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SALEM TIMES-REGISTER

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Mark your calendar: Salem holiday events and activities happening throughout December



On December 5 and 6, Santa and Mrs. Clause will be present at the Salem Civic Center to take socially distanced pictures for \$10. Children will not be able to sit on Santa's lap, and masks will be required until the photos are taken.



This year's Christmas Parade will shift to the Salem Civic Center parking lot on December 4 from 6:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. PHOTOS BY SHAWN NOWLIN

Shawn Nowlin

shawn.nowlin@ourvalley.org

The City of Salem is ready to celebrate one of the most wonderful times of the year. Throughout December, there will be several local events for all ages to enjoy.

The Annual Christmas Parade, one of the most anticipated events each year, usually attracts thousands of people. This year, a much smaller turnout is expected because of COVID-19.

Sponsored by the Kiwanis

Club of Salem, this year's parade will shift to the Salem Civic Center parking lot on December 4 from 6:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. Floats and performers will be positioned in designated locations throughout the Taliaferro Complex, according to City of Salem Communications Director Mike Stevens, allowing citizens and visitors the ability to drive through and enjoy each entry without leaving their cars.

"This has been a challenging time for all of us, but the Sa-

lem Kiwanis Club members are excited about the possibilities this event offers all involved," said Jim Paxton, Salem Kiwanis Club President-elect and Parade Committee Head. "We are blessed to have a facility as versatile as the Salem Civic Center, and we really look forward to working with our past entries and new participants to make this event special and unique."

Added Wendy Delano, Salem Director of Civic Facilities, "the Salem Civic Center and Salem Parks and Recreation

staffs have been adapting their events and schedules ever since the onset of COVID-19. You have to keep looking forward and evolving, and I commend the Kiwanis Club of Salem for doing its part to keep the holiday spirit alive."

While free, attendees are encouraged to bring a donation of non-perishable canned food for the Salem-Roanoke County Food Pantry. Those interested in participating in the parade can get further information by calling (540).404.1443.

One of Salem's most anticipated events occurs at the end of each year. When people discuss the Annual Gingerbread Festival, the first thing they usually mention is the creativity put into the various designs. Although gingerbread houses will be located inside the Salem Museum, the 2020 Festival will be held in Longwood Park on December 5 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Admission is free, however, sponsorships and vendor

See Events, page 7

Prestigious award honoring trailblazing African American student given to recent Roanoke College graduate

Shawn Nowlin

shawn.nowlin@ourvalley.org

At an early age, Kayla Capehart, 23, learned one of life's most important lessons: nobody accomplishes anything by themselves. When she graduated with a BA in Health Exercise with a minor in Public Health from Roanoke College earlier this year, she became the first person in her family to earn a college degree. Capehart credits her relatives and close friends for being a catalyst for all that she has accomplished to date.

Born and raised in Williamsburg, the Jamestown High School product has always been driven to reach her full potential. By the time she was a junior, Capehart had already narrowed her college choices down to three schools:

George Mason University, Christopher Newport University and Roanoke College.

Capehart ultimately picked Roanoke College because "of the small class sizes. I wanted to be able to establish relationships with my professors, the faculty and staff as opposed to just being a number or a face that they rarely saw."

During her undergraduate years, Capehart's favorite courses were anatomy and physiology, exercise physiology and public health.

Maxine Fitzgerald was the first African American student to attend Roanoke College. She also holds the distinction of being the first person of color in Virginia to enroll at a private institution. Each year, an award in her honor is given to students who blaze a trail for others to follow.

Capehart was one of three individuals to receive the Maxine Fitzgerald Trailblazer Award this year. The two others were Mya Virdi and Brianna Manigault-King.

Capehart found out she was a recipient via an email from Roanoke College's Director of the Office of Multicultural Affairs, Natasha Saunders.

"I am so honored that I, along with two of my good friends, were chosen to be the recipients of this award because Ms. Fitzgerald left some really big shoes to fill," she said. "My heart is so full. Winning this award means I upheld Ms. Fitzgerald's trailblazing legacy which is something that I do not take for granted."

When Capehart started taking college classes in 2016, an airborne contagious respiratory and vascular dis-

ease capable of taking over the country was the furthest thing from her mind. Capehart says she couldn't be prouder of the proactive steps her school took to tackle COVID-19. "Roanoke College immediately put protocols in place and there were consequences if the new rules weren't adhered to," she said.

Since the start of her college journey four years ago, Capehart says she has become more open-minded to new things and different opinions.

She offered this perspective for students considering Roanoke College: "I would first ask them what their ideal college experience looks like. What class size are they interested in? Are they interested in Greek life or work-study? Hav-

See Capehart, page 7



Because the COVID-19 pandemic took away a traditional ceremony this year, Kayla Capehart celebrated her accomplishment of graduating with honors through a virtual commencement. SUBMITTED PHOTO

Salem High educator named 2020 VADETS Teacher of the Year



SUBMITTED PHOTO

Salem High educator Edgar Moser was recently named the VADETS 2020 Teacher of the Year.

The Virginia Association of Driver Education and Traffic Safety (VADETS) presents an award each year to an outstanding teacher that performs great work in the classroom. Edgar Moser, Salem High School's Driver's Education Instructor since 2000, was this year's recipient. Because of COVID-19, the conference held last month had to be done virtually.

"This marks my 21st year at Salem High. I recall years ago when I first started that we used textbooks, took notes and showed long movies to help reinforce the material. Now, the curriculum has gone through several changes and the methods to present the materials have changed

too," Moser said. "Today, there are shorter videos because I think students' attention spans are shorter, and there are more Power-Point presentations, technology and guest speakers with demonstrations to employ."

Over the years, Moser has taught his students how to be safe, courteous, attentive and ticketless drivers. Last week he had the Virginia Tech Transportation Institute (VTTI) bring its tractor-trailer to Salem to help students realize the importance of checking blind spots when following, passing or driving near vehicles of similar size.

"With the VTTI folks bringing their tractor-trailer for my students, I

thought it was the perfect opportunity to invite my wife's dad, Junior Poe, who lives close by in Salem, to come join us," Moser said. "With Junior being a truck driver for over 42 years and amassing nearly five million miles, I thought he would appreciate seeing the tractor-trailer and how trucks have changed since he drove them years ago."

The elements that all good educators have, according to Moser, are creativity, being able to hold students' interest, being genuine and just having a

simple passion for the profession.

"I have been blessed to have longevity with my job, so that I have learned what works and what doesn't work over the years as I teach. Just as with teens driving, there is really no substitute for experience," Moser said.

When asked what's the most enjoyable aspect of his job, Moser noted, getting to know students and helping to make a difference in their lives.

See Moser, page 4



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COMMUNITY CALENDAR

The City of Salem has been monitoring the potential spread of COVID-19, and like you, we have been processing a great deal of information. The safety of citizens, school children and visitors is always the number one priority from the Salem Civic Center to City Hall. Emergency Management team members are in constant contact with the Virginia Department of Health, the Roanoke-Alleghany Health Department and area health professionals at our local hospitals. During this time of uncertainty, people are encouraged to monitor the website (salemva.gov) for official city details on closings or cancellations. This site will be updated daily whenever there is new information.

FIRST AND THIRD TUESDAYS

Salem Host Lions Club, 6:30 p.m., dinner and a program, Salem Civic Center.

