the Virginia Peninsula Foodbank to organize a drive-thru food pantry at Hampton High School, where Taylor played and graduated

before coming to Virginia Tech.

"I'm proud to be here today representing my family, my foundation, and supporting a cause that is near to my heart as we strive to tackle hunger," Taylor said. "I believe that all students deserve the opportunity to pursue their education without the distraction of where their next meal may come from, and so it brings me great joy to stand in the gap with all of you here today. I look forward to many years of supporting The Market at Virginia Tech and us-

ing my platform to shed light on our efforts as we make a difference here in Blacksburg."

This fall's move to a mall frequently used by students offers increased flexibility for participants. Program participants select the foods that best fit their dietary needs from a variety of choices on-site including produce, proteins, dairy, and pantry items.

"Stakeholders across Virginia Tech listened to what students were telling us and have been working together to find ways to meet their

needs," Virginia Tech President Tim Sands said. "We want every student at Virginia Tech to succeed and thrive, and part of that is making sure their basic needs are being met. The Market is one way we can help support our students."

In the 2020-21 academic year alone, The Market provided more than 14,000 meals. The program is run by VT Engage: The Center for Leadership and Service Learning and the Dean of Students Office, both units within Student Affairs.

## News Messenger

Established 1869

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### Give us your view:

editor@ourvalley.org

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.

The News Messenger (USPS 016-490) is published twice a week for \$44 a year in Montgomery County, \$53 elsewhere in Virginia, and \$54 out of state by Virginia Media Inc., P.O. Box 429, Lewisburg, WV 24901. Periodical postage paid at Christiansburg, VA. POSTMASTER: Send address changes to NEWS MESSENGER 1633 W. Main St., Salem, VA 24153.

# Pledge

from page 1

"When our football program is successful, it raises the profile of our entire university," Sheridan said. "I was fortunate to help fund the construction of the current locker room along with some of my best friends, and it's truly my pleasure to help transform this space to meet the needs of Coach Pry and our team for years to come. I'm immensely proud of Virginia Tech and the trajectory of a place that means so much to me. It's a great time to be a Hokie!"

Sheridan co-founded Apex Systems, an information technology services company, in 1995 with fellow Tech alums Brian Callaghan and Jeff Veatch. Acquired by ASGN Incorporated in 2012, Apex Systems had sales of \$2.4 billion in 2021 and employs approximately 30,000 individuals. Sheridan has served as a Director of ASGN Incorporated since 2012.

Sheridan was part of the group that provided substantial funding for the original Team United Locker Room in honor of Frank Beamer that was constructed in 2009 as part of a \$15 million expansion of the Jamerson Athletic Center. Sheridan was joined in that effort to fund the existing locker room facility by Callaghan, Veatch, and fellow Tech alum Ted Hanson.

"Win continues to serve as a great example of the tremendous

impact our alumni can have on our overall success and make in the lives of our student-athletes at Virginia Tech," Babcock said. "Win has consistently set a very high standard in terms of his benevolence and commitment to Tech Athletics over many years," Babcock said. "The redesign and renovation of the football locker room will mark another key project to ensure we provide a first-class experience for our football team, in addition to remaining competitive with our peers in terms of player-centric spaces and recruiting."

"Win is creative and a great leader in his own right. He understands what it takes to be great. We appreciate him stepping up and investing in our momentum and future at this critical time."

"Win has been exceptionally generous to his alma mater over the years," Virginia Tech football head coach Brent Pry said. "On behalf of everyone associated with Virginia Tech football, I would like to personally thank Win for his continued support and specifically his most recent gift. Win's investment in our locker room project will positively impact our football family. We sincerely appreciate Win's example of giving back to this university and his belief in the direction of our football program."

"Win Sheridan and his Apex

partners who helped fund the original construction of our locker room are great Virginia Tech success stories," Hall of Fame coach Frank Beamer said. "More importantly, Win, Jeff, Brian, and Ted are all tremendous people. They have all been wonderful supporters of Tech Football and other campus initiatives over the years. It didn't surprise me at all that Win decided to step up with a generous gift to bring our locker room up to today's standards. I've greatly appreciated Win's friendship and his love of our alma mater over the years. Thank you, Win, for your latest contribution to the success of Virginia Tech."

Investing in the future of Virginia Tech students certainly isn't a new concept for Sheridan, who has contributed over \$8 million to a variety of projects at his alma mater over the years. Virginia Tech's Apex Systems Center for Innovation and Entrepreneurship was named in recognition of a joint commitment of \$5 million by Sheridan, Callaghan, Veatch, and Hanson.

