

# SPECTRUM

Virginia Tech  
VIRGINIA POLYTECHNIC INSTITUTE AND STATE UNIVERSITY

<http://www.spectrum.vt.edu>

VOLUME 26 NUMBER 21 FRIDAY, JULY 30, 2004

TODAY'S EDITION  
See page 3 for employee-  
recognition information.

## University Libraries collaborates on Kentland history projects

By Juliet Crichton

Work to uncover the history of Montgomery County's Kentland Farm and its slave cemetery has received an added boost, thanks to two new grants that will support research on the plantation, the cemetery, and the significance of the plantation to individuals in the surrounding communities.

Both the New River Valley Community Foundation and the Virginia Foundation for the Humanities have awarded grants to the Kentland Historic Revitalization Project for the work. Sam Cook, associate professor in the Department of Interdisciplinary Studies in the College of Liberal Arts and Human Sciences and chair of the steering committee; Susan Fleming Cook, a graduate student at the university; and Tamara Kennelly, Tech's university archivist, wrote the grant applications.

Virginia Tech University Libraries' Special Collections Department will preserve documentation of the historical research and identify additional materials in its holdings that are relevant to the project,

making the materials available to the public.

One grant funds the Kentland Slave Cemetery Marker Project, a collaborative effort between the residents of Wake Forest, an African American community adjacent to Kentland; the Kentland Historic Revitalization Project; the Roanoke Regional Preservation Office of the Department of Historic Resources; and University Libraries. The project will determine the location of the cemetery and verify its use as a burial ground. Funds were received to commemorate the cemetery with a permanent stone marker honoring the people buried there. A public dedication ceremony will honor the dead.

The residents of Wake Forest are descended, for the most part, from slaves of the former Kentland plantation. As many as 300 of those slaves may be buried on the grounds. The unmarked burial site, identified by several Wake Forest community members, lies in a field where fescue grass is now grown.

The location will be confirmed through an archaeological survey conducted this fall by Tom Klatka, archaeologist for the Virginia Department of Historic Resources and a

member of the Kentland Historic Revitalization Project Steering Committee.

"The cemetery-marker project will strengthen the relationship between the black and white communities and between the academic and local communities, including Virginia Tech, Radford University, Wake Forest, and McCoy," Kennelly said. "This project also will educate the public about the past in the hope of contributing to a more equitable future."

The second grant will fund the Brush Mountain Oral History Project: Place and Memory in the New River Valley and will involve collecting oral-history narratives from residents of the Appalachian communities of Wake Forest, McCoy, and Long Shop. The goal of the interviews is to learn how memory and place inform the subjects' sense of identity. This project also will try to discover any roles the former plantation may have played in the lives of the interviewees.

The project marks one phase of a collaborative venture between community members and Virginia Tech faculty members  
(See UNIVERSITY on 4)

## Dairy-industry supporters celebrate opening of complex

By Lori Greiner

More than 500 dairy-industry supporters including alumni, producers, students, faculty members, legislators, and administrators helped Virginia Tech's College of Agriculture and Life Sciences celebrate the opening of its new state-of-the-art dairy complex during a ceremony held at the Alphin-Stuart Livestock Arena on July 16.

According to Sharron Quisenberry, dean of the College of Agriculture and Life Sciences, the new dairy facility will greatly enhance the college's ability to educate dairy-science students, increase research-funding opportunities, and provide the opportunity to demonstrate best-management practices.

"It will provide opportunities for our students to learn new tools and techniques for management practices as well as biotechnology. It will also allow us to disseminate state-of-the-art knowledge to these students both on an undergraduate and graduate level. In the research arena, this department's goals will help us position the College of Agriculture and Life Sciences into a top-30 research institution," Quisenberry said.

The facility features a 232-cow freestall research barn and a double-eight rapid-exit herringbone milking parlor and milking center. The complex also includes the latest design in waste-management technology, including solid separation and composting, and the recycling of wastewater after extensive separation and a three-stage

(See DAIRY-INDUSTRY on 4)

## Students dominate international autonomous-vehicle competition

By Liz Crumbley

The Virginia Tech Autonomous Vehicle Team won first place overall—as well as six out of nine event categories and \$12,200 in cash awards—during the 12th annual Intelligent Ground Vehicles Competition (IGVC), held in June at Oakland University in Rochester, Mich.