SECOND MONDAY

Paint Bank Ladies Auxiliary meeting, 7:00 p.m. at the Paint Bank Fire Department. Contact 540-897-5346 for more information.

EACH TUESDAY

•Practice for the Salem Choral Society, 7-9 p.m. each Tuesday in the choir room of Salem Presbyterian Church, corner of Main and Market streets in downtown Salem. Membership is open to anyone who enjoys singing. For more information, go to www.salemchoralsociety.com or contact director Reed Carter at reed.salemchoralsociety@gmail.com.

•Salem Chess Players meet at the Salem Senior Center, 110 Union Street in Salem from 7-11 p.m. Open to anyone 16 years or older. Instructions are available.

•Salem Kiwanis Club meets 11:45 a.m. - 1 p.m. for lunch, Salem

Civic Center.

•Glenvar Rotary Club meets 12:15 - 1:15 p.m. for lunch in Richfield Retirement's Recovery and Care Center cafeteria, first floor. Guests welcome.

•Knights of Columbus hosts bingo for charity. Proceeds support local charities including RAM House, Madonna House, the Roanoke Rescue Mission, Saint Francis House, food pantries and various youth projects. Games are played from 5:30 - 9:30 p.m. at Gator Hall, at 5301 Williamson Road, near Happy's Flea Market.

•Infinity Acres Ranch Fundraiser from 4 p.m. to 8 p.m. at Christ Episcopal Church at 321 E. Church Street in Blacksburg. Tickets are \$8 while children eight and younger can eat for \$4. For more information, contact 276-358-2378.

•All ages are welcome to TOPS (Take off Pounds Sensibly) at 5:15 p.m. at the Salem Senior Center. For more information, contact

Linda at 540-389-4207.

•Overeaters Anonymous (OA) meeting, 7 p.m. at Christ Lutheran Church at 2011 Brandon Avenue in Roanoke. Contact 540-293-4065 for more information.

•From 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., a chair caning and basket weaving class will occur at the Salem Senior Center. While free, attendees are encouraged to bring their own lunch. For more information, contact 540-375-3054.

THIRD TUESDAY

The monthly meeting for National Association of Women in Construction (NAWIC) Roanoke Valley Chapter #226 locations and times will now vary. Learn more details by emailing us at nawicroa226@gmail.com.

THIRD WEDNESDAY

Alzheimer's /Dementia Caregiver Support Group at 2 p.m. at Salem Terrace at Harrogate.

FIRST THURSDAY

Roanoke County Woman's Club meets at 10:30 a.m. in the conference room at College Lutheran Church in Salem. New members are welcome.

EACH THURSDAY

The Salem Senior Center's Social Club, known as the 49ers Plus Club, originally started the senior program in Salem over 40 years ago. They have different speakers and/or activities practically every week. New members are always welcome to show up at the Salem Senior Center at 11 a.m. Contact 540-375-3054 for more information.

EACH SATURDAY

•Salem Farmers Market from 9:30 a.m. to noon, weather permitting. Select vendors will have country sausage, cage-free eggs, grass-fed beef, cage-pasture-raised chicken, homemade rolls, pieces of artisan bread,

muffins, seasonal greens and more.

•Overeaters Anonymous (OA) meeting, 11 a.m. at Christ Lutheran Church at 2011 Brandon Avenue in Roanoke.

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 4

The annual Christmas Parade, sponsored by the Kiwanis Club of Salem, will shift to the Salem Civic Center parking lot from 6:30 to 8:30 pm. Floats and performers will be positioned in designated locations throughout the Taliaferro Complex, allowing citizens and visitors the ability to drive through and enjoy each entry without leaving their cars.

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 5

Gingerbread Houses will be located inside the Salem Museum. Admission is free. Sponsorships and vendor booths are available. The 2020 Festival will be held in Longwood Park at 601 E. Main Street.

Average price of Thanksgiving meal in Virginia is \$60.33

Virginians will be able to feed their families a Thanksgiving meal for just over \$6 per person this year, according to an informal price survey conducted by the Virginia Farm Bureau Federation.

The survey of common grocery items found on Thanksgiving tables places the average cost of a traditional meal for 10 adults at \$60.33, or \$6.03 per person. The menu includes turkey, ham, stuffing, sweet potatoes, russet potatoes, rolls, carrots, celery, cranberries, green beans, peas, milk and pumpkin pie with whipped cream. Prices were reported by volunteer shoppers around the state using no promotional sales or coupons. In the interest of shopper safety, volunteers were encouraged to check prices using grocery store apps and websites.

A Thanksgiving meal without ham, russet potatoes and green beans - all of which were added to the survey in 2018 - will cost Virginians an average of \$47.69.

This year's statewide average represents a decrease of \$3.91 from the 2019 average price of \$64.24 for a 10-person meal, the first decrease since 2016.

The average price decrease comes despite farmers encountering food supply chain disruptions due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Virginia farmers were able

to connect consumers with safe, nutritious food throughout a period of uncertainty.

"While facing a pandemic, along with detrimental weather and extreme climate conditions, our farmers persevered to provide us all the opportunity to enjoy a Thanksgiving meal this year," said Wilmer Stoneman, VFBF vice president of agriculture, development and innovation. "I encourage everyone to extend this generosity by sharing a meal with a neighbor in need through a contribution to your area food bank or pantry. Caring for others is as important now as it's ever been."

According to information provided by the Federation of Virginia Food Banks, more than 840,000 Virginians are food-insecure, and an additional 275,000 are likely to face pandemic-

related food insecurity. Through regular donations and programs like the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Farmers to Families Food Box Program, farmers helped the federation's seven regional food banks distribute over 17 million pounds of produce, meat and dairy products between May and October.

"Our farmers' willingness to support their communities in challenging times is a testament to their commitment to providing the nation with food we often take for granted," said VFBF President Wayne F. Pryor. "This year as much as ever, farmers deserve our gratitude as we give thanks for our many blessings."

This is the 17th year Virginia Farm Bureau has conducted the survey, which is based on an annual survey organized by American Farm Bu-

reau Federation.

Based on prices at Virginia grocery stores, Farm Bureau found the average cost of a 16-pound turkey was \$22.42, or about \$1.40 per pound. The 2019 average was \$1.65 per pound.

The organization found that the average price for a 4-pound bone-in ham was \$8.29; a gallon of whole milk was \$3.02; frozen peas, \$1.30; frozen green beans, \$1.31; 3 pounds of sweet potatoes, \$2.99; a 5-pound bag of russet potatoes, \$3.04; fresh

celery, \$1.45; fresh carrots, \$.98; two pie shells, \$2.24; whipping cream, \$1.59; canned pumpkin pie filling, \$3.26; fresh cranberries, \$2.63; stuffing mix, \$2.91; and a dozen dinner rolls, \$2.89.

The locality with the highest average cost for a meal this year was Washington County at \$91.30. The locality with the lowest average cost was Fredericksburg at \$41.10.

Nationally, the informal survey conducted by AFBF found the average

cost of a 15-item Thanksgiving meal for 10 was \$60.11, down four percent from 2019.

The decrease in the average retail price for turkey, sweet potatoes and whipping cream contributed to the drop in the total cost of the meal, noted Dr. John Newton, AFBF chief economist. The national average cost of a 16-pound turkey decreased from \$20.80 to \$19.39, or \$1.21 per pound.

