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OurValley.org

Every Salem household is eligible for four free at-home COVID-19 tests



SUBMITTED PHOTO

For the latest information about the at-home tests, visit CovidTests.gov.

Shawn Nowlin
shawn.nowlin@ourvalley.org

A few months ago, Virginia began distributing free, at-home COVID-19 test kits. Made by Flowflex, the antigen home test accurately identifies 93 percent of positive specimens and 100 percent of negative specimens.

Many options exist to order a test. People can obtain a free testing kit from the federal program at CovidTests.gov, purchase an at-home test at local pharmacies and retailers, and if applicable, do so through health insurance.

What should people do if they test positive? How about if they test negative?

Very likely one has COVID-19 if an at-home test is positive. Such indi- See **Tests**, page 5

Petitioner withdraws crypto mining request

Meg Hibbert
Contributing writer

The most controversial item on the Feb. 14 Salem City Council agenda didn't happen.

The petitioner who wanted to start a crypto currency mining business withdrew his request the morning of the meeting.

Citizens opposing the project were present and prepared to speak on their concerns about noise, drain on the electrical grid and an excessive amount of heat that requires loud, noising cooling systems.

Faye Shively Curren said before the meeting she and others were also concerned the proposed mining operation would be close to residential areas.

"Crypto mining runs 24/7 all day, all night," Curren said. "There are so many negatives of crypto mining and few, if any, positives."

When she announced the change to the published agenda, Mayor Renee Turk explained the zoning item had been withdrawn by the petitioner late that morning. "There will be no bitcoin mining coming to Salem at this time," Turk said.

The zoning item was to have been a public hearing to consider the request of Sia Asset Management LLC and Helm Building Enterprises, property owner, to allow crypto mining at 1401 Southside Drive.

At its last meeting, the Salem Planning Commission had recommended Council approve the permit with conditions.

Crypto currency is a form of digital currency not bound by geography. According to information presented at the Planning Commission, it takes 1.544 kWh to complete one bitcoin. The amount of electricity is the equivalent to approximately 53 days of power for the average US household, the Planning Commission was told.

The applicant planned to have 150 Asic Pro A19 computers.

After the meeting, Councilman Bill Jones said the city would have received tax on equipment, in addition to the sale of electricity.

In other items, Council unanimously approved, on second reading:

- A zoning request that allows a 24 square foot sign for Scott A. Boggs' new business, Big Lick Fly Fishing, on the building he owns at 407 E. Burwell St. The building previously was the office of T.A. Carter Jr. Architect.

The regular portion of the Council meeting adjourned at 7:05 p.m. for a closed session to discuss acquisition or sale of real property with an investment of public funds. No action was expected that night, City Administrator Jay Taliaferro said.

Local acupuncture business denied permit after certain questions arise



PHOTO BY SHAWN NOWLIN

Formerly Sunshine Spa, the building at 2396 West Main Street has been vacant for months.

Shawn Nowlin
shawn.nowlin@ourvalley.org

Robert Henson estimates that he's driven past the building at 2396 West Main Street at least 500 times. The idea of anything shady happening inside the doors never once crossed his mind.

Known as Sunshine Spa, last month during a city council meeting, the local acupuncture busi-

See **Permit**, page 2

In Black History Month keynote, RC speaker Brandon Fleming preaches importance of empathy



SUBMITTED PHOTO

Brandon Fleming speaking inside Roanoke College's C. Homer Bast Center

Brandon P. Fleming, assistant Harvard debate coach and author, believes storytelling is the most effective way to reach someone. If you know someone's story, he believes, you'll be able to relate to them on a deeper level and stand in their shoes for a moment.

"Stories change people more than information ever will," Fleming told an audience gathered in Roanoke College's C. Homer Bast Center and tuning in virtually Wednesday evening. "Stories change people more than data ever will, and the reason why is that stories are the gateway to empathy."

So, Fleming, in delivering Roanoke College's Black History Month keynote address, told his story. It included joining a gang

when he was 12 years old, escaping that life through basketball only to suffer a serious injury, dropping out of college and then re-entering college with almost no preparation.

Then everything changed because of one professor's compassion, Fleming said. While Fleming was a struggling undergraduate student at Liberty University, an English professor pulled Fleming into her office and asked for his life story. Then she proceeded to share her struggles, showing Fleming that she truly cared about him. That altered his philosophy and made him understand the importance of empathy, Fleming said.

"It's incumbent upon every single one of us to understand that we have

a moral responsibility to love first and teach second," Fleming said. "Love first, teach second. I don't care if you're a teacher, I don't care if you're a parent, I don't care if you're a student. We are all in the business of reaching people, and in order to reach people, we must love first, teach second."

Fleming went on to establish the Harvard Diversity Project, which recruits and trains highly motivated Black youth into a summer debate residency at Harvard. The program has helped these students get experience at an Ivy League institution where they can grow as leaders and students.

Fleming spoke to more than 100 people in person

See **Fleming**, page 7



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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

•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.

•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.

FIRST AND THIRD TUESDAY

Glenvar Rotary Club meets 12:15 - 1:15 p.m. for lunch in Richfield Living's Town Center Anser Dining Room. Guests welcome.

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 sending an email to 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.

Send community

news and

photos to

shawn.nowlin

@ourvalley.org

POLICE REPORT

The Salem Police Department reported the following people were arrested and charged Feb. 1-7. Arrest indicates an accusation, and defendants are presumed innocent unless found guilty in court. Police do not release the names of persons under the age of 18.

Those arrested and their

charges were listed as:

Feb. 1 – Kimberly C. Swidrak, 39, failure to appear; Linwood L. Shaffer Jr., 63, DUI; Alexis J. Henderson, 22, DUI; and Michael Wynn Jr., 40, DUI.

Feb. 2 – Mark E. Michael, 40, DUI; Jason M. Blake, 39, public intoxication; and Jack-

ie S. Smith, 53, contempt of court.

Feb. 3 – Lisa A. Mayer, 41, possession of controlled substance; Timmy D. Hall, 53, public intoxication; Schuyler E. Adams, 25, petit larceny, grand larceny, damage property.

Feb. 4 – Evelyn F. Ander-

son, 37, vehicle burglary, petit larceny; and Travis L. Bulaski, 42, possession of a controlled substance.

Feb. 5 – Corey T. Houseman, 27, forgery, identity theft, false name to police; Adam J. Conner, 25, disorderly conduct, public intoxication; Codie W. Epperly, 27, identity

theft; and Thomas R. Taylor, 54, public intoxication.

Feb. 6 – Jermaine R. Moyer, 38, domestic assault and battery

Feb. 7 – Keosha Q. Williams, 31, domestic assault and battery; Freddie S. Dempsey, 50, discharging firearm, shooting/throwing missiles

Backpack Run returns to Green Hill Park next month

- New two-day event adds an 8-miler on Sunday, March 20 -

The Backpack Run, presented by the Roanoke County Public Schools Education Foundation, is back for a ninth year! This year's Backpack Run offers the best of both worlds - in-person and virtual races for the 5K, 10K and all new 8-miler distances. The in-person 5K and 10K races will take place

on March 19 at Green Hill Park, starting at 9 a.m. 5K and 10K races will begin at the same time.

A new distance has been added this year. The Backpack Run 8-Miler will take place on Sunday, March 20, at Green Hill Park at 9 a.m.

The Backpack Challenge is back as well. Par-

ticipate in all three race events (5K, 10K, and 8-miler) to earn all three individual finisher medals and a fourth exclusive custom Backpack Challenge medal. Challenge runners may participate in all three events in-person or virtually.

Registration fees for the 5K are \$25-\$40. Fees

for the 10K are \$40-\$60. Registration for the new 8-Miler is \$65-\$80. The Backpack Challenge (5K, 10K, & half) is \$140-\$160. Prices vary depending on age (student or adult) and team participation. Register at www.supportroanokecountyed.org.

Register for the 5K, 10K, 8-Miler or Back-

pack Challenge by March 1 to guarantee an event t-shirt on March 19 & 20. Finisher medals and event t-shirts for virtual events will be available for pickup or shipping this Spring.

Proceed go to support the Roanoke County Public Schools Education Foundation, a 501©3

non-profit organization that, since 1991, has provided more than \$1.5 million in support including grants for teachers and scholarships for students in Roanoke County.

- Submitted by Chuck Lionberger, Community Relations Specialist

Bipartisan vote empowers parents with passage of Senate Bill 739

Governor Glenn Youngkin recently released the following statement following the Senate of Virginia's final

passage of bill SB739, introduced by Senator Siobhan Dunnivant, R-Henrico, which keeps schools open five days a

week for in-person instruction and provides a parental opt-out from school mask mandates:

"Kids across the Commonwealth win with this bipartisan vote. Parents are now

empowered to decide whether their children should wear a mask in schools. I promised that as governor, Virginia would move forward with an agenda that empowers parents on the

upbringing, education, and care of their own children. I am proud to continue to deliver on that promise. This vote also shows that school boards who are attacking their own students

are stunningly detached from reality. It's time to put kids first and get back to normal."

Submitted by Macaulay Porter, Office of the Governor

Permit from page 1

ness was denied a special permit to give massages. This occurred after officials talked over potentially improper activity being conducted there.

No one spoke on behalf of the now-closed business during the meeting. At its conclusion, councilmember Randy Foley moved to deny special exemption application after a report from the city's planning commission revealed potential sexual massages may have taken place there.

Xain Ying Sun, the name on the special exemption application in Salem, differed from Xue Ming Sun, the name that was tied to a business license for a Christiansburg massage parlor of the same name. In May 2021, a prostitution sting by the town's police department was conducted into the New River Valley business.

After search warrants were executed at three Christiansburg massage parlors after a month-long investigation into complaints of "illicit sexual activity," a total of five people were charged.

According to city spokesman Mike Stevens, no criminal charges were filed against the Salem business. Additionally, the local police department had no report on the matter.

Mary Ellen Wines, Salem's City Zoning Administrator, has stated the business needed a special exemption for massages due to no employee having the proper license from the state.

Technically, explained Commissioner of the Revenue Kristie Chittum, a business can operate under a 30-day grace period without the business license by applying for things like a special zoning

permit.

The property owner for the building, Peter Ambrosio, has stated he had no knowledge of any nefarious activity going on. When the Salem Times Register went to the building on February 12 as well as the following days, there was no occupancy.

"You hear about things like this in big cities such as Chicago or Houston. When the details of the alleged actions were reported, I was shocked. Absolutely flabbergasted! If this is indeed true... it is really bad. It's one thing to get caught up in a situation that you were completely oblivious to," Henson said. "It's an entirely different thing, however, to know something is wrong and still continue to do it. It's hard to feel bad for people who knowingly breaks the rules."

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EMS personnel contain Wildwood Rd. house fire in under an hour

On February 12, Roanoke County Fire and Rescue responded at 8:00 a.m. to the 2100 block of Wildwood Road, in the Fort Lewis area, to reports of a residential structure fire. Medic 92 saw heavy smoke from a distance and marked it a working fire while responding.

Upon arrival, units from Station 9 found a two-story wood frame home that was heavily involved in fire. The home was occupied by two adults at the time of the fire. Both of whom were able to evacuate safely without injury. The home is located in a steep, heavily wooded area. The structure fire did cause a small brush fire that was quickly contained.

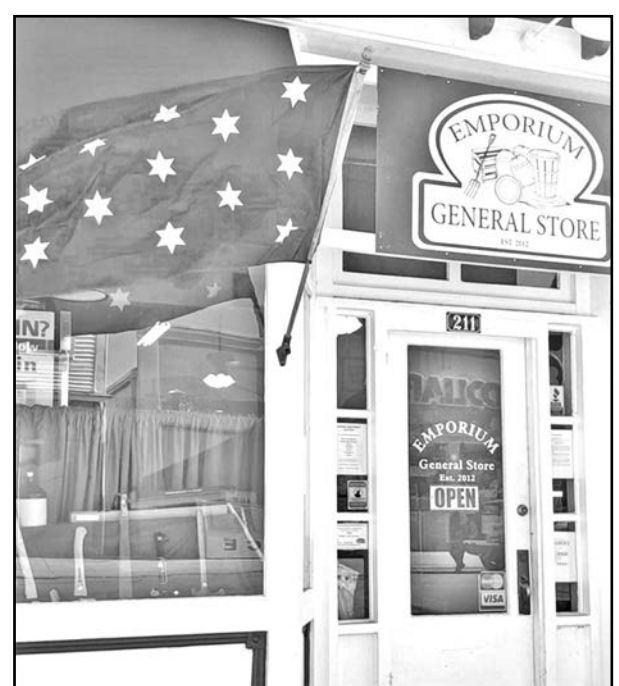
Containing the fire took roughly 45 minutes. The occupants of the home will be displaced and will be staying with family. The Roanoke County Fire Marshal's Office are investigating a cause.

Submitted by Brian Clingenpeel, Community Outreach Coordinator



Last Saturday, Roanoke County Fire and Rescue put out a fire on Wildwood Road in 45 minutes.

SUBMITTED PHOTO



SUBMITTED PHOTO

The Emporium on Main Street of New Castle is honoring our first President, George Washington, by flying his headquarter flag and giving away copies of Washington's Rules of Civility and Washington's Farewell Address for the week of February 20 - 26. Everyone is invited to stop in and browse the huge bookstore as well as enjoy the fresh foods and other wonderful items they keep on hand.

The Emporium honors George Washington's birthday

Pam Dudding
Contributing writer

George Washington Carver served as a General and Commander-in-Chief of the colonial armies during the American Revolution, and later became the first President of the United States of America, serving from 1789 until 1797.