The Virginia Tech team, which constructed three of the 28 vehicles entered in the competition, also was the only group from the United States to place in any event category. Teams from Japan's Hosei University and Canada's University of Alberta placed second and third, respectively, overall.

The majority of Virginia Tech team members were mechanical engineering (ME) undergraduates: Sean Baity, Neal Buchanan, Michael Chaney, Jared Cooper, Jacob Dillow, Michael Fleming, Brett Gombar, Jessica Greene, Curtis Hall, Patrick Hall, Ryan Limpin, Karl Muecke, Andrew Skidmore, Matt Swean, John Paul Thomas, Brent Weigel, and Nathan Welch.

Also on the team were Michael Avitabile, an electrical-and-computer-engineering undergraduate; and mechanical-engineering graduate students Andrew Bacha, Ruel Farque, and Ankur Naik.

Autonomous vehicles are equipped with computer-and-navigational technologies and programmed to maneuver without any direct human intervention. During the IGVC, each vehicle was judged in three events—the autonomous challenge, navigation challenge and design competition.

Virginia Tech's "Johnny-5" vehicle placed first overall in the IGVC, first in the



Virginia Tech Autonomous Vehicle Team members with their winning entries, from left to right, Optimus, Johnny-5 and Gemini at the Intelligent Ground Vehicle Competition. The students, from left, are Karl Muecke, Michael Fleming, Brett Gombar, Jacob Dillow, Andrew Bacha, Ankur Naik, Michael Avitabile, Sean Baity, and Andrew Skidmore.

autonomous challenge, second in the navigation challenge and second in the design competition. "Gemini" placed third overall, third in the autonomous challenge, and first in design. The students built Johnny-5 and Gemini from scratch for this year's competition. "Optimus," which won first place overall during the 2003 IGVC, was entered again this year and placed third in the navigation challenge.

The three Virginia Tech vehicles were similarly designed and equipped for the competition, according to Baity, leader of the group that created Gemini. Each has four

navigational sensors—a digital camera to determine course boundaries, a scanning laser range finder to identify obstacles, a global-positioning system (GPS), and a digital compass.

The sensors are tied together with LabView software developed by National Instruments, the team's major industry sponsor. LabView analyzes sensor input and commands vehicle motion. The primary differences in vehicle operation are the result of variations the team implemented in the software.

(See VEHICLE on 4)

## Tech takes step to stem illegal music downloading

The university has announced its adoption of the iTunes on Campus program, joining a group of universities taking the first step to stem the illegal downloading of music by students who want to listen to music at the time and place of their choice.

"Virginia Tech's use of iTunes will allow students to download songs legally but will also assist faculty members who may use music in their curricula," said John Krallman, director of Information Technology Acquisitions. "At no cost to the university, electronic distribution of the Apple software will be available to current faculty and staff members and students for the fall semester."

Such partnerships have emerged, in part, to respond to the national issue of copyright infringement when music, photographs and other types of electronic information are downloaded from the Internet. In recent months, for example, Record Industry Association of America (RIAA) has filed

(See MUSIC on 4)

# ACTIVITIES

## EVENTS

### Friday, 30

Pay Date for Faculty and Staff Members.

Summer Arts Festival Concert, 6 p.m., Henderson Lawn: Crossties.

### Monday, 2

Temporary Housing Available for International Students, open 24 hours through August 16, 129 Main Eggleston. Call 1-6527.

### Wednesday, 4

"With Good Reason," 7:30 p.m., WVTF.

### Thursday, 5

International Student Off-Campus Housing Fair, 11 a.m. to 2 p.m., Squires Brush Mountain Room.

### Friday, 6

International Student Off-Campus Housing Fair, 11 a.m. to 2 p.m., Squires Brush Mountain Room.

### Sunday, 8

College/University Hazardous Waste Conference, all day, Hotel Roanoke and Conference Center.

### Monday, 9

College/University Hazardous Waste Conference, all day, Hotel Roanoke and Conference Center.

### Tuesday, 10

College/University Hazardous Waste Conference, all day, Hotel Roanoke and Conference Center.

### Wednesday, 11

"With Good Reason," 7:30 p.m., WVTF.

### Thursday, 12

Classes End.

### Friday, 13

Exams Begin.

New River Valley Alumni Chapter 16th Annual Scholarship Golf Tournament, 1 p.m., River Course, Fairlawn.

