



THE BOTTOM LINE APRIL 2020

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IMPACTED YOU?

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CORNER

RECENT NEWS

Ken Miller named Vice President for Finance

He brings more than 32 years of service with Virginia Tech to the role, and has served as interim vice president since Fall 2019.

“Through his unmatched financial expertise into Virginia Tech operations, extensive service to the university, and collaborative mindset, Ken epitomizes what it means to be a steadfast public servant and even more, a Hokie,” said Dr. Dwayne Pinkney, senior vice president and chief business officer.

[Read the full VT News article.](#)

Human Resources unveils new digital processes for the submission of documents

Previous paper submissions have been converted to a number of secure digital format options. [Learn more.](#)

Employees can participate in the Climate Action Commitment revision process

Complete the survey, register for topical Zoom sessions, or contact the working group by [visiting the VT CAC page.](#)

QUICK HITS

Open enrollment for health insurance, FSAs will be May 1-15

Any changes made are effective July 1. [Review the Spotlight on Your Benefits](#) page, which includes information on changes to premiums. And [view the list of upcoming Zoom sessions](#) to review open enrollment changes.

Zoom best practices for meeting security and privacy

Adding password protection, removing uninvited attendees, blocking inappropriate content are [among the tips shared here.](#)

Free movie streaming options through University Libraries

Did you know that University Libraries provides free streaming of more than 100,000 documentaries, feature films, instructional video and more?

For the top 1,000 most popular recent or classic movies, [search here.](#) Or search the broader university archive [with this tool.](#)

Hokie Wellness at Home virtual campaign launches

A host of resources, trainings, and services are available through the new [Hokie Wellness at Home campaign.](#)

EMPLOYEE SPOTLIGHT

LEVI HENRY



HOW IS THE TRANSITION TO WORKING REMOTELY GOING FOR YOU?

It's definitely taken some time to adjust but I have been able to adapt in order to maintain normal operations. The biggest challenge I've faced thus far is avoiding distractions at home. The positive I try to take away from all of this is the extra time I get to spend with my wife and our pets.

HOW HAS YOUR DAILY ROUTING CHANGED DURING THIS TIME?

Before this quarantine, I spent just about every weekend with family and friends so the lack of social interaction has been very different. I am staying positive by

looking forward to when this is all over and how great it will be to see them all again.

WHAT'S ONE PROJECT THAT YOU'RE WORKING ON RIGHT NOW?

I've been assisting the campus and community with procuring and resourcing personal protective equipment (PPE) and other items to aid in our fight against COVID-19. The biggest challenge has been trying to find a reliable resource for these items during a global crisis with an incredibly high demand as well as supply chain analysis to ensure that we avoid logistical setbacks and are receiving these items as quickly as possible.

...continues on Page 3...



- Buyer Senior, Research & Scientific (Procurement)
- Joined Virginia Tech: 2018
- Bachelor's in Management (Radford University)
- lhenry29@vt.edu
- Job Duties and Responsibilities:
Handling and processing purchases and facilitating the competitive proposal/bid process for campus, manage university contracts, maintain appropriate business relations with vendors and serve as a resource for campus to field any purchasing related questions/issues.

...EMPLOYEE SPOTLIGHT... LEVI HENRY

WHERE ARE YOU FROM ORIGINALLY? WHAT BROUGHT YOU HERE?

I am from Troutville in Botetourt County, Va. I grew up as a Hokie travelling to Lane Stadium with my dad for games. My wife was accepted into VCOM after we graduated college, which brought us to Blacksburg.

WHAT ARE SOME OF YOUR HOBBIES?

I love hunting, fishing, kayaking, hiking and marksmanship. I'm really passionate about wildlife conservation. As an avid outdoorsman, this is something I was taught from a young age and I've always held in high regard.

WHAT WAS YOUR FIRST JOB?

I worked at Harbor Inn Seafood in Roanoke. I loved it and worked there throughout high school and college for six years.

BEST PIECE OF ADVICE YOU'VE BEEN GIVEN?

A simple one that's always stuck with me: "treat others the way you would like to be treated."