He is noted for many famous quotes which regularly get repeated. One such example: "Be Americans. Let there be no sectionalism, no North, South, East, or West. You are all dependent on one another and should be one in union. In one word, be a nation."

The owner of the Emporium General Store located on Main Street in New Castle has a tremendous love for books and especially our American history.

Phil Spence is celebrating Washington's birthday the week of February 20 - 26 and has an open-door invitation to all, giving away free copies of Rules of Civility - a book of good manners that Washington practiced all his life as well as Washington's Farewell Address.

Spence shared that he feels his insight into the

potential problems of the developing new nation are remarkable. "We have many of the problems he warned about confronting our government in this day," he said.

As you look around the Emporium you will see many books and pictures of the First President and others.

"From the age of 16, when he first started surveying the frontier lands, his life became entwined with the emerging Virginia colony and the struggle for independence," Spence shared. "The founding of the United States was unlike any seen before in history and Washington would become its first President."

Noting that today, the most powerful city in this country, Washington D.C., is named after him, George Washington. Also, the National Cemetery is linked to him, which was a gift from George Washington to Robert E. Lee's wife.

Spence added that he believes the country needs more people like Washington, explaining, "His values and self-sacrifice for what he believed should be a model for all Americans."

See Washington, page 7

Governor Youngkin encourages Virginians to get vaccinated

Gov. Youngkin recently released a public service announcement with the Virginia Department of Health (VDH) encouraging Virginians to get vaccinated as part of his COVID-19 Action Plan. While Governor Youngkin does not believe in mandating the vaccine, he believes it's a critical tool in the fight against COVID-19.

"I have always been a strong advocate for everyone to get the vaccine. We know that the vaccine is the best protection against severe illness as a result of COVID-19. I have made the choice to get vaccinated and encourage everyone to join me in doing that, but ultimately it is a personal decision to do so," said Governor Glenn Youngkin. "After a heartbreaking pandemic, getting vaccinated can insure that there are better days ahead for Virginia."

"Vaccines work, and we applaud Governor Youngkin for sharing these very important messages. Most of the people hospitalized with COVID-19, especially those experiencing severe symptoms, are

unvaccinated. If you have not been vaccinated, please get vaccinated. It could save your life," said Acting State Health Commissioner Colin M. Greene, MD, MPH.

Governor Youngkin's COVID-19 Action Plan includes re-prioritizing resources toward vaccine education and outreach, including expanded efforts in disproportionately unvaccinated communities. The plan also includes efforts to host additional COVID-19 vaccine events across the state and increasing the number of mobile vaccine units that serve rural communities. Currently, there are approximately 1400 vaccine events across the Commonwealth.

Virginians who are unvaccinated remain at high risk of severe illness and hospitalization due to COVID-19. VDH recommends individuals who are 12 and older receive booster doses of the COVID-19 vaccine. Local Health Departments sponsor vaccine events every week in communities across Virginia, while VDH also has a mobile unit

program taking the COVID-19 vaccine to areas where access is challenging. Community Vaccination Centers (CVCs) also have been open in nine locations in Virginia since October.

Statewide, 90 percent of adults have received at least one dose of COVID-19 vaccine with 80 percent of adults fully vaccinated. Statewide, 70 percent of the population is fully vaccinated, but in many areas of Southwest Virginia, the percentage is less than 60 percent.

To find a vaccine event near you, contact or check the website of your local health department; to schedule a vaccine appointment at a CVC, pharmacy or other location, visit vaccinate.virginia.gov or call 877-VAX-IN-VA (877-829-4682, TTY users call 7-1-1). Assistance is available in English, Spanish, and more than 100 other languages. Walk-ins are welcome at the CVCs, but appointments are encouraged.

Submitted by Macaulay Porter, Office of the Governor

First bill supporting dairy farmers officially signed

- HB 828 will help dairy producers -

Governor Glenn Youngkin recently signed his first piece of legislation into law in a small ceremony in the Capitol. H.B. 828, introduced by Delegate Tony Wilt, supports dairy producers in the Commonwealth by streamlining requirements to participate in a federal program.

"Agriculture is Virginia's number one industry and plays a critical role in Virginia's economic growth. Therefore, it is not lost on me that the first bill I signed assists Virginia's dairy farmers. Virginia's farmers can count on me to advance our economy and provide job growth

opportunities in all corners of the Commonwealth," said Governor Youngkin.

"Since 2017, Virginia has seen a 35 percent decline in the number of dairy producers, yet the dairy industry continues to generate over \$9 billion annually in economic activity. This legislation will bring much needed relief to Virginia dairy farmers as they continue modeling excellent stewardship while providing for their families and supporting our communities," said Secretary of Agriculture Matt Lohr.

The bill makes adjustments to

the Dairy Margin Coverage Premium Assistance Program due to a significant delay in the passage of the Federal Farm Bill last fall. In current code, the state premium assistance program closed Feb. 1, well before the close date for the federal program. The bill contains an emergency clause so that upon the Governor's signature, the state program will reopen for applicants through May 15.

Submitted by Macaulay Porter, Office of the Governor



Governor Youngkin signing the piece of legislation in the Capitol.

SUBMITTED PHOTO

Virtual Race Unity Coffeehouse
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OPINION

Give Light ~ Newcomer Cardinal ~

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

There's a new source for reading about happenings, especially as they occur in Southwest and Southside Virginia.

It's called Cardinal News and it's an "independent, nonprofit, online news site." Several of its major supporters are former editors and veteran reporters for The Roanoke Times and other news outlets in the Commonwealth.

The online publication will be focused on Southwest and Southside Virginia, according to its Executive Editor, Dwayne Yancey of Fincastle. During the seven years before his retirement the past October, Yancey edited the Editorial and Opinion Pages of the daily "Roanoke Times." He often expressed his views there that the part of the state west of the Blue Ridge Mountains and south of the James River is often neglected in news coverage and attention by those who make policies in Richmond.

Over the past half-century

especially, attention has been focused on an urbanized strip running from Norfolk north to the Washington suburbs, Yancey often lamented. Now he and three other experienced news writers, Luanne Rife, Markus Schmidt and Megan Schnabel, will make an effort to fill that gap.

The new enterprise is set up much as the Public Radio and Public TV stations are. The two corporations are entirely separate, as listeners and viewers are reminded at times on the air.

In the informational material regarding funding, it's stated: "We're funded by you. We sell no advertising and have no payroll...we rely on donations. If you'd like to make a donation, you can go through our online donation portal or send a check to Cardinal Productions, PO Box 4455 Roanoke, Virginia 24015.

A gift of \$15 is suggested to put you on the receiving end of getting the daily reports. Naturally, a bit more is welcomed.

The promotional material firmly states that donations have no influence on news coverage. The by-laws commit the corporation to disclose donations of \$100 or more.

Frances Stebbins Correspondent

{Now for my own interest in this enterprise, which naturally is entirely separate from the daily papers as well as from the chain of weekly papers such as the Salem, Botetourt, Craig and Vinton publications issued by Mountain Media, Inc. based in Lewisburg, West Virginia.]

As a news reporter for both dailies and weeklies and a monthly magazine columnist for nearly 70 years, I'm acquainted with some of the major supporters of "Cardinal News."

Though the Executive Director/CEO Rife joined the daily paper staff several years after my late husband Charles H. Stebbins and I were let go from it, I remember Yancey from the days he became a features writer soon after his graduation from James Madison University. Both of us were part of the Features Section and worked under the direction

of Sandra Kelly who herself is still a contributor to local publications and especially a supporter of Western Virginia history.

I've admired Rife's superior in-depth medical stories as well as the Business commentaries of another leader in the new enterprise, Megan Schnabel.

Perhaps I'll become an occasional contributor as I certainly admire the enterprise and wish my younger colleagues well. From 1953 to 2017, I wrote faith-related and news of churches and human-service organizations before "retiring" to this Memoir column.

I'm already enjoying the information coming out of the Virginia General Assembly where "Cardinal News" has a seasoned political writer.

The four major players in "Cardinal News" are Yancey with his more than four decades of Virginia journalism. He rose through the ranks of "The Roanoke Times", has published a book on state politics and is a playwright. In a United Methodist family, he and his wife recently became grandparents.

Rife, who has specialized in medical issues including mental health, has worked for newspa-

pers in Pennsylvania, Alabama and Tennessee as well as at the Roanoke daily for the past 16 years. Like Yancey, she has won numerous awards.

Schnabel, who covered Business for the daily paper and also has worked for "The Blue Ridge Business Journal" and served as an editor for more than 25 years, lives in Roanoke. She's a Northwestern University graduate.

Not as well known locally but a vital part of the enterprise is Schmidt, the political reporter. A native of Germany, he now lives in Richmond where for four years he wrote of politics for "The Richmond Times-Dispatch." Most recently he has served as associate editor of "Virginia Living," a widely read lifestyle magazine.

Information about the Board of Directors includes Caroline Glickman of Lynchburg as its president and Debbie Meade, secretary, once a publisher of "The Roanoke Times." Chris Turnbull is treasurer.

"Cardinal News" is operated by Cardinal Productions which incorporated in July 2021 and is in the process of obtaining 501c3 status.

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

Hepatitis A update

While the COVID-19 pandemic has grabbed

headlines for the past two years, we continue to see cases, and even outbreaks, of other communicable diseases in the Roanoke City and Alleghany Health Districts (RCAHD). One current concern is that the number of cases of hepatitis A has steadily increased in our districts.

In a typical year, the RCAHD team investigates only two to five cases of this disease among RCAHD residents. In the fall of 2021, an investigation of over 50 cases of hepatitis A were associated with transmission of the disease at a local restaurant chain. This was the largest hepatitis A outbreak that has been recorded in our community.

While that outbreak resolved, since October 2021, there has been a slow but very steady increase in cases of hepatitis A reported to the RCAHD. Between October 2021 and February 10, 2022, we have investigated approximately 30 additional cases of hepatitis A, with over 70 percent of these

individuals requiring hospitalization. The vast majority of these recent cases are associated with persons who use injection drugs.

What do you need to know about this potentially contagious virus? Here are some Frequently Asked Questions about hepatitis A:

What is hepatitis A? Hepatitis is a term used to describe inflammation of the liver. Hepatitis A is a virus that attacks the liver, causing the liver to become inflamed. The primary way that it is spread is through the fecal-oral route.

What are the symptoms of hepatitis A?

Not everyone who is infected develops symptoms. For those who do develop symptoms, common symptoms include tiredness, poor appetite, fever, or nausea. Some people might also have vomiting, clay-colored stool, dark urine or jaundice (a yellowing of the skin and the whites of the eyes). While these symptoms can be severe, resulting in hospitalization, most people fully recover within a couple of months.

Can hepatitis A be prevented?

Yes! We have a safe and effective vaccine to prevent hepatitis A. In addition,

hepatitis A is considered preventable via good personal hygiene habits such as thorough handwashing and safer sex practices. Always wash hands thoroughly with soap and water after using the toilet, changing a diaper or helping a child to use the toilet, before preparing food and beverages, and before eating.

Can hepatitis A turn into hepatitis B or C?

No, hepatitis A is caused by a different virus from the viruses that cause hepatitis B or C. Hepatitis A is typically an acute infection, while hepatitis B and hepatitis C can cause a chronic, persistent infection, which can lead to chronic liver disease. There are vaccines to prevent hepatitis A and B, however there is not one for hepatitis C.

Who should get the hepatitis A vaccine?

- All children at age one year (12 – 23 months of age)
- Travelers to countries/ areas with increased rates of hepatitis A (visit cdc.gov/travel for more information)
- Men who have sex with men
- People with existing chronic liver disease or clotting disorders
- People who use injected or non-injected street drugs
- Anyone who wants to protect themselves from getting hepatitis A

Hepatitis A is the only vaccine-preventable food-borne illness. Two doses of the vaccine are needed for lasting protection.

How long has the hepatitis A vaccine been available?

Hepatitis A vaccines were licensed in 1995 and 1996. The number of acute hepatitis A infections in the U.S. significantly dropped in the early 2000s, largely because hepatitis A vaccination was recommended for children and persons in groups shown to be at high risk for infection, beginning in 1996. By 2006, the hepatitis A vaccine had been incorporated onto the list of recommended childhood vaccinations for all children in the United States.

What is RCAHD doing in response to this outbreak?

We are working closely with partners to increase health education about hepatitis A and to increase access to hepatitis A vaccine, particularly for vulnerable populations. We know that hepatitis A vaccination can prevent severe illness and death associated with the virus. Hepatitis A vaccines are available for the public at your local health department offices by appointment. Questions? Call 540-283-5050 or visit vdh.virginia.gov/immunization/hav/ for more information.

