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# SALEM TIMES-REGISTER

Thursday, December 29, 2022 • (USPS 631-140) • \$1.00

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## Four Roanoke College employees given Service To All Roanoke Awards

Roanoke College recognized four employees with Service To All Roanoke (STAR) Awards during its Gratitude Gala on Dec. 16. The college gives the awards annually to staff members who it says “deliver exceptional performance in their roles and make a positive impact on the college and local community.”

Members of the greater Roanoke College community nominate individuals for the awards, which are broken down into three categories—exempt, non-exempt and hourly. The winners receive a trophy and \$1,000.

This year’s winners included Jacob Ferris, Toni Fazler, Jeri Person and Mitzi Steele.

Ferris, who received the hourly category award, is a Dining Service cook. He joined the service in 2012. “Because team success means more to him than individual acknowledgement, he is always willing to help colleagues accom-

plish their work and is willing to work outside his regular schedule,” a release from the college stated. “Students love to see his seasonal accessories, such as bunny ears, as he serves them in line, and he is quick to make friendly conversation and ensure that students with dietary restrictions have safe, delicious food.”

Fazler and Person both received the award in the non-exempt category due to the number of nominations the college received for both.

Fazler is the coordinator of services in Morehead Hall. In her role, she organizes and runs the President’s Welcome and Baccalaureate, three orientation programs and is part of the Commencement Management Committee. She also oversees the Micah’s Backpack program, which makes sure local elementary students have food every weekend. “Fazler works hard to create a welcoming space in More-



Mitzi Steele, from left to right, Jeri Person, Toni Tazler and Jacob Ferris each received a 2022 STAR Award during Roanoke College’s Gratitude Gala on Dec. 16.

head, and students make a point to drop by and visit her, get a warm beverage, or seek advice and assurance,” the release stated.

Person works as academic program coordinator in the Registrar’s Office. “She handles a massive workload with grace and makes amazing suggestions to improve operations both in the Registrar’s

Office and across campus,” the release noted. “Person’s colleagues describe her as someone who listens, cooks, offers her home, collects necessities for those in need, sits in hospital waiting rooms, offers transportation and is, in general, the rock that people depend on when they need a friend.”

Steele is the database direc-

tor in the Office of Information and Technology. She received the award for her performance during the COVID-19 pandemic. “Steele is an employee who arrives at work early, stays late, resolves issue after issue, and juggles multiple projects at once,” the release state.

-The Salem Times-Register



## I-81 busy from holiday travel



PHOTOS BY AILA BOYD

Interstate 81 near Salem was busy Monday due to post-Christmas travel. AAA estimated earlier this month that 112.7 million people would travel at least 50 miles or more away from home from Dec. 23 to Jan. 2, a 3.6 million increase from last year. The service noted that the likelihood of travel this year is being aided by declining fuel prices. The price of a gallon of unleaded gas at the BP station on Wildwood Road near Interstate 81 was \$3.29 on Tuesday.

## Gingerbread cottage revealed at Richfield Living last week



PHOTOS BY AILA BOYD

As part of the Salem-Roanoke County Chamber of Commerce’s Hometown Gingerbread Trail, a number of cottages were revealed throughout the month of December. The chamber partnered with Page Turner Studios to design and build the cottages this year. “We are stoked to work together with the Chamber to build a lasting tradition of this joyous celebration,” Page and Zephren Turner said when the partnership was announced. The gingerbread cottage at Richfield Living in Salem was unveiled last Wednesday, Dec. 21. Several residents attended the unveiling.

## Judges set to recount Council votes Thursday

Meg Hibbert  
Contributing writer

A panel of three circuit court judges is scheduled to recount Salem City Council election results this Thursday, Dec. 29.

The panel will convene at 9 a.m. in Salem Circuit Courtroom 2, according to Chief Deputy Clerk Steve Snyder. Presiding Judge Chris Clemens of this 23rd District will be joined by Judge Claude W. Worrell Jr. of the 16th District and Judge Stacey W. Moreau of the 22nd District, Snyder said.

They will be using four or five voting machines to check results for all four Council

candidates. Current Councilman John Saunders petitioned for the recount from the Nov. 8 election, because there were only 11 votes separating him and apparent winner and current Councilman Randy Foley, who had 3,397 votes to Saunders’ 3,386.