Motivated by a simple vision to create a university-wide platform for entrepreneurship, the Apex Systems Center for Innovation and Entrepreneurship is supported by alumni highly committed to supporting student founders and launching the center on a trajectory for rapid growth.

## CROSSWORD PUZZLE

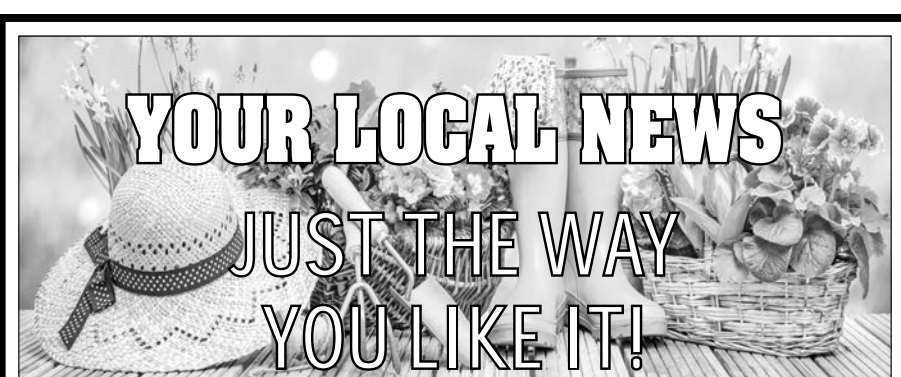
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- CLUES ACROSS**
- Tenor
  - Panthers' signal caller
  - Systems, doctrines, theories
  - Rulers
  - Indonesian coastal town
  - Type of cuisine
  - Kids
  - Single Lens Reflex
  - Extra seed-covering
  - Force out
  - Feline
  - & Stitch
  - Semantic relations
  - A larval frog or toad
  - Sport for speedsters
  - One who is learning
  - Request
  - Famed WWII conference
  - Relieved
  - English broadcaster
  - Car signal

- Grass part
- Trivially
- Serve as a warning
- Centers of activity
- An electrically charged atom
- Small swelling of cells
- Irritates
- "\_\_ your i's, cross your t's"
- Removed
- "Death in the Family" author
- When you hope to arrive
- German district
- Turner and Kennedy
- Midway between south and southeast
- Emerald Isle

- CLUES DOWN**
- Mathematical optimization search method
  - Country along the Arabian peninsula
  - Pointed parts of pens
  - Lake \_\_, one of the Great
  - Peruvian region
  - State capital of Georgia
  - Those killed for their beliefs
  - Typeface
  - Shrill cry
  - Sends via the Postal Service
  - Holds grain
  - Occurring at a fitting time
  - Vogue
  - Born of
  - Get the job done
  - Teletype (Computers)
  - Small southern constellation

- Decaliters
- Area near the concert stage
- Social insect living in organized colonies
- Winter activity
- Snakelike fish
- Not wet
- In addition to
- In league
- Barrels per day (abbr.)
- Monetary unit
- Marked
- Emerges
- Shape by heating
- Early Slavic society
- Italian automaker
- Racing legend Earnhardt
- A type of name
- \_\_ Strauss, jeans maker
- Famed garden



## News Messenger

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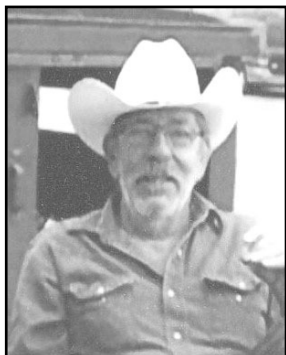
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# OBITUARIES

## Cooper, Kenneth Maynard "Cowboy"

Kenneth Maynard "Cowboy" five grandchildren; special Shih Tzu, Abby; a nephew, Dale Scott; a special first cousin, Jackie Cooper; and many other relatives and friends.



He retired from R. J. Reynolds after 33 years. Kenneth was preceded in death by his parents, Walter Thomas and Annie Mamie Cooper; and a sister, Betty Yokeley.

Survivors include his special friend and partner of 19 years, Edna P. Buckner Ford and her family, who thought there was no other person like him; sons and daughter-in-law, Gary and Rita Cooper, Randy Cooper, and Jeff Cooper; daughter Kendra Farmer;

The family would like to thank Carilion Hospice for all the care they gave Cowboy.

