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# Memorial Day honored in Craig

**Pam Dudding**  
Contributing writer

Honor, respect, pride, loyalty, and sacrifice. These are words that seem to penetrate people's minds when we speak of our military in the United States of America.

On Memorial Day, many gathered in the courtyard in New Castle to pay tribute to those who sacrificed it all, their own lives, as David Givens played patriotic background music, providing his system and service.

With warm welcomes, handshakes of intensity and hugs aplenty, friendships seem to be abundant.

The service started with

the ringing of the Courthouse bell and the presentation of the Colors by our local VFS Post 4491 and a warm welcome by mayor Bucky Johnson's wife, Melinda.

Marine Veteran Dennis White gave the invocation, sharing, "On this Memorial Day, your servants humble themselves before you and pause to reflect upon our blessings as a nation, and the high cost of those blessings....Even as your servants remember those who have given their lives in the past, we also think of those whose lives are on the line today. Protect them, encourage

See Memorial Day, page 3



PHOTO BY PAM DIDDING

The Craig Valley Daughters of the American Revolution was present to give each attendee a U.S. flag and to lead in the Pledge of Allegiance. Standing are: Dianne Brown, Margaret Hines, Carolyn Roberts, Tina Crawford, Gerlene Sizer and Mary Page Cosby.

# D-Day Bedford Memorial remembers

**Pam Dudding**  
Contributing writer

There is no greater honor as an American than to serve your country in the armed forces, and there is no greater honor as an American than to honor those who have served, especially those who gave their lives for our freedom.

On Monday, June 6, The D-Day Memorial in Bedford held a service honoring the 78th anniversary of the allied landing of Normandy.

Along with many citizens came family members of those who served, those who gave their lives, those military who are serving and many organizations for the Laying of the Wreaths. Respect, honor, and appreciation penetrated the atmosphere.

Though a great sadness fills many hearts for the thousands of lives lost on that day in Normandy, there was still a sense of pride, as America did what they felt necessary at the time, with the means of ammunition and technology that they had.

Veterans were all around. Some walked, while others used walkers, and many were pushed in wheelchairs. All seemed to carry themselves with a tender pride that

seemed easy to capture your heart as you conversed with each.

The program for the day entailed much. The 29th Division Band played intermittently during the entire day. The Drum and Fife team marched in line playing before the presentation of the colors.

"These men and women inspire us to establish our values by the measure of these heroes, especially the heroes of whose feet touched the ground on the 6 day of June 1944, the day they died so that freedom would not," Director of Education John Long said in his invocation.

"When I reflect on the contributions, the blood, and life that our nation's citizens have made and continue to make for freedom I am humbled by the character and quality of their service," he said. "It is remarkable to reflect on how half of one generation, over 75 years ago achieved what seemed to be impossible - liberating the world from tyranny and this memorial stands as a visible reminder of the need that we have here, and to say thank you to all who have put themselves in peril to preserve the liberty that we enjoy. Your commitment has helped to preserve that legacy of watershed event."

He added, "For over two de-

cedes the D-Day Memorial has given emotional comfort, solace, and closure to those who needed it and has educated hundreds of thousands of visitors about the importance of remembering that our liberty and our way of life comes with a dear cost."

Gary Mignogna, president and CEO of Framatome and chairman of the National D-Day Memorial Foundation welcomed all who attended this annual event, sharing that this is the 22nd year they have had the event. "In having a service at this Memorial, so much time has passed and now we have almost lost an entire World War II generation. According to the VA Less than 240,000 of the 16 million Americans who served are still alive but dying at 200 per day."

He spoke of Bruce Catton, a Civil War historian and how powerfully he was affected by growing up around so many veterans in war.

In an interview Catton commented, "In one sense they were just small-town boys but yet in another they had been all over hell and back."

George Patton Waters, the grandson of General George S.

See D-Day, page 3



Normandy and World War II Veterans were asked to come forward to be honored. Immediately, the entire audience stood in honor, and handclaps were abound, lasting several minutes.



PHOTOS BY PAM DIDDING

The 29th Division Band played in the background and the Drum and Fife Team led the colors.



**Craig County Fall Festival**

The 39th annual Craig County Fall Festival will be held on Oct. 8, 2022.

## Craig County Historical Society gets ready for Fall Festival

~Vendor registration forms are now available~

Submitted by the Craig County Historical Society

Craig County Historical Society is pleased to announce plans for the 39th annual Craig County Fall Festival on October 8, 2022. Held on the second Saturday of October since 1983, the festival is a major fundraiser for the Society as well as a popular community event.

Proceeds this year will go toward the restoration of the Clifton Elmore Store which was purchased by the society

last fall. Donations are currently being accepted and will be used for a new roof and repairs to the foundation.

Registration forms have been mailed to over 100 vendors who participated in the 2021 Fall Festival. Forms can also be found in the brochure rack on the porch of the Old Brick Hotel on Court Street, as well as the Craig County Historical Society Events Facebook page. Fee for a 10x10 space will be \$50.00. Contact Robyn Foster at 540-977-8395 for more de-

tails.

This years festival will feature the 2nd Annual Flat-Foot contest for adults and children. Cash prizes, medals and certificates will be awarded. Other new exciting surprises will be announced in the coming weeks.

The Society appreciates the continued support from Adams Construction, Craig Botetourt REA, AEP and Morgan Stanley.

Self-guided tours will be

See Fall Festival, page 3




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# COMMUNITY CALENDAR

\* Lighthouse Baptist Jungle Adventure - June 13 - 17, 6 - 8 p.m., meals provided for kids and pickup provided for some locations. We will have Bible lessons, penny wars, food, games, crafts and much more!

\* Grace Baptist - June 20 - 23, 6 - 8:30 p.m. Meals provided for kids

\* First Baptist A Journey with Jesus - June 20 - 24, 6:30-8:30 at the Fairgrounds Ages 3-12 fun & food

\* Level Green Christian - July 10 - 12

\* Craig Valley Baptist - July 18 - 22, 6 - 8 p.m.

\* New Castle Christian - First week of August

## Cheers for 30 Years at the Salem Museum: New exhibit celebrates SMHS anniversary



The Salem Museum and Historical Society celebrates 30 years.

