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Summer plans in discussion for students to catch up their schoolwork



SUBMITTED PHOTOS

East Salem Third Grade Teacher Venecia Thompson working with one of her pupils.



Salem High's Lauren Cundiff instructing her students in an Early Childhood Education class.

Shawn Nowlin

shawn.nowlin@ourvalley.org

Salem City's six public schools have a combined enrollment of approximately 4,000 students. Because of the unprecedented nature of the coronavirus pandemic, the District has experienced a significant enrollment decline for the 2020 - 2021 academic year. Superintendent Alan Seibert is on record saying that it could take months, possibly years, for every student to get caught up from the pandemic.

"While COVID-19 is far from finished, community transmission of the disease is finally decreasing. As a result, we are engaging our

committed staff at each school in brainstorming opportunities and identifying potential obstacles related to increasing the level of in-person instruction that we provide," Seibert said.

He added, "Salem teachers and staff have risen at every occasion, as evidenced by the fact that many schools in the Commonwealth are working to start doing this year what our schools have been doing since August. Our recent move to have students come to school on Wednesdays for face-to-face instruction has been a huge success with over 400 students now taking advantage of this opportunity."

The first recorded COVID-19

case in Virginia was on March 7, 2020. One of the most difficult aspects of this entire crisis, said Assistant Superintendent Curtis Hicks, has been the feeling that there is no right answer when it comes to how we should handle the COVID-19 pandemic.

Peer-Assisted Learning Strategies (PALS) research shows that kindergarten and first-grade students are at the highest risk for reading failure. The numbers are up ten percent from last year and even higher for Black, Hispanic, economically disadvantaged and English learners, according to the Department of

See **Summer**, page 4

Salem community encouraged to participate in Black History Month Historical Marker Contest

Shawn Nowlin

shawn.nowlin@ourvalley.org

Described as an effort to chronicle and recognize accomplishments, sacrifices, events and personalities of historical importance to the state's story, Virginia's Historical Highway Marker Program was established in 1927 and is the first of its kind in the United States. In celebration of Black History Month, Governor Ralph Northam has invited Salem educators, students and families to participate in the Second Annual Historical Marker Contest.

A link with in-depth information, including lesson plans for

educators, can be found on the contest's web page, <https://www.education.virginia.gov/bhm-marker-contest>. Entries must be submitted by March 15, and all submissions will be reviewed by the Department of Historical Resources in consultation with Gov. Northam and members of his cabinet.

"Black history is American history," said Northam. "But for too long, we have told an inaccurate and simplified version of that history that did not include everyone. This competition is one new way to help tell a more true and inclusive story of our shared past."

Of the 2,600 markers Virginia

has erected along its roadways, only about 350 of them, which equates to roughly 7.5 percent, honor African Americans. Gov. Northam has proposed a budget that includes \$100,000 annually to create additional historical highway markers to promote stories that reflect the diverse nature of the citizens of the Commonwealth. The proposed budget also includes another \$100,000 to digitize highway markers to aid in the creation of an African American history trail.

As an educator, Dr. Janice Underwood, Virginia's Chief Diversity Officer, believes deeply in the power of civil dialogue in the classroom and the importance of learning about history through exploration.

"Since even before the time of slavery, stories of incredible African Americans have frequently been ignored, even silenced. This contest is a great opportunity for students, teachers and families to learn about Black history more deeply, and foster a sense of critical consciousness wherein our students contribute ideas in pursuit of remedying the disparities of African American historical markers throughout Virginia," said Dr. Underwood. "This also provides teachers a structured process that shows learners of all ages how to engage state government in meaningful ways."

Entries will be judged on clarity of expression, creativity, structure and coherence. Markers submitted last year include Sergeant William H. Carney, NASA mathematician

See **Black History**, page 2



SUBMITTED PHOTO

Said Dr. Janice Underwood and Gov. Ralph Northam in a joint statement, "Since 1619, stories of incredible African American Virginians have frequently been ignored. This contest allows for students to discover local heroes and provides an opportunity for civic engagement."



PHOTO BY MEG HIBBERT

Zoning Administrator Mary Ellen Wines briefs Salem City Council on proposed code changes at the Feb. 22 work session.

Council hears proposed code changes

Meg Hibbert

Contributing writer

More streamlined ways to take care of nuisances such as too-tall grass, abandoned vehicles, and signs for businesses no longer located at a particular spot were among the proposed code changes members of Salem City Council heard Feb. 22.

Zoning Administrator Mary Ellen Wines briefed the five Council members at a work session before the regular meeting in the Salem Civic Center Community Room.

She said changes were necessary, in part, because building regulations had not been updated since 1999.

Some of the proposed changes would clarify what kind of maintenance of historic structures and those in a historic district. Wines pointed out that the changes would not dictate what

historic structures should look like, just that they have to be protected and maintained.

Historic structures any listed on local, state or federal lists.

Checking on those buildings and other aspects of the changes would be overseen by the city's Building Inspections Division until a code compliance position is made available, Wines said.

The changes would also encompass clarifying code sections on signs to add maintenance of existing signs. For instance, if a sign no longer advertises an existing business, the sign should be professionally covered or the face painted blank, Wines said.

One example of that is the sign outside the former Zaxby's on West Main Street.

The Nuisance section

See **Council**, page 7

'Exciting changes' coming to Salem Sheetz on Main Street



PHOTO BY SHAWN NOWLIN

Closed at the moment because of renovations, the Sheetz on West Main Street is expected to reopen in the spring.

Shawn Nowlin

shawn.nowlin@ourvalley.org

Extensive renovations at the Salem Sheetz at 1340 West Main Street, known also as store #333, are currently happening. Intended to bring the convenience store up to par with other Sheetz locations in the area, work on the store began in December and is expected to continue for at least seven more weeks. Once complete, the renovated store will be more than 6,000 square feet and feature a new store design.

In addition to inside

and outside seating, the new Sheetz will also have the ability to fuel ten vehicles at a time. A car wash will also be an additional feature.

Said Sheetz Public Relations Manager Nick Ruffner, "Store #333 is currently expected to reopen around the end of April. All store team members who worked at this location were offered positions at other area Sheetz while construction is ongoing. We are looking forward to getting the doors back open

See **Sheetz**, page 3

"I wouldn't bank anywhere else."



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Bob Rotanz, Co-founder
Mac & Bob's, Salem VA



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COMMUNITY CALENDAR

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

FIRST AND THIRD TUESDAYS

Salem Host Lions Club,

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

SECOND MONDAY

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

EACH TUESDAY

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

•Salem Chess Players meet at the Salem Senior

Center, 110 Union Street in Salem from 7-11 p.m. Open to anyone 16 years or older. Instructions are available.

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

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

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

•Infinity Acres Ranch Fundraiser from 4 p.m. to 8 p.m. at Christ Episcopal Church at 321 E. Church

Street in Blacksburg. Tickets are \$8 while children eight and younger can eat for \$4. For more information, contact 276-358-2378.

•All ages are welcome to TOPS (Take off Pounds Sensibly) at 5:15 p.m. at the Salem Senior Center. For more information, contact Linda at 540-389-4207.

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

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

THIRD TUESDAY

The monthly meeting

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

THIRD WEDNESDAY

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

FIRST THURSDAY

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

EACH THURSDAY

The Salem Senior Center's Social Club, known as the 49ers Plus Club, originally started the

senior program in Salem over 40 years ago. They have different speakers and/or activities practically every week. New members are always welcome to show up at the Salem Senior Center at 11 a.m. Contact 540-375-3054 for more information.

EACH SATURDAY

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

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

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

Friendship Assisted Living awards free week-long respite "Staycation" and peace of mind to local family



SUBMITTED PHOTO

JT Huddleston and his daughter, Lois Rittenhouse, pose holding Friendship Assisted Living's Respite Staycation Promotion flyer. Huddleston won the promotion and looks forward to enjoying a free week-long stay this summer.

Friendship Assisted Living recently awarded a free week-long respite "staycation" to contest winner JT Huddleston. Lois Rittenhouse, Huddleston's daughter and caregiver, entered his name into the promotion after scheduling a beach vacation for this coming summer.

"I enjoy living close to dad and supporting him," said Rittenhouse. "It's a wonderful feeling

to have such peace of mind knowing Dad will be safe, well-fed, and entertained while I'm out of town."

Rittenhouse is one of many in our region that are supporting parents and loved ones who desire to continue living independently at home.

"I hope to continue remaining at home as long as possible," said Huddleston. "I'm so thankful for my daughter's love

and care, and it's great having Friendship available and willing to help out as needed so she can enjoy life too."

Recognizing that the Coronavirus pandemic has been difficult for all providing healthcare and support to elders, Friendship Assisted Living developed the promotion so those who are supporting loved ones can have a well-deserved break for rest, or to at-



Friendship Assisted Living's recently renovated lobby is a favored resident hang-out, due to its natural light, accessible gathering space, and proximity to the team's offices and Dining Room.

tend to matters requiring time and attention.

"So often we see family members and friends who are struggling to care for those they love, while taking care of themselves and the demands of everyday living," said Friendship Assisted Living Administrator Susan O'Malley. "This promotion is truly a win-win. Lois will enjoy a well-deserved break while JT makes new friends, enjoys our chef's cooking, and has fun with our team."

Assisted Living is just one of several services Friendship offers for seniors who prefer to remain living at home.

•Friendship Home Care is available 24 hours a day (including holidays) and provides assistance around the house with everyday tasks, housekeeping, companionship, transportation as well as personal attention to

include bathing, dressing, hygiene assistance and medication management.

•Friendship's Adult Medical Day Care, located in The Feinour Center, provides affordable daytime care for family members who can no longer stay home safely, or prefer to spend time in a community setting while still residing at home.