In lieu of flowers, please consider contributions to Carilion NRV Hospice.

Per his request services will be private.

The Cooper family is in the care of Mullins Funeral Home & Crematory in Radford. [www.mullinsfuneralhome.com](http://www.mullinsfuneralhome.com).

## Jennelle, Jay

Jay Jennelle, 47, of Christiansburg was killed in a single car accident on Friday, April 1, 2022, on his way home from work from Kroger in Christiansburg.

Jay was preceded in death by his father, Allan J Jennelle, Sr.; his maternal grandparents, Mr. and Mrs. G. Arnold Bostic; his uncles, Eric Bostic and Mike Jennelle, and his paternal grandmother, Elizabeth Johnson

He is survived by his mother and stepfather, Carolyn and Jimmy E. Davis; his stepmother, Gail Jennelle and family; his brother, Lucas Jennelle and his wife, Liza; niece Georgia and

nephew Felix Jennelle; sisters Heather Jennelle, Taylor J. Long and Melisa Tomlin; aunts Elaine Kirk, (Mark Coleman) and Teresa Jennelle; uncles Mike Bostic (Pat) and Robin Jennelle; cousins Jerod, Justin, and Jonathan Bostic and other family members.

To honor Jay, the family suggests doing something nice for someone like a small act of kindness. The family extends special thanks to the Christiansburg Police Department, the Christiansburg Rescue Squad, Jay's Kroger family and special neighbors, Julien and Sharon Perdue. A celebration of Jay's life will be held at a later date.

See Obituaries, page 6

[www.montcova.com](http://www.montcova.com)

### ANGLICAN CATHOLIC

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

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

**St. Thomas Anglican Church** - located at 4910 Hubert Rd, NW Roanoke, Va. Traditional Liturgical Lenten Services, Sunday at 10:30 am. Call (540) 589-1299 or visit [www.sttofc.org](http://www.sttofc.org) for 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](http://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](http://www.trinitycburg.org)

### CHURCH OF CHRIST

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

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

### CHURCH OF GOD

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

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

### CHURCH OF THE BRETHREN

**Christiansburg Church of the Brethren**, 310 South Franklin Street. Pastor: Hal Sonafrank, 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](http://www.christiansburgcob.org). A loving family, fueled by the Holy Spirit, grounded in God's Word, and delivering Jesus forgiveness and love to all people. Come as you are... you are welcomed!

### (DOC - DISCIPLES OF CHRIST)

**Snowville Christian Church**, 5436 Lead Mine Rd., Hiwassee, VA 24347, Pastor: Jerry King, Website: [www.SnowvilleChristianChurch.com](http://www.SnowvilleChristianChurch.com) (and Facebook), Office: 540-633-3761, Email: [office@SnowvilleChristianChurch.com](mailto: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

### DEPRESSED SAINTS

Read 1 Kings 19:1 through 20:43

Sometimes Christians get depressed. The cause might be a chemical imbalance, sin, an attack from Satan, or the stress of life, but depression can happen to all of us. Prayer is in order, and in some cases medications might also be needed. Depression is a serious problem, especially for those diagnosed with clinical depression. However, we can always count on the Holy Spirit to gently lead us through the dark days, if we let Him.

The angel of the Lord came back a second time and touched him and said, "Get up and eat, for the journey is too much for you" (1 Kings 19:7).

Godly Elijah, who had just won an incredible victory for the Lord, was hit so hard by depression that he wanted to die. God did not scold him or beat him when he was down. Instead, God sent His angel to gently remind Elijah to eat the food He provided. We, too, must daily eat the Word of God, the Bread of Life, for the "journey is too much" for us to travel in our own might.

Prayer for Today: Lord, encourage the depressed ones today. Draw them to Your Word, where they can find food for the journey.

Quicklook: 1 Kings 19:1-9

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

### ECKANKAR

**Eckankar, the Path of Spiritual Freedom**, is located at 1420 3rd St. SW, Roanoke, VA 24016. However, due to COVID-19, the Light & Sound Services and other ECK programs are currently available online through Zoom. Visit [www.eck-va.org](http://www.eck-va.org) for program listings, [www.meetup.com/Roanoke-Spiritual-Experiences-Group](http://www.meetup.com/Roanoke-Spiritual-Experiences-Group), or call 540-353-5365 and leave a message. We will return your call. Also visit [www.eckankar.org](http://www.eckankar.org) for more information about how the teachings of Eckankar lead you to spiritual freedom.

