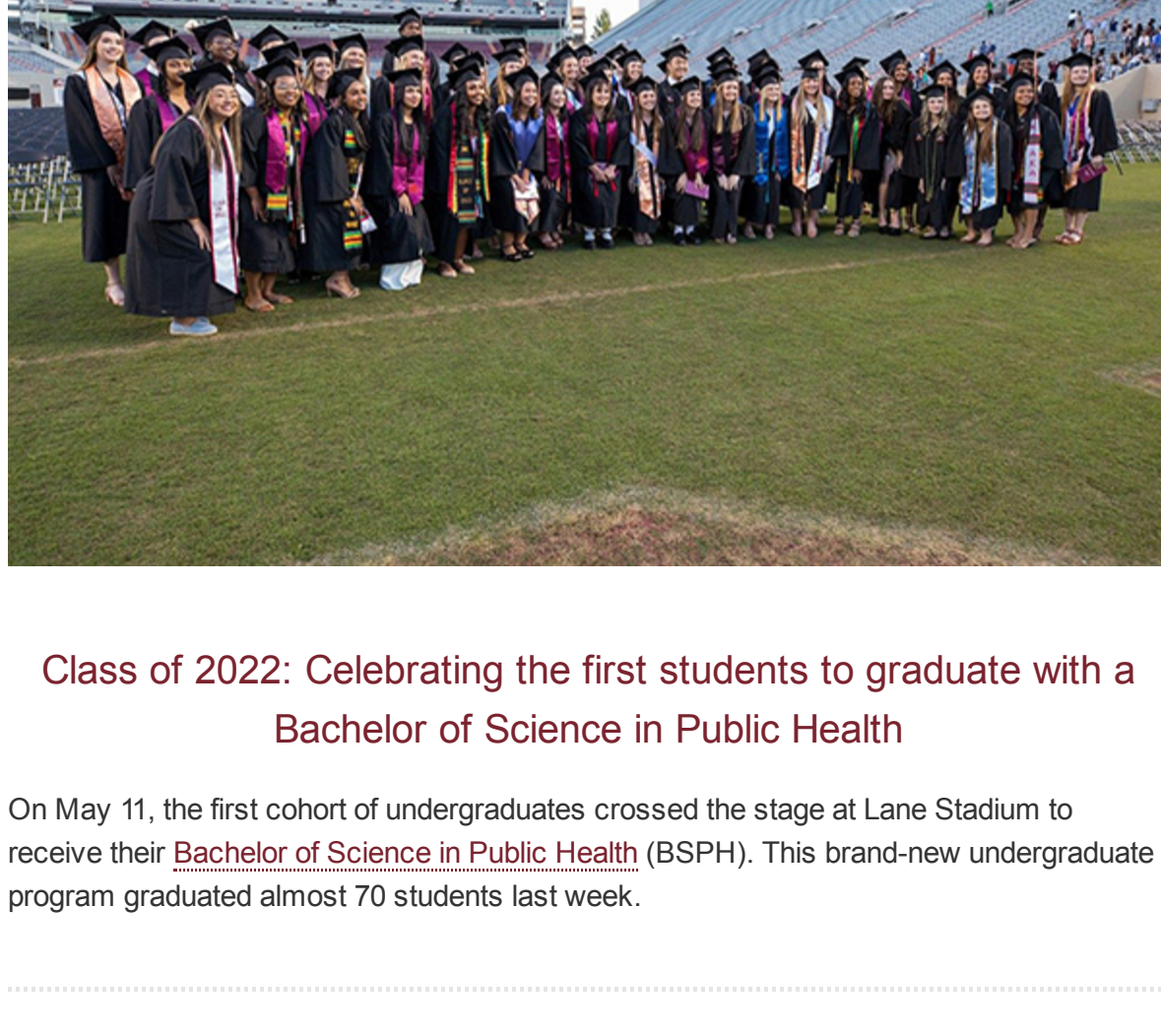


Vet Med News

MAY 2022



Class of 2022: Celebrating the first students to graduate with a Bachelor of Science in Public Health

On May 11, the first cohort of undergraduates crossed the stage at Lane Stadium to receive their [Bachelor of Science in Public Health \(BSPH\)](#). This brand-new undergraduate program graduated almost 70 students last week.