-Submitted by Pam Wiley, VFBF Director of Communications

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OPINION

Give Light ~ Signs of the season...? ~

{This is a memory from the six decades the author has spent writing about faith communities in daily, weekly and monthly news publications covering the western third of Virginia.}

As the pandemic and politics continue to dominate our world, a certain number of familiar activities will be keeping many of us busily occupied in the four weeks to come.

This day of publication marks Thanksgiving. It's always connected with Native Americans - still Indians to many of us - who seemingly observed a time of feasting and gratitude to the early settlers in New England. Virginians had their own Thanksgiving in the Jamestown settlement more than a decade before those of the Puritan sect got more attention.

We pass on to Advent, the period of four Sundays observed in some denominations as the beginning of the church year; it is regarded as a prelude to the joy of Jesus' birth and a time to consider the "end time" when Jesus Christ will return for judgment. This year, Advent starts on Sunday and ends on December 20.

It's followed by the "season" of Christmas.

The hymns of Advent are, to me, as beautiful as the more familiar Christmas carols. Unfortunately, this year I'll greatly miss attending several choral presentations put on regularly by the choirs of nearby churches.

At no time is the somewhat solemn observance of Advent - "coming" - more out of sync with the secular world's commercialism and festivity. Those who take seriously the keeping of the season do not decorate for the day of Christ's Nativity until December 24 or certainly not as soon as Thanksgiving feasting is done.

In the church calendar, the parties and feasting are at their height in the week from December 25 to January 6 considered the time the sages from the East visited the infant in the manger before He was taken to Egypt to avoid being murdered by a vicious Roman emperor.

Meanwhile, musicians from some local congregations are trying to adapt using an on-line format.

Whether or not Advent is

Frances Stebbins Correspondent

part of December life, one cannot escape the appeals for money that appear daily in the mailbox. Some, like Habitat for Humanity and the Leukemia and Lymphoma Society, spend, I think, an inordinate amount of money on promotion. Once a donor gets on their lists, it seems nothing can prevent appeals from arriving every month or so.

The holiday season - especially this one with more people than usual in need - has intensified the appeals. Annually, I make a small gift to the Rescue Mission of Roanoke as well as to the Salvation Army which is one of the oldest and most highly regarded agencies to help the needy in many ways.

{The Army, by the way, rates as a religious denomination as well as a charitable agency, having been started in England in the mid-19th

Century to bring evangelical Christianity to the poor in cities. It, as the name suggests, is organized on military lines. In the Roanoke Valley, its headquarters are in the Southeast quadrant of the city close to downtown.}

These days, the thrift stores are doing a booming business. My favorite is operated by the Disabled American Veterans (DAV) and is on Shenandoah Avenue across from the federal and state facilities that serve the aging military. I donate usable clothing and household articles regularly to this store, and I buy from it as well. Among its patrons are especially senior adults often accompanied by small children for whom they may find clothes and shoes at bargain prices.

Goodwill Industries stores were known to late husband Charlie and me from our earliest days in Roanoke more than 60 years ago. Many today do not know that, at least at that period, they were closely tied to Methodism. The manager of the store in Northwest for many years was an ordained Methodist minister.

Today, several Goodwill stores are scattered around the

valley. They are a good place to purchase holiday decorations, even artificial trees. Unfortunately for me, they don't accept personal checks by which I pay my bills. Buying from those stores also offers the chance to help adults who want to earn their support, but because of physical or mental handicaps need help holding a gainful job.

Finally, we seniors are deluged with small catalogs offering everything from tool chests to bath powder. They are somewhat the equivalent of the 1000-page compendiums which Sears Roebuck, Montgomery Ward, Spiegel and JCPenney put in the mail in my childhood and from which I chose several toys I hoped Santa - or my mother - would put under our simple cedar tree.

With the decline of retailing as it used to be, the big catalogs are long gone even though now there's a proliferation of small specialty ones offering everything from expensive clothing to sexual enhancers.

Solemn Advent services and pandemic reality, the Christmas spirit is again with us.

Giving thanks and giving help

Morgan Griffith Representative

On Thanksgiving and throughout the holiday season that follows, we count our blessings. As we do so, it is also important to remember those who may be less fortunate,

both in our neighborhoods and around the world.

At a recent meeting of a bipartisan, nondenominational prayer breakfast that convenes when the House of Representatives is in session, David Beasley gave the featured remarks. Formerly a governor of South Carolina, he now serves as executive director of the World Food Programme fighting hunger around the globe. This agency was awarded the Nobel Peace Prize on October 9 in recognition of its work to feed people in 88 countries.

The Nobel Prize has brought attention to the fight against hunger at a critical time. The coronavirus pandemic added a layer of difficulty to feeding the world atop the food insecurities that already existed.

Before the pandemic, in 2019, almost 135 million people suffered from acute hunger. The World Food Programme estimates that the number could reach 270 million by the end of this year.

Reports from the

World Food Programme have noted how economic shutdowns provoked by the pandemic worsen poverty and could cause more people to die than COVID-19 itself. World Bank projections indicate that up to 150 million additional people could be pushed into extreme poverty by 2021.

Shutdowns can put people out of work and interrupt the supply chains that bring people the nutrition they need. Shutting down schools also denies children access to school meals - a report in April noted that 370 million children were thus deprived at the time. Certain countries in Africa and the Middle East are most susceptible to these tragic outcomes.

The United States is fortunate not to face the dire extremes of poverty and hunger that too many in other countries confront every day. Ours is a land of plenty, even if we are not immune to hardships. This is a fact that the early European settlers of the eastern United States, including the Pilgrims of Plymouth Colony, would recognize.

Last year was the 400th anniversary of the Thanksgiving celebration at Berkeley Hundred in Virginia.

This year marks the 400th anniversary of the voyage of the Mayflower, but next year is

the 400th anniversary of the Thanksgiving of the Pilgrims. After arriving in present-day Massachusetts on November 9, 1620, they had to endure a grim winter of cold, starvation, and disease. Yet they also met members of the local Wampanoag tribe who taught them how to plant corn and where to find the best hunting and fishing spots.

The Thanksgiving celebrated by Plymouth Colony in 1621 came out of both the harshness of that first winter and the bounty and peace of the next year.

When Thanksgiving was first instituted as a regular national holiday in 1863, the country was locked in a bitter civil war. Abraham Lincoln issued the proclamation in gratitude for the country's blessings even as the war's toll mounted with no end in sight.

We would do well today to remember these examples. They took place amid widespread hardship and tragedy, yet they helped define the way we observe Thanksgiving.

Thanksgiving this year can best be celebrated by remembering our blessings and remembering those who may not seem so blessed. This may take the form of contributing to the alleviation of hunger abroad, as the World Food Programme does, or to the reduction of

hunger and want closer to home.

Around Virginia's Ninth District, I have been honored to meet and know many who make helping others the cause of their lives. From food banks to charitable health clinics, the people who work or volunteer at these sites and contribute to their missions are performing good works for our families, friends, and neighbors, and they continue their labors amid the pandemic. They are among the many blessings I am grateful for this Thanksgiving.

As a Member of Congress, I cannot solicit donations for specific groups in this official newsletter, but I trust that the charitable organizations and causes in your community are not hard to find.