### EPISCOPAL

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

### LUTHERAN

**Luther Memorial Lutheran Church ELCA**, 600 Prices Fork Rd, Blacksburg. Weekly Online Worship at [www.lmlc.org](http://www.lmlc.org). We are a Reconciling in Christ congregation that welcomes and affirms all people just as they are. For information on Bible studies and Wednesday Vespers, email [luthermemorialblacksburg@gmail.com](mailto: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](mailto:pastorhall29@gmail.com). Sunday School at 10 a.m. and morning worship is 11 a.m. Evening service at 6 p.m. and Wednesday at 7 p.m.

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

**Walton Pentecostal Holiness Church**, 4003 Morning Glory Rd., off Walton Rd. on Rt. 114. 731-1755.

Lee Sarver, pastor. Sun. School 9:30 a.m., Worship 10:30 a.m. & 6: p.m., Wed., 7 p.m.

### UNITED METHODIST

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

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

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

**Wesley Memorial United Methodist Church**, 350 Stafford Drive, Christiansburg, VA 24073, Sunday School 10am, Sunday Worship Service 11am.

### WESLEYAN

**Christ Wesleyan Church**, 525 Harkrader Street, Christiansburg. Public Worship service at 11:00 AM. Sunday School for adults - 10:00 AM. Pastor: Gale Janofski 540-510-0952. The building is totally handicapped accessible. Website: [christwesleyanchurch.org](http://christwesleyanchurch.org)

[www.montcova.com](http://www.montcova.com)



# Obituaries

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## Meredith, Tommy Lee

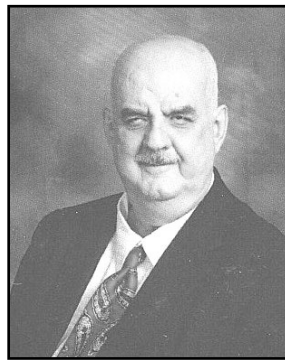
Tommy Lee Meredith, 81, of Radford, peacefully went to be with his Lord and Savior on Monday evening, April 18, 2022.

Tommy was born in Pembroke, Va. on Oct. 7, 1940, the son of the late Clyde and Lillie Kate Meredith. He was a graduate of the Virginia School for The Deaf and Blind where he was a Hall of Fame wrestler, but most of all he was a beloved son of the City of Radford.

Tommy worked as the proprietor of the gift and coffee shop in the old Radford Hospital and the NRVMC for over 50 years, spreading love and cheer to all who entered there. Blind from birth, Tommy could nonetheless recognize the voices of Radford citizens without fail, having a cheery word of encouragement for all he met.

He was a beloved member of Central United Methodist Church since the mid-1960s and was a member of the choir for over 50 years. He helped start the Monday Men's Prayer Breakfast ministry as well as the Men's Night Out ministry. He also served as activities chair for the United Methodist Men. He loved to sing and served many years in the NRV Community Chorus. When he moved to Commonwealth Senior Living, he faithfully sang every Sunday for their worship service.

Tommy was a lover of all things having



to do with Radford High School's sports programs and will be forever remembered as a Bobcat fan who faithfully followed his Radford Bobcats all over the state. In 2016, Tommy was honored by a resolution of the Radford City Council, receiving the Robert Allen Hall Humanitarian Service Above Self Citizenship Award for "cheering Radford through the good times and bad and showing the

community how to overcome adversity." Later in July of that year he also received the Mason's Community Builders Award for his efforts "in making the community a better place in which to live."

Tommy was preceded in death by his wife, Isabell Elaine Campbell Meredith.

He is survived by his two sisters, Clara Ann Duncan of Blacksburg and Aleta Lewis of Cleveland, Ohio.

Funeral services will be held at 11 a.m. on Tuesday, April 26, 2022, at Central United Methodist Church in Radford. Interment will follow in Sunrise Burial Park.

The family will receive friends from 4 until 6 p.m. on Monday evening, April 25, at the church.

In lieu of flowers, please consider donations to the Central UMC Benevolence Fund, PO Box 611, Radford, VA 24143.

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

## Taylor, Carol Biggs

A celebration of life for Carol Biggs Taylor of Bend, Ore., and Littleton, Colo., will be held today, Saturday, April 23, 2022, at 11 a.m. in the McCoy Funeral Home Chapel in Blacksburg.

A reception with the family will immediately follow in the Community Room at Warm Hearth Village, 2387 Warm Hearth Dr.

