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Saturday, November 12, 2022

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LewisGale Hospital Montgomery announces women's health service enhancements

BLACKSBURG, VA - LewisGale Hospital Montgomery announced plans to expand the delivery of women's care services at the hospital as well as an additional \$1 million in capital improvements at the facility during the opening of its newly renovated Women's Center canopy entrance. The hospital recently completed construction on the entrance, which features beautiful columns, metal roofing, and stone architecture.

"For many women, having a baby is their first experience in a hospital. We see obstetrics as a way to introduce these mothers and their families to the HCA Healthcare way of patient care," said Devin Tobin, LewisGale Hospital Montgomery chief operating officer. "We are committed to equipping our providers with the resources they need to ensure that it is a wonderful patient experience."

During the event, LewisGale Hospital Montgomery chief executive officer Lauren Dudley also welcomed Steven Berliner, MD, a new board-certified and fellowship-trained physician with LewisGale Physicians Women's Health Specialists serving obstetrics and gynecology (Ob/Gyn) patients in Blacksburg. The hospital is also adding midwifery services for women who desire less medical intervention during low-risk pregnancy, labor, and birth using a nurse-midwife supported by Ob/Gyn physicians.

"We are embarking on a new era at LewisGale Hospital Montgomery and evolving our portfolio of maternity services," said Dudley. "The appointment of Dr. Berliner, who brings a proven track record in women's maternal health and the addition of our



PHOTO COURTESY OF CHRISTOPHER FINLEY, SR. MARKET DIRECTOR, LEWISGALE REGIONAL HEALTH SYSTEM

midwifery services, will add depth to women's care at LewisGale Hospital Montgomery."

LewisGale Hospital Montgomery provides a wide range of women's care services to help maintain health through all stages of life. Its team of skilled gynecologists, obstetricians, surgeons and oncologists is committed to delivering advanced preventive, diagnostic and treatment options with expertise and compassion to women in Virginia's

New River Valley.

"We will work collectively to bring together midwifery, physician, and nursing teams to achieve the optimum outcome for the patients and families we serve," said Dr. Berliner.

- LewisGale Hospital Montgomery

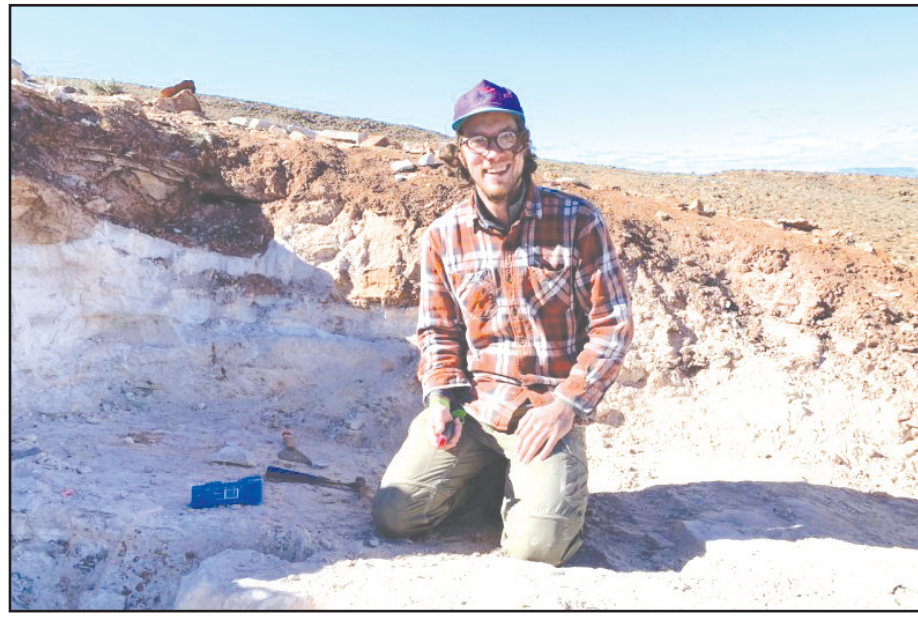


PHOTO BY EMMY HUGHES

Scott Evans, a postdoctoral researcher with Virginia Tech's Department of Geosciences, at a 2021 dig for Ediacaran fossils at the Nilpena Ediacara National Park in South Australia.

Geobiologists shine new light on Earth's first known mass extinction event 550 million years ago

A new study by Virginia Tech geobiologists traces the cause of the first known mass extinction of animals to decreased global oxygen availability, leading to the loss of a majority of animals present near the end of the Ediacaran Period some 550 million years ago.

The research spearheaded by Scott Evans, a postdoctoral researcher in the Department of Geosciences, part of the Virginia Tech College of Science, shows this earliest mass extinction of about 80 percent of animals across this interval.

This included the loss of many different types of animals, however those whose body plans and behaviors indicate that they relied on significant amounts of oxygen seem to

have been hit particularly hard," Evans said. "This suggests that the extinction event was environmentally controlled, as are all other mass extinctions in the geologic record."

Evans' work was published in the Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences, a peer-reviewed journal of the National Academy of Sciences. The study was co-authored by Shuhai Xiao, also a professor in the Department of Geosciences, and several researchers led by Mary Droser from the University of California Riverside's Department of Earth and Planetary Sciences, where Evans earned his master's degree and Ph.D.

Environmental changes, such as global warming and

deoxygenation events, can lead to massive extinction of animals and profound disruption and reorganization of the ecosystem," said Xiao, who is an affiliated member of the Global Change Center, part of the Virginia Tech Fralin Life Sciences Institute. "This has been demonstrated repeatedly in the study of Earth history, including this work on the first extinction documented in the fossil record. This study thus informs us about the long-term impact of current environmental changes on the biosphere."

What exactly caused the drop in global oxygen is still up for debate. "The short answer to how this

See Geobiologists, page 4

Retired VT Chief of Police Mike Jones dies

Michael "Mike" Lee Jones, retired chief of police for the Virginia Tech Police Department, passed away on Nov. 1.

Jones was born on Jan. 3, 1947, to Betty Lou Lawrence Jones and Thomas L. Jones in Pearisburg, Virginia. He served in the Virginia Tech Police Department until his retirement in 2000.

Jones is survived by his mother; wife, Sue Hollaway Jones; son, Shane Jones and wife, Katrina; grandson, Sean Anthony Bishop; brothers and sisters Marshall and Pat Jones, Larry and Connie Jones, Jane and Bill Kersey, Tommie and Tony Noble, Rick and

Sharon Jones, Tim Jones, and Missy Evans; brother-in-law, Steve Baker; and many nieces, nephews, extended family members, and friends.

Jones was preceded in death by his father and his sister, Sherry Jones Baker.

In keeping with Jones's wishes, he was cremated. Memorial services will be held at a later date. An online guestbook can be signed or condolences may be sent to the family at www.broyles-shrewsbury.com. Arrangements by Broyles-Shrewsbury Funeral Home, Peterstown, WV.

- News Messenger Staff Report

Soul-lifting Soweto Gospel Choir brings joy and hope

Enjoy an evening of elation, triumph, and hope. With joyous and powerful harmonies, brilliant costumes, and infectious spirit, the awe-inspiring 20-member Soweto Gospel Choir delights with its soul-lifting performances. Join the Grammy-winning ensemble for its latest production, "Hope: It's Been a Long Time Coming," at the Moss Arts Center on Thursday, Nov. 17, at 7:30 p.m.

Co-sponsored by Virginia Tech's Black Cultural Center, the performance will be held in the center's Anne and Ellen Fife Theater, located within the Street and Davis Performance Hall at

190 Alumni Mall.

"Hope: It's Been a Long Time Coming" celebrates American and South African artists who have been associated with struggles for civil rights and social justice. This unforgettable evening features emotional African gospel and freedom songs alongside selections inspired by the U.S. civil rights movement: beautiful and exceptionally moving renditions of songs by legendary artists including Curtis Mayfield, Sam Cooke, Otis Redding, Marvin Gaye, and Ben E. King.

Hailing from Soweto (South West

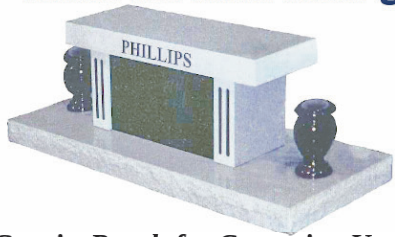
See Soweto, page 4



PHOTO COURTESY OF MOSS ARTS CENTER

"Hope: It's Been a Long Time Coming" is the title of the latest production of the Grammy-winning Soweto Gospel Choir to be presented Thursday, Nov. 17, at 7:30 at the Moss Arts Center.

Cremation Memorialization helps the family move forward from grief to remembrance



Granite Bench for Cremation Urns



Permanent Home for Cremation Urns



Memorial Gardens
of the New River Valley
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Blacksburg, VA 24060
(540) 552-7800

www.memorialgardensnrvc.com
cturner@memorialgardensnrvc.com

UPCOMING EVENTS

Saturday, Nov. 12:

Bingo! Bingo!

At the Meadowbrook Public Library; 1:30 p.m. This is an afternoon of fun Bingo. Children are welcome, but they must be accompanied by an adult.

Winter wreath workshop

At the Blacksburg Library; 2 p.m. Welcome the winter season with a holiday-themed wreath workshop. This hands-on event will provide all the materials required to make a grapevine wreath. The staff will even teach participants how to make a ribbon bow. This workshop is recommended for adults, but families can work together if they wish. One wreath per family please. Registration is required, but if participants are working as a family, only one person need register. Spots are limited.