## BULLETINS

### Garage sale to benefit Kaminski Memorial Fund

There will be a garage sale from 8 a.m. until 2 p.m. Saturday, July 31 at 2004 Christopher Drive in Blacksburg to raise funds for the Jeff Kaminski Memorial Fund. Participants may assist by donating goods or services on or before Saturday.

Organizers are seeking quality, used items for donation. The items will be sold with all proceeds going to the Kaminski Memorial Fund. Donated items that are not sold during the sale will either be returned to the donor (by previous arrangement) or donated to Goodwill/YMCA, SPCA thrift stores.

Smaller items can be brought to Cheatham Hall and stored in room 132. See Michelle Davis to log in merchandise. Larger items can be brought directly to the Christopher Drive location Friday or Saturday.

For more information, contact Scott Klopfer at 1-8825.

### Electronic Records workshop scheduled

"Electronic Records Guidance/Managing Your E-Mail," the second of two workshops by Jerry Palmer, university records manager will be held in 3100 Torgersen Hall Thursday, Aug. 19 from 3:30 until 5 p.m. Discussions will center on the general management of electronic records, retention, storage, destruction, and responsibilities thereto, with the focus on e-mails.

To attend, e-mail registration, including name and department number, to [gepalmer@vt.edu](mailto:gepalmer@vt.edu). Walk-ins will also be welcome.

### Blacksburg-Roanoke Shuttle under way

The new SmartWay shuttle began providing service July 28 to residents between the Roanoke Valley and the Virginia Tech Campus. The new shuttle provides express

service between Squires (Alumni Mall inbound side) and Campbell Court with just five stops along the way: Christiansburg K-Mart, the park-and-ride lots at exits 118A and 140 off of Route 81, Roanoke Regional Airport, and the Hotel Roanoke and Conference Center.

The fare is just \$3 each way or \$100 for a monthly pass. The service runs Monday through Saturday, with extended Friday and Saturday hours. Buses arrive and leave about every 90 minutes throughout the day.

For those traveling to the airport and returning on Sunday, a special transfer is available which allows passengers to travel back on the Roanoke/Blacksburg Airport Shuttle for just \$3 (regularly priced at \$30).

For updates, schedules and more information, visit the SmartWay web site at [www.smartwaybus.com](http://www.smartwaybus.com) or call toll free at 1-800-388-7005. Schedules are also available in Squires Student Center or by calling the Office of Transportation at 1-1737.

### International Student Orientation to begin

International Student Orientation activities will begin August 2, when temporary housing will be available in Main Eggleston. The office for temporary housing is 129 Main Eggleston.

In the following weeks, a number of activities for international undergraduate and graduate students are planned. On Thursday, Aug. 5, and Friday, Aug. 6, there will be an Off-Campus Housing Fair from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. in Squires Brush Mountain Room. Other activities offered will include a tour of Roanoke, shopping and campus walking tours.

There will be a mandatory international-student orientation session for all new undergraduate and graduate students from 9 a.m. until 12:30 p.m. Thursday, Aug. 19 in Squires Colonial Hall. The session will include essential immigration and other information. A separate mandatory session for graduate students

will be held Friday, Aug. 20 from 9 a.m. until noon in Squires Colonial Hall. The mandatory session for undergraduate students will be held at the same date and time in Squires Brush Mountain Room.

For more information on International Student Orientation, call 1-6527 or go to <http://www.uusa.vt.edu/cranwell>.

### Updated campus maps available

The *Virginia Tech Campus Guide*, which includes a map of campus and information of interest to visitors, has been updated and is now available from the Publications and Outreach Communications unit of University Relations.

The unit will provide 25 copies of the map per year free to departments or organizations. Those departments and organizations wanting additional copies will be charged 30 cents for each copy above 25.

To secure copies of the campus guide, contact Phyllis Olinger at 1-6867 (before noon Monday-Friday) or [phylo@vt.edu](mailto:phylo@vt.edu).

### Employees request leave donations

Employees in Development and Student Programs have requested leave donations.

Salaried classified employees or a 12-month regular faculty members may participate by donating annual leave in increments of eight hours. There is no maximum donation limitation per year, nor is there a minimum balance that must be maintained. Donation forms can be downloaded from the Personnel Services web site at <http://www.ps.vt.edu/forms/>. Click on Alphabetical List, then open up the Leave Donor Form P6A.

For more information, call Lynett Cruise at 1-5304.