Carol was preceded in death by her parents, Gilbert W. Biggs and Rosalie M. Biggs of North Springfield, Va.

She remains forever in the hearts of those left to cherish her memory, including her husband of 47 years, Mark B. Taylor of Bend, Ore. and Littleton, Colo.; daughters Kim T. Downey, (Brandon), of Bend, Ore., and Melissa Taylor of Atlanta, Ga.; sister Mary W. Biggs, (Mike York), of Blacksburg; and her grandchildren

Harrison and Charlotte Downey of Bend, Ore. Arrangements by McCoy Funeral Home, Blacksburg.



## HOME COUNTRY by Slim Randles

Windy's friends and neighbors started the day off as usual, smiles and waves to each other. But then a change occurred when they heard the first announcement on the Gates of Heaven Chinese Restaurant's loudspeaker car.

"Let's get your day started down at the Mule Barn with a short stack and a cuppa joe that'll jest flat spring yore eyes wide open. Thass always a good idear, campers, and you can tell 'em hello from ol' Windy while you're there.

"And speakin' of Windy, continentally a-course, don't forget to write someone in one a-them fancy universals 'bout 'wardin' your pal Alphonse Wilson one a-them honorary college degrees. Thass right. 'Bout time to honorific them guys all over cow country who can cook you up a meal from nothin' but a cow call and a gentle breeze. And coffee that'll reorgandize yore medulla obligation.

"Then, a-course, you're gonna need somethin' to read, right?" The sound was fading away fast.

"So ya jest whup and spur on down to the Read Me Now bookstore and ask for Sarah McKinley. You'll know her ... right off ... 'cuz she's the only one in there and that means you'll have some uncompromotin' quiet time to do some book lookin'.

The people strolling on the town's sidewalks started smiling then as they continued toward the Baptist Church. But every time they heard a car engine, they became slightly furtive. Yeah, that was it. Furtive and friendly. And as each neighbor was shushed and sent in the door to the church by Pastor Don, the furtivity—hey, it might be a word—and smiles hooked onto a feeling of conspiracy, but in a happy way.

This was one meeting Windy wasn't invited to.

## Ensemble

from page 3

"The Little Match Girl Passion."

His "sun-centered" is a response to Brumel's mass, inspired by Galileo's pursuit of truth, the relentless nature of human curiosity, and the perils of suppressing it. The mass is titled from a bit of chant, the words

meaning "and the Earth moved," which immediately reminded Lang of Galileo, who after being tried for blasphemy for proving the Earth revolves around the sun, apparently muttered, "And yet it moves!"

The Moss Arts Center commissioned

"sun-centered" for the Tallis Scholars in partnership with Cal Performances, Carnegie Hall, the Hopkins Center for the Arts at Dartmouth College, the John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts, Stanford Live, and Concertgebouw Bruges (Belgium).

The Tallis Scholars performs in both sacred and secular venues, giving about 80 concerts each year. In 2013, the group celebrated its 40th anniversary with a world tour, performing 99 events in 80 venues across 16 countries. The group now looks ahead to its 50th anniversary in 2023. In 2020, Gimell Records celebrated 40 years of recording the group by releasing a remastered version of the 1980 recording of Allegri's "Miserere." As of the beginning of the cancellations caused by the COVID-19 crisis, the Tallis Scholars had made 2,327 appearances worldwide.

Recordings by the Tallis Scholars have attracted many awards throughout the world. In 1987, the recording of Josquin's "Missa La sol fa re mi" and "Missa Pange lingua" received Gramophone magazine's Record of the Year award, the first recording of early

music ever to win this coveted award. In 1989, the French magazine Diapason gave two of its Diapason d'Or de l'Année awards for the recordings of a mass and motets by Lassus and for Josquin's two masses based on the chanson "L'Homme armé."

The recording of Palestrina's "Missa Assumpta est Maria" and "Missa Sicut lilium" was awarded Gramophone's Early Music Award in 1991. The group received the 1994 Early Music Award for its recording of music by Cipriano de Rore and the same distinction again in 2005 for the recording of music by John Browne.

The Tallis Scholars was nominated for a Grammy Award in 2001, 2009, and 2010. For its 40th anniversary the group was welcomed into the Gramophone Hall of Fame by public vote.

In a departure for the group, in 2015, it released an album of music by Arvo Pärt called "Tintinnabuli," which received great international praise. The latest recording of Josquin and Bauldewyn masses was released in 2019 and was a Gramophone Editor's Choice.