SUBMITTED PHOTO

Submitted by the Salem Museum and Historical Society

After years of dreaming and hard work, the Salem Museum opened in the Williams-Brown House on June 27, 1992. The Museum is celebrating its 30th Anniversary with a new, free feature exhibit that takes a look back at artifacts and stories now preserved in the Museum's collections. Some favorite—but rarely seen—objects appear in this eclectic display, including: a trans-oceanic short-wave radio and other examples of early technology military equipment from conflicts dating back to the French and Indian War paintings of the Museum's historic home, plus

photography and sculpture plus, an explanation for the Museum's sizable collection of dirt. For those who are curious about museum operations, the exhibit also explains some of the behind-the-scenes procedures that go into curating, preserving, storing, and displaying objects, and how information about them is recorded and is able to be searched. Significantly, the Museum's three decades of success celebrate its founders, members, volunteers, and donors who have given so generously of their time, heirlooms, and financial resources to make the Salem Museum what it is today. Cheers for 30 Years includes something for all ages and is fun for Salem natives and out-of-town visitors alike. Touchable

objects and activities are included. Admission is free. The exhibit is underwritten by the William and Margaret Robertson Endowment Fund and was designed by Alex Burke, the Museum's Assistant Director. The exhibit will be on display through the fall. The Salem Museum & Historical Society is an independent nonprofit organization preserving and celebrating the history of Salem, Virginia, founded in 1802. The Salem Museum is located in the historic 1845 Williams-Brown House at 801 East Main Street, Salem, VA 24153. Open Tuesday-Saturday, 10 am to 4 pm. Museum admission is free. The Museum has ample, free parking. 540-389-6760. <https://salemuseum.org/>

# Scruggs Foundation Scholarship Awards

**Pam Dudding**  
Contributing writer

For some who have passed on, their memory is kept alive by loved ones who continue their life's dreams. Bobby Scruggs is one, whose wife formed the Bobby Scruggs Charitable Foundation Scholarship program for graduating seniors.

Bobby Scruggs was a NASCAR Official for almost 40 years. He lost his thirteen-year battle with cancer much too soon on January 22, 2005.

He was known for his heartfelt motto, "Never Give up, Go Over, Go Under, Go Around or Go Through, but NEVER GIVE UP!"

Jackie Scruggs-Taylor shared, "His legacy is being continued through fundraising to offer scholarships to students seeking a career in some area of the Motorsports or the Automotive Industry. Also, there are interns for Motor Racing Outreach (MRO) and Wake Forest University Research Center."

Taylor explained that 130 scholarships have been awarded to students in 26 high schools in Southwest Virginia thus far and there have also been 15 interns for the MRO Children's Ministry.

The recipients for the 2021-2022 \$1,000 Bobby Scruggs Scholarships are:

Mason C. Huffman, Craig County High School - attending Virginia Western Community College studying Physical Therapy

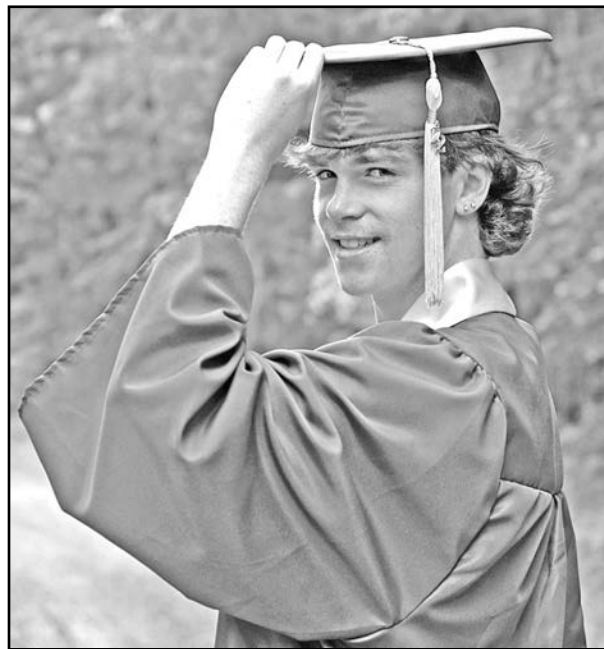
Kaitlyn M. Radford, Craig County High School - attending Virginia Western Community College studying Nursing

Nathan G. Semones, Hidden Valley High School - attending NASCAR UTI Institute studying Welding and interning With Rousch / Keselowski Motorsports

Lucas D. Taylor, Craig County High School - attending Liberty University

"The Scruggs' Legacy continues through these students as they receive assistance to go into the world to complete their education," Taylor shared. "The NASCAR Family has been very supportive, and we are working very diligently to continue assisting students in the future. Bobby always told the drivers and officials, "If today had not gone well, tomorrow would be a better day!"

Applications for the 2022-2023 Scholarships are on the website at [bsmfoundation.org](http://bsmfoundation.org). They are due March 15, 2023.



Scholarship recipient Mason C. Huffman, Craig County High School - attending Virginia Western Community College studying Physical Therapy.

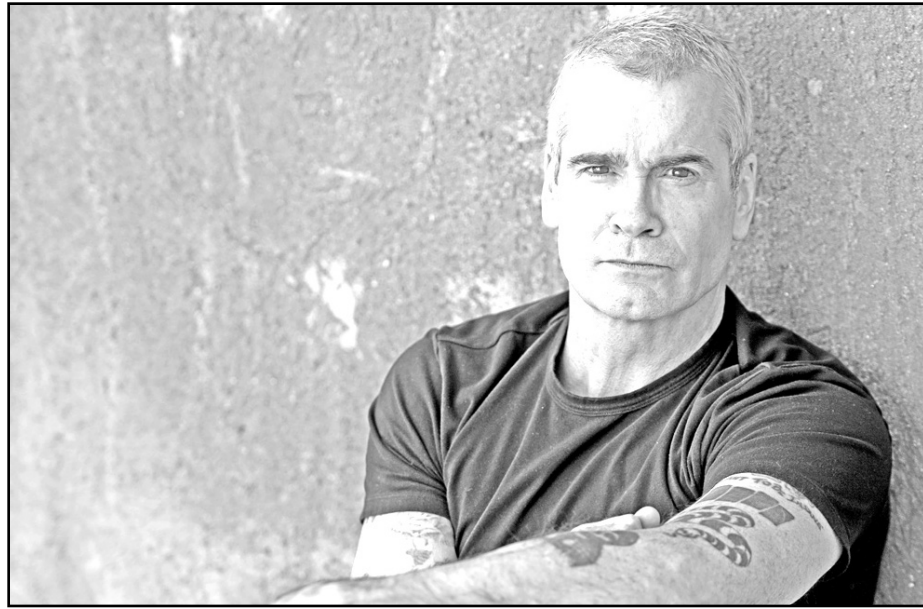


Lucas D. Taylor of Craig County High School was another Scruggs Scholarship recipient and will be attending Liberty University.