Family movie fun

At the Radford Public Library; 11 a.m. Superman's dog Krypto, the Super-Dog, must rescue his owner in the DC League of Superpets. Rated PG for action, mild violence, language, and rude humor. (2022)

Sunday, Nov. 13:

Women's only swim night

At the Christiansburg Aquatic Center, 6 to 8 p.m. This is an evening of girl power. All participants, including the staff, will be women. The cost is \$6. Call 540-381-POOL to register.

Knit and chat

At the Christiansburg Library; 2 p.m. Participants can bring their newest work in progress to knit, crochet, spin, or weave.

Monday, Nov. 14:

Montgomery County Board of Supervisors meeting

The Montgomery County Board of Supervisors will meet at the Montgomery County Government Center, 755 Roanoke St. in Christiansburg. A closed session will begin at 6 p.m. if needed. An open session will follow at 7:15 p.m. Citizens are invited to attend and will be allowed to speak at each meeting. All regular meetings of the

Board of Supervisors are rebroadcast on Montgomery County Comcast and Shentel Channels 190 daily.

Radford City Council meeting

The Radford City Council will meet in the Starnes Council Chambers at the Radford Municipal Building, 10 Robertson St.; 7 p.m.

English Conversation for Adults

At the Blacksburg Library; 6 p.m. English Conversation for Adults will be led by Carole and Bob Dellinger. Call the library at 540-552-8246 for more information. No childcare is provided for this class.

Crafting for the holiday: Scrabble ornament

At the Radford Public Library; 1 p.m. Participants will use scrabble tiles, a hot gun, and a few other items to assemble an ornament. Supplies will be provided while they last.

Monday movie matinee

At the Blacksburg Library; 1 p.m. A Korean-American family moves to an Arkansas farm in search of their own American dream. Amid the challenges of this new life in the strange and rugged Ozarks, they find the undeniable resilience of family and what really makes a home. Rated PG-13.

STEM Club

At the Christiansburg Library; 1 p.m. This is a homeschool STEM club in which students will explore science, technology, engineering, and/or math. For ages 8 and up.

National Animal Shelter Appreciation Week

At the Meadowbrook Public Library; 5:30 to 6:30 p.m. Participants are invited to drop in to make toys for their dogs, cats, and other furry friends. No registration is needed.

Monday, Nov. 14 through Friday, Nov. 18:

Teen glow-paint gloves

At the Radford Public Library; 3 to 5 p.m. Teens can spend an afternoon chilling and decorating gloves with glow paint.

See Events, page 6



For Sale - Misc

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

Lost & Found



Lost Chihuahua \$100 Reward
Light Brown, 10-12in, just had pups. Lost on 8th St. West End, Radford. Call anytime, Larry Prescott H(540)745-5154 C(540)285-0179

Help Wanted

Part Time Newspaper Production Help
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. \$11 per hour. Contact Lynn Hurst, General Manager, Salem-Times Register (540)389-9355 or email lhurst@ourvalley.org

Positions Wanted

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

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, November 28, 2022, at 7:00 PM in the Council Chambers of the Christiansburg Town Hall, 100 E. Main Street, Christiansburg, Virginia 24073, pursuant to Sections 15.2-2204 and 15.2-2285 of the Code of Virginia, as amended. The purpose of the public hearing is to receive public comments concerning:

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A. Rezoning request by Town of Christiansburg, Property Owner, to rezone an approximately 50.539 acre portion of the property located on Booker T Washington Pkwy NW; Tax Parcel 435 - ((A)) - 3A, Parcel ID 270079, commonly known as "Christiansburg Huckleberry Park", from Agricultural District (A) to Single-Family Residential District (R-1) and an approximately 12.25 acre portion of the same property from Agricultural District (A) to General Business District (B-3). The property is designated as Business/Commercial and Parks/Open Space 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.

Public Notice Environmental Permit

PURPOSE OF NOTICE: To seek public comment on a proposed permit that will allow the continued land application of water treatment plant residuals in Pulaski County, Virginia. PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD: November 12, 2022 to December 13, 2022 PERMIT NAME: Virginia Pollution Abatement issued by the Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ), pursuant to applicable water laws and regulations APPLICANT/PERMITTEE NAME, ADDRESS AND PERMIT NUMBER: City of Radford Water Treatment Plant, 20 Forest Ave., Radford VA 24141; VPA02069 NAME AND LOCATION OF PERMITTED ACTIVITY: New River Valley Airport, 5391 C.V. Jackson Road, Dublin, VA 24084 Pulaski County PROJECT DESCRIPTION: City of Radford Water Treatment Plant has applied for the reissuance of a permit authorizing the land application of water treatment plant residuals to 88.34 acres of agricultural land at the New River Valley Airport located within

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Pulaski County. The permit will limit the application of nutrients and metals contained in these liquids to amounts that protect water quality and human health. PRELIMINARY AND FINAL PERMIT DECISION PROCEDURES: DEQ's preliminary decision is to issue a permit. Based on comments received on the draft permit, DEQ may make a final decision on the permit, or hold a public hearing on the draft permit. HOW TO COMMENT AND/OR REQUEST A PUBLIC HEARING: DEQ accepts comments and requests for public hearing by hand-delivery, e-mail, fax or postal mail. All comments and requests must be in writing and be received by DEQ during the comment period. Submittals must include the name, mailing address or email address of the commenter/requester. A request for public hearing must also include: 1) The reason why a public hearing is requested. 2) A brief, informal statement regarding the nature and extent of the interest of the requester, including how and to what extent such interest would be directly and adversely affected by the permit. 3) Specific references, where possible, to terms and conditions of the permit with suggested revisions. A public hearing may be held, including another comment period, if public response is significant, based on individual requests for a public hearing, and there are substantial, disputed issues relevant to the permit. CONTACT FOR PUBLIC COMMENTS, DOCUMENT REQUESTS AND ADDITIONAL INFORMATION: Susan Edwards; Blue Ridge Regional Office, 901 Russell Drive, Salem VA 24153, Phone: (540)795-9749; E-mail: Susan.Edwards@deq.virginia.gov; Fax: (804)698-4178. The public may review the draft permit and application at the DEQ office named above by appointment or may request copies of the documents from the contact person listed above. Additional information about the DEQ water permitting program with oversight of activities and facilities detailed in the project description of this notice is available at https://www.deq.virginia.gov/permits-regulations/public-notices/water/land-application-virginia-pollution-abatement

Legals - Montgomery County

ADVERTISEMENT FOR BIDS AND NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

Before the Council of the Town of Christiansburg for Execution of a Naming, Advertising, and Sponsorship Agreement with the Town of Christiansburg for Naming, Advertising, and Sponsorship at the Christiansburg Huckleberry Park Facility. Pursuant to the requirements of §§ 15.2-2100, 15.2-2101, 15.2-2102, et seq., Code of Virginia (1950), as amended, the Town of Christiansburg, Virginia (Town) hereby gives notice that the Town is inviting bids from qualified bidders to enter into a Naming, Advertising, and Sponsorship Agreement (Naming Rights Agreement) with the Town. Under the Naming Rights Agreement, the successful bidder will have the right to have its name on the facilities at the Christiansburg Huckleberry Park complex located at Booker T. Washington Parkway, N.W., adjoining Peppers Ferry Road, N.W., Christiansburg, Virginia (a portion of Montgomery County Tax Map No. 435 - ((A)) - 3A; Parcel ID 270079), subject to certain terms and conditions of such Naming Rights Agreement. The term of the Naming Rights Agreement shall be ten (10) years, starting on April 1, 2023 and ending March 31, 2033. The term of the Naming Rights Agreement is also subject to termination as set forth in the Naming Rights Agreement or in accordance with the law. The Naming Rights Agreement will also allow the successful bidder to have certain exclusive advertising rights at the Christiansburg Huckleberry Park Facility within the successful bidder's Product Category, as that term is defined in the Bid Form and Naming Rights Agreement. Any such agreement, use, and advertising being subject to approval of the Town. If the Town elects to award a Naming Rights Agreement, Town Council will be requested to adopt an ordinance granting such an award, which ordinance will provide in substance for a Naming Rights Agreement as set forth above. A copy of the full text of the proposed Ordinance and a draft of the Naming Rights Agreement are on file and may be reviewed in the Office of the Town Manager, Christiansburg Town Hall, 100 E. Main Street, Christiansburg, Virginia 24073. Any