### ONLINE AUCTION

Ends Thursday, May 5<sup>th</sup> @ 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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# MONTGOMERY SPORTS

## CHS track, soccer star Lily Shepherd headed to Concord University

**Marty Gordon**  
NRVsports@ourvalley.org

Lily Shepherd has excelled in both track and soccer at Christiansburg High School, and this past week she announced her commitment to Concord University.

She said she chose Concord because of the feeling it gave her on a visit to the school.

"I went on my first visit and the coaches were so nice and caring for everyone. There are so many activities around Concord like snowboarding and lakes, and it just makes the school feel like home to me," Shepherd said.

Last year, Shepherd was named to the all-district honorable mention track team. This winter, she placed second in the state meet for the high jump event and was on two relay teams that set new school records.

Concord University is a public university in Athens, W.Va., with a current enrollment of 1,496 students.

Known athletically as the Mountain Lions, Concord University is an NCAA Division II school and is a member of the Mountain East Conference.

Shepherd started running track and playing soccer in the same season in the ninth grade.

"I realized I have a passion for both



FILE PHOTO

**This past week in a quad meet at Christiansburg High School, Lily Shepherd took first place in the girls 200 Meters race with a time of 27:08.**

sports and to run track and play soccer in college was a dream of mine," Shepherd said. She plans to major in preschool education at Concord.

## VT baseball defeats Radford in mid-week tilt

Batting around in an eight-run fifth inning Wednesday night, the No.-8 Virginia Tech baseball team collected its 25th victory of the season by holding off challenger Radford 13-8, at Sherman Carter Memorial Stadium in Radford.

Sophomore shortstop Tanner Schobel led Virginia Tech (25-9) with five RBIs with three run-scoring hits while drawing two walks and plating three runs. Schobel put the exclamation point on Tech's monster fifth inning that featured 11 batters getting to the plate, delivering a three-run homer that pushed the Hokies' lead to 11-5.

Tech's leadoff quarter of Nick Bidison, Gavin Cross, Schobel, and Jack Hurley combined to reach base on 15 of their 24 at-bats, assembling nine hits and six walks. Hurley matched Schobel with three hits in the cleanup spot while Bidison chalked a 2-for-4 performance that included a sacrifice fly.

Fifth-year left-hander Ryan Okuda started and provided Tech with two and two-thirds innings on the mound, surrendering a run on five hits while recording two strikeouts. After the Hokies and the Highlanders had traded first-inning runs, Okuda was handed a 3-1 lead in the third inning as Eduardo Malinowski followed Hurley's RBI single with enough carry on his fly ball to score Schobel from third base.

Radford (12-24) turned the tables on Tech in the bottom of the fourth inning when the Highlanders put together four hits from the first five bat-

ters they sent to the plate. Avery Spencer put Radford on top 4-3 with his two-RBI single off Henry Weycker, two batters before Ty Dooley's RBI infield single capped RU's four-run, five-hit inning.

Tech then flipped the script on Radford in the fifth inning, tying the game six batters into the frame with a lone hit from Hurley. Pinch-hitting in his usual ninth spot in the Hokies' order, Carson DeMartini delivered a two-RBI double down the right-field line, rushing Tech out to the 7-5 lead before Schobel slammed his 12th home run of the season.

Radford answered Schobel's RBI single in the seventh inning by cashing in two bases-loaded runs. Tech closed its scoring with a double steal of second base and home during the top of the ninth while the Highlanders matched with a late RBI single by David Bryant.

Weycker earned his fourth victory of the 2022 season, completing three innings of middle relief without being charged with a run.

### NOTEWORTHY

- The 2022 Virginia Tech baseball team is the program's fastest to 25 wins since the 1982 squad finished with a 50-9 record under head coach Chuck Hartman.

- Tanner Schobel has registered 16 RBIs across his last five games and has hammered nine home runs in his last 13 appearances.

**Tanner Schobel netted five RBIs as No. 8 Tech tops Radford, 13-8.**

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PHOTO COURTESY OF VT ATHLETICS



SUBMITTED PHOTO

**Sierra Bennett and Hokies Spirit are pictured living out their ACC Tournament dreams firsthand.**

## Cheering on the path to a championship

Every Hokie will forever have a story to share about how they engaged in Virginia Tech men's basketball's magical run to the 2022 ACC championship. They will always remember exactly where they were, what they ate the day of, the lucky clothes they wore to superstitiously propel the team to the podium.

