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# SALEM TIMES-REGISTER

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## Council considers adding more citizen comment times

**Meg Hibbert**  
Contributing writer

Salem City Council is pondering adding additional opportunities for citizen comments. The discussion was during a work session before Monday night's regular Council meeting.

Right now, citizen comment periods are held at the beginning of the first meeting each month. Citizens must sign up in advance, and are limited to speaking for five minutes.

Three Council members – Mayor Renee Turk, Vice Mayor

Jim Chandler and Councilman John Saunders – were in favor. Councilmen Randy Foley and Bill Jones were against the idea, saying they believe citizens already have time to speak and few are taking advantage of it.

“I am open to having comments at every meeting,” said Saunders.

“What are we afraid of?” asked the mayor. “Why not let people comment?”

Foley added, “If we’re going to allow this, we need to have tight rules.” He referred to a December 2019 meeting when

almost 100 people turned out to press Council on gun in the city, something over which Council has no power to enact. Few, if any, of those people were Salem residents.

When asked what other jurisdictions are doing for citizen comments, City Counsel Jim Guynn said Alleghany County allows it every meeting, Franklin County has a time for public comments at the end of its meetings, which have to be about an issue which the board of supervi-

See **Council**, page 10



PHOTOS BY SHAWN NOWLIN

All three bands who graced the stage – Gate 10, Wound Tight and Junior Sisk – are from Southwest Virginia.

## Pickin’ in the Park brings music, fun to the City of Salem

**Shawn Nowlin**  
shawn.nowlin@ourvalley.org

Fall may be here in a few weeks, but there is still plenty of summer left.

Salem resident Brittany Johnson says she speaks for a lot of locals when she says outdoor music concerts never get old. With the help of Dwayne Cole who organizes yearly concerts, Pickin’ in the Park was established four years ago.

Last Saturday, hundreds of attendees, including Johnson and her family, gathered at Longwood Park to hear Bluegrass music, enjoy food trucks and other vendors and make memories with loved ones.

Gate 10, Wound Tight and Junior Sisk were the three bands who graced the stage. All three are from Southwest Virginia and have been well-received in the local Bluegrass community.

Headliner Junior Sisk has risen to the top of the Bluegrass music industry with authenticity. Sisk was named the International Bluegrass Music Association Awards Vocalist of the year in 2013 and 2017. The most recent album, “Load the Wagon,” has placed on the charts.

Because Longwood Park has so much space and an amphitheater, it made for an ideal spot to have an outdoor concert. “It gives us plenty of space for spectators while also allowing us to bring out food trucks, have a beer garden and set-up games for the kids,” Ashley Durkin, the Salem Parks and Recreation Special Events Supervisor, said.

She added, “This has been a growing event ever since we started it. We have been able to get big name bands that people from all over the area want to come out and see. We love to see people come out and have a good time. Our job is to host events for the Salem community and seeing events like this so well-received makes it all worth it.”

Amy Stone, a self-described Bluegrass music connoisseur, says she never misses an opportunity to attend an outdoor concert. Only one question was on her mind when she arrived at Longwood Park: “How many pictures am I going to take?”

“I sometimes embarrass my husband when we go to events like this because I take so many pictures. The way I see it, I’m just

See **Music**, page 10

## India Festival gives the community an opportunity to explore a new culture



PHOTOS BY SHAWN NOWLIN

Left, children of all ages enjoyed themselves tremendously. Right, whenever a dance sequence was about to commence, event organizers got on stage to make the announcement.

**Shawn Nowlin**  
shawn.nowlin@ourvalley.org

After a one-year hiatus because of the pandemic, the Annual Roanoke Valley India Festival returned on August 21. Presented by the India Heritage Society, the event was held at Elmwood Park from 4 to 8 p.m. Now in its 14th year, the festival featured a variety of vendors, food and live performances from dancers of all ages. All 29 states of India were represented.

Approximately 4,000 people, according to festival organizer Sunny Shah, attended the free event. Ven-

dors and participants were encouraged to wear a facemask.

Present last Saturday was Salem native James Beal. “One thing that COVID-19 has taught me is there is so much more to life than just our surroundings. I think it’s important to educate ourselves when opportunities like this are presented,” he said.

When the first India Festival took place in 2004, Roanoke County resident Ashley Clark, 29, says she remembers going and taking pictures with her parents. “I can recall everything like it was yesterday. My mom and dad gave me the option

of attending the festival or going to the theatres to see a Will Smith movie,” Clark said. “Because it was an event that only happened once a year, I decided to go to the festival. We ended up having a great time and learning a lot about India.”

Chris Edwards of Salem thought the best India dish was also gobi which is cauliflower and crisp golden potatoes. That opinion changed on Saturday when he tried butter-brushed naan, a popular India baked flatbread. “I wanted to try every dish available to expose

See **India Festival**, page 10

## Roanoke County Administrator retiring after two decades of service

Roanoke County Administrator Dan O’Donnell recently announced that he will be retiring after more than 21 years of service in Roanoke County. O’Donnell notified the Board of Supervisors of

his intent to retire, effective February 1, 2022.

“Working alongside our dedicated employees has been rewarding and we have accomplished so much, together, for the betterment of our community,” said O’Donnell. “I am honored to have had the support of the Board of Supervisors and privileged to serve the citizens as their administrator. I’m now looking forward to the next phase of my life.”

O’Donnell has worked in public management for 35 years, serving over 21 years in Roanoke County. He began as an Assistant County Administrator in 2000 and then was appointed County Administrator in January 2019. Prior to coming to Roanoke County, he served as the administrator for counties in New York and West Virginia.

O’Donnell oversaw development of the County’s first-ever Community Strategic Plan to guide policy, budget decisions, and service deliv-

ery choices. He served as the project manager for the \$30 million Green Ridge Recreation Center and the \$28 million Public Safety Center construction projects. O’Donnell has overseen the passage of the first compensation study and step pay plan for public safety personnel, to recruit and retain talented employees. He has also led the County’s response to the COVID-19 crisis.

“Dan has been a tremendous asset for Roanoke County,” said Board of Supervisors Chairman Jason Peters. “He has helped shape the strategic direction of the County and led through some very challenging times. His leadership and guidance are greatly appreciated and we hope he enjoys a well-deserved retirement.”

The Board of Supervisors will determine the next steps in hiring a new County Administrator.

-Submitted by Amy Whittaker,  
Public Information Officer



Dan O’Donnell SUBMITTED PHOTO



Hundreds of people attended Saturday’s outdoor concert.

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# Virginia's unemployment rate dropped to 4.2 percent in July

*Rate outpaces the country—Virginia added 144,000 jobs over 12 months across nearly every economic sector*

Governor Ralph Northam recently announced that Virginia's seasonally adjusted unemployment rate fell to 4.2 percent in July, which is 3.7 percentage points below the rate from one year ago. The labor force expanded by 7,818 to 4,241,686, as the number of unemployed residents decreased by 7,595. The number of employed residents rose to 4,065,473, an increase of 15,413. In July 2021, Virginia saw over-the-year job gains of 3.8 percent. Virginia's seasonally adjusted unemployment rate continues to be below the national rate of 5.4 percent.

"Our administration is focused on creating an economic climate that will help Virginia's workers and businesses thrive," said Governor Northam. "The impressive gains in payroll employment and the downward trend of

unemployment rates continue to show the strength and resiliency of our economy and our workforce as we recover from the pandemic. Virginians have shown great resolve over the last year and a half, and it is evident in the numbers we are seeing in this report."

Virginia has once again been named America's "Top State for Business" by CNBC. This achievement, paired with the data in this report, shows how Virginia has created a strong business environment.

"The continued decline in Virginia's unemployment rate and the increase in payroll employment are all signs of a strong job market," said Secretary of Labor Megan Healy. "We believe that workers will continue to re-enter the labor force and that the strong job market will continue in the coming months. Governor Northam

and his administration remain committed to working with businesses and workforce development partners to ensure that every Virginian has the help and resources they need to find work."

"It is exciting to see the unemployment rate in the Commonwealth significantly lower than it was at this time last year," said Secretary of Commerce and Trade Brian Ball. "As our labor force keeps growing month-over-month, we are very optimistic about what the future holds for Virginia's businesses."

In July, the private sector recorded an over-the-year gain of 134,100 jobs, while employment in the public sector gained 9,700 jobs. Total nonfarm payroll employment increased by 2,300 jobs over-the-month. Compared to a year ago, on a seasonally adjusted basis, ten of the eleven major industry



SUBMITTED PHOTO

Last month, the Commonwealth saw over-the-year gains of 3.8 percent.

divisions experienced employment gains. The largest over-the-year job increase occurred in leisure and hospitality with 46,000 new jobs, a 15.5 percent increase. The next largest over-the-year job increase occurred in

professional and business services with 30,000 new jobs, a 4.0 percent increase. Trade, transportation and utilities experienced the third largest over-the-year job increase of 27,300 jobs, a 4.3 percent increase.

For a greater statistical breakdown visit the Virginia Employment Commission's website at [vec.virginia.gov](http://vec.virginia.gov).

-Submitted by Alena Yarmosky, Office of the Governor

# 2021 Olde Salem Days Book Sale scheduled for Sept. 11



Dozens of books will be available for sale.

SUBMITTED PHOTO

Inside the Salem Library, a small care of dedicated volunteers recently spent hours preparing for Olde Salem Day.

For the past year, they, like everyone, have waited for life to return to normal. One sign of improvement is the return of Olde Salem Day and with it the Salem Library Book Sale.

The sale this year will be more visible than in the past, as it will be held in two large tents in front of the library. One tent will be dedicated to the children and young adults, while the other will contain the other topics, such as mysteries, novels, histories and the ever-popular cookbooks.