I wish you and your family a safe, peaceful, and blessed Thanksgiving.

If you have questions, concerns, or comments, feel free to contact my office. You can call my Abingdon office at 276-525-1405 or my Christiansburg office at 540-381-5671. To reach my office via email, please visit my website at www.morgangriffith.house.gov. Also on my website is the latest material from my office, including information on votes recently taken on the floor of the House of Representatives.

SALEM TIMES-REGISTER

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LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Dear Salem leaders,

If the MVP is completed, the next phases of destruction is constant herbicide and soil pollution from a maintained corridor and eventual perpetual toxic pollution from leaking pipes where MVP crosses tributaries 120 times.

A completed MVP is not the end of consequences for Salem. It is regrettable that Salem City has not registered a significant voice in opposing this project and has no standing as a stakeholder with FERC or with DEQ - especially since Salem prides itself on providing reliable services.

Salem's long-term future is connected to the quality of our water source. A prime role for leaders is protection from unnecessary harm.

-Cynthia Munley

Moser

from page 1



Edgar Moser and his father-in-law Junior Poe have had a close relationship that spans over four decades.

He added, "I thought it was very nice that the day I won the award, a student came into my office and said she had been given the opportunity in another class to write an encouraging card to her teachers, letting them know she appreciated all that they do."

Moser has been happily married to his wife Ginny, an employee at George Washington Carver Elementary School, for 39 years.

Forest Service plans controlled burns in Botetourt, Craig and Montgomery Counties this fall

The USDA Forest Service will be conducting controlled burns starting on November 19 and continuing through the fall and winter and into late spring. Controlled burns keep people and homes safe by reducing the buildup of dried leaves and wood in nearby forest land that can lead to uncontrolled wildfires. Safety is our top priority, and Forest Service fire managers will conduct controlled burns in the following areas only under appropriate weather conditions:

Montgomery County:

The 1,141-acre Brush Mountain West burn unit is located 2.5 miles north of Blacksburg and 2.5 miles south of Newport. The project area will be burned in four smaller sub-units to help fire managers control the possible impact of smoke. Trails in and around Pandapas Pond may be closed. For your safety, please follow posted signs and trail closures when they occur. The controlled burn

is expected to have lingering smoke effects in the Poverty Creek Drainage. There may also be light smoke impacts to U.S. Route 460, Forest Road 10911 (Poverty Creek Road) and Forest Road 113. Depending on wind direction, residents and travelers in these areas may see or smell smoke.

The 50-acre Brush Mountain East burn unit is located adjacent to the Preston Forest neighborhood, 2.5 miles north of Blacksburg and 2.5 miles south of Newport. Smoke may impact areas in and around Preston Forest and along U.S. Route 460 depending on wind direction.

Botetourt County:

The 2,250-acre Patterson Mountain prescribed burn area is located on and around Patterson Mountain. The controlled burn will take place between Patterson Mountain and Patterson Creek Road. We expect smoke to be visible from multiple locations in Botetourt and Roanoke

Counties. Depending on wind direction, residents in Eagle Rock and Glen Wilton may smell smoke.

The 1,469-acre Caldwell Mountain prescribed burn area is located on the southeast-facing slope of Broad Run Mountain and lies on the Craig and Botetourt County line. Smoke may be visible to the residents of Daleville, Troutville, Fincastle, Roanoke, Catawba and New Castle. Smoke may also be visible to those traveling along U.S. Route 220 and Interstate 81. Depending on wind direction, residents in the Catawba Creek Valley located near the town of Fincastle may smell smoke.

Craig County:

The 628-acre Lick Mountain prescribed burn area is located east of New Castle at the end of County Road 690 (Maggie Maw Lane) on Lick Mountain. The smoke will be visible from New Castle and from the Lick Branch and Ferrier Trails that are adjacent to

the burn unit. Depending on wind direction, residents and travelers in the Craigs Creek Valley along County Road 615 (Craigs Creek Road) and in New Castle may be able to smell smoke.

Two sub-units within the Potts Mountain controlled burn area (Unit 4 at 327 acres and Unit 5 at 1,144 acres) may be burned this spring. This controlled burn would be located along State Route 311. Smoke will be visible from New Castle and Paint Bank. Depending on wind direction the day of the burn, residents of Potts Creek Valley, Johns Creek Valley and Barbours Creek areas may smell smoke. People traveling along State Route 311 in the vicinity of Potts Mountain should use caution as smoke may cause short-term low visibility.

The 728-acre North Mountain prescribed burn area is located on the north side of North Mountain. Smoke may be visible to the residents of

Fincastle, Daleville, Troutville and the Roanoke Valley. Depending on wind on the day of the burn, residents of Catawba Valley adjacent to Fincastle and residents of Craigs Creek Valley may smell smoke.

The Bald Mountain prescribed burn area includes two units (Unit 3 at 1,611 acres and Unit 4 at 2,383 acres) that may be burned this spring. This burn area is directly adjacent to the Fenwick Mines Recreation Area. Visitors to the Fenwick Mines Recreation Area may see and smell smoke on the day of the prescribed fire. Smoke from both units may be visible from New Castle, Barbours Creek and Oriskany. Depending on wind direction on the day of the burn, residents of Oriskany and the Craig Creek Valley along County Road 615 (Craigs Creek Road) may smell smoke.

-Submitted by Beth Christensen

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CALVARY BAPTIST CHURCH-7th and Florida Streets, Salem VA. Pastor: Roger D. Counts, 540-389-3818. Sunday School 10:00 a.m., Morning Worship 11:00 a.m., Sunday Evening Service 6:30 p.m., Wednesday Night Prayer Service, 6:30 p.m.

LAKESIDE BAPTIST CHURCH - 447 Dalewood Avenue, Salem, 986-0062, Pastor Carl Goodman. Coffee Bar 9:00 a.m., Sunday School 9:30 a.m., Sunday Worship 10:30 a.m., Children & Student Ministry 5:30-7:30 p.m.; Thursday 7:00 pm Young Single Adults, Wednesday Morning Prayer Service 10:00, Lifegroups meeting throughout the week. www.lbcva.com.

SOUTHSIDE BAPTIST CHURCH, 2721 120' Clock Knob Rd., Salem, Pastor: Tim York; Sundayschool, 9:45AM, Sunday morning worship, 11:00AM, Sunday evening, 6:00PM, Wednesday evening, 7:00PM.

TEMPLE BAPTIST CHURCH - 4339 Daugherty Road, Salem, Greg Irby, Pastor, Church: 380-3567; Home: 389-7240, Sunday School 10:00 AM, Worship Services 11:00AM & 6:00PM, Mid-week Prayer Meeting Wednesday 7:00PM, www.templebaptch.com.

BAPTIST (SOUTHERN)

BETHEL BAPTIST-1601 S. Colorado St., Salem, Pastor Hilton Jeffreys, 389-2376, Sunday: - 9:30 Sunday School; 10:30am Morning Worship; 6:00 Evening Worship; Wednesday 6:15 Preschool & Children Awana and Youth and Adult Bible Study. www.bethelbaptistva.com

MOUNTAIN PASS BAPTIST CHURCH - 311 Catawba Valley Dr., (Ro. Co.) Salem, VA 24153. Rev. Jack Richards, Jr., Pastor, Study 384-6720, Home 427-1508. Sundays: Sunday School 9:45 a.m.; Morning Worship 11:00 a.m., Evening 6:00 p.m. Wed: 7:00 p.m. Prayer Meeting and Bible Study.