Around the College



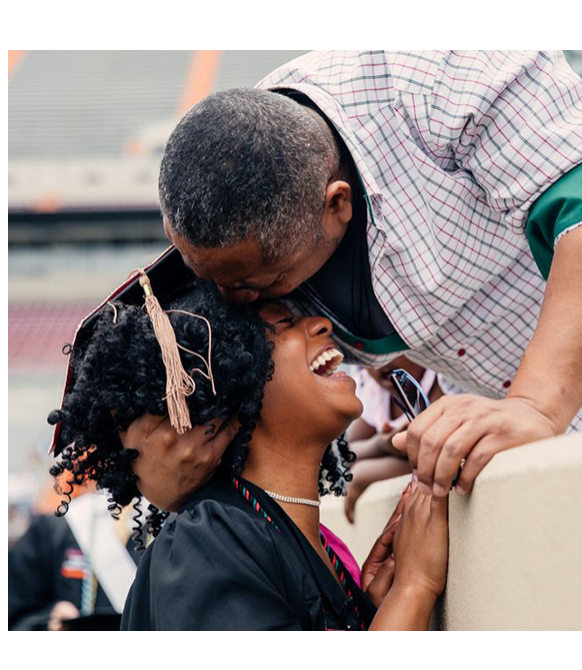
Timothy Bolton the 2022 Doctor of Veterinary Medicine commencement speaker

Timothy Bolton, clinical assistant professor in the [Department of Small Animal Clinical Sciences](#), addressed graduates during the [VA-MD Vet Med](#) commencement.



Class of 2022: Veterinary student Ian Doody named class valedictorian

Ian Doody was recently named the valedictorian of VA-MD Vet Med's Class of 2022. The achievement has also earned him the Richard B. Talbot Award, named for the college's founding dean.



Class of 2022: Jeff Cartzendafner prepares for a second career in veterinary medicine

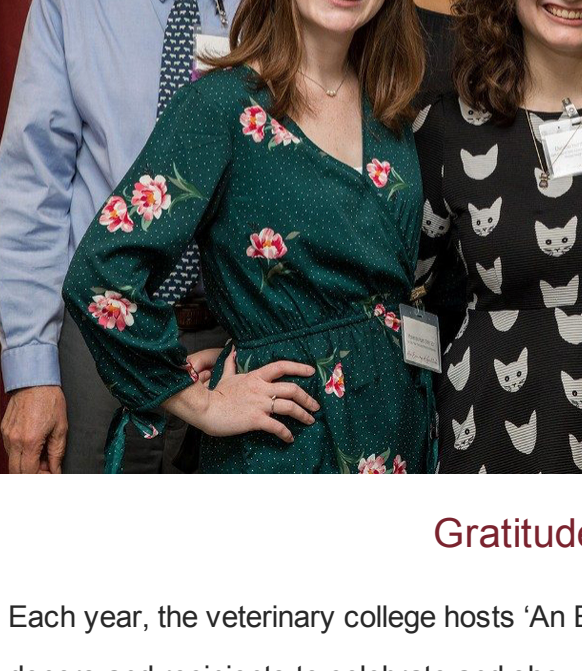
On the road to conduct a farm call isn't exactly the place you'd expect to reconnect with a high school classmate, but during a production management medicine rotation at the VA-MD Vet Med, veterinary student Jeff Cartzendafner discovered that he and Clinical Assistant Professor of production management medicine Sierra Gwynn not only both grew up in Westminster,

Maryland, but they graduated from the same high school class.