The Friends of the Salem Library (FOSL) is a group of people who love books and appreciate the importance of a library to the vitality of a city or town. They accept donations of books all year. In August, the real work begins. With the help of Boy Scout Troop 352, the donations are brought out of storage. FOSL members check each book, and the best are set aside for this annual sale.

The funds raised are used to support

library activities, which may range from the viewing of the solar eclipse to teen game nights to the restocking of the seed lending library. Support of the children's library activities is always a major project.

The sale will be held at from 1:00 to 8:00 p.m. on September 10. The sale will continue on Olde Salem Day until 4:00. Even during the best sales, there are always lots of books left after Saturday. These go on sale on Sunday afternoon from 1:30 to 4:00 p.m. at the Bagful of Books Sale. For \$3.00, attendees will receive a shopping bag to fill with as many books as they can. This sale will continue through September 17 during normal library hours.

Since the COVID-19 virus caused the cancellation of almost everything last year, more books were read and more were donated. The selection of donated books is twice the usual size. This is the time to repopulate the bookshelves at prices that can't be matched.

-Submitted by Ken Sosnowski

# Historic enrollment announced in early childhood education programs

*- New early childhood investments are spurring greater enrollment in preschool programs -*

It was recently announced that increased investment in Virginia's two largest state-funded preschool programs is expected to result in historic enrollment for the upcoming school year. The Commonwealth has authorized \$151.6 million to Virginia

Preschool Initiative and Mixed Delivery in fiscal year 2022, a \$60.9 million increase from the previous school year and more than twice the investment made in fiscal year 2018. As a result, the Virginia Department of Education's Virginia Preschool Initiative and

the Virginia Early Childhood Foundation's Mixed Delivery Preschool Grant Program anticipate serving more than 25,000 three and four-year-olds this fall, as employers reopen and students safely return to in-person instruction.

Federally funded early childhood programs are also now open to more families in Virginia than ever before. Families earning up to 85 percent of the state median income with young children are temporarily eligible for Virginia's Child Care Subsidy Program thanks to HB 2206 sponsored by Speaker of the House Eileen Filler-Corn, which Governor Northam

extended last month. The program is serving more than 20,000 children, which is 94 percent of its pre-pandemic total. Federal Head Start and Early Head Start Programs are funded to serve 14,463 children this school year and all sites are working towards full in-person enrollment by January 1, 2022.

"Access to high quality early learning is critical for children's development, and the Commonwealth's investment in early childhood education is a major reason Virginia was named the best state to do business for the second year

See Education, page 3



SUBMITTED PHOTO

Said Governor Northam, "Increasing school readiness is more important than ever as we recover from the pandemic, and this historic commitment puts us one step closer to offering a great start for all Virginia children."

**"It has been decreed by God in this day that these prejudices shall be laid aside."**  
- Baha'i Faith  
Bahai.Salem.VA@gmail.com 540-387-2106

**Back to School**  
If your child is entering 7th grade they must have the Meningitis, HPV, and Tdap vaccines in order to enroll. Talk to your doctor and vaccinate them now!  
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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.
- Glenvar Rotary Club meets 12:15 - 1:15 p.m. for lunch in Richfield Living's Town Center Anser Dining Room. Guests welcome.

## 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

•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.  
 •The Salem Rotary Club meets from 12 to 1 p.m. for lunch in Salem Civic Center. Guests welcome.

## 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.

# Infrastructure package makes its way through Congress

American farmers and agribusinesses are positioned to be more competitive in the global economy with the U.S. Senate's Aug. 10 passage of President Joe Biden's bipartisan Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act.  
 The nearly \$1 trillion plan is intended to rebuild roads and bridges, modernize public works systems and expand broadband internet, among other improvements. The Senate also is considering a second \$3.5 trillion package that would pay for new family, health and education pro-

grams. The White House anticipates the investments will add, on average, about 2 million jobs per year within the coming decade.  
 The House will eventually consider both packages simultaneously. While American Farm Bureau Federation supports the first part of the plan, it does not endorse the second one.  
 The first phase of the bill would invest \$110 billion in U.S. roads and bridges, \$65 billion for broadband and \$17.3 billion for ports and inland waterways. Section

23018 of the bill includes an exemption for livestock and insect haulers from Hours of Service Regulations within a 150 air-mile radius from their final destination—a small but particularly helpful change for Virginia livestock producers, said Ben Rowe, Virginia Farm Bureau Federation's national affairs coordinator.  
 "We were pleased to see the Senate develop a comprehensive infrastructure package while preserving important tax provisions that make it possible for farmers to pass the family business to the next

generation," he said. "We urge leaders in the House to follow the Senate's lead by leaving tax rates and stepped-up basis unchanged."  
 AFBF President Zippy Duvall expressed gratitude to the Senate for working toward solutions while preserving those tax provisions.  
 He said the pressing infrastructure issues facing the nation are too important to ignore, particularly in rural communities where modernization is desperately needed.  
 "Farmers and ranchers depend on millions of miles of

roadways and waterways to get their products to America's dinner tables, and they rely on ports to ship food, fiber and fuel to countries around the world," Duvall said. "And increased funding to bring broadband to hundreds of thousands of farms that currently have no access to the internet will help farmers meet the demands of a growing world while using emerging technologies to build on climate-smart practices."  
 -Submitted by Nicole Zema, VFBF communications

# Appalachian Telemental Health Network

## Do You or Someone You Know Need Mental/Behavioral Health Help?

Appalachian Telemental Health Network (ATHN) is a state-funded resource for people in Virginia who are seeking mental and behavioral health help. Sessions are held over a

HIPAA secure video session with a professional. The prior eliminates barriers of time, distance, and provider scarcities. The process is streamlined, making it easy to use the platform as

a provider and patient. Appalachian Telemental Health Network was designed to create better access for the underserved Appalachian counties of Virginia. ATHN welcomes

providers, referral streams, and people seeking help. If you or someone you know needs help, do not hesitate. Appalachian Telemental Health Network is an available resource. For more

information, visit [www.athn.us](http://www.athn.us).  
 -Submitted by Appalachian Telemental Health Network (ATHN)

## Education

from page 2

in a row," said Governor Northam.  
 Since 2018, First Lady Pamela Northam has traveled over 10,000 miles to nearly 200 schools and early childhood programs along with staff from the Virginia Department of Education, Virginia Department of Social Services, and members of the General Assembly. Her engagement with parents, educators, business leaders, and other stakeholders led to legislation and investments in early childhood education from the General Assembly in fiscal years 2021 and 2022. Mrs. Northam's 2021 Back to School Tour kicks off August 18 and 19 with eight stops in Southwest Virginia.  
 "We're excited to get back on the road to meet children and families who now have access to quality in-person early learning programs for the first time thanks to these transformative investments," said First Lady Pamela Northam. "This is also a chance to thank the superhero educa-

tors who have adapted to provide safe and supportive environments for our littlest learners to thrive."  
 The Virginia Department of Education became the single point of accountability and oversight for all publicly funded early childhood programs in Virginia thanks to new laws that took effect July 1, 2021. Its new Division of Early Childhood Care and Education brings together 120 full time employees, many of whom transitioned from the Virginia Department of Social Services, to focus on increasing access to high-quality, publicly-funded early childhood care and education programs. Recent data from the Virginia Kindergarten Readiness Program showed that 52 percent of Virginia's kindergarteners ended the school year still needing support to build foundational skills in literacy, math, self-regulation, and/or social skills.  
 "We know that 90 percent of a child's brain development occurs before the age of five, so high-

quality early childhood education programs are a key strategy to increasing student achievement from kindergarten to after graduation," said Superintendent of Public Instruction James Lane. "A unified approach across all early learning settings is more important than ever as we emerge from the pandemic and equip the next generation of students to succeed in the 21st century workforce."  
 More than 23,600 students across 126 school divisions are projected to be served by Virginia Preschool Initiative classrooms in the 2021-2022 school year. This compares with approximately 18,000 total children served by Virginia Preschool Initiative pro-

grams in 124 divisions before the pandemic. Thirty-seven school divisions will serve a combined total of about 1,600 three-year-olds in their Virginia Preschool Initiative classrooms. This is the second year of a pilot program to provide young learners with multiple years of preschool experience to prepare them for success in kindergarten and beyond.  
 Nearly 1,500 three- and four-year-olds will be served by the Virginia Early Childhood Foundation's Mixed Delivery Grant Program across 45 localities. This compares to 239 children in 9 localities from 2020-2021.  
 \$151.6 million has been authorized to Virginia Preschool Initiative and Mixed Delivery for the fiscal year

2022. This is a \$60.9 million increase from the previous school year, and more than twice the investment made in fiscal year 2018.  
 Head Start and Early Head Start funding will serve more than 14,400 children in Virginia this school year.  
 More than 20,000 children were participating in Virginia's Child Care Subsidy Program as of August 16, 2021. This is a 51 percent increase from March 2021, meaning an additional 7,325 children are served through expanded eligibility. \$316.3 million from the 2020 federal relief dollars were invested in Virginia's early childhood system. As a result, 95 percent of licensed and regulated childcare and early education programs are now open and serving children in person.  
 The Child Care and Development Block Grant received \$793 million of additional American Rescue Plan dollars approved by the General Assembly in August 2021.  
 - Submitted by Alena Yarmosky, Office of the Governor

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## MARKET \$ BUCKS \$

**Vouchers for Seniors (65+) & Kids**

Market Bucks are FREE funds given to you when you show your EBT, P-EBT, WIC, or Medicaid card at the Salem Farmers Market on August 28!




For more information call 540-375-4098, or email us at [farmersmarket@salemva.gov](mailto:farmersmarket@salemva.gov)


Nominate an **Outstanding Salemite** for the 24th annual Charles Brown Award

Do you know a Salem resident who should be honored for their contributions to the city? If so, Roanoke College wants to honor them.