## IALR hosts Impacting Rural Communities conference

By Curtis W. Callaway

Next month, Aug. 16-19, the Institute for Advanced Learning and Research (IALR) will host its first annual technology conference, Impacting Rural Communities through New Age Technologies (IRC/NAT). The three-and-a-half-day conference will focus on the importance of bringing new technology to rural and smaller populated areas, such as Southside Virginia.

IRC/NAT will be particularly interesting to economic developers, K-18 educators, small-business owners, and information-technology professionals.

The IRC/NAT conference will feature keynote addresses from IBM and Avaya, businesses that are directly involved in the technology field. Individuals such as George Newstrom, secretary of technology for Virginia, Lan Neugent, assistant superintendent for technology for the Virginia Department of Education, and Cheryl Garnette, director of the Technology in Education Programs Division at the U.S. Department of Education, are responsible for emphasizing the importance of technology in businesses and classrooms.

U.S. Sen. George Allen and U.S. Congressman Virgil Goode also will give keynote speeches. Other speakers include Earving Blythe, vice president for Information Technology, Mike Thomas, chief of staff for Allen and former director of the Virginia Department of Information Technology; Anne H. Moore, associate vice president for Learning Technologies, and Steve Waltrich, senior manager, Avaya Executive Briefing Program.

In addition to keynote addresses, IRC/NAT will feature exhibits and concurrent sessions highlighting a wide range of topics. Exhibitors will have booths where product information and services will be displayed; IBM will have their Thinkpad Mobile Unit for conference participants to visit. General-session topics ranging from "Advanced Regional Networking Technology and Economic Development" to "Technologies for Education" will be featured.

For more information, go to [www.conted.vt.edu/ircnat/](http://www.conted.vt.edu/ircnat/). The complete conference schedule can be found on the web site, along with registration information.

## Golf tourney to raise funds for diversity scholarships

By Tysus Jackson

Golfers in the greater Washington, D.C., community will have an opportunity to support educational diversity at Virginia Tech when they participate in the university's Opportunities Scholarship golf tournament Aug. 27 during the Black Coaches Association Football Classic Weekend in August. The Virginia Tech football team will play the University of Southern California on Aug. 28 at FedEx Field in Landover, Md.

The "captain's-choice" tournament will be held at the Hampshire Greens Golf Course in Silver Spring, Md., and proceeds from the event will support the Groove Phi Groove Scholarship, part of Virginia Tech's Opportunities Scholarship program. Groove Phi Groove was the first African American organization at the university.

ABC News Correspondent and Virginia Tech alumnus Pierre Thomas will host the awards program that follows play. Thomas, a member of the Class of 1984, was a reporter for *The Roanoke Times* and *The Washington Post* before joining ABC News. Major F. Riddick

Jr., the former chief of staff for Maryland's governor, is the honorary chairman for the event. Riddick, president and chief executive officer of Strategic Solutions Center, holds degrees in political science and public administration from Virginia Tech.

Virginia Tech's Opportunities Scholarship Program provides support for students who have proven leadership and service in the area of educational diversity. Ben Dixon, vice president for multicultural affairs, said the scholarship program is designed to extend well beyond the classroom.

"Recipients participate in programs that give them the tools and leadership skills to continue to strive for the advancement of under-represented groups in our society," Dixon said. "Students are required to develop and implement activities in their home communities that promote post-secondary education and the creation of inclusive educational environments."

More information is available from Garfield Cross at 703-916-9670 extension 104 or e-mail [opportunitiescholarship@vt.edu](mailto:opportunitiescholarship@vt.edu).

## CAMPUSUPDATE

### 4-H Wildlife Habitat Evaluation Program now on campus

By Lynn Davis

Two hundred 4-H teenagers and their coaches from 30 states arrived on campus Thursday to compete in an annual national wildlife-habitat-evaluation contest that wraps up on Aug. 1.

The students won their states' contests and will use skills they have learned through their local 4-H Wildlife Habitat Evaluation Program (WHEP) training to compete in the national competition.

Virginia's team won the competition in 2002. Later the state, for the first time, also

(See 4-H on 4)

### STUDENT DEATHS

Antonia Margaret Toth, Pamplin College of Business. Bernard Joseph Kuhn Jr., College of Engineering.

### CORRECTION

The following information was inadvertently omitted from the page-one article "Taylor to Head Department of Industrial and Systems Engineering" in the July 16 issue of *Spectrum*. We regret any confusion this omission may have caused.