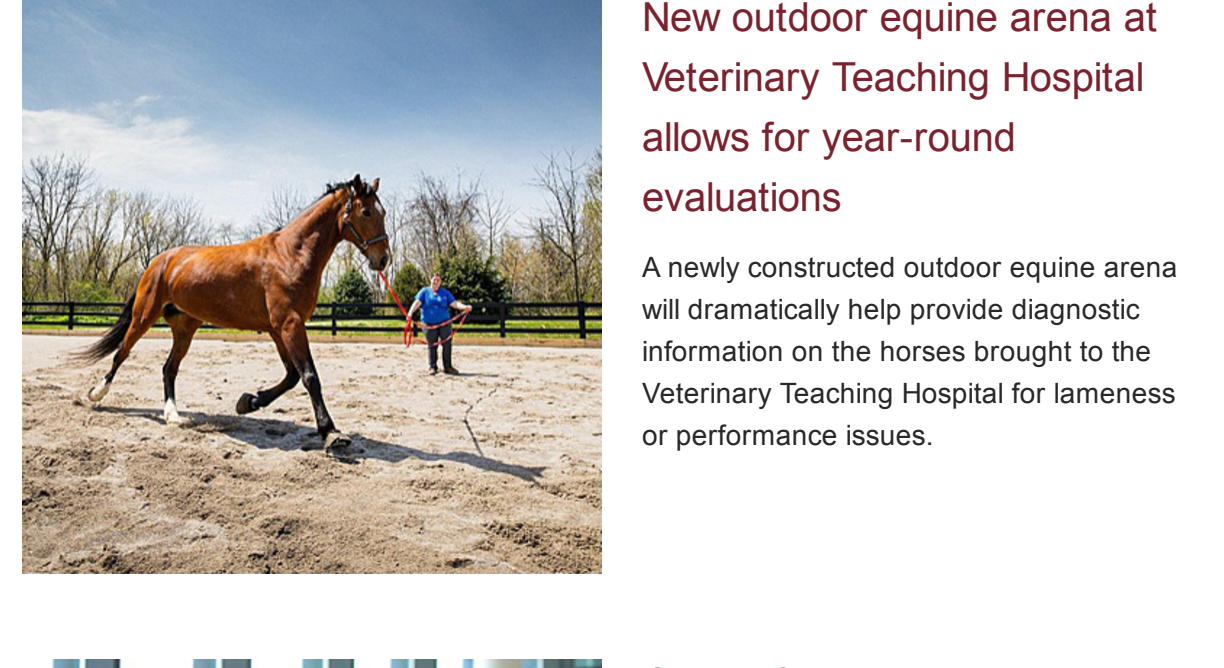
Virginia Tech welcomes newest alumni during 2022 spring commencement ceremonies

The Virginia Tech community celebrated the Class of 2022 during commencement ceremonies May 7-15 in Blacksburg, Roanoke, and the Washington, D.C., area. More than 6,300okies graduated and were recognized for their achievements including 120 recipients of Doctor of Veterinary Medicine degrees. View [photographs](#) from the DVM, MPH, and BSPH ceremonies and events.



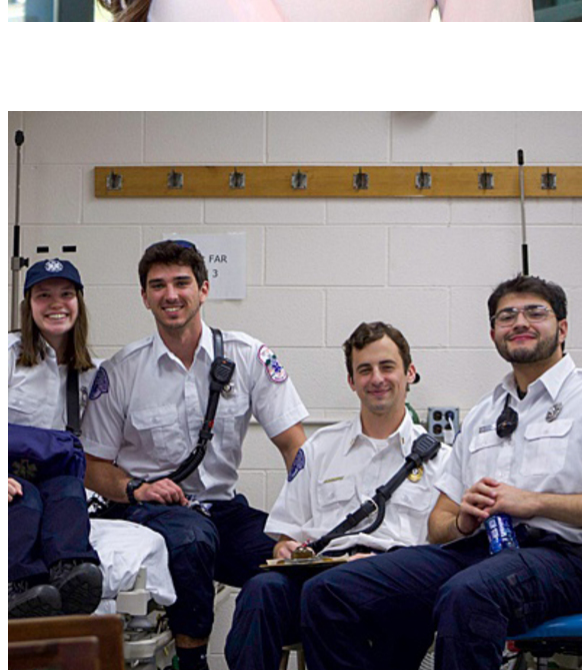
Director of New River Health District spoke at undergraduate public health commencement

The director of the New River Health District, Noelle Bissell, was the commencement speaker for the 2022 graduating class of [Bachelor of Science in Public Health](#) students.



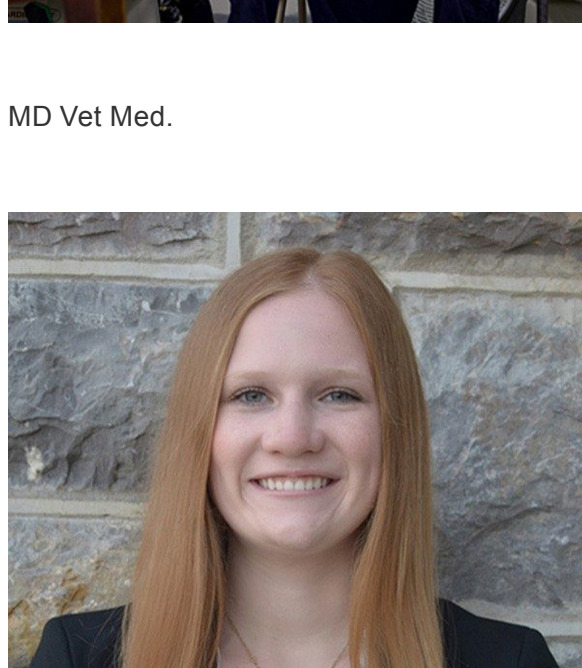
Gratitude abounds

Each year, the veterinary college hosts 'An Evening of Gratitude' to gather scholarship donors and recipients to celebrate and show gratitude for our donors' commitment to the next generation of veterinarians.