Kaitlyn M. Radford of Craig County High School will be attending Virginia Western Community College studying Nursing.

## Henry Rollins to bring 'Good to See You 2022' tour to Rocky Mount



Musician Henry Rollins will come to Rocky Mount on Sept. 21.

SUBMITTED PHOTO

Submitted by Foxglove Marketing

Harvester Performance Center will welcome Henry Rollins to the stage Wednesday, Sept. 21 at 8 p.m., as part of Rollins' "Good to See You 2022" tour.

In describing Rollins,

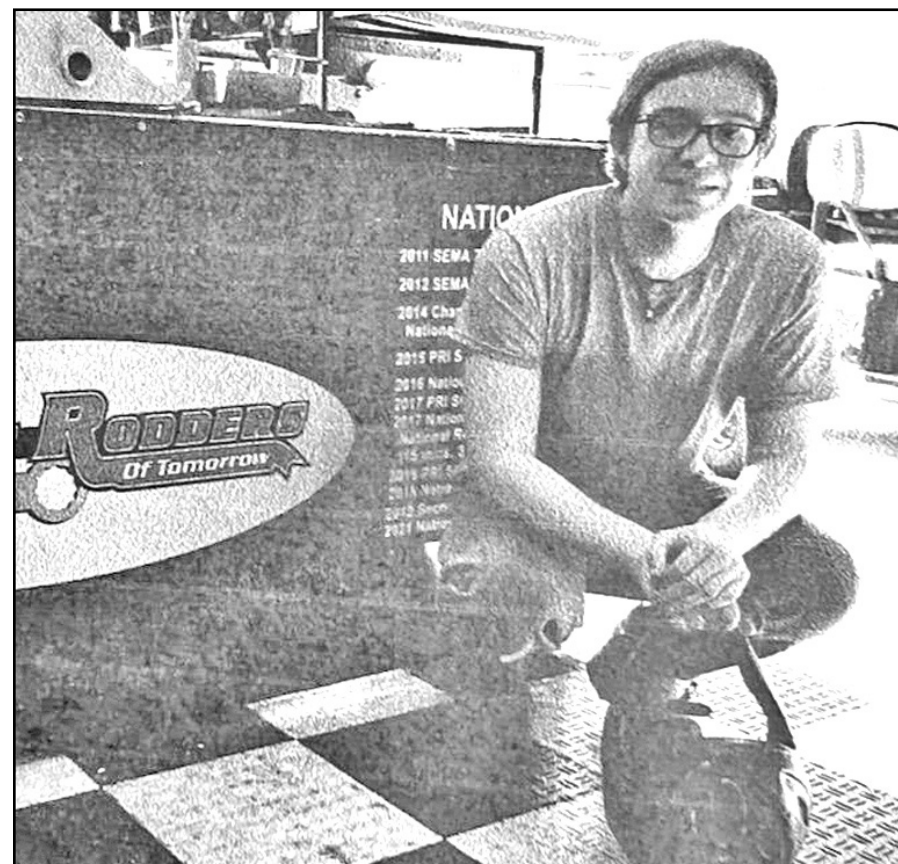
the tendency is to try to squeeze as many labels as possible into a single sentence. "Diatribist, confessor, provocateur, humorist, even motivational speaker," The Washington Post said. Entertainment Weekly's list includes "Punk Rock icon. Spoken word poet. Actor. Author.

DJ. Is there anything this guy can't do?"

On the "Good To See You 2022" tour, Rollins will recount the events of his life in the brief pre-COVID period since the last tour and when things got even stranger over the last several months. It's been an interesting time to say the least and he's got some great stories to tell.

Rollins has toured the world as a spoken word artist, as frontman for both Rollins Band and Black Flag and as a solitary traveler with insatiable curiosity, favoring road-less-traveled locales in places such as Nepal, Sri Lanka, Siberia, North Korea, South Sudan and Iran.

An exclusive presale open to Harvester email subscribers runs Tuesday at 10 a.m. through Wednesday at 10 p.m. Tickets go on sale to the public Thursday at 10 a.m. at [harvester-music.com](http://harvester-music.com).



Nathan G. Semones from Hidden Valley High School will be attending NASCAR UTI Institute studying Welding and interning With Rousch / Keselowski Motorsports.

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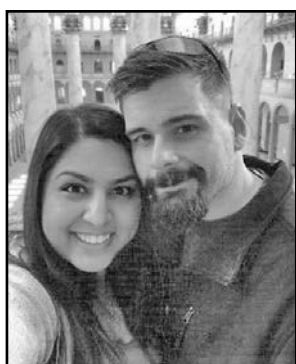


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# OBITUARIES

## Bostic, Matthew Eldon



Matthew Eldon Bostic, 40, of Denver, CO formerly of Paint Bank, VA, left this world and went to be with the Lord on Tuesday, June 7, 2022. He was born on December 2, 1981, to Cecil and

Brenda Bostic. Matthew was homeschooled from third grade on, his intelligence led him far in life. He graduated top of his class, due to the fact he was the class! Upon graduating from high school, he enrolled at Virginia Western Community College, he then enlisted in the United States Army and graduated from basic training in Fort Leonardwood, MO; He then went to Fort Ouachuca, AZ for advanced counterintelligence training, after his intelligence training he went to the West Virginia University, after WVU, he graduated from Johns-Hopkins University attaining his

master of science degree in intelligence analysis in 2018. He served two tours in Iraq, once as enlisted and once as a government contractor. Matthew was an avid reader, and he loved to play video games in his spare time. Matthew was a gun and knife collector. He was greeted on the shores of heaven by his Pawpaw, Huston Bostic; Mawmaw, Petrous Bostic; uncle, Ronnie Bostic; aunts, Marta Bostic, and Wanda Johnson; cousins, Ronnie Roseberry, and Ronnie Pardue; and his favorite good boy, Winchester.