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interested entity is invited to submit a written bid, including a completed bid form, for a Naming Rights Agreement as set forth above. Each bidder shall submit at a minimum the following information: 1. The legal name of the entity submitting the bid, including the Identification Number issued to it by the Virginia State Corporation Commission. 2. The aggregate amount of the annual payments for the naming right to be made to the Town of Christiansburg for such Naming Rights Agreement. The minimum acceptable amount is \$750,000.00. 3. The amount of the payments for each year of the term of the Naming Rights Agreement. The minimum acceptable amount for the first year of the term of the Naming Rights Agreement is \$200,000.00. 4. The agreement of the bidder to make payments during each year in accordance with the schedule of payments set forth in the Naming Rights Agreement. 5. The identification of the bidder's primary business which will constitute the bidder's Product Category for all purposes in the Naming Rights Agreement. The term "primary business" is defined in the Naming Rights Agreement. 6. The name proposed by the bidder for the Christiansburg Huckleberry Park facility. 7. The financial ability of the bidder to make the payments that will be due during the first year of the term of the Naming Rights Agreement. 8. Information that (i) demonstrates the character, judgment, integrity, experience, and reputation of the bidder in the conduct of its business and performance of its contracts and agreements, and (ii) demonstrates the bidder's ability and commitment to collaborate with the Town in the promotion of the Christiansburg Huckleberry Park facility. 9. The agreement of the bidder to execute the Naming Rights Agreement. 10. The bidder acknowledges that this process is subject to § 15.2-2100, et seq., Code of Virginia (1950), as amended, the bidder agrees, if its bid is accepted, to post a bond with surety in favor of the Town pursuant to § 15.2-2104, Code of Virginia (1950), as amended. 12. Other information as the bidder deems appropriate. Bids are to be submitted in a sealed envelope or container to the Town Manager at the address

Legals - Montgomery County

noted herein on or before 7:00 p.m., local time, Tuesday, December 13, 2022. The outside of the bid envelope should be marked as follows: "Bid for Naming Rights Agreement with Town of Christiansburg for Naming, Advertising, and Sponsorship at the Christiansburg Huckleberry Park Facility, Not to Be Opened Until the Bid Opening at 7:00 p.m. on December 13, 2022." The bid should be addressed to the Office of the Town Manager, Christiansburg Town Hall, 100 E. Main Street, Christiansburg, Virginia, 24073. All bids received will be held by the Town Manager, unopened, until 7:00 p.m., local time, on Tuesday, December 13, 2022, at which time they will be opened in the Council Chambers, Christiansburg

Town Hall, 100 E. Main Street, Christiansburg, Virginia, 24073, and thereafter be publicly opened and read aloud in accordance with § 15.2-2102, Code of Virginia (1950), as amended. The Town reserves the right to cancel this Invitation for Bids and/or to reject any and all bids, to waive any informality or irregularity in the bids received, and to accept the bid which is deemed to be in the best interest of the Town. The necessary bid form, a copy of the proposed Naming Rights Agreement, and the proposed Ordinance may be obtained from the Town Manager's Office at the above address after Tuesday, November 1, 2022. Pursuant to the requirements of §§ 15.2-2100, et seq., Code of Virginia (1950), as amended, notice is hereby given that the Council of the Town of Christiansburg will hold a public hearing on the above matter at its regular meeting to be held on Tuesday, December 13, 2022, at 7:00 p.m., local time, or as soon thereafter as Council is available, in the Council Chamber, Christiansburg Town Hall, 100 E. Main Street, Christiansburg, Virginia, 24073. The bids received will be announced and any additional bids may be received at this time. All parties and interested persons may appear on the above date and time and be heard on the matter. For further information on this matter, you may contact the Office of the Town Manager at (540)382-6128. If you are a person who needs accommodations for this hearing, please contact the Town Manager's Office at (540) 382-6128 before 12:00 noon on the Thursday before the date of the hearing listed above.

ADVERTISE!

CHS theater department presents Holiday Channel Christmas movie marathon

Christiansburg High School's theater department will present a production of The Holiday Channel Christmas movie marathon as a dinner theater on Nov. 30, Dec. 1, and Dec. 2, at Belmont Christian Church, 1500 Peppers Ferry Rd.

A comedy by playwright Don Zolidis, the production will feature six Christmas movies in succession. Tickets are \$30

and will include the show and a catered buffet dinner.

Dinner service will begin at 6:00 p.m., and the show will start at 7:00 p.m.

In Hopewood Falls, Vt., singles in adorable sweaters converge to look for love.

Can disguises help royalty and/or movie stars find the down-to-earth

connections they crave?

Will evil city slickers destroy charming inns and/or Christmas tree farms?

Isn't it a little creepy for a meet-cute to depend on one person being in a coma?

Theatergoers are encouraged to grab a hot chocolate and a favorite wise single friend to find out the answers in this entertaining parody of holiday rom-

coms that provides feel-good moments and laughs galore.

For reservations, email chsdemonstradrama@gmail.com or call CHS Theater Director Makala Witten at 540-382-5178.

- Makala Witten, director



PHOTO BY JACOB LEVIN FOR VIRGINIA TECH

Blacksburg High School students and the Sharing the Road team in front of the VTTI truck.

Outreach team teaches local students about driver safety

By Jacob Levin

Research shows that car, pickup truck, and SUV drivers, including teens, initiate more than 75 percent of incidents involving heavy trucks. The Virginia Tech Transportation Institute (VTTI) Sharing the Road with Trucks program is dedicated to reversing this by educating this group of young drivers.

"Over the past 30 years, we've done a lot of research to identify contributing factors to heavy vehicle crashes," said Matt Camden, team leader for VTTI's Research to Practice and Outreach group. "This program puts those lessons learned to practice so that we can teach people what we know about these types of crashes and what causes them, which ultimately leads to a future of safer drivers."

Camden and VTTI researchers Mark Golusky and Scott Tidwell lead the VTTI Sharing the Road team that travels to high schools across the mid-Atlantic to provide engaging learning opportunities for new teen drivers.

Since the program began, the team has instructed over 13,000 students in virtual and in-person visits across five states: Virginia, Delaware, North Carolina, Maryland, and West Virginia. Now, with a new \$600,000 grant from the U.S. Department of Transportation's High Priority Grant program to continue the outreach, the team estimates that the Sharing the Road program will be able to reach up to an additional 9,000 students this academic year.

One of the events that helps to build toward this goal and the mission of increasing driver safety was at Blacksburg High School on Oct. 31 and Nov. 1. Across the two-day series of sessions, nearly 200 driver's education students learned how to safely share the road with trucks.

During the demonstration, teen participants had the opportunity to see a semi-truck up close and experience the large blind spots from a semi-truck driver's perspective from behind the steering wheel to reinforce how difficult it is to see surrounding objects.

Researchers: Highly processed foods can share the addictive qualities of tobacco

When someone feels stressed, they might end up reaching for a bag of chips or a pizza.

"No one is going and grabbing the broccoli," said Alex DiFeliceantonio, associate director of the Center for Health Behaviors Research at the Fralin Biomedical Research Institute at VTC.

DiFeliceantonio and Ashley N. Gearhardt, a psychology professor at the University of Michigan, analyzed whether highly processed foods such as sugary soft drinks, baked goods, chips, burgers and fries can be considered addictive by comparing their properties to those of tobacco.

In a Nov. 9 opinion and debate article in the journal *Addiction*, they conclude that their addictive potential "may be a key factor contributing to the high public health costs associated with a food environment dominated by cheap, accessible, and heavily marketed" highly processed foods.

Gearhardt and DiFeliceantonio applied three scientific criteria outlined in the 1988 Surgeon General's report on tobacco products to highly processed foods. They found that highly processed foods share the addictive characteristics of tobacco because they cause compulsive use; have psychoactive, or mood-altering effects on the brain; and are highly reinforcing. They added a fourth attribute, informed by an advanced understanding of behavior and the human brain, that the foods "trigger strong urges and cravings."

"What we knew about the brain in 1988 is kind of laughable," DiFeliceantonio said. "The idea that dopamine is important for these processes is actually relatively new."

There is a consensus that all addictive substances increase dopamine release in the brain's reward circuits. Gearhardt and DiFeliceantonio note that when delivered orally, highly processed foods and nicotine increase dopamine in the same part of the brain to the similar magnitude — 150 percent to 200 percent over baseline

for highly-processed foods compared to 150 percent to 250 percent for nicotine.

The hallmarks of highly processed foods are that they lack fiber; they include a significant amount of added sugar, salt and fat; and their nutrition labels include a long list of often unrecognizable ingredients. They have become a growing part of the American diet as manufacturers have produced inexpensive, convenient foods with a long shelf life.

"The ability of highly processed foods to rapidly deliver unnaturally high doses of refined carbohydrates and fat appear key to their addictive potential," DiFeliceantonio said.

"Minimally processed, nourishing foods, such as fruits and vegetables, do not meet these addiction criteria," Gearhardt said. Tobacco manufacturers and the general public were slow to accept that tobacco was addictive and harmful. "This delayed the implementation of effective strategies to address this public health crisis."

"There is no agreed upon amount by which a drug has to increase dopamine for us to consider it addictive," DiFeliceantonio said. "Even though we know a lot more about the neurochemical signature of a lot of these processes, we don't actually use them to define addiction." So how does this help improve human health?

"Making a mistake and classifying these substances as addictive when they're not causes less harm than the other way around," DiFeliceantonio said. She hopes the debate gets more people thinking and talking about the addictive qualities of highly processed foods and their impact on human health, and that it drives demand for more research.

"I'm willing to see data on either side, but the truth is we need to run better experiments rigorously designed to test these ideas," she said.

- Leigh Anne Kelley,
Virginia Tech Dir. of Communications

New cows at veterinary college enhance learning opportunities

The cows have come home.

The Virginia-Maryland College of Veterinary Medicine recently welcomed several new residents — of the bovine variety. The college is now home to 21 dairy cows that will aid in the education of veterinary students.

The cows will help veterinary students learn many different skills. Under the guidance of faculty, students will learn handling, restraint, and basic husbandry as well as how to put cows into a chute for health checks and vaccines. As they progress through the curriculum, students will learn how to assess milk quality and how to perform diagnostic techniques such as rectal palpation.