New outdoor equine arena at Veterinary Teaching Hospital allows for year-round evaluations

A newly constructed outdoor equine arena will dramatically help provide diagnostic information on the horses brought to the Veterinary Teaching Hospital for lameness or performance issues.



Class of 2022: Emily Maher makes her mark with dual master's degrees in communication and public health

Emily Maher graduated this spring with a [master of arts in communication](#) from the [School of Communication](#) and a [master of public health](#) from [VA-MD Vet Med](#).

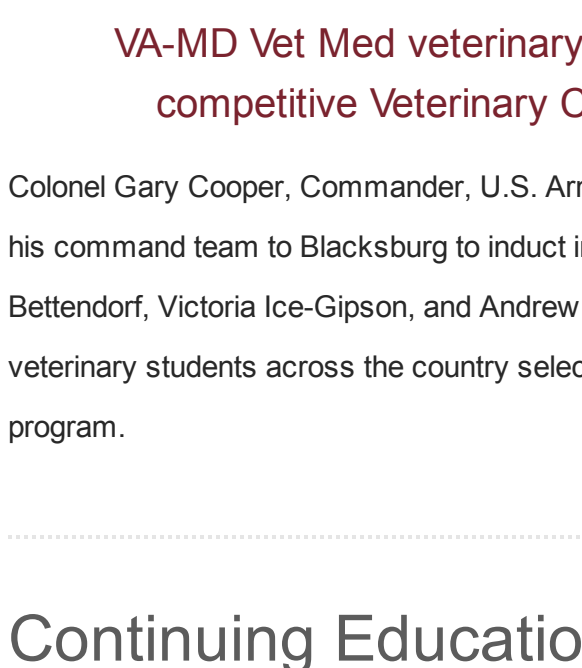


Virginia Tech Rescue Squad announces new officers for 2022-23 academic year

The all-student run [Virginia Tech Rescue Squad](#) elects new officers each academic year to lead its 35 members and help advance the campus community's safety

Colin Carnley, personnel lieutenant, rising junior majoring in public health and neuroscience, VA-MD Vet Med and College of Science.

Josh Brown, special operations officer, rising junior majoring in public health, VA-



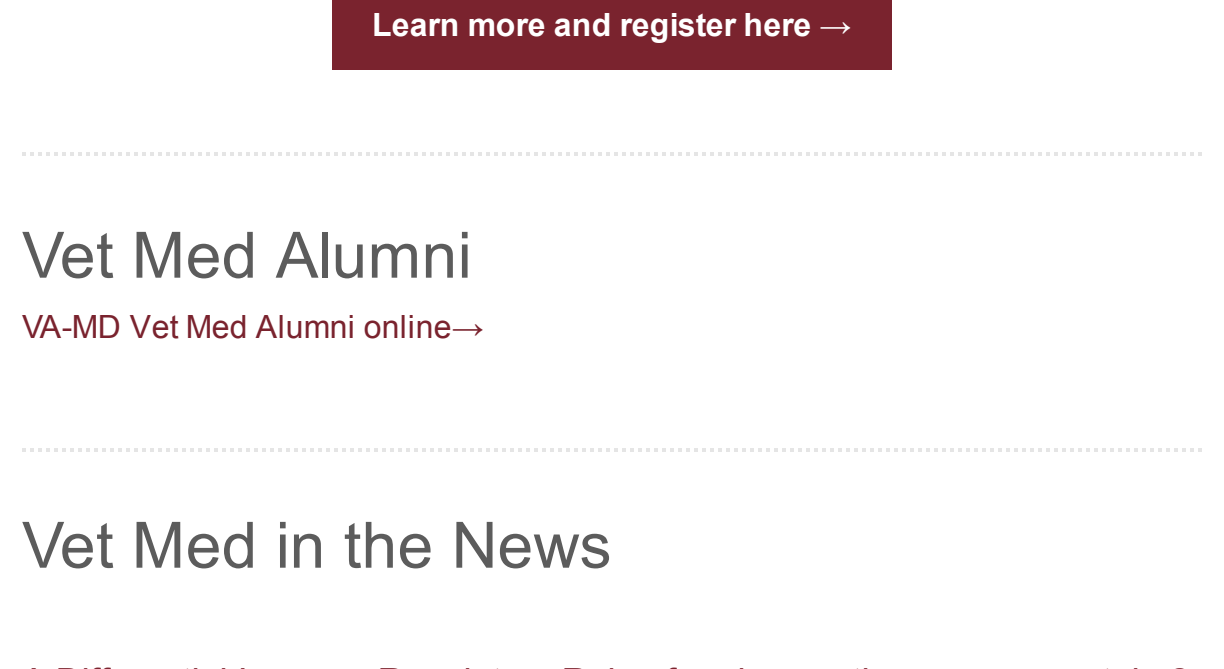
Class of 2022: Kaitlin Phelon receives the Phi Kappa Phi Medallion