SALEM TIMES-REGISTER

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

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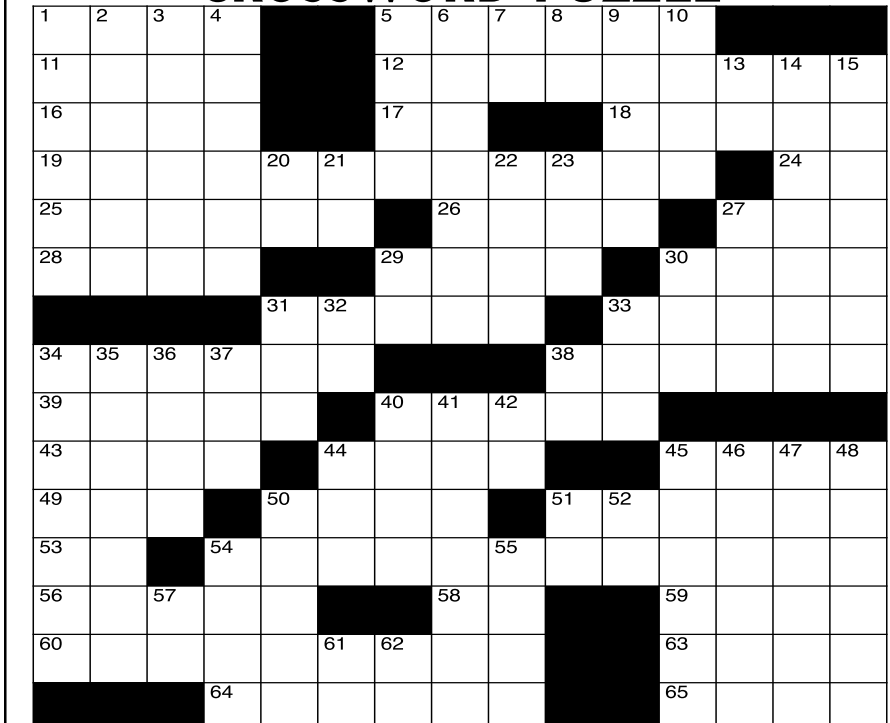
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The Times-Register encourages letters from our readers on topics of general interest to the community and responses to our articles and columns. Letters must be signed and have a telephone number where you can be reached to be considered for publication. All letters will be verified before publication. The Times-Register reserves the right to deny publication of any letter and edit letters for length, content and style.

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CROSSWORD PUZZLE



- CLUES ACROSS
1. Remain as is
 5. Functional
 11. News magazine
 12. Popular treat
 16. Area units
 17. Artificial intelligence
 18. Marten valued for its fur
 19. Forms of matter
 24. Home of the Dodgers
 25. Bordering
 26. Part of the eye
 27. It might be nervous
 28. Visualizes
 29. Crest of a hill
 30. Measures engine speed (abbr.)
 31. Tears in a garment (Br. Eng.)
 33. Not easily explained
 34. Song in short stanzas
 38. Detonations
 39. Intestinal
 40. EU cofounder Paul-Henri
 43. Balm
 44. New Mexico mountain town
 45. Gobblers
 49. Insecticide
 50. Golf scores
 51. Has its own altar
 53. "Pollock" actor Harris
 54. Being livable
 56. NHL play-by-play man
 58. "The Great Lakes State" (abbr.)
 59. Unpainted
 60. Swam underwater
 63. Native American people
 64. Containing salt
 65. Exam
- CLUES DOWN
1. Small bone in middle ear
 2. Long, angry speech
 3. Move out of
 4. Male organ
 5. Two-toed sloth
 6. Making dirty
 7. Article
 8. Oil company
 9. Emits coherent radiation
 10. Amounts of time
 13. Unit equal to one quintillion bytes (abbr.)
 14. Forbidden by law
 15. Drains away
 20. Not out
 21. Sea patrol (abbr.)
 22. Bird genus
 23. Gratuity
 27. ___ and feathers
 29. Spiritual part of an individual (ancient Egypt)
 30. Hot beverage
 31. Pouch
 32. It followed the cassette
 33. Large northern deer
 34. Ones who offer
 35. Famed genie
 36. Bequeathed
 37. Skeletal muscle
 38. Atomic #56
 40. Silk garment
 41. They deliver the mail
 42. Equally
 44. Check
 45. Light-colored breed of hound
 46. Drug that soothes
 47. Railroads
 48. Most slick
 50. Jacket
 51. A radio band
 52. Hello
 54. His and ___
 55. Supporter
 57. Popular software suite (abbr.)
 61. Railway
 62. NY coastal region (abbr.)

OBITUARY

Walker, Leigh Wiley

Leigh Wiley Walker of Salem passed away on Wednesday, February 9. She was born on November 3, 1944. Her dear husband Allen Russell Walker (Rusty) passed away on July 1, 2016.

She is survived by her sister, Mary Langhorne Clarke; son, Allen Russell Walker III; daughter, Mary Walker Lawrence; daughter-in-law, Sally Logan Walker; son-in-law, Russell Spence Lawrence; grandchildren, Samuel Logan Walker, Ella Stowell Walker, Allie Eliza-

beth Lawrence, and Carrington Spence Lawrence.

Burial will be private. In lieu of flowers, please donate to Friends of Claytor Lake (FOCL) at www.FOCL.org or The American Cancer Society at www.cancer.org/donate.

Online condolences may be expressed at www.brightfunerals.com. The Walker and Lawrence families are being served by Bright Funeral Home, Wake Forest, North Carolina, 919-556-5811.

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

LewisGale Medical Center offers new treatment option for patients with enlarged prostate

LewisGale Medical Center is the first hospital in Roanoke Valley to offer a new treatment option for patients with Benign Prostatic Hyperplasia (BPH), a condition in which the prostate enlarges as men age.

The outpatient procedure uses technology, known as UroLift®, to insert tiny implants to hold open the obstructed pathway that is blocking urine flow, eliminating the blockage instead of continuously treating enlarged prostate symptoms. The majority of patients return home immediately and experience a quick recovery.

Christopher Starks, MD, a board-certified urologist with LewisGale Physicians, recently performed the first procedure at LewisGale Medical Center.

“As the prostate enlarges, it presses on and blocks the urethra, causing bothersome urinary symptoms including a delayed urinary stream, frequent need to urinate, or the feeling of an urgent need to urinate,” said Starks. “This treatment has demonstrated a significant improvement in quality of life for men so they can resume daily activities.”

BPH affects nearly 40 million Americans and 500 million men worldwide. More than 40 percent of men in their 50s and more than 70 percent of men in their 60s have BPH. While BPH is a benign condition and unrelated to prostate cancer, it can greatly affect a man’s quality of life.

In addition to UroLift®, Dr. Starks is trained in other options to treat BPH, including Laser Photo-Vaporization of the Prostate (PVP) and transurethral resection of the prostate (TURP). “This new minimally invasive option adds to the arsenal of procedure options that we have to treat this very common condition among men,” he said.

To schedule an appointment for the diagnosis and treatment for BPH, contact LewisGale Physicians – Urology at (540) 772-3702.

- Submitted by Christopher Finley, Public Relations and Marketing Director



Dr. Christopher Starks

SUBMITTED PHOTO

Majority of Virginia potatoes grown on the Eastern Shore

Roasted, baked, fried or mashed, smothered in gravy or chilled for a summer salad, potatoes are a nutrient-rich vegetable with endless culinary versatility.

February is National Potato Lovers Month - an opportunity to learn more about the world’s fourth-largest food crop.

While potatoes are not ranked among the top Virginia vegetable crops, nine growers on the Eastern Shore produce roughly 90 percent of the state’s tubers on 4,000 acres. These potatoes generate upward of \$20 million in annual sales.

Virginia potato farmers are preparing to plant this year’s

crop in March for harvest in July and August. Farmers reported last summer’s harvest was a strong one.

“We were a little worried because it was such a wet spring, but it dried down and we had a good year,” said Ursula Tankard Deitch, Virginia Cooperative Extension agent in Northampton County. “It’s easier to have a dry year, because the crop can be regulated with irrigation. Wet can cause rot and disease issues.”

The Eastern Shore’s sandy loam soil and temperate climate are ideal for growing perfect potatoes. Unlike clay soils, there is more space between soil particles,

so water can filtrate instead of pooling on the crop, which helps the tubers grow. Plus, Deitch explained, spuds like it warm, but not too warm.

“The Eastern Shore stays a little warmer in the wintertime compared to rest of the state,” she said.

While grains like soybeans and corn are produced on greater acreage and therefore gross more in sales, potatoes are the Eastern Shore’s largest vegetable crop, Deitch added.

“We have a long history in the potato business on the Eastern Shore,” said Accomack County grain and vegetable farmer David

Hickman, whose family has been growing potatoes on Dublin Farms since the 1880s. Hickman represents the Eastern Shore on Virginia Farm Bureau Federation’s board of directors and chairs the VFBF Specialty Crops Advisory Committee.

The farms’ potato varieties - round white, red, purple and yellow flesh - mostly end up in supermarkets. Some grocery chains have initiated buy-local programs in response to consumer interest in local produce, Hickman said.

“Our potato bags say ‘Horn-town, Virginia’ on them, while most of the bags in stores don’t

have an identifying area,” he said. “In our first year selling to Walmart, their potato sales increased significantly, which reflects consumer desire to know where their produce comes from.”

So how does a lifelong grower like his potatoes?

“Mashed with gravy,” Hickman said. “But I like them anyway. They’re nutritious - a good source of vitamins and minerals. If you don’t load them down with high-calorie condiments, they are pretty healthy for you!”

Submitted by Nicole Zema, VFBG Communications

Virginia releases January 2022 Revenue Report

General Fund revenue collections up 21.9 percent year-over-year, fiscal-year-to-date collections up 15.4 percent, driven by sales

State leaders recently announced that January General Fund revenues increased 21.9 percent from the previous January. January is a significant month for revenue collections. Besides the normal monthly payroll withholding and sales tax collections, estimated payments from individuals are due. On a fiscal year-to-date basis, total revenue collections rose 15.4 percent through the end of the month, ahead of the forecasted 4.2 percent growth.

“The continued growth

in state government revenue shows once again that hardworking Virginians are being overtaxed,” said Governor Youngkin. “With this report, and as the General Assembly continues its work this Session, it is clear we must deliver meaningful tax relief for Virginia families. We can do that while also providing a record investment in public education and fully funding our law enforcement heroes.”

Governor Youngkin added, “It is time to start growing jobs and prepar-

ing a workforce to take them. What we cannot do, however, is continue to conflate record revenue with economic success for Virginians. I am concerned about lagging job growth and record low labor participation, particularly at a time when we want to get people back to work.”

“For the first seven months of the fiscal year, collections have been significantly better than expected - especially in individual estimated payments, sales/use taxes, and payroll withhold-

ing,” said Secretary of Finance Stephen Cummings. “Collections of payroll withholding taxes grew 17.5 percent for the month. Collections of sales and use taxes, reflecting December sales, rose 19.9 percent in January.”

The combined December and January receipts, representing the bulk of the holiday shopping season, was 18.3 percent above the same period last year. Also, December and January are significant months for collections of nonwithholding

and receipts can be distorted by the timing of payments. Taxpayers had until January 18 to submit their fourth estimated payment for tax year 2021 and some of these payments are received in December. Receipts of nonwithholding for the two-month period of January-December increased 27.2 percent from last year. Collections of corporate income taxes were \$61.5 million in January, compared with receipts of \$49.3 million in January of last year.

Year-to-date, with-

holding collections grew 11.4 percent ahead of the same period last year and above the annual estimate of 5.9 percent growth. On a year-to-date basis, sales tax collections have risen 15.7 percent, well ahead of the annual estimate of a 6.3 percent increase. Nonwithholding collections for the first seven months of the fiscal year grew 8.1 percent, ahead of the annual estimate of a slight decline.

Submitted by Macaulay Porter, Office of the Governor

Tests

from page 1

individuals, especially those with weakened immune systems or other health conditions, should talk to a doctor as quickly as possible about the treatment options available.

If an at-home test comes back negative, that means the virus was not found in the body, effectively lowering the risk of spreading COVID-19 to others. Even if a test is negative, individuals are encouraged to take another to verify it.

Sixty-five million households nationwide and counting have requested free COVID-19 tests from the government, including numerous families throughout Salem. Every order is mailed through First Class Package Service, and kits usually ship within 7-12 business days. Inaccurate

results are a possibility if antigen tests are exposed for extended periods of time to temperatures below 36 degrees.

Last Monday, Governor Glenn Youngkin said, “I have always been a strong advocate for everyone to get the vaccine. We know that the vaccine is the best protection against severe illness as a result of COVID-19. I have made the choice to get vaccinated and encourage everyone to join me in doing that, but ultimately it is a personal decision to do so. After a heartbreaking pandemic, getting vaccinated can ensure that there are better days ahead for Virginia.”

Added Acting State Health Commissioner Colin M. Greene, MD, MPH, “Vaccines work, and we applaud Governor

Youngkin for sharing these very important messages. Most of the people hospitalized with COVID-19, especially those experiencing severe symptoms, are unvaccinated. If you have not been vaccinated, please get vaccinated. It could save your life.”

As soon as they were readily available, Jeffrey Walker says he ordered four free tests for his wife and two daughters. “I’ll do anything to protect my family and loved ones. The way I look at it, taking these precautions helps ensure the safety of those around you,” Walker said. “It’s still difficult to grasp that we are actually in the third calendar year of this pandemic.”

On CovidTests.gov, the process of ordering and taking tests is thoroughly documented step by step.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

CHURCHES OF CHRIST/CHRISTIAN CHURCHES
SALEM CHURCH OF CHRIST - 401 West Main Street. 540-389-2400. Minister Taylor Plott; Youth Minister Nathan Beard; 10:00am Sunday Bible Study; 11:00am

Salem

WORSHIP DIRECTORY

PLACE OF REFUGE

Read Numbers 32:1 through 36:13

Select some towns to be your cities of refuge, to which a person who has killed someone accidentally may flee. They will be places of refuge from the avenger, so that a person accused of murder may not die before he stands trial before the assembly. (Numbers 35:11,12).

God commanded that if anyone died because of violence, and murder was assumed, the murder suspect was not automatically to be considered guilty. Instead, he was allowed to flee to a city of refuge (one of six to be chosen in the Promised Land) that would assure the accused would be treated justly and justice would be done. In this way God provided justice in a culture where protecting the innocent was not a typical response.