•Club Friendship, Friendship's award-winning restaurant and bar, provides take-out meals available for purchase.

•Friendship Physician Clinic offers primary care and is currently scheduling wellness visits, in addition to addressing individuals' health concerns.

•Friendship Pharmacy helps clients compare costs, reviews prescriptions and compatibility for those taking multiple medications, and has several free services

available, including prescription delivery to one's home.

•Friendship Outpatient Therapy provides a host of services to help individuals regain strength and abilities, and build confidence.

"Our mission at Friendship is to support friends and provide peace of mind," said Friendship President and CEO Joe Hoff. "We recognize that our 'friends' are individuals that live both within and outside of our campuses. That is the challenge and motivation that fuels our organization to continue enhancing our care, and expanding services to address the ever-changing needs in the Roanoke Valley. We want all seniors to be supported, regardless of their socioeconomic status or where they are in their life journey."

-Submitted by Stephanie Landes, Director of Marketing

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Black History from page 1



SUBMITTED PHOTO

Civil Rights icon Barbara Rose Johns Powell is best known for leading a student strike for equal education at 16.

Katherine Johnson and entrepreneur Maggie Lena Walker.

"As the leaders of tomorrow, it is critically important for students to develop a deeper understanding of Black history in the Commonwealth," said Secretary of Education Atif Qarni. "The Black History Month Historical Marker Contest provides students and educators alike an opportunity to celebrate the incredible contributions of Black and brown Virginians. I invite all educators and students to help us tell a more complete Virginia story through participating in this contest."

On Juneteenth of last year, Gov. Northam announced 20 newly approved state historical highway markers addressing topics of national, state and regional significance to African American history. "I am a strong proponent of teaching history that accurately reflects the full spectrum of stories and experiences," he said.

General Assembly confirms Westfall as State Inspector General

The Virginia Office of the State Inspector General (OSIG) has announced that the General Assembly has confirmed the Governor's reappointment of State Inspector General Michael C. Westfall. Westfall's four-year term began July 1, 2020, when the Governor announced the reappointment.

"I am humbled and honored that the General Assembly has confirmed the Governor's appointment to allow me to continue serving as the Commonwealth's State Inspector General through June 30, 2024," said Westfall. "I am proud of our team and their accomplishments, and am glad that others outside of OSIG are recognizing our work. By modeling our core values of integrity, trust, dedica-

tion, collaboration and respect, we are moving closer to our vision of maximizing the public's confidence and trust in state government."

Westfall cited recent examples of OSIG's work that is making an impact on state operations and the citizens of the Commonwealth. They include:

- Completion of the Natural Resources Law Enforcement Diversity Recruitment and Hiring audit.
- Successful prosecution of the Department of Motor Vehicles bribery conspiracy case.
- OSIG's accomplishments outlined in the Fiscal Year 2020 Annual Report to the Governor and the General Assembly of Virginia.
- The OSIG Behavioral Health

and Developmental Services Unit's assistance to constituents.

The Governor initially appointed Westfall as State Inspector General in April 2018. Westfall served as acting State Inspector General since February 2017 and Deputy Inspector General since 2015.

Prior to joining OSIG in 2015, Westfall served in several leadership positions, including Chief Audit Executive for the Virginia State Police and Assistant Director and Director of the Chesterfield County Office of Internal Audit, where he oversaw internal audits and hotline investigations for more than 20 years. He began his career as an auditor for the U.S. Department of the Interior Office of Inspector General.

Westfall holds a master's degree in accountancy from Virginia Commonwealth University and is a Certified Inspector General, a Certified Public Accountant and a Certified Fraud Examiner. He was recently elected to serve a three-year term on the Association of Inspectors General Board of Directors. Westfall also is a member of the Association of Certified Fraud Examiners and the Virginia Local Government Auditors Association (past-president). He previously served in leadership roles with the Association of Local Government Auditors and the Association of Government Accountants (past president of the Richmond chapter).

-Submitted by
Kate Hourin



SUBMITTED PHOTO

Michael C. Westfall

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 gov-

ernment 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 Fellow. "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 contrib-

uting 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.

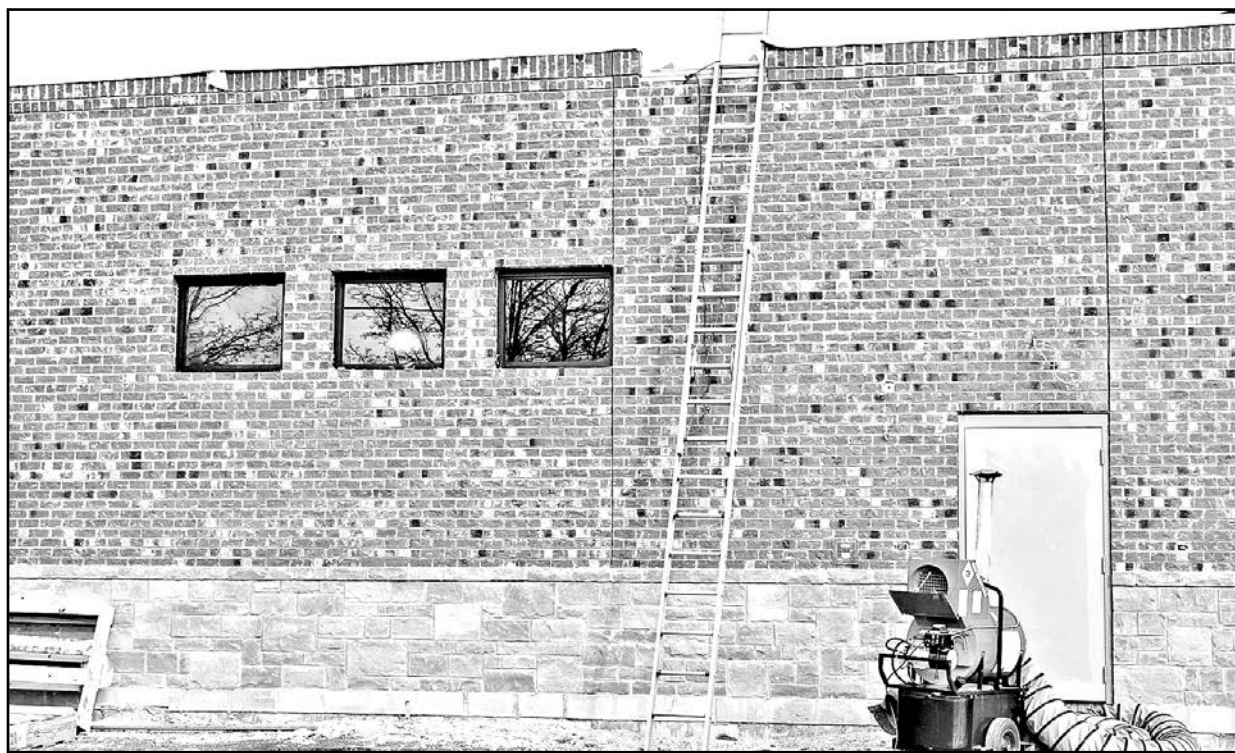
The selection of Fellows is based solely on merit. The Governor's Fellows Program does not discriminate on the basis of race, sex, color, national origin, religion, sexual orientation, gender identity, age, political affiliation, disability, or veteran status. The Northam Administration is

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."

-Submitted by
Alena Yarmosky,
Office of the Governor

Sheetz from page 1



Once complete, the renovated store will feature both inside and outside seating.

PHOTO BY SHAWN NOWLIN

for the people of that area."

Salem native Raheem Gardner says one day he was pulling up to get gas at the Sheetz location, and two weeks later when he returned, as he put it, "they were under construction. I know a lot of people are like me and can't wait for the convenience store to reopen."

The Salem #333 store is one of two Sheetz locations in the city. The other, store #325, at 1435 Apperson Drive, went through a similar renovation phase last year. Sheetz loyalists regularly point to the following reasons why they prefer the store over other options: specialty drinks, the espresso bar, Sheetz Card and MTO (made-

to-order).

Dominique Coleman, 51, says she's been going to the Salem Sheetz for years. "Stopping by the store was part of my weekly schedule. The first thing I'm going to do when they reopen is use my Sheetz Card to get a chocolate milkshake and order some fries," she said.

Fortune has recognized Sheetz as one of the 100 Best Workplaces for Millennials. Other notable honors the company has won over the years include the Silver Plate Award from the International Food Manufacturers Association as well as the Alternative Fuels Leader of the Year Award from Convenience Store News.

Grain growers urged to watch for rapid price changes

Last year's enormous agricultural commodity price drops due to the COVID-19 pandemic were a "black swan" event, said Dr. David Kohl, Virginia Tech professor emeritus of agricultural finance and small business management.

Speaking at the virtual 2021 Virginia Grain and Soybean Annual Conference, Kohl said unanticipated world events tend to occur at least once a decade, and grain farmers need to prepare for rapid changes this year.

"We're going to have inflation creep, particularly in expenses and machinery," he noted. "Some of this volatility will be extreme. We can't change what comes out of China or election results. The things we can control are our business—production, finance, marketing. Re-

ally good managers zero in on the things you can control in your business."

The economic volatility Kohl expects will offer opportunities for some producers to prosper, but only if they're willing to take chances on new business. "In this management transition period, entrepreneurs are the ones who will thrive," he said.

Continued uncertainty regarding exports to China and new trade agreements will be driving change in grain markets, Kohl said. While China purchased significant amounts of American soybeans and other small grains last year, farmers shouldn't expect that to continue.

"Don't bet your farm on trade with China," he said, noting that China recently imposed new tariffs on Australian

commodities after that country accused China of being the source of the COVID-19 virus. China also has invested more than \$1 trillion in farmland purchases in other countries, seeking to build its own agricultural supply chain.