"Virginia Tech was built as an agricultural university, that's part of our heritage. I think it's a cool thing to see that coming in," said Virginia Edwards, collegiate assistant professor and service chief of Animal Care for Education (ACE). The ACE team provides husbandry, medical care, and enrichment to the animals who assist the veterinary teaching program.

"We absolutely need cows to teach veterinary students with," said Sierra Guynn, clinical assistant professor of production management medicine in the Department of Large Animal Clinical Sciences. "Dairy cows

are better because they're handled and have a much smaller flight zone as they are handled twice a day regularly."

In the past, the veterinary college has used College of Agriculture and Life Sciences (CALS) facilities, but logistical issues have made the new facility a necessity. Having cows so close to the college will help with class scheduling and student commute.

"The ability to come from class in the morning, to jump out here real quick, to go to class in the afternoon without 40 minutes of driving is a big advantage," said third-year student Josh Smith of Syracuse, president of the Food Animal Club.

"It's nice to be near the school because all of our supplies are here," said third-year student McKenzie Kyger of Ocean City, Md. "So if we need another clinician, they're right there. If we need more ultrasounds or palpation sleeves or anything like that, it's close by."

In the future, the veterinary college plans on acquiring cows from other farms and will seek out cows of different ages, which will better represent what veterinary students will encounter in practice.

"We have the teaching herd for about two months in the fall and two months in the spring," Guynn said. "All three of the years will use the herd starting with The Normal

Animal course in year one, then the Breathing and Circulating and Eating and Eliminating in year two, and then the third year will use them in Food Animal Theriogenology."

Getting the cows to campus has truly been a team effort, with many people across the university working in collaboration to bring the cows to the college. Several teams coordinated, including the veterinary college, CALS, Smithfield Plantation, and even Virginia Tech Athletics.

Casey Underwood, associate athletics director for facility management and capital projects, and Andy McReynolds, associate director of fields, were charged with coordinating a cattle crossing over the cross country track while keeping the track within ACC-level competition standards.

Crews led by Roy Hughes, Chuck Dietz, and Bobby Polly built the cattle crossing, improved the barn entrance, checked storm water management, and installed water lines.

Guynn, Edwards and Hollie Schramm, clinical assistant professor for large animal clinical sciences in the veterinary college, developed the program to support the well-being of the cows.

- Virginia-Maryland College of Veterinary Medicine



PHOTO BY ANDREW MANN FOR VIRGINIA TECH

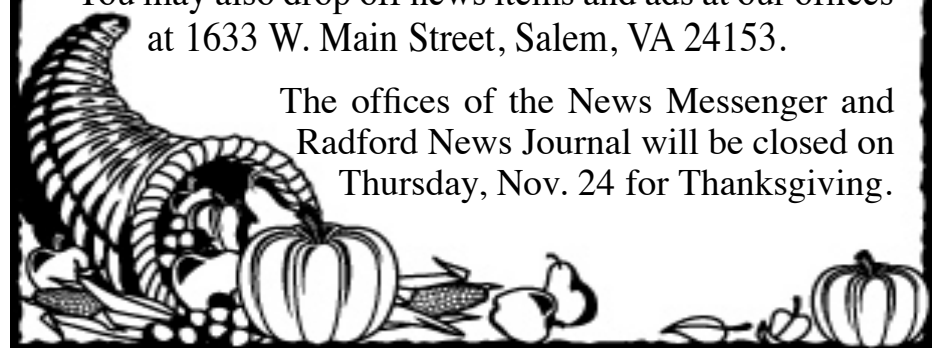
The veterinary college is now home to 21 dairy cows that will aid in the education of students. Under the guidance of faculty, students will learn handling, restraint, and basic husbandry as well as how to put cows into a chute for health checks and vaccines.

EARLY DEADLINES FOR THANKSGIVING PAPER

There will be early deadlines for the November 23 issue because of Thanksgiving.

Please send your news items, photos and church news by **Thursday, November 17 at noon** to communitynews@ourvalley.org. Send ads by **Thursday, November 17 at noon** to advertise@ourvalley.org. The paper will be printed on Tuesday, Nov. 22 in order for subscribers to receive it by mail before Thanksgiving. You may also drop off news items and ads at our offices at 1633 W. Main Street, Salem, VA 24153.

The offices of the News Messenger and Radford News Journal will be closed on Thursday, Nov. 24 for Thanksgiving.



Dry weather provides window for early Virginia soybean harvest

An early-October frost and general lack of autumn rainfall created a window for Virginia soybean farmers to harvest their crop weeks ahead of wetter years. The National Agricultural Statistics Service's Virginia Field Office reported that most Virginia locations had zero precipitation in past weeks. "There are abnormally dry to moderate drought conditions in the state," said Herman Ellison, NASS state statistician for Virginia. Soybean harvests are 59% completed, compared to 47% at this time last year. Charlotte County soybean and wheat grower Henry Carwile said he's already harvested 120 acres of soybeans grown at Ridgefork Farm. "We usually do a lot of threshing

in October and finish up between the middle of November to Thanksgiving," he said. "So we're finished a little bit early this year. We had that real early frost too, which helped these late double-crop beans to dry down quicker." Joanne Jones, a Virginia Cooperative Extension agent in Charlotte County, has spoken with other soybean farmers who also enjoyed an early harvest. Soybeans are sensitive to environmental moisture, and drier conditions can help combat crop loss. "In this area, we went the whole month of October with only one rainy day," Jones said. "With a long rainy spell, mold or fungus can grow on the beans while still in the pod and cause damage." Research shows that early planting

results in earlier harvest and is critical to producing high soybean yields, which is what many full-season crop producers are doing, Jones added. Double-crop farmers like Carwile now are taking advantage of the dry spell to finish winter wheat planting. "Double cropping" refers to the harvesting of two crops off the same land in one calendar year, such as winter wheat in the spring and soybeans in the fall. While double-cropping can result in smaller yields, having two harvests reduces the risk of total crop loss, said Robert Harper, grain marketing specialist for Virginia Farm Bureau Federation. "This way farmers are not putting all their eggs in one basket," he said. Soybeans in the field will continue

to grow until stalled by the next frost, Harper added. "Frost might take the top off the yield but will help full-season beans dry down better," he said. "But we're way ahead on harvest this year because of the dry weather!" Many Virginia soybeans are exported to Asian countries, and others are used in food for humans and animals and in industrial and consumer products, including building materials, cooking oil and crayons. - Caitlyn Frolo ABC WSET 13

Soweto

from page 1

Township), a town outside of Johannesburg and home of South Africa's democratic movement, Soweto Gospel

Choir features a lineup of some of South Africa's best vocalists. Formed in 2003 at the end of the apartheid era and during South Africa's inspiring return to democracy, the ensemble performed on many occasions for South African President Nelson Mandela, including at his state funeral in South Africa and the subsequent commemorative service at Westminster Abbey in London. The group also performed at the funeral service for the late president's first wife, Winnie Mandela, and serves as an ambassador for the Nelson Mandela Foundation.

Soweto Gospel Choir has shared the stage and collaborated with some of the biggest names in contemporary music, including Aretha Franklin, Stevie Wonder, Beyoncé, U2, Diana Ross, Peter Gabriel, Chris Martin, John Legend, Pharrell Williams, Jimmy Cliff, Ben Harper, Angélique Kidjo, Robert Plant, Celine Dion, Red Hot Chili Peppers, Hugh Masekela, and Josh Groban.

- Moss Arts Center

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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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Geobiologists

from page 1

happened is we don't really know," Evans said. "It could be any number and combination of volcanic eruptions, tectonic plate motion, an asteroid impact, etc., but what we see is that the animals that go extinct seem to be responding to decreased global oxygen availability." The study by Evans and Xiao is timelier than one would think. In an unconnected study, Virginia Tech scientists recently found that anoxia, the loss of oxygen availability, is affecting the world's fresh waters. The cause? The warming of waters brought on by climate change and excess pollutant runoff from land use. Warming waters diminish fresh water's capacity to hold oxygen while the breakdown of nutrients in runoff by freshwater microbes gobbles up oxygen. "Our study shows that, as with all other mass extinctions in Earth's past, this new, first mass extinction of animals was caused by major climate change — another in a long list of cautionary tales demonstrating the dangers of our current climate crisis for animal life," said Evans, who is an Agouron Institute Geobiology fellow. Some perspective: The Ediacaran Period spanned roughly 96 million years, bookended on either side by the end of the Cryogenian Period

— 635 million years ago — and the beginning of the Cambrian Period — 539 million years ago. The extinction event comes just before a significant break in the geologic record from the Proterozoic Eon to the Phanerozoic Eon. Five known mass extinctions stand out in the history of animals, the "Big Five," according to Xiao: the Ordovician-Silurian Extinction (440 million years ago), the late Devonian Extinction (370 million years ago), the Permian-Triassic Extinction (250 million years ago), the Triassic-Jurassic Extinction (200 million years ago), and the Cretaceous-Paleogene Extinction (65 million years ago). "Mass extinctions are well recognized as significant steps in the evolutionary trajectory of life on this planet," Evans and team wrote in the study. Whatever the instigating cause of the mass extinction, the result was multiple major shifts in environmental conditions. "Particularly, we find support for decreased global oxygen availability as the mechanism responsible for this extinction. This suggests that abiotic controls have had significant impacts on diversity patterns throughout the more than 570 million-year history of animals on this planet," the authors wrote.