In appreciation to Salem as Roanoke College's home, the College is soliciting nominations for the 24th annual Charles Brown Award, to honor a Salem resident who has contributed the most to the quality of life in our hometown. The award is named in memory of Charles Brown, former mayor of Salem and the first Dean of Roanoke College.

Email your nominations to [rcnews@roanoke.edu](mailto:rcnews@roanoke.edu) including the nominee's name, contact information and reason for their nomination; or use the online nomination form at [forms.roanoke.edu/charles-brown](https://forms.roanoke.edu/charles-brown).

The nomination deadline is Monday, September 13. Nominees must be residents of Salem. For information, call (540) 375-2282.



# OPINION

# Give Light ~ Futures in balance ~

[This is a memory from the many decades the author has been privileged to write for daily and weekly newspapers circulating in Western Virginia.]

After being closed down for the past 18 months, many small clubs, enjoyed especially by retirees, are making plans to start up again - maybe.

Two of these, of which I am a member, are the Philo Club and the Wednesday History Club. Each has around a dozen regular attendees and is focused on a particular interest.

The Philo Club is mainly for ordained males from denominations roughly classified as moderate/liberal in their approach to Scripture interpretation. A few women who are not clergy but have some interest in and are stimulated by theology, are invited to join, as I was 25 years ago. Meeting with bag lunch on the Second Friday during the

school year from noon to 2 p.m. at Windsor Hills United Methodist Church, members make a small donation for a human service cause.

In rotation, we "present a paper" on a subject generally related to religion and stimulating to discussion. This takes about 30 minutes. No attempt is made to control the content. Often a relevant book is reviewed; I have sometimes used columns.

Membership is inclusive now that the group has evolved over ten decades to take in, not only women like myself, but non-Protestants, rabbis and people of color. The fellowship is valued, and those who die are missed and commended to God.

More information is available from the convenor, Robert Goldsmith. He can be reached at robsidgold@gmail.com.

The Wednesday History Club is somewhat more for-

## Frances Stebbins Correspondent

mally organized. It dates from World War I days when women were starting to be recognized as people with enough sense to vote and - very rarely then - hold professional or executive jobs. Even we senior adults cannot imagine a time when the options for those in skirts were so limited!

When I was invited to become a member more than 15 years ago, the group of a dozen white women - religion was not a factor in this group though a majority were United Methodists - gathered in each other's homes for refreshments and a program lasting about two hours. The programs were scheduled in

advance by a committee who followed a general topic such as "Notable Women Composers" or "First Ladies of America."

As intended by the founders in 1917, I learned from each program as I gathered information on the aspect of the general subject which I had chosen or listened to another member's paper.

Among topics I recall were Eleanor Roosevelt, Fannie Mendelssohn and Washington Park in Northwest Roanoke when the overall topic was that city's public spaces. I learned then that the park is named for the Black pioneer in education, Booker T. Washington, not George Washington as I supposed. It dates from 1923, the year the educator died.

Members, as in the Philo Club, came by invitation and dues were nominal although each year a secretary and treasurer were chosen who made

careful reports at each meeting. Most who attended lived in the Southwest quadrant of Roanoke City or County.

One could choose to present a paper or to serve as hostess. In time, most of the history club women did not have the space nor energy to provide "heavy refreshments." The facilities of the many retirement homes were available, but at a cost.

As the decades passed, the old clubs gradually changed. Few younger people were interested in such daytime groups with the several "service clubs," taking some men and with so many women holding jobs outside their homes. Increasingly, both Philo and Wednesday History Club dwindled in membership.

This summer the long period of absence has forced a decision on continuance.

I wish I could predict their future.

# TAP Tax Clinic in need of volunteers to continue program

**Teffany Henderson**  
Certified Financial Health Counselor  
Guest Contributor

Each year, TAP files over 1,000 free tax returns for low-income residents of Roanoke.

This work relies on the help of volunteers and this year we may not be able to offer this service if we do not have enough volunteers by September 30.

We often hear the same reasons why people do not sign up. Here are the two biggest myths about volunteering at

the Tax Clinic—and why they shouldn't stop anyone from helping out.

**Myth #1: I don't know enough about tax return preparation**

Most people don't - at first. Many of our volunteers begin with no prior experience in tax return preparation. As a result, volunteers are trained through Link & Learn Taxes, an online program used by the IRS. In addition, our tax site coordinator provides personal training to ensure you're confident in your knowledge.

Sherman Witcher, a Virginia Western student and 2019 Tax Clinic volunteer, said "knowing almost nothing about tax return preparation, it was somewhat intimidating to dive in head-first, but the IRS training modules are tailored to people who have little to no background."

Likewise, Sofiia Melnyk also began volunteering with no experience. Melnyk moved from Ukraine in 2016, and did not know how the US filing process worked. She decided to volunteer to get account-

ing experience. After her training, she helped over 100 families file tax returns.

Each year, volunteers get the training they need to help our clients. All together, we help over 1,000 people file their tax returns without a single rejection.

**Myth #2: I don't have enough time**

Schedules today are packed with work, making dinner, or soccer practice. Due to this, the TAP Tax Clinic offers an online training program. Link & Learn Taxes is self-paced, meaning you can complete it as you find time in your day.

"With the online modules," Witcher said, "I could easily study the material without having to drive 40 minutes from Franklin County."

Once the training is complete, you can offer as much time as you want to the Tax Clinic. "I was able to build my own schedule that worked with my college classes," said Melnyk. Every bit helps. The Tax Clinic is open 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. every weekday, and runs from February

1 to April 15. We welcome any hours you can help.

**Facts about being a tax-clinic volunteer**

Research shows that volunteering has many benefits. Here are a few that volunteering at the Tax Clinic offers:

**Fact #1: Help your community**

This one's obvious. The TAP Tax Clinic offers free tax preparation for low-income Virginians. Without the tax clinic, these clients may miss out on important credits or spend a majority of their refund on a paid service. While volunteering, Melnyk assisted a client who was overjoyed after discovering that she didn't owe thousands in taxes, but in fact would be receiving a refund. "There were so many people who made me feel that my volunteering time truly mattered," Melnyk said. "It was a rewarding experience."

**Fact #2: Connect with people and feel better**

Volunteering is proven to lower feelings of loneliness. Beyond that, a study by Indiana Uni-

versity's School of Philanthropy found that volunteering lowered stress, reduced feelings of depression, and elevated mood. In fact, the study found that volunteers spend 38 percent fewer nights in the hospital.

**Fact #3: Build your resume, or put your skills to work**

Volunteering at the TAP Tax Clinic will give you new skills and hone your knowledge of tax law. Professionals can earn licensing credits to boost their careers. Students like Melnyk and Witcher can get résumé-building experience. Specifically, those studying business, accounting, or finance can get out of the classroom and learn in a hands-on fashion. Depending on their program, students can even earn course credit from volunteering.

Further, Witcher found that his volunteer time at the Tax Clinic made his résumé stand out. "I think that students should seek to distinguish themselves from their peers, and TAP is a great outlet for doing so," he said.

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## CROSSWORD PUZZLE

**CLUES ACROSS**

- Nature expedition
- Take the energy from
- Bungled
- Young salmon
- Botanical gardens
- Source of chocolate
- Country singer LeAnn
- Yokel
- Unit of energy
- Plant of the lily family
- Tusked wild pig
- Form of "to be"
- Formerly
- Letter of the Greek alphabet
- Former First Lady
- News organization
- Shining brightly and intermittently
- Brew
- Teams' best pitchers
- Edible fruit
- Pitching stat
- \_\_\_ or bust
- Baby product manufacturer
- Monetary unit of Finland
- Small spherical structures in cells
- Pouches
- Reached
- Investment account
- Of-repeated slogan

**CLUES DOWN**

- Nuclear undersea weapon
- Helps the skin
- Evergreen coniferous trees
- Relieve of employment
- A way to drench
- Journalist Tarbell
- \_\_\_ and Venzetti
- Alcoholic liquor
- An athlete who plays for pay
- Where to get drinks
- Japanese art form
- Baseball great Satchel
- Winged angelic beings
- One point south of due east
- Group of islands in Polynesia
- A place to play: \_\_\_ center
- Masses of gray matter in the brain
- Belgian city (alt. sp.)
- Millilitre
- Beloved Will Ferrell film
- Railway above ground
- Satisfaction
- Aggregate of molecules
- Type of barometer
- Type of college teacher (abbr.)
- Long periods of time
- Native people of Nebraska and S. Dakota
- Deliver
- Thin, narrow piece of wood
- Modern Israel founder
- Small NY college
- Pounds per square inch
- Veterans battleground
- Hollywood talent agency (abbr.)
- Popular Kids' channel

# McAuliffe leads Youngkin in race for Virginia Governor; Lead extends to downticket races with economy and COVID-19 as the most important issues

**Roanoke College Poll**  
Conducted by The Institute for Policy and Opinion Research

Former Democrat Governor Terry McAuliffe holds an 8-percentage point lead over Republican Glenn Youngkin (46 percent - 38 percent) with 13 percent undecided in race for Virginia governor, according to The Roanoke College Poll. Democrats also lead the downticket races, with Del. Hala Ayala (D) leading former Del. Winsome Sears (R) 42 percent - 36 percent for lieutenant governor and Attorney General Mark Herring (D) leading Del. Jason Miyares (R) 45 percent - 37 percent in the race for attorney general. The Institute for Policy and Opinion Research interviewed 558 likely Virginia voters between Aug. 3 and Aug. 17 and has a margin of error of +4.2 percent.

Likely voters see the economy (26 percent) and COVID (nine percent) as the most important issues in the election ahead of race relations (seven percent),

education (seven percent) and health care (six percent).

McAuliffe's favorable rating is 44 percent while his unfavorable is 32 percent with 21 percent unsure or don't know enough to have an opinion. Youngkin is at 27 percent/21 percent favorable/unfavorable, but half (50 percent) of likely voters still don't have an opinion about him.