RIDGEWOOD BAPTIST-703 Hemlock Road N.W. Roanoke, 342-6492. Roy E. Kanode, Pastor. Sunday School 9:45 a.m., Morning Worship 11 a.m., Awana 5:15 p.m., Adult Bible Study and Youth Fellowship 6:00 p.m.; Wednesday Prayer Service 6:30 p.m.; Fellowship Meal 5:45 p.m.; Praise Kidz 6:00 p.m.; Family Night Activities 6:30 p.m. website: www.ridgewood-baptist.com.

SALEM BAPTIST CHURCH- 103 North Broad Street, Salem, Pastor, Dr. Heath Rickmond, 387-0416. Sunday School 9:15-10:15 a.m.; Sunday Worship 10:30-11:45 a.m. & 5:00 p.m. Wednesday Services 6:15 p.m. www.salembc.net

FELLOWSHIP COMMUNITY CHURCH - Ken Nienke, Pastor, 387-3200. Salem Campus: 1226 Red Lane Extension, Salem, Worship Times: 8:00AM, 9:15AM & 11:00AM. North Campus: 7210 Williamson Road, Roanoke, Worship Times: 9:15AM & 11:00AM. Southwest Campus: 3585 Buck Mountain Road, Roanoke, Worship Times: 9:15AM & 11:00AM. www.fcclife.org.

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Read 1 Corinthians 10:1 through 13:13

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The apostle Paul wrote, "Love never fails" (1 Corinthians 13:8). He stated this to the Corinthians, who emphasized spiritual gifts, particularly the gift of tongues, to the point that they lost sight of the most important thing—love.

This is a continuation of the issues Paul was addressing in his let-

ter to the Corinthians. In this chapter, he showed them that the real issue was not whose spiritual gifts were greater in their church, but rather the real problem was their lack of love for one another.

Paul states that love is superior to spiritual gifts in and of themselves and will outlast them all.

These three remain: faith, hope and love. But the greatest of these is love (1 Corinthians 13:13).

Prayer Suggestion: Lord, give me Your love for others so that I may truly love.

Quicklook: 1 Corinthians 13:4-

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West Main Street. 540-389-2400. Minister Eric Evans; Family Life Minister Taylor Plott; 9:00-9:45am Sunday Bible Study; 10:00am & 5:30pm Worship Service; Wednesday Bible Study: 6:00 -7:00pm. For more info contact the Church Office.

WESTSIDE CHURCH OF CHRIST - 1705 Starview Drive, Salem. Minister Neil Richey, 389-9139, Sunday Bible Study: 9:30 AM, Morning Worship: 10:30 AM, Evening Worship: 6:00 PM, Wednesday Bible Study, 7:00 PM.

CHURCH OF GOD/ANDERSON

COVENANT COMMUNITY CHURCH- 955 Bird Lane, Salem, Va 24153, 389-5639. Pastor: Scott Hudson. Sunday School 10:00AM, Worship 11:00AM; Bible Study 6:00PM.

CHURCH OF GOD/CLEVELAND

SALEM CHURCH OF GOD - 600 Craig Avenue, Todd Stiffler, Pastor, 387-2068, Sunday School 9:30am: Worship and Kids Church 10:30 am, Wednesday Bible Study and Classes at 7:00 pm. www.salemcog.church

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First Christian Church, 712 Front Ave. Salem, Pastor Dan Netting (540) 389-6831. www.firstchristiansalemva.com. Adult and Children Sunday School - 9:45 am, Worship - 10:45 am. Nursery Provided for both. Everyone welcome

FORT LEWIS CHRISTIAN CHURCH - 2931 West Main Street, Salem, Pastor, Rev. Ben Moore, 380-4636. Website: www.flccsalem.org. Adult and Children Sunday School, 9:30 AM, Worship 10:30 AM, Disciple Players Drama Ministry, Wednesday 6:00 PM, followed by Adult Choir Practice at 7:00 PM.

ECKANKAR

Eckankar, the Path of Spiritual Freedom, is located at 1420 3rd St. SW, Roanoke, VA 24016. Eckankar is a spiritual path that offers a Light & Sound Service on the 2nd Sunday of each month at 11:00 a.m. However, due to COVID-19, the Monthly Service and other ECK programs are now available online through Zoom. Visit www.eck-va.org for program listings or call 540-353-5365 and leave a message. We will return your call.

EPISCOPAL

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COLLEGE EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH- 210 S. College Avenue, Salem VA 24153. Worship Services with Holy Communion 10:00 a.m, Sunday School for all ages at 9:00 a.m. www.collegelutheran.org

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the BRIDGE SALEM CHURCH - 4335 West Main Street, Salem. 540-404-1414 | bridge.salem@icloud.com • www.salemva.church Saturday service, 6pm (Nursery & Kids Church available). Mail: PO Box 1954, Salem. Twitter/Instagram: @thebridgesalem Joey Lyons, Senior Pastor | joey@salemva.church | 540-831-9864

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NATIONAL BAPTIST CONVENTION, U.S.A., INC.

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH-226 South Broad Street, Salem. Rev. Melton Johnson, 389-9648. Sunday School 9:30 AM, Sunday Morning Worship Service 11:00 AM, Wednesday Bible Study and Prayer Meeting 7:00 PM.

SHILOH BAPTIST- 201 South Market Street, Salem, Rev. Adrian E. Dowell, H) (389-0409). (Sundays) 9:45 a.m. Sunday School, 11:00 a.m. Worship Service, (Wednesday) Prayer Meeting & Bible Study for Youths & Adults, 7:30 p.m. (Saturday) 8:00a.m. - Intercessory Prayer Service, Women's Bible Study Fellowship 9:30am Fridays, Men's Bible Study 7am Saturdays.

PENTECOSTAL HOLINESS

CHRISTIAN LIFE INT'L - 1 CLI Way, Salem, Ryan Linkous, Pastor, 343-3801, Sunday Worship Service 10:15 AM, (Children's Church and Nursery) Wed, MidWeek Service (Adult, Awaken Youth, M'pact Girls & Royal Rangers) 7 PM. Nursery Provided. Email: office@cli-church.org. Find us on facebook.

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH (USA)

SALEM PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH- 41 East Main Street, Salem, VA . 389-3881. Associate Pastor Rev. Janet Chisom, Interim Pastor: Rev. Tupper Garden. Sunday School 9:30 a.m., Sunday Worship 11:00 a.m. Nursery and Children's Time each Sunday. Worship. Grow. Serve. salempres.org and on Facebook.

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NEW LIFE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH -101 Keesling Avenue, Salem, VA, 387-1311, Rev. Cameron Smith, Sunday 9:15 Prayer/Communion, Sunday School 9:45 am., Sunday Worship 11:00am, 2nd & 4th Sunday children & youth ministry, Wednesday Choir Practice 7:00pm, 1st Wed of month Richfield Ministry. Nursery and children's church available each week. Email: newlife.epc.salem@gmail.com, Web: www.newlifesalemEPC.org. Facebook: facebook.com/newlife.epc.salem

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UNITED METHODIST

FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH - 125 W. Main St, Salem, VA. 540-389-5459. Pastor Alan Combs, Traditional Worship - 8:45am, Sunday School - 9:45am, Genesis Contemporary Worship 10am; Traditional Worship - 11:00am. www.fumcsalemva.org.