He continues to work with logistics professionals at Oklahoma State and the universities of Oklahoma and Arkansas as they form a new National Science Foundation-funded center that is focusing on applied research in support of local industry.

Taylor was a visiting professor in 1996-97 at Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute and taught at the University of Massachusetts. He has worked for Texas Instruments in Lewisville, Texas, and Digital Equipment Corp. in Enfield, Conn.

Taylor received his Ph.D. in industrial engineering and operations research from the University of Massachusetts in 1990. His earned his bachelor's degree and master's degree in industrial engineering from the University of Texas at Arlington in 1983 and in 1985, respectively.

Taylor will replace Michael Deisenroth who has served as the interim department head and who will remain on the Grado Department of Industrial and Systems Engineering faculty.



VIRGINIA POLYTECHNIC INSTITUTE  
AND STATE UNIVERSITY

*Spectrum*, a faculty-staff tabloid, is published bi-weekly on Fridays during the academic year, with the exception of certain holidays, exam weeks, and the summer. Copy deadline is noon Friday. No advertising is accepted.

*Spectrum* is a non-profit publication of the Office of University Relations: Lawrence G. Hincker, associate vice president for University Relations; Mark Owczarski, director of news and information.

Editor

John Ashby, 1-6961

News Bureau Manager  
Susan Dickerson 1-8508

Production Manager  
Melinda Shaver, 1-8524

Letters to the editor and questions for "Ask *Spectrum*" should be addressed to the editor, 101 Media Building, Virginia Tech, Blacksburg, VA 24061. *Electronic Spectrum*: <http://www.spectrum.vt.edu>

Virginia Tech does not discriminate against employees, students, or applicants on the basis of race, color, gender, sexual orientation, disability, age, veteran status, national origin, religion, or political affiliation. Anyone having questions concerning discrimination or accessibility regarding the programs described in this newspaper should contact the Equal Opportunity Affirmative Action Office: 540-231-7500 (v), 540-231-9460 (TTY).

## University presents awards for outstanding leadership

Linda Woodard, assistant vice president for personnel, presented two Outstanding Leader of the Year awards and 24 Academy for Leadership Excellence Fellow Certificates July 16 at the annual Academy for Leadership Excellence recognition program.

The Outstanding Leader of the Year award was presented to two university employees. Rhonda Pennington, office manager for foreign languages and literatures was nominated by the Department Chair, Andrew S. Becker. Brian Shabanowitz, assistant dean for the College of Liberal Arts and Human Sciences attended on behalf of the College in support of Pennington's winning nomination.

Elizabeth Waterman, academic advisor in the biology department was nominated by Jack

Cranford, associate professor and associate department head. In addition to Cranford, biology department employees Robert Jones, department head; Karen Boone, Advising Office; Tina Pavlik, office manager, and Jack Evans, head of the Advising Office, were present.

The following members of the Academy for Leadership Excellence's Class of 2003-04 received their fellow certificates:

Greg Beecher, University Unions and Student Affairs; Keith Boyd, Mechanical Utilities; Al Cooper, Budget and Financial Planning; Vijji De Datta, Facilities; Jeffrey Earley, Budget and Financial Planning; Erica Estep, University Unions and Student Affairs;

Rosa Jones, Multicultural Programs; Carrie Kirk, President's Office; Cathy Lally, Alumni Relations; Roberto Mayorga, Graduate School; Mark Owczarski, University Relations—News and Information; Diana Ridgwell, College of Liberal Arts and Human Sciences; Roby Robinson, Environmental Health and Safety Services; Terri Sadler, Outreach and International Affairs; Bradley Scott, Controller's Office; Anne Sheppard, Computing Support; Miya Simpson, Academic Enrichment and Excellence; Nini Smiley, Multicultural Academic Opportunities; Judy Watson, 4Help, and Karen Watson, College of Liberal Arts and Human Sciences.

## Engineering employees honored for notable service

By Liz Crumbley

Amy Hill and Nancy Linkous have received the 2004 Employee Recognition Award from the Virginia Tech College Association for Staff in Engineering (CASE) for their outstanding contributions and service to the college. Hill and Linkous were honored at the annual CASE luncheon.

As business manager for the Department of Materials Science and Engineering (MSE) for the past 12 years, Hill is responsible for much of the department's budgeting. She works with faculty members to prepare research budgets and manage the department's state and research contract funding. She also plays a major role in hiring students and personnel and purchasing equipment for the department and research projects.