Voters prefer a candidate with governmental experience (48 percent) over one with business experience (38 percent), and they are much more likely to think that policy in the Commonwealth has been moving too far in the liberal direction (41 percent) than in the conservative direction (six percent).

**Biden, Northam, the Nation, and the Commonwealth; Critical Race Theory**

A plurality of likely voters (48 percent) approves of the way President Biden is handling his job, while 43 percent disapprove. Biden's approval rating has remained steady, but disapproval has been rising from 30 percent in February to 39

percent in May and 43 percent in August. Biden's favorable/unfavorable rating is 48 percent/43 percent. Job approval for Congress is 17 percent, and 71 percent disapprove. One-third (33 percent) of respondents think the country is headed in the right direction while 58 percent think it is on the wrong track.

Job approval for Virginia Gov. Ralph Northam sits at 52 percent, up slightly from May, while 38 percent disapprove of his performance, also increased since May. Just over half (52 percent) of respondents think that Virginia is headed in the right direction, but 43 percent think it is on the wrong track. Less than half (41 percent) approve of the job being done by Virginia's General Assembly, while 35 percent disapprove. Northam is viewed favorably by 48 percent of likely voters (a Roanoke College Poll record high for him) and seen unfavorably by 37 percent (one percent shy of that record).

Both major political parties are viewed unfavorably by 48 percent of likely voters. See Poll, page 5

# Poll

from page 4

ably, Republicans (29 percent favorable; 50 percent unfavorable) more so than Democrats (41 percent favorable; 47 percent unfavorable). The National Rifle Association is also viewed unfavorably (33 percent favorable; 43 percent unfavorable), while Black Lives Matter is seen more positively (45 percent favorable; 36 percent unfavorable), but BLM numbers have slipped in the year since we previously asked about the group.

Nearly three in four (72 percent) likely voters have heard at least a little about Critical Race Theory (CRT), and almost three-fourths of that group (73 percent) say they have a good idea of what it is. Among those who have a good idea what CRT is, 40 percent view it favorably, but more (47 percent) see it unfavorably. More see its teaching as bad for America (47 percent) than good for America (44 percent).

**Political anxiety**  
IPOR continues to track political anxiety in the Commonwealth. Four-in-five (80 percent) Virginians trust the federal government to do what is right only some of the time or never. A majority (55 percent) thinks that

ordinary citizens can do a lot to influence the federal government, and just under half (49 percent) think their side is losing more than winning in politics today, while 30 percent think they are winning more than losing.

Most respondents (54 percent) think the country's best years are ahead of it, while 40 percent (a record-high in the Roanoke College Poll) think its best years have passed. Overall, a large majority of Virginians (89 percent) continues to see the nation divided regarding the important issues facing the country.

A plurality of respondents (45 percent) is dissatisfied with how the federal government is (or isn't) working. Another 21 percent are angry, while only 28 percent are satisfied, and two percent are enthusiastic. In the aggregate, each of these measures has remained relatively stable over time, but the responses of subgroups have varied, particularly those of Democrats and Republicans, depending upon which party is in power. Republicans are currently much more pessimistic than Democrats.

**Analysis**  
"While one would always prefer to be ahead than behind, the

news is not all rosy for McAuliffe," said Dr. Harry Wilson, senior political analyst for the Roanoke College Poll. "Both candidates are above water in terms of favorable ratings, and each can improve on those numbers, or they may decline due to the percentage of voters who are at least somewhat unfamiliar with them. This election is not 2020, nor is it 2017."

Republicans are very unhappy with the state of the nation and the Commonwealth, much as Democrats were in 2017. While the 2017 exit poll is the best and only verifiable standard to use for statistical weighting to estimate the 2021 electorate, it is at least possible that Republicans can use their collective angst to increase turnout. We will measure voter enthusiasm in future polls to try to determine if that is the case."

Regarding the different partisan views of just about everything, there is little left to say. The only thing they seem to agree on is their dislike of the other side and the fact that the nation is divided. Absent a cataclysmic event, that is unlikely to change soon."

**Methodology**  
Interviewing for The Roanoke

College Poll was conducted by The Institute for Policy and Opinion Research at Roanoke College between Aug. 3 and Aug. 17, 2021. A total of 558 likely voters in Virginia were interviewed. Telephone interviews were conducted in English. The headline sample consisted of random-digit numbers generated in proportion to the Virginia population so that all residential telephone numbers, including unlisted numbers, had a known chance of inclusion. Cellphone samples were purchased from Marketing Systems Group. Cellphones comprised 45 percent of the completed interviews.

Likely voters were defined as respondents who said they are registered to vote in Virginia and who are very likely or somewhat likely to vote in the November elections.

Questions answered by the entire sample of 558 likely voters are subject to a sampling error of plus or minus approximately 4.2 percent at the 95 percent level of confidence. This means that in 95 out of 100 samples like the one used here, the results obtained should be no more than 4.2 percentage points above

or below the figure that would be obtained by interviewing all Virginia likely voters who have a home telephone or a cellphone. Where the results of subgroups are reported, the sampling error is higher.

Quotas were used to ensure that different regions of the Commonwealth were proportionately represented. The data were statistically weighted for region, gender, race, education, and political party. Weighting was done to match the 2017 Virginia statewide election exit poll. The margin of error was not adjusted for design effects due to weighting. The design effect was 1.568 which would increase the margin of error to plus or minus 5.2 percent.

The Institute follows the American Association for Public Opinion Research's Code of Professional Ethics and Practices and is a charter member of that association's Transparency Initiative.

More information about the Poll may be obtained by contacting Dr. Harry Wilson at wilson@roanoke.edu or (540) 375-2282. The Roanoke College Poll is funded by Roanoke College as a public service.

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The children exclaimed, "Please, Mom, let us go. That's not fair!"

"And they will know that I am the Lord; I did not threaten in vain to bring this calamity on them" (Ezekiel 6:10).

Like Sheryl, God had a purpose in His instructions to Judah.

He gave them wonderful promises. Peace and safety would be theirs if they followed Him. He also gave stern warnings. If they ignored Him, destruction would come.

The people acted in disobedience and did what was evil. As a result, God sent them into exile. Even today God does not speak in vain. If we listen to Him, we will receive blessings. If we run to rebellion, we will fall into judgment. Live in such a way as to receive His blessings.

Prayer Suggestion: Dear Lord, I will believe what You have said.

Quicklook: Ezekiel 6:9-11

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**OUR LADY OF PERPETUAL HELP** -314 Turner Road, Salem. 387-0491, Rev. Danny Cogut, 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 3:30 p.m. - 4:30 p.m. and by appointment.

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**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](http://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.

# OBITUARIES

## Gray, Deloris W.

Delores W. Gray, 83 of Salem, passed away on August 22, 2021, at Friendship Health and Rehabilitation Center in Roanoke.

A native of Virginia, she was the wife of the late Kennis Neil Gray and the daughter of William Hassel Willis and Shirley Cooper Willis, both deceased. Delores owned and operated Grays Catering for many years. She enjoyed cooking, especially for family meals and cookouts. Delores was a member of Bethel Baptist Church.

She is survived by her daughter, Kendra L Gray; two grandchildren, Kenneth Christopher Gray and Erika J Gray; cousins, Coy and Betsy Cooper; and best friends, Jim and Melvie Dugger.

In addition to her husband and parents, she was preceded in death by her



son, William "Billy" Neil Gray; her best friends, Rev. Wesley Patterson and Jeanette Patterson; one brother; and two sisters.

The family will receive friends at Lotz Funeral Home in Salem on Friday, August 27, from 1:00 until 2:00 p.m. A memorial service will follow the visitation at 2:00 p.m. in the Lotz Funeral Home Chapel with Pastor Drew Wright officiating.

The family would like to extend a special thank you to the staff of Friendship Health and Rehabilitation Center and Good Samaritan Hospice for their care and support.

In lieu of flowers, please consider a donation in memory of Delores to: Alzheimer's Association, 3959 Electric Rd. #357, Roanoke, VA 24018.

## Taylor, Judy Anne Kirby

Judy Anne Kirby Taylor, 58, of Roanoke County, Virginia, passed away peacefully at home on August 8, 2021, surrounded by her loving family.

She was predeceased by her father, Raymond Kirby; a brother, Gary Kirby; and a brother-in-law, Daniel Taylor.

She is survived by her beloved husband of nearly 40 years, Dr. Mark Taylor of Roanoke County; a daughter, Kelsey Taylor Sloan and husband Jared Sloan of Wise County, Virginia; a son, Nicholas Taylor and wife Bridget Blakely Taylor of Charlottesville, Virginia; and the joys of her heart, granddaughter Anne Peyton Sloan and grandson, Jack Emmerson Sloan, both of Wise County, Virginia.

She is also survived by her loving mother, Margaret Kirby Ratcliff, of Salem, Virginia; a sister, Cindy Kirby Rider of Roanoke County, Virginia; and a brother Raymond Kirby and his wife Cindy Mitchell Kirby of Roanoke County, Virginia. Also surviving are her in-laws, Richard and Jane Taylor of



Fincastle, Virginia, as well as aunts, cousins, nieces, nephews, and a great-niece as well as many extended family members.

Judy was a faithful member of West Salem Baptist Church where she worshipped her savior Jesus, served others, and attended Sunday School as well as Women's Bible Study.

The family received friends from 10 a.m. until noon on Saturday, August 14, at the West Salem Baptist Church, 500 Turner Road, Salem, VA 24153, where a funeral service to celebrate her life began promptly at 12 p.m., her loving Pastor Nick Shaffer and his wife Gretchen whom she loved as well, officiated at her service.

Special thanks to Blue Ridge Cancer Center, Good Samaritan Hospice, and all her many health care providers at Carilion Clinic and elsewhere.