Kohl added that many countries are looking for regional trade agreements rather than worldwide treaties. After six decades of increasing farm exports after World War II, global trade share of the U.S.

grain market dropped 9% between 2009 and 2017. Unless American farmers want to be left out of those regional markets, Kohl said, they should support joining treaties such as the Trans-Pacific Partnership.

While stronger exports and emergency government supports in 2020 led to improved bottom lines for many grain producers, Kohl warned against taking that for granted this year. "Don't depend on those gov-

ernment payments to continue," he said, adding that increased government support of the farm sector comes with increased limitations. "When the government writes checks, the government encroaches" in areas such as environmental regulations and taxes.

Other concerns on the radar for 2021 include a possible increase in the federal minimum wage, higher income taxes, the partial disassembly of the

U.S. energy fossil fuel industry and de-urbanization trends.

Kohl said the smart farmer will thrive in these market conditions by taking the time to make written production plans, set goals and then follow through on them.

"That's one of the things the pandemic really did—make producers reassess their goals."

-Submitted by
Norm Hyde, VFBF
communications

"All people are the leaves of one branch, the fruits of one bough." - Baha'i Faith

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OPINION

Give Light ~ New Understanding ~

{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.}

Before Black History Month ends, I am going to reflect how events of the past three years have educated me in understanding more about what are now known inclusively as "people of color."

This has come about to a great extent by my work relationship with a Black man the age of my granddaughter. Working with Shawn Nowlin as a writing colleague on this historic weekly newspaper has done far more to break down barriers for me than all the rhetoric about the need to erase my proud Southern heritage as symbolized by the changing of Confederate names and the removal of statues.

Shawn, now 32, was employed in 2016 by Mountain Media, the current publisher of the weekly newspapers

that serve Salem, Vinton, Botetourt County and Craig County along with a number of others in Western Virginia and in West Virginia. Soon after he started work in the Salem office, Shawn took me to lunch where he outlined his life at a local cafeteria.

I was pleased but surprised to be seated across a table with a Black man who at 6' 7" towered over me, an elderly white woman old enough to be his grandmother.

Hearing him tell me the facts of his life with his rearing in several places mostly by a hard-working mother whom he clearly respected highly, her encouragement she and a teacher at a Roanoke high school gave him to follow his enjoyment of writing, the African name he and a sister were given as part of a family tradition put a personal face on what I had long read about young single Black youth.

I told him a bit about my own rearing as a white child also raised by a widowed mother in a small Virginia

town where racial segregation was a way of life. No one in my world questioned it. I knew no children with skin different from mine; integrated public schools would not come until my own younger son was in fourth grade and had a seasoned Black teacher who worried over his learning disability more than those who were white,

In our community, my mother would have no one cut her straight dark hair but "Ben," the skilled proprietor of the town's best barbershop. That he, as an elderly small business owner, was called only by his first name, was typical of the times. I knew too my aunt's house and yard man, also aging and polite, but clearly a hired servant.

It was not easy as a young adult for me to adjust to the pressures put on white southerners who valued their Confederate heritage as I still do. I deplore the changing of names everywhere, the apparent effort to erase from history a period still honored especially in

states where fighting affected lives and homes.

In an effort to right the wrongs done through demeaning enslaved Blacks, it should not be necessary to demean those of us who also value our heritage.

Two wrongs do not make a right.

My colleague Shawn also writes occasionally for other publications such as the magazine "ColorsVA" published in Roanoke, especially for the African American readership. In the September 2020 issue Shawn Nowlin expressed his views on statue removal making it clear he favors getting the familiar form of a man usually identified with the Confederacy off the spot in the center of a community. His article is comprehensive and fairly presented and enhanced with his pictures.

Here's where my colleague of a different race and generation and I can meet on common ground. Nowlin suggests statues be moved to a museum and identified as a symbol of

the history that they are. I would be happy to see Salem's Confederate pioneer moved up the hill to the grounds of The Salem Museum.

My colleague and I have shared political views. Each week at his request I carefully read each newspaper story in "The Salem Times-Register" making a few comments for possible improvement. Shawn understands that I exclude sports since I am as ignorant on that past time that so many enjoy as he is enthusiastic about basketball.

My increased understanding is not due entirely to Shawn. As I have become a regular viewer of evening Public Television news, I am more aware of how the appearance, speech and education today elevates the status of people who were separated Negroes decades ago. Over the past difficult year, I have been made aware of the reality of unjust treatment young Black men like Nowlin have often received. It takes time.

The latest COVID-19 statistics

Dr. Cynthia Morrow
Roanoke City and Alleghany Health Districts Health Director
Guest Contributor

Each week's Tuesday

SALEM TIMES-REGISTER

A newspaper of, by and for the people of the City of Salem and Roanoke County.

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Michael Showell, *Publisher*
Lynn Hurst, *General Manager*lhurst@ourvalley.org
Shawn Nowlin, *Editor* shawn.nowlin@ourvalley.org
Brian Hoffman, *Sports Editor* bhoffman@ourvalley.org
Randy Thompson, *Advertising Consultant* advertise@ourvalley.org

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

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news briefing with local reporters begins with a roundup of the latest COVID-19 statistics in the Roanoke City & Alleghany Health Districts (RCAHD). We share information on the number of confirmed cases of COVID-19 in each

RCAHD locality, hospitalizations and other data that help to describe the toll the pandemic has taken here in our own backyard. Sometimes the data are encouraging, such as the recent downturn trend in infection rates over the last several weeks. Sometimes the data is heartbreaking, as we recently shared that more than 300 of our friends and neighbors have succumbed to this deadly disease in the past year.

The challenges of gathering reliable data in this pandemic have been great. Accurate reporting involves the work of epidemiologists, case investigators, data managers, hospital staff, laboratories, testing centers and more. Yet even with the conscientious efforts of many dedicated professionals, it is easy to become overwhelmed and numb to the meaning of all the digits. Numbers don't capture the sense of loss of a beloved grandparent who resided in a nursing home, a loss made all the more pain-

ful by quarantines prohibiting family visits. It is also difficult to describe the hardship suffered by employees and owners when one of our local businesses is forced to close or the challenges parents face with homeschooling their children.

It is important that each of you knows that you are not a number to me or any member of the RCAHD staff.

Despite these limitations, we do use data to paint a picture of the impact that COVID-19 has had on our community. And we use data to inform difficult decisions, such as how to determine who will receive the 3,150 precious doses of vaccine our district receives each week. We use data to inform us as to who is pre-registered and who is least likely to be able to navigate the pre-registration process. We use data to inform us about who is most at risk for serious disease -or even death - from COVID-19 and who is most likely to be exposed to the disease.

While we rely on data to understand COVID-19's impact and to identify vaccine distribution strategies, we also use data to improve our ability to serve you. We have struggled to meet the demand for information about these decisions and have not been able to personally respond to all of the inquiries and requests we have recently received. For this I am sorry. We are dedicated to continuing to improve the way we communicate about opportunities to schedule a vaccine appointment, about testing events and about other important aspects of the RCAHD. Every decision we make is driven by data and our commitment to serve you to the best of our ability.

This week marks some good news in the effort to provide better customer service to those who are currently seeking vaccination appointments. The Virginia Department of Health has created a new statewide Vaccine Pre-Registration System

to provide a unified and comprehensive process for Virginians to pre-register for the COVID-19 vaccine. If you previously filled out our RCAHD website form indicating your interest in vaccine, your data were automatically imported into the new system and you do not need to pre-register again. This system, combined with an expanded central call center, promises to help our citizens verify that they are in the system, and will help to ensure that callers can get timely assistance with questions and pre-registration.

We recently celebrated the delivery of over 11,000 first and second doses into the arms of RCAHD residents, a milestone achieved through the hard work of RACHD and Carilion staff with the help of an army of community volunteers. This week, as we continue to focus on reaching our older citizens, especially those in communities of color, as well as the top three tiers of essential workers in Phase 1B, we will look forward to celebrating our improved ability to serve you.

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

Summer from page 1

Education.

To give students the best opportunity to succeed, the City of Salem has partnered with the YMCA and Parks and Recreation to offer families the option of three, two-week summer camps, for any student that needs to catch up on their schoolwork. Some students, noted Seibert, might go all six weeks and some might just go two weeks, but regardless, transportation will be provided.

"We believe that transitioning to higher levels of student attendance using layered mitigation strategies is consistent

with the most recent guidance from the Virginia Department of Education, the Virginia Department of Health and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and we are absolutely certain that it is the right thing to do for our students," Hicks said. "We are committed to working with parents and the community to overcome any obstacles and address any concerns as we move forward safely and effectively for the sake of the children we serve."

More information regarding this story will be reported as it becomes available.