Fossil imprints in rock tell researchers how the creatures that perished in this extinction event would have looked. And they looked, in Evans's words, "weird." "These organisms occur so early in the evolutionary history of animals that in many cases they appear to be experimenting with different ways to build large, sometimes mobile, multicellular bodies," Evans said. "There are lots of ways to recreate how they look, but the take-home is that before this extinction the fossils we find don't often fit nicely into the ways we classify animals today. Essentially, this extinction may have helped pave the way for the evolution of animals as we know them." What comes next? Xiao said he and other researchers "are currently conducting field exploration in the Wernecke Mountains in Yukon to further test the hypothesis about the relationship between biological and environmental evolution." This mountain range is in far northwest Canada. Evans will next head to Florida State University where he has landed a position as an assistant professor.

- Virginia Tech College of Science

CROSSWORD

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11						12			13		
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- CLUES ACROSS**
- 1. Regions
 - 6. Abu __, UAE capital
 - 11. Forever
 - 13. Lower position
 - 14. Masterpiece series
 - 18. Atomic #18
 - 19. Cuckoos
 - 20. Goat with conical horns
 - 21. European money
 - 22. Flaw the surface
 - 23. Restaurant bill
 - 24. Indicated horsepower (abbr.)
 - 25. Go in advance
 - 28. Ancient Egyptian King
 - 29. Insert mark
 - 31. Palm fruits
 - 33. Peels a fruit's skin
 - 34. Many not ands
 - 35. Cathode-ray oscil-
- CLUES DOWN**
- 1. Unkeyed
 - 2. Recable
 - 3. Sea eagles
 - 4. Small social insect
 - 5. __ Paulo, city
 - 6. 2 man fight
 - 7. Honey (abbr.)
 - 8. Anno Domini
 - 9. Malibu and Waikiki
 - 10. To burst in
 - 11. Mild yellow Dutch cheese
 - 12. Liquefied natural gas
 - 15. Douroucoulis
 - 16. Spoiled child
 - 17. Founder of Babism
 - 21. Ireland
 - 26. Love intensely
 - 27. One who confronts boldly
 - 28. Atomic #52
 - 29. Feels concern or interest
 - 30. Got up from
 - 32. Sound of disappointment
 - 33. Out of 100 (abbr.)
 - 36. Actress Kerr
 - 37. Irish Gaelic
 - 38. 10 Commandments mountain
 - 39. Morning
 - 40. Straight downhill ski run
 - 41. Angel's crown
 - 43. Canonized individuals
 - 44. Old school tablets
 - 46. Dip lightly into water
 - 48. Traumatic anxiety disorder
 - 50. Mineral spring resorts
 - 51. Desoxyribonucleic acid
 - 52. Greek cheese
 - 54. Express pleasure
 - 55. Don't know when yet
 - 56. 13th Hebrew letter
 - 58. Chinese tennis star Li

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OBITUARIES

Altizer, Megan Kaylie

Megan Kaylie Altizer died by suicide on the last day of October.

(AKA the Girl Grand); her loving mother, Dedra Lynn Smith Altizer; and her amazing grandmother, Anita Smith.

Her family and those who loved her sweet spirit are choosing not to let her final day define the 10,328 she shared with us. Megan was a daughter, sister, wife, cousin, niece, granddaughter, god-sister, friend, comedian, and confidant. She was a prolific artist, who attended the Savannah College of Art and Design and was a former police officer.

Megan was a creative soul and a virtual wizard in all things arts and crafts related. Among her extraordinary talents were painting, sewing, crochet, graphic design, needlework, cake decorating, baking, carpentry, calligraphy, sculpture, and origami. She was brilliant, beautiful, snarky, quick-witted, sly, sometimes loud, sometimes quiet, incandescent, inventive, silly, playful, and curious about all things; but most of all, she was superlatively compassionate. Her megawatt smile and acerbic wit will be sorely missed.

Left to cherish and learn from her time here are her father, Terry Altizer; brother Devin Altizer; godmother Joy Smith; god-grandfather the Rev. Edward Smith (AKA the Boy Grand); husband Mohammad Hyder Ali Shaik; uncle and aunt Dennis and Cheryl Smith; grandfather Don Smith; god-sister LeeAnn Arnold, and her favorite canine companion, Nugget; and many other cousins and friends.

Meggie was preceded in death by god-grandmother Dorothy Smith



A time of remembrance will be held today, Saturday, Nov. 12, 2022, at noon at the Dublin First Church of God, 6330 Courtney Lane, Dublin, VA 24084. Visitation with the family will be from 11 a.m. to noon for those who would like to stop by. In lieu of flowers, the family is requesting a donation be made to the National Alliance on Mental Illness at nami.org or to a mental health/addiction charity of your choosing.

“She was a free bird one minute: queen of the world and laughing. The next minute she would be in tears like a porcelain angel, about to teeter, fall and break. She never cried because she was afraid that something ‘would’ happen; she would cry because she feared something that could render the world more beautiful, ‘would not’ happen.” - Roman Payne, The Wanderess

“Sometimes people leave you/Halfway through the wood/ Others may deceive you /You decide what’s good/You decide alone/But no one is alone” - Stephen Sondheim, Into the Woods

“You cannot let all the world’s tragedies into your heart. You’ll drown. But the ones you do let in should count. Let them manifest action.” - Lin Manuel Miranda

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

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 midweek masses and events. (In Roanoke, go E on Hershberger, L on Hubert to 4910).

BAPTIST

First Baptist Church on 3rd Ave., 215 Third Ave at the corner with Downey St. We 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!”

ECKANKAR

Eckankar, the Path of Spiritual Freedom, is a simple teaching that focuses on the Light and Sound of God to help people find more love in their life. The Roanoke Eckankar Center is located at 1420 3rd St. SW, Roanoke, VA 24016. The Center was closed during the COVID crisis but is now open. A spiritual event is held on the 2nd Sunday of each month at 10:30 a.m. Since contracting COVID-19 may still be possible, please take the health steps that are best for you. It is appreciated that by attending you are taking responsibility for your own health. Visit www.eck-va.org, www.meetup.com/Roanoke-Spiritual-Experiences Group or call 540-353-5365 for other Eckankar programs and for more information about how the teachings of Eckankar can 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.

Montgomery County WORSHIP DIRECTORY

SPREAD THE WORD

Read John 12:1 through 13:38

A large banner on the semitrailer in the church parking lot announced, “Food Giveaway on Saturday.” Sharon saw the banner as she drove by on her way to work. Just five years earlier, as a single mother of two, she had received two bags of groceries from the same church. This gift enabled her to get through a tough time after her husband deserted her. More importantly, it opened her heart to the message of Christ.

Now a growing Christian, Sharon takes time to tell others about the church’s food giveaway and about the greatest gift of all: Jesus.

The crowd that was with him when he called Lazarus from the tomb and raised him from the dead continued to spread the word (John 12:17).

Those who saw Jesus raise Lazarus from the dead just couldn’t keep quiet. They kept talking about the miracle and generating interest in those who heard. The story of how Jesus has touched one person’s life has the power to touch other people’s lives.

Prayer Suggestion: Jesus, help me to spread the word about You boldly today.

Quicklook: John 12:17-19

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

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.

Our Saviour Lutheran Church ELCA, 1845 Cambria St NE, Christiansburg. Worship each Sunday at 10 am, in person and online at https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCMsB-gbyjmV5ce9mr43dbCw. Please visit our website at www.oslc-cburg.org and our Facebook page at https://www.facebook.com/oslcchristiansburg to learn more about us. Little Free Pantry and Little Free Library located in our parking lot. Pastor Joshua L. Copeland; church office 540-382-2223.

St. Michael Lutheran Church, 2308 Merrimac Road, Blacksburg, VA 24060. Worship service each Sunday at 10 AM, Sunday School 9 AM. We are a community of God’s people where people gather for worship, learning and service. Visitors and new members are always WELCOME! Google comments: “Wonderful, welcoming congregation...A place where all are truly welcome... Nice, friendly, competent staff.” You will like our minister, The Rev. Michelle L. Stramiello. Her previous service was as Family Faith Formation Director at Cross and Crown Lutheran Church, Indianapolis, IN, Pastor of St Matthew Lutheran Church, Paducah, KY, and Hospice Chaplain in Largo, Fl. St. Michael started

and administers Micah’s Backpack which has great community impact, Micah’s Soup for Seniors, Micah’s Garden, Closet, and Mini Pantry. Also, partnering with Rainbow Riders and Total Action for Progress, we opened open the first Early Childhood Head Start in our community (6 weeks to age 3), and have numerous other programs including a Justice & Mercy Fund providing assistance for those needing emergency assistance with critical bills. Further St. Michael sponsors an awesome Scouting program of Boy & Girl Scout Troops, Venture Scouts for older youth, and a new Cub Pack for girls & boys kindergarten - 5th grade. Directions: From Price’s Fork Road, turn onto Merrimac Road and St. Michael is 3/10ths of a mile down on the left. For more information about any of our activities: Phone 540 951-8951. Email hope@stmhc.us or visit our Website www.st-michael-lutheran-church.org

MULTI-CULTURAL

NON-DENOMINATIONAL

Christian Growth Center, 1850 Electric 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.centralmethodistchurch.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

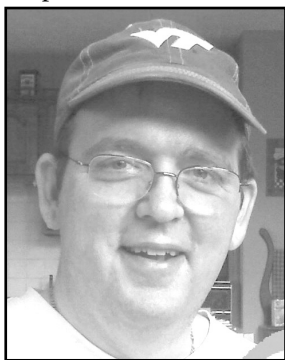
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Clary, Donald Wayne

Donald Wayne Clary, 60, passed away on Monday, Nov. 7, 2022, at his home in Dublin after his years-long battle with a progressive neurological disease.