In lieu of flowers, please consider making a donation to your favorite charity in memory of Judy.

Online condolences may be sent to the family at [www.johnmoakey.com](http://www.johnmoakey.com).

## SCC reminds Virginians to review their property insurance before a hurricane or other disaster strikes

The 2021 hurricane season already has had a busy start with eight named storms and one reaching hurricane strength. The State Corporation Commission's (SCC) Bureau of Insurance (Bureau) reminds Virginians that late August to early October is often the most dangerous and active time for tropical storm activity – and the potential property damage those storms can cause.

If you have not already reviewed your property insurance, the Bureau urges Virginians to do so now as the hurricane season is underway. Whether you're a homeowner, renter or business, protect yourself financially by making sure you have the coverage you need before disaster strikes.

Hurricane season officially runs from June 1 to November 30. Even areas hundreds of miles from the coast can be impacted by the high winds, heavy rains and flooding that accompany hurricanes and tropical storms. You may have a difficult time increasing your insurance coverage once a hurricane develops and until the threat has passed, so review your coverage now and make any necessary changes.

"Disasters can happen anywhere and anytime. Don't wait until it's too late to protect yourself and your property from a hurricane or other disaster," said Virginia Insurance Commissioner Scott A. White. "Assess your risk now and make sure you have the coverage you need before a storm begins to brew."

The Bureau encourages Virginians to talk to their insurance agent or company if they have questions about what is and is not covered, how to reduce property damage and what to do if damage does occur.

Most homeowners, renters and commercial insurance policies do not cover losses due to flooding. Talk to your insurance agent about flood insurance or visit the National Flood Insurance Program's website at [www.floodsmart.gov](http://www.floodsmart.gov) to learn more about protecting your home or business from damage due to floods, surface water or storm surge. There is typically a 30-day waiting period for a new flood insurance policy to take effect.

The Bureau also encourages Virginians to create a detailed home inventory with photos, videos and serial numbers of your belongings. The National Association of Insurance Commissioners' (NAIC) free smartphone app can facilitate this process. Place your insurance policies and

home inventory in a safe place and take them with you if you must evacuate. These records will contain your policy numbers and the phone numbers of your insurance companies in case you have questions or need to file a claim.

If your property is damaged by a hurricane, contact your insurance agent or company as soon as possible. To protect your property from further damage, make necessary emergency repairs. Document all damage to your property and include photographs, notes and repair-related receipts.

Policyholders should consider the following questions related to potential hurricane damage when reviewing their policies:

Does your homeowners policy contain a special deductible for wind or hurricane losses? These deductibles are applied separately from any other deductible on a homeowners policy and may be written as a flat amount, such as \$1,000, or applied to a loss as a percentage of the insurance coverage on the dwelling.

Does your homeowners policy provide coverage for such things as sewer backup? Most homeowners policies do not provide coverage for sewer backup, but policyholders may purchase additional coverage for this.

Are vehicles covered in the event of a hurricane or windstorm? If you have other-than-collision (or comprehensive) coverage for your vehicle under your automobile policy, your vehicles generally will be covered for flood and wind damage.

To learn more, contact the Bureau of Insurance Property and Casualty Division toll-free at 1-877-310-6560 or in Richmond at 804-371-9185. The Bureau's specially trained staff can assist consumers with their insurance-related questions and concerns. The Bureau also offers free consumer guides for homeowners and commercial property owners with information about what to do when a disaster strikes. These are available on the disaster readiness section of its website at [scc.virginia.gov/pages/Disaster-Readiness](http://scc.virginia.gov/pages/Disaster-Readiness).

For additional emergency preparedness information relating to hurricanes and other types of disasters, visit the Virginia Department of Emergency Management website at [www.vaemergency.gov](http://www.vaemergency.gov).

- Submitted by Katha Treanor

## Prevent snake bites by leaving snakes alone

There are 32 species of snakes in Virginia, but only three are venomous, and death from snake bites is extremely rare.

About 8,000 people in the U.S. are bitten by venomous snakes each year, and up to 10 of them die as a result, according to the Virginia Herpetological Society. According to the Virginia Department of Health, only about one death from snake bites occurs every 10-15 years in the state.

The state's herpetologist, John "J.D." Kleopfer, said 99 percent of all encounters between humans and snakes can be resolved safely if people heed his four words of advice: "Just. Leave. Them. Alone."

"Bad things often happen when people take matters into their own hands," added Kleopfer, who has served as the state herpetologist with the Virginia

Department of Wildlife Resources for 15 years. "If people leave snakes alone, then they don't need to worry whether they're venomous or not."

Of Virginia's three venomous snakes, only the eastern copperhead is found statewide. The other two - the northern cottonmouth and the timber rattlesnake—have limited geographical distribution.

Venomous snake bites are considered medical emergencies, and need to be treated quickly. However, the chances of being envenomated are extremely low.

"Although venomous snakes occasionally may pose a risk to one's personal health and safety, the vast majority of species do not present an imminent danger or threat to us," said Dr. James Parkhurst, an associate professor in Virginia Tech's Fish and

Wildlife Conservation Department.

Most snakes are even beneficial. Larger snake species help manage rodent populations by eating eat mice, rats and voles, Parkhurst said. Many smaller snakes feed on insects and other invertebrate pests common in gardens and landscaped areas. Black racers and eastern kingsnakes will often prey on other snakes, including venomous species.

Some snakes serve as a food resource for other predators, such as raccoons, opossums, skunks and birds of prey. "Thus, snakes are important players in the food web and are a key component of healthy ecosystems," Parkhurst noted.

As people are spending time outside during the summer months, they should take certain pre-

cautions, Kleopfer said. Snakes are most active at night and in warm weather, so watch where you step, and use a flashlight when walking at night. Protective clothing also is important when spending time in places where snakes may be hiding, like brush or debris.

Never handle a snake, even if you think it is dead. Recently killed snakes can bite by reflex - even detached snake heads.

One of the best ways to prevent venomous snake bites is to "get to know which snakes live in your area," Kleopfer recommended. He said the Virginia Herpetological Society provides statewide identification charts and even has a feature where residents can upload images of snakes and get them identified.

Visit [virginiaherpetologicalsociety.com](http://virginiaherpetologicalsociety.com) for

more information. "Remember, snakes are not out to get you and will not chase you," Kleopfer emphasized. "If you leave

them alone, they will leave you alone."

- Submitted by John "J.D." Kleopfer

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### General Information

**Notice**  
563 Bobbletts Gap Rd., Botetourt County is Posted. Owner.

### Help Wanted - General

**Part Time Newspaper Production Help**  
The Salem TimesRegister has openings for afternoon/evening shift work inserting, labeling and bundling newspapers for delivery. No experience necessary. Hours may vary. Will train. \$7.50 per hour. Contact Lynn Hurst, General Manager, Salem-Times Register (540)389-9355 or email lhurst@ourvalley.org

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### Legals - Botetourt County

### Public Notice Environmental Permit

**PURPOSE OF NOTICE:** To seek public comment on a draft Virginia Pollutant Discharge Elimination System permit from the Department of Environmental Quality that will allow the release of industrial wastewater and stormwater into a waterbody in Botetourt County, Virginia PERMIT NO.: VA0072397  
**NAME AND ADDRESS OF FACILITY:** Roanoke Cement Company LLC, 6071 Catawba Road, Troutville, Virginia 24175  
**DEQ CONTACT:** Becky L. France, 540-562-6793, [becky.france@deq.virginia.gov](mailto:becky.france@deq.virginia.gov), 901 Russell Drive, Salem, VA 24153  
The full public notice is available at <https://www.deq.virginia.gov/permits-regulations/public-notices/water/virginia-pollution-discharge-elimination-system-vpdes>

### Legals - City of Radford

### VIRGINIA: IN THE CIRCUIT COURT FOR THE CITY OF RADFORD

THE CITY OF RADFORD, VIRGINIA, a political subdivision of the Commonwealth of Virginia, **Case No. CL21-6456** Plaintiff, V. COLE-PHILLIPS BUILDING CO., and MICHAEL H. COLE and PARTIES UNKNOWN, any heirs, devisees, and successors in title, including Successors in interest of Cole Phillips Building Co., A General Partnership collectively made Defendants, Defendant(s).

### ORDER OF PUBLICATION

The object of this suit is to order abatement of nuisance or allow for razing of a structure owned by Cole Phillips Building Co., and located at 103 Polk Street in the City of Radford, Virginia, and enforce a lien for the costs of the same. An Affidavit having been filed stating that due diligence has been used, without effect, to ascertain the location of the named Defendant(s), that the Defendant(s) may be non-residents of Virginia and maintain no domicile within the borders of the Commonwealth, or are deceased, or that there may be parties who have an interest in the property but are unknown, namely, the heirs, devisees, and successors in title of the named partnership, made Defendants by the general description of Parties Unknown, it is hereby ORDERED that the named Defendant(s) and all Parties Unknown appear on or before September 24, 2021, and do what may be necessary to protect their interests in this cause.