CROSSWORD PUZZLE

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- CLUES ACROSS
- 1. Ancient Persian city
- 5. Spindles
- 11. Stake
- 12. Retrain
- 16. Close by
- 17. Commercial
- 18. One who publicly announces
- 19. American ballplayer
- 24. Junior's father
- 25. Go up or climb
- 26. Concern
- 27. When you hope to get there
- 28. Iacocca and Oswald are 2
- 29. Plant of the lily family
- 30. Male college organization
- 31. National capital
- 33. Raccoonlike animal
- 34. Symbols of fertility
- 38. Astronomy unit
- 39. Series of ridges in anatomy
- 40. Hebrew leader
- 43. A portent of good or evil
- 44. Supreme goddess
- 45. Gelatinous substance
- 49. Engage in a contest
- 50. Famed ballplayer Ruth
- 51. Pledge
- 53. __, denotes past
- 54. Revival
- 56. Spanish surname
- 58. Gold
- 59. Elsa's sister
- 60. Workplace
- 63. Large quantity of something
- 64. Engraved
- 65. Discount
- CLUES DOWN
- 1. Shoe
- 2. Disquiet
- 3. Posture
- 4. Large nests
- 5. Soviet "Second Symphony" composer
- 6. Joins 2 pipes of different diameter
- 7. Exist
- 8. Overdose
- 9. Pleat of fabric
- 10. Predict the future
- 13. Burgeoning technology
- 14. Having made a valid will
- 15. Having no fixed course
- 20. __ route
- 21. Lethal dose
- 22. Indian musical pattern of notes
- 23. Athlete
- 27. Geological times
- 29. Atomic #21
- 30. In support of
- 31. Brew
- 32. Certificate of insurance
- 33. Taxi
- 34. Type of saying
- 35. For cigars
- 36. Phil __, former CIA
- 37. Local area network
- 38. Gym class
- 40. Philippine Island
- 41. Not great or bad
- 42. Eastern part of NY state
- 44. Gov't lawyers
- 45. Constructions
- 46. Former British gold coin
- 47. Unkeyed
- 48. Rechristen
- 50. Threaten persistently
- 51. Southeast
- 52. Cools your home
- 54. Removes the leaves
- 55. Regretted
- 57. Thus
- 61. Relief organization (abbr.)
- 62. Exclamation of surprise



Andrew Lewis sixth graders wearing their masks in Mrs. Walton's first-period class. SUBMITTED PHOTO

SCC'S Bureau of Insurance recovers more than \$14 million for consumers in 2020

Last year, the State Corporation Commission's (SCC) Bureau of Insurance (Bureau) helped thousands of consumers recover approximately \$14.3 million in refunds, benefits, restitution and other payments related to their insurance coverage. These efforts are only one of the many ways in which the Bureau assists Virginians who have insurance questions or concerns — whether those consumers are shopping for insurance, trying to understand what their insurance policy covers, have questions about premiums, or question why their insurance company did not renew a policy or why it denied a claim.

As part of its recovery efforts, the Bureau receives tens of thousands of inquiries and handles thousands of formal complaints each year. Con-

sumers may contact the Bureau if they have insurance questions or want to file a formal complaint against an insurance company, agency or agent.

During 2020 alone, the Bureau's Life & Health and Property & Casualty divisions handled more than 14,000 phone inquiries, almost 3,100 formal consumer complaints and 171 appeals of adverse decisions issued by managed care health insurance plans. Among other things, these two divisions handled complaints and appeals concerning claim denials, improper or delayed claims processing, cancellation or nonrenewal of insurance policies and improper billing.

As a result of complaint investigations, managed care appeals and market conduct

examinations, the Bureau's Life & Health and Property and Casualty divisions recovered more than \$12.2 million worth of benefits and savings for roughly 7,300 consumers in the form of refunds, insurance benefits, interest payments, reimbursements, additional claims payments and reinstated coverage.

In addition, the Bureau's Agent Regulation Division conducted 605 investigations and recovered more than \$2.1 million in restitution for consumers during 2020 through its Investigation Units. This amount represents refunds and payments provided to policyholders due to improper agent activities.

"Protect yourself financially by reviewing and updating your insurance regularly, understanding the terms of your

policy and your rights, and knowing where to turn if you need help," said Virginia Insurance Commissioner Scott A. White. "We can look into whether a company has acted in accordance with its policy and the law."

In addition to recovery efforts for consumers, the Bureau helps Virginians in many other areas concerning their insurance. When shopping for insurance, the Bureau encourages Virginians to compare prices and terms and make sure to select coverage that fits their particular needs. The Bureau's specially trained staff can assist consumers with their insurance questions and investigate any complaints they may have with their insurance carrier.

Even during the COVID-19 pandemic, the Bureau

is working hard to help Virginians become well-informed insurance consumers. It offers outreach and educational materials about many types of insurance including health, life, homeowners, auto, long-term care, commercial insurance and Medicare. Consumers may view these materials, search for a licensed insurance company or agent in Virginia, view updates on key laws impacting insurance in Virginia and much more on the Bureau's website at www.scc.virginia.gov/pages/Insurance.

For more information, contact the Bureau of Insurance toll-free at 1-877-310-6560 or in Richmond at (804) 371-9741 or visit www.scc.virginia.gov.

-Submitted by
Katha Treanor

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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.templebaptch.com.

BAPTIST (SOUTHERN)

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

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

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

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

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

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

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WORSHIP DIRECTORY

Facing Change

Read Deuteronomy 9:1 through 11:32

Joe had lived in the country his entire life. Life on his parents' dairy farm was predictable and comfortable. Now he was leaving for college, and a whole new world lay ahead. When Joe's parents dropped him off at the university on orientation day, he reeled from the culture shock. This sure is going to be different, he thought.

The Israelites had a similar experience as they prepared to enter the Promised Land.

The land you are entering to take over is not like the land of Egypt, from which you have come (Deuteronomy 11:10).

After forty years of wandering in the desert, the Israelites were not familiar with cultivating crops. Even their knowledge of Egyptian agriculture, which relied on slave labor and the Nile for irrigation, would provide little help. In their new home, God himself would provide water for their fields and vineyards, as long as they continued to trust Him to do so.

Times of transition can be difficult, but if we rely on God, He will help us navigate each new season of life.

Challenge for Today: Pray for someone you know who is facing a major change in his or her life.

Quicklook: Deuteronomy 11:8-17

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

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, www.meetup.com/Roanoke-Spiritual-Experiences-Group, or call 540-353-5365 and leave a message. We will return your call. Also visit www.eckankar.org for more information about how the teachings of Eckankar lead you to spiritual freedom.

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
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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) 8:00 a.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.

DMV continues to add online service options during COVID-19 pandemic

~ Over 50 options now available online to help customers avoid visiting in person ~

The Virginia Department of Motor Vehicles (DMV) is now offering even more convenient online service options for customers during the current COVID-19 pandemic. Customers can now skip a trip to the DMV and instead visit dmvnow.com to replace their commercial driver's license (CDL), driver's license learner's permit, driver privilege card or learner's permit, or limited duration driver's

license, permit or CDL. Online credential replacements are only available to customers age 18 and older. These transactions previously required an in-person visit.

"DMV continues to add online options to not only make service more convenient, but to create additional appointment opportunities for customers who need in-person service," said DMV Commissioner Rich-

ard D. Holcomb. "Customers have come to rely on alternate means of service for every aspect of life during the COVID-19 pandemic and we will continue to look for ways to meet new expectations."

Virginia is an innovator in online services and became the first state in the nation to offer secure online driver's license renewals in the 1990s. In response to the COVID-19 pandemic,

DMV quickly navigated to an appointment-only operational model for in-person service and has increased the number of online transactions to over 50, necessitating fewer in-person visits and prioritizing the health and safety of customers and staff. Some of the most popular online transactions include vehicle registration renewals, driver's license renewals, and requests for vehicle and driver transcripts.

Credentials ordered online are mailed to the applicant. Please note, the U.S. Postal Service advises it is experiencing unprecedented volume increases and limited employee availability due to the impacts of COVID-19; therefore, the delivery time for DMV materials may be delayed.

-Submitted by
Jessica Cowardin, Public Relations and Media Liaison

More than \$500 million in new funding for Virginia Rent Relief Program announced

Federal stimulus funds available to help landlords and tenants impacted by COVID-19 pandemic

Governor Ralph Northam recently announced \$524 million in new federal funding to help keep Virginia families in their homes amid the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic. The Virginia Rent Relief Program (RRP) is funded through the Emergency Rental Assistance (ERA) program included in the recent federal stimulus package and will assist households and landlords with rent payments to avoid eviction. Governor Northam made the announcement at Gilliam Place Apartments, which is owned by the nonprofit organization Arlington Partnership for Affordable Housing.

Department of Housing and Community Development (DHCD).

The new ERA funding does not include mortgage relief, so the RMRP that has been operating since June will become the RRP and will no longer accept applications for assistance with mortgage payments. Recently, the Biden Administration announced an expansion and extension of federal forbearance and foreclosure relief programs.

Tenants interested in applying should check their eligibility by completing the self-assessment at dhcd.virginia.gov/eligibility or by dialing 2-1-1 from their phones. Tenants may be eligible for rent arrears payments back to April 1, 2020 and up to three months of payments into the future. The total payments may not exceed 15 months of rental assistance per household.

ing for all Virginians is in the interest of public health," said Senator Janet Howell, Chair of the Senate Finance and Appropriations Committee. "This additional funding is vital to providing rent relief to prevent evictions and get financially distressed Virginians back on track with rent payments."

Current state and federal eviction protections through the courts do not prevent rent payments from accumulating. The Commonwealth remains focused on helping eligible households access resources to maintain housing stability during the COVID-19 pandemic and in the future. Additional information on RRP is available at dhcd.virginia.gov/RRP. For additional housing resources, visit StayHomeVirginia.com.

- Submitted by
Alena Yarmosky,
Office of the Governor

Butts, Phyllis Dooley

Phyllis Dooley Butts of Roanoke passed away on Friday, February 19, after a courageous battle with Alzheimer's disease.

She was born on March 19, 1931, to Helen and Bob Dooley of Salem. Phyllis graduated from Andrew Lewis High School and received degrees in education from Radford College and University of Virginia.

Phyllis is survived by her sons, Rob and Dennis; daughters-in-law, Louise and Leigh Ann; as well as her grandsons, Allen, David, Robert and wife, Kayleigh, and Andrew.

She was preceded in death by her parents; her husband of 43 years, Bud Butts; as well as her brother, Tom Dooley.