Don was born in September 1962 in Chase City, Va. He earned his bachelor's degree in chemistry from Hampden-Sydney College and his medical degree from Eastern Virginia Medical School, and he completed his residency at Roanoke Memorial Hospital in family medicine. He was a devoted, loving physician and a beloved husband, father, grandfather, brother, and friend.

Survivors include his loving wife of 28 years, Marie Barnes Clary; five children and their spouses: Jaime Barnes Graham and Jonathan, Robert Michael Barnes and LeAnn, Clayton



Hollins Clary and Cassandra, Carolyn Elena Clary, and Donald Jacob Clary and Madeline; seven grandchildren: Blake, Kaitlyn, Cameron, Caleb, Annabelle, Elise, and Joy; four siblings and their spouses, Ronald Lee Clary, Jr., Thomas Ozlin Clary and Rhonda, Kenneth Eugene Clary and Amanda, and Carole Clary Griffin and Koy; as well as numerous other family members and friends. He was preceded in death by his parents, Ronald Lee Clary, Sr., and Carolyn Creedle Clary.

No funeral or service will be held in honor of his wishes. A celebration of life will be held with close family and friends at a later date.

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

and Bill Kersey, Tommie and Tony Noble, Rick and Sharon Jones, Tim Jones, and Missy Evans; a brother-in-law, Steve Baker; and many nieces, nephews, extended family members, and friends.

In keeping with Mike's wishes, he will be cremated. Memorial services will be

held at a later date.

The online guestbook can be signed or condolences may be sent to the family at www.broyles-shrewsbury.com. Arrangements by Broyles-Shrewsbury Funeral Home, Peterstown WVa.

McKenna, Dorothy Marie

Dorothy Marie McKenna, 96, of Christiansburg, passed away on Nov. 7, 2022.

She was preceded in death by her parents, Jesse and Addie M. James; siblings Jesse James, Jr., Frances Ingram, Denton James, Charlie James, Wayne James, Gary James; and her husband, Edward F. McKenna.

Dorothy is survived by her sons, James J. McKenna and Edward F. McKenna, Jr.; grandsons James J. McKenna, Jr., and Patrick L. McKenna; granddaughter Katie K. McKenna; as well as many nieces and nephews.

Born in West Virginia in 1926, she grew up during hard times. In 1949 she married Edward F. McKenna and enjoyed 55 years with him until his passing in 2004. During her marriage she was a devoted wife and mother to

her two sons, Edward, Jr., and James. After her husband passed, she lived with her son James and grandson James, Jr., in Christiansburg.

She enjoyed reading, her Christian faith, and her family. She always held them in her thoughts and prayers.

Visitation was held Friday, Nov. 11, 2022, at Horne Funeral Home. Graveside Services will be held today, Saturday, Nov. 12, 2022, at noon at Cunningham Memorial Park, St. Albans, W.Va.

The family would like to thank James, James Jr., Kelly Miller, and Lona Sowers for their care.

In lieu of flowers, please send a donation to Reagan Ranch, c/o Young America's Foundation, P. O. Box 2699, Santa Barbara, CA 93120-2699. Arrangements with Horne Funeral Home & Crematory 540-382-2612.

Hypes, Billy Ray

Billy Ray Hypes, 79, of Blacksburg, died Friday, Nov. 4, 2022, at Pulaski Health and Rehab.

He was born in Montgomery County on June 27, 1943, to the late Vernie and Gladys Jones Hypes. He was preceded in death by two brothers, Edwin Hypes and Robert Hypes, and a niece, Theresa Reed.

He is survived by his daughter and son-in-law, Melissa and James

Hylton; grandchildren Jimbo Hylton, Ariel Hylton, Noah Hylton, and Anthony Hylton; nephews Bobby Hypes and wife, Rhonda, and Steve Hypes and wife, Kathy.

A memorial service was held on Friday, Nov. 11, 2022, in the McCoy Funeral Home Chapel with the Rev. Jimmie Lee Price officiating.

all who knew him.

In addition to his father, Mike was preceded in death by one sister, Sherry Jones Baker.

In addition to his mother, survivors include his loving wife, Sue Hollaway Jones of the home; one son, Shane Jones and wife Katrina of Cashmere, WVa; and one grandson, Sean Anthony Bishop; seven brothers and sisters: Marshall and Pat Jones, Larry and Connie Jones, Jane

Reed, Sr., Kenneth Alvin "Butch"

Kenneth Alvin "Butch" Reed, Sr., 78, passed away at his home in Radford on Sunday, Nov. 6, 2022.

He was employed by Reed Auto Parts for over 40 years. He was a lifetime member of the Radford Fire Department and attended Central United Methodist Church. He was preceded in death by his father, Donald "Mutt," and his brother, Billy Reed.

Survivors include his loving wife of 59 years, Bootsie Reed; sons and their spouses, Kenneth, Jr., and Brian Adams-Reed, and Keith and Katrina Reed; his mother, Louise Reed; grandchildren Shawn and Kailey; a brother, Jerry Reed; sisters and brother-in-law, Peggy Barber,

and Susie and Calvin Busby; and a host of other relatives and friends.

The family received friends on Wednesday, Nov. 9, 2022, at the Mullins Funeral Home in Radford. Funeral services were held on Thursday, Nov. 10, 2022, with the Rev. Dennis Martin and Dwayne Martin officiating. Interment followed in Highland Memory Gardens in Dublin.

In lieu of flowers, the family requests that donations be made to the local humane society.

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

See Obituaries, page 8

Events

from page 2

Tuesday, Nov. 15:

Legislative update

The Montgomery County Chamber of Commerce will present a legislative update to discuss the chamber's 2023 legislative agenda at Warm Hearth Village, 2387 Warm Hearth Dr., Blacksburg, from 11:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. Several of the representatives from the Virginia House and Senate will be on hand.

Blacksburg Town Council meeting

The Blacksburg Town Council will meet at 6:30 p.m. in the Roger E. Hedgepeth Chambers of the Blacksburg Municipal Building, 300 S. Main St. These meetings are open to the public and are televised live on WTOB Channel 2.

Christiansburg Town Council meeting

The Christiansburg Town Council will meet at 7 p.m. in the council chambers of Town Hall (100 E. Main St.).

Suicide Prevention Training with New River Valley Community Services

At the Radford Public Library; noon. Join NRVCs for a training on suicide prevention. Dee Frith and Caroline Mullins will teach attendees about the QPR methodology, which is Question, Persuade and Refer. Those who attend will receive certification as 'gatekeepers' for learning this information. Suicide is the 12th leading cause of death in the United States. Learn how to get help. Get trained and save lives. This training is free and is provided in cooperation with QPR Institute. No registration is required.

NaNoWriMo Event: Story prompt challenge

At the Blacksburg Library; 6 p.m. From a list of over 60 one-line openings, participants will challenge themselves to write mini-stories from as many prompts as they can. All ages are welcome. Snacks will be provided.

Christiansburg Street Committee meeting

The street committee will hold a meeting from 5:30 to 6:30 p.m. in the Administrative Conference Room of Town Hall.

Wednesday, Nov. 16:

American Business Women's Association luncheon meeting

The American Business Women's Association will hold its November luncheon meeting from 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the Christiansburg-Blacksburg Holiday Inn, 99 Bradley Dr. in Christiansburg. The cost is \$14.25. During the meeting, the association will present coats collected from their annual coat drive for the

Women's Resource Center. The association also requests that those attending bring a nonperishable food item to donate to the Montgomery County Christmas Store. Susan Brickhouse is the speaker sponsor for this event. Those planning to attend should RSVP by Nov. 14 by contacting Terri Welch at christiansburg@wineanddesign.com or Paige Godwin at godwinpaige@gmail.com.

Thursday, Nov. 17:

Community quilting bee

At the Blacksburg Library; 10 a.m. Participants can bring their supplies and tools and take part in quilting and conversation.

Friday, Nov. 18:

Children's yoga

Join Kelly McCoy of "The Whole You" and Alex Bowman from "Embark Pediatric and Family Chiropractic" for a children's yoga class. Children will learn mindfulness techniques at the library. If possible, children should bring their own yoga mats. Registration is required and space is limited. Call the library at 540-731-2621 or email Morgan at morgan.esterhuizen@radfordva.gov to register.

Saturday, Nov. 19:

Darin Handy reptiles

At the Meadowbrook Public Library; 1 p.m. Darin Handy is a certified wildlife rehabilitator who works with injured and orphaned wildlife. He'll be speaking about exotic animals and why they should not be kept as pets.

Family movie fun

At the Radford Public Library; 11 a.m. The hilarious minions return in Minions: The Rise of Gru. Rated PG for some action/violence and rude humor. (2022)

Monday, Nov. 21:

Crafting for the holiday: Birdseed ornament

At the Radford Public Library; 1-2 p.m. Participants can create an ornament and feed birds in their yards with the finished craft. The library staff will demonstrate how to create a birdseed ornament for the cool weather. Supplies will be provided while they last.