Sierra Bennett and Hokies Spirit experienced this streak closer than anyone else, representing Virginia Tech from the baseline on the national stage.

"One day I'm going to bring my kids to Cassell and say to them, 'That banner up there? I was there for that,'" said Bennett, a senior from New Market, Md. "I've experienced so many exciting games, but this has got to take the top spot."

For her personally, the ACC Tournament was a culmination of her experience as a student-athlete. A four-year member of the team, Bennett is the Student Athlete-Advisory Committee representative for Hokies Spirit. She will receive a bachelor's degree in childhood pre-education in the spring, but will be returning to Blacksburg in the fall to pursue a master's of arts in education, curriculum, and instruction. When reflecting on her time donning the maroon and orange, Bennett looked back on some of the women that helped make her trip to the Barclays Center possible.

"The head spirit coach when I came in was Perren Young, and she was a very big role model to me," Bennett said. "I also looked up to Caitlin Lorch when I was a freshman; she was a senior and had great energy and was an amazing cheerleader. I admired Emily Santos, too. We were on the team together for two years and she was such a fun person to be around. We also had the same major; she completed the same Master's Program I will

be in. So I looked up to her academically."

Bennett and her teammates add a unique perspective to one of the biggest moments in Virginia Tech Athletics history. Before the 2022 ACC Tournament at the Barclays Center, she had actually cheered at two women's tournaments in 2019 and 2020 before missing out in 2021 due to COVID-19 restrictions. The 2022 ACC Tournament presented a physical, yet exciting challenge for Hokies Spirit, as Mike Young's squad continued to excel in the tournament.

"We had to work on the fly a little bit," Bennett said. "Thankfully, with our sets and our pyramids, that stuff is kind of set. My voice was honestly gone for like days after, though. We didn't get to do and showcase as much as we do at a regular home game at Cassell, but being able to experience everything from the sidelines was amazing. I know we're all going to remember that."

The ACC Tournament format requires spirit squads to sit the entirety of the actual gameplay and allows them to perform only during timeouts. So, in effect, Bennett and her teammates had a relaxed practice schedule, allowing them to fully explore their surroundings and live out a premier student-athlete experience.

"Because the games were so late, we had the whole day to ourselves until we had to meet the basketball team to send them out of the hotel," Bennett said. "So we really got to explore New York City because a lot of us had never been before."

Virginia Tech excelled in the tournament, stunning Clemson on a last-second 3-pointer and then upsetting higher-seeded Notre Dame and North Carolina in confident fashion. Bennett said her teammates adopted super-

stitious strategies to keep the positive energy of the tournament run alive.

"We all had our little superstitious things," Bennett said. "I forgot my Airpods for the first game, so when we won, I said I'll just do that everyday now. The first game I also just had a granola bar and popcorn from the vending machine - that's it. So, I had to bring the exact same snacks to each game."

When it came time for the final against Duke, Bennett could hardly bring herself to watch the closing moments of the title game.

"I find that when I look at the score, I get really stressed out. So in all four games, I didn't look at the score until the end of the game," Bennett said. "With like 30 seconds left, I noticed all of the blue in the stands were sitting down and all of the maroon were standing up. My partner Blaine [Williams] squeezed my shoulders, and I looked up at the score. We were up by eight or 10 points. Then it hit me. I think I did tear up a little bit."

As the confetti fell down on the Hokies, Bennett fully soaked up the experience. After the long bus ride back to the New River Valley, she reflected on what the entire experience meant to her and her Hokies Spirit teammates.

"I was one of the only seniors on the trip with Blaine and Riley [Wilson]," Bennett said. "I hadn't really had a lot of time to get to know a bunch of the underclassmen before this. We all got really close in helping each other get ready every day. It ended up being really awesome."

While pursuing her master's degree, Bennett will continue to cheer at Virginia Tech in the hopes of sharing another championship moment with the teammates so close to her heart.



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# Auburn baseball downs Giles



Auburn's AJ Reece slides into home, beating the throw from center field.



Auburn's Damien Boyd dives back safely to first base during Thursday's 13-3 win over Giles in a contest played in Riner.



PHOTOS BY JAMES PERKINS

Coahan Gordon bears down on a high pitch to drive in a run during Auburn's 13-3 defeat of Giles Thursday. With the win, Auburn is now 5-1-1 on the season.