As a lifelong teacher and guidance counselor, Phyllis taught at Andrew Lewis High School in Salem and Dunbar High School in Charleston, West Virginia. She was a guidance counselor at both the Roanoke County Prevocational and Vocational Schools in Roanoke. She was also a Sunday School and Vacation Bible School Teacher at Windsor Hill United

Methodist Church in Roanoke where she and Bud were members and served in various capacities for over 40 years.

Phyllis and Bud, along with family and friends, built a home at Smith Mountain Lake that they enjoyed for over 50 years. They also enjoyed traveling and playing bridge with lifelong high school friends.

Phyllis was passionate about her grandsons, her beloved dog, Charlie, endless projects at the lake, yardwork and serving older residents at various facilities around the Roanoke Valley. She was always willing to lend a helping hand, offer her opinion, whip up dinner for impromptu guests and hosting the annual Fourth of July party at the lake.

Due to COVID-19 restrictions, a private graveside service will be held. In lieu of flowers, the family requests that a donation be made to the Alzheimer's Association.

Arrangements entrusted to Oakey's Funeral Service - South Chapel, Roanoke, Va., (540) 989-3131. Online condolences may be shared with the family at www.oakeys.com.

Council

from page 1

replaces one titled Vegetation, and covers , tires off their rims, and too-tall grass and weeds over 10 inches tall (except hay fields, shrubbery, trees and gardens).

Parking construction standards are also considered in the proposed code changes. If enacted, businesses would be required to have fewer parking spaces, such as Lowe's home improvement store that now has 591 spaces. The new amendment would require only 270 spaces.

Councilmember Randy Foley asked when the city starts enforcing if there would be a big budget increase for the building inspection office. Wines said the intent is to start with one employee, but five are needed for the maintenance section.

"The goal is to get one person to focus on code enforcement, just to go to court, to issue citations," Wines answered.

Community Development Director Chuck vanAllman explained that the department plans to shift resources, and is looking at civil penalties for violations instead of criminal ones.

As far as when the changes to the code would go into effect, Assistant City Manager Rob Light said if Council is ready to move forward, the matter would be put on a future agenda.

At the regular Council meeting that followed the work session, Council:

•Approved appropriating \$377,900 from the electric fund and \$429,000 from the sewer fund, transferring them into the AMI account. AMI stands for Advanced Metering Infrastructure;

•Approved appropriating funds from online auctions that sold a city Ford truck for \$7,125. It will be used to purchase new street maintenance equipment;

•Concurred with actions by the Salem School Board to use CARES grants of \$1.6 million that will be used for staff to run summer school programs, Finance Director Rosie Jordan said.

At the start of the meeting, Mayor Renee Turk recognized Boy Scout Troop 39 Scout Thomas Martin, who was attending as part of fulfilling requirements for his communication badge.

OBITUARIES

Harris, Betty Jean

Betty Jean Harris, 93, of Salem, passed away on Friday, February 19.

She was born in Salem, the daughter of the late Willis C. and Elsie Wood Garst and had been a resident all of her life. She was employed as an administrative assistant with Roanoke County Public Schools for many years and was nominated as Secretary of the Year. Betty was also a longtime member of Salem Baptist Church and enjoyed embroidery, sewing, gardening, crocheting and reading her Bible. She truly was "Salem born, and Salem bred."

In addition to her parents, she was pre-

ceded in death by her husband, Joseph A. Harris, Sr.; two brothers, Richard C. Garst and Willis C. "Billy" Garst, Jr., and by a sister, Shirley G. Maupin.

She is survived by her son, Joseph A. "Buck" Harris, Jr. and Alicia; a grandson, Jacob Harris; great-grandchildren MacKenzie and Colton; her sister, Evelyn G. Jones; sister-in-law, Cecilia Garst and several nieces and nephews.

Due to current COVID-19 restrictions and weather uncertainties, a memorial service will be planned for a later date. An online guestbook is available for family and friends by visiting www.johnmoakey.com.

Williams, Carol Matthews

Carol Matthews Williams of Salem passed away on Wednesday, February 10, at Mary Washington Hospital in Fredericksburg, VA.

A native of Salem, she was the wife of the late, Donald A. Williams, and the daughter of George C. Matthews and Evelyn K. Matthews, both deceased. Carol was a 1956 graduate of Andrew Lewis High School and graduated from Longwood University after. She was a member of the Alpha Sigma Tau sorority at Longwood University. She worked as an LPN for over 20 years and had found her calling. Carol was a long-standing member of Salem Baptist Church.

Over the years her hobbies and interest included bowling, playing bridge, reading, puzzles, knitting, and all sports, especially the VT Hokies and Dallas Cowboys. Carol loved to travel, especially road trips. She volunteered at her local polling place every election, at Lewis Gale Hospital and the local clothes closet.

Carol was a very devoted mother and even more grandmother. She leaves behind to cherish her memory five children: Todd Williams and wife Janet, Kelley Dillenberger and wife Mary Jane, Scott Williams and wife Angela, Allison Jacob-



sen and husband Ken, and Chris Williams and wife Carrie; grandchildren, Hayley Jacobsen, Taylor Dillenberger, Nic Williams and wife Lauren, Zach Jacobsen, Jordan Williams, Kyle Williams, Langley Sampognaro and husband Gabe, Morgan Zinkhan and husband Ryan, Matt Williams and wife Bailey, Madison Dillenberger, Ryan Williams, Kelsey Williams, Connor Williams, Josie Williams, and Larry Marshall and wife Ellen; great-grandchildren, Emmitt, Lazarus, and Afton; her sister, Kay Taney; two brothers-in-law; two sisters-in-law; and ten nieces and nephews.

In addition to her husband and parents, she was preceded in death by two grandsons, Richard S Williams and Donald J Williams.

The family will receive friends at Lotz Funeral Home in Salem, 1330 East Main Street, on Saturday, February 27, from 11:30 a.m. until 12:30 p.m. A funeral service will follow at 12:30 in the Lotz Funeral Home Chapel. Interment will follow the chapel service in Evergreen Burial Park.

Memorials may be made to the American Liver Foundation or National Kidney Foundation.

Online condolences may be offered at www.lotzfuneralhomesalem.com.

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

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ODAC adds teams to hoop tourney

The Old Dominion Athletic Conference has voted to expand the ODAC men's and women's basketball tournament formats, slated to begin on Thursday, March 4.

The basketball tournament formats will now feature all active teams at the end of the regular season. The ODAC campaign is scheduled to conclude on Sunday, February 28. The men's and women's fields will be finalized on Monday, March 1.

All rounds of the tournament will be competed on ODAC member campuses at the highest seed. The first round will be conducted on Thursday, March 4, with the quarterfinals following on Saturday, March 6. The semifinals will be played on Tuesday, March 9. The championship games are scheduled for Thursday, March 11. However, there is an option to move the championships to an alternative date based on availability and desire of the competing schools.

The Roanoke College men's team is 7-1 and has

not played since February 16 after having three games cancelled due to coronavirus concerns, including a home game with Randolph-Macon, the nation's top ranked team, last Sunday. RC is scheduled to play at Lynchburg College tonight, then wrap up the regular season Saturday at 2 pm at home against Bridgewater.

The Roanoke College women's basketball team improved to 8-1 with a win over the host Panthers at Ferrum College Monday. Kristina Harrel paced Roanoke with 18 points while Ayanna Scarborough came off the bench to add 16 points and a team high seven rebounds. Sayre Brandstatter got the start and answered the call with 14 points, six rebounds, six assists, and five steals. Renee Alquiza made it a quartet in double figures with 11.

The Maroons were scheduled to play their regular season finale at Lynchburg College on Wednesday night. Saturday's home game with Bridgewater has been cancelled.

RC track team hosts invitational

The Roanoke College indoor track & field teams were back in action last Saturday as RC played host to the Finn Pincus Invitational. The event featured men's and women's athletes from Bridgewater, Eastern Mennonite, Ferrum, Lynchburg, Radford, Southern Virginia, and William Peace along with the Maroons.

RC's Alison Moreau recorded a final height of 5'4.25" in winning

the women's high jump. Grace Fowler posted the best distance in the ODAC this season when she won the shot put at 37'7.25". Anna Stafford, Brooke Ryman, and Katelyn Wiley joined Trotto in winning the 4x200 relay in a time of 1:59.00.

For the men, the Maroons would once again go 1-2 in the high jump. Hunter Bohon posted a winning height of 5'8", just two

inches clear of Jared McIntyre.

Youssef Labriny gave Roanoke another event win with a throw of 34'8.50" in the men's weight throw. In the long jump, Link Hammerschmidt added another win for the Maroons at 21'4", two inches clear of the next best.

Roanoke will wrap up the indoor portion of the schedule with a trip to Shenandoah University on March 5-6.



Kristina Harrel of Roanoke College pump fakes a Shenandoah defender off her feet and scores in Saturday's win in Salem.

PHOTO BY BRIAN HOFFMAN

Maroon baseball splits two with William Peace, will open at home today against Christopher-Newport

The Roanoke College baseball team dropped split a doubleheader with William Peace last Sunday in Cary, NC to open the season. The Maroons won the opener, 6-5 in 10 innings, but dropped the nightcap, 6-3.

In the top of the 10th in game one a Carter Plunkett single scored Jeb Byerley for the game winning run. Kevin Ledford pitched the final two innings, giving up a pair of hits and striking out four in picking up the win. Salem's Caleb Lingenfelter got the start, going five innings and allowing just two earned runs with seven strikeouts. Will Merriken went 3-5 while Will Smith went 2-4 with two runs scored.

In game two RC's Plunkett was 4 for 5 with a run and two RBI while Tyler De Meo and Cale Agee each went 1-3.