IF YOU COULD ONLY KEEP 3 APPS ON YOUR PHONE, THEY'D BE...?

(1) WDBJ7, because I like to stay up to date with what's going on in our area; (2) Snapchat, to stay in touch with friends and family; and (3) online banking app for managing finances.

WHAT TYPE OF MUSIC DO YOU ENJOY?

Bluegrass, country and rock. My favorite band is Old Crow Medicine Show.

WHAT ARE MOST IMPORTANT PERSONAL SKILLS OR ATTRIBUTES YOU BRING TO THE JOB?

I have always worked in positions that require a high level of customer service and find that to be one of my biggest strengths. I also tend to remain cool under pressure during stressful situations.

ANY PETS?

Yes, we have one dog – Riley and a cat – Basil.

WHAT IS THE MOST REWARDING THING ABOUT YOUR JOB?

Knowing with every purchase I process, that the end-result is ultimately providing education and important skills to students in higher education in order for them to enjoy a successful life.

FAVORITE FOOD?

I love seafood, particularly shellfish such as oysters and scallops.

FAVORITE SPORT OR TEAM?

The Hokies, of course. I'm also a big Carolina Panthers fan and NASCAR fan. A group of friends and I started a tradition a few years ago of attending the spring race in Martinsville every year.

FAVORITE PLACE YOU'VE VISITED?

The Greek island of Santorini – my wife and I got married there last July. It was the first time I ever left the U.S. and it was a very eye-opening experience to leave my "southern comfort zone" and get to experience different cultures from around the world.

FAVORITE SPOT ON CAMPUS?

Lane Stadium

ONE THING ON YOUR BUCKET LIST?

Attending the Daytona 500!



BY THE NUMBERS...

Thank you to the nearly 60 employees who completed our Q&A about how COVID-19 is impacting your work experiences, daily routines, and your hobbies and activities. The following pages reflect the feedback that you shared.



ARE YOU EXERCISING?

29% MORE
29% LESS
42% THE SAME



ARE YOU ON SOCIAL MEDIA?

25% MORE
17% LESS
58% THE SAME



ARE YOU COOKING?

66% MORE
0% LESS
34% THE SAME



NEW HOBBIES OR ACTIVITIES?

“Birdwatching in the morning before work. I have a bird feeder that can be seen from the dining room table and its just very relaxing and amazing how quick they can empty a feeder.”

- *Jolene Lucas, Controller*

“Gardening, it’s been nice to spend some time outside making things more beautiful” - *Callan Bartel, Office of VP for Finance*

“I’ve started walking around my neighborhood during lunch. Gives me a small break and allows me to get some outdoor time as well.” - *Kate Dicken, Procurement*

“Painting my house.” - *Kim Linkous, Controller*

“Cleaning up files and folders that had been neglected in the past. Also cleaning out drawers and finding some interesting things I forgot I had because they were in the wrong place.” - *Nancy Meacham, Office of the VP for Finance*

“Wedding planning!” - *Amber Gillie, Controller*

“Scrapbooking and teaching the dog new tricks” - *Ashton Moran, Risk Management*

“I’ve been baking more! Experimenting with different types of bagels and pie crusts.”

- *Alisha Ebert, CAFM*

“I’ve been playing a video game called Animal Crossing: New Horizons. You get to build up an uninhabited island for yourself and other villagers, with no timeline or hard goals. You can play with your friends online too so it’s been nice to socialize that way. It’s been a great calming escapist activity” - *Ashton Anway, Controller*

“Facial hair design.” - *Brennan Shepard, OBFP*

“Not really a hobby but the quarantine forced me to address my internet home setup. I replaced a 9-year-old modem and 6-year-old router and tripled my internet speed. I actually receive the speed I’m paying for now!” - *Derek Scheidt, Controller*

“I ordered my son a paint by number but he lost interest fast. I ended up finishing it and it was great! Very relaxing.” - *Jean Cummins, OBFP*

“I’ve rediscovered some old hobbies—working with my hands. My projects were collecting dust, now I’m knocking the dust off and getting my hands dirty again.” - *Z. Jakoubek, CAFM*

“Taught my 4-year-old twins how to ride a big bike so now we have been going on bike rides all the time” - *Erin Evans, Controller*





WHAT DO YOU HAVE MOST DIFFICULTY FINDING AT THE STORE?