Michelle Ballard and husband, Shawn; girlfriend soon to be fiancé, Unum Sid-dique; nannie, Anna Moore; aunts, Debbie Myers and husband, Pat, Debbie Dutey, Vickie Roseberry; uncles, David Bostic and wife, Ann, and Wayne Johnson; numerous nieces, nephews, and cousins; as well as his fur baby, Amber.

Services for Matthew will be held privately with his family, his cremated remains will be laid to rest in the Humphries Cemetery at a later date.

Paitel Funeral Home of New Castle is serving the Bostic family.

## Brown, Richard Wayne

Richard Wayne Brown, 41 of New Castle, passed away Wednesday, June 8, 2022. He is survived by wife, Jasmine Brown; children, Charley, Layla, and Willow; parents, Richard Newman and Claudea Brown; sister and brothers, Heather Givens & husband Daniel and

Ethan Brown and wife Holly; nephew, Carter Givens; and niece, Holley Givens.

Richard loved the business he ran, racing, and also loved his family very much.

A Graveside Service was held Sun-

day, June 12, 2022 at 2:51 p.m. at the Greener Pastures Cemetery, Fox Hollow Rd. New Castle, VA 24127 with Pastor Don Brown and Mike Bowman officiating. The family received friends 4-8 PM Saturday, June 11, 2022 at the Grace Baptist Church, New Castle, VA.

## Crawford, Lois Jean Hogan

Lois Jean Hogan Crawford, 89, passed peacefully on June 7, 2022, at The Glebe in Daleville, Virginia following a brief illness. The only child of Frank and Mildred Hogan, Lois Jean was born and raised in Bedford, Virginia. She was married to Roy Marion Crawford of New Castle, VA, who preceded her in death in 2003.

Lois Jean is survived and loved by her only child, Chip Crawford (Tina), of New Castle, Virginia; and her two grandchildren, Heather Cox (Jim), of Sterling, Virginia; and Justin Crawford, of Warren,

Vermont. She was blessed to have known and loved her two great-grandchildren, Patrick Cox, and Jacob Cox, both of Sterling, Virginia.

Lois Jean was a homemaker and delighted in sewing, crocheting, and cooking. She was devoted to her family and was primary caregiver to many family members over the years. The family wishes to express their sincere gratitude for the excellent and loving care provided by the Memory Care and Health Services staff at The Glebe, especially during the pan-

dem. The family is also grateful for the wonderful care of Good Samaritan Hospice of Roanoke. In lieu of flowers, donations may be made in her name to The Virginia Baptist Homes (VBH) Foundation, and designated to The Glebe, her home the past three years.

Graveside Services was held at 11:00 a.m. on Saturday, June 11, 2022 at Greenwood Cemetery with Rev. Wayne Murphy officiating. Arrangements by Updike Funeral Home & Cremation Service, Bedford.

## Fall Festival

from page 1

available of the hotel museum, including the gift store where Hometown Collectibles of local county landmarks and all editions of "In and Around Craig" local history books are on sale. The Genealogy Library and three cabins will be open.

The Marshall Reynolds Memorial Antique Car show will be on Middle Street and this year is sponsored by South Main Auto in Blacksburg. All participants will receive a commemorative

plaque and a goodie bag. For information contact Jackie Taylor, 540-520-5555. Car Show forms may also be found in the brochure rack on the Hotel porch.

Save the date and mark your calendar to attend this wonderful hometown event. Plan to wear your vintage clothing in honor of our founding fathers. It will be a great time to catch up with neighbors and friends. We look forward to seeing you there!



Robyn Foster, Jackie Taylor and Jane Henderson during last year's festivities.



Lisa Ferguson at the Keffer Cabin. SUBMITTED PHOTOS

## D-Day

from page 1

Patton Jr shared, "Again, our soldiers from A-Company 1st battalion 116th infantry brigade is serving in Africa with many other soldiers. With many other soldiers from neighboring counties and states, that is the most divisional troops deployed since WWII." He added for all to thank the families who make daily sacrifices while their loved ones are deployed.

"Here today, we honor our past and our present and look into the future, which is so incredibly important. Thank you for being here today, lest we forget," Patton-Waters said. "Today's commemoration is a necessary step in preserving the lessons and the legacy of D-day for our future generations."

"On this anniversary of D-day, it is my singular privilege to address a distinguished body who belong to allied expeditionary force that invaded occupied France 78 years ago today. Some of you are seated here today at this magnificent memorial to the valor, fidelity, and sacrifice that you displayed with such abundance while doing what you believe to be nothing more or less than your duty," he added. "Most of your brothers and sisters in arms are not here today. But their stories and yours live on from such a day in which uncommon acts of valor, fidelity and sacrifice occurred in such abundance so as to become common. Common in the best sense of that word."

The 29th division band played Band of Brothers while Normandy and World War II Veteran Attendees went forward. A standing ovation with robust hand claps of the audience

started quickly and remained for several minutes as a couple men walked while others were pushed in wheelchairs to their front.

The men were then quickly honored as lines formed of attendees wishing to thank them for their service, showing extreme appreciation. Afterwards, a memorial service was given by Messier at the Bedford Boys statue for Ash Rothlein and Bernard Marie.

Rothlein served with the 187th Advanced Army Ordnance Depot Company and the 187th was awarded many battle credits. He served at the Memorial for a decade before his passing last year. Marie was five years old, sheltered with his mother in a cellar on D-Day.

"Each year we would gather here for a short speech and Ash would remind everyone of those who served and sacrificed, those who never made it home, those who gave all of their tomorrows for our today's. Then he had everyone repeat after him, in unison, "You shall never be forgotten," Messier shared. "His unforgettable chant has now become a tradition at the monument. Ash's life epitomized the tenants of service and sacrifice, and he gave back every chance he could."

She continued, "For Ash the war was an unforgettable experience that shaped how he lived his life and he would want others to know that the best way to honor his generation is to live a life with meaning and service. He exemplified this in his own way as so many in the World War II generation did."

Messier shared that he also had a heart to

provide scholarships through the memorial for students or to give students an opportunity to travel the beaches of Normandy and learn what took place there so many years ago.

She explained that this past May two students from the Virginia Tech Core of Cadets traveled to Normandy with the scholarship program. Messier led all in Ash's chant, "You will never be forgotten!"