The Maroons will make their home debut at 3 pm today against Christopher-Newport.

RC tennis men win

The Roanoke men opened the tennis season with an 8-1 win over Hampden Sydney in Salem last Saturday.

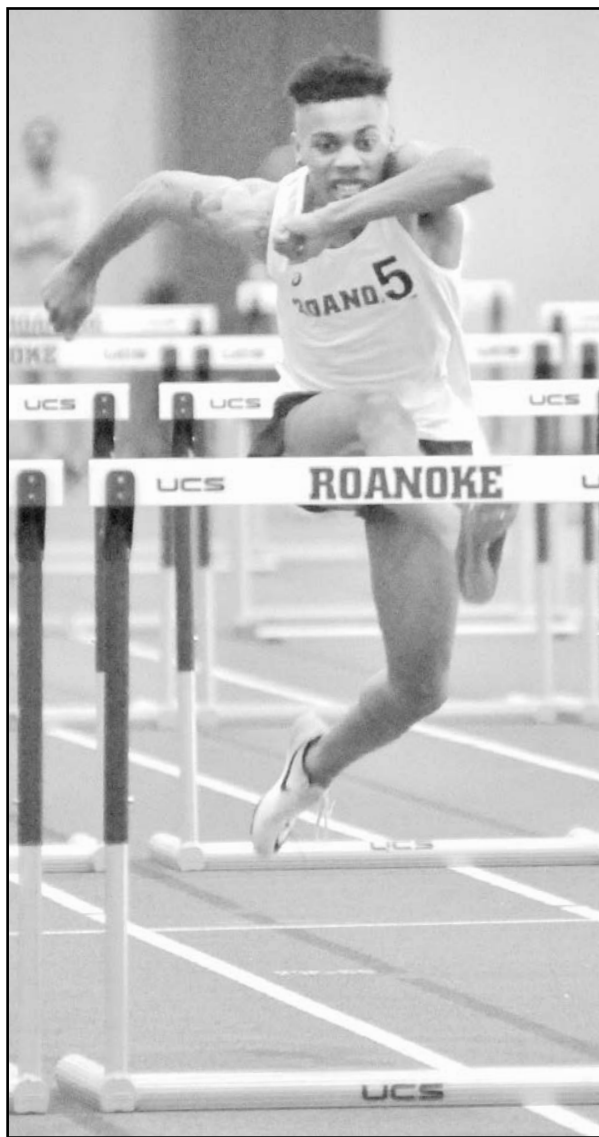
The Maroon duo of Zach Kriebel and Hunter Adams had the easiest time in the doubles matches with an 8-1 win at the third spot. At number one doubles, the team of Jack Fishwick and Grayson White picked up an 8-3 win while Dalton Capobianco and Thomas Hodges got the victory at number two, 8-2.

Singles winners included Fishwick at one, White at two, Capobianco at three, and Kriebel and Hodges all won in straight sets.



Left, Cammi Winston of Roanoke College competes in the long jump at Saturday's Finn Pincus Invitational at the Kerr-Cregger Indoor track. Right, Xavier O'Brien of RC takes second in the 55 meter hurdles.

PHOTOS BY BRIAN HOFFMAN



Roanoke men host W&L in soccer Sunday at Kerr

Roanoke College battled Bridgewater to a Mexican stand-off in the collegiate soccer opener for both. The game finished in a scoreless tie at Kerr Stadium.

The match went into a second extra period and after one last chance, Michael Chang sent one just outside the left post, time expired and the match was a draw.

Jacob Humer got the start in goal and pitched a shut-out during the first 45 minutes. Christian Mercadante relieved Humer to start the second half and recorded one save before he gave way to Glenvar grad Luca Gustafson.

The Maroons will be back in action at Kerr Stadium Sunday when they host Washington and Lee at 1 pm.

Maroon women tie Ferrum

The Roanoke College women opened their soccer season with a 1-1 tie at Ferrum College on Sunday. The game went into double overtime but no one could break the tie.

A minute and a half into the second period, the Roanoke attack finally broke through as Morgan O'Neill gave the Maroons a 1-0 lead. The Roanoke defense seemed poised to see the 1-0 lead hold up entering the stages of the second half. But with just over 10 minutes on the clock, Brady Hentz scored to tie the game on just Ferrum's third shot of the afternoon.

RC would get three shots in the two overtime periods but none were on the mark. Ellie Schad recorded five of the Maroons 22 total shots.

Roanoke will travel to Virginia Beach next Sunday for a 2:00pm match with the Marlins.



Nathan Carey of Roanoke College(#28) tries to get a head on the ball as Bridgewater keeper Tyler Deutsch reaches to grab it.

PHOTO BY BRIAN HOFFMAN

Salem Red Sox announce 2021 "Low A East" baseball schedule

Following the cancellation of the 2020 Minor League Baseball season last June, the Salem Red Sox are excited to announce the return of baseball to Salem with the release of their 2021 schedule.

Opening Day in Salem begins with a Battle for 460 against the Lynchburg Hillcats on Tuesday, May 11th. The 2021 home schedule boasts 10 weekend series, including Memorial Day Weekend, with a league-wide off day every Monday. All series are six games, running Tuesday through Sunday.

The team starts the season on Tuesday, May 4th, as the Red Sox travel to play the Delmarva Shorebirds. The six-game road trip will start a 120-game slate that will conclude on September 19th, featuring 20 series. The slightly reduced schedule is the result of the delayed start to Spring Training to allow for enforce-

ment of social distancing and COVID-19 safety measures for players, staff and fans for the 2021 season.

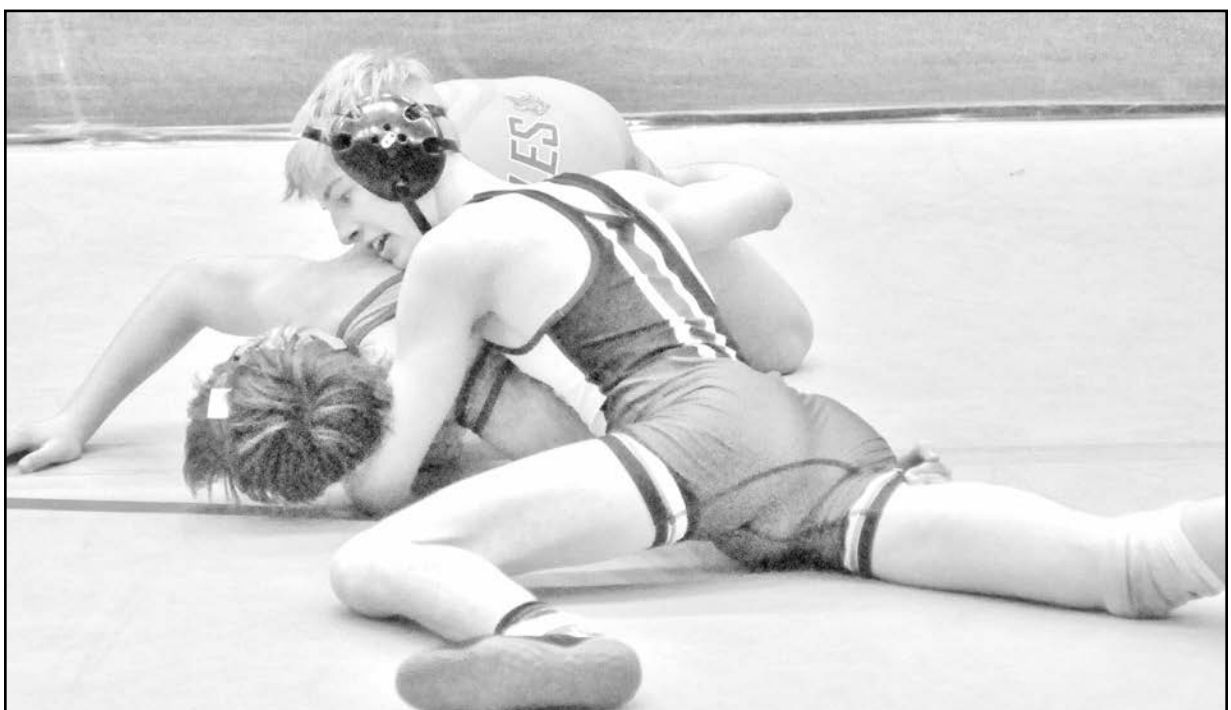
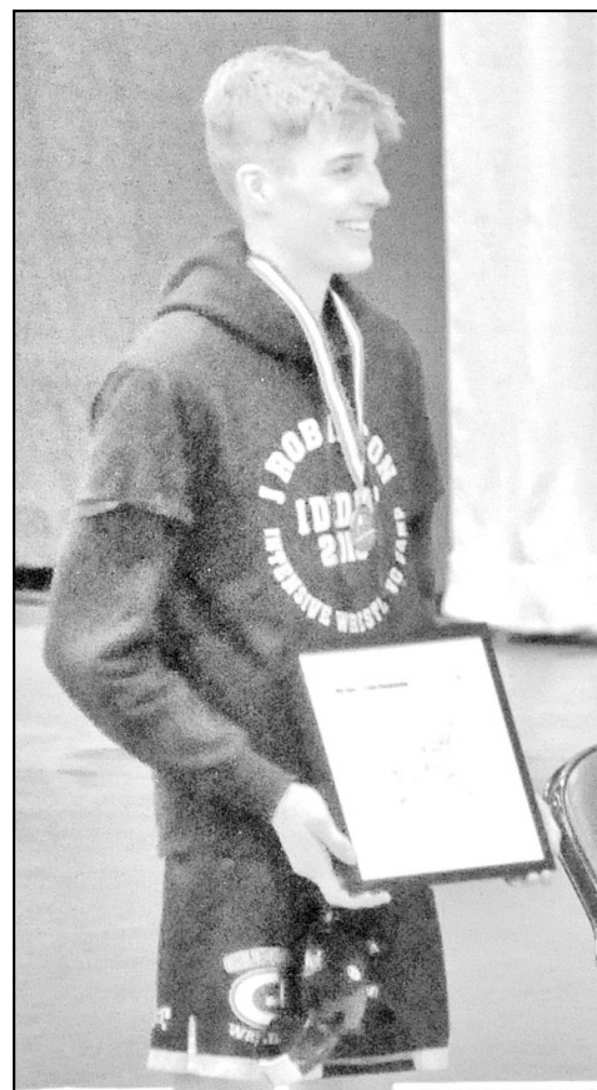
"After the cancellation of last season, it is great to be able to announce a 2021 season schedule," said General Manager, Allen Lawrence. "While there is still plenty to be done, our staff looks forward to continuing to do what we do best – create a best-in-class fan experience, develop big-league players, grow our business and support our community."