"The faculty and staff members and students rely heavily on her for problem solving,

not just financial but with other issues related to getting the job done," said MSE Department Head David Clark in nominating Hill for the award.

In addition to managing fiscal affairs for faculty members and administrators, Hill works with students on a number of projects. "In my four years in MSE, I have yet to encounter a problem that Amy cannot find an answer to, and it is always delivered with a smile," said MSE student Adam Maisano, an officer with the Virginia Tech Human-Powered Submarine Team.

As office manager for the Department of Engineering Science and Mechanics (ESM), Linkous is "the nerve center of the department," said Norman Dowling, interim department head. She manages the department head's schedule and correspondence, maintains files and records, arranges meetings and events,

schedules itineraries for visitors, and manages payroll and personnel matters.

Edmund Henneke, associate dean for research and graduate studies for the College of Engineering and a former ESM department head, said that Linkous also plays the role of human-resource manager for the department's staff, from overseeing the filling of staff positions to making sure that personnel have career-development opportunities.

"She is the ultimate Virginia Tech employee—loyal, self-motivated, dedicated, knowledgeable, kind, helpful, accurate, timely, always thoughtful of the needs and morale of others, enthusiastic, committed to fulfilling her obligations for the progress of the university's programs, and more," Henneke said.

## EMPLOYMENT

For more information on all faculty and classified-staff positions, see [www.jobs.vt.edu](http://www.jobs.vt.edu).

### INSTRUCTIONAL

Department of Forestry. Assistant Professor of Urban Forestry.

Department of English. Instructor (15 positions).

### NON-INSTRUCTIONAL

Metropolitan Institute. Research Assistant Professor.

Plant Pathology, Physiology/Weed Science. Department Head.

Center for Academic Enrichment/Excellence. Assistant Director of Learning Assistance Programs.

Academic Enrichment/Excellence. Assistant Director for College Transitions Programs.

Continuing Education Administration. Associate Director for Outreach Program Services.

Virginia Bioinformatics Institute. Genomic Curator/Annotator (five positions).

Educational Leadership and Policy Studies. Elementary Instruction Coordinator (Project Associate).

Educational Leadership and Policy Studies. Academic Review Coordinator.

Food Science and Technology. Research Associate.

Student Activities. Assistant Director of Student Activities Programming University Unions/Student Activities.

Geosciences. Postdoctoral Associate in High-Pressure Crystallography.

Virginia Cooperative Extension (VCE). Extension Agent. 4-H Youth Development. City of Virginia Beach.

VCE. Extension Agent. 4-H Youth Development. King William County.

VCE. Extension Agent. 4-H Youth Development. Goochland County.

VCE. Extension Agent. 4-H Youth Development. York County.

VCE. Extension Agent. 4-H Youth Development. Mathews County.

VCE. Extension Agent. 4-H Youth Development. Bath County.

VCE. Extension Agent. 4-H Youth Development. Loudoun County.

VCE. Extension Agent. 4-H Youth Development. Fairfax County.

VCE. Extension Agent. Commercial Horticulture. James City County.

VCE. Extension Agent. Commercial Horticulture. Hanover County.

VCE. Extension Agent. Animal Science. Warren County.

VCE. Extension Agent. Crop/Soil Sciences. Craig County.

VCE. Extension Agent. 4-H Youth Development. Franklin County.

VCE. Extension Agent. 4-H Youth Development. Northampton County.

VCE. Extension Agent. 4-H Youth Development. Southampton County.

VCE. Extension Agent. 4-H Youth Development. Sussex County.

VCE. Extension Agent. 4-H Youth Development. Bedford County.

VCE. Extension Agent. 4-H Youth Development. Dinwiddie County.

VCE. Extension Agent. 4-H Youth Development. Wythe County.

VCE. Extension Agent. Animal Science. Prince Edward County.

VCE. Extension Agent. Nutrition/Health. Page County.

VCE. Extension Agent. 4-H Development. City of Portsmouth.

VCE. Extension Agent. Crop/Soil Sciences. Patrick County.

VCE. Extension Agent. Family/Community Sciences. Wythe County.

VCE. Extension Agent. 4-H Development. City of Emporia.

VCE. Extension Agent. 4-H Development. City of Chesapeake.

VCE. Extension Agent. Horticulture. Montgomery County.

VCE. Extension Agent. Horticulture. Carroll County.

VCE. Extension Agent. Food. Nutrition/Health. Stafford County.