She then spoke of Bernard Marie. "He was a regular fixture at the Memorial, particularly this time of the year. When he was just five years old, he found himself in the basement of France as the shelling began. Sixteen hours later Bernard and his family emerged to find Americans around them and their life definitely changed. Even at that young age the scene made a lasting imprint on Bernard who would spend much of his life trying to thank those veterans who liberated his homeland."

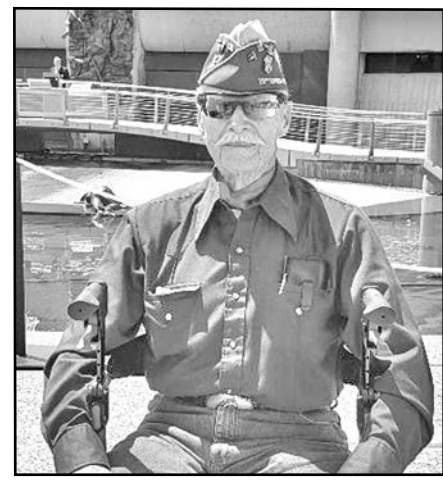
Messier explained that it began in 1984 when Marie hosted a lunch for 500 World War II Veterans, being his way of saying thank you. His dinner's continued until the 75th anniversary of D-day.

The 29th Division band then played a hymn to the fallen while wreaths of remembrance were laid on the statue. Displays of things used in the war captured the attention of many as they were explained by military personnel. Many walked the gardens of the Bedford Memorial, looking at the statues, the honorary busts and plaques, explaining much about the Normandy event and peoples. The grand

statue of Eisenhower drew several.

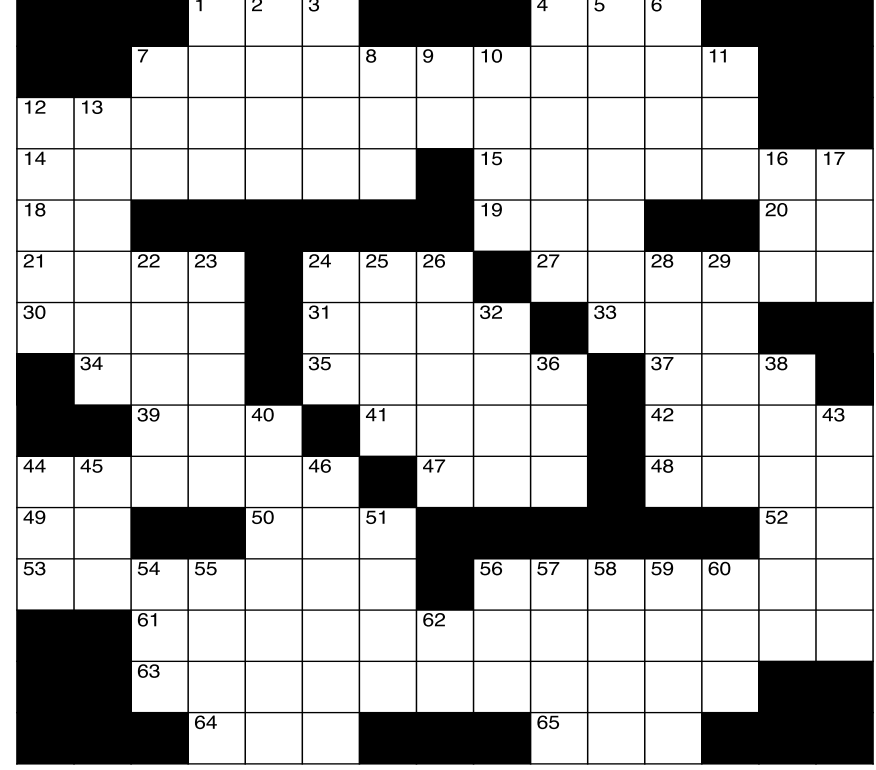
Still the replica of the first landing seemed to capture the hearts of all, with statues of the men trying to make the shore, men climbing the wall while some were shot and falling off and of course the vivid shots that penetrated the water, which reminded everyone that this was a real event.

The Bedford D-Day Memorial truly works diligently every year to honor the military of our United States of America, showing sincere respect not only to the Veterans who were lost but to all who served, their families and to our military of today.



One Veteran was farther away and came to the front later. His dignity and honor for his country stood tall.

## CROSSWORD PUZZLE



- CLUES ACROSS**
- 1. Formed by burning tobacco
  - 4. Luxury automaker
  - 7. Religious residences
  - 12. Crusaders
  - 14. Puzzled
  - 15. In a curt way
  - 18. Selling tool
  - 19. Solid material
  - 20. Gold
  - 21. Thick piece of something
  - 24. Pouch
  - 27. "Wonder Years" actor Fred
  - 30. Strong and healthy
  - 31. Waste matter
  - 33. Apply lightly
  - 34. Type of squad
  - 35. Secret political faction
  - 37. Mock
  - 39. Immoral act
  - 41. Early Syrian kingdom
  - 42. Neutralizes alkalis
  - 44. Loud, confused noise
  - 47. Sweet potato
  - 48. Yemen's largest city
  - 49. Farm state
  - 50. Bird's beak
  - 52. Measures distance
  - 53. Pacify
  - 56. Spanish noble
  - 61. Lodging supplied for public convenience
  - 63. Womanized
  - 64. Not divisible by two
  - 65. Monetary unit
- CLUES DOWN**
- 1. Used in perfumery
  - 2. Arabic man's name
  - 3. Assess
  - 4. Prickly plants
  - 5. Falsely assess
  - 6. " the whistle"
  - 7. Mama
  - 8. Rocker \_ Vicious
  - 9. Toward
  - 10. Prefix meaning within
  - 11. Midway between south and southeast
  - 12. Cause to be embarrassed
  - 13. Pandemonium
  - 16. Fall behind
  - 17. Cantonese
  - 22. Shad
  - 23. A way to make dark
  - 24. Specialized systems consultant
  - 25. Wings
  - 26. Taxi driver
  - 28. Linear units
  - 29. Large Philippine plant
  - 32. Celebration
  - 36. Fugitives are on this
  - 38. Chinese tree
  - 40. Not sour
  - 44. Former OSS
  - 45. Runners run this
  - 46. Offered again
  - 51. Sanctuary
  - 54. Food suitable for babies
  - 55. Caused by a reflection of sound
  - 56. Mortar trough
  - 57. Days in mid-month
  - 58. Exhibit the courage to do
  - 59. Disk of the sun in Egyptian mythology
  - 60. Protects from weather
  - 62. Manganese

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# Another Swap Day

## Library Corner

Empowering individuals to build a stronger community

Looking for free Household Goods? Come to the Craig County Public Library on Satur-

day, June 25th from 10 to 3.