TOILET PAPER

"I mean seriously, how much toilet paper do you really need?" - *Z. Jakoubek, CAFM*

"Store? Is anyone going to the store? I bought 45 rolls of toilet paper last summer because it was a good deal. Happy to report I still have all 45 rolls." - *Cindy Eller, Controller*

"My sister in Florida is sending me toilet paper...who knew that would be the hardest thing to get in a crisis?" - *Nancy Luz, Procurement*

"I've never been so happy to find toilet tissue on the shelf!" - *Jenni Schoner, Controller*

"Why oh why is everyone buying it all as soon as the store gets it!" - *Jennifer Tabor, Controller*

READ: "GETTING TO THE BOTTOM OF THE TOILET PAPER SHORTAGE."

Why can't you find it, when can we expect it, and more.

[View the article here.](#)



"FLOUR, I bake my own bread and use King Arthur Flour. No flour of any brand to be had for awhile, just beginning to see it back on the shelf.
- *Diane Bonsall, Office of VP for Finance*

"CLEANING SUPPLIES, but they've had everything else." - *Ashton Moran, Risk Management*

"GREEK YOGURT, for some reason."
- *Callan Bartel, Office of VP for Finance*

"EGGS, had to make a trip to two stores."
- *Lynn Meadows, Controller*

"LETTUCE, it should not be hard to eat healthy!"
- *Erin Evans, Controller*

WHAT ELSE?

- > Paper products
- > Red meat and chicken
- > Yeast
- > Bread
- > Gallon-sized bleach
- > Coffee creamer
- > Crafting and knitting items
- > Lentils
- > My preferred brand of hard seltzer

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WHAT ARE YOU MOST EXCITED FOR ONCE THE SHELTER ORDER IS LIFTED?



- > Face-to-face visits with my adult children.
- > Hugging my parents.
- > Going to breweries!
- > Taking my staff to lunch for all their hard work during this time.
- > Going back to the shelter and seeing the animals.
- > Just getting in the car and going with no destination in mind.
- > Make returns to stores from online shopping.
- > Making up the missed celebrations with friends and family. So far it's been my birthday and Easter. I also really miss El Gran Rodeo!
- > Have a cookout/fire pit night with friends and play more golf.
- > I plan to go to the river and do some fishing and floating, and have big cookout with lots of food, music, and outdoor games.
- > Getting back to the church services at our church facility.
- > Taking a trip somewhere new.
- > Making an appointment to get my hair cut.
- > Local restaurants!
- > As much as I enjoy working from home, there have been challenges. It will be nice to get back in the office with co-workers and into a routine.
- > Go to a nice beach and eat out for dinner every night for a week.
- > Live music.
- > Go to the movies.
- > Go back to the gym! I didn't realize how connected I was to my "gym family" that I used to start each work day with!
- > Send my kids to daycare – then miss them like crazy when I don't see them 24/7.
- > Go to the movies.
- > Sports. Just sitting down and watching a Cleveland Indians game.
- > Camping and hiking reopened!
- > Not cooking!
- > Seeing my buddies and going to the Cascades.



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WHAT'S SOMETHING POSITIVE YOU'VE GAINED DURING THIS TIME OF UNCERTAINTY?

Spending more time at home with family and working on home projects. - *Ashley Snider*

Everything can change in the blink of an eye, don't take anything for granted. - *Lynn Meadows*

I got engaged in March while hiking to a waterfall! Wedding will be this July! - *Amber Gillie*

I am so thankful to spend this much time with my kids. I can't believe how fast they have grown up. Time flies and this quality time together has been amazing.

- *Shelley Seckers*

Calling family and friends to chat versus cold texts with terrible spelling.

- *Kim Linkous*

Being able to slow down and see the compassion and generosity!