The Red Sox 120-game schedule is evenly split with 60 home games set for Salem Memorial Ballpark. Following the restructuring initiative from Major League Baseball, the Salem Red Sox are now part of the Northern Division of the Low-A East league, featuring a total of 12 teams.

Additional Northern Division teams include

the Delmarva Shorebirds (BAL), Fredericksburg Nationals (WSH), and Lynchburg Hillcats (CLE). The Central Division is comprised of the Carolina Mudcats (MIL), Down East Wood Ducks (TEX), Fayetteville Woodpeckers (HOU) and Kannapolis Cannon Ballers (CWS). The Southern Division includes the Augusta GreenJackets (ATL), Charleston RiverDogs (TB), Columbia Fireflies (KC), and Myrtle Beach Pelicans (CHI). Due to an abbreviated schedule and travel restrictions, the Red Sox will only contest six of the 11 teams during the 2021 season.

The 2021 promotional schedule, along with game times, will be announced soon. While single game tickets are not yet available for purchase, fans are encouraged to visit SalemSox.com or call (540) 389-3333 for more information on current ticket packages.



Left, Glenvar's Jake Cline holds the 132 pound brackets after winning the Class 2 state wrestling championship at the Salem Civic Center Monday. Above, Jake is in control in the championship match against Cannon Long of Clarke County. Below left, Glenvar senior Zach Moore(right in photo) battles in the 220 pound final to take a state runner-up medal, and below right GHS freshman Ethan Flowers (facing camera) looks for an opening for a takedown in the 138 pound final. Ethan also finished second in the state.

PHOTOS BY BRIAN HOFFMAN

GLENVAR WRESTLING

continued from page 12

whistle and never give up, and that's a great example of why wrestling the entire match is so important."

That put Jake in the finals and he got a couple early takedowns to take a lead he would not relinquish. After the final horn Jake raised his arms in victory to cheering teammates in the stands, as fans weren't permitted at the state finals.

"We had a plan to wrestle as much from our feet as possible," said Jake. "Once I got the second takedown I could feel his energy drop and I knew from there I had it."

Jake is the second member of his family to win a state championship. Jason won two state titles as a high school student at Grundy in 1993 and '94. He was probably more nervous Monday than when he was on the mat himself.

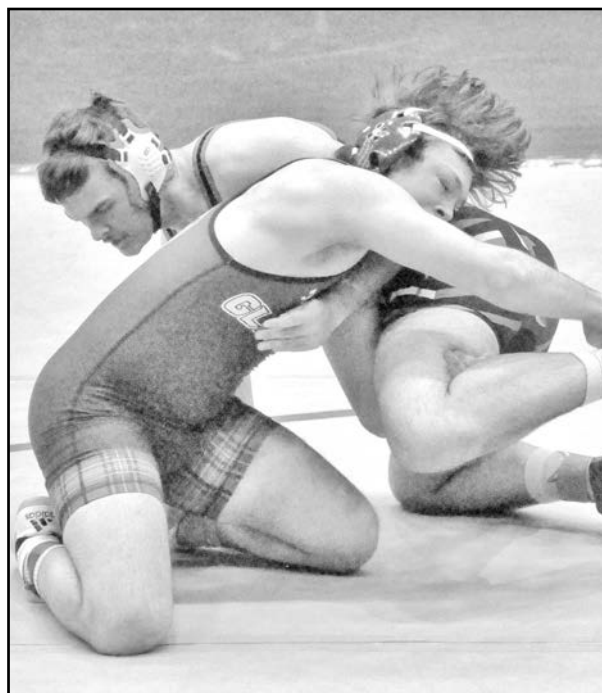
"I can tell you I'd rather be the one on the mat than in the corner," he said. "It was exciting and nerve racking all at the same time. I see all the work and effort that goes into the preparation and sitting there you know it all comes down to a handful of important matches so you really want to see them win and do well. It's a great feeling, and the best seat in the house, to see their excitement when all that work finally pays off."

Jake knew he had his biggest fan in the corner and that was a big help in the run to the championship.

"It's pretty cool to have your dad in the corner at your matches," he said. "And it's really cool to win a state championship like he did. I've been around wrestling my entire life and it's great to have him there."

After hugging Jake and catching his breath Jason hustled to the other side of the arena to sit in the corner as Ethan Flowers competed in the state 138 pound final. Ethan is just a freshman but he made the finals with a 5-3 overtime win over Cody Filicko of Bruton and a 7-3 decision over Jackson Mullins of Lebanon. However, his quest came to an end when Austin Weeks of King William decided him in the finals, 6-2.

"Ethan Flowers did exceedingly well in the tournament for a freshman," said coach Cline. "It's a great accomplishment to make it into the state finals as a freshman and Ethan continues to improve as a wrestler."



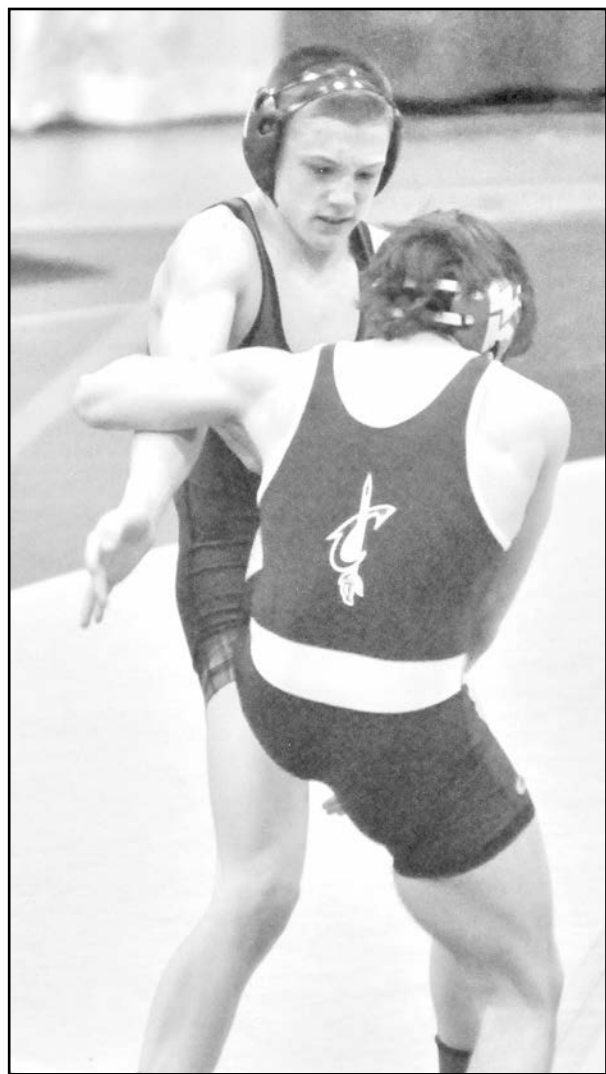
Glenvar had one more wrestler in the finals, senior Zach Moore at 220. Zach came in at 9-1 and opened with a 3:45 pin of Marion's Landon Mabe in the quarterfinals. Then he beat Andrew Richardson of Buffalo Gap in the semis, 7-3. However, Zach's Glenvar career came up just short of a championship as he was pinned in the final by Trent Ray of Lebanon, who finished 23-1 on the season.

"Zach Moore qualified for the state tournament the past three years and each time he struggled to get wins at this tournament, but this year was different," said Cline. "Zach came out on a mission and really impressed me with his drive to keep wrestling the entire match this year. In the finals, he just got caught in a bad position. We'll miss having Zach on the roster, he's a good kid who makes everyone laugh and I'm glad he was able to finish his high school career in the state finals."

All six Highlanders entered in the tournament went home with medals. Sophomore River Smith wrestled back for a third place after losing a tough match in the quarterfinals. In the consolation round he defeated James River's Craig Bowyer, who he lost to in the region finals, then in the consolation final he avenged his quarterfinal round loss with an 8-6 decision over Landon Roper of Clarke County.

Mason Hylton, another sophomore, took fourth at 120. He got a pin in his first match but lost to undefeated Karon Smith of Poquoson in the semis, and Smith went on to win the state championship with a 45 second pin in the final.

Trey Lawrence, also a sophomore, took fifth at 145 in a very tough weight class.



"It was one of the toughest weight classes we've seen in Virginia 2A in a while," said Cline. "There were five really good kids in that weight class, including multiple State Place winners and a returning State Champion."

Trey won his opening round match with a 37 second pin over Isaac Gilman of Amelia County, but then lost in the semis, 8-4, to eventual state champion Thomas Potter of Union.

Of the six Glenvar wrestlers in the tournament five are back next year, including four sophomores. The future is bright on the green and gold mats.