Kaitlin Phelon is the Phi Kappa Phi Medallion undergraduate recipient for the inaugural [Bachelor of Science in Public Health](#) class. Awarded by the Honor Society of Phi Kappa Phi, Phelon received this accolade for having the highest grade point average of all 2022 BSPH graduates. She also finished her degree in three years and graduated first in her class all during a global pandemic.



World Veterinary Day: 'Strengthening veterinary resilience'

World Veterinary Day, created by the [World Veterinary Association \(WVA\)](#) in 2000, celebrates the veterinary profession and promotes veterinarians' fantastic work. This year's theme is 'Strengthening veterinary resilience', which fell on April 30, 2022.



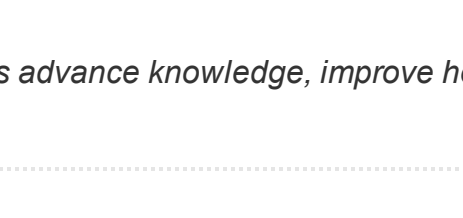
VA-MD Vet Med veterinary students selected for highly competitive Veterinary Corps scholarship program

Colonel Gary Cooper, Commander, U.S. Army Medical Recruiting Brigade, traveled with his command team to Blacksburg to induce into the Army three first-year students. Graci Bettendorf, Victoria Ice-Gipson, and Andrew Ramirez are three of the thirty-three

veterinary students across the country selected for this highly competitive scholarship program.

Continuing Education

Connect 2022 - Oct 20-22



CONNECT+2022
Mentor Program • Career Fair • Reunion • Continuing Education
Students • Alumni • Practitioners // **October 20-22, Blacksburg, VA**

Join alumni, faculty, staff, students, and practitioners to meet and share the collective interest and mutual benefit of mentorship, career opportunities, continuing education, and reunion celebrations!

[Learn more and register here](#) →

Vet Med Alumni

[VA-MD Vet Med Alumni online](#)→

Vet Med in the News

A Differential Immune Regulatory Role of early growth response protein 2 (EGR2)

[S. Ansar Ahmed](#), associate dean, professor of immunology, research and graduate studies

Researchers looking for solution to tick-borne cattle disease

[Kevin Lahmers](#), clinical associate professor, anatomic pathology

New Advancements in Diagnosing Equine Neurologic Disease

From imaging to diagnostic tests, vets have many ways to help horses with EPM, wobblers syndrome, and spinal cord injuries.

[Krista Estell](#), clinical assistant professor, equine medicine

Hale learning the ropes on bison farm

[John F. Currin](#), clinical associate professor, production management medicine/food animal

How Petco Love and Blue Buffalo Are Fighting Pet Cancer

Petco Love continues its commitment to fight against pet cancer; the No.1 disease-related cause of death for dogs and cats in the U.S.

From nanosensors to vaccines, these creations won UMD's Invention of the Year awards

[Xiaoping Zhu](#), associate dean and department chairman, [Weizhong Li](#), assistant research professor, and faculty assistant Tao Wang of the Virginia-Maryland College of Veterinary Medicine and UMD's College of Agriculture and Natural Resources.

GIVE to VA-MD VET MED

Your support helps us advance knowledge, improve health, and save lives.

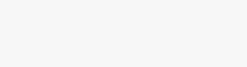
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