- *Tami Foutz*

Being home to take care of my kids, home-cooked meals instead of fast food, more conscious about health and hygiene, the world is quieter, gas is affordable, traffic is gone, money doesn't seem to make the world go round, and we finally have **time to stop and smell the roses** :)

- *David Hungate*

Reconnecting with friends who sometimes are overlooked in the normal pace of everyday life. - *Skylar Mouris*

Being reminded of what's really important. You need you and others to be healthy, a roof over your head, food in your belly and clothes on your back. Appreciate what others do for you.

Slowing down.

Taking a walk.

Playing catch.

- *Z. Jakoubek*

Seeing how the local community has rallied around healthcare, sanitation, grocery store employees and other essential individuals.

- *Alisha Ebert*

Staying connected with friends and family through technology has been amazing...I've also enjoyed spending time at home with my girls and watching them interact with each other and their friends. - *Diana Alexander*



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“**OZARK** is a pretty suspenseful series about a business guy who began money laundering with the Mexican cartel.” - *Christie Dalton*

“Lots of problems with this family in **OZARK**, so it makes the real world seem not so bad (not for kids).” - *Shelley Seckers*

“I must bashfully admit, my wife and I got caught up in **TIGER KING**. It’s just like a train wreck or car wreck...you can’t help but keep watching.” - *Derek Scheidt*

“Only watched the first few of **TIGER KING** because we had to know what all the memes were about (social media pressure)...” - *Jolene Lucas*

“**WESTWORLD** is so easy to get lost in and made me question reality; questioning reality seemed pretty relevant at a time like this.” - *Skylar Mouris*

“**MAKING THE CUT**, I just love creative shows like this.” - *Jean Cummins*

According to reports, more than 64 million households have watched **TIGER KING** on Netflix. Just 3 of you mentioned it in your responses. Whether that’s a positive or a negative is up for debate! Here’s a long list of all the TV recommendations you shared.

MOST POPULAR

OZARK (NETFLIX / 6 RESPONSES)

TIGER KING (NETFLIX / 3 RESPONSES)

WESTWORLD (HBO / 3 RESPONSES)

MAKING THE CUT (AMAZON / 3 RESPONSES)

THE NEXT TIER: TWO VOTES

STAR TREK: PICARD (CBS)

PARKS & RECREATION (NETFLIX)

THE OFFICE (NETFLIX)

BETTER CALL SAUL (AMC/NETFLIX)

SURVIVOR (CBS)

OLD FAVORITES

LAVERNE AND SHIRLEY

NCIS

THE ADDAMS FAMILY

LITTLE HOUSE ON THE PRAIRIE

WHEEL OF FORTUNE

THE PRICE IS RIGHT

GUNSMOKE

BEST OF THE REST

HISTORICAL DOCUMENTARIES

HGTV

ANY GHOST SHOW

ARROW

MONK

CRUISING THE CUT

PITBULLS & PAROLEES

DEVS

VIKINGS

NEW GIRL

THE MANDALORIAN

VAMPIRE DIARIES

SCHITT’S CREEK

THE MARVELOUS MRS. MAISEL

MOUNTAIN MEN

LEGO MASTERS

AMERICAN IDOL

BROOKLYN NINE-NINE

ZOOEY’S EXTRAORDINARY PLAYLIST

BREAKING BAD

CHEF’S TABLE

GREAT BRITISH BAKING SHOW

WORKING MOMS

BLUE BLOODS

THE RANCH

THE TODAY SHOW WITH HODA & JENNA

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CLASSICAL FOR WORK on Pandora during the workday to break the silence.

- *Nancy Meacham*

MOSTLY CLASSIC ROCK AND LED ZEPPELIN through Amazon Prime Ultra HD Playlists. It's been cool having it play in the background without headphones. - *Diana Alexander*

KENNY ROGERS, we recently lost him, and I had forgotten how good his music was/is. - *Z. Jakoubek*

ALLISON KRAUSS - *Heather Reed*

SOUL & '70s - *Alene Harris*

ALL OLDIES, which now includes anything '90s or prior! - *Karey Gray*

SIRIUS XM CLASSICAL CHANNEL, this morning I heard Beethoven all morning to celebrate his 250th birthday. When just hanging out, **RADIO MARGARITAVILLE** or **COFFEE HOUSE**. - *Jenni Schoner*