LOCUST GROVE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH- 3415 Locust Grove Lane, Salem, 380-4303, Pastor Logan Hollenbeck. Drive-In service each Sunday Traditional Worship 9:30 a.m.

Events from page 1



PHOTOS BY SHAWN NOWLIN

The 2020 Gingerbread Festival will be held at Longwood Park on December 5 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.



People from all over the state annually attend the Salem Holiday Market. This year, the event will happen at the Civic Center on December 12.



A family of five enjoying the Salem Christmas Parade last year.

booths are still available. Santa and Mrs. Claus will be present at the Salem Civic Center to spread some safe holiday cheer on Dec. 5 and 6 from 1 p.m. to 5 p.m. Both figures will be taking socially distant photos with families and their children for just \$10. The itinerary is expected to

go as follows. Families will drive their vehicles into the Salem Civic Center Annex, one at a time, exit their cars and have photos taken in a socially distant manner on a festive holiday set with Santa and Mrs. Claus. All current COVID-19 protocols will be followed, and children will not be able to sit

on Santa's lap. Instead, children will be seated on a bench in front of the Christmas Royalty. The bench will be sanitized between each family group photo. Masks are required until the photos are taken, at which time, the children will be able to take theirs off. On December 12, Salem na-

tive Cody Salters expects to be at the 2020 Salem Holiday Market with his family. Why? As he put it, "because you never know what unique crafters, artisans and vendors will be present. My wife and I always give each of our four children \$50 to purchase items for the less fortunate." The Annual Christmas Tree

Lighting at the Salem Farmers Market will take place virtually this year. The switch will be flipped on December 4 and people can watch it happen on Facebook that evening.

Additional information on each of the aforementioned events and much more can be found at salemva.gov/calendar.



A lot of creativity is put into the gingerbread houses each year.

Capehart from page 1

ing a definitive answer to those questions will guide people in making the right decision."

She added, "I would also advise looking into what you can create while on campus. One of the things I loved about Roanoke College was that if something didn't exist, a student created it or worked with people on campus to get it started."

Capehart wants to be an inspiration and example for the next generation. One of her life goals is to own a fitness center in a low-income community to bring access to exercise and healthier lifestyles.



SUBMITTED PHOTOS

Kayla Capehart on her first day as a college junior. At the time she thought she wanted to be a physical therapist. She quickly discovered that she wanted to enter the public health and exercise field instead.



Kayla and a friend partaking in a photo shoot on the campus of Roanoke College.

OBITUARY

Yates, Ruth Norris

Ruth Norris Yates, 92, resident of Salem for 73 years, went home to be with our Lord on Thursday, November 12. She was born on December 26, 1927; and was the much-loved daughter of Lewis Frank Norris and Betty Norris.

Ruth was a devoted wife and loving mother who put God and family first in her life. As a devout Christian and long-time member of Salem Baptist Church and West Salem Baptist Church, she was active in Women's Missionary Union, Home Missions Board, Sanctuary Choirs, Sunday School and church dinners. Ruth was a favorite Driver's Education Teacher for Andrew Lewis High School and Salem High School. She gave back to her community by serving as a volunteer at Lewis Gale Hospital for 12 years.

Ruth was preceded in death by her adoring husband of 64 years, Clyde H. Yates, Principal in Roanoke County School system. She is survived by her daughter Brenda and son-in-law Tom Fer-



guson of New City, New York; son Larry and daughter-in-law Christie Yates of Stephenson, Virginia; beloved grandchildren The Rev. Guy and Joy Ferguson of Auburn Hills, MI; Robert and Holly Ferguson of Atlanta, GA.; Zachary and Malia Yates, and great granddaughter Zoe Evelyn of Sterling, Virginia; Colby and Kristin Yates, and great grandchildren Easton, Ben, and Berkeley of Winchester, VA.; Amanda Yates of Cross Junction, VA.; Peggy Phillips, dear sister, of Vinton, VA. Ruth was also preceded in death by six brothers and sisters, Orville, Fred, Paul, Lucille, Frank Norris, Jr and Nadine.

Ruth enjoyed homemaking, cooking large dinners for her family, sending cards as a ministry, supporting a large network of friends and church work. Her family and friends cherished her.

A private family funeral will be held at Sherwood Memorial Park led by Dr. Heath Rickman of Salem Baptist Church.

Send community news and photos to shawn.nowlin@ourvalley.org

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STATEWIDE ADS

grant programs are available online. To learn more about transit, rail, and transportation demand management funding in Virginia, visit www.drpt.virginia.gov. Applications can be submitted online at <https://olga.drpt.virginia.gov/>. DRPT is committed to ensuring that no person is excluded from participation in, or denied the benefits of its services on the basis of race, color, or national origin, as protected by Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964. DRPT will also provide reasonable accommodations and interpretive services for persons who require special assistance to participate in the grant application process as required by the ADA. For accommodations, additional information on how to file a complaint, please contact our Title VI Compliance Officer, (804) 786-4440, or 600 E. Main Street, Suite 2102, Richmond, VA 23219, or visit our website at www.drpt.virginia.gov.

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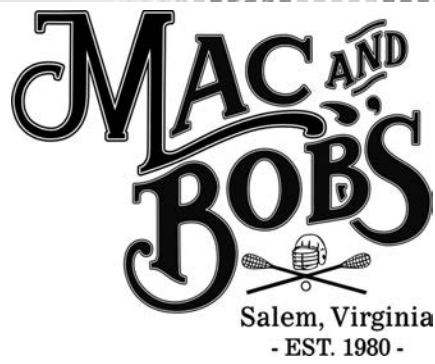
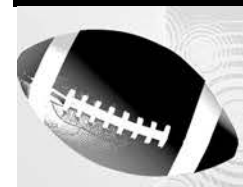
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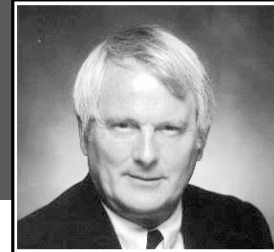
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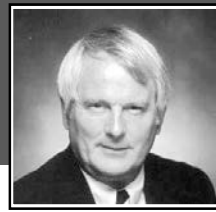


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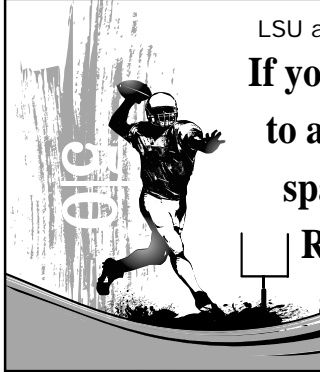
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-All entries must be on an official Salem Times-Register entry blank. No duplicates please. No limit on the number of entries as long as the current blank is used.

-Each advertisement on this page includes one football game to be played this week. Find the game in the ad and print your predicted winner on the line corresponding to the advertiser in the list included on this page.

-First prize will be awarded to the person who picks the most games correctly.