Tuesday, Nov. 22:

Shrink art

At the Blacksburg Library; 4:30 p.m. Participants will be using shrinking plastic to make key chains, earrings, and more. Registration is required.

NaNoWriMo event: Create found poetry

At the Blacksburg Library; 6 p.m. Find words in magazines and newspapers to create a found poem. All ages are welcome. Snacks will be provided.

Chess club for teens and tweens

At the Radford Public Library; 6 to 7 p.m. Join Youth Services Specialist Dave in the community room for a game of Chess. For ages 8-17.

Wednesday, Nov. 23 – Sunday, Nov. 27:

Radford Public Library closed Closed for the Thanksgiving holiday

Monday, Nov. 28:

Crafting for the holiday: Open crafting
At the Radford Public Library; 1 to 2 p.m. Participants can bring their own needlework, painting or other projects and work with others. These crafting afternoons are not guided and are at the participants' leisure. Some craft items will be supplied.

Tuesday, Nov. 29:

Game On!

At the Christiansburg Library; 3:30 to 5:30 p.m. Gamers of all ages are welcome to play a variety of Nintendo games. Connect with other gamers. Participants are encouraged to bring their portable device, but it is not required. Snacks will be provided.

NaNoWriMo Event: We Draw What You Write

At the Blacksburg Library; 6 p.m. Each group will have an image to write a description about, and the rest of the group will draw the image based on the description. All ages are welcome. Snacks will be provided.

Wednesday, Nov. 30:

Sustainable Blacksburg Lunch & Learn: Energy Check

At the Blacksburg Library; noon. An introduction to home energy audits. Learn how to make the home more comfortable and energy efficient while maximizing returns from current tax incentives. The speaker represents Energy Check, a Blacksburg Home Energy Improvement Company.

Tuesday, Dec. 6:

RSVP holiday recognition party

A holiday recognition party for RSVP volunteers will be held from 2 to 4 p.m. at the Christiansburg Recreation Center in Multipurpose Room 2. Everyone is asked to sign up by Tuesday, Nov. 22. RSVP will collect Toys for Tots from anyone wishing to donate to this holiday project.

Ongoing:

Holiday parade registration

Registration is now open for Blacksburg's annual holiday parade to be held on Friday, Dec. 2 at 7 p.m. This year's theme will be "Hometown Holidays." The registration deadline is Friday, Nov. 18 at 5 p.m. For more information, contact David Goodman at degoodman@blacksburg.gov or 540-443-1106.

Hand-in-Hand playground design concepts

The Town of Blacksburg has received design concepts from playground designer Leathers, Inc., for the new Hand-in-Hand playground. Check them out at <https://letstalkblacksburg.org/hand-in-hand>.

Radford holiday parade registration

Radford's Holiday Parade, themed "Jingle All the Way", will take place on Thursday, Dec. 8, 2022 at 7 p.m. Lineup begins at 6 p.m. on East Main Street between Tyler Avenue and University Drive Bridge and will proceed westward along Main Street to the Central Square Shopping Center. Go to www.radfordva.gov to register. Deadline to register is Nov. 30.

Help the Veterans with your donations

The Meadowbrook Public Library is a collection point for items needed at the VA Medical Center in Salem. The following items are needed and may be brought to the library during November: deodorant, denture adhesive, 3-in-1 body wash/shampoo/conditioner, body lotion, toothpaste, nail clippers, sweatpants, sweatshirts, t-shirts (size M, L, XL), and new baseball caps. Co-Sponsored by VFW Post 5311 and Montgomery-Floyd Regional libraries.

Free GED classes

At the Meadowbrook Public Library, 5 to 8 p.m. on Tuesdays and Thursdays. New River Community College is offering free GED at the Meadowbrook Library every Tuesday and Thursday until Thursday, Dec. 15. For more information or to sign up, call the library at 540-268-1964.

MONTGOMERY SPORTS

Early signing day: Three sign letters of intent at CHS

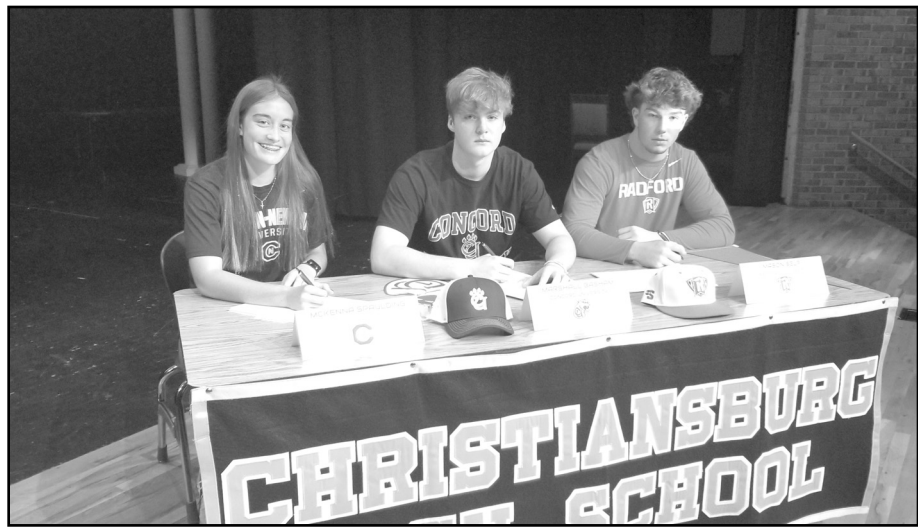


PHOTO BY MARTY GORDON

Three student-athletes from Christiansburg High School signed national letters of intent on Wednesday to continue their playing careers in college. Pictured are: (from left) McKenna Spaulding (Carson-Newman), Marshall Basham (Concord) and Mason Self (Radford University).

Marty Gordon
 NRVsports@mainstreetnewspapers.com

Three Christiansburg High School student-athletes signed letters of intent to continue their playing careers during an early national signing day Wednesday in the school's auditorium. McKenna Spaulding will run track and cross country at Carson-Newman, Marshall Basham will play baseball at Concord, and Mason Self is headed to Radford University.

Spaulding has been running cross country and track for the past years, winning the 4X800 region championship and being a four-time all-region runner.

She has also been a member of the Beta Club, the Fellowship of Christian Athletes, all-district band, and the National Honor Society. She is also a two-year varsity lacrosse player, a member of the varsity soccer team, and was the 2019 cross country female runner of the year.

At Carson Newman, Spaulding plans to major in exercise science.

Basham has played varsity baseball at CHS for the past four years. He was named the first-team all-region 3D

catcher and second-team Class 3 catcher in 2022. He is also a member of (Health Occupations Students of America (HOSA) and the Student Government Association.

At Concord, he plans to major in health sciences with an emphasis in physical therapy.

Self has also played baseball for the past four years and was named to the first-team All-River Ridge District this past year at first base. He was also named the district player of the year. He was honored on the first-team Region 3D at first base and second team pitcher, in addition being named to the All-Class 3 team at first base.

This past month, he was named the Ray Bellamy Memorial winner by the Salem Roanoke Baseball Hall of Fame. At CHS, he is a member of the BETA club, the National Honor Society, Health Occupational Students of America, and the Student Government Association. This past month, he was named the 2022 Christiansburg High School homecoming king.

At Radford University, Self plans to major in exercise science and kinesiology.

Auburn pitcher Kirsten Fleet signs to play softball at JMU

Marty Gordon
 NRVsports@mainstreetnewspapers.com

Kirsten Fleet received a scholarship offer from the University of Georgia when she was a seventh grader. The Auburn High School softball pitcher had been heavily leaning that way as she finished her junior year, but a coaching change had her rethinking that decision.

Wednesday, she made it official, becoming the newest pitching recruit for James Madison University. She signed a national letter of intent in front of family, friends, teammates, and coaches at the Auburn High School library.

As a sophomore, Fleet led Auburn to the Class 1 state title, rolling up 260 strikeouts in 120 innings, compiling a 16-2 record with a 0.29 earned run average.

This past spring, she hit .538 batting average with 14 hits, two home runs and 14 RBI's. On

the mound, she had six wins and one loss with 98 strikeouts and an earned run average of 0.525. She was named the Mt. Empire District and Region C Pitcher of the Year.

The Virginia High School League announced its 2022 Class 1 All-State softball team and Fleet was the Class 1 Player of the Year.

During Auburn's tournament run to a state championship, Fleet, finished 8-0 with a .292 ERA in 48 innings with 116 strikeouts, three one-hitters, and two no-hitters, including a no-hitter in the Eagles' 10-0 win over Riverheads High School in the state finals and a perfect game in the 3-0 win over Buffalo Gap in the state semifinals.

Although she missed 10 games due to injury, Fleet finished the year

with a 14-1 record, 203 strikeouts, and a 0.417 ERA. She allowed only 14 hits and five earned runs. In addition, she batted .500, with four home runs and 25 RBI's with an .820 slugging percentage.

The team picked up its third straight state title, finishing the 2022 season with a 22-5 record.

Fleet reopened her recruitment shortly after the College World Series when the Georgia coach announced her retirement. James Madison grabbed everyone's attention with its outstanding play in the CWS two years ago.

Fleet's early recruitment as an underclassman drew national attention, and two years ago, the NCAA instituted a rule change that would not allow coaching conversations with a player until the player was a junior in high school.

Fleet chose JMU over Auburn, Pittsburgh, and Appalachian State.