THE GREATEST SHOWMAN SOUNDTRACK, and **PINK**. - *Erin Evans*

I love listening to **CLASSIC VINYL** when working from home. - *Alison Rolley*

THE GRATEFUL DEAD - *Roger Gupta*

FRANK SINATRA, **SPIRIT FM**, and **CLASSICAL** - *Jennifer Tabor*

A lot of the **'90S HITS**. - *Shelley Seckers and Ashley Snider*

My **DISCOVER WEEKLY AND DAILY MIX PLAYLISTS** on Spotify. Also **MAGGIE ROGERS**, **MAC MILLER**, **LUMINEERS**, **BLUE SWEDE**, **ELVIN BISHOP**, **JAMES TAYLOR**, and **JACKSON BROWNE**. - *Alisha Ebert*

Getting back into **'80s MUSIC**. - *Derek Scheidt*



PODCASTS

THE REWATCHABLES breaks down those movies you've seen over and over and what makes them so addicting to watch. It's great for movies where you obsess over every little detail and remember it all. It's fun to hear other people talk in painstaking detail about the movies that matter to you. - *Nick Woods*

KIND WORLD by WNBR does an uplifting story about once per week. - *Erin Griffin*

THIS AMERICAN LIFE reminds me that there's a world out there. - *Brennan Shepard*

DON'T CHANGE MY LIFE

THE NUTRITION DIVA

FRESH AIR

MAKE ME SMART BY NPR MARKETPLACE

ARMCHAIR EXPERT

S-TOWN

MY BROTHER, MY BROTHER, & ME

REVISIONIST HISTORY

MY FAVORITE MURDER

99 PERCENT INVISIBLE

AGAINST THE RULES WITH MICHAEL LEWIS



WHAT ARE YOU COOKING?

There was a tremendous volume of recommendations for recipes. Please connect with the below individuals if you are interested in a particular dish or recipe.

ONE POT TURKEY SKILLET (ASHTON ANWAY)

CAULIFLOWER PIZZA BAKE (CHRISTIE DALTON)

CILANTRO LIME RICE (CALLAN BARTEL)

CAST IRON CORN BREAD (ALISHA EBERT)

SUNDRIED TOMATO FORMAGGIO-BREAD MACHINE RECIPE (BRENNAN SHEPARD)

SHRIMP & SUGAR SNAP PEAS IN CURRIED COCONUT SAUCE (NANCY MEACHAM)

PORK & PUMPKIN STEW (ALISON ROLLEY)

CROISSANT BOATS (JEAN CUMMINS)

ZUPPA TOSCANO SOUP (KATE DICKEN)

INSTANT POT MEATLOAF (HEATHER REED)

BANANA PUDDING (CASSIDY HELMICK)

VERY VEGGIE FRIED RICE (KIM LINKOUS)

INSTANT POT CHICKEN BIRYANI (ERIN GRIFFIN)

CHEESY POTATOES (LYNN MEADOWS)

CHICKEN PAPRIKASH (ALENE HARRIS)

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READING RECOMMENDATIONS

SOCCERNOMICS, it's about the history of soccer and teams using economics and statistics to analyze teams and trends.
- Alisha Ebert

Currently listening to **A MAN CALLED OVE** on Audible. - Nancy Meacham

READY PLAYER ONE, the book is way better than the movie. I've also been reading those "useful hints" for using everyday items for different, clever purposes. - Z. Jakoubek

BITTER HARVEST by Ann Rule, a true story which was actually very disturbing and heartbreaking. - Tami Foutz

NATURE ANATOMY, by Julia Rothman. Fun illustrations and interactive activities for understanding the natural world—inside volcanoes, butterfly migrations, sunsets, etc.
- Jenni Schoner

Four kids, so I'm going with **HARRY POTTER**.
- Erin Evans

Read and watched **THE SHACK**.
- David Hungate

Phil Lesh's book **SEARCHING FOR THE SOUND**.
- Roger Gupta

SHOEDOG, by Phil Knight. It's about Nike's first 10 years of being in business. Very inspirational. - Lizzy Paluszek