-Be sure to include your name, address, and high point total for the week. High point total is decided by the most points scored by ANY ONE TEAM in the games listed for the week. High point total is used to break ties only, and all decisions will be final.

-Clip and mail THE ENTRY PART ONLY to Salem Times-Register, Football Contest, P.O. Box 1125, Salem, VA 24153. Entry must be postmarked by 5 p.m. on the Friday immediately following the date of the paper, or bring your entry by the Salem Times-Register office at 1633 West Main Street in Salem. Your entry must be in the box by 5 p.m. Friday.

-All entries not conforming to the rules may be declared null and void. Decisions are final. For questions call Brian Hoffman @ 389-9355. Winners will be announced in the contest story the following week.

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I think _____ will be the most points scored

The Quick Change (see story)



continued from page 12

role athletics plays in that is an important one," said Dr. David Bushman, President of Bridgewater College and currently serving as chair of the ODAC Presidents Council. "As we have all learned over the past nine months, prudent planning and the capacity to respond quickly to changing circumstances go hand in hand. We believe putting detailed plans in place now for a return to competition beginning in January is the best way to honor the commitment we make to all of our students."

The Presidents' Council has committed that the conference will follow all established NCAA testing recommendations. A Standard Operating Procedures for Competition has been completed and the document was developed by the ODAC Board of Directors and a number of member working groups including athletic training and sports medicine personnel.

The ODAC considered several different scheduling models as part of its return to competition plan. The resulting framework provides regular season and conference championship structures for fall and winter sports in addition to the unaltered previously established spring sport schedules and championships. Basketball, indoor track & field, and swimming will maintain their opportunities to qualify for NCAA championship participation. Second semester competition is scheduled to begin on January 23 with men's and women's basketball. All other sports will begin later as the semester progresses.

"The conference has worked dili-

gently to create a plan for all our student-athletes to continue their collegiate athletic experience in the spring," said ODAC Commissioner Brad Bankston. "I am pleased with the progress we have made and the plans we have created. While no one can control the pandemic, we can continue to follow local guidance, implement well-documented best practices regarding health and safety, and prepare for competition following the recommendations presented by the NCAA. I thank all the student-athletes, parents, coaches and fans who have been patient with us during this difficult time. We're all living in an environment where we must continue to closely monitor recommendations from health professionals and pivot when and where needed."

Conference leadership will meet on a regular basis between now and the end of 2020 and continue with its planning for competition in 2021. Leadership will track the progress of COVID-19 and subsequent health and safety recommendations provided by local, state and national public health authorities.

"Roanoke College is extremely pleased with the decision of the ODAC to move forward with competition opportunities for our student-athletes," said Roanoke College Director of Athletics Scott Allison. "We put protocols in place this fall to ensure that our student-athletes would be able to train, work out, and practice in anticipation of having the opportunity to compete in the spring. The hard work of the ODAC leadership, President's Council, and Board of Directors has paved the way with a well thought out plan for a return to competition."



CONTEST

Due to early Thanksgiving Day deadlines we won't be able to announce the winner for this week's football contest. The Rams-Buccaneers game was yet to be played at the deadline.

Next week we'll have two winners to announce. However, we will announce this week's "Quick Change" winner.

The question was what do you have to be thankful for and we had lots of good answers, many citing family and health. However, the one that made me laugh was from Cannon Cowling, who said "I am most thankful for God and that we can play baseball outside." I'm glad for that too, Cannon, and you get the free Oil Change from Valvoline of Salem.

For this week's "Quick Change" contest give me your prediction on which NFL quarterback will throw for the most yards this weekend, and how many. The winner gets an oil change.

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SHS lax goalie Bowen commits to play at ODU

Salem High School junior Brynn Bowen has verbally committed to play lacrosse at Old Dominion University following her high school career.

Bowen is a goalie for the Spartans. She was a standout as a freshman before missing her sophomore year due to the coronavirus pandemic. During the 2019 season she made 115 saves for a save percentage of 52 percent, which went up to 59 percent against teams in Salem's region. Brynn averaged 6.89 goals against per game but only 4.25 goals against per game against Region 4D teams.

After playing Valley Select travel lacrosse Bowen transferred to the Yellow Jackets South team out of Richmond. Brynn played in a travel tournament in Delaware over the weekend and has been able to play in three other travel tournaments after missing her high school season.

"That was utterly disappointing," she said. "I was looking forward so much to playing with some of the girls who were seniors, and continuing to improve from my freshman year."

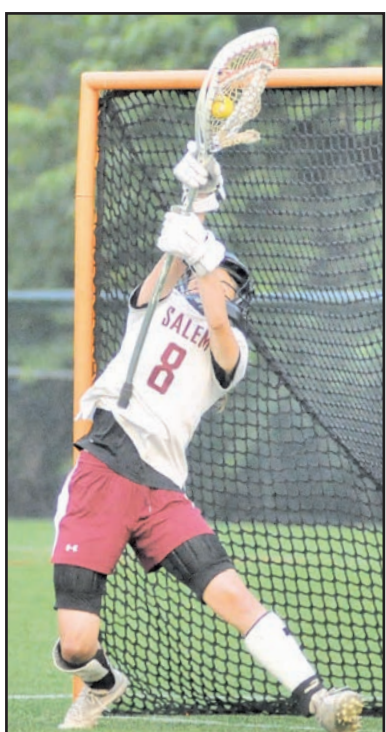
The Monarchs are coached by Heather Holt and play in the Atlantic Sun Conference. They won the championship in 2016 but played just nine games last spring before the coronavirus ended their season at 3-6.

"I went there to look around and talked to a couple of the girls," said Bowen. "It was a real family atmosphere and I felt right at home."



Salem High's Brynn Bowen (above) takes her stance in the cage, and right makes a nice save in a game her freshman year. Brynn has committed to play lacrosse at Old Dominion University.

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SPORTS

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There once was a big game in Roanoke on Thanksgiving Day

Brian Hoffman



Valley.

The stadium was in decline as we entered the 21st century and it became a hot potato for local politicians. Instead of fixing it up it was torn down in the summer of 2006 and new, more modest, football stadiums were built on the campuses of city schools William Fleming and Patrick Henry.

Victory Stadium is gone, but not forgotten for the many who played and watched high school games there. Among the most beloved memories are the annual Thanksgiving Day football games between VMI and Virginia Tech.

Salem's J. Burks Logan, a long-time dentist in the area who is now retired, attended many of those games. He was my dentist for many years and he's a big football fan. He used to stuff my mouth with cotton and then start asking me one football question after another.

Burks played for Andrew Lewis High School in the '50s under the late Hal Johnston. He also coached sandlot football and he and his buddies are at a high school game every Friday night in normal times. And, they never missed a Tech-VMI game at Victory Stadium.

"Everybody went," said Logan. "The place was pretty much full every year. I remember you had to park on the other side of the river and cross that bridge and there was a long line of people waiting. Everyone really enjoyed it."

For a long time it was actually a good rivalry. From the first year the game was played in Victory Stadium, in 1942, until the last year in 1971 Tech held a slim margin of 16-11-1.

"It was very competitive," said Logan. "VMI was darned good back then. I remember one year they had Jonas "Butch" Spiegel and he was also a track star in the 100 yard dash. I think he had the world record at one time. He went to VMI and they'd pitch the ball to him and he'd outrun everyone to the sideline and then turn it up and gain eight to 10 yards every time. We ended up going to dental school together at MCV (Medical College of Virginia)."