Entered: 7/22/2021  
Melissa White  
Circuit Court Clerk/Judge  
City of Radford, Virginia

I Ask For This:  
Michael R. Bedsaul, Esq. (WSB # 41273)  
Mary Foil Russell (VSB No. 46440)  
Sands Anderson PC  
P.O. Box 2009  
Christiansburg, Virginia 24068-2009  
540-260-9011 (phone)  
540-260-0022 (facsimile)

### Legals - City of Salem

### ORDER OF PUBLICATION

COMMONWEALTH OF VIRGINIA VA. CODE §§ 1-211.1; 8.01-316, -317, 20-104  
**Case No. CL21-888**  
ROANOKE COUNTY CIRCUIT COURT  
305 E. MAIN ST SALEM, VA 24153  
ALTIZER, ZANDER LEE v. MCGUIRE, CONNER LEE  
The object of this suit is to: NAME CHANGE OF MINOR  
It is ORDERED that Ashley Altizer appear at the above-named court and protect his/her interests on 8/27/21 @ 11:00 AM

Enter 7/16/21  
Judge Dorsey

### Pursuant to the Single Family Mortgage Foreclosure Act

of 1994, 12 U.S.C. Chapter 38A and the Secretary's Foreclosure Commissioner designation, a COMMISSIONER'S SALE of 1407 Longview Avenue, Salem, VA 24153 (Short Legal Description: LT 6 BLK 3 SEC 1 MIDDLETON GARDENS) will occur at public auction outside the main entrance to the building of the Circuit Court of Salem, VA located at 2 East Calhoun Street, Salem, VA 24153-7933 on September 9, 2021 at 11:00 AM, pursuant to a default of a note secured by a deed of trust executed by Calvin C. Overstreet by Nellie C. Overstreet, his attorney in fact, and Nellie C. Overstreet recorded 2/10/2012, in the Circuit Court for Salem, VA, as Instrument No. 120000317, and the Assignment in favor of the Secretary of HUD recorded 1/18/2018, in the Circuit Court for Salem, VA as Instrument No. 180000119. TERMS OF SALE can be reviewed by the recorded notice of default on file with the Salem Circuit Court for which all terms are incorporated herein into this notice. A 10% deposit is immediately required for winning bidder in certified funds. Anderson Law, 2492 N. Landing Rd. #104, Va Beach, VA 23456, <http://www.virginialawoffice.com/hud> Run date 8/19/2021, 8/26/2021, and 9/2/2021

### Legals - City of Salem

### Public Notice Environmental Permit

**PURPOSE OF NOTICE:** To seek public comment and announce two public hearings on (1) a draft permit from the State Water Control Board that will allow the filling of wetlands and streams in Giles, Craig, Montgomery, Roanoke, Franklin, and Pittsylvania Counties, Virginia and (2) the Board's intent to provide Section 401 Water Quality Certification for activities authorized by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers. **PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD:** The public comment period is from August 28, 2021 to October 13, 2021. **PUBLIC HEARINGS:** The Pigg River Community Center, 2410 South Main Street, Rocky Mount, Virginia 24151 on September 27, 2021 from 6:00pm to 9:00pm, and Radford University - Kyle Hall, Howe Street, Radford Virginia 24141 on September 28, 2021 from 6:00pm to 9:00pm. The public hearing will adjourn when everyone present has had an opportunity to speak, or the facility closing time, whichever occurs first. Persons planning to attend the public hearings are advised to check the DEQ website at the link below for any changes to the meeting format or public health protocols. **PURPOSE OF THE HEARING:** To obtain input from the public related to this project for the Board to consider. **PERMIT NAME:** Virginia Water Protection Permit issued by the State Water Control Board **EFFECT OF PERMIT:** Pursuant to Va. Code 62.1-44.15-20.D, issuance of the permit shall, in conjunction with Certification No. 17-001, constitute the certification required under Section 401 of the federal Clean Water Act for the project. **APPLICANT NAME, ADDRESS AND PERMIT NUMBER:** Mountain Valley Pipeline, LLC; 2200 Energy Drive, Canonsburg, PA 15317; WVPP No. 21-0416 **PROJECT DESCRIPTION:** Mountain Valley Pipeline, LLC has applied for a new permit for the Mountain Valley Pipeline Project. The project is a 42-inch natural gas pipeline located along an approximate 107-mile-long corridor from the Virginia-West Virginia state line in Giles County southeast through Craig County, Montgomery County, Roanoke County, Franklin County, and Pittsylvania County to the Transco Village (located approximately three miles east of Chatham, Virginia). The permit will allow the applicant to work in surface waters consisting of wetlands and streams. The proposed activity would permanently affect 1.19 acres of palustrine forested wetland (PFO), 0.76 of an

### Legals - City of Salem

acre of palustrine scrub-shrub wetland (PSS), 0.04 of an acre of palustrine emergent wetland (PEM), and 63 linear feet of streams. The proposed activity would temporarily affect 3.91 acres of palustrine emergent wetlands (PEM) and 17,065 linear feet of streams. The activity proposed in the permit will affect surface waters in the Middle New, Upper James, Upper Roanoke and Banister watersheds. To compensate for the surface waters affected, the applicant would provide 7.114 wetland mitigation credits and 298 stream mitigation credits, and restore temporarily impacted areas to their original condition. The State Water Control Board's preliminary decision is to issue the permit. **HOW TO COMMENT:** DEQ accepts comments by hand delivery, e-mail, fax or postal mail. All comments and requests must be in writing and be received by DEQ during the comment period. Submittals must include the names, mailing addresses and telephone numbers of the commenter/requester and of all persons represented by the commenter/requester. The Board also accepts oral comments at the public hearing. To make a statement at the public hearing, write your name on a sign-up sheet available before the hearing. You may sign up only for yourself. The hearing officer sets the time allowed for each statement. When a hearing is held, the final decision is made by the State Water Control Board. **HOW A DECISION IS MADE:** After public comments have been considered and addressed by the permit or other means, the State Water Control Board will make the final decision.

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Applications received by 7:00 PM on Friday September 24, 2021 may be eligible for a mobilization bonus. See the EVA posting for additional information, including contract requirements.

Questions can be directed to the Christiansburg Residency from 8:00 AM to 5:00 PM Monday - Friday. Phone: 540-381-7201  
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### ADVERTISEMENT FOR SNOW REMOVAL EQUIPMENT SERVICES WITH OPERATOR SIGNUP

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Applications received by 7:00 PM on Friday September 24, 2021 may be eligible for a mobilization bonus. See the EVA posting for additional information, including contract requirements.

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# Council

from page 1

sors can do something about. Guynn added that a decision on having public comments more than once a quarter – required by state law – is at the discretion of Council. Salem Council took no action Aug. 23 on the question on citizen comments more than one meeting per month. City Manager Jay Taliaferro said the staff would create a menu of possible choices and bring it back to a future meeting. During the regular meeting, Council approved, on first reading: A request to rezone to light manufacturing a former business college building on Apperson Drive. Ben Crew of Balzer & Associates represented Layman Candy Co., currently located off West Main Street, that wants to move its warehouse and distribution center to the Apperson Drive location now owned by Lewis-Gale Medical Center. Salem Community Development Director Chuck VanAllman explained Layman wants to grow and

possibly add 40 additional jobs. Layman's Glenn Bowe said outside the meeting that Layman "is a distributor for all the things you see in a convenience store." Councilman Jones thanked Layman for staying in Salem. "We appreciate it," he said. He also thanked members of the Salem Planning Commission for the time they spent on the request. A request by Roanoke College to rezone to single family a residence on Broad Street, that the college says is surplus. Council also set a public hearing for Sept. 13 on filling School Board seats currently held by Nancy Bradley and Teresa Sizemore-Hernandez. Mayor Turk pointed out any others who are interested in applying should go to the city's website and fill out an application before Sept. 13. The term starts Jan. 1. Both Bradley and Sizemore-Hernandez are eligible to ask to be reappointed. The meeting adjourned at 6:58.

# Music

from page 1



PHOTO BY SHAWN NOWLIN

## Attendees were treated to hours of Bluegrass music.

capturing memories," she said. "After more than 20 years of marriage, he is used to it by now." Concertgoers like Johnson and Stone couldn't stop dancing when the bands were performing on stage. "It was a beautiful day, and the energy was even better," said Stone before Johnson added, "I had even more fun that I originally thought." Skyline National Bank sponsored Saturday's event.

# India Festival

from page 1



PHOTOS BY SHAWN NOWLIN

## Approximately 4,000 people attended this year's India Festival. All signs point to the event returning next year.

my taste buds to something new. Everything that I tried was top notch," he said. Carilion President and CEO Nancy Agee served as the guest of honor and was recognized for her leadership during the height of the pandemic. "Carilion Clinic has led our region's health care throughout the pandemic, from caring for COVID-19 patients to organizing vaccination clinics for the public," Shah said. "We are proud to have some of the best medical care in the country right here in Virginia's Blue Ridge and we appreciate Ms. Agee's leadership of this exceptional health care organization." August 15 marked the 74th anniversary of India's independence from British rule. In an official statement, President Joe Biden said, "On this day, India achieved its long journey toward independence, guided by Mahatma Gandhi's message of truth and non-violence. Today, that foundational commitment to respecting the will of the people through democracy continues to inspire the world and is the basis of the special bond between our two nations. Over the decades, the ties between our people, including a vibrant Indian community of more than four million Indian Americans, have sustained and strengthened our partnership." Edwards had such a great time that the next year he says he will invite his family from out of town to attend the event. "Learning about the India culture has been fascinating and I plan on continuing to educate myself," he said.