Hunter Holliday, who ran as a Republican, was the apparent top vote-getter with 3,809 votes, and first-time candidate AnnMarie Green received 3,196 votes.

Each candidate has the opportunity to have election officials and observers of their choosing at the recount.

See **Recount**, page 2

## 2022: A year in Salem in review

*Editor’s note: This is a compilation of some of the biggest stories The Salem Times-Register covered over the past year.*

### From Jan. 6: New Year ushers in Salem’s first snow

Shawn Nowlin, Former editor

Just like that, the first snow of 2022 has come and go.

After a weekend of temperatures around the mid-60s, Salem got its first snow of the year on Monday. The heaviest portion came down in the early hours as rain changed to flakes. Some temperatures throughout the Roanoke Valley reached the low 20s and residents, if possible, were asked to stay off the roads.

Many school districts, including the City of Salem, closed or announced delays on Sunday evening. A two-hour school delay was implemented on Tuesday. Since classes

were canceled on January 3, Shannon Walker, 17, decided to build a miniature snowman with her father in front of their house.

“Before walking out of the door, I looked at the Weather Channel app on my Android to see how much time we had. A few people walked past us and asked if they could join us. We took some pictures and shared it on social media,” Walker said.

Never one to turn down a snowball fight, Kayla Harris

See **2022 Review**, page 3

**Happy Holidays**

FROM ALL OF US AT BANK OF BOTETOURT AND VIRGINIA MOUNTAIN MORTGAGE

**HOLIDAY HOURS:**  
WE WILL BE CLOSING AT 5 PM  
FRIDAY, DECEMBER 23

WE WILL BE CLOSED ON  
MONDAY, DECEMBER 26  
& MONDAY, JANUARY 2

Bank of Botetourt  
VIRGINIA MOUNTAIN MORTGAGE  
Member FDIC  
EQUAL HOUSING LENDER  
NMLS#476841



33463 00109 9

# Recount from page 1

The two judges from out of this area were appointed Dec. 6, Snyder said. Judge Moreau is the presiding judge for the 22nd district that includes the City of Danville and Pittsylvania and Franklin counties.

Judge Worrell presides over the district that includes circuit courts in Albemarle, Charlottesville, Culpeper, Fluvanna, Goochland, Greene, Louisa, Madison and Orange counties. Judge Clements presides over Roanoke City, Roanoke County and Salem City Circuit Courts.

Saunders asked for the recount on the final day to file a request, Nov. 28.

After that night's Salem City Council Meeting, Saunders said he was mostly asking for

the recount "to support the people who worked for me. I hope everyone realizes how every vote in a local election is important," he emphasized.

A total of 12,891 people voted in the Nov. 8 election, which Salem Registrar Dana Oliver said was the largest number since 2000 when five candidates ran for three seats.

This is the first time Salem City Council elections have been held in November as part of the general election. Before this, they were in May, with members being sworn in before the July meeting. Moving Council elections back to May is one of the items Salem City Council asked Virginia Legislators to consider in this year's



The Roanoke Valley Governor's School for Science and Technology invites prospective students and parents to attend one of the 2023-2024 school year informational sessions listed below to learn about our school and obtain an application. RVGS is a public regional program serving high school students from Bedford, Botetourt, Craig, Franklin, Roanoke City, Roanoke County, and Salem.

- Thursday, January 5th at Franklin County High School at 6:30
- Tuesday, January 10th at The Governor's School at 6:30
- Thursday, January 12th at Staunton River High School at 6:30
- Tuesday, January 17th at The Governor's School 6:30
- Thursday, January 19th at The Governor's School at 6:30

Informational sessions & additional information available at [www.rvgs.k12.va.us](http://www.rvgs.k12.va.us)

See more at [www.salemtimes-register.com](http://www.salemtimes-register.com)

## Lights of Love Memorial Tree

At this holiday season we share this time of remembrance. We cherish the special place in our hearts that will always be reserved for our loved ones.