"I'm really proud of all the kids," said Cline. "This season was very odd with all the COVID protocols, a shortened and travel restricted regular season, and getting a late start on season practices. So, for these young kids to persevere under those conditions just speaks to the discipline and focus they have."

"I'm just really proud of all these guys and looking forward to see what the future holds for all of them."

Glenvar football will play Stuart's Draft

Opener will be Friday at 7 o'clock

The Glenvar Highlanders have finally settled on a team to play to open the football schedule this week. Glenvar will play at Stuart's Draft at 7 pm Friday.

It's been a tough couple weeks for coach Kevin Clifford and athletic director Tyler Brown. The Highlanders were scheduled to open with James River, but when Roanoke County voted to play only county schools the Highlanders were set to open with Hidden Valley. Then, the county changed policy to allow district games and James River had already found another team to play.

"I was on the phone for 36 hours calling everyone in the state trying to find a game," said Clifford. "I finally found a team that could play us."

It should be a good game. Stuart's Draft went to the state Class 2 final during the last football season, 2019, losing to Appomattox in the championship game. Glenvar had been eliminated by Appomattox in the regional that season.

"It will be a great opening game," said Clifford. "They're well coached. We're looking forward to the challenge."

The Highlanders have seemingly finalized their schedule. They picked up a home game with Northside on March 5, and that will be the home opener. After that they play four Three Rivers District games against Floyd County, Radford, Giles and Alleghany with only Radford being on the road.

"We play all our games on Fridays," said Clifford. "Anything we can do for sense of normalcy is good."

Andrew Lewis football team will open today at Salem Stadium vs Pulaski

The Andrew Lewis Middle School football team is scheduled to open today at home against Pulaski at Salem Stadium. Game time is 5 pm but only a limited number of invited fans may attend.

The Wolverines are at William Byrd on Monday of next week.

The Lewis 7th grade team is at Franklin County today and at Read Mountain Monday. The program has about 60 kids on the combined seventh and eighth grade teams.



Salem's Colin Michael(left) and Boone Fleenor(right) are ready to take off at a recent swim meet at the Salem YMCA

PHOTO BY BRIAN HOFFMAN

VHSL sets times for state swimming, indoor meets

State meets for swimming and indoor track are scheduled for the coming week for both Salem and Glenvar athletes.

The Salem swimmers were scheduled to swim in the Class 4 meet on Tuesday of this week in Christiansburg, but results were too late for publication. Glenvar is swimming in the Class 1&2 meet on Saturday, March 6. The Glenvar girls are defending state champs.

Liberty University in Lynchburg is hosting state indoor track meet. The Class 4 meet, with two Salem athletes, will be on Monday, March 1.

The Class 2 indoor meet, with Glenvar athletes, is on Wednesday, March 3. The Region 2C meet scheduled for Auburn last week was postponed and was to be made up on Tuesday of this week, but results were too late for publication.

Gate City beats Glenvar girls in state semifinal; Luray wins state

The Glenvar girls saw their basketball season come to an end with a 55-38 loss to Gate City in the Class 2 state semifinals in Gate City last Wednesday, February 17.

The Blue Devils jumped on Glenvar early, taking a 16-7 lead after one quarter and increasing it to 33-20 at the half. Glenvar led by 18 before outscoring the Devils 10-9 in the final quarter.

Senior Olivia Harris led Glenvar with 20 points, concluding a career that saw her score over 1,000 points in four years on the varsity. She will attend the University of Lynchburg to play in the Old Dominion Athletic Conference next year.

Melaysia Donaldson, also a senior, had seven points, Rhyann Harris had four and Savana Luper had three points for the Highlanders. Gate City had three girls in double figures, led by Sarah Thompson with 15.

Glenvar finished the season with a 7-5 record and a Region 2C championship. Gate City lost to undefeated Luray in the championship game, 61-56, to finish 17-2.

SPORTS

Thursday, February 25, 2021

Send story ideas & announcements to bhoffman@ourvalley.org, or PO Box 1125, Salem, Va, 24153 • ourvalley.org

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Spartans 8th on state Class 4 mats

Two Salem wrestlers took runner-up medals as the Spartans finished in eighth place in the state Class 4 tournament Saturday. Liberty-Bealton won the state championship at the Virginia Beach Sports Center.

Six Spartans medaled, topped by second place finishes by Walker Chambers at 113 and Cameron Martinsdale at 285. Chambers lost to Bobby Philpot of Tuscarora, 11-5, as his high school career came to an end. Walker will be attending Roanoke College next fall and will be in Nate Yetzer's new program.

Martinsdale made it to the 285 pound final before falling to Alex Brchmeier of Broad Run, 3-1. Cameron is just a junior, and he's already back in action as a key lineman on the Salem High football team, who had their season opener just three days later.

Other wrestlers from Salem who medaled were Kyman Kinney, who took fourth at 145, and two sixth places, Sam Miles at 170 and PJ Bruner at 220.

The Salem program is on the rise. In

2016 Salem had no state qualifiers. In 2017 they had one, but no one placed, and in 2018 they had four qualify with no state placers.

In 2019 Salem had five qualifiers and one placer, then in 2020 they had 12 qualifiers and three placers. This year, despite fewer wrestlers qualifying due to the pandemic, Salem had seven qualifiers and five placers. They would have had a dozen qualifiers under the old rules, which should return next year if the pandemic is under control.

"The program is being solidified at all levels," said coach Lawrence Van Liew. "The middle school is getting numbers and learning great techniques. The high school is getting numbers and competing in the room, and the results speak for themselves.

"Last year I was determined to get a state finalist. Now that we had two this year, next year I want the first state champion in over a decade. Salem wrestling will continue to rise and work hard. Nothing is given in wrestling, everything is earned."



Walker Chambers(left) placed second in the Class 4 state wrestling tournament at 113 and Cameron Martinsdale was second at 285.

PHOTOS BY MATTHEW DUNCAN



Glenvar's Jake Cline raises his hands in triumph after winning the 132 pound Class 2 state wrestling championship at the Salem Civic Center Monday.

PHOTO BY BRIAN HOFFMAN

Cline wins state title, Highlanders take fourth

The Glenvar wrestling team had a state champion and two runners-up in finishing fourth in the Class 2 tournament at the Salem Civic Center Monday. Poquoson High School won the state championship with Lebanon taking second and James River in third.

Glenvar sophomore Jake Cline won the 132 pound championship with a 6-3 win over Cannon Long of Clarke County in the final to finish the season with a perfect 10-0 record in a pandemic-shortened season. He opened with a 12-4 decision over Erik Goins of Bruton in the quarterfinals, then pulled out a 4-3 win over Luke Childress of Lebanon in the semis. Jake was losing with 10 seconds to go in that match.

"The match was really close right up until the last five seconds when he got a takedown to tie the match and two back points to put him ahead for the win," said Glenvar coach Jason Cline, who is also Jake's father. "We knew that was a solid opponent going into the match, but that was a nail biter. We tell the kids to wrestle whistle to

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Salem opens spring football season with 50-0 rout of Bruins

The Salem High football team waited 15 months to play a game, then rushed through the second half when they finally got back on the field.

Salem opened the 2020 season in 2021 Tuesday evening with a 50-0 win over Blacksburg at Salem Stadium. The Spartans dominated the game from start to finish, scoring 36 unanswered points in the first half to keep the clock running after intermission.

The Spartans got on the board just four minutes and 16 seconds into the game when the defense forced a fumble at midfield and Zavione Wood scooped it up and ran 53 yards for a touchdown. Freshman Wesley Cross kicked the extra point and the Spartans were off to the races.

The Spartans struck again the next time they had the ball, and again it was Wood crossing the goal line. This time he went off the left side for 76 yards and Cross did the honors again, making the score 14-0

Salem after one period.

One of many bad Blacksburg snaps led to Salem's next touchdown. The Bruins fired one over the punter's head and, after he scrambled to retrieve the ball, Salem was able to take over at the Blacksburg 37. Two plays later quarterback Chauncy Logan, Jr. ran off the right side for a 33 yard touchdown and Cross' third kick made it 21-0 with 7:32 remaining until the half.

The defense set up the next Salem score. Blacksburg quarterback Parker Epperly was shaken up on a run and had to leave the game. On the next play his replacement fumbled and Cameron Martindale, who was wrestling in the state tournament just three days prior, picked it up and returned the ball to the Blacksburg 33. On first down Logan hit Wood for a 32 yard gain to the one and Cam Leftwich did the honors. This time Cross didn't get off the kick after a poor snap but Logan, who is also the holder, rolled

left and found Leftwich in the end zone for a two point conversion, making it 29-0.

Salem closed out the half with one more score, again set up by a poor Blacksburg snap. This time Salem took over from the Bruin 30, and on second down Logan passed to Shawn Collins for a 29 yard TD and Cross' kick made it 36-0 at the half.

With the big lead the clock ran continuously in the second half, but the Spartans were able to tack two more scores on the board. Wood had a 24 yard run in the third quarter and Shaq Ramey polished things off with a three yard run with 5:02 remaining. Cross was perfect on the conversion both times, giving the freshman six successful kicks in his first varsity game.

The Spartans will try to sweep their Montgomery County River Ridge District rivals this Saturday when they travel to Christiansburg for an afternoon game. Kickoff is set for 1 pm.



Above left, Zavione Wood(#42) picks up a Blacksburg fumble and, above right, dashes 53 yards to the end zone for Salem's first touchdown Tuesday night. Left, Shawn Collins(#2) lifts a Bruin off his feet for no gain. Below, Cam Leftwich(#28) gets the ball over the goal line for a Spartan score.

PHOTOS BY BRIAN HOFFMAN