## State shot put champion Haley Hollins commits to Weber State

**Marty Gordon**  
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Auburn's Haley Hollins is the defending state Class 1 shot put champion, and earlier this week, she signed a letter of intent to suit up for Weber State University. In front of her family and her coaches, Hollins announced her decision in the Riner school's library. "The people at Weber State made it feel like a home," Hollins said. "They made me feel like

they truly wanted me there. The location of the school is beautiful, and it makes me feel like I fit in."

This month she threw a 39' 0" shot mark to set a new school outdoor record. In addition, she has heaved the discus 106' 4" for a new personal record. Hollins brought home a state indoor shot title at a 41-01.75 mark. She also took time to be a part of Auburn's volleyball team, which won a state championship.

Weber State University is a public university in Ogden, Utah, with a current enrollment of 26,281 students.

The school participates in NCAA Division I in the Big Sky Conference. Paul Pilkington is in his 14th season at Weber State as the head coach for the women's track and field squad and the school's cross-country program.

Hollins plans to major in business administration at Weber State.

## FROM THE SIDELINES

**Marty Gordon**  
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Radford University and the Big South Conference are finding themselves in a major controversy involving the transfer of a basketball player from Campbell.

In the past, a player had to sit out a season if he transferred to another school. But last year, the NCAA said hold the horses and now allows players to be eligible immediately. There was also a no-no clause when transferring within the conference.

Well, the Big South has held tight and said the transfer rule would not be changed.

This week, the issue rose to the top when Messiah Thompson said he would leave Campbell and join the RU program.

A 5-foot-8 sophomore point guard, Thompson averaged 8.4 points and 2.1 assists on 40% 3-point shooting during the recent basketball season.

Earlier this week, the Big South told Thompson he would not be eligible to play immediately.

RU requested a waiver on Monday, and a final ruling is not expected for another two weeks.

The conference has recently turned down as many as three other similar requests.

Big South Commissioner Kyle Kallander told members of the media, "We (the Big South) are looking at it in a different light than we have in the past. We obviously

evaluate this very closely and had a lot of discussions about this last year when the NCAA changed the transfer rule," Kallander said.

The Big South is getting a black eye in the matter, and a player is left hanging in limbo wondering if he can transfer to RU.

The situation overshadows a week in which Radford gained three other transfers. The latest, D'Auntray Pierce, is transferring from Western Wyoming Community College.

"D'Auntray is a long, mobile big man with good instincts on the defensive end, always changing and blocking shots," said RU Head Coach Darris Nichols. "He also has a good skillset offensively. He is undoubtedly a really good person on and off the court who will be great to add to the university and community."

A 6-9 center hailing from Denver, Pierce will add immediate size and strength to the Highlanders' roster. In 25 games this season, he averaged 11 points, 5.6 rebounds, two blocks, and 1.2 assists per game.

Those numbers came with an impressive efficiency as Pierce shot 60.1% from the field, 33.3% from 3-point range, and 69% from the free-throw line. He posted season highs of 23 points, 12 rebounds, eight blocks, and three steals over the course of the year as well.

Pierce joins DaQuan Smith and Justin Archer as the newest members of the Highlander family.

## Tech softball hurler Keely Rochard named finalist for national player of year

Virginia Tech softball's Keely Rochard has been named a top-25 finalist for 2022 USA Softball Collegiate Player of the Year, released Wednesday afternoon.

Considered the most distinguished individual honor in Division I college softball, the USA Softball Collegiate Player of the Year award recognizes outstanding athletic achievement by Division I female collegiate softball players from across the country. This is the second straight season Rochard has earned a spot in the top 25.

The eventual USA Softball Collegiate Player of the Year will come from the Top 25 finalists. The Top 10 finalists will be revealed May 4 with the Top 3 being released May 18. The 2022 USA Softball Collegiate Player of the Year will be announced prior to the NCAA Women's College World Series.

Through 36 games this season, Rochard leads the Hokies in ERA (1.50) wins (18), strikeouts (228) and saves (4). She has made 26 appearances this year, pitching 139.2 innings with just a



PHOTO COURTESY OF VT ATHLETICS

**For the second straight season, VT right-hander Keely Rochard has been named a finalist for national softball player of the year.**

.158 batting average against. Rochard has wins over eight teams ranked in the top 25.

She remains one of the top pitchers in the ACC, leading the league in hits allowed per seven innings with 3.86 (12th nationally), as well as strikeouts with 228, ranking fourth nationally. Her four saves also rank second in the conference and eighth in all of Division I.

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