~In Loving Memory~

Eric Abbott  
David Lee Aliff  
Arthur Paul Allhands  
Hazel Roupe Altizer  
Howard Altizer  
Wyatt Ayers  
Roland Bagnell  
Pat Baumgardner  
Lydia Blackburn  
Audrey Ullmann Boggs  
Aurich Bolton  
Reba Bolton  
Junior Ray Bousman  
Doris Roop Bowers  
Clyde Wood Bowman  
Erik Paine Brady  
Dennis Bragg  
William Rodney Brown  
Harvey Bulaski  
Travis Bulaski  
Wilber & Mary Byer  
Ida M Cabral  
Manuel P Cabral  
Maurice J Cabral  
Aubrey Davis Camden  
Elsie Roberts Camden  
Darrell Lee Camden  
Richard Camden  
Melvin Camden  
Ellen Camden  
Michael Stevenson Camden Jr  
Michael "Mitch" Stevenson  
Camden Sr  
Phyllis A Clark  
William R Clark  
Megan R Clark  
William H Cleary  
James & Pearl Conner  
George Conner Sr  
Helen Conner  
Alma F Cromer  
Edgar J Cromer  
Edgar Michael Cromer  
Ethel Crowder

J L Crowder  
Jimmie Leslie Deel  
Leslie Romulus Deel  
E Lucy Coleman Deel  
Cecelia P DeLong  
Gann Dent  
Robert Dickens  
Jesse Dickens  
Edward Estes Dooley II  
Edward Estes Dooley III  
Evelyn Decker Dooley  
Shelia Rose Dooley  
Hazel Downing  
Nancy M Duncan  
Becky Frazier  
Beatrice Fuller  
William Fuller  
Kenneth Garman  
Bonnie Glass  
John C Gleason  
Martee G Gleason  
James R Goodwin Jr  
Dorothy W Goodwin  
Donald "Sonny" Earl Gress  
Dee Harding  
Velma Hardy  
Harry Cunningham Harris  
Cindy K Haupt  
Dreama F Hayes  
Shelburne Hayes  
Michael Helvey  
John C Hicks Jr  
Bill Hilbert  
Kathrine T Hodge  
Gerald Hodges  
Rochelle Hooper  
Lena Mae Hostetter  
Gretina Hostutler  
Gretna Hostutler  
Raymond Hostutler  
Algie Houchins  
Samuel Wesley Howell  
June Huff  
Robert Jeffrey Jr

Angela Jenkins  
Lonnie W Jenkins  
Butch Johnson  
Flora Johnson  
Polly Johnson  
Donald Jones  
Herbert A Keenan  
Marion Keenan  
Richard Kile Jr  
Raymond M Kimberling  
Gerald Kirk  
Hugh Kiser  
Anna Kut  
Emile F LeBeau Jr  
Emile F LeBeau III  
Elizabeth Leedy  
Mason Leedy  
William Leedy  
Joseph Albert LePage  
Judith M LePage  
Leo J LePage Sr  
Marie Rita LePage  
Thomas R LePage Sr  
James Meredith Lewis  
Marie Lorraine Lewis  
Robert Lieb Jr  
Lorraine Lima  
Daniel Maderas  
Billy Ray Marshall  
Wanda Martin  
John W McCauley  
Billy McDaniel  
Chuck McFarland  
Carol Meador  
Smyth Meador  
Mildred Meador  
Adolph Mewald  
Theresa Mewald  
Marie Mewald  
Shannan Michael Milam  
Christopher Mills  
Richard Mills  
Patrick Minahan  
Billy Montgomery

Richard Montgomery  
Barbara Whitby Myers  
Barbara Neece  
George Nixon  
Ruth Nixon  
Roy Max O'Dell  
M. Carolyn Jackson O'Dell  
Nellie Overstreet  
Babs Paine  
Dr. Bob & Alice Paine  
Robert Parson Paine  
Steve Pendleton  
Betty Phillips  
Daniel Phillips  
Jerry G Phillips  
Gene Prillaman  
Kristin Noelle Prillaman  
Nelson & Mary Prillaman  
Jack Ray Proffitt  
Brad Rahmoeller  
Buddy A Ramsey  
James S Reynolds  
Pierce L Reynolds  
Sophia M Reynolds  
Bob Ricker  
Lynn "Mack" Ricker  
Wilma Volpe Ricker  
Anna Richardson  
Billy Richardson  
Edna Richardson  
Ellen Richardson  
Melvin William Rierson  
Linda Robertson  
Walter Robinson  
Annie Dulaney Roop  
James Eldridge Roop  
James Herman Roop  
MaryAnn Wise Roop  