Swap Days are hosted by the library periodically to continue free-cycling of goods and books in the community. Treasures can be found here! Books from the book barn are free for the taking and this month's Swap Day features household goods. That covers a wide range of items that

folks can get and give away.

Load up your car with household items in good condition that need a new home and come on down to the library between 10 am and 3 pm. It's a good time to connect with friends, talk about books and browse for free stuff!

While you're there, please join as a Friend of the Library and get a chance to win a \$100 gift card! Your membership supports us and gives you input into the services we offer. The more

friends we have, the bigger our voice when it comes to outside financial support.

June is the month for our annual Membership Drive. There will be a table to renew or sign up to be a Member of the Friends of the Library. It doesn't cost much but gives back a lot.

Membership includes children, youth, adults, family and businesses. We all do our small part to keep our library open for our community. Don't miss out on a drawing for a \$100 gift

card at a local business of your choice. When you sign up, your name is put in the drawing. If you encourage a friend or relative to sign-up, your name gets another chance for the drawing. Be sure to add your name to the top of the friend's application to get your name in the drawing. Membership forms are always available at the library. The drawing will be at the end of June.

We are all winners when we support free and inclusive public libraries!



Bring Household Goods to Giveaway  
Free Household Goods to Takeaway  
Free Books

# SWAP DAY.

Saturday June 25th 10-3

Craig County Public Library

SUBMITTED PHOTO

## Upper Craig Creek Volunteer Fire Department holds successful fundraiser

By Nancy Proffitt, New Castle resident

The youth team of the Upper Craig Creek Volunteer Fire Department exceeded their talents on Saturday, June 4. The well-planned and orga-

nized fundraiser was a great success.

In addition to a yard sale on the premises, a breakfast of sausage, gravy, biscuits and coffee was offered to the public, followed by a hot dog dinner consisting of two hot

dogs, macaroni salad, dessert and drink. The pricing was quite reasonable and the attendants warm and friendly.

After several hours of weed-whacking on that day, I drove to the firehouse, dirty, hot and tired and hoping that I would not miss the function. I was in luck! Closing time

was 3 p.m. and I arrived at about 2:30.

Knowing that I was not going to be able to get out of my truck looking as I did, I asked the zoning fellow if they offered curbside services. "Yes, ma'am!" Again, how fortunate!

He took my order, voiced the charges and

went inside. Upon returning he brought my dessert and put it in the truck. While my order was being prepared, he and I spoke a few minutes. He told me his name is Alex and answered a few questions regarding the youth training program.

A young lady, Kathy, wearing a knee support,

brought the neatly-boxed dinner out to me. After chatting a while, she and Alex thanked me for coming by with such polite manners.

What a treat to arrive home and have a ready-made meal! It was very appealing and tasty. I so enjoyed the "extra" dessert. The secret is out!

## THE NEW CASTLE RECORD

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# Memorial Day from page 1

them, and bring them home safely.”

The Craig County Daughters of the American Revolution led the Pledge of Allegiance followed by Alyssa Schulte, the music teacher at Craig County Public Schools, singing the National Anthem and then played and sang patriotic music.

White, the special speaker, began with a poem he wrote:

“It’s a long way back, from the shores of war. I’ve been coming back for 40 years or more. / It is by the grace of God, that I am here with you, and not because of anything I did or did not do. / In this life on earth, I have never had a lot and I am thankful to God for everything I got. / Especially for the time he has granted me – it has been more time that I ever thought I’d see. / It is the good people of this land that make it all worthwhile and when I think of them, they always make me smile. / “He was a good man!” is what I hope to hear them say, when my life on earth is over and I fly away.”

White continued, “Memorial Day is a Federal holiday in the United States, for mourning the U. S. Military personnel who have died while in service, in the United States Armed Forces.” He noted that it has been observed for 154 years now.

White joined the United States Marine Corps in March of 1968 and after basic training went to Elkins, West Virginia. Right before his orders to go to Vietnam, White was in a restaurant, talking to friends. A gentleman asked to speak with him. White went to his table.

“After we talked for a short time, he said he had something important to tell me,” White shared. “Then he told me that when I get to Vietnam, ‘Keep your head down! Don’t forget this. It is very important.’”

White said that in Vietnam, he did what the man told him.

“If we were on patrols and stopped to check the map, or for any reason, I would stoop down, kneel down, sit down – even in the rear. I kept my head down as much as I could the whole time in that country for 12 months and 28 days. Then I got back.”

Thirty-five years later, at a reunion in Washington D.C., for his 2nd Battalion, 1st Marines, he saw three of his Viet-

nam buddies.

“I walked over to them and asked if they remembered me, and they said “Yes, we do! You’re the guy that would kneel down all the time,” White said with a remembering smile.

White quoted Ronald Reagan’s Proclamation Prayer for peace, made on May 27, 1985. Some of the words were, “This year, we observe the fortieth anniversary of the end of the most destructive war the world has ever known – a war the United States did not want but nevertheless fought with total commitment to protect the most cherished human ideals. Throughout that war, and in our foreign relations afterward, we have sought to achieve true and lasting peace for all the people of the world.

“We honor the brave Americans who paid the highest price for their commitment to the ideals of peace, freedom and justice. Our debt to them can be paid only by our own commitment to preserving these same ideals. But our commitment cannot be for ourselves alone. It must also be for our children, and for the generations yet to come. Peace, freedom, and justice are not things that were won for us 200 years ago or 40 years ago; they must be won again and again by each successive generation.”

White then shared a memory of one of his comrades in war, Alan W. Mediate. White said that in Vietnam they had company compounds as well as battalions. He explained that a compound was as big as a city block and they would have a perimeter all the way around it with sand bag ditches and box hole bunkers outside of it. They also added coasent-a or barbed wire, trip flares and other warning devices to alert them if anything or anyone was in the wire. Guards were placed at different sites, with 24-hour watch.

Their compound was called “No Name Island,” though it was not an island but had water on three sides.