PHOTO BY ASHLEY AKERS

Kirsten Fleet has officially signed a letter of intent to continue her softball career at James Madison University. Fleet is a senior for the Auburn High School team, which has won three straight state championships during her time at the school.

Hokies sign top-5 wrestling class

Virginia Tech wrestling head coach Tony Robie Wednesday announced the signing of six nationally ranked prospects, marking the third top-five class in five years and the fifth top-10 class in as many years for the Hokies with Robie at the helm.

Robie and staff signed six state champions: two from Pennsylvania, one from Virginia, one from New Jersey, one from Tennessee, and one from Indiana.

"We are incredibly excited about this incoming class and the competitive spirit they bring to the table," said Hokies wrestling associate head coach Jared Frayer. "These guys crave competition and being the best at their craft, which is why they will continue to elevate this program to the next level."

Virginia Tech 2023 Recruiting Class

#8 Jimmy Mullen - Kearny, New Jersey (St. Joe's Regional High School)

Mullen is the sixth-ranked pound-for-pound prospect, eighth-ranked in the graduating class, and top-ranked wrestler in the heavyweight division. Mullen signed to wrestle and to suit up for the Hokies on the gridiron. He is a two-time New Jersey State Champion and a three-star defensive end. In addition, Mullen has wrestled on the world stage where he was a

United World Wrestling Cadet Silver Medalist.

Coach Robie on Jimmy Mullen:

"Jimmy is your rare two-sport athlete who plans on playing football and wrestling for the Hokies. Growing up in North Jersey and attending St. Joe's Regional High School, he is battle-tested in both sports. He plays in one of the top high school football leagues in the nation and will keep the pipeline of great New Jersey wrestlers in Blacksburg alive. A Cadet World Silver Medalist and a multiple time New Jersey state champ, he is one of the top overall ranked wrestlers in the class of 2023. Jimmy is a tremendous athlete and an even better kid. He is not your typical HWT. He moves like a little guy. He will be fun to watch."

#17 Mac Church - Waynesburg, Pennsylvania (Waynesburg High School)

Church is the third-ranked prospect in the 138-pound weight class and seventh overall in the Class of 2023 Big Board. He finished third at the Pennsylvania state tournament his freshman season before claiming the title in his sophomore and junior seasons. Church won a Super 32 title in 2019 and has finished top-three at prestigious tournaments Powerade, Fargo, and Ironman since the start of his high school

career. Coach Robie on Mac Church:

"Mac committed to Virginia Tech early in the process. He and his parents have been on campus several times over the course of the last year. We feel like we know Mac very well at this point and know exactly what he's about. His commitment to the sport and his work ethic are at an elite level. He has established himself as the best wrestler in the state of Pennsylvania the last two years, as well as one of the best wrestlers in the country. It's hard to know exactly what weight Mac will end up at as he is still growing, but we are very excited that he's joining the program and are lucky to have him. He has all the attributes required to be an elite college wrestler and strives for excellence in every area of his life."

#30 Hunter Mason - Greeneville, Tennessee (Greeneville High School)

Mason signed with the Hokies as a three-time Tennessee state champion and is ranked fifth at 138 pounds. Mason has collected All-American finishes at Fargo, Beast of the East, and Super 32. He is on track to become Tennessee's second four-time state champion as he enters his senior year.

- Virginia Tech Athletics

Radford's Evan Rupe commits to play soccer in hometown

Marty Gordon
 NRVsports@mainstreetnewspapers.com

Radford High School soccer standout Evan Rupe will continue his playing career at nearby Radford University. He signed a letter of intent Wednesday in the school's gymnasium in front of family, teammates, and coaches.

Rupe was first-team All-Three Rivers District, Region C, and all-state last season, leading the Bobcats with 18 goals. He scored five goals in the game against James River.

He said he likes the idea of playing in his hometown so family and friends can support him. His goal is to land a starting spot, score goals, and help the

team to success.

"It would also be great to push for a conference tournament championship, a conference regular-season championship, or an NCAA tournament appearance," he said.

Rupe participated in the Adidas Winning Generation Soccer Program's National Cup, played and scored overseas in the Goria Cup in 2019, and played with the VBR Star in the team's USL Pro Academy this past summer.

This fall, Rupe decided to add to his playing resume by joining the football team, missing only one extra point as the kicker.

At RU, Rupe plans to major in graphic design.



PHOTO COURTESY OF RADFORD HIGH SCHOOL

Evan Rupe led Radford High School's soccer team in scoring for two straight seasons, and this week, he made it official: His playing career will stay close to home at RU. Pictured at Rupe's signing are: (seated front row from left) Rupe's grandfather, Larry Masters; Evan Rupe; Evan's grandmother, Rebecca Masters

(back row, from left) Rupe's father, Dave Rupe; his mother, Cyndy, and his brother, Zane.

CROSSWORD ANSWERS

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Auburn defeats Giles to win another region volleyball title



Auburn's Madeline Lavergne delivers the boom in hitting the ball across the net during this week's regional final.



Auburn High School raised the Region C championship trophy Wednesday night after a 25-22, 14-25, 25-23, 25-19 defeat of Giles.



The Eagles celebrate after getting the final point to complete the defeat of Giles that wrapped up another Region C title.

PHOTOS BY ASHLEY AKERS

Lady Hokies to face West Virginia in NCAA soccer tourney

For the fourth time within the last five seasons, the Virginia Tech women's soccer team is headed to the NCAA Division I Women's Soccer Championship as announced during Monday's selection show. Virginia Tech (10-6-2, 4-5-1 ACC) will travel to seventh-seeded West Virginia for a first-round match at Dick Dlesk Soccer Stadium in Morgantown on Sunday, Nov. 13, at 1 p.m. The Hokies will be making their 13th NCAA tournament appearance and their 12th during Chugger Adair's 17 seasons in Blacksburg (12 seasons as head coach).

Monday's NCAA tournament qualification is a direct result of Tech's demanding 2022 regular season schedule that featured seven regular-season matches against RPI top-20 opponents. Entering the selection window, the Hokies

ranked No. 46 in RPI and spent one week of the season ranked inside the United Soccer Coaches top 25 poll.

Among the top performances of the 2022 season, Tech went on a three-game winning streak in the ACC, defeating No. 22 NC State (1-0) and Wake Forest (2-0) and finishing with a win at home versus No. 3 North Carolina on Oct. 1 (2-1). Two weeks later, Tech tied No. 13 Virginia (3-3) while hosting the Cavaliers in Blacksburg.

Tech is equipped with 12 goal scorers and 16 point earners. The Hokies are led by their 2022 All-ACC third-team and All-Freshman Team selection Taylor Price, who set the pace for freshman forwards in the conference during the regular season, accounting for eight goals and three assists.

Tech has the strength and skills to follow in

the footsteps of its 2013 team that advanced as far as the College Cup. As a program, the Hokies have reached the round of 16 on five occasions, most recently in 2018. In 2021, Tech defeated its first-round opponent Ohio State, 3-1.

West Virginia was seeded fourth in the Big 12's conference tournament. The Mountaineers knocked off top-seeded Texas, 1-0 during the semifinal round prior to defeating second-seeded TCU 1-0 in the title match.

The Hokies are 7-5-0 during NCAA tournament openers and boast a 6-2-1 record during home NCAA tournament matches (considering all rounds). This season, Tech went 5-3 across its eight regular-season away matches, scoring 15 goals with a +2 goal differential.

- Virginia Tech Athletics

Outdoor Report: Deer are on the move

Autumn is here and along with colorful leaves, crisp air and shorter days, deer are on the move. Fall is the breeding season for deer, so deer will be more active over the next couple of months than at any other time of the year.

Motorists will also be driving more often in the dark, increasing the likelihood of encountering a deer on the road. Colliding with a deer can cause considerable damage to the animal, people, and property.

The Virginia Department of Wildlife Resources (DWR) recommends the following tips to avoid hitting a deer:

1. Slow down and be attentive, particularly at night (from dusk to dawn). If you see one deer, watch out for others.

2. Deer habitually travel the same areas. Use caution when you see deer crossing signs installed in these areas by the Virginia Department of Transportation.

3. Apply brakes, even stop if necessary, to avoid hitting a deer, but never swerve out of the lane to miss a deer. A collision with another vehicle, tree or other object is likely to be more serious than hitting a deer.

4. Always wear a seat belt. Even if a collision is unavoidable, you are more likely to avoid injury or death if you are wearing a seat belt.

5. If you hit or kill a deer or bear while driving, immediately report the accident to a Conservation Police Officer or other law enforcement officer in the county or city where the accident occurred. If you kill a deer or bear while driving, you may keep it for your own use if you report the accident to a law enforcement officer where the accident occurred and the officer views the animal and gives you a possession certificate.

- Paige Pearson, Virginia Department of Wildlife Resources



PHOTO COURTESY OF PIXABAY

Obituaries from page 6

Hixon, Micah Edward

Micah Edward Hixon of Blacksburg died Friday, Nov. 4, 2022, at LewisGale Hospital Montgomery. He was born in Blacksburg on Jan. 11, 1983, and was preceded in death by his father, William Wayne Hixon.

He is survived by his mother, Tammie Smith Hixon, and his loving furry companion, Maddy.

Funeral services were conducted Wednesday, Nov. 9, 2022, in the McCoy Funeral Home Chapel. Interment followed in the Smith Family Cemetery.



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