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SALEM TIMES-REGISTER

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OurValley.org

Restaurant Week to spotlight the local food scene

Shawn Nowlin

shawn.nowlin@ourvalley.org

Roanoke County Restaurant Week will return next Monday, and several local eateries are expected to participate. Created to drive customers to local food establishments in Virginia's Blue Ridge during the slow season, event organizers are hopeful for a good 2021 turnout.

"The winter months tend to be more difficult for restaurants compared to the rest of the year, and the COVID-19 pandemic has contributed to the challenge restaurants are currently facing," Roanoke County Director of Economic Development Jill Loope said. "Our office has partnered with the Roanoke Regional Chamber of Commerce, Vinton Area Chamber of Commerce, Salem-Roanoke County Chamber of Commerce and Visit Virginia's Blue Ridge to extend the reach



PHOTO BY SHAWN NOWLIN

Macado's Restaurant at 211 E Main Street will be offering discounted lunch and dinner prices from Feb. 15 through Feb. 28.

and effectiveness of this event."

Restaurant Week participants usually set their own prices. From Feb. 15 through Feb. 28, Macado's at 211 E Main Street will be offering specials in three tiers: \$10 and under, \$20 and under and \$30 and under. Other restaurants that are participating next week as of press time Wednesday morning include Farmburguesa, Nishi Food and La Case Del Burrito in Vinton; and Inka Grill as well as Hollywood's Restaurant & Bakery in Roanoke County.

"We want to recognize and thank the organizations and individuals it takes to plan and launch initiatives like Restaurant Week. This will help restaurants continue to build exposure and relationships with the community and generate economic growth. With COVID-19 im-

See Restaurant Week, page 5

David Goodman, Salem's Good Man, is the 2020 Officer of the Year

In this age of unusual unrest and uncertainty, Salem's 2020 Police Officer of the Year offers a welcome antidote.

"I was taught to be kind, respectful of adults and to treat people the way that I want to be treated, and those are values that I have held onto and practiced my entire life," says David Goodman, Salem Senior Police Officer. "As a law enforcement officer, people do not always treat you the best or say the nicest things to you, but you can never stoop down to that level."

Goodman has been killing folks with kindness his entire life. In his current position as the Resource Officer for Andrew Lewis Middle School, his actions and mere presence have made immeasurable impacts on the staff and the student body.

"Officer Goodman plays such a critical role in our school climate," says Jamie Garst, Andrew Lewis Middle School Principal. "He goes out of his way to build positive relationships with students and staff and he has become an integral member of our Andrew Lewis Family."

"A lot happens in a teenager's life in middle school, as they go through all types of emotional and physical changes," says Goodman. "Just congratulating and recognizing kids on the small things like a new haircut or a new pair

of glasses can really go a long way. I do my best to try and acknowledge the little things, because the little things can turn into big things later in life."

Goodman's fellow officers named him the recipient of this prestigious honor for the many ways he has professionally and creatively handled himself during the current pandemic. He not only navigated the end of one tumultuous school year, but also the unprec-

edented start of another.

"At Andrew Lewis, we are fortunate because we could have no better role model," says Matt Coe, Andrew Lewis Assistant Principal. "In a building full of educators, it is Officer Goodman who teaches the important subjects of kindness, character, and life."

When COVID-19 restrictions

See Goodman, page 7



Officer David Goodman

SUBMITTED PHOTO

Assistant Principal named at Salem High School

— Versatile Sara Epperly will return to Administration and continue to serve English learners —



Sara Epperly

SUBMITTED PHOTO

Salem School Division Superintendent, Dr. Alan Seibert, is pleased to announce that Sara Epperly has been named an assistant principal at Salem High School, effective July 1. She received formal approval from the School Board this week at its February 9 meeting. Epperly has extensive administrative experience in Salem having previously served the division as an assistant principal at both Andrew Lewis Middle and G.W. Carver Elementary schools.

"My parents moved to Salem when I began high school, because the school provided special opportunities and the school division inspired their trust," says Epperly. "I hope to help ensure a similar experience for today's students, as we work to provide a rigorous, vibrant and safe learning environment."

Epperly, who was Sara Page when she gradu-

ated from Salem High School in 2001, has three degrees from the University of Virginia — a bachelor's degree in Politics and East Asian Studies, a master's degree in Teaching and an education specialist degree in Administration and Supervision. In 2020, she earned her doctorate from Old Dominion University in Educational Leadership.

"Sara brings a wealth of talent, experience, and knowledge to this position, but more important than what she brings is who she is," says Scott Habeeb, Salem High School Principal. "She sees education as a mission and knows how important it is to impact students beyond the content they are learning. Her desire to love, engage and inspire young people aligns perfectly with our division's purpose."

See Epperly, page 5

Puppy Bowl title won by Salem dog

Shawn Nowlin

shawn.nowlin@ourvalley.org

This year's Puppy Bowl, an annual Animal Planet program that mirrors the Super Bowl using puppies in a canine-sized football

stadium, was aired on February 7. The 2021 contest between Team Ruff and Team Fluff featured 70 puppies from 22 different shelters across the country and concluded in dramatic fashion. When it was all said and done, Team Ruff pre-

vailed in Puppy Bowl XVII with a 73-69 victory.

Not only did Marshall, a Boston terrier who lives in Salem, participate in the event, he also took home game MVP honors after scoring two touchdowns for his team.

"SportsCenter" host Sage Steele and ESPN play-by-play announcer Steve Levy provided human commentary, while hip hop musician Snoop Dogg and businesswoman Martha Stewart were the event's hosts. Actor Dan Schachner served as the contest's "rufferee." The event also featured a half-time show and a national anthem performance.

Said Steele in the opening minutes, "textbook leverage by Muffin against Marshall as she gets low and digs in. What a spin move, but Marshall is just as tenacious. The first touchdown of the game is scored by Muffin."

Added Levy, "it's a battle of terriers in the trenches. Marshall is pulling wicked high. Muffin gets control, but Marshall does not give up. We have a legit grudge match here. A statement is being made early."

An estimated one million people nationwide watched the contest live. Marshall's parents, Chris and Christina Lee, are founders of the nonprofit Deaf Dogs Rock in Salem.



SUBMITTED PHOTO

On Feb. 7, Salem puppy Marshall, a Boston terrier, won the 2021 Puppy Bowl, a yearly event aired on national television that mirrors the Super Bowl.



Riley presents free “St. Quarantine’s Day” stay-at-home concert on Valentine’s Day



Riley is a duo consisting of Erinn Dearth and Dan Beckman.

SUBMITTED PHOTOS



Erinn Dearth performing a scene.



The Feb. 14 concert hosted on both Facebook and YouTube will be free.



The multitasking Dan Beckmann embracing a character.

Looking for something to do with your Valentine’s Day sweetheart during a time without restaurants, movie theatres or live entertainment? Erinn Dearth and Dan Beckmann might just have the perfect evening for you. The duo, who together make up the creative entity “Riley,” will be hosting a free concert on Facebook and YouTube

on February 14. Titled “St. Quarantine’s Day,” the musical performance will feature classic love songs from artists of all genres, ranging from Cole Porter to Queen while embracing the “stay-at-home” zeitgeist we have all been experiencing since the arrival of the pandemic -- hoping to create something special and unique from inside their home

in Boonville, NC. “Instead of renting out a theatre to record the concert, we decided to really celebrate the circumstances of quarantine”, said Erinn Dearth. “Singing in the bedroom can be just as fun as a big stage with the right vision.” The technical elements of the show have been overseen by Beckmann. “We’ve seen a

huge surge in the amount of ‘live stream’ entertainment available this year, but we really wanted to set ourselves apart from the crowd by ramping up the technical elements and really putting on a fully-realized production,” he said. Since the day the pandemic began, Beckmann and Dearth have been co-producing films, radio shows, educational ex-

periences and more from their home office. Each week, you can catch them on RileyLive, their off-the-cuff variety talk show featuring games, interviews, songs, and, some would argue, comedy. The show streams live every Tuesday night at 7 p.m. eastern on Facebook and YouTube.

-Submitted by Erinn Dearth

Flood survivors are encouraged to share their stories ahead of Virginia Flood Awareness Week

Flooding is the most common and costly natural hazard and when flooding occurs, minority communities often have the longest road to recovery. The Virginia Department of Conservation and Recreation is asking flood survivors to share their stories to help raise awareness around the dangers of flooding. “If you or someone you know has been impacted by flooding and struggled to recover, we want to hear from you,” said DCR Director of Dam Safety and Floodplain Management Wendy Howard-Cooper. “Your story could save a life.” These stories will be high-

lighted during a March 18 virtual discussion titled, “The Impacts of Place, Space, Climate Change and Race,” that will explore this issue with a panel of renowned advocates and experts. To share a flood story, go to www.dcr.virginia.gov/FloodStory and fill out the Google form. Stories can also be emailed to dam@dcr.virginia.gov or phoned in to 804-786-2292. DCR manages the Virginia Floodplain Management Program. The agency helps communities strengthen floodplain protections and comply with requirements of the National Flood Insurance Program.

DCR is the coordinating agency for Virginia Flood Awareness Week, March 14-

20, 2021. For more information, go to www.dcr.virginia.gov/floodawarenessweek.

-Submitted by Julie Buchanan, Senior Public Relations and Marketing Specialist



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Roanoke County launches economic development strategic planning effort

Roanoke County has launched a yearlong effort to develop a strategic plan that will help guide the direction and focus of the County’s economic development program over the next five years. Branded the ELEVATE Roanoke County 2026 Plan, the County will be assisted by the Virginia Tech Office of Economic Development which has worked with more than 200 clients at the national, state and local level on such plans and other economic development projects. The effort is funded by a grant from Appalachian Power and leveraged resources from the Virginia Tech Office of Economic Development. “Developing a strategic plan is essential to the work of economic development,” said Jill Loope, Roanoke County Director of Economic Development. “Changing demographics, consumer preferences and the ability of many employees to work remotely presents challenges and opportunities for economic development. This strategic planning effort will guide the County and enable us to direct our actions and investments to yield future results.” “Communities such as Roanoke County work really hard to improve

their economies and the wellbeing of all their citizens. But with limited resources and small staffs, it is difficult for them to both do that hard work day in and day out and at the same time gather the information and perspective needed to plan for the future,” said Scott Tate, Associate Director of Virginia Tech’s Office of Economic Development. “Our office will help gather the data, survey business owners and community leaders, research best practices, and together with the County, craft a plan that will help guide the County’s economic development efforts.” The planning process will be ongoing throughout 2021 and will include data gathering and analysis; community engagement; assessment of strengths, weaknesses, opportunities and threats; community presentations and opportunities for the public to provide input. The final report and public presentation of the strategic plan will be released in late fall. Helping steer the effort is a group of representatives from Roanoke County, businesses, and other economic development stakeholders in the region.

-Submitted by Jill Loope

SOUPer Bowl of Caring a success



SUBMITTED PHOTOS

Donors bringing canned goods to Salem Presbyterian Church parking lot. Donor Anna Kennedy, volunteer Jayden Guthrie



Donors bringing canned goods and money donations to Salem Presbyterian Church parking lot. They voted with cans or money for their favorite Super Bowl team.. Donor Roberta Hipp, volunteer Nicholas Cothran



Donors bringing canned goods and money donations to Salem Presbyterian Church parking lot. They voted with cans or money for their favorite Super Bowl team.. Donor George Lester, volunteer Janet Chisom



Volunteers outside Lakeside Kroger collecting soup for the Food Pantry on SOUPer Bowl Sunday.