“It was about 10:30 one night when we heard the alarm, ‘Gooks in the wire!’ The shooting started and explosions were going off and everyone took positions. As I ran to the line, I went around to my right and took a spot to defend. Alan decided to go more to the left with about 30 feet between us,” White shared. “Af-

ter it was over, I learned that Alan had been hit by a rocket or RPG and had been killed in action. Maybe if he would have come around more to the right, he would still be here or maybe if I had gone more to the left, I would not be here.”

White added, “We can second guess all we want to, but he still isn’t here with us. His name is on the wall in Washington.”

White found his name and took a piece of paper, placing it over the name, and in rubbing with a pencil, was able to copy the name.

“I also have a bracelet with his name on it,” White added. “Sometimes when I think about it, I get all choked up and teary-eyed. If that happens, don’t think that I am crying, because Marines don’t cry.”

“This Memorial Day, let us remember and honor Alan, as well as the others who gave their lives for our country. Let us remember that on average, 22 discharged Veterans commit suicide each day,” White said. “I am a combat veteran and I’m 73 years old. Life has taught me a lot.”

White concluded with, “There are at least three things I would like to pass along to you. 1- God is real and He is alive and well. 2- The Bible is the Word of God, 3- Jesus is the son of God and I put my faith and hope in God.”

The honoring “Taps” was played by VFW Post 4491 to end the ceremony. People mingled and The Craig County Library sold delicious homemade desserts.



**U.S. Marine Corps Veteran Dennis White gave the Memorial Day invocation and special remembrance speech.**



**The local Craig Valley VFW Post 4491 began the ceremony by presenting the colors and played the honorary Taps to close the ceremony.**

## In honor of 4th of July

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<p><b>CHESTNUT GROVE CHURCH</b> Duane Wente, Minister, Rt. 42, New Castle, 540-864-5692. Sunday: Worship 10:00 a.m.</p>	<p><b>GRACE ASSEMBLY OF GOD</b> 5530 Catawba Valley Drive, Catawba, VA, 540-384-7075. Pastor Loraine Taylor, agladypastor@msn.com. Sunday service begins at 10:30 a.m.; Wednesday Evening service at 7:00 p.m.; Youth (ages 13-18) &amp; Super Church (ages 4-12) Wednesday at 7:00 p.m. You can also watch on Facebook Live at 10:30 a.m. <a href="http://www.graceassemblycatawaba.org">www.graceassemblycatawaba.org</a></p>	<p><b>PAXTON CHAPEL</b> Pastor Kenny Davis, 17 Sage Brush Lane, New Castle; "Presenting God's Word Faithfully"; Sunday School 10:00 AM; Sunday Worship Service 11:15 AM; visit us on the web at <a href="http://www.paxtonchapelchurch.com">www.paxtonchapelchurch.com</a>; email at <a href="mailto:paxtonchapel@yahoo.com">paxtonchapel@yahoo.com</a>.</p>
<p><b>CORNERSTONE CHURCH</b> Pastor Don Brown, Corner of Salem and Wagner, New Castle, 580-3228. Sunday Worship 10:30am (Children meet separately, Nursery provided). Bible Study - Wednesday 6p Teens - Wednesday 6p. Ministries: Men, Ladies, Young Adult, and Seniors. Times vary, call for details.</p>	<p><b>GRACE BAPTIST CHURCH</b> 159 Old Railroad Ave, New Castle, 540-864-PRAY, Sunday School 9:30AM, Sunday Worship Service 10:00AM, Wednesday Night Services 7:00PM.</p>	<p><b>THE CHURCH OF CHRIST</b> 118 Main Street, New Castle. Service Times: Sunday, Bible classes-10 a.m., Worship-11:00 a.m., Evening Worship-6 p.m.; Wednesday, Bible classes - 7 p.m.</p>
<p><b>CRAIG HEALING SPRINGS CHRISTIAN CHURCH (Disciples of Christ)</b> Pastor - Kenneth W. Davis, Jr., 6 Grannys Branch Road (Johns Creek), New Castle, Phone: 864-6102. Sunday School at 10 am. Sunday Worship at 11 am every Sunday. Fellowship meal after Sunday Worship on second Sundays. Everyone is welcome!</p>	<p><b>HEBRON UNITED METHODIST</b> Pastor Rodney Longmire, Rt. 606, 1981 Caldwell Mt. Rd., New Castle, 540-400-3419. Worship 11:15AM. <b>LIGHTHOUSE BAPTIST</b> Rev. Lee Looney, Rt. 311 N., New Castle. Sunday: Sunday School 10AM, 11AM, &amp; 6PM. Wednesday Bible Study 7PM.</p>	<p><b>NEW CASTLE UNITED METHODIST</b> Rev. Charles Stacy, 364 Main St., New Castle, Va. 864-5242; Sunday School 10AM, Worship 11AM; Monday Adult Choir 7PM, UMW 3rd Wednesday 7PM, Youth and other programs, Bible Studies.</p>
<p><b>CRAIG VALLEY BAPTIST</b> 171 Salem Avenue, New Castle, 864-5667; Sunday School 10:00 a.m., Sunday worship 11:00 a.m., Wednesday: Prayer Service and Bible Study 7:00 p.m.; Youth Group 6:30-8:00PM, Bible Buddies at 6:30-8:00PM. Transportation provided - call the church. Hearing devices also available. <a href="http://www.craigvalleybaptist.com">www.craigvalleybaptist.com</a></p>	<p><b>LEVEL GREEN CHRISTIAN CHURCH</b> 3388 Cumberland Gap Rd. Newport, Duane Wente, Minister, 540-544-7179. Sunday School 10:00am, Sunday Morning Worship 11:00am, Children's Church 11:00am. Choir Practice, bi-weekly 7:00pm, Ladies meeting first Monday of each month at 7:00pm.</p>	<p><b>ST. JOHN THE EVANGELIST CATHOLIC CHURCH</b> 99 2nd Street, New Castle. Rev. Stephen McNally. 540-473-3691. Mass is on Sunday at 11:15 AM.</p>
<p><b>CRAIG VALLEY GOSPEL FELLOWSHIP</b> HWY 621, Pastor Roy Lee Law Jr., "Jay", 864-8984. Sunday School 10:00am; Worship 11:00am., Wednesday night Bible study 7pm, from HWY 311, up HWY 621, 8 miles on left.</p>	<p><b>MOUNTAIN VIEW CHRISTIAN</b> 4199 Craig Valley Drive, New Castle, 864-6622. Sunday: Worship Service 9:00 a.m., Children's Church 9:15 a.m., Sunday School 10:30 a.m.</p>	<p><b>CRAIG COUNTY COMMUNITY CHURCH - 'WELCOME HOME!'</b> Sunday service 9-10:15am at the VFW building in New Castle. Casual dress if you desire and contemporary praise and worship. If you don't have a 'home' church, please join us at ours with Pastor Gary Burch. Check us out on facebook or contact us at: <a href="mailto:craigcountycommunity-church@gmail.com">craigcountycommunity-church@gmail.com</a>.</p>
<p><b>CROSSROADS CHURCH</b> 21892 Craigs Creek Road, New Castle. Pastor Gary Burch. 864-7520. Sunday School- 10-10:45AM, Sunday Worship - 11AM-Noon.</p>	<p><b>NEW CASTLE CHRISTIAN CHURCH</b> "WHERE YOUR HEART CAN FEEL THE DIFFERENCE" 282 Salem Ave., New Castle; 864-5212; Pastor Bill Frazier. Sunday Mornings: 9 A.M. Contemporary Service and 11:00 A.M. Traditional Service with Sunday School at 10 A.M.; Wednesday night Bible study at 6:00 P.M. for K-5; If you need a ride to church, please contact Calvin Duncan by 8 P.M. on Saturday at 864-5321; <a href="http://www.nc-cc.org">www.nc-cc.org</a>.</p>	<p><b>ST. THOMAS ANGLICAN CHURCH</b> Located at 4910 Hubert Rd, NW Roanoke, Va. Traditional Liturgical Lenten Services, Sunday at 10:30 am. Call (540) 589-1299 or visit <a href="http://www.sttfc.org">www.sttfc.org</a> for midweek masses and events. (In Roanoke, go E on Hershberger, L on Hubert to 4910).</p>
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# SPORTS