There were no reserved seats for the Tech-VMI games so fans came early to claim their spot. There was usually a military parade through Roanoke in the morning and it was a big deal.

Unfortunately, all good things must come to an end. Tech won eight of the last nine games in Roanoke and the last four by scores of 55-6, 52-0, 20-14 and 34-0. At that point it was becoming obvious the two schools were going in different directions on the national football scene. They've played 12 times since, seven times in Blacksburg, twice in the Tobacco Bowl in Richmond and three times in the Oyster Bowl in Norfolk. None of the games after leaving Roanoke was on Thanksgiving.

Tech is 9-3 in those last dozen games and the last time the Keydets beat the Hokies was in 1976 at Lane Stadium in one of the coldest days you could ever have for a football game. VMI won 6-0, and I've often said Tech fans who attended that game should never have their seats moved because they didn't give enough money to the program. I'm sure some of them gave fingers and toes on that bitter day.



The band plays on in a rare color photo from the Tech-VMI rivalry at Victory Stadium.

VIRGINIAROOM/ROANOKE PUBLIC LIBRARIES

"VMI won that game because of their discipline," said Logan, who remembers it well. "That cold didn't bother them as much after what they went through at school."

Logan misses the Thanksgiving Day "Military Classic of the South," and Victory Stadium. There were tears shed by many when the old stadium was razed.

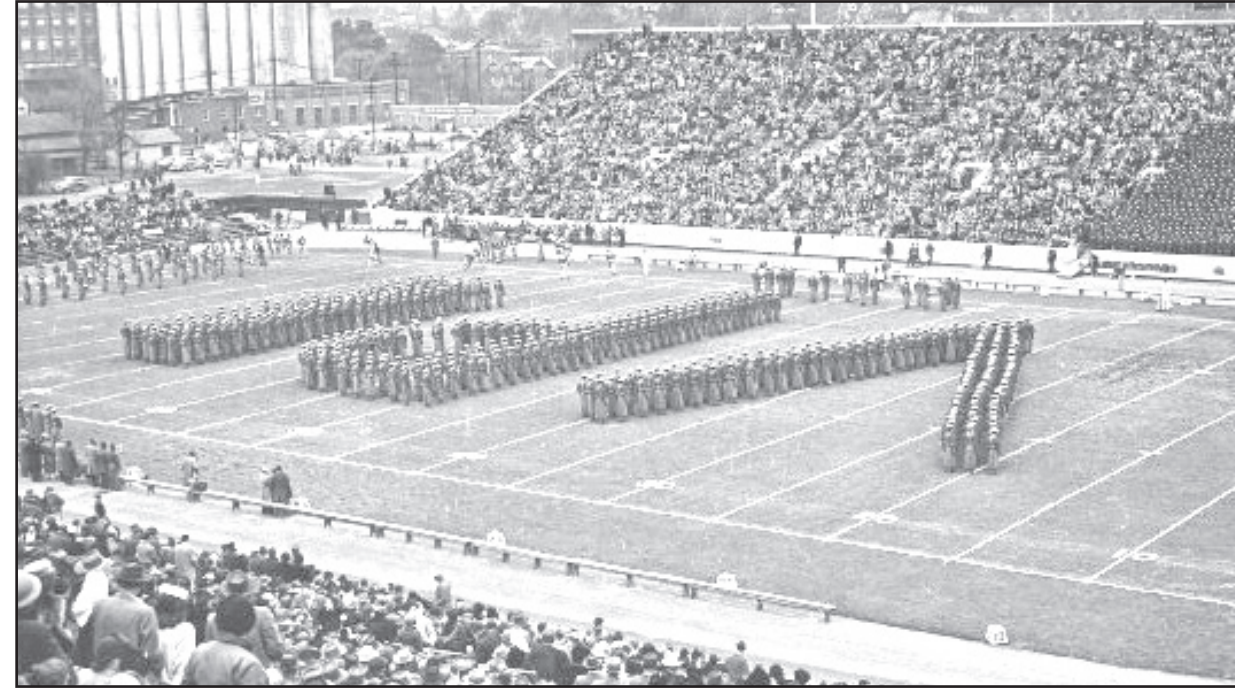
"I miss it," he said. "With a little work it could have still been functional, and they could have brought some good games in here."

Tech and Virginia have not played since 1984 but the Hokies have the Keydets on the schedule in September of 2026 for a one-year contract to be played at Lane Stadium in Blacksburg. Despite a break of 42 years it is still the second-longest series for Tech and the fourth-longest for VMI. Virginia and Virginia Tech is now the big rivalry in the state and, on most years, it's played the day after Thanksgiving. This year, as you know, is the exception for just about everything.

I still think of the old stadium when I drive down Reserve Avenue, across the river from River's Edge Park. I covered many high school games there, including some state championship games, as well as the early Sandlot Super Bowls and I even attended a few concerts there. When I drive down 581 south and look left I can still see the brick stadium in my mind, and it brings back memories of games past.

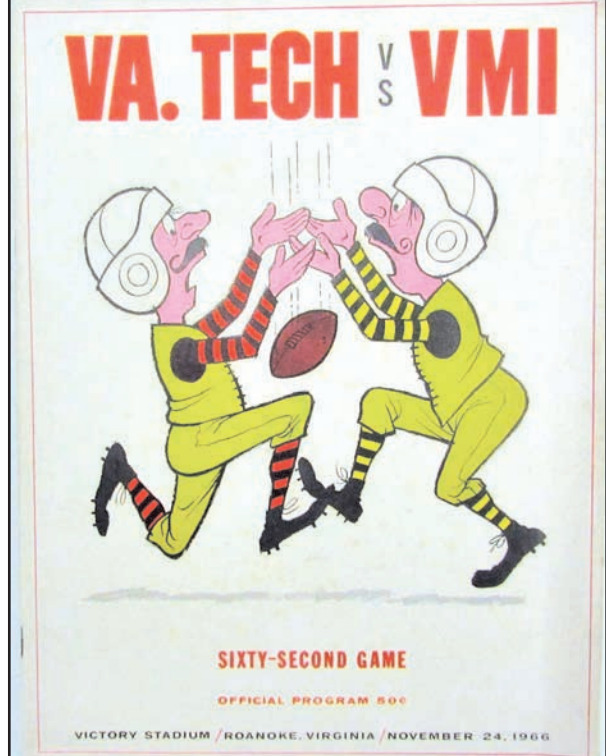
I came to the valley a couple years too late to attend the Tech-VMI Thanksgiving Day games, and there have been 49 Thanksgiving Days since the last one. I imagine it was a lot of fun and a really great tradition in its day.

Enjoy your Thanksgiving and be thankful for what you have. Personally, I'm thankful 2020 is almost over.



Above, Victory Stadium is packed for a Thanksgiving Day game between VMI and Virginia Tech. Right, a program from the 1966 game.

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ODAC has plan for return of sports

The Old Dominion Athletic Conference Presidents' Council, in consultation with the ODAC Board of Directors, has endorsed a plan for a return to collegiate competition during the 2021 spring semester.

"Every institution in the ODAC has been focused on ensuring the best possible student experience throughout the pandemic and the

continued on page 11