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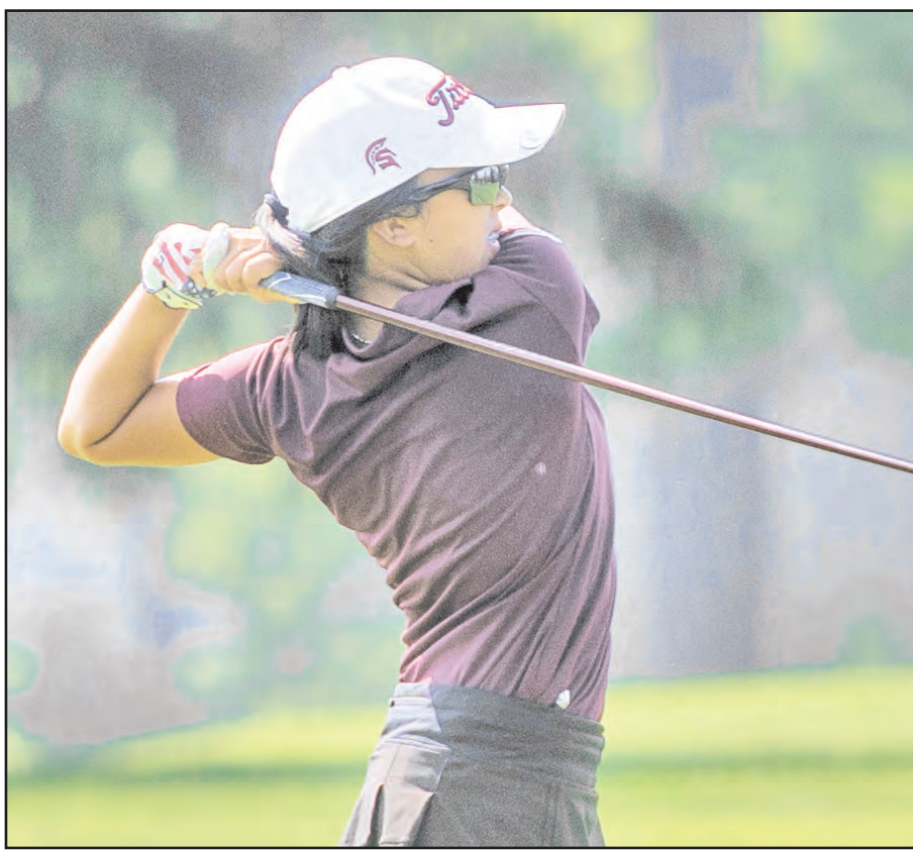
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**Salem freshman Katherine Ha tees off in Monday's match at the Roanoke Country Club.**

PHOTO BY SCOTT GARDNER

## 301 only good for 3rd in tough RRD

The Salem High golf team shot a good score at the Roanoke Country Club Monday, but it was only good enough for third place in the River Ridge District match.

Salem had a very good score with a four-player 301. Unfortunately for the Spartans, a very strong Blacksburg team was five under par as a team with a score of 279. Hidden Valley was second at 296.

Freshman Katherine Ha led Salem with an even par 71. Macy Johnson shot 74, Trey Joyce had a 75 and Hunter King had the fourth score to count for the Spartans with an 81.

"I was very happy with a 301," said Salem coach Thad Snyder. "When we played at the Roanoke Country Club in March we shot 328. On Monday we were better by 27 strokes and the kids were not happy with that."

On Monday the Spartans will have their work cut out for them as the Bruins will be playing on their home course at the Blacksburg Country Club. Tee time is 2 pm.

"I'm pleased, but I want to see where we are at the end of the season," said Salem coach Thad Snyder. "We still have to get better."

Glenvar did not play in the past week. The Highlanders will be back in action today with a match at Hanging Rock in Roanoke County at 4 pm.

## Lewis defense holds on to defeat Wm. Fleming

The Andrew Lewis Middle School football teams are off to a good start as the eighth grade team won their opener and the seventh grade team had a win and a tie.

The eighth grade Wolverines defeated William Fleming in Roanoke last Thursday, 16-14, in a game that went down to the last play. The Wolverines took an early 8-0 lead on a long run by Brayden White just before halftime, along with a two point conversion. White broke several tackles during the long run.

Fleming answered with a touchdown and a successful two point play to start the third quarter, tying the game at 8-8. At the beginning of the fourth quarter, Lewis quarterback Brody Dawyot completed a long pass to Jesiah Hines to set up the final Lewis score, a run by White from 10 yards out.

Fleming came back with a score shortly after the Lewis score but failed on the two point attempt. The game ended with Fleming on the Lewis 25 yard line, with a couple incomplete passes into the end zone.

The seventh graders tied Floyd County at Salem Stadium last Thursday, 14-14, then beat Ben Franklin Middle School in Salem on Monday night, 40-0. The seventh graders play at Glenvar tonight while the eighth grade team is at Ben Franklin.

The seventh grade game is at Highlander Stadium at 5:30 pm and the eighth grade game in Franklin County will kickoff at 5 pm.



**The Andrew Lewis line opens a big hole for Brayden White as he runs for a touchdown in last week's win over William Fleming in Roanoke.**

PHOTO BY BRIAN HOFFMAN



**Salem Spartans Junior League coach Mike Jones (in baseball cap) goes over blocking technique on the practice field at Salem High. All four Salem rec. football teams open this Saturday.**

PHOTO BY BRIAN HOFFMAN

## Schwartz resigns as RC women's lacrosse coach, Tamburello named interim coach

Roanoke College women's lacrosse coach Mary Schwartz has announced her resignation from her position with the program. She'll be replaced by Zach Tamburello as interim head coach.

Schwartz was at the helm for the Maroons the past 17 seasons after coming to Salem in advance of the 2005 campaign. During her time at Roanoke, Schwartz amassed 159 wins, including 96 Old Dominion Athletic Conference (ODAC) wins and the 2009 ODAC Women's Lacrosse Championship. In 2007 and 2009 Schwartz guided the Maroons into the NCAA Women's Lacrosse Championship Tournament, advancing into the second round on each occasion.

"I would like to thank Roanoke College and especially our Director of Athletics, Scott Allison, for giving me and my family this incredible opportunity 17 years ago," said Schwartz. "Roanoke will forever be my home as a college lacrosse coach."

Schwartz guided the Maroons to a second-place regular season and tournament finish in the Old Dominion Athletic Conference (ODAC) this past

season and she leaves the program in a good place. She steps down to take a position with Major Force Lacrosse. Schwartz will be serving as the Club Program Director for the high and middle school programs.

Allison didn't have to look far to find a replacement and has announced that Tamburello has been elevated from assistant to interim head coach for the 2022 lacrosse season.

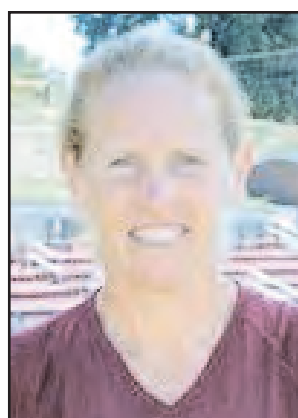
"Since his arrival, Zach has challenged our student-athletes to reach new heights," said Allison. "His influence on our attacking style of play has been widely recognized throughout the lacrosse community. Zach's appointment signals continuity and allows our women's lacrosse program to continue to build on the momentum of the 2021 season."

Tamburello came to Roanoke College prior to the 2018 season and has helped the program to reestablish itself near the top of the ODAC standings.

"I am so excited for Zach stepping into this roll, he is more than ready to be the interim head coach," said Schwartz. "Working with him over the past four

years and seeing how he has grown this is truly a great thing for the program."

This is an amazing group of young women and I'm confident in the leadership we have on and off the field."



MARY SCHWARTZ



ZACH TAMBURELLO

## SHS, GHS play volleyball games on the road tonight

The Salem and Glenvar volleyball teams are both scheduled to play tonight as the high school regular season begins this week.

Salem will be in Danville tonight for a match against George Washington High. The Spartans were scheduled to host Roanoke Catholic in their season

opener Wednesday, but results were too late for publication.

The Spartans will be playing their home matches at Andrew Lewis Middle School this year due the construction at Salem High with the exception of a September 2 match that will be played at South Salem Elementary

School. Salem is at Northside next Monday, then GW-Danville comes to South Salem a week from today.

Glenvar was scheduled to open the season on Monday at home with Auburn but that match was postponed until next Monday, August 30. The Highlanders are at Giles today.

## Andrew Lewis, Glenvar win middle school volleyball opening games

The Andrew Lewis Middle School volleyball team will host William Byrd today at 5 pm in Salem.

Lewis was 1-0 coming into the week. The Wolverines beat Ben Franklin Middle in Franklin County last Thursday, 25-11 and 25-18. A match scheduled for Monday of this week at Read Mountain was cancelled due to health concerns and Lewis was scheduled to play at Blacksburg Tuesday, but results were too late for

publication.

"We played in the Cave Spring Jamboree and were successful in 50 percent of our matches and we gained a lot of experience," said Lewis coach Perry Manning. "We are a very young team and we are growing leaps and bounds with each experience."

Glenvar Middle School also opened the season with a win. The Highlanders beat William Byrd Middle 25-19 and 25-11.

## Roanoke College fall sports begin

The Roanoke College fall sports season is just around the corner and college soccer teams will play exhibition games this Friday at home.

The women and men will both have home exhibition games against Southern Virginia at Kerr Stadium Friday. The women will play at 4:30 pm, followed by the men

at approximately 7 pm. There is no admission.

The first regular season games for RC teams will be next Wednesday, September 1, as the Maroons host games in four different sports, including a tripleheader at Kerr Stadium. The field hockey team will entertain Mary Washington at 3:30 pm, followed by

a women's soccer game with Greensboro at 5:30 pm. The third game of the tripleheader will find the RC men's soccer team hosting Greensboro at 8 pm.

Also on September 1 the women's volleyball team will have their season opener. RC will host Meredith College at 7 pm.

## Salem, Glenvar recreation football opens Saturday

The recreation football season will open this Saturday and all four Salem teams and all three Glenvar teams will play. Glenvar will host a tripleheader at Highlander Stadium and Salem teams will have a tripleheader at Bogle Field in Roanoke County.

At Glenvar the 12U team will play North Roanoke at 9 am, the 10U will take on a Botetourt team at 10:30 am and the 8U team will play against a North Roanoke team at noon.

Salem 12U, 10U and 8U teams will all have games at Bogle on Saturday with the 12U at 9 am, the 10U at 10:30 am and one of two 8U teams at noon, all against Cave Spring opponents. Salem's other 8U team will play a Botetourt team at the Read Mountain Middle School field at noon.

Flag football teams and youth soccer teams will begin their seasons next week.