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## Clifton, Lucas are Craig County nominees for B'nai B'rith Award

Craig County High School graduated seniors Kylee Clifton and Lucas Taylor are this year's nominees for the annual B'nai B'rith Awards.

The award, for athletic achievement, school work and community service, was founded in 1951 by the Israel Friedlander Lodge of Roanoke. Senior nominees are judged by three categories, 50 percent by athletic achievement, 30 percent by scholarship and 20 percent by personal life. Every school in the Roanoke Valley and New River area nominates one male and one female each year for the award, and the two winners are announced at a

banquet honoring all nominees. That will be held this week.

Clifton competed in volleyball, basketball and softball for the Rockets. She was a two-time All-Pioneer District honorable mention selection in volleyball along with playing two years of basketball and three years of softball. Kylee is a Commonwealth's Attorney intern.

Taylor was second team All-Pioneer in basketball, honorable mention as a defensive back in football and also competed in track for a year. Lucas is a volunteer coach in the rec. basketball league and he also volunteers at First Baptist Church.



KYLEE CLIFTON



LUCAS TAYLOR

PHOTOS BY BRIAN HOFFMAN

## PRY WILL SPEAK AT SPORTS CLUB MONDAY



PHOTO BY JON FLEMING

First year Virginia Tech football coach Brent Pry will be the guest speaker at the Roanoke Valley Sports Club dinner meeting on Monday, June 20, at the Salem Civic Center. Pry will be joined by Mike Burnop, a former standout tight end for the Hokies who does color commentary on the Virginia Tech Hall of Fame network. The meeting starts at 5:45 pm. To sign up or for more information visit the sports club website at <https://roanokevalleysportsclub.com>.

## Roanoke College launching competitive cycling program for men and women



Tom Rambo, dean of students at Roanoke College, has announced that RC will launch a competitive cycling program for women and men. Rambo broke the news at the recent announcement of the courses for the 2022 USA Cycling Amateur Road National Championships, which will be held in Virginia's Blue Ridge from June 29 to July 2.

Although cycling as a sport will be new to Roanoke College, there is a strong connection between Roanoke College and cycling. Roanoke College women's soccer captain Shelley Olds '03 became a world class cyclist after graduating from the College in 2003. She was a member of the U.S. Olympic Team and competed in the 2012 London Olympics.

"I am ecstatic about the news that Roanoke Col-

lege will have a collegiate cycling team," Olds said. "There couldn't be a more perfect location for competitive cycling. The terrain and beauty of the Roanoke area is an easy draw for both recreational and amateur cyclists of all ages. I think many student-athletes, current and prospective, will see this as an incredible opportunity to enhance their collegiate experience as well as their athletic growth and development."

"I will be rooting for the team, and I know that anything that Roanoke College commits to, they end up doing very well. I have no doubt that the collegiate cycling team will be well-run and extremely successful."

Roanoke College has registered both men's and women's teams with USA Cycling, competing this fall as a club sport. The teams, for men and women, will elevate to varsity status within a few years and at that time will compete as part of the Atlantic Collegiate Cycling Conference (ACCC).

"USA Cycling is excited to have Roanoke College back on board after more than a 10-year hiatus," said Justin Evans, USA Cycling's Collegiate and Inter-scholastic Programs Manager. "The new leadership is pushing the program in the direction of success, so

we are excited to see how this program grows from their restart as a club and the transition to varsity in the coming semesters."

The College will begin the search for a cycling coach this summer. There is already interest in the program and the College is recruiting students to take part in the booming cycling culture in Virginia's Blue Ridge. One recent addition to that culture is Virginia's Blue Ridge TWENTY24, a national cycling team that aims to prepare female cyclists for the Olympics. The team is based in the Roanoke Valley.

"The Virginia's Blue Ridge TWENTY24 team is recognized as a valued recruitment platform for young athletes heading to college, with eight professional athletes and 27 junior athletes currently in the program," said Nicola Cranmer, founder and general manager of Virginia's Blue Ridge TWENTY24 cycling team. "I'm thrilled that Roanoke College will be an additional pathway to education for cycling students. The timing is perfect with USA Cycling Amateur National Championships coming to Virginia's Blue Ridge in the coming weeks, and this is a super opportunity for students to experience firsthand what the area has to offer."

Virginia's Blue Ridge is home to excellent cycling assets as America's East Coast Mountain Biking Capital including a Silver-level Ride Center designation from the International Mountain Bicycling Association. Region-wide the area has excellent road cycling on the Blue Ridge Parkway and greenways as well as emerging gravel trails.

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