VCE. Extension Agent. Food. Nutrition/Health. Arlington County.

VCE. Extension Agent. ANR. Forestry/Natural Resources.

VCE. Extension Agent. 4-H Educational Center. Holiday Lake.

VCE. Area Commercial Vegetable Specialist. Suffolk.

## IN OTHER NEWS

### Smelly plant seems ready to bloom

By Sally Harris

Tech's second *Amorphophallus titanum*, or "corpse plant," seems ready to bloom and emit its intensely powerful stench. People are invited to tie bandanas over their noses and come see the rare and unusual plant.

The horticulture greenhouse containing the plant is open to visitors Friday, July 30, and August 2 through 6, from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. The likely date for the plant to bloom is Wednesday, Aug. 4, said Scott Rapier, greenhouse manager in the Department of Horticulture in the College of Agriculture and Life Sciences; follow the plant's progress on the web at <http://www.hort.vt.edu/VTHG/> to see it on the date it blooms.

Although a blooming *Amorphophallus titanum*, or titan arum, is rarely seen, Virginia Tech's first bloomed last year, drawing crowds that braved the odor and the football traffic to see it. The smelly plant is rare because it puts forth one blossom every four to 10 years. This year, the second plant, located in Virginia Tech's greenhouse complex, should bloom ahead of football traffic, making it easier for the public to visit the greenhouse. The first of these plants in the United States bloomed in 1937 at the New York Botanical Garden, and since, only about 20 have bloomed in this country.

up to five personal computers, burn a song onto CD's an unlimited number of times, and listen to the same play list up to seven times, and listen to their music on an unlimited number of iPods.

"There is competing software on the market, but to date, no one else has approached us with this type of agreement," Krallman said. "The university is open to offering additional solutions for our students."

"Today we recognize him [Chichester] for his unique and critical role in making this facility a reality. Many of us here today recall Senator Chichester's leadership in the dramatic and successful effort to overturn a gubernatorial veto of this project. As you know, overturning a veto is a rare occurrence, but working with his colleagues in the Senate and the House of Delegates, Senator Chichester delivered. Due to his efforts, we are here today to celebrate this occasion," Steger said.

"We want our young people to be the best. We want them to have every ingredient that it takes to be the best and be competitive as anyone in the world. Not just in Virginia, not just in the United States, but also in the world in a global economy," Chichester said.

John L. Miller, former executive secretary of the Virginia State Dairymen's Association, was presented with a Distinguished Service Award in appreciation for his service and dedication to the Virginia dairy industry and the department of dairy science.

Charles N. Miller, Virginia Tech's dairy-herd manager from 1967 until 2003, also was given special recognition for his contributions during the planning and construction of the new facility.

### MUSIC

Continued from 1

several lawsuits targeted at those who download music illegally.

iTunes offers an extensive music library of more than 700,000 songs for Mac and PC customers to legally discover, purchase, and download music on line. The iTunes Music Store gives users the ability to play songs on

### DAIRY-INDUSTRY

Continued from 1

aeration process.

Bennet Cassell, professor and Extension dairy scientist, said the new facility would allow Virginia Tech researchers to compete for research funds that have eluded them in the past. He also said the new complex will offer opportunities for more hands-on and demonstration activities and allow for the demonstration of best-management practices. The waste-management system will allow for the careful control of nutrient applications, will suppress odors, and provide systems that produce clean cows and clean barns in an economical and labor-efficient way.

"This new dairy complex will be a pleasure for people to work in and most importantly, very appealing to the thousands of visitors who visit each year from all over the country. Many of these visitors are from non-farm backgrounds and this very positive public appearance is extremely valuable. These new facilities will represent Virginia's dairy industry to the public in a way that we can all be proud of," said David Hardesty, dairyman and president of the Virginia Holstein Association.

Sen. John Chichester was instrumental in securing funding during the General Assembly, and \$3.4 million was included in the 2002 state budget to build the major components of the complex. An additional \$1.1 million was acquired through Chichester's efforts for an office building, three bunker silos, a hay-storage barn, a commodity-storage barn, a feed-mixing area, and lot renovations.

President Charles Steger recognized Chichester's support of the College of Agriculture and Life Sciences and his relentless efforts for making the dairy complex a reality.

### 4-H

Continued from 3

captured the honor of hosting the event this year. The actual competition site will be in the Jefferson National Forest near Virginia Tech's campus. WHEP is the flagship wildlife education program for Cooperative Extension and land-grant universities.