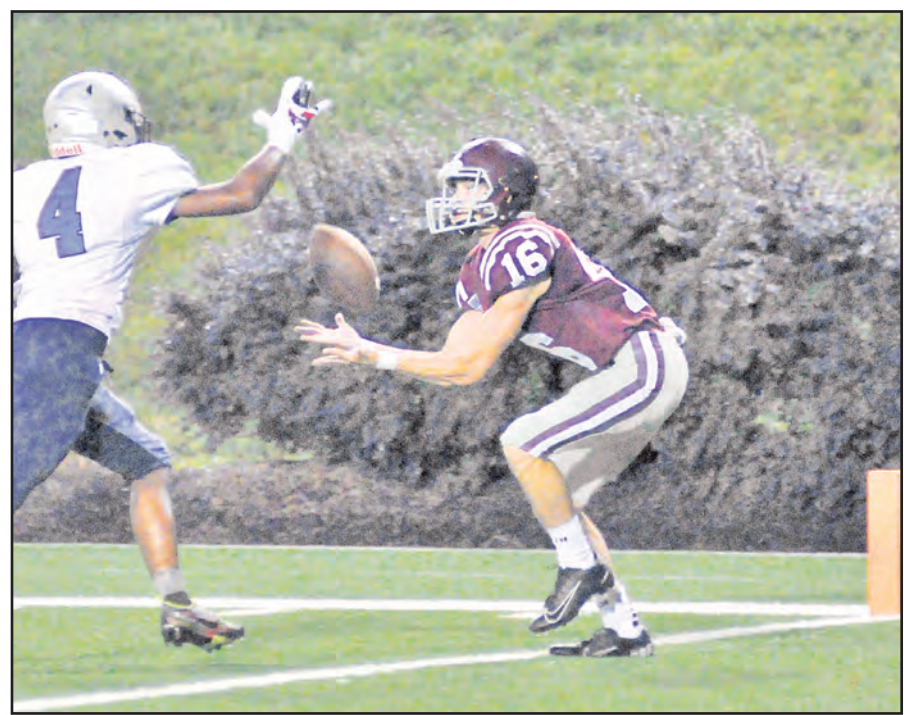
# SPORTS

Thursday, August 26, 2021

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Left, Salem's Chase Greer is behind the defense to catch a touchdown pass in last Friday's 49-0 win over Magna Vista in the Benefit Game at Salem Stadium. Right, Jeffrey Phillips puts the final touches on the win with a fourth quarter TD reception on a pass thrown by Brock Miles.

PHOTOS BY BRIAN HOFFMAN

## Spartans, Highlanders open football season at home Friday night

The high school football season is back and fans are excited to have a normal regular season once again. Both Salem and Glenvar will kick off 10 game schedules at home tomorrow night.

Salem will play host to Martinsburg, one of the top programs in West Virginia. The Bulldogs have won 61 of their last 62 games, including unbeaten state championship seasons for four straight years from 2016 to 19. Martinsburg had a 57 game winning streak snapped with a 22-20 loss to Spring Valley last fall, as West Virginia teams played in the fall despite the coronavirus pandemic.

Included in the 57 game winning streak is a 49-14 win over Salem at

Salem Stadium in 2019. Salem was scheduled to play at Martinsburg last fall but that was cancelled due to the pandemic, with the Bulldogs playing in the fall and Salem playing in the spring.

"I'm glad we could get them back on the schedule," said Salem coach Don Holter. "I think we could have beat them in 2019 if we had played them again, I really do. We didn't execute well, and certainly I could have done a better job of coaching. You can't make mistakes against that team, they're a darned good football team. When we made mistakes they capitalized."

Salem was impressive in the final tune-up for the regular season, beating Magna Vista, 49-0, in a Benefit

Game at Salem Stadium last Friday. However, Holter is making sure the Spartans stay off their high horse this week.

"I thought we got better, offensively and defensively, from the week before but I don't want to build a false sense of how good we are," said Holter. "Martinsburg is going to be a lot better than Magna Vista."

Game time is 7 pm Friday and there should be a big crowd on hand.

Meanwhile, Glenvar is home Friday night for a 7 pm game against Galax. The Highlanders opened the season against the Maroon Tide for nine straight years prior to the abbreviated spring season, and Glenvar won five of the nine. In the spring of this year

the two did not play as Galax won nine straight games before losing to Riverheads, 65-29, in the Class 1 state championship game on May 1 of this year.

"They're physical, tough and well-coached," said Glenvar coach Kevin Clifford. "They're always in the thick of the fight."

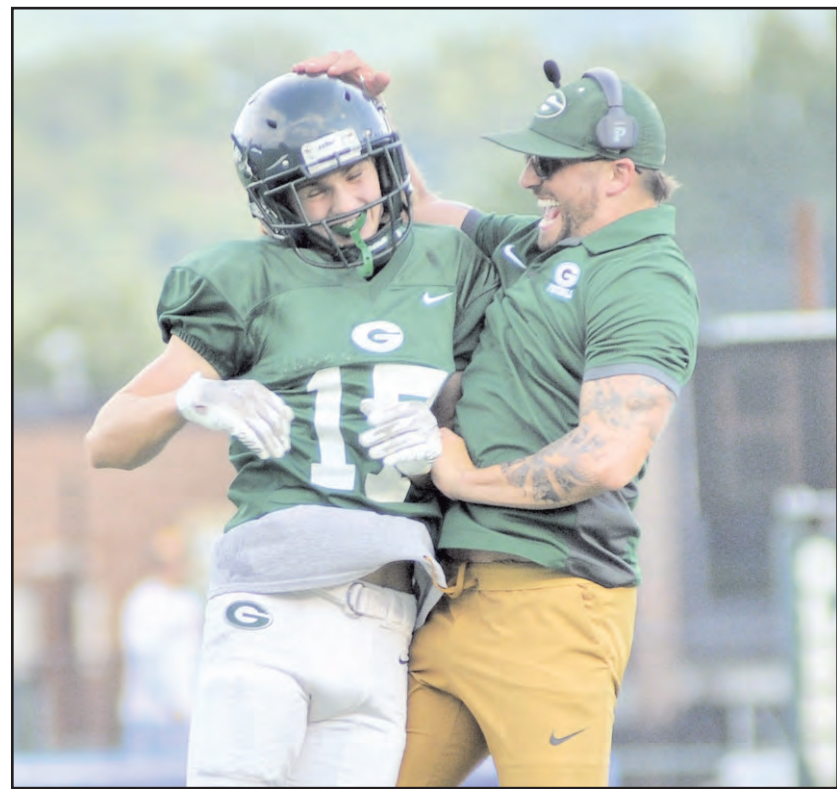
The Highlanders wrapped up their preseason with a three-team scrimmage at Highlander Stadium last Friday. Abingdon outscored Glenvar in the first scrimmage but the Highlanders came back to outscore Blacksburg in the second, 30-0.

Don't miss a special high school football preview, "TOUCHDOWN XLV", included in this week's edition



Left, Glenvar's Dawson Anderson fights his way over the goal line for a touchdown after catching a pass in last Friday's scrimmage with Abingdon. Right, Anderson and receivers' coach Tony Spradlin celebrate the score.

PHOTOS BY BRIAN HOFFMAN



## Sox need wins in 12 game stand

After playing 12 straight games on the road the Salem Red Sox will be home for a dozen as they try to grab a spot in the Low-A East playoffs. Salem opened the 12 game homestand on Tuesday with the Delmarva Shorebirds in town.

The Red Sox won seven of 12 on the road trip, taking five of six games in Lynchburg last week. That put the Sox at 57-39 for the season, three games ahead of Delmarva in the North Division but two games behind Carolina for the second of two playoff spots. Carolina had a two and half game lead over

streaking Down East in the Central Division, as the Wood Ducks won eight of their last 10 and were just a half a game behind the Red Sox as of Monday. Down East and Salem were dead even in the loss column but Salem had one more win.

Only the top two teams in the 12 team Low-A

East League make the playoffs in the new Minor League format, and South Division leader Charleston is running away with the top spot. Through Monday the Riverdogs were 67-29, eight games in front of Carolina and 10 games up on the Sox.

That leaves Carolina, Salem, Down East and Delmarva to fight it out for the second playoff spot. Those four teams were separated by just five games with four weeks to go in the season. This year the regular season runs through September 19 with just one playoff series for the Low-A East championship.

Salem comes home riding a three game winning streak. The Sox won in Lynchburg Friday night, 6-4, then scored 11 runs on back-to-back nights, taking an 11-10 win extra inning win on Saturday and an 11-3 win on Sunday.

On Saturday the Sox won a 10 inning game, scoring twice in the top of the 10th to break a 9-9 tie after Lynchburg scored



Salem manager Luke Montz gives the umpire his opinion in a recent game.

PHOTO BY BRIAN HOFFMAN

four runs in the bottom of the ninth. The Hillcats scored one run in the bottom of the 10th but Sox reliever Devon Roedahl was able to close it out for his fifth win against two losses. Roedahl struck out three in an inning and a third.

Offensively, Nick Yorke stayed hot with two home runs, giving him 10 on the season. His second was a two-run shot in the top of the 10th that proved to be the winning blow. Yorke was three for six with five runs batted in, then had two more hits Sunday to raise his aver-

age to .321.

On Sunday it wasn't close as Nick Decker went deep twice in the 11-3 win. Blaze Jordan finished things off with a grand slam in the eighth inning and Antoni Flores had three hits.

The Sox have several promotions this week as they welcome Delmarva to town for six important games. Thursday is Augtoberfest with the first 400 fans receiving a Sox beer stein. Salem will honor first responders on Friday and Saturday is "Dinos at the Diamond" night with a Dinosaur exhibit.



Ceddanne Rafaela of the Salem Red Sox dives safely into third in a recent game. The Sox are home for 12 straight games beginning this week.

PHOTO BY JOHN WACHER