Despite the thought that the SOUPer Bowl game might get postponed, volunteers from three churches braved the wind and cold to accept donations for the Food Pantry on Super Bowl Sunday.

It was discovered that Salem residents can "predict" the winner of the Super Bowl. On February 7, volunteers were at College Lutheran Church, Riverside Church, Salem Presbyterian Church, Lakeside Kroger,

Ridgewood Farms Kroger and Wildwood Food Lion to accept donations of soup and other non-perishable food items for the Food Pantry.

Donors were encouraged to donate in support of either the

Tampa Bay Buccaneers or the Kansas City Chiefs. "We had a high scoring game with 787 cans collected for the Buccaneers, and 635 cans collected for the Chiefs. We also accepted \$448 in donations! We are grateful

for the grocery stores who partnered with us, as well as the generous people of Salem," Salem Presbyterian Church Janet Chisom said.

-Submitted by Janet Chisom

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.

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.

Be sure to 'Like' the Salem-Times Register on Facebook.

Biden taps Vilsack as USDA secretary, and Virginia's Bronaugh as deputy secretary

As the new administration settles in, President Biden is delegating his leadership picks for the U.S. agricultural, environmental and trade sectors.

Biden nominated former Iowa Gov. Tom Vilsack to serve as secretary of agriculture. Vilsack previously led the U.S. Department of Agriculture during the Obama administration. Biden also nominated Dr. Jewel Bronaugh, who heads up the Virginia Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services, to serve as deputy secretary of agriculture. Bronaugh is a lifelong Virginian, born in Petersburg and educated at James Madison University and Virginia Tech.

Virginia Farm Bureau Federation President Wayne F. Pryor said Virginia has been fortunate in benefitting from Bronaugh's leadership as VDACS commissioner, state Farm Service Agency executive director, and her roles at Virginia State University.

"She has done much to promote agriculture and address the many issues facing farm families and rural Virginia, and we support her swift confirmation," Pryor said.



Iowa Gov. Tom Vilsack

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Bronaugh said she did not actively seek the USDA appointment. "However, I am absolutely honored with this opportunity to serve our nation's farmers and agribusinesses," she said. "I am looking forward to promoting U.S. agricultural products, improving economic opportunities, helping to end hunger, ensuring fairness and equity in the agricultural industry, and preserving our nation's natural resources."

American Farm Bureau Federation President Zippy Duvall said Bronaugh's nomination shows that Biden is carefully considering the challenges

facing U.S. farmers. Her track record of experience "has established her as someone who understands the needs of America's farmers. We also appreciate the work she has done to address mental health issues in rural communities."

Rural mental health is a priority Bronaugh plans to continue at the federal level.

"Farmers have a strong sense of pride, and often they do not like to talk about their problems," she said. "I would like to help raise awareness of farmer stress and mental health on a national level and develop a network of resources, with a focus

on rural areas." Duvall said the Vilsack and Bronaugh nominations are welcome news.

"Together, we must prepare to tackle a new farm bill and build on efforts to create a fair marketplace for U.S. agriculture to compete globally," he said. "It is essential we ensure climate policies respect farmers and remain market-based and voluntary. And, we must end the digital divide that puts rural America at a disadvantage."

Vilsack received bipartisan backing during his Feb. 2 confirmation hearing, and a Senate



Dr. Jewel Bronaugh

panel voted to advance his nomination to the full Senate for approval. House Ways and Means Committee trade lawyer Katherine Tai has been selected as the next U.S. trade representative. Michael Regan,

North Carolina's top environmental regulator, was picked to lead the country's Environmental Protection Agency.

-Submitted by Matt Herrick, USDA communications

"There can be no multiplicity of races - all are the descendants of Adam." - Baha'i Faith
Bahai.Salem.VA@gmail.com 540-387-2106

OPINION

Give Light - The Paper and Us -

{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.}

When I read in a recent issue of the daily "Roanoke Times" that the downtown Roanoke building is up for sale, I was alarmed. Though my late husband Charlie and I were involuntarily retired from the paper in 1996, it has remained a part of my professional identity almost like an elderly relative.

Aware that most newspapers are struggling financially because essential income from advertising has been split several ways and with the recent slowed economy from the COVID-19 pandemic, I would not have been surprised to read that the once major news source in Western Virginia is dead.

I was reassured, at least for the present, by the comprehensive story written by the newspaper's current editor, Brian Kelley, in his closing words:

"Our mission will remain the same to provide people with the news and information they value and need to understand their world, gov-

ern themselves and improve their lives."

The assurance was repeated in the headline.

The article offered much information about the newspaper's history and business structure unknown to me despite the 68 years I've been published in it.

Kelley detailed its 1886 founding by banker and business leader Junius B. Fishburn. "Mr. J.B." started the paper four years after the railroad city was founded in 1882. The plant has always been in the vicinity of Campbell Avenue and Second Street Southwest. For more than 100 years, it has dominated its corner just across from City Hall.

It is also a block from the historic Greene Memorial United Methodist Church in which various members of the Fishburn family were long active. Over the years when the newspaper published commemorative issues for special occasions, Charlie and I became well acquainted with local histories.

When Charlie and I were hired by the late W.C. Stouffer, the managing editor exactly 68 years ago to join the news staff, we regarded employment at the major newspaper of the area as a definite step

Frances Stebbins Correspondent

upward in our careers.

My acquaintance with the morning paper went all the way back to my childhood when I regularly visited my maternal aunt and her lawyer husband at their big house in Tazewell. Each morning a loud thump! On the front porch heralded the arrival of the newspaper which all the neighbors also took.

They regarded it in the same way my mother and I in the Piedmont Virginia town of Orange awaited the "Richmond Times-Dispatch" which brought us the news of major happenings in World War II. Despite the then-novel medium of radio, the daily newspaper could be relied upon for giving a fair presentation of an issue. It was essential and respected.

Perhaps early reading of these well-written dailies had some influence on my enrolling at Richmond Professional Institute (RPI-VCU) in our capital city to study journal-

ism. Charlie and I met there in 1948, merged two writing careers on our marriage three years later and came to work in the Third Floor City Room in Roanoke.

Back to the Fishburn family, founders. In my new job as compiler of Church News, I was told to list Sunday School Leaders at the nearby Methodist church of the publisher even though this was a tedious task. I also learned that, following the practice of the denomination of that day, no alcohol advertising was accepted by the paper. That changed a few years later after the Fishburns sold their hometown child to Landmark Corporation of Norfolk.

The sale benefited me at a crucial empty-nest time in our family as I was invited to return to the downtown office on a regular three-day-weekly basis and devote most of my energies to an expanded "Big Fat Saturday" newspaper which ran the day before Sunday and served readers who had previously taken either a morning or an evening paper.

The new Executive News Editor Ben Bowers had a respect for his church-supporting readership, and this was vital to the encouragement I got as a religion writer. Wil-

liam Warren in the 1980s continued this support, but the next news executive, Wendy Zomparelli, wanted the Saturday space for activities other than my specialty. Soon I was removed and joined another department, Neighbors, where both Charlie and I continued happily to write for several more years until the fading economy doomed the zoned Thursday supplement too.

Kelley in his January 31 column offered more detail about the major change which took the paper's ownership out of Roanoke. His article invited readers to call him.

I did so and felt further reassured that the current publishers plan to continue to offer our area a daily paper though reporters will be working from an unknown site. With being at home with a computer has become routine for many office workers because of the contagion issue, adjustment may not be as hard now as it would have been earlier.

(After all, I used a telephone and typewriter at home for 20 years to keep my career alive as I was primarily a wife and mother of three.)

Editor Kelley said he doesn't know where a suitable office building will be found.

Send letters to the editor at shawn.nowlin@ourvalley.org

What do proposals that aim to decriminalize marijuana mean for U.S. residents?

Patrick Bailey Guest Contributor

On Friday, December 4, 2020, the U.S. House of Representatives approved decriminalizing marijuana at the federal level. The vote mostly followed party lines as one independent and five Republicans joined Democrats to pass the bill.

Known as the Marijuana Opportunity Reinvestment and Expungement (MORE) Act, the bill eliminates cannabis from the list of federally controlled substances and cancels low-level federal

marijuana-related arrests and convictions. Experts don't know if this measure will pass in the U.S. Senate.

Aside from such federal developments, the legalization or decriminalization of marijuana has occurred in individual states. To date, more than a dozen states, plus the U.S. Virgin Islands, have decriminalized marijuana, while other states, Guam, the District of Columbia and the Northern Mariana Islands have fully legalized the substance.

Decriminalization versus legalization

Even if a certain locality has decriminalized marijuana, people charged with possessing it could still face legal penalties. Instead, decriminalization refers to the legal consequences for possessing a small amount of marijuana, consequences that are often less severe than in the past.

The Marijuana Project Policy notes that in such places, an individual caught with a small amount of marijuana will not be subjected to prosecution or jail time or have the incident added to their criminal record. But according to the National Conference of State Legislatures, such individuals may need to pay fines if their offenses are considered civil infractions or minor misdemeanors.

Being caught with small amounts of marijuana in states that have decriminalized could be like receiving a speeding ticket. You are breaking the law and will have to pay a fine but will probably not be going to jail. On the other hand, the legalization of marijuana refers to giving individuals the right to legally possess, use and grow the substance for personal use.

What proposals could mean for U.S. residents

With the MORE Act and other proposals, it is important to understand what the decriminalization of marijuana could mean for U.S. residents. Since decriminalization does not mean legalization, marijuana might be considered a federal infraction that is subjected to a fine.

The U.S. federal government might establish specific quantities of marijuana that it considers civil offenses. Possessing small amounts could lead to smaller fines, while larger amounts could incur higher fines.

Decriminalization might eliminate state-by-state regulations, so there may be some confusion about different marijuana laws in different places. U.S. states that have already legalized the substance might keep regulating it. If the federal government decriminalizes marijuana, other states might adopt those federal laws.

While there may not be an overall decrease in marijuana use following decriminalization (people are still finding and using black-market marijuana), government agencies do not expect a major increase. There is no evidence that there is a link among marijuana decriminalization, increased alcohol use, and more attendance at non-religious AA meetings.

Another interesting aspect of the MORE Act is that it expunges cannabis arrests, charges, and convictions at zero cost to the guilty party. This means there could be fewer people in jail and prisons, which could help lower the current strain on the overpopulated prison system.

Such measures could also help put citizens'

tax dollars to better use than housing people who have been convicted for nonviolent marijuana-related offenses. Furthermore, decriminalization could reduce the burden on law enforcement. Instead of citing people for marijuana offenses, it can free manpower and budgets to focus on more dangerous crimes.

According to the CATO Institute, freeing up resources that would normally be related to arresting, convicting and housing marijuana drug dealers could reap benefits for the entire judicial system, including police officers to prison guards, judges, lawyers, detectives and others.

Furthermore, the MORE Act may create a division called the Office of Cannabis Justice to ensure there are social equity provisions within the law. This could help ensure that all citizens have the same federal rights regarding marijuana possession. Under the law's provisions, the federal government cannot discriminate against individuals due to cannabis use, including immigrants who might have been under the risk of deportation.

The act could also create new government jobs at a variety of levels.

While many U.S. states are more lenient than the federal government by legalizing marijuana, decriminalization would be a historic step toward tolerance. Even if the MORE Act does not pass, it illustrates that the federal government may be reconsidering its positions on drugs.

If federal decriminalization occurs, will full legalization across the United States be next? If it occurs, the U.S. could reap the benefits seen in states with legalization.

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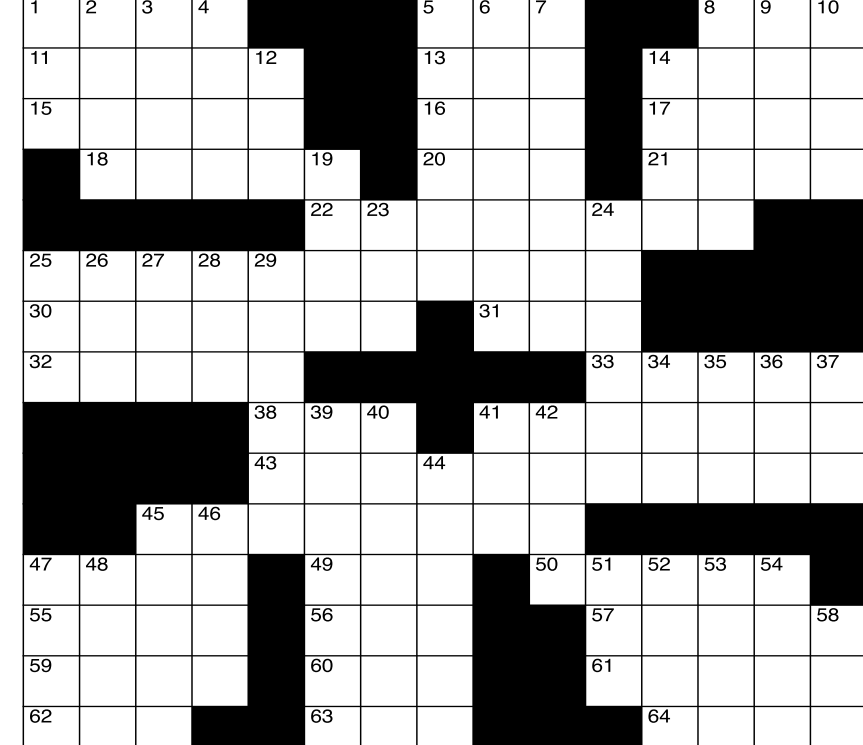
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Give us your view: shawn.nowlin@ourvalley.org

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CROSSWORD PUZZLE



- CLUES ACROSS**
- 1. Gather a harvest
 - 5. Federal Republic of Germany
 - 8. Bravo! Bravo! Bravo!
 - 11. "The Little Mermaid"
 - 13. The common gibbon
 - 14. Volcanic island in Fiji
 - 15. Mother of Perseus
 - 16. Egg cells
 - 17. Teams' best pitchers
 - 18. Credit associations
 - 20. Advance
 - 21. Hair styling products
 - 22. Benign tumors
 - 25. Arriving early
 - 30. Called it a career
 - 31. ___ Paulo, city
 - 32. Avoid with trickery
 - 33. Easter egg
 - 38. Veterans battleground
 - 41. Lack of success
 - 43. Thing that causes disgust
 - 45. Deep, continuing sound
 - 47. Ancient kingdom near Dead Sea
 - 49. You might put it in a fire
 - 50. Partner to "ooed"
 - 55. Actor Idris
 - 56. Slippery
 - 57. Plant of the bean family
 - 59. One point north of northeast
 - 60. Patti Hearst's captors
 - 61. Places to hang clothes
 - 62. Midwife
 - 63. Of she
 - 64. S. Korean statesman
- CLUES DOWN**
- 1. Cool!
 - 2. Amounts of time
 - 3. Aboriginal people of Japan
 - 4. Popular veggies
 - 5. Wedding accessory
 - 6. Deep, narrow gorges
 - 7. Dry cereal
 - 8. Competitions that require speed
 - 9. Cain and ___
 - 10. Snake sound
 - 12. Type of amino acid (abbr.)
 - 14. Pattern of notes in Indian music
 - 19. Satisfy
 - 23. Misfire
 - 24. Nearsightedness
 - 25. Indicates before
 - 26. Increase motor speed
 - 27. When you hope to get there
 - 28. Indicates position
 - 29. Where rockers perform
 - 34. Substitute
 - 35. ___ juris: of one's own right
 - 36. Earliest form of modern human in Europe: ___magnon
 - 37. Adult female bird
 - 39. Do away with
 - 40. Lens
 - 41. Flattened appendage
 - 42. Post or pillar in Greek temple
 - 44. A medieval citizen of Hungary
 - 45. Spiritual leader of a Jewish congregation
 - 46. Abba __, Israeli politician
 - 47. Sew
 - 48. Evergreen trees and shrubs having oily one-seeded fruits
 - 51. Swiss river
 - 52. Grayish-white
 - 53. A way to illustrate
 - 54. College basketball superpower
 - 58. Midway between south and southeast

Be sure to 'Like' the Salem-Times Register on Facebook.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Dear Friends and Family,

I have just heard from our representatives in the Virginia General Assembly who returned my phone calls with good news. They told me that the State Senate and House of Delegates passed a bill that they are waiting for our governor to sign. It sets up expedited distribution of the vaccine for COVID-19 to all Virginia hospitals and

other medical centers. This will be immediate. Gone will be the daily announcements of different plans and places to get the shots should you want them. Even if you do not plan to get the shot please make every effort you can to get in touch with our governor to sign that bill into law. Hey, you may save lives including ours.

-Dr. Fredric Eichelman

Dear editor,

As someone who was a Salem newspapers reporter over two decades ago, it is always refreshing to read the columns of my former colleague Brian Hoffman. His "301 Days Later" column clearly illustrates many of the frustrations all of us feel right now. And Hoffman's column comes at a time when there are still pockets of our country and community which have either chosen to downplay

the significance of the pandemic or dismiss the concern entirely.

On February 1, WSLN-TV aired a segment about a snowball fight at Liberty University. As it turns out, few of the LU students were wearing face masks. The segment featured comments from LU student Kendall Covington who said the culture of the campus was negligent with regards to emphasizing face masks and encouraging social distancing.

The next day School Presi-

dent Jerry Prevo, to his credit, acknowledged that the snowball event should have been more socially responsible. Hopefully, all of us can learn from how things were handled in Lynchburg, and recognize that even though we may suffer from COVID-19 fatigue, we still need to be aware of the potential dangers the virus entails for anyone unfortunate enough to come down with it.

-Mr. Tilly Gokbudak

USDA announces February 2021 lending rates for agricultural producers

The U.S. Department of Agriculture recently announced loan interest rates for February 2021, which are effective February 1.

Operating and Ownership Loans

FSA offers farm ownership and operating loans with favorable interest rates and terms to help eligible agricultural producers, whether multi-generational, long-time or new to the industry, obtain financing needed to start, expand or maintain a family agricultural operation. For many loan options, FSA sets aside funding for histori-

cally disadvantaged producers, including beginning, women, American Indian or Alaskan Native, Asian, Black or African American, Native Hawaiian or Pacific Islander and Hispanic farmers and ranchers.

Interest rates for Operating and Ownership loans for February 2021 are as follows:

- Farm Operating Loans (Direct): 1.375 percent
- Farm Operating Loans (Microloan "Special Interest Rate"): 5.000 percent
- Farm Ownership Loans (Direct): 2.625 percent
- Farm Ownership Loans (Di-

rect, Joint Financing): 2.500 percent

- Farm Ownership Loans (Down Payment): 1.500 percent
- Emergency Loan (Amount of Actual Loss): 2.375 percent

FSA also offers guaranteed loans through commercial lenders at rates set by those lenders.

Individuals can find out which of these loans may be right for them by using the Farm Loan Discovery Tool.

Commodity and Storage Facility Loans

FSA provides low-interest financing to producers to build or upgrade on-farm storage fa-

cilities and purchase handling equipment. FSA also offers commodity loans that provide interim financing to help producers meet cash flow needs without having to sell their commodities when market prices are low. Funds for these loans are provided through the Commodity Credit Corporation (CCC) and administered by FSA.

• Commodity Loans (less than one year disbursed): 0.125 percent

• Farm Storage Facility Loans: -Three-year loan terms: 0.250 percent

-Five-year loan terms: 0.375 percent

-Seven-year loan terms: 0.750 percent

-Ten-year loan terms: 1.000 percent

-Twelve-year loan terms: 1.125 percent

• Sugar Storage Facility Loans (15 years): 1.375 percent

Producers can explore available options on all FSA loan options at fsa.usda.gov or by contacting the local USDA Service Center.

-Submitted by Kateri Smith, USDA Program Technician

2021 Governor's Fellows Program launched with historic new investment

Governor Ralph Northam recently announced that applications for the 2021 Governor's Fellows Program will be accepted through Monday, March 15, and invited students who are Virginia residents or who are attending colleges and universities in the Commonwealth to apply. Since 1982, the Governor's Fellows Program has offered participants firsthand state government experience at the highest level of Virginia's executive branch.

Fellows are placed with a member of the Governor's Cabinet or with a member of his personal staff, providing a unique opportunity to learn about the work and decision-making in the Office

of the Governor. Governor's Fellows also hear from special guest speakers from the Northam Administration and state government agencies.

"When we invest in our youth, we are making a down payment on our shared future, and I am proud that we have dedicated new funding to expand access to the program this year," said Governor Northam. "The Governor's Fellows Program provides a unique way for students to gain valuable professional experience, while developing a deeper understanding of the issues and policies that impact all Virginians. I strongly encourage those interested in public service to apply and be part of our

work to continue moving the Commonwealth forward."

Governor Northam recognizes that to build an inclusive state government workforce which reflects the diversity of the Commonwealth, Virginia must work to remove barriers to opportunity. He made an historic investment into the program through his proposed budgets over the last two years, which will guarantee compensation for all 2021 Fellows for the first time in the program's history.

"Being part of the Governor's Fellows Program was an amazing opportunity," said Natasha Coleman, Registered Nurse at VCU Health and 2019 Governor's Fel-

low. "While positioned in the Office of the Secretary of Health and Human Resources, I learned a lot about state government and met so many people working hard to improve the health of Virginians. It was invaluable to see how policy decisions impact medical professionals and patients. The most meaningful portion of the Fellowship was contributing to research on maternal mortality and seeing initiatives come out months later to combat the rates in Virginia."

Qualified applicants must be rising college seniors, graduating seniors, or graduate students. All Virginia college and university students are eligible to apply, regardless of state of residence. Virginia residents who attend out-of-state colleges and universities are also eligible. Both public and private college and university students are encouraged to apply.

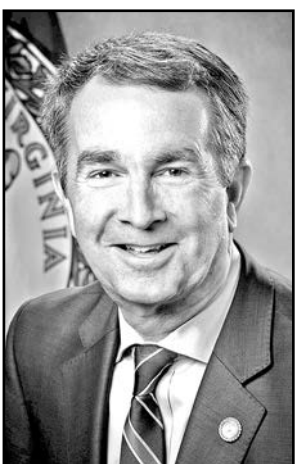
The selection of Fellows is based solely on merit. The Governor's Fellows Program does not discriminate on the basis of race, sex, color, national origin, religion, sexual orientation, gender identity, age, political affiliation, disability, or veteran status. The Northam Administration is still determining whether the program will function remotely or in-person for the 2021 session and a final decision will be made in the coming months.

"It is our obligation to remove systemic barriers to increasing diversity in the Governor's Office and state government by those who have been historically underrepresented or excluded," said Dr. Janice Underwood, Chief Diversity Officer. "Providing our Fellows a salary fosters access and success and aligns with the OneVirginia mission to develop the Commonwealth into an inclusive state, where all people

can live, learn, work, and thrive."

The deadline to apply for the Governor's Fellows Program is March 15. The program directors will hold interviews between March 22, 2021 and April 16, 2021 and will advise on decisions by April 30. The program runs from Monday, May 31, to Friday, July 30.

-Submitted by Alena Yasmosky, Office of the Governor



SUBMITTED PHOTO

Epperly from page 1

Epperly is proficient in both Mandarin and Spanish and she has worked with children and adults in China, Bangladesh, Poland, Argentina, New Orleans, and Charlottesville. These experiences, coupled with her unique skill set, will allow her to continue her role as Salem's division-wide English Learner program coordinator.

"Designing appropriate programs for English Learners is an ethical responsibility to these children and in many ways an opportunity for our

community, as we help these young people share their assets and gifts," says Epperly. "Salem is doing meaningful work in this arena, and I am committed to advancing it."

Epperly and her husband reside in Roanoke city with their three young girls. She replaces Chris Wilkes, who resigned late last year to take a job in the business sector.

-Submitted by Mike Stevens, City of Salem Communications Director

Restaurant Week from page 1

pecting our community negatively, it is important to support these businesses," Kat Pascal, owner of Farmburguesa, said.

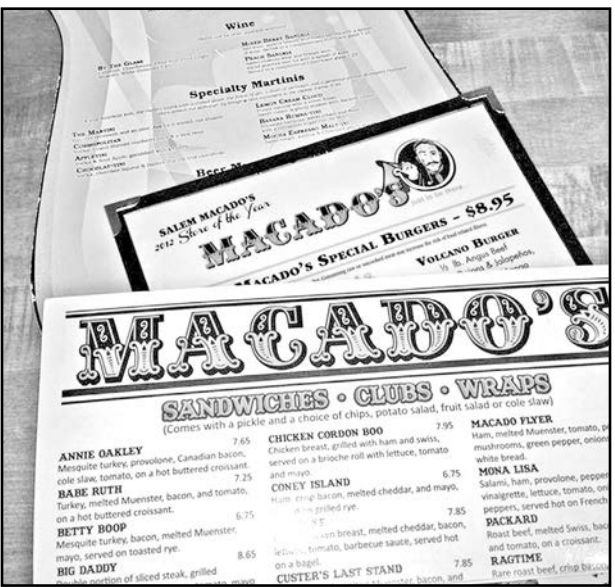
Those who partake in Restaurant Week are encouraged to post their favorite dish on social media and tag the post with #ROCOeats so other community members can know what is being served throughout the event. "We recognized that restaurants were hit hard during the pandemic and wanted to offer a promotional opportunity to support their sustainability, while featuring their unique offerings to the entire community. We are hopeful that this program in partnership with our area Chambers of Commerce will provide a little relief during a traditionally slow season," said Marshall Stanley, Economic Development Specialist.

All restaurants operating within Roanoke County, the Town of Vinton and Salem areas can submit their

menu offerings to Marshall Stanley, Economic Development Specialist, at mstanley@roanokecountyva.gov to be included in the Restaurant Week program.

Salem native Jamie Cooper says she always participates in Restaurant Week. "There really isn't anything

that I wouldn't try locally. What I like to do is visit as many restaurants as possible and experience a variety of food combinations with friends and family. I hope that people support our community restaurants because they certainly need it," she said.



SUBMITTED PHOTO

Dozens of quality food combinations are available at Macado's.

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ANGLICAN

ST. THOMAS ANGLICAN CHURCH - located at 4910 Hubert Rd, NW Roanoke, Va. Traditional Liturgical Lenten Services, Sunday at 10:30 am. Call (540) 589-1299 or visit www.sttofc.org for midweek masses and events. (In Roanoke, go E on Hershberger, L on Hubert to 4910).

BAPTIST (INDEPENDENT)

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.temple-baptch.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.; Praiz 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.

BRETHREN

GREEN HILL CHURCH OF THE BRETHREN, 2699 Harborwood Rd (Ro. Co.) Salem, (540) 389-5109, Email: greenhillcob@verizon.net, find us on Facebook. Continuing the work of Jesus, Peacefully, Simply, Together. God's Work Our Hands

CHURCHES OF CHRIST/CHRISTIAN CHURCHES

SALEM CHURCH OF CHRIST - 401 West Main Street. 540-389-2400. Minister

Salem

WORSHIP DIRECTORY

Over the Top

Read Numbers 16:1 through 17:13

Gordon trudged into the house after a long day of work on his birthday, a year older and feeling every minute of it. He expected a quiet birthday dinner with his family, so he was stunned when he saw balloons and cake and friends shouting, "Surprise!" He was more than surprised. He was amazed at how much his family and friends clearly loved him.

God vowed to make the staff of his chosen priest miraculously sprout, but He couldn't resist going above and beyond.

The next day Moses entered the tent and saw that Aaron's staff, which represented

the tribe of Levi, had not only sprouted but had budded, blossomed and produced almonds (Numbers 17:8).

God has a way of amazing His people by meeting their needs in over-the-top ways. There's no better example than Jesus. Sure, God had promised a Messiah, but His own Son? It was stunning, unexpected, and it demonstrated that God was willing to go farther than we could ever imagine to save us.

Prayer Suggestion: Thank You, God, for the miraculous, amazing, over-the-top way You saved me.

Quicklook: Numbers 17:1-12

To list your church, contact Randy Thompson at 540-230-1129 or email advertise@ourvalley.org

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

DISCIPLES OF CHRIST

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, Interim Pastor, Rev. Dr. John Dunstan, 380-4636. Website: www.flccsalem.org. Sunday worship inside sanctuary and on zoom, 10:30 AM, mask wearing and social distance.

ECKANKAR

ECKANKAR, THE PATH OF SPIRITUAL FREEDOM, is located at 1420 3rd St. SW, Roanoke, VA 24016. However, due to COVID-19, the Light & Sound services and other ECK programs are currently 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. Also visit www.eckankar.org for more information about the spiritual freedom of Eckankar.

EPISCOPAL

ST. PAUL'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH - 42 East Main Street, Salem, 389-9307. The Rev. Dr. David Compton. Sundays at 10:00 am Holy Communion in church and livestream on Facebook. Wednesday Morning Prayer livestreamed at 11:30 am. facebook.com/st.pauls.salemva/

EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN

COLLEGE EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH - 210 S. College Avenue, Salem VA 24153. Please visit our website www.collegelutheran.org for information on services.

FOURSQUARE

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

INDEPENDENT

RESTORATION CHURCH - a Community on Mission Following Jesus into the World

- 10:10am Sundays at the Salem YMCA - 1126 Kime Lane, Salem - 540-384-1601 - www.restorationsalem.org. Watch Live at: YouTube: Restoration Church-Salem, VA. Facebook: RestorationChurchSalem

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@clchurch.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. Until further notice: Sunday School 9:30 a.m., Sunday Worship 11:00 a.m. are online only. Please contact the church for online details for Sunday School and worship with us at www.salem-pres.org, or Facebook, or YouTube.

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

(Evangelical Presbyterian Church EPC)
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

ROMAN CATHOLIC

OUR LADY OF PERPETUAL HELP -314 Turner Road, Salem. 387-0491, Rev. Ken Shuping, Saturday Mass - 5:00 p.m., Sunday Mass 10:30am, Daily Mass: Mon 12noon, Wed 6:30pm, Thur 12noon & Fri 12noon; Mass on Sunday at 1:00 pm in Spanish; Confessions Wednesday 5:30-6, Saturday 4:00 p.m.-5:00 p.m. and by appointment.

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.

RELIGION BRIEFS

Takes new church

The Rev. Leonard Southern, who retired in 2019 after a long pastorate at Fort Lewis Baptist Church of Salem, has become pastor of Lithia Baptist Church in Botetourt County.

Baptist exec retires

The Rev. Dr. John E. Saunders Jr. will retire April 1 from being a coordinator of ministries of congregations affiliated with the Roanoke Valley Baptist Association. With the present title of Associational Mission Strategist,

Saunders has served for more than seven years. An interim successor is being sought.

Although Baptists govern their churches individually, for a half-century in urban areas, a person has filled the role as coordinator of ministries such as home mission work, inner-city neighborhood centers and a camp in Northwest

Roanoke County. The office of the RVBA is at 3926 Plantation Road NE, Roanoke.

Interim called

The Rev. Dr. John Dunstan, of Roanoke has become the interim pastor at Fort Lewis Christian

Church (Disciples of Christ). Most recently serving a Pulaski congregation, he succeeds temporarily the Rev. Ben Moore who resigned without announcing definite plans.

-Compiled by correspondent
Frances Siebbins

OBITUARIES

Hammond, Glenna Mae

Glenna Mae Hammond, 86, of Salem, passed away on Saturday, January 23.

She was born on April 9, 1934, in Roanoke, to the late Clinton Silas and Aldia Mannon Dulaney.

In addition to her parents, Glenna was preceded in death by her stepmother, Mary Chaffin Dulaney; sister, Carmen Stephenson; brothers, R. Wayne Dulaney and Jack A. Dulaney.

Family remaining to cherish her memory includes her beloved husband of 68 years, Bill Hammond; devoted son, Billy Hammond; daughter, Bonnie Sue Hammond Millner; sister, Shirley J. Gearheart, (Rodney); brother-in-law, Parris Hammond, (Lois); sisters-in-law, Judy C. Dulaney and Ilonka B. Dulaney; special nieces, Patricia Ann Bass, (Danny), and Bessie Henegar; and numerous cousins, nephews, nieces, and friends.

Glenna was a graduate of Andrew Lewis



High School. After 30 years of faithful service, she retired from East Salem Elementary School. During the spring and summer months, Glenna worked for the Salem Pirates and Salem Buccaneers. She was a gourmet cook and enjoyed traveling, arranging family reunions and spending time with her family.

Glenna was a dedicated and loving daughter, wife, mother, and sibling. She was a humble and selfless caregiver to family and close friends, and was a kind, sweet, and caring person, that always found the best in everyone.

In keeping with the wishes of her family, graveside services at Sherwood Memorial Park will be private.

In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to Calvary Baptist Church, 7th and Florida Streets, Salem, 24153.

Condolences may be expressed to the Hammond family by visiting www.johnmoakey.com.

Jenkins,
Lonnie Wayne "Poppy"

Lonnie Wayne "Poppy" Jenkins, 71, of Salem, went home to be with the Lord on Friday, February 5, from his home, surrounded by his family.

He was born on November 21, 1949, in Mountain City, Tennessee; son of the late Dallas and Elsie Jenkins.

Following his high school graduation, at the young age of 20, Lonnie proudly decided to serve his country in the United States Army Reserves, serving faithfully for a six-year term before obtaining an honorable discharge.

With over 45 years of service in the carpet and flooring industry, Lonnie was well known for his extraordinary work ethic and attention to detail. He spent 40-plus years of his career working as a carpet installer/manager at the Carpet Shops in Roanoke. For a short time during his career, he owned his own flooring business. One of his most proud moments as an owner, was the custom flooring job at the Virginia Tech Athletic Department in Blacksburg, specifically for the office of Frank Beamer, where his talent is still admired to this day. Lonnie was an extremely talented man.

As for hobbies, it was certainly no secret as to his love for Street Rods. Lonnie belonged to numerous clubs over the years, and most recently the Hanging Rock Rods Club.

He also enjoyed his work in car upholstery, but those who knew him best, will remember him for his love of family. As the family centerpiece, Lonnie was always making sure



they were well taken care of. Known as "Mr. Fix-It," he was always there to help with any problem they may have. Though only having one son, Lonnie was known as "dad" to all of the neighborhood boys and other friends of his son, Travis.

He was simply a caring, giving and loving man to all that knew him.

In addition to his parents, Lonnie was preceded in death by his nephew, Shelburne Hayes; niece, Angela Jenkins; and his grand-dog, "Layla."

Family remaining to cherish his memory includes his wife of 50 years, Linda Jenkins; son, Travis Jenkins; special daughter, Deirdre Manspile (Don); special grandson, Nicholas Manspile, all of Salem; brothers, Paul Jenkins (Brenda), also of Salem; Gene Jenkins (Linda), of Roanoke; and Robert Jenkins (Doris), of Vinton; sister-in-law, Dreama Hayes, of Salem; uncle, James Harper (Janet), of Mountain City, Tenn.; special family, Billy and Melissa Duncan, of Nashville, Tenn.; his beloved dog, "Milo"; and numerous nieces and nephews.

A graveside service, honoring Lonnie's life, was conducted on Tuesday, February 9, at 11 a.m., with Pastors Barry Fitzgerald and Mike Varner officiating. Military rights to honor his service were also conducted by the Virginia Army National Guard.

Expressions of sympathy may be expressed to the Jenkins family by visiting www.johnmoakey.com.

Goodman

from page 1

closed school last March, Coe and Goodman began brainstorming ways to continue teaching those lessons and stay connected with their students. They realized that in-person home visits could truly make a difference.

"I look at Mr. Coe as a mentor, and we knew this could really help our kids," says Goodman. "We get a list of names, create a route, check on these students and offer assistance. It's pretty rewarding to have kids thank us for stopping-by and to know that they miss us too."

Currently, the two men average 40 to 50 safe, socially distant porch visits a day with their middle schoolers.

"He takes a personal interest in each one of our students and he not only knows their names and faces, but he knows what they like, what they struggle with and what they need," says Coe. "He knows birthdays, he knows addresses and he knows parents. When students get in trouble, he is firm and fair and, most importantly, he uses each situation as a learning opportunity."

Goodman has been learning about law enforcement since he was a middle school student. His dad, Richard Goodman, was a Salem Police Officer from 1993-2004 and during that time, David was a member of the department's Explorer Post that is designed to give teenagers an up-close look at police work.

"I don't think I graduated from high school wanting to be a police officer, but I have always had a heart of service to help others and law enforcement has been a way for me to provide that assistance," he says. "Because of my dad, I always knew the department held its officers to a higher standard and that the Salem community always supported the police. Plus, I always had a passion for working with kids, so this allowed me to be a public servant and work with young people."

Born in Charleston, South Carolina, Goodman was raised in the Roanoke Valley and attended East Salem Elementary for a short time before enrolling in Roanoke City Schools. He spent his high school days at William Fleming and ran track and played football for the Colonels before graduating in 2007. Goodman began his law enforcement career at the age of 20, working for then-Sheriff Ronnie Sprinkle at the Botetourt County Sheriff's Office.

He joined Salem's Police Department in 2016 and made his mark before graduating from the Cardinal Academy's Law Enforcement program. While traveling through Roanoke with one of his daughters, he saw a man lying on the side of the road suffering from a gunshot wound. Goodman stopped to assist the man and to also calm and comfort the young children who had gathered near the scene.

"God puts us in different places at different times for a variety of reasons," he says.

Goodman's pastor Rev. Melton Johnson can attest to that. He has watched Goodman grow as a man in his First Baptist congregation on South Broad Street in Salem.

"David serves as a trustee and a mentor to our youth at First Baptist," says Pastor Johnson. "He is conscientious and detail oriented and those traits have allowed him to serve God, the church and our community."

"I wouldn't be half the person I am if I didn't have a support network around me," says Goodman. "My fiancée and family support me and pray for me and I have had several great mentors along the way who have helped mold me."

Goodman, 32, is well-aware of the current events that have shaped discussions about law enforcement throughout the nation in the past year. He has seen the violence and he has heard the often-hateful rhetoric. He also has worked to be part of the solution. He and Sgt. Stan Malek lead the Salem Police Department's community program known as "Culture." The acronym stands for Community Understanding and Leadership Through Unbiased Response and Engagement.

"I try to understand both sides of these arguments, but to me, all lives matter," says Goodman. "People want to be heard and 'Culture' allows people to respectfully talk to us in a casual atmosphere."

Goodman admits he is both humbled by and appreciative of the honor his fellow officers have bestowed upon him. He also is particularly grateful to serve in a community that values resource officers as much as Salem does.

"Everybody works together for a common goal in Salem," he says. "The school division, the teachers, the administrators, and the police department all want resource officers in the schools. It is important for us to be there and I commend Salem for making this a priority."

"I have known Senior Officer Goodman since he was a teenager and it has been a true privilege to see him develop into the humble, hard-working and loyal man he is today," says Mike Crawley, Salem Police Chief. "He is unlike many people we currently see in the work force in that he takes ownership of a problem when he sees one and doesn't wait for someone else for fix it. He has that 'guardian' mindset you cannot teach, and we are truly blessed to have him in Salem."

Goodman will be honored formally by the Salem-Roanoke County Chamber of Commerce in April.

-Submitted by Mike Stevens, City of Salem
Communications Director

Kirby, Richard Carol

Richard Carol Kirby went to be with his Lord and Savior Jesus Christ on February 3, 2021.

He was born in Rainelle, West Virginia, July 29, 1939, to Clarence and Rosa Kirby.

He was preceded in death by his loving wife Shelba of 50 years, his parents and several siblings.

He is survived by three sisters, Glenna Fitzwater, Sylvia McGuire and Patricia Miller, his son, Clifton Kirby (Erin), daughter Angela Conner (Wayne) and grandchildren



Troy Kirby (Summer), Kyle Kirby (Leah), Eric Kirby, Jonathan Conner (Lauren), Brooke Conner-Tsang (Aaron), great-grandchildren Ryelynn, Arie, Lily, Marcus, Elysian, Saige, Ivory and Emberlyn.

Funeral services were held Saturday February 6, 2021, at Little River Baptist Church at 11 a.m. with Pastor Billy Johnson and Pastor Bradley Turner officiating. The family received friends one-hour prior to service time.

Worrell Sr.,
Walter Stevenson "Pee Wee"

Walter Stevenson "Pee Wee" Worrell Sr., of Roanoke, entered into eternal sleep on Monday, February 1.

He joins his wife, Cindy Worrell; his father, James Worrell; his mother, Bernice Worrell; his sister, Barbara Worrell Allen; and his brother, Michael Worrell in death.

He leaves behind three sons, Walter Worrell Jr. and his wife, Jennifer Worrell, Wesley Worrell and his wife, Heather Worrell, and William Worrell and his wife, Amber Worrell. Pee Wee had three grandkids who he loved and adored, Hannah Worrell, Cassandra Spinner, and Fayth Wilmoth.

He also leaves behind two sisters and two brothers, Donna Harbaugh and husband, Dean Harbaugh, Mary Underwood and husband, Stacy Underwood, Dean Worrell, and Daniel Worrell and wife, Kathy Worrell;



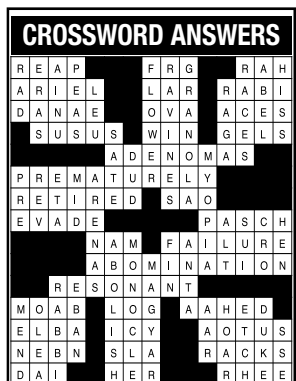
his sister-in-law, Karen Worrell; many nieces and nephews; and his special friend, Denise.

Pee Wee had a heart of gold and would help anyone he could. He enjoyed tattoos, drawings, Indian art and dream catchers. His boys were the light of his life; he was very proud of the men all three have become. He loved his wife, Cindy, so much she truly was his soulmate.

Anyone who met Pee Wee remembered him. He was an unforgettable person with an unforgettable personality. Pee wee will be missed and is loved by many. May he find peace and rest in Heaven.

Arrangements entrusted to Oakey's Funeral Service - Roanoke Chapel, Roanoke, (540) 982-2100. Online condolences may be shared with the family at www.oakeys.com.

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Farmers back budget proposal for increased Agency 229 funding

Virginia's farmland acreage has decreased considerably over the past several decades, yet farmers continually find ways to improve production.

According to research conducted by the Virginia Tech College of Agriculture and Life Sciences, farmed acreage in Virginia dropped 50 percent from 1949 to 2016, while farming output increased by 33 percent.

Kyle Sturgis, a row crop, vegetable and aquaculture producer, credited the added production to advancements in land management practices and expanded crop variety selections, specifically those developed through Agency 229 research.

"The assistance we get from agency research is phenomenal," Sturgis said. "They're looking at variety trials and are telling us which crop va-

rieties did best during their research; that way we can pick the right crops that will produce higher yields on those smaller plots of land and feed a growing population."

Agency 229 provides funding to Virginia Cooperative Extension and the Virginia Agricultural Experiment Station. Through these entities, the agency supports scientists and other specialists who conduct innovative agricultural research at the VAES and its 11 Agricultural Research Extension Centers. Data collected from that research is disseminated to Extension agents, who then share the information with farmers and agricultural businesses.

Throughout the 2021 Virginia General Assembly, Virginia Farm Bureau Federation has advocated for increased Agency 229 fund-

ing through a state budget amendment. The proposal has gained bipartisan support from Del. David L. Bulova, D-Fairfax, and Sen. Emmett W. Hanger Jr., R-Mount Solon.

The proposed amendment would allocate \$1.92 million to Agency 229 to improve research equipment and internet connectivity across agency offices, as well as provide added funding to Extension for agent recruitment and retention.

Additional studies from Virginia Tech indicate for every dollar Virginia invests into Agency 229 programs, the return on investment is \$1.29. Data collected from 1949 to 2016 also revealed state spending on Extension netted a 42.4 percent return on investment, while expenditures on agricultural research

earned a 26.4 percent return.

Overall, investments in research and Extension throughout the 67-year period produced a 19 percent increase in agricultural productivity.

Jay Hundley, an Essex County grain producer, said Extension helped boost his farm's productivity in the early '90s, when a cyst nematode issue was hindering his soybean crop.

"We could barely grow any beans, so we did a lot of work with our local Extension agent to get it figured out," said Hundley, who also serves as Essex County Farm Bureau president.

"In the end, their research and testing helped us find something that would grow and save us money. And, of course, finding those high-yield varieties helped our bottom line tremendously."

Hundley noted research conducted at Extension offices and ARECs across Virginia is critical because it allows farmers to see non-biased results of plot work done in their respective areas.

Without adequate funding, he said, Extension would have fewer resources and personnel to provide the volume and quality of agricultural research Virginia farmers rely on.

"This research is the reason farmers are able to be more efficient in growing crops and be more environmentally sound using fewer chemicals," Hundley said. "We need to be sure that we continue to find the funding to keep this work going."

-Submitted by
Martha Moore,
VFBF Vice President of
Governmental Relations

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Legals-Montgomery Co.
LEGAL NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

The Christiansburg Town Council will hold a Public Hearing on Tuesday, February 23, 2021 at 7:00 PM in the Council Chambers of the Christiansburg Town Hall, 100 E. Main Street, Christiansburg, Virginia 24073. The purpose of the public hearing is to receive public comments concerning:

1. A Rezoning request by Gay and Neel, Inc. (applicant), for an approximately 1.38 acre property owned by Depot Street Development LLC, located at the intersection of Depot Street, N.E. and Harless Street, N.E. (tax map nos. 497-A-288, 497-A-288A, 497-A-288C, 497-A-285, 497-A-286, 497-13-3, 497-13-1E). The request is to rezone the property from B-3, General Business to R-3, Multi-Family Residential with proffers. The property is designated as residential on the Future Land Use Map of the 2013 Christiansburg Comprehensive Plan.

2. Two Conditional Use Permit requests by Balzer & Associates, Inc., on behalf of SHAH Development, LLC (applicant/owner), for an approximately 3.2 acre property located at 1145 West Main Street (tax map no. 556-A-39) in the B-3, General Business District:

1. A conditional use permit request for residential uses as permitted in the R-3, Multi-Family Residential District. Residential uses as permitted in the R-3, Multi-Family Residential District include single-family dwellings, two-family dwellings, townhouses, and multiple-family dwellings at

Legals-Montgomery Co.

a density of development of up to 20 units per acre. 2. A conditional use permit request for a proposed planned housing development to consist of single-family, two-family, and multiple-family dwellings at a density of development not to exceed 10 units per acre.

The property is partially designated as Business/Commercial and partially designated as Residential on the Future Land Use Map of the 2013 Christiansburg Comprehensive Plan.

Town Hall will be open and available to receive public comment in-person at the time of this Public Hearing. Additionally, the meeting will be streamed live on the Town of Christiansburg's YouTube channel at www.christiansburg.org/youtube and will remain on the Town's YouTube page once the meeting concludes. For information on contactless methods for submitting public comment, please visit www.christiansburg.org/publichearings.

Copies of the applications are available for review at the following link: www.christiansburg.org/publichearings. A copy of the applications, the Town's Zoning Map, Zoning Ordinance, and Future Land Use Map may be viewed in the Planning Department Office, 100 E. Main Street, Christiansburg, VA 24073 during normal office hours of 8:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m. Monday through Friday. Contact Andrew Warren, Assistant Town Manager, by phone at (540) 382-6120 ext. 1130 or by email at awarren@christiansburg.org with any questions or if you require reasonable accommodations.

Legals-Roanoke County
LEGAL NOTICE ROANOKE COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

The Roanoke County Board of Supervisors will hold a public hearing at 3:00 p.m. on Tuesday, February 23, 2021, in the Board Meeting Room of the Roanoke County Administration Center, 5204 Bernard Drive, Roanoke, Virginia on the adoption of a resolution establishing certain policies and procedures to guide the redistricting process of Roanoke County, Virginia Due to the Coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic, all are encouraged to view and participate in meetings through electronic means. Meetings may be viewed live on RVTV, Channel 3, or on the County's website <https://roanokecountyva.gov> and click on the "Watch Board Meetings Online" box/button. Prior to and during meetings, citizens may email comments to djacks@roanokecountyva.gov. When submitting comments, please include your name and address. Comments will be read aloud during meetings, subject to reasonable time limitations. Additionally, if you would like to call in your comments, please call 540-776-7278 and provide your comments, which will be read during the meeting. For those individuals who desire to attend the meetings in person, please be advised that seating modifications and limits have been established in order to facilitate social distancing; attendees who are not of the same household must sit six feet apart, and attendance at meetings will be limited to 25 individuals. Dated: February 4, 2021 Deborah C. Jacks, Chief Deputy Clerk

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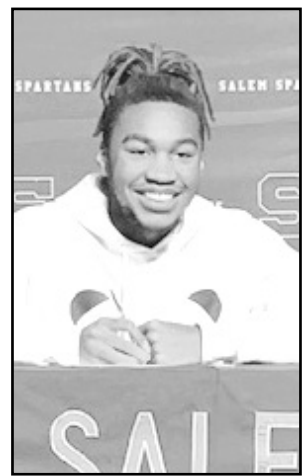
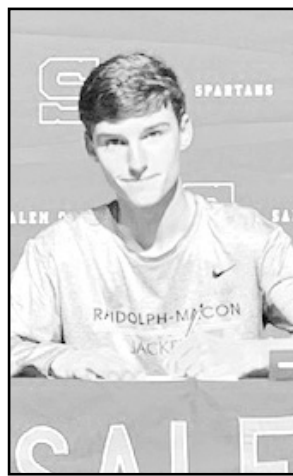
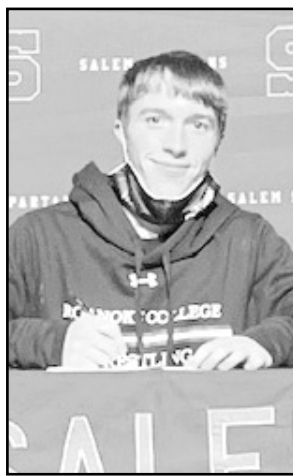
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Salem athletes make college choices official

Wednesday, February 4th, was an official NCAA signing day and Salem High athletes gathered, one at a time due to the pandemic, to make their choices known. Above, left to right, Jordan and Jayden McDonald will play football at Virginia Tech, Walker Chambers will wrestle for the new program at Roanoke College, Alex Benne and Luis Geyne are both going to Randolph-Macon to play soccer and Amari Edwards has chosen Virginia University-Lynchburg to play football. Right, Kalei Memmer is heading to Yale and will be on the track and field team. Several other Spartans also selected colleges but weren't on hand for a picture. Dylan Copeland is going to VMI to play soccer, Shawn Collins will join Edwards on the Virginia University-Lynchburg football team and Alyssa Diomedi is headed to Ferrum College for soccer.



SUBMITTED PHOTOS



GLENVAR SIGNINGS

Two Glenvar High football players made their college choices known on last week's official signing day. Above, Jeb Secrist signed to play at Charleston Southern University in South Carolina. Sitting, left to right, are father Allen Secrist, Jeb and mom Donna Martin. Standing behind are Doug Secrist and Steve Martin. Below, Jacob Crowder will be attending Catawba College in Salisbury, North Carolina. Seated, left to right, are brother Corbin, mom Jennifer, Jacob and dad Steve, and behind is Caleb Crowder. Also committing to Ferrum College were Cody Francisco and Keith Couch.



GHS swimmers repeat at region

The state Class 1 & 2 swim tournament, which was scheduled for today, has been postponed until February 18 due to an anticipated snow storm this week. The Virginia High School League made the announcement on Tuesday.

The Glenvar girls are the defending state champions in Class 1 & 2 and the Highlanders are making waves again with a Region C championship last week at the Christiansburg Aquatic Center. A total of 22 Swimming Highlanders took to the water as the girls repeated as champions, scoring 144 points to 92 for second place Radford and 71 by George Wythe with 71 among the nine schools competing. The GHS boys team scored 49 points and finished fourth.

The girls qualified 11 individual swims and all three relays for the State Championship. The boys qualified all three relays and one individual swim. Overall the Highlanders set 28 personal records and one school record on the night.

The boys medley relay team of Derrick Hall, Zander Hoanaker, Cooper Campbell and Colvin Delano got the meet started in the 200 Medley Relay, finishing 4th and getting the automatic entry to the state championship. The girls' team of Reese Dunkenberger, Isabelle Pope, Adrianna Hall and Carly Wilkes finished second and head to states.

Adrianna Hall finished 3rd in a tightly contested 200 freestyle getting a state qualifier. Teammates Natalie McMahon and Delaney Eller both set personal records, finishing 5th and 6th and narrowly missing a state finish but scoring valuable points for the Highlanders.

Cooper Campbell set a personal record in the 200 Individual Medley to finish 4th. He qualifies to swim the event at states. Wilkes also set a personal record in the event and will represent the girls team at the state championship. Isabelle Pope, Macy Westland and Brooklyn Woolwine all set personal records in the 200 IM on the night.

Claire Griffith, the 2020 state champion, took off at the horn and never looked back, setting a new school record in the 50 Yard freestyle at 24.99 seconds. She won the event by over two seconds. Eller also swam a personal record time finishing third. Both will swim at states.

Two time state champion Reese Dunkenberger rolled to a victory in the 100 yard freestyle, swimming her best time of the season, and 2020 state



Glenvar freshman Jacob Hall celebrates after his swim. PHOTO BY TONYA WOOLWINE

runner-up Griffith finished second on the night. Both go to states again.

Hall was 2nd in the 500 freestyle and will swim the event for her second year at states. Freshman Natalie McMahon set a personal record finishing 4th and will swim the event at states as well.

The boys 200 freestyle relay team of Hall, Delano, Hoanaker and Campbell finished 4th and advance to states. The girl's team of Eller, Pope, McMahon and Dunkenberger won the girls 200 freestyle relay after the defending state champion George Wythe team was disqualified for an early start. The girls also advance.

Dunkenberger blew away the competition in the 100 backstroke, winning by more than four seconds. Reese will head to states where she was the 2019 and 2020 runner-up.

The race of the night was the girls 100 breaststroke. Pope and Wilkes swam side by side the entire race. Isabelle's arms were just a little longer as she touched the wall .18 seconds faster. Both will advance to states to represent the Highlanders.

The boys 400 freestyle relay team of Hoanaker, Jacob Hall, Tucker Henderson and Derrick Hall finished 2nd and head to states. The girls' team of Eller, Wilkes, McMahon and Hall won the event and also head to the state championship.

"The entire team worked hard and faced a ton of obstacles in this COVID-19 shortened season," said coach Shannon Hall. "I can't say enough about their preparation and focus. This is a special group of young men and women in and out of the pool."

Salem boys, girls both take 2nd at Region 4D swimming meets

Salem High finished second in both the boys' and girls' meets as Blacksburg dominated the Region 4D swim meet in Christiansburg last week.

The Spartan boys took second with 144 points as Blacksburg won with 144, well ahead of third place E.C. Glass with 70. Individual state qualifiers for the boys were as follows:

- Boone Fleenor(200 Free, 100 Butterfly)-Region Champion in both / All Region 4D team
- Cole Bowen(4th place-200 Free)
- Samuel Miles(4th place-50 Free)
- Joren Poush (3rd place in 500 Free and 100 Breast) - All Region 4D team
- Rafe Scaggs(4th place 100 Free)
- Hunter King(2nd place 50 Free, 3rd place 100 Free) - All Region 4D team
- Zach Easter(3rd place 200IM and 100 Butterfly) - All Region 4D team

In the girls' meet Blacksburg had 274 points to 78 for Salem, one point better than third place Glass with 77. Eliza Fleenor made the All Region team and qualified for states with a second place finish in the 100 Breast and a third place finish in the 50 Free.

Heading to the state tournament, scheduled for Saturday at the Christiansburg Aquatic Center, are the following: Cole Bowen. Eliza Fleenor, Andrew Deese, Jaedyn Jenkins, Zach Easter, Emma LaFountain, Boone Fleenor, Zoe Prosser, Hunter King. Regan Repasky, Samuel Miles, Kaylee Shifflett, Joren Poush and Rafe Scaggs.

Region Indoor track meets are outside

Region indoor track meets are coming up in the next week, but outside. Salem and Glenvar will run in "Polar Bear" meets on high school tracks.

The Region 4D meet was scheduled for Tuesday of this week at Amherst High. The top three in each event will advance to the state meet on Monday, March 1, at Liberty University. That will be outside.

Salem competed in a polar bear meet at Franklin County last week, mostly for distance runners. Tommy Henzey and Walker Peterson both ran PR's in the 1600 and Lance Topanta ran a very good 1,000 meters

The GHS girls took first place over all with multiple first place wins by Carly Wilkes in the 1600 and 3200, Sydney Loder in the 300, Carrie Horrell in the 500, Molly McCroskey in the Shot Put and Sydney Loder was 2nd in the 55.

For the boys, Colvin Delano had an outstanding day, taking first in the 55 and 300. Bryant Loftis took second in the 500 along with Daniel Zearfoss in the 1000.

"Going into this season we were unsure of what we would be able to do, but we needed to be ready no matter what," said coach Bekka Loder. "I think these past three meets have shown how hard the kids have worked this season, even with the possibility of not competing."

Spring 2021 Salem Youth Lacrosse Foundations



Spring 2021 Details

SBLF & SGLF are run by members of the Salem High School Varsity coaching staff and serves students in the City of Salem.

We are focused on educating the player and providing the best environment for skill development. As a member of the program, we hope you'll be the future of the Salem High School Lacrosse teams and we encourage you to start preparing your skills and understanding of the game now. Players of any skill level are welcome to join us!

It's a great way to keep active in soccer's off season, to apply your basketball skills, or to try something new. We look forward to you being a part of the team and learning all there is to know about lacrosse!

Registration Includes:

- Practices & Games
- Any equipment you may need to rent for the season

Where: Salem VA Medical Center Fields
1970 Roanoke Boulevard

When: All age group details are listed on the respective webpages below

Cost: Girls \$75 + U.S. Lacrosse Membership
Boys \$110 + U.S. Lacrosse Membership (Scholarships Available)

Register Here: salemgirlslax.usl.la OR salemboyslax.com

Contact Information: salemboyslax@gmail.com or salemgirlslax@gmail.com

Bruins end Salem boys hoop season

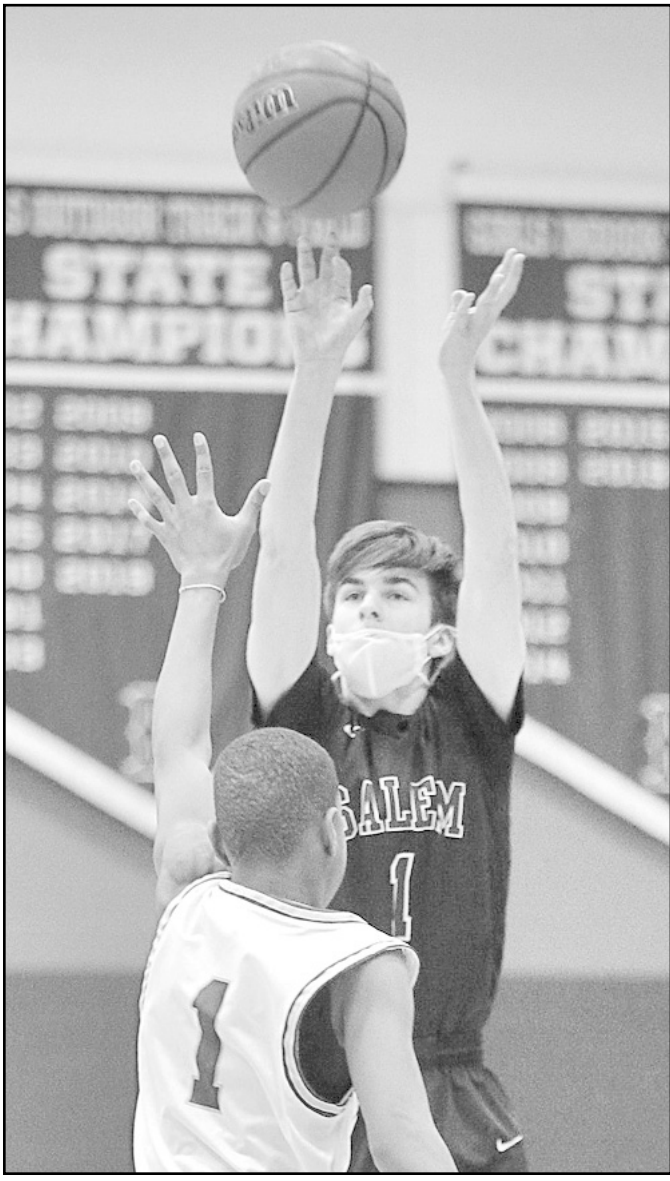
The Salem High boys basketball team saw their season come to an end with a 60-54 loss to Blacksburg in the first round of the Region 4D tournament on Monday. Blacksburg was the fourth seed and hosted fifth seeded Salem.

The Spartans led at the half, 32-30, and held a 41-37 lead after three quarters. However, Blacksburg outscored the Salemites in the fourth quarter, 23-13, making 14 of 16 free throws while Salem was one for two.

Nick Owen led Salem with 12 points and Owyn Dawyot had nine. Dawyot fouled out in the fourth quarter but Owen hit two threes and a free throw to keep the Spartans close. Jaelyn Allen had seven points, six coming in the fourth quarter, and Tanner Dallas had six.

Blacksburg advanced to Wednesday's second round at top-seeded Amherst County.

The loss ended Salem's abbreviated season at 0-6. The Spartans ended the regular season with a 59-41 loss at James River on Saturday.



Left, Salem's Tanner Dallas shoots over Blacksburg's Brooklyn Vick during Monday's Region 4D quarterfinal game. Right, John Wallace of the Spartans drives in for a layup against the Bruins.



PHOTOS BY JON FLEMING

Salem girls hold Blacksburg to 17 points in regional win

The Salem High girls got their post-season off to a great start with a 34-17 win over Blacksburg on Monday at Blacksburg. The Bruins were the higher

seed so it was somewhat of an upset.

"Blacksburg played hard and battled and there were no easy baskets," said Salem coach Berlyn

Seitz. "This is how tournament basketball normally works. Blacksburg is well coached and they took away a lot of the things we wanted to do."

Salem led the entire game and had an 8-2 lead after one period and a 15-7 lead at the half, as Moriah Hill hit a tough shot right before the end of the half.

At the end of three quarters the Spartans led 20-12, then they pulled away in the fourth quarter behind several young players. Sophomore My'La Greene scored nine points in the second half to go with eight rebounds and freshman Daisy Ann Dawyot played strong in the post. Kennedy Scales added seven points for the Spartans as they improved to 2-4 on the season.

Salem was scheduled to take on the tournament's top seed, Pulaski County, in Dublin on Wednesday night, but results were too late for publication. The Spartans lost to Pulaski twice during the regular season, including a 59-41 loss at home last week for "Senior Night," recognizing seniors Moriah Hill, McKenzie Moran, Hayley Merritt and Autumn Poole.

"All of them were in the program for four years and in the case of Moran she was a four year varsity player," said Salem assistant coach Brad Bradley. "They all have been a huge part of our program and will be greatly missed."

If Salem was able to upset Pulaski the Spartans would play in the regional championship Friday at the site of the highest remaining seed.



Left, Salem's Moriah Hill shoots a jumper from close range over Blacksburg's Ellie Gresh (12). Right, Mckenzie Moran scores a layup.



PHOTOS BY JON FLEMING

Glenvar girls beat Floyd for first time in 11 years to advance to region semifinal

The Glenvar girls won a quarterfinal round Region 2C playoff game Monday when they beat Floyd County for the first time in 11 years. The Highlanders took a 56-47 win at GHS.

The last time the Glenvar girls beat the Buffalo Gals was in the 2010 post-season, and that was after Floyd had beaten Glenvar by over 50 points during the regular season. Since that time the Buffaloes, who are in the Three Rivers District with Glenvar, beat them every time they played until Monday night.

"We kept our composure and beat their press," said Glenvar coach Jeff Johnson. "And we moved the ball well."

Olivia Harris led the Highlanders with 23 points while Ryhan Harris and Savana Luper had 10 each. The game came just a week after the Highlanders lost a game to Northside that Johnson felt the girls gave less than their best effort.

"We came to play this time," he said. "I think the seniors started to realize 'this is it.' You can tell they had a different attitude. They

came out early to warm up and they were ready to go."

The win lifted Glenvar to 5-4 on the season and they were scheduled to play at Giles on Wednesday, but results were too late for publication. Radford and Fort Chiswell played in the other bracket and the championship is at the site of the highest seed on Friday.

If Glenvar and Fort Chiswell won Wednesday the championship game would be at Glenvar, but Radford is higher seeded than the Highlanders.



Glenvar's Morgan Batey looks to pass the ball inside. PHOTO BY BRIAN HOFFMAN

GHS BOYS

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and they drain a three with 2.4 seconds to tie."

Mann called a timeout with the ball under the River basket. Barber took the inbounds pass and fired one up from the opposite foul line. The buzzer sounded with the ball in the air and it hit paydirt, sending the Highlanders into a frenzy as the Knights looked on in disbelief.

"That loss was a knife to the gut for sure," said River coach Ethan Humphries, who played at Roanoke College.

Barber's three game him 25 for the game to lead all scorers and Hendrick finished with 14. The win lifted the Highlanders to 3-6, with all six losses coming against Roanoke County teams from larger schools.

The semifinals were scheduled to be Wednesday, and the Highlanders drew top-seeded and unbeaten Radford on the road. Only the tournament winner advances to the state tournament.



Garrett Hendrick of Glenvar drives the baseline to score in Monday's win at James River. PHOTO BY BRIAN HOFFMAN

Roanoke College hoop teams host W&L this week

The NCAA has announced that there will be no post-season tournaments in basketball in Division III this year, but the Roanoke College Maroons are hoping to have successful seasons as far as they can go. And, so far, things have been pretty good.

On Tuesday night both Maroon teams were scheduled to play. The men won at home against Randolph, 80-59, while the women had their game at Ferrum postponed until February 9 due to coronavirus concerns.

With the victory the RC men improved to 5-1 on the season. The Maroons had a game at Virginia Wesleyan canceled on Saturday due to coronavirus pandemic protocols.

The RC men are back home tonight to take on Washington & Lee at 7 pm. Saturday's scheduled game at Eastern Mennonite has also been canceled due to the pandemic.

The RC women are 4-1. They crushed Virginia Wesleyan at Virginia Beach last Saturday, 92-30, jumping to an 11-0 lead and never looking back.

Kristina Harrell led the Maroons with 19 points and eight rebounds. Ayanna Scarborough had 18 points and seven boards, Renee Alquiza had 11 points and Whitney Hopson dished out six assists.

The women will host Washington & Lee at 7 pm Friday followed by a home game against Southern Virginia on Tuesday, February 16.



Thorne is winner of final STR contest

The Super Bowl is in the books and we have a winner for our final football contest of the 2020-21 season. It's Tyler Thorne of Joan Circle in Salem.

Tyler missed just four games in our Super Football Contest. He missed two college bowl games, had the Saints winning the NFC and the Chiefs winning the Super Bowl, and that's not bad for a contest that had to be entered during the week of Christmas. Several others also missed four but Tyler was the closest on the high point total, which was 55 by Oklahoma over Florida.

For his efforts Thorne will receive a \$50 gift certificate from Mac & Bob's, a large blizzard from Dairy Queen in Salem, a free oil change from Valvoline on Main Street and a year's subscription to the Salem Times-Register. That's a value of over \$150.

Our "One for the Road" question was who would win the Super Bowl, and again that had to be determined before Christmas. Many fans picked the Chiefs and Packers but only one person picked the Buccaneers back then, Tyler Shannon of Stoutamire Drive in Salem. He'll get a free oil change from Valvoline.

So, it was a big time for Tylers as we wrap up another football season. Or do we? High School football begins in a week and a half. —Brian Hoffman

Brian Hoffman



Stagg Bowl ties

Nick Sirianni, who was recently named the head coach of the Philadelphia Eagles, knows his way around the Roanoke Valley. . . at least a little bit. He visited five times as a player and coach for the Mount Union football team when the Purple Raiders played in the Stagg Bowl at Salem Stadium.

Sirianni was a receiver from 2000 to 2003, and all four years the Raiders made the Division III championship game. They beat St. John's, Bridgewater and Trinity the first three years but lost to St. John's in 2003 in a memorable game his senior year. The "Johnnies" were led by legendary coach John Gagliardi, who the Division III Player of the Year trophy is named after.

Sirianni returned to Salem in 2005 as a member of the Mount Union coaching staff and the Raiders beat Wisconsin-Whitewater that season, 35-28, in the first of many meetings between the two. Sirianni's older brother Mike played for Mount Union in the first Stagg Bowl held in Salem in 1993.

After the 2005 season Sirianni moved around, climbing the coaching ladder to the point where he was the offensive coordinator for the Indianapolis Colts. That led him to Philadelphia as an NFL head coach, but he's never forgotten his Mount Union roots. In a story by Steve Doerschuk of "The Repository" Sirianni relates the following story about his former college coach, Larry Kehres, who has been in Salem enough times to pay taxes.

Doerschuk wrote. . . "When he(Sirianni) began to explore coaching, he interviewed with his college coach, Larry Kehres, for Mount Union's offensive coordinator job. Kehres asked Sirianni what kind of offense he might like to install. Sirianni presented some specific ideas and was surprised when Kehres pounded the table. "You don't even know what players we'll have," Kehres said. "Until you know that, you won't know what our offense needs to be."

Sirianni applied the concept after he actually landed a job with Kehres, and 15 years later he's an NFL head coach.

MORE FOOTBALL TO COME

Normally the Super Bowl marks the end of football for a while. Not so in the world of the coronavirus pandemic.

While the college season ended in January and the NFL season ended last week, the high school season is just getting started. Local teams began practicing for February 22nd openers last week. The Super Bowl is over, but football is still here. I knew there was something good due to happen.

Unfortunately, who knows how many fans will be allowed at the high school games.

HAPPY VALENTINE'S DAY IN MAY?

If you expect to get a Valentine's card in the mail from me this week, don't fret if it doesn't arrive before Sunday. It may be in your mailbox this summer.

I'm in a fantasy basketball league with some college friends and others and there's a small fee to be in the league. I sent a check to our treasurer in Warren, Ohio the day before Christmas and it arrived last week. It was postmarked December 24 with a Greensboro postmark.

In addition, some Christmas cards I sent to friends and relatives in Pennsylvania also arrived within the past two weeks. I sent them on December 7.

What a great job our postmaster, Louis DeJoy, has done with the postal system. This big donor to the Donald J. Trump campaign, who had no previous experience with the post office, has indicated he'd like to stay on. He has about as much chance of that as Adam Gase did of keeping his job with the New York Jets.

I'll bet there's still ballots arriving with Joe Biden's name on them. By the summer he may have won by 10 million votes instead of seven million.

Kayla Wood named new Salem girls' soccer coach

Kayla Wood has been named the new Girls Varsity Head Soccer Coach at Salem High School, bringing a wide array of coaching, playing, and volunteering experiences to the Spartans program.

"I am so excited for the opportunity to coach the Salem Girls Soccer team," said Wood. "I see the soccer field as an extension of the classroom, a way to build relationships with students and families while instilling in them a love for the game of soccer."

Wood played four years of varsity soccer at perennial power Courtland High School in Spotsylvania County, just outside of Fredericksburg. Most recently, she served as the U18 Salem Sabres Girls coach and guided the team to an undefeated fall season.

"The game of soccer has so much to give, and I hope to foster a team that receives the very best from the game, including comradery, hard work and grit," she said.

Before arriving in Salem in 2018, Wood accumulated a wealth of soccer knowledge and on-the-job training by coaching at a variety of levels. From 2014-18, she was the Head JV Coach and a Varsity Assistant for the girls soccer program at Massaponax High School in Spotsylvania County. Her JV squads won district titles and the varsity captured back-to-back championships during her time on the staff. In addition, she assisted with the field hockey and volleyball programs at Massaponax.

During this time, Wood also served as the director of Tot Soccer. In this unique program, she guided high school athletes and helped them teach 3- and 4-year-old children basic soccer skills. She also generously gave back to her community by leading a free summer soccer initiative through the Spotsylvania County Sheriff's Office.

Wood has a bachelor's degree from James Madison University in history and she earned her mas-



KAYLA WOOD

ter's degree from Mary Washington University in education. She has been a special education teacher at Salem High School since 2018.

"My job as a special education teacher is so important to me, and I hope to instill in each of my students that being different is what makes them special," she said. "I also hope to create a community within Salem that embraces students and adults for their differences and creates a space for students with disabilities to belong."

She and her husband reside in Roanoke. Her appointment was formally approved by the Salem School Board on Tuesday.

Brown is new GHS AD

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in 2009 as an assistant football coach at Eastern Montgomery High School. He moved to Northside as an assistant in 2012 and became head coach for the Vikings in 2016 before returning to his alma mater in 2017 as a football assistant and Special Education teacher.

In 2019 Tyler was named Dean of Students at GHS, a position he held until athletic director Richard McElwee died in November of last year. Brown served as interim athletic director from that point until he was named to the job full-time last week. He credits McElwee for preparing him for the position.

"I learned a lot from Mac," said Brown. "He meant a lot to a lot of people. His genuine nature is something that I miss most about Mac and I hope to carry that with me through this experience."

This is a tough time to take over, with the coronavirus pandemic, but Tyler is ready to forge ahead.

"I am learning something new every day," he said. "I am thankful for all the help from other Roanoke County Athletic Directors and Three Rivers District Athletic Directors. I don't know where we would be without all their help."

Glenvar has always had a soft spot in Tyler's heart, and he feels lucky to get the opportunity to serve at a school that not only puts an emphasis on sports, but he calls "home."

"We are lucky to have a new turf football field, rubberized track, and new gym floor," he said. "We're grateful to Roanoke County for all the recent improvements to our athletic facilities. They don't call it 'Highlander Heaven' for nothing. It's a beautiful place to play and with the recent improvements it's only gotten better."

"The Glenvar 'G' means a lot to me, my family, and this community and I couldn't be more blessed by this opportunity."



Walker Chambers(above) and Cameron Martindale(on top, right) are Region 4D wrestling champions.

PHOTOS BY BRIAN HOFFMAN



Spartans are runner-up on Region 4D mats, Chambers, Martindale win championships

Seven Salem wrestlers qualify for state tournament in Virginia Beach

The Salem High wrestlers finished second in the Region 4D wrestling tournament last Saturday at Amherst, qualifying seven for the state tourney. It was the second year in a row the Spartans have been region runner-up.

Host Amherst County was the team winner with 178 points, followed by Salem with 152. Blacksburg was next with 125 and Pulaski County was fourth with 99 in the six team field.

"We had seven qualify for states out of 13 who competed, and five others would have qualified under the same rules as last year," said Salem coach Lawrence Van Liew. "This year only the top two from the region qualify for states, and last year it was the top four."

The number of competitors was cut to make the field smaller due to the coronavirus pandemic. The state Class 4 tournament will be held at the Virginia Beach

Sports Complex on Saturday, February 20. The complex will host the state Class 6 tournament on Thursday of that week and Class 5 on Friday.

Salem had two champions, Walker Chambers at 113 and Cameron Martindale at 285. Chambers, a senior, won the region with a seven second pin over Gavin Warner of Pulaski to earn his third trip to the state tournament.

Martindale, a junior, is also going to the state tournament for the third time. He pinned Willie Jarvis of Amherst in the heavy-weight championship match. Cameron is a two time region champ and placed sixth in the state as a sophomore in the 220 pound category.

Caden Thomas backed up Chambers last year but he earned a trip to the state by taking second in the region at 120. Kyman Kinney is going to the state for the second time after finishing

second at 145.

At 160, Riley Rutledge took second. He's a returning state qualifier and the only senior on the team other than Chambers.

Sam Miles lost a close match in overtime to the eventual region champ, and then wrestled back and won an intense match over Alex Lafon from Blacksburg with a pin in 1:43 to earn a state berth. Lafon, who was the top seed, knocked Miles out of the region tournament last year.

Finally, PJ Bruner rounds out the seven state qualifiers after taking second in the region at 220. Haden Smith, Avery Hall, Caden Wright and James Brooks all finished in the top four but won't advance under this year's rules.

"There are only eight wrestlers in each weight class in the state this year," said Van Liew. "The top six place, so if you win your first match you're guaranteed to place."

Region 2C wrestling at Patrick Co. Sat.

The Glenvar wrestlers competed in a sub-region wrestling tournament on Tuesday for purposes of seeding in this Saturday's Region 2C tournament at Patrick County High School.

Starting time for Saturday's tournament is 10 am. The top two in each weight class will advance to the state tournament at the Salem Civic Center on Friday, February 19.

SPORTS

Thursday, February 11, 2021

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Highlanders stun James River on 60 foot shot at the buzzer

The Glenvar boys advanced to the semifinal round of the Region 2C basketball tournament in stunning fashion Monday as Stephen Barber hit a 60 foot shot at the buzzer to beat James River, 57-54. With the win Glenvar advanced to the semis against undefeated Radford on Wednesday.

Monday's game at James River was a close game between two very evenly matched teams. No one led by more than five and the lead changed hands many times. Glenvar led by two after one quarter, River led by one at the half and the game was dead-even, 39-39, after three.

River had a one point lead at 47-46 with 1:27 on the clock but the Highlanders went six-for-six from the line as Christian Housh, Garrett Hendrick and Barber made two shots each while denying River on the other end to take a five point lead at 52-47 with 34 seconds to go. Then River mounted a comeback.

Patrick Clevenger got inside for a layup to cut the lead to three and River fouled, with Tyler Johnson hitting one of two. River's Jayson Easton scored to cut the lead to two and again River fouled and Hendrick made one of two as Glenvar led 54-51 with 12 seconds on the clock.

After a timeout Easton took a shot from two steps behind the line at the top of the key, and it bounced on the rim before settling into twine with 2.5 seconds to go.

"I told our guys to foul them on the drive to let them shoot two shots," said Mann. "We don't foul

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Glenvar teammates swarm Stephen Barber(#3) after his three-quarter court shot at the buzzer beat James River.

PHOTO BY BRIAN HOFFMAN



TYLER BROWN

Tyler Brown is new Glenvar athletic director

Glenvar High School has a new athletic director, and it's one of their own. Tyler Brown, a 1998 graduate of Glenvar, has been approved as the new AD for the Highlanders and he's excited to get the job.

"Glenvar High School Athletics has shaped me since a young age," said Brown. "I can remember going to every football game and wrestling

match when I was young. My family owned the Glenvar Chili Shop and when Glenvar football won the whole team ate for free."

There won't be any free meals from the new AD but the Glenvar teams will be in good hands. He has the approval of Glenvar football coach Kevin Clifford for one. Tyler was an assistant coach for Clifford before joining the

GHS administration.

"I am really excited for Coach Brown and for Glenvar," said Clifford. "He is an exceptional person."

Tyler has a long background in sports. He played youth sports for the Glenvar Youth Boosters and participated in sports at Glenvar High.

Brown began his coaching career

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Ice Cold Football

There was snow on the mountain and football players on the gridiron last week when football practice finally began for high school teams. Right, the Salem High team practices on Spartan Field on the first day of official workouts last Thursday. Below left, SHS coach Don Holter is masked up as he instructs the team and, below right, Salem players go through agility drills. Bottom left, Glenvar coach Kevin Clifford rolls the ball as Highlanders practice the art of recovering a fumble, and below right the Glenvar team goes through the tip drill that always comes in handy sometime during the season. No scrimmages are scheduled for this year with games to begin on Monday, February 22nd.

PHOTOS BY BRIAN HOFFMAN