Contestants must judge the suitability of habitat for wildlife species through on-site evaluation, aerial photographs, and wildlife-foods identification. Each state team must write an urban and rural wildlife-management plan for nine wildlife and fish species.

The teams will go through a trial run Thursday, and on Friday will be taken to the competition site for the real competition. On Saturday, while the judges sift through the plans, the 4-H members will enjoy natural-resource activities at Mountain Lake, the Cascades, and Jefferson National Forest such as canoeing the New River, swimming, horseback riding, fishing, caving, rock climbing, hiking, birding, and range shooting.

"I think the most unique part of the competition is the analysis of aerial

photographs of the surrounding land," said Jeff Kirwan, associate professor of forestry in the College of Natural Resources and Extension specialist for natural-resources education, who is one of the coordinators for this year's conference. "Each team is presented with four different aerial maps and a species. The kids must use the maps to rank the best habitat for the given species."

The contest is divided into five different parts: identifying wildlife foods; judging wildlife habitat from aerial photographs; prescribing wildlife-management practices on a given site; developing an urban management plan for selected species; and developing a rural management plan for selected species. The competition includes both individual and group events.

WHEP is a 4-H youth natural-resource program dedicated to teaching wildlife-and-fisheries habitat management to junior- and senior-level (ages 8 to 19) youth in the United States. Youth learn the science of wildlife management and gain skills in oral and written communication, critical thinking and decision making, while participating in an activity that encourages observation of detail.

### UNIVERSITY

Continued from 1

to revitalize Kentland's historic district. Most of the interviewees are community elders who are eager to add their stories of the community and of Kentland to the public record. Interviews will be made available through Tech's Special Collections Department web site at <http://spec.lib.vt.edu/> and through the Virginia Heritage database at <http://www.lib.virginia.edu/speccol/vhp/about.html>. Development will begin on a special Internet site showcasing the interviews, primary source materials, and other documentation about the history of this rural, agricultural area along the New River near Brush Mountain.

"We hope to compile a book for the

community, which we would ultimately like to publish locally," Cook said. "On a larger scale, we will use the oral history project as a springboard to hold a number of 'community days' at Kentland, which we hope will lead up to an open house/fund raiser. The purpose of the community days is to make people in surrounding communities a part of the revitalization project and to let them determine how they would like to be represented and how they would like to see their histories represented."

The two projects are part of a larger initiative through which the Kentland Historic Revitalization Project aims to preserve the site while revitalizing the Kentland historic district as a community-based, multicultural museum/living history site.

### VEHICLE

Continued from 1

"The autonomous challenge is the most prestigious event at the competition and the event that the most teams enter," said Gombar, leader of the group that created Johnny-5. The goal was for vehicles to navigate a 603-foot-long course, framed by painted white lines, and avoid orange construction barrels placed as obstacles—all with no human intervention.

Johnny-5 zipped through the obstacle course in only three minutes and 30 seconds. "The second place team from Hosei University completed the course in over eight minutes," Gombar said.

Gemini won the design competition, which consisted of a written design report, an oral presentation, and vehicle inspection by

IGVC judges. "Gemini was presented as the total package," Baity said. "Reliability, flexibility of design, ease of use and professional appearance were emphasized as the selling points of the vehicle's design." Johnny-5, which has a hybrid electric power system, came in second for design.

"The quality of entries in this year's IGVC was better than ever before," said Charles Reinholtz, alumni distinguished professor of mechanical engineering and co-adviser of the autonomous vehicle team. "Our students worked relentlessly to refine their vehicles and their accompanying reports and presentations. They also developed some very clever algorithms to address previously intractable navigation problems."

Baity and Gombar, both of whom received their bachelor's degrees in May and are now mechanical-engineering graduate students at Virginia Tech, plan to work again next year readying vehicles for the IGVC. Gombar said, "The future of Gemini and Johnny-5 looks bright. One of our major goals is to refine them so they can be sold to industry as test platforms."

"Our students, some of them only sophomores, are involved in sophisticated technological work," said the team's co-adviser, Al Wicks, professor of mechanical engineering. "We've had great success for several years at the IGVC because we have excellent students and quality tools for them to work with—plus the organizational and leadership skills of Charlie Reinholtz."

Non-Profit Organization  
U.S. Postage  
PAID  
Blacksburg, VA  
Permit No. 28

Virginia Tech  
Blacksburg, VA 24061