When we hear accusations of guilt against others, our first response should be to provide them with a place of refuge in our hearts. That is, we should not rush to judgment, assume their guilt, and be careless in our speech about them. We should treat them fairly, as God intended.

Prayer for Today: Ask the Lord to make your heart and mouth a place of refuge rather than a fount of accusation for others.

Quicklook: Numbers 35:6-15

Sunday Worship Service; Wednesday Life Groups: 5:30 -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.salemco.gchurch

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.

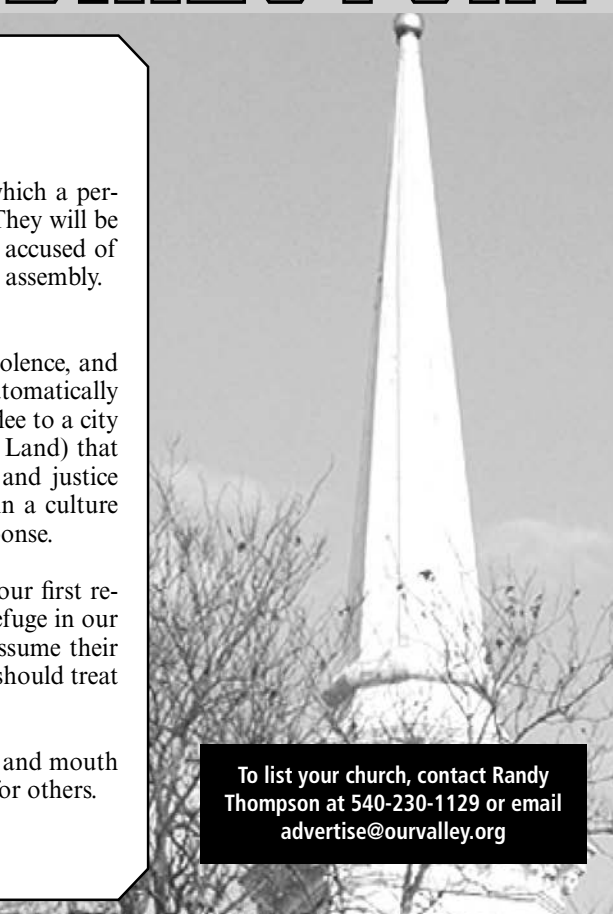
ECKANKAR
ECKANKAR, THE PATH OF SPIRITUAL FREEDOM, is located at 1420 3rd St. SW, Roanoke, VA 24016. However, due to COVID-19, the Light & Sound Services and other ECK programs are currently available online through Zoom. Visit www.eck-va.org for program listings, www.meetup.com/Roanoke-Spiritual-Experiences-Group, 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 7:30am and 10am. Holy Communion in church and live-streamed on YouTube @ StPaulSalemVa.

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

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

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- 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). Sunday School at 8:30 a.m. (All classes) each Sunday online via zoom and church conference call line. Wednesday Adult Bible Study at 7:00 p.m. via zoom and church conference call line. Children's Bible Study at 7:00 p.m. via zoom. Teen Talk Bible Study at 7:30 p.m. via zoom. Saturday Men's Bible Study at 7:00 a.m. via zoom. Saturday Intercessory Prayer Service at 8:00 a.m. via church conference call line. Sunday Women's Bible Study Class at 8:30 p.m. via zoom. In-person Worship on Sunday at 11:00 a.m. or worship with us on line via Facebook or on the church conference call line. In person worship requires CDC guidelines for mask wearing and social distancing. Ushers are available to assist with seating.

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@clichurch.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. In-Person Sunday School and worship has resumed at 9:30 AM and 11:00 AM on Sundays or worship with us online live at www.salempres.org, or Facebook, or YouTube. During in-person attendance for Sunday School and worship we strongly encourage wearing a mask while inside the church due to COVID concerns.

ROMAN CATHOLIC
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.

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. Each Sunday Traditional Worship 9:30 a.m.

Fleming from page 1

at the Bast Center and many more watching via Zoom. His speech was called “Undoing Miseducation,” and he recently wrote a memoir entitled “Miseducated.”

Makayla Trent '23, who attended in person, said Fleming's words resonated with her.

“I think it's a message that we really need to hear because

sometimes we forget how powerful our own stories can be to somebody else and the impact it can have on their life,” Trent said.

Students had an opportunity to ask Fleming questions, many of which were about how they can better relate to people and encourage others to open up. Fleming advised students to

think about the people who have helped them in the past and to emulate them.

“The best way to discover what your purpose is and to live a purpose-driven life is to be for somebody else what you once needed,” Fleming said.

Trent, a business administration major with a human resources concentration, is in-

involved in a variety of campus organizations including Black Student Alliance, Hispanic Organization for Leadership Achievement (HOLA), Alpha Sigma Alpha, Society for Human Resource Management (SHRM), cheerleading and choir. She said she hopes to take Fleming's advice and share it with those organizations.

“I feel like it was a little reminder and refresher, and I'm going to take it, in all the positions and things I do on campus, to just spread more light and love to our campus and be more open to talking to new people and be more inclusive,” Trent said.

*Submitted by
Roanoke College News*



Students pose with Brandon P. Fleming after his Black History Month keynote address.

SUBMITTED PHOTO

Washington from page 3

At one time in our history, he was the role model that all aspired to.”

Washington himself said, “Observe good faith and justice toward all nations. Cultivate peace and harmony with all.”

“When we think that one person does not matter and one person's contribution is insignificant, just ask – what if there had been no George Washington?” Spence asked. “His accomplishments and failures are too many to recount in a small article.”

You will find a treasure chest of books to read and learn about this President in the Emporium's book room, from Farmer and Soldier to Virginian and American. “All these things encompass the George Washington that we remember,” Spence added.

“They are still relevant today and we would do well to teach them to the next generation,” Spence said.

In fact, Washington said, “The future of this nation depends on the Christian training of our youth.”

Here's another powerful George Washington quote: “It is impossible to govern the world without God. It is the duty of all nations to acknowledge the Providence of Almighty God, to obey his will, to be grateful for his benefits and humbly implore his protection and favor.”

Washington was known for his faith. He shared, “Let me live according to those holy rules which Thou hast this day prescribed in Thy Holy Word...direct me to the true object, Jesus Christ, the way, the truth, and the life. Bless, O Lord, all the people of this land.”

Washington was homeschooled as his father died when he was just 11-years-old.

“His mother was very

possessive of him,” Spence continued. “He was a head taller than most people he was around and was obvious in a crowd so they say for him to overcome that, he became extremely mannerly, quiet and reserved as that was a way, he could deal with it. He portrayed this image of being a gentle giant, but he was really a tough guy that lived outdoors, having some fantastic adventures in his life, including close escapes.”

Thus, Washington got the name “bullet-proof.”

“He was one of the few people in American history that was never touched by a bullet,” Spence shared. “In one battle with General Braddock the British General where he led an expedition against the Indians, Washington had six bullet holes through his clothing and two horses shot from underneath him, but he was not touched by the bullets. So, the Indians started this legend about him that he was ‘bullet-proof’ and he had big power and they would not attempt to kill him after that because they called him ‘big medicine.’”

Continuing, Spence added, “Everything he did, he addressed God. He lived it, but did not preach it. He wasn't a good public speaker as he did not like to do that, though he was in the House of Burgesses. People of high society back then were expected to serve without pay. They were trained to do that. Most plantation owners were highly intelligent, running a small community of their own, making all the decisions for them there.”

“Also, he was a big military guy. When it came to the Revolutionary War, he was asked to command the Continental Army and he stated that he was not sure he was up to this, but agreed to do his best and he served the entire war,” Spence explained. “All the

other founders went home to their families and businesses, but he stayed with the Army for eight years and never went home. His wife came to visit him a few times. He was always in the field. He did all of that at no pay. He said he would keep a track of his expenses and ‘when you can at some point in the future, you can reimburse me,’ even when he was President (though he did not want to be).”

When the war was over, he went back to Congress and presented his sword as, “the war was over, the country was safe, and his job was done and he's going home.”

Spence shared, “When King George of England heard of this, he said, ‘This one act will make George Washington the greatest man who ever lived.’ Washington was offered to be King twice and turned it down, stating, ‘that is not why we fought the revolution.’ This is a person who had become world famous at 22 years of age. If he associated with something, the guys who were trying to make things better, that if you couldn't get Washington to be a part of it, no one else would go along with it. So, they had to get him to the Constitutional Convention and elected him President of the Convention. Again, he went home.”

The electoral college was set up and he still stands as the only President in American history where 100 percent of the votes went to him - twice.

Spence also added that when Washington was President, there was no White House or “place” set up for the President and all expenditures came out of his pocket to host anything at this home.

“Washington had been an outdoorsman all his life and it was said he was the most accomplished horse-



SUBMITTED PHOTO

With a huge variety of books about President Washington and other great Americans, Spence added that he believes the country needs more people like our first Commander-in-Chief, explaining, “His values and self-sacrifice for what he believed should be a model for all Americans. At one time in our history, he was the role model that all aspired to.”

man of his generation and extremely athletic, having great physical strength of what he could do and stand,” Spence added. “When Washington was in the Virginia Militia, there was a string of forts approximately every 20 miles, that went all the way up what we know as Route 460, including one in Salem, where Andrew Lewis built a fort, Ft. Lewis. Everything west of 460 was Indian territory. He spent time in this area and riding those forts to keep them ready in Indian attack. Washington did that for over three years.”

The Washington Headquarters flag would be posted at the place he was at the time, with its deep blue background and 13 brilliant white stars.

Neither he nor Martha were poor from the beginning. He also inherited Mt. Vernon from his half-brother and that is where he made his home.

Spence added, “One story was when he had over 2,900 men at Valley Forge Camp at Christmas. Washington sent a letter to Congress saying they were ‘unfit for service as they had no shoes or otherwise naked.’ Congress gave him

nothing, but Washington refused to pillage from the surrounding peoples, instead he gave them letters of credit. That is why people loved him so as he had the right to just take from them, but he would not.”

Another very interesting fact was about Chinese Chairman Mao.

“When he took over Chinese Communist, he had a library full of books on Washington and his tactics and studied every battle and emulated Washington dealing with the peasants. He would not take their stuff as he saw that actually worked and wanted to turn public opinion to him,” Spence shared.

While you are in the Emporium, you may wish to check out some of their items including, high-quality supplements to fight off the viruses that has plagued our nation, Big Spring Mill products, Watkins, cheeses of champagne, smoked gouda with bacon or bacon ranch, Maple-flavored bacon, Amish butter and even Lebanon bologna. He also has a huge variety of unique beers and wines and other food items.

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Phil and Debbie welcome all to the Emporium General Store where you will find almost anything you need and much of what you want. Join them for a free cup of coffee, hot chocolate or tea and meander throughout the store or sit for a spell in the book room. Hours are Tuesday through Friday from 10 a.m. to 7 p.m., Saturday 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. and Sunday from 12 p.m. to 5 p.m.

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Bank of Botetourt to virtually host high school seniors for VBA Bank Day Scholarship Program

- Students will participate for a chance to win college scholarship money -

Beginning on March 14, Bank of Botetourt will virtually host high school seniors to participate in Bank Day, a statewide effort sponsored by the Virginia Bankers Association (VBA) Education Foundation and the VBA Emerging Bank Leaders. The purpose of the program is to expose students to the banking industry and provide an opportunity for the students to learn about banking, careers in banking, financial services, and the vital role Bank of Botetourt and banks across Virginia play in their communities.

The third Tuesday in March was declared Bank Day by the Virginia General Assembly in 1991 and Bank of Botetourt is proud to host students for this important program. From their experience, participating students will write an essay for the chance to win a scholarship. Six regional scholarships of \$2,500 each will be awarded by the VBA, and from those six winners a statewide runner-up and overall statewide winner will be chosen. The statewide runner-up will receive an additional \$3,000 scholarship - \$3,500 in total - and the overall statewide winner will receive an additional \$5,000 scholarship

- \$7,500 in total. There will also be six honorable mention scholarships of \$1,000 each. In all, twelve students statewide will receive scholarships totaling \$29,000.

Throughout the virtual program, students will have access to a Virginia banking industry resource website that houses videos, articles, and podcasts to explore and research. As a virtual host, Bank of Botetourt will also be providing supplemental information to students about how the bank supports the community.

"Bank Day is one of the best short-term experiences for

students—the opportunity to learn about the many services that banks offer and the ways Virginia banks support the communities they serve, and to start the networking that often leads to part-time and summer jobs, scholarships, and a start on a career path in the financial world," said Bruce Whitehurst, President & CEO of the Virginia Bankers Association.

"Financial education of our youth is one more way the bank serves our communities. VBA Bank Day offers high school seniors the unique opportunity to experience community banking at its finest, and to meet their

local bankers. We are proud to partner with the VBA to offer this scholarship opportunity. To date, we've hosted nine scholarship recipients and we look forward to meeting the students during this year's program," said G. Lyn Hayth, President & CEO of Bank of Botetourt.

To learn more and to sign up to participate in the VBA Bank Day program with Bank of Botetourt, contact 540-591-5053. Student registration closes on Friday, March 4.

Submitted by Mary Ann Miller, Business Banking and Community Relations

Young Virginia farmer appointed to national committee

Virginia young farmers will be represented nationally by Brunswick County agriculturalist Matt Fimon, who recently was appointed to serve on the American Farm Bureau Federation Young Farmers & Ranchers Committee.

Since 2018, Fimon has served on the Virginia Farm Bureau Federation Young Farmers Committee with his

wife, Lindy Tucker Fimon, who chairs that body. The couple run a beef cow-calf and hay operation with her family in Lunenburg and Brunswick counties. He also works as a human resources manager for a marble manufacturer.

"We enjoy Farm Bureau Young Farmers because it is growing and stretching our leadership experiences by exposing

us to challenges and issues faced by producers across the state on both farm and policy fronts," Fimon said. "And now I'm looking forward to strengthening the influence of our organization on the national level."

"By creating a widespread network of people who share our love of the land, we thrive on building relationships with other young farmers, and

sharing their love of ag!"

Fimon is one of 16 appointed farmer leaders representing all regions of the U.S. Members will serve on governing boards and committees at local, state and national levels for two year terms. Committee members are responsible for program planning, which includes the coordination of YF&R competitive events dur-

ing AFBF's convention each January, and AFBF's Harvest for All, a food donation program.

"Serving our communities and engaging to build trust and share the compelling story of agriculture are cornerstones of national program committee work," said AFBF President Zippy Duvall. "We welcome these Farm Bureau members and applaud their

dedication."

National committee members are nominated by their respective state Farm Bureaus.

Learn more online about AFBF Young Farmers & Ranchers at fb.org/programs/young-farmers-and-ranchers.

Submitted by Ron Saacke, VFBF vice president of special programs

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Marketplace

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Yard Sales - Botetourt County

Large Items Sale: Exercise Bike, Chipper/Shredder, Leather Recliner, Bikes

Items available for view from 9 am to 2 pm Feb 19/20
Call 540-750-6142 to confirm time/location (Troutville area)
Shipping/delivery unavailable unless asking price paid in full
Cash only

LiveSTRONG Recumbent Exercise Bike

Mod no LS6. OR, manual included; condition - as is, very light use
Price: \$150.00

Troy Blitt Chipper/Shredder

Mod No CS 4325, 250 cc Briggs & Stratton engine 5 bushels, Reduction Ratio 10-1; max 3" branches, 13 ga hopper 10" x 4" tires; owner's manual included; condition - never used, no fluid in engine
Price: \$300.00

Smith Brothers of Berne, NC - Recliner (pressback)

Style/model 705-33; deep red leather; moderate usage, good condition
Price: \$150

Bicycles - 1 men's, 1 women's

2009 Specialized Globe, Carmel 3/4 700C; #P9CA30910; black Usage: men's - light, women's none; condition - needs minor work
Price \$60 each, \$100 for both

Yard Sales - Craig County

Indoor Yard Sale

61 Meadow Ave
New Castle
Friday Feb 25 & Saturday Feb 26 9-5
New and used Cat furniture and cat cages, Large selection of DVDs and CDs
Household Wall Art
Variety of dishes and glasses
Old piano (for free)

Yard Sales - Salem

Estate Sale

2913 Elderwood
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Signs posted
Fri 2/18 & Sat 2/19 10am-2pm
Sun until 3pm
Chestnut Victorian Dresser
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Large Country Table
Wurlitzer Piano, Keyboard
Dining Furniture
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Legals - City of Radford

ORDER OF PUBLICATION
COMMONWEALTH OF VIRGINIA

VA. CODE §§ 1-211.1; 8.01-316.-317, 20-104
Case No. CL21006521-00
Radford Circuit Court
619 SECOND STREET,
24141
KESSINGER, JOSEPH L.
v.
KESSINGER, PATRICIA G.
The object of this suit is to: TO OBTAIN A DICORCE FROM THE BOND OF MATRIMONY
It is ORDERED that PATRICIA G. KESSINGER appear at the above-named court and protect his/her interests on or before APRIL 5, 2022.

Legals - City of Radford

February 8, 2022
Angel Turpin
Deputy Clerk

Help Wanted - Clerical

National Bank

is currently seeking candidates for full-time Teller positions in Montgomery County, Pulaski County and the City of Radford. We offer a professional working environment along with great schedules. The successful candidate must enjoy a team atmosphere and be committed to providing outstanding customer service. We are looking for someone who has the desire to work closely with customers to help them succeed and reach their financial goals. The proper applicant will manage traffic flow in an efficient manner. Prior retail experience is a definite plus. National Bank offers full-time employees a benefits package that includes health, dental, life, and long-term disability insurance and excellent retirement plans. Interested applicants should complete an application found on our website at www.nbbank.com/job

Help Wanted - General

Quality Inn Radford

Hiring Full-Part Time Front Desk Clerk/Night Auditor and Housekeeping. Apply in Person. Ph-540-639-3000

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

Legals - Botetourt County

ABC NOTICE

Garrett's Bistro and Spirits LLC, trading as Garrett's Bistro and Spirits, 19386 Main St, Buchanan, Botetourt County, Virginia 24066.

The above establishment is applying to the VIRGINIA ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGE CONTROL (ABC) AUTHORITY for a Wine, Beer, Mixed Beverage Restaurant license to sell or manufacture alcoholic beverages.

Daniel Garrett, Member

NOTE: Objections to the issuance of this license must be submitted to ABC no later than 30 days from the publishing date of the first of two required newspaper legal notices. Objections should be registered at www.abc.virginia.gov or 800-552-3200.

Legals - City of Radford

ORDER OF PUBLICATION
COMMONWEALTH OF VIRGINIA

VA. CODE §§ 1-211.1; 8.01-316.-317, 20-104
Case No. CL21006521-00
Radford Circuit Court
619 SECOND STREET,
24141
KESSINGER, JOSEPH L.
v.
KESSINGER, PATRICIA G.
The object of this suit is to: TO OBTAIN A DICORCE FROM THE BOND OF MATRIMONY
It is ORDERED that PATRICIA G. KESSINGER appear at the above-named court and protect his/her interests on or before APRIL 5, 2022.

February 8, 2022
Angel Turpin
Deputy Clerk

Legals - City of Radford

Notice

ESTATE of
Charlie Preston Hall
(11/27/1935 – 03/09/2021)
Seeks Biological Children or Possible Heir(s) of Mr. Hall's estate to contact 540-392-8445.

Legals - Montgomery County

ORDER OF PUBLICATION

Commonwealth of Virginia VA CODE § 8.01-316
Case No. JJ018698-15
Montgomery County Juvenile and Domestic Relations District Court MCDSS

v.
Charles E. Barkley, Jr.
The object of this suit is to: Terminate the residual parental rights of Charles E. Barkley, Jr. legal parent of James Barkley a minor, in that said parent has, without good cause, failed to correct the conditions which resulted in the child entering foster care and it is not reasonably likely that they will be able to do so in a reasonable amount of time, failed to maintain continuing contact with the child and substantially plan for the child's future. Residual parental rights include, but are not limited to the right to visitation, consent to adoption, the right to determine religious affiliation, and the responsibility for support. The termination of your residual parental rights will permanently end all of your rights and responsibilities to the child named in the petition.
It is ORDERED that Charles E. Barkley, Jr. appear at the above-named Court and protect her interests on or before March 14, 2022.

2-1-22
Amie Blankenship
Clerk

Legals - Montgomery County

ORDER OF PUBLICATION

All that certain lot or parcel of land, situate, lying and being in the Town of Blacksburg, Montgomery County, Virginia, bounded and described as follows:

Beginning at an iron pin the west side of Water Street Extended, at the northeast corner of the Lot, now or formerly owned by, Pauline Bowles Dillon; thence, with the line of said lot S. 49 degrees 20'E. 80 feet to an alley, a corner; thence, with said alley N. 49 degrees E. 200 feet to Water Street, Extended, a corner; thence, with said Water Street Extension, N. 38 degrees 20'W. 80 feet to the point of beginning.

And being the property conveyed to James W. Dean and Betty Jane Dean Family Trust, from James W. Dean and Betty Y. Dean (Also known as Betty Jane Dean), husband and wife, by Deed dated September 1, 1994 and recorded September 30, 1994 in the Montgomery County Circuit Court Clerk's Office in Deed Book 853, Page 634.

This description is made subject to all easements, conditions, agreements, restrictions, and reservations of record which affect the property herein described including but not limited to those recorded in Plat Book 71 at Page 234.

Entered on the 25th day of January, 2022.

Robert M. D. Turk
Judge

I Ask For This:
John A. Rife, Esq. (VSB No. 45805)
Jeffrey A. Scharf, Esq. (VSB No. 30591)
Mark K. Ames, Esq. (VSB No. 27409)
Andrew M. Neville, Esq. (VSB No. 86372)
Paul L. LaBarr, Esq. (VSB No. 91609)
Gregory L. Haynes, Esq. (VSB No. 37158)
Taxing Authority Consulting Services, PC
P.O. Box 31800
Henrico, Virginia 23294-1800
Phone: (804) 545-2500
Facsimile: (804) 545-2378
TACS No.: 742177

Legals - Montgomery County

VIRGINIA: IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE COUNTY OF MONTGOMERY

COUNTY OF MONTGOMERY, VIRGINIA,
a Political Subdivision of the Commonwealth of Virginia,
Case No. CL21001960-00
Complainant,
v.
JAMES W. DEAN AND BETTY DEAN FAMILY TRUST,
Respondent(s).

ORDER OF PUBLICATION
The object of this suit is to enforce the lien of the Complainant, County of Montgomery, Virginia, for delinquent real estate taxes against certain real property located in the County of Montgomery, Virginia, described as follows:
Tax Map No. 287- A 87
Account No. 004809

All that certain lot or parcel of land, situate, lying and being in the Town of Blacksburg, Montgomery County, Virginia, bounded and described as follows:

Beginning at an iron pin the west side of Water Street Extended, at the northeast corner of the Lot, now or formerly owned by, Pauline Bowles Dillon; thence, with the line of said lot S. 49 degrees 20'E. 80 feet to an alley, a corner; thence, with said alley N. 49 degrees E. 200 feet to Water Street, Extended, a corner; thence, with said Water Street Extension, N. 38 degrees 20'W. 80 feet to the point of beginning.

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Taxing Authority Consulting Services, PC
P.O. Box 31800
Henrico, Virginia 23294-1800
Phone: (804) 545-2500
Facsimile: (804) 545-2378
TACS No.: 742177

Legals - Town of Vinton

LEGAL NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN:
Pursuant to the provisions of Section 15.2-2204 of the 1950 Code of Virginia, as amended, the **Planning Commission** of the Town of Vinton, Virginia hereby gives notice of a public hearing to be held on **Thursday, February 24, 2022, at 7:00 p.m.**, or as soon thereafter as the matter may be heard, in the Council Chambers of the Vinton Municipal Building, 311 South Pollard Street, Vinton, Virginia. The Planning Commission will also hold a dinner on February 24, 2022, at 6:00 p.m., immediately followed by a work session at 6:30 p.m., prior to the public hearing.

The purpose of the public hearing is to receive comments concerning:

An ordinance repealing in its entirety the Vinton Town Code, Appendix B - Zoning Ordinance as adopted by Ordinance 634, enacted December 19, 1995, with amendments, and adopting by reference the Zoning Ordinance of the Town of Vinton, Vinton, Virginia.

Further information concerning this public hearing may be obtained in the Planning and Zoning Department located at 311 South Pollard Street, Vinton, VA 24179, (540) 983-0605, between 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Interested persons may be heard at the above public hearing.

Given under my hand this 3rd day of February, 2022.

Anita J. McMillan
Planning and Zoning Director
Secretary, Vinton Planning Commission

NOTICE OF INTENT TO COMPLY WITH THE AMERICANS WITH DISABILITIES ACT.

Reasonable efforts will be made to provide assistance or special arrangements to qualified individuals with disabilities in order to participate in or attend the meetings. Please call (540) 983-0605 at least 48 hours prior to the meeting so that proper arrangements may be made.

LEGAL NOTICE TOWN OF VINTON, VIRGINIA

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

Please be advised that the Vinton Town Council will hold a public hearing at its meeting on Tuesday, March 1, 2022, at 6:00 p.m. or as soon thereafter as the matter may be heard, in the Council Chambers of the Vinton Municipal Building, located at 311 South Pollard Street, Vinton, Virginia, concerning the proposed amendment to the Town of Vinton's FY 2021-2022 budget to appropriate funding as follows:

1. From the FY21 Federal and State Surface Transportation Block Grant (STBG)/Road Surface Transportation Program (RSTP) for the Gus Nicks Boulevard Midblock Pedestrian Crosswalk Project in the amount of \$403,912.00.
2. From the FY20 Highway Safety Improvement Program (HSIP) for the Hardy Road Midblock Pedestrian Crosswalk Project in the amount of \$497,911.00.
3. From the General Fund \$307.00 transfer to the Stormwater Fund for local matching requirements.

Any additional information on this public meeting is available in the Town Manager's Office, located in the Vinton Municipal Building, (540) 983-0607. Persons requiring special assistance to attend and participate at this public meeting should contact the Town Manager's office at (540) 983-0607.

Susan N. Johnson
Town Clerk

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Salem's Crews wins big fishing contest

By David A. Brown
Bassmaster.com

PALATKA, Fla. — Mother Nature did not serve up slam-dunk potential, but Salem's John Crews leveraged a stellar start and paired it with steady productivity to win the AFTCO Bassmaster Elite at St. Johns River with a four-day total of 75 pounds, 4 ounces.

Edging Bob Downey of Hudson, Wis., by 1 1/4 pounds, Crews won the top prize of \$100,000 and added another blue trophy to the one he claimed a dozen years ago on the California Delta.

"I've said it 100 times, 'When it's your time, it's your time,'" Crews said. "This week, it was just my time."

Crews, who finished second and fifth at the St. Johns Elite in 2020 and 2019, respectively, took the Day 1 lead with 28 pounds — the event's third-heaviest bag, behind the 31-15 that John Cox weighed on Day 3 and Downey's Day 4 limit of 29-3. Crews' opening catch included an 8-1.

After adding 17-3 on Day 2, Crews fought through a tougher semifinal round on Saturday to catch a 13-pound limit, anchored by a 6-pounder. On Championship Sunday, he sealed the win with 17-1.

Starting his 17th year on the Elite Series, Crews acknowledged the supreme challenge of a clean sweep and said consistency drove him to victory. He fished clean, lost no keepers and made good decisions throughout a week marked by moody Florida weather and unsettled fish.

After a cold, wet practice period, the tournament saw the typical post-frontal conditions — high pressure, clear skies and flat wind — for the first two days. Temperatures started rising quicker than expected, and just as soon as Day 3 appeared to be stabilizing, Championship Sunday brought clouds and rain early, then a sunny afternoon.

"I got unbelievably fortunate; you have to catch a huge bag at least one of the days," Crews said. "To win a four-day event in Florida, you can't have any days where you slip."

"I was fortunate that (Day 3) was my only slip day and I had a 6-pounder that really saved it, or it would have been really bad."

Each day Crews spent about half of his time in Rodman Reservoir, upriver from Palatka. He also fished the main river and the Rodman Canal — both sides of the Buckman Lock accessing Rodman. Inside the reservoir, Crews caught fish on standing timber and pads, while a mix of pads and other shallow targets comprised his river and canal action.

In Rodman's deeper areas, Crews threw a suspending jerkbait and a drop shot rigged with a prototype Missile Baits worm. He caught a bed fish in Rodman with a Texas-rigged Missile Baits Quiver Worm and also threw a Zoom Fluke.

Around pads in the river and canal, Crews caught bass on a 1/2-ounce white spinnerbait and a 3/8- and 1/2-ounce Z-Man ChatterBait JackHammer. He paired the latter with a Missile Baits D Bomb in the bruiser (black/blue) color and a white Missile Baits Shockwave, based on conditions.

"I just went out and fished like I normally fish, which is all over the place," Crews said. "I was throwing a spinning rod in 25 feet of water one minute and I'm throwing a (reaction bait) in a foot of water 20 minutes later. Luckily, on the St. Johns River, that works."

"That's exactly what I did the last four days. I just mixed it up based on the weather."

Finishing second with 74 pounds, Downey followed his second-place Day 1 limit of 27-4 with a disastrous Day 2 that saw him weigh a single fish that went 6-11. Downey added 10-14 on Day 3 and slipped to seventh, but roared back with that huge final-round catch of 29-3, which included an 8-pound fish.

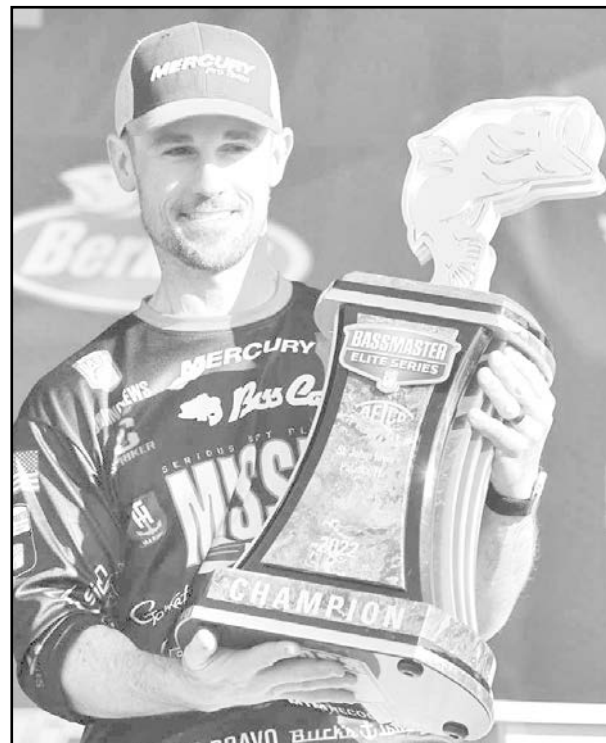
All week, Downey fished the warm outflows of Salt Springs on the northwest side of Lake George, upriver from Palatka. He caught all of his fish on a Storm Arashi Vibe lipless bait in a gold color. After trying various lipless baits, Downey surmised that the fish responded best to the Arashi Vibe's more subtle presence.

"What more can you ask for? It was just insane out there this morning — and to cap it off with an 8-pounder," Downey said. "Aside from Day 2, it's been an amazing week."

"The (colder) conditions lined up really well for me on Day 1 and then this morning was really good for me too, with the cloud cover."

Masayuki Matsushita of Tokoname-Shi, Japan, finished third with 69-13 and is leading the Falcon Rods Bassmaster Rookie of the Year standings. After placing 41st on Day 1 with 12-1, he bolted up the leaderboard to second after catching Day 2's heaviest bag — 23-5. Matsushita added 17-7 on Day 3 and ended with a final-round limit of 17 pounds.

Focusing mostly on shallow cover in Crescent Lake, Matsushita threw 1/4- and 3/8-ounce versions of the Maturaba swim jig that he designed for Deps. He used a brown cran colored swim jig with a green pumpkin black fleck Deps twin tail trailer.



BASSMASTER.COM PHOTO

SALEM'S JOHN CREWS

Matsushita also caught fish on a free rig — a Japanese innovation that employs a 3/16-ounce teardrop-shaped sinker hanging perpendicular to the line. He used this in conjunction with a Texas-rigged Zoom Magnum Finesse Worm in junebug and redbug colors.

"Today, most of my fish were on the swim jig," Matsushita said. "I caught maybe 10 keepers. I caught one big one — 4 1/2-pounder — on the free rig."

Brandon Cobb of Greenwood, S.C., won the \$1,000 Phoenix Boats Big Bass award for the 9-13 largemouth he caught Thursday.

Cox of DeBary, Fla., won the \$2,000 VMC Monster Bag standings for the event's heaviest limit.

Crews took home an additional \$3,000 for being the highest-placing entrant in the Toyota Bonus Bucks program, while Cox also earned \$2,000 for being the second-highest placing entrant.

As part of the Yamaha Power Pay program, Patrick Walters of Summerville, S.C., earned an additional \$2,500 and Drew Cook of Cairo, Ga., claimed an additional \$1,500 for being the second-highest placing entrant.

The tournament was hosted by the Putnam County Tourist Development Council and Putnam County Chamber of Commerce.

Murray Cook will be guest speaker at Roanoke Valley Sports Club Monday

By Doug Doughty,
guest writer

Murray Cook, who built the "Field of Dreams" baseball diamond in Iowa used for the White Sox and Yankees game last summer, will be the guest speaker at the February meeting of the Roanoke Valley Sports Club next Monday, February 21.

Cook turned the site in Dyersville, Iowa from a tourist attraction into a big league ballpark. The original field was the setting for the movie "Field of Dreams," starring Kevin Costner. The big league game was a big hit last August, drawing international attention.

Cook, who grew up in Salem, is the official field consultant for Major League Baseball and is the president of BrightView Sports Turf Division. It's a far cry from his days in Salem, when he lived just off the Boulevard, which runs parallel to the stadium now known as Salem Municipal Field.

"My granddad took me to the games there when I was nine, 10, 11 years old," he said. "I started working there when I was 13."

He worked on the grounds crew and was among the first responders in the summer of 1974, when Salem outfielder Alfredo Edmead was killed in an on-field collision with teammate Pablo Cruz. It's hard not to be sentimental when he drives past the old ballpark.

"I just love it," he said. "I've been to so many fields that they've torn down. You know the Olympics that we've worked on in Beijing, Athens ... those baseball fields have all been torn



MURRAY COOK

down."

He did not play baseball at Andrew Lewis High School. From there, he went to North Carolina Wesleyan.

"I pitched there for a couple of years," he said. "It's funny because I walked on. All I had done before that was pitch batting practice to the guys in Salem. I could throw strikes."

By Cook's count, he has been to 62 countries. In 2014, he was at the season-opening game between the Los Angeles Dodgers and Arizona Diamondbacks in Sydney, Australia.

"It meant flipping a cricket field into a baseball field," Cook said. "That was probably the big develop that kind of said. 'This was kind of cool. What else can we do?'"

"The next thing you knew, the powers that be in the commissioner's office and players union got together and said, 'Let's pick some more sites.'"

A game between the Atlanta Braves and Florida Marlins in 2016 at Fort Bragg was the next choice. Cook and his associates turned an old golf course into a 12,500-seat baseball stadium in 120 days.

"We also had to do

the locker rooms, club-houses, media tent and all the broadcast compound areas," Cook said. "Moving along, we said, 'OK, we haven't played in Europe yet. We've been looking at London for a while.'"

That turned into a series featuring the New York Yankees and Boston Red Sox in 2019.

"They turned Queen Elizabeth Stadium into a baseball park in 22 days," Cook said. "The first 16 days it rained. That was a tough one."

The Cardinals and Cubs are scheduled to play in London next year.

In recent years, he has been involved in the MLB Little League World Series that had Pittsburgh and the Chicago Cubs play in Williamsport, Pa., on the same day as the Little Leagues.

"We took a minor-league ballpark and turned it into a major-league ballpark for 2,500 people," Cook said. "That's for all the players, coaches and families of the Little League World Series."

It's at Bowman Field, the second oldest minor-league field in the country and home to the Williamsport Cross Cutters, the Philadelphia Phillies' Double A affiliate.

"We had to build tent structures to support batting tunnels and all of the other things that a major-league ballpark would need to put a game," Cook said.

It's hard to say exactly where Cook acquired his expertise.

"I worked at a lot of minor-league parks," he said. "When I moved to Florida in 1989 and took over the job at the Braves-Expos complex,

that's when things really kicked off."

Sometimes he's accompanied by his wife, Donna. They have three children all between 33 and 30. They also have taken part in foster care.

"I enjoy what I do," said Cook, who occa-

sionally stops by Salem Memorial Stadium and offers feedback when asked. "What we do is create a lot of good times for a lot of people and it's fun."

Cook is a member of the Salem-Roanoke Baseball Hall of Fame,

and an accomplished banquet speaker. Anyone who would like to hear him speak on Monday and is not a member of the Roanoke Valley Sports Club can go to the club's website to sign up at roanokevalleysportsclub.com.



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GLENVAR SWIMMING

continued from page 14

set a new personal record as well earning a trip to the state championship with his fourth place finish in the breaststroke.

The Highlanders are taking eight girls and two boys to Richmond today, with Eller, Gard, Carly Wilkes, Griffith, Hall, Paitzel, McMahon and Westland for the girls along with Zander Honaker and Connor Wilkes for the boys.

"Seeing the results from the four regions it looks like a five or six team battle is brewing for the girls' state championship," said Glenvar coach Shannon Hall. "We'll Glen be in the mix, maybe first maybe sixth. The Swimming Highlanders have worked hard and are prepared to swim their best, we'll just have to see how many points that gives us at the end of the day."

Salem sends 11 wrestlers to Virginia Beach

The Salem High wrestlers will be in Virginia Beach this weekend to compete in the Virginia High School League Class 4 state wrestling tournament. The tournament will be held at the Virginia Beach Sports Complex.

The Spartans will take 11 wrestlers to the state tournament after finishing second to Orange County, but just three points, in the Region 4D tournament on February 5th. Class 4A champ Great Bridge is the state favorite after winning all 14 weight classes

in the Region 4A tournament, taking the region by over 200 points.

"We have some very favorable draws in the early rounds, and some very tough draws in the early rounds," said Salem coach Lawrence Van Liew. "We have a very young team who doesn't know they are supposed to lose on paper, and I feel confident we will have some upsets in the first two rounds over higher ranked opponents."

Salem has three seniors in Kyman Kinney at 138, Sam Miles

at 182 and Reggie Brown at 285, and they've all been to the state tournament before with Kinney placing fourth and Miles sixth. Ty Porter and Caden Thomas are juniors and the rest of the team is comprised of freshmen and sophomores.

"I will lean on my five juniors and seniors to help guide my six freshmen and sophomores," said Van Liew. "We finished eighth last year and look to place in the top 10 again this season."



Salem coaches Lawrence Van Liew(left) and Matthew Duncan work the corner.

PHOTO BY BRIAN HOFFMAN

Salem Civic Center will host Class 1, 2 and 3 state wrestling this weekend

Glenvar will be well-represented when the Salem Civic Center plays host to the Virginia High School League Class 1, 2, and 3 state wrestling tournaments this weekend.

Action begins on the civic center floor with eight mats Friday morning for the first round. At 1 pm there will be quarterfinals for Class 1 through 3 and first round consolation matches for Class 3. Class 1 and 2 tournaments have the top three from each region while Class 3 has the top four. Consolation matches for all three classes will begin at 4:30 pm.

On Saturday morning semi-finals begin at 10 am, followed by consolations semifinals at noon and consolation finals at 1:30 pm. The championship matches will begin at 5 pm.

Glenvar is hoping to be in the mix for the Class 2 championship. The Highlanders are coming off a Region 2C title and return two wrestlers who were in the state championship last year. Junior Jake Cline won the 132 pound title as a sophomore last year and returns at that weight class. Sophomore Ethan Flowers was the state runner-up at 138 as a freshman and he's at 152 this season. Both are 2022 region champs, as are 113 pound River Smith, 145 pound Trey Lawrence and 170 pound Chase Miller.

"We've had a great season thus far and the plan for this weekend is to push forward with that same momentum," said GHS coach Jason Cline. "The kids have put in a tremendous amount of effort all year. We've had a good week of preparation, now is the time to just go out there, have some fun, and just execute, execute,

execute."

Poquoson won the state championship in Class 2 last year and the Islanders have a strong team every season. Lebanon was the runnerup last year and James River, from the Three Rivers District, took third. Glenvar ousted River in the region and now the Highlanders have their sites set on bigger game.

"We have several wrestlers who will be in contention for making the podium on Saturday but there are no easy paths to the podium," said coach Cline. "The State tournament will have some of the best competition we've seen all year so we need to continue wrestling our best. Several of our kids could run into some really good wrestlers in the semi-finals. We just have to take it one match at a time and leave it all on the mat."

Averett downs Roanoke College wrestlers

The Roanoke College wrestling team traveled to Danville for a dual match against Averett University last week and dropped nine of 10 matches to the Cougars for a 36-6 loss.

Morgan Robinson had RC's lone win at 145. He was tied at 3-3 after one period but thanks to three

over the nesxt two Robinson posted an 8-3 decision.

Saturday marked the end of the regular season in the Maroon's inaugural wrestling season. They will take aim at the postseason when they travel to Lycoming for the NCAA Southeast Regionals on February 25 and 26.

Salem, Glenvar indoor track teams will compete in region at RC this weekend

The Kerr-Cregger Fieldhouse will be the site of indoor track regional meets in Salem this weekend. Glenvar and Salem High athletes will be running, jumping and throwing in the meets.

The Region 1C, 1D, 2C and 2D meets will be held on Friday evening, the Region 3D meet run from 9 am to 3 pm on Saturday and the Region 4D meet will begin around 3:15 pm Saturday and run until conclusion.

Salem's athletes warmed up for a post-season run with a meet at the Southwest Virginia Invitational at the JDL Fast Track in Winston-Salem, NC last week. Several had some strong performances, including a second place finish for Peyton Lewis in the 55 meter dash. DaRon Wilson was sixth and Joshia Persinger

took seventh.

Jonathan Vernon was fifth in the 300m with Wilson taking sixth and Evyn Hughes 11th among 32 runners. In the 55 hurdle Mitchell Taylor was sixth and Carter Black took ninth in the 500m. The 4x200 relay of Jacob Johnson, Hughes, Jayveon Jones and Lewis was third and the 4x400 team of Vernon, Wilson, Domic Wright and Christopher Cole took fourth.

In the field events Dontay Davis was eighth in the shot put and Hughes and Wright tied for eight in the long jump.

The girls also had some season's best performances, including Sutton Semones in the 500 and Amanda Rothkopf in the 1000.



Dillman wins final football contest

The football season is finally over, and I'm anxious to start the next one already. Wasn't it fun last year when we had high school football in both the spring and fall?

The season that started back in August came to an end with Sunday's Super Bowl, as the Rams defeated the Bengals in an exciting game that went down to the final minute. That wasn't the case for our final contest winner, who had the contest locked up before the game even began. Jean Dillman missed just four games and is our final contest winner.

Jean got all the bowl games correct right up until the NCAA final, when she picked Alabama over Georgia for her only slipup. She missed all three of the pro games, picking the Colts and Bucs to go to the Super Bowl, but with just four misses that didn't matter. Hardly anyone picked the Rams or Bengals to be in the game, but we'll get to that in a minute.

For her efforts Jean will receive a \$50 gift certificate to Mac & Bob's, a Blizzard from Dairy Queen and a year's subscription to the Salem Times-Register.

For our "Quick Change" question I asked you to pick the winner of the Super Bowl, and as mentioned very few of you had the Bengals or Rams. Most of the support went to the Bucs and Packers in the NFC and the Chiefs and Bills in the AFC. However, Lukous Schultz did have the Rams going to the Super Bowl so he'll get the free oil change from Valvoline in Salem, right across from our office.

And that's all, Folks. See you in August.

-Brian Hoffman

RC men's lacrosse has home opener

Catholic University's lacrosse team will be in Salem Saturday afternoon to meet Roanoke College in the Maroons' home opener. Faceoff time is 2 pm at RC's Kerr Stadium.

The Maroons opened last Saturday in Newport News and had a tough time with host Christopher Newport, falling 22-5. The Captains raced out to a 5-1 lead in the opening period and built on their advantage for a 13-2 halftime lead. The second half would see Christopher Newport continue to build their lead throughout and win going away.

George Gilbert and Ethan Caldwell each had a pair of scores for the Maroons. Taylor Lewis went the distance in goal, recording 20 saves on what proved to be a long afternoon.

Roanoke baseball 4th in ODAC preseason poll

The Old Dominion Athletic Conference (ODAC) released the 2022 ODAC Baseball preseason poll on Tuesday afternoon. Roanoke College secured the number four spot in the rankings, as voted on by the league's coaches, behind top rated Lynchburg, Shenandoah and Randolph-Macon.

Last season the Maroons exceeded expectations when they posted an overall record of 23-10, including a 15-4 ODAC record that placed them in third place in the regular season standings. Roanoke posted a .302 batting average while holding the 3rd best slugging percentage at .420.

On the hill, the Maroons posted a team ERA of 4.31 while allowing a league best 136 earned runs while recording 291 strikeouts. Defensively, Roanoke was 3rd in the league with a .959 fielding percentage and committed just 49 errors in 1,200 total chances.

Roanoke will get the season started with a trip to face William Peace at the USA Baseball complex in Cary, North Carolina on February 23rd before returning to Salem to host Susquehanna in a double header on the 26th and a single game with Franklin & Marshall the next afternoon.



Lily Lippert(#5), Taylor Poole(#4) and Mikayla Hefferon(#3) of Roanoke College steam around the first turn in the 200 meter race at last Saturday's Roanoke Invitational Challenge at the Kerr-Cregger Fieldhouse in Salem.

PHOTO BY BRIAN HOFFMAN

Maroons tune up for ODAC meet

The Kerr-Cregger Fieldhouse was the site of the Roanoke Invitational Challenge indoor track meet at Roanoke College last Saturday. A large group of schools from all classifications participated in the collegiate meet in Salem.

Among the highlights, RC's Chamberlain Zulauf, Daniel Jewell, Josh Fretwell, and Peter Smith combined for a final time of 11:16.06 in the 400 distance medley relay, the 4th fastest in the Old Dominion Athletic Conference this season. In the 400 meters Samuel Crawford took over the top spot in the conference this season with a runner-up time of 50.51 while the 4x400 Relay team of Crawford, Brady Fowler, Cameron Harris, and Hunter Bohon earned a

3rd place finish in 3:30.86, taking over the 3rd spot in the ODAC best times for the season.

For the women, Hannah Koepfinger won the long jump when she landed a jump of 5.14m (16'10.5") Kaitlyn Nguyen cleared 1.55m (5'1") to finish second in the high jump and take over 3rd in the ODAC season top marks. Cammi Winston finished runner-up in the triple jump with a leap of 10.28m (33'8.75") and Chloe Van Duyne posted the 3rd best pole vault with a final height of 3.05m (10'0").

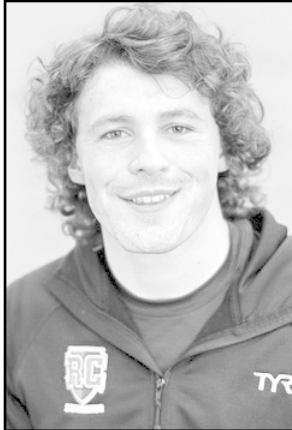
The Maroons are scheduled to go to Virginia Tech this weekend for one final tune-up prior to the 2022 ODAC Indoor Track & Field Championships in Salem February 26 and 27.

Tate is ODAC Swimmer of the Meet

The 2022 Old Dominion Athletic Conference (ODAC) Swim Championships came to a close on Sunday. The four-day event was held at the Greensboro Aquatic Center and it was Washington and Lee on top of both the men's and women's podium at meets end.

The Roanoke men would finish runner-up with Lynchburg placing 3rd. On the women's side, the Maroons came home 4th while Randolph-Macon was 2nd and Lynchburg 3rd.

Ben Tate of Roanoke College was named the ODAC Men's Swimmer of the Meet after the senior won a pair of individual events while finishing 4th in a another. In the relay events, Tate was a member of a quartet of teams that earned three 2nd place finishes and one 3rd place effort. In the 500 Freestyle, Tate set a new ODAC and ODAC Championship meet record with a final time of 4:35.31.



BEN TATE

Glenvar will host region doubleheader Friday

The Region 2C basketball tournaments will get underway on Friday and the Glenvar girls and boys will host a first round doubleheader.

The girls will open the doubleheader at home against Appomattox at 5:30 pm, followed by the boys against Alleghany at approximately 7:15 pm. There is no Three Rivers District tournament this year so this is the start of the post-season for both teams.

The boys, ironically enough, wrapped up their regular season on Tuesday with the same team they'll

play Friday, only that one was in Low Moor. The Highlanders took a 71-63 win over Alleghany in overtime to finish the regular season with a 15-7 overall record and a 5-5 record in a very tough Three Rivers District. With Tuesday's win the Highlanders swept the season series from Alleghany.

"We really wanted that win Tuesday to keep them from having any hope of beating us, but we didn't play very well," said Glenvar coach Cliff Bordewisch. "I'm not thrilled about playing them twice in the same week."

Last Friday the Highlanders were in Radford and dropped a 58-55 decision to the Bobcats. Radford swept the season series but both games went to the wire with the Bobcats winning by three points on both occasions.

In this one Glenvar jumped to a 16-8 lead after one quarter and the Highlanders held a two point lead at the half. Radford pulled ahead in the third period but Glenvar rallied to make it close, only to fall short.

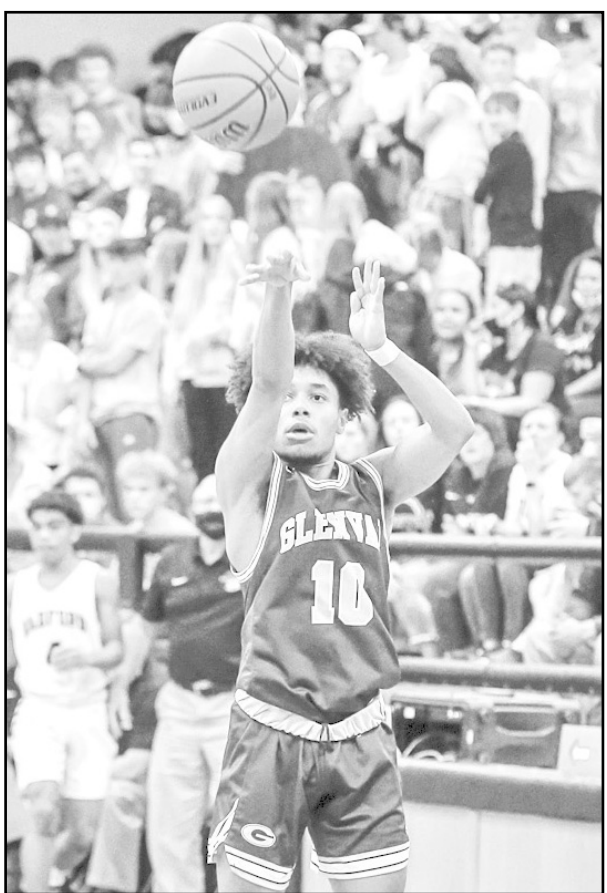
"Our guys played hard, but some of the same weaknesses we discussed all year popped up again and cost us in stretches," said Bordewisch.

Stephen Barber led Glenvar with 23 points, Aiden Alexander had 10 and Tyler Johnson had nine. Glenvar hit nine three pointers to just four for Radford, with Alexander draining three.

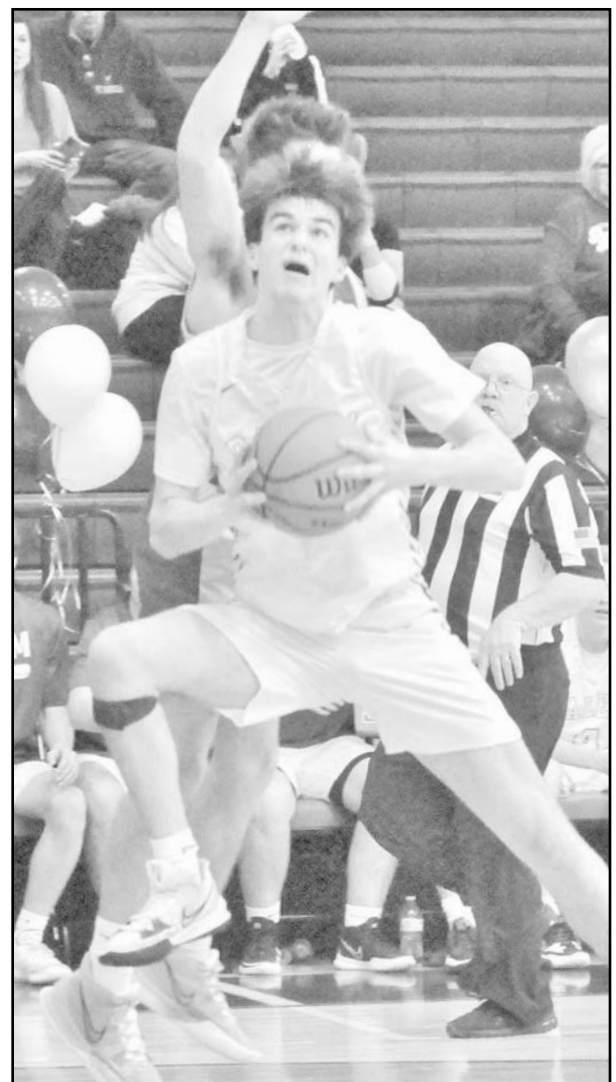
The girls played at Radford the night before in their regular season finale and dropped a 58-44 decision to the Bobcats. Radford jumped to a 29-15 lead by the half and coasted to the win. Rhyann Harris led Glenvar with 21 points and she's average 19 points per game for the season. Savana Luper had 13 and McKenzie Harris chipped in seven.

The loss dropped the girls to 9-13 on the season and 3-7 in the district as they prepare to host Appomattox Friday night. All 12 teams in Region 2C are included in the tournament.

The second round of action for both teams who win at GHS Friday will be next Tuesday, February 22nd. If the Glenvar boys beat Alleghany their next opponent will be top-seeded James River, who received a first round bye.



Glenvar's Tyler Johnson nails a three in last week's game at Radford. PHOTO BY BRYANT ALTIZER



Salem senior Tanner Dallas, going to the hoop in last week's win over Pulaski, scored 32 points against Patrick Henry in the Spartans' final game. PHOTO BY BRIAN HOFFMAN

Spartans fall short of post-season basketball

The Salem High boys saw their season come to an end last week with a 76-59 loss to Patrick Henry at the SHS gym.

Salem fell behind 43-30 by halftime against the Patriots, who improved to 17-5 with the win. Salem was led by senior Tanner Dallas, who scored 32 points in his last varsity game. Hunter Bayne had 13.

The loss dropped the Spartans to 8-13 on the season and 3-9 in River Ridge District games. Only the top four teams in the district make the playoffs and the Spartans weren't among them. Cave Spring was set to play Blacksburg on Tuesday night for the RRD tournament championship.

Salem's overall record wasn't good enough to make the Region 4D tournament, which took the top eight teams in the region. So, the PH game was the end of the line for the Spartans.

"I am forever thankful for the job that the seniors did this year," said Salem coach Kevin Garst. "They laid a foundation for the program that will last for years to come. Pretty cool seeing how much the overall group improved throughout the year. The guys had a great approach every day and gave everything they had until the very end."

"We have 11 players off our roster returning. They were able to gain invaluable experience playing against some older teams. There are a lot of positive things that we can build off of from this season."

SHS girls go to Halifax for 4D hoops

The Salem High girls will open the Region 4D basketball tournament on the road Friday. Salem will play at Halifax in the first round of the eight team tournament.

The Spartans head into the regional with a 15-8 record in their first year under coach Scott Jester. Last year the girls played just seven games and finished 2-5 in the pandemic abbreviated season.

The Salemites earned a spot in the four team River Ridge District tournament with the fourth seed and had the challenge of taking on Patrick Henry, the top seed, last Friday in Roanoke. The Spartans put a scare into the Patriots but PH was able to survive to pull out the 51-46 win and run their record to 21-2 on the season.

"We gave a great effort," said Jester. "We dug ourselves out of a double digit deficit in the first half and again in the second half, which says a lot about our resiliency. But we missed too many free throws to win a close game."

The Spartans missed 10 free throws in a five point loss, hitting eight of 18. My'La Green led the scoring with 19 points, Kennedy Scales had 10 and Summer Bayne had eight points and 13 rebounds. Former Spartan Abby Baker had 10 for the Patriots, who advanced to Tuesday's championship game against Pulaski County.



Scott Jester has the Salem girls in the Region 4D tournament Friday. PHOTO BY JON FLEMING

If Salem can win at Halifax the Spartans would advance to the semifinal round of the Region 4D tournament next Tuesday, February 22nd. The championship game is Friday, February 25.

"They(Halifax) have pretty good size so rebounding will be a key for us to win," said Jester.



Justin Kuthan of Roanoke College knocks the ball loose from the hands of a Shenandoah player in last week's win at the Cregger Center. PHOTO BY BRIAN HOFFMAN

Maroons battle for ODAC seeding

The Roanoke College men will wrap up the basketball regular season this week with a home game against Guilford on Wednesday and a trip to Bridgewater on Saturday afternoon.

The Maroons come into the week in a three team tie for fourth place in the Old Dominion Athletic Conference standings. Randolph-Macon is undefeated in the conference and 22-1 overall atop the ladder, followed by Guilford, who took a 12-2 conference record to Salem on Wednesday. Virginia Wesleyan is third at 10-4 in the ODAC and the Maroons, Lynchburg and Washington & Lee were all tied at 8-6 with Hampden-Sydney and Eastern Mennonite close behind at 7-7.

Depending on what happens this week Roanoke could be seeded anywhere from fourth to eighth for the ODAC tournament. If they finish seventh or eighth they would have to play a first round game next Monday,

February 21. The tournament moves to the Salem Civic Center a week from today for four quarterfinal games, with the semifinals on Saturday, February 26, and the championship game on the 27th.

The Maroons fell to 16-7 overall when fell in a key game at Hampden-Sydney last Saturday, 70-64. Hampden-Sydney built an 11-point first half advantage and took a 31-24 lead into the locker room. Roanoke rallied in the second half to take a six point edge into the final five-minutes of play but the Tigers closed the game on a 16-4 run to win and split the season series with RC. Kasey Draper led Roanoke with 15 points, seven rebounds, and seven assists.

The loss was Roanoke's third in the Maroons' last four games, all against conference opponents. The lone win was a 97-57 win over Shenandoah in Salem last Wednesday.

RC women are third

The Roanoke College women improved to 18-5 overall when they rallied to defeat Eastern Mennonite at the Cregger Center in Salem last Saturday. The Maroons trailed at the half but outscored the Royals 17-2 in the fourth quarter to pull out a 62-52 win.

Kristina Harrel led all scorers with 16 but it was the Roanoke bench, scoring 31 points, that proved to be the difference. JaBryah Haverkamp had nine points, Lauren Keel added eight and Ayanna Scarborough finished with seven. Whitney Hopson handed out eight of the Maroons' 15 assists.

With the win the Maroons improved to 13-3 in Old Dominion Athletic Conference games, putting them in third place in the standing coming into the final week of the season. The Maroons had a game at Washington & Lee on Wednesday and the Generals are atop the standings with a 15-1 ODAC record. Randolph-Macon is second at 14-2. Just behind Roanoke, at 10-4, is Randolph College and the Maroons will host the WildCats in their last home game of the season on Saturday afternoon at 2 pm in the Cregger Center.

The ODAC tournament begins next Tuesday as the seventh and eighth seeds host the ninth and 10th. Those winners join the other six at the Salem Civic Center on Friday, February 25, for quarterfinal action. Semifinals are Saturday with the championship game on Sunday, February 27.

The Maroons won't be playing Tuesday, as they can fall no lower than fifth regardless of what happens this week.



Kristina Harrel scores in RC's comeback win over Eastern Mennonite Saturday. PHOTO BY BRIAN HOFFMAN

SPORTS

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Among the awards presented at last week's Salem High football banquet was the Tim Sutphin Award for community service. A new award, it went to Chauncey Logan, Jr. In photo at left, left to right, are Tim Sutphin's son Chandler, Logan, Mark Haley and Salem High coach Don Holter. In the photo at right Cameron Martindale and Sam Jones tied for the Spartan Silk Screen Academic Award, presented by Richard and Lisa Smith of Spartan Silk Screen. Left to right are Richard, Cameron, Lisa and Sam.

PHOTOS BY BRIAN HOFFMAN

Spartans celebrate another great football season with banquet at the civic center

No one can celebrate a great football season like Salem can, and last week the Spartan players, coaches and parents gathered at the Salem Civic Center to honor the kids who gave us so many thrills once again last fall.

Lots of awards were given away as Spartan coach Don Holter and his staff honored the jayvee and varsity Spartans for successful seasons. The jayvees went undefeated in nine games and the varsity went 12-2, making it all the way to the state semifinal before being eliminated.

Many special awards were handed out at the Civic Center last Thursday, including the 45th Spartan Bell for hardest hitter of the year. This year the award, originated and sponsored by the Salem Times-Register, went to Spartan senior Noah Collins.

A new award, in honor of recently deceased Tim Sutphin, honored a player for community service. Sutphin was a former Spartan, and a former Bell winner, who streamed the games from his phone so fans at home could watch. He passed just after Christmas and the award named in his honor was presented to Chauncey Logan, Jr.

The Spartan Silk Screen Scholar Athlete Award,

for top academic standing, was presented by Richard and Lisa Smith of Spartan Silk Screen. This year two athletes tied for the award with 4.4 grade point averages, Cameron Martindale and Sam Jones.

Lee Eubanks was his usual jovial self as he announced the Lead Mule award for top offensive linemen went to Jake Massey. The Salem Sports Foundation Bob Barnett Hustle Award went to Nathaniel McClure and the Roger Surber Leadership Award was presented to Carson Williams.

Chase Greer took home the Johnny Jones Award for dependability while Cameron Leftwich was the recipient of the Danny Wheeling Award. Leftwich and Martindale both received the Iron Spartan Award for work in the weight room, while Addison Wolfe won the Character Award.

Scout team awards were presented to Chris Martin for offense and Ryan Coe for defense. Finally, the Popeye Buchanan Award for special teams play went to Noah Collins.

The evening wrapped up with some "special" gifts for the coaches, and everyone went home feeling good about yet another successful Salem football season.



Noah Collins, left with Spartan coach Don Holter, is the recipient of this year's Spartan Bell Award.

Salem will send nine swimmers to state meet



Salem's Boone Fleenor captured the Region 4D 500-yard freestyle title in a time of 4:53.38. PHOTO BY JON FLEMING

Three Salem High swimmers won Region 4D championships and nine advanced to the state swim meet when the Christiansburg Aquatic Center played host to the region meet last Wednesday. The state meet is this Friday and Saturday, February 17 and 18, at the SwimRVA pool in Richmond.

Western Albemarle swept the Region 4D championships in Christiansburg, taking both the boys' and girls' titles. Salem's boys finished fourth and the girls were fifth in the region.

Winning region championships individually for Salem were Boone Fleenor in the 500 Free and Hunter King in the 100 Free. Joren Poush was third in the 100 Free while Zach Easter out-touched his competitors to get a state spot in the 200 IM, placing fifth, and also got into states in the 100 Back placing fourth overall.

For the girls, Eliza Fleenor won the 100 Breast, took second in the 200IM and she already had a state spot in the 50 Free in her back pocket due to a previous qualifying time. Emma LaFountain had won the diving competition two days prior.

Salem's 2022 state team will consist of King, Easter, Poush and Boone Fleenor doing individual events and relays in the boys' meet while Walker Peterson, John Atkins and Cole Bowen will be swimming a relay. Eliza Fleenor will swim in two individual events for the girls and LaFountain will compete in diving.

Swimming Highlanders are going for state "Three Peat" tonight

The Glenvar girls' swim team completed a "three-peat" when they edged Three Rivers District foe Radford, 106-101, in last Thursday's Region 2C meet. It was the third straight year the Highlanders have won the girls' region swim championship, and now their sites are set on a third straight state crown.

The State Championship is at SwimRVA in Richmond today, Thursday. Preliminaries are at 9 am and finals start at 5 pm. The top 16 finishers in each preliminary event come back for the finals.

Last week's regional went down to the wire. The Lady Highlanders were down by eight points going into the final race, the 400 freestyle relay, and had to win to capture the championship. Carly Wilkes, Natalie McMahon, Adrianna Hall and Claire Griffith swam their best splits of the season and defeated the very talented George Wythe team, led by Marshall University commit Tatum Robinson, by .73 seconds.

In the regional championship format the top eight

finishers in each race score points and the team with the most at the end is the winner. The top five finishers also qualify for the state championship.

The girls 200 medley relay team of McMahon, Macy Westland, Delaney Eller and Kaylin Paitsel started the evening off with a fourth place finish swimming their best time of the season. McMahon swam her best time of the season in the 200 freestyle, finishing fifth and getting a qualifier to the state championship. Emily Gard set a new personal record and finished seventh scoring two points for the team. Carly Wilkes lowered her season best time by five seconds in the 200 individual medley finishing third and qualifying for the state championship.

Hall also swam her best time of the season in the 50 freestyle, finishing second, and Eller finished fourth sending both to the state championship. Adrianna turned in another season's best in the 100 butterfly for a fourth place finish and a state qualifier. Eller swam

a seasons best in the 100 freestyle finishing sixth, scoring two points and Brooklyn Woolwine set a new personal record in the event.

Claire Griffith swam a seasons best and Carly Wilkes set a new personal record in the 500 freestyle finishing 1-2 and giving the Highlanders a much needed 16 point boost. Tucker Henderson dropped six seconds off his personal record in the event finishing seventh and putting two points on the board for the boys.

The girls 200 freestyle relay team of Eller, Hall, Carly Wilkes and Griffith won the event, dropping over three seconds off their seasons best time.

In the 100 backstroke McMahon finished sixth and Emily Gard seventh setting a new personal record. Griffith finished second in the 100 breaststroke setting a new personal record. Emma Pope and Izzy Shearer also set personal records in the event. Zander Honaker

continued on page 11



Left, Glenvar's Adrianna Hall placed fourth in the 100-yard butterfly in the Region 2C championship meet. Hall also finished second in the 50-yard freestyle for the Highlanders, helping them to the overall girls team title. Right, Glenvar's Claire Griffith won the Region 2C 500-yard freestyle championship in a time of 5:43.80.

PHOTOS BY JON FLEMING