

Galipatian Station

~While You Pee in Lee~

11/29/19—12/6/19

COMPILER



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She/Her/Hers



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VENTELLO



Jackson Tate

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Mechanical Engineering

A great thing about being a part of one of the greatest engineering programs in the United States is that the students find ways to be extremely innovative and use their skills and creativity to produce some pretty cool things. An example of this is Ventello, an up-and-coming application for Apple device users.

Created by Virginia Tech sophomores Trenton Whitfield and Matt Lyman, Ventello is oriented towards providing college students with a social media platform to organize hangouts, study sessions, and other social events. Trenton and Matt hope that Ventello can spread to different clubs and organizations around campus, including Intramural teams, Fraternities, and Sororities. With Ventello, you can expect to have a simple place to advertise your events while being able to avoid the hassle that comes with manually advertising in a pop-up canopy on the Drillfield in the middle of thirty-five degree weather. In other words, Ventello will make planning and organizing your events a lot easier, as you can establish groups, attend public events, and organize things with select friends. Whether a

simple friend group or a large collegiate organization, Ventello has functions that can be useful for all, and will continue to develop as feedback is received.

Ventello is currently in the final development phases, as the developers continue to get the final touch-ups done. However, Ventello should be up and running very soon, and then Virginia Tech will have a new platform for its numerous organizations. Also, even though the goal of the application is to extend to many college campuses around the country, Virginia Tech is being used as a testing site, so go ahead and support your Virginia Tech innovators and give Ventello a try once everything is up and running!

For more information on Ventello visit:
ventello.com or contact support@ventello.com



STEM Pun of the Week:

Not all math puns are terrible

Just sum

Geofilter Contest

Submit a design for a chance to win an Amazon \$25 gift card and have your design be an official Snapchat filter!

(Link: <https://forms.gle/YqKGGGtemrXvdxuu9>)



THE TURKEY COMA: PROOF OR PLACEBO?



Max Kreuzscher
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As Thanksgiving approaches and Americans across the country gather anxiously with friends and family to break bread and give thanks, it may be beneficial to have some mildly interesting holiday knowledge handy to change the subject and maintain domestic peace at the dinner table. So, dust off your comfy elastic pajama pants and prepare for a hefty and potentially sleep inducing serving of science!

From mashed potatoes and stuffing to creamed corn and cranberry sauce, no matter your cuisine preferences and familial traditions, the centerpiece of most all Thanksgivings is a roasted turkey. Apart from being a closely related cousin of our university's prized mascot, Thanksgiving turkey is notoriously known for its sedative properties. Most commonly referenced as the "Turkey Coma" in pop culture, this phenomenon has a variety of speculated origins with little scientific evidence to substantiate it.

So, what do the experts say? Well, it is known that turkey (and most meats alike) contain tryptophan, an amino acid not naturally manufactured within the human body. Tryptophan is used to make serotonin, a neurotransmitter that stimulates melatonin production and promotes slow-wave sleep in mammals. There it is! Turkey is linked to melatonin, that magic sleep-inducing chemical, right? Well yes, and no. In reality, tryptophan in meat is only present in very small amounts and nowhere near the direct dosage needed to encourage a comatose state. In fact, the "turkey coma" is most probably linked to the overabundance of desserts and carb heavy foods on the dinner table (and in your stomach) during your Thanksgiving feast. As your insulin levels increase, complex enzymes and amino acids interact with one another, eventually resulting in increased serotonin levels in your bloodstream and, by extension, your brain. It is also speculated that the stretching of the small intestine can bring about sleepiness, fulfilling the age old proverb of "rest and digest".

So there you have it, some food for thought while you're gobbling up turkey at the dinner table. Just be sure to thank me later if this intriguing factoid helps you avoid some polarizing subjects this Thanksgiving.

FIRST SEMESTER



Anvitha Nachiappan
She/Her/Hers
ISE

**You've made it this far...
you can do this!**

So finals are approaching and stress is quadrupling, but before you go back to making study guides and completing projects, take a second to think about all you've accomplished this year.

4 months ago you came to Virginia Tech as a wide eyed, excited, and impressionable freshman. Since then, you've learned how to deal with Chem Lab and Matlab. You've made friends and formed bonds in a whole new environment. You have experienced fire alarms in the middle of the night. Many of you have joined associations and clubs of your interest. You have fallen in love with Virginia Tech and the beautiful campus. You have dealt with the freezing winds on the drill field. You have escaped to DX at 1 am after working on assignments all night. You have sat on the pylons and watched as students bustle

across the drill field.

You have made a new home at Virginia Tech.

College is so different from what we are all used to growing up. From weird schedules and large lectures to having to deal with laundry and crowded showers, all of us have had to acclimate and change our lives. Yes, the next week and a half will be hard, but you've learned so much and gained so much experience in the past 4 months. You are ready to face finals and any other challenges that may arise.

First semester is almost over, so keep your head up, cherish all you've done this year, and keep going. From one proud hokie to another, best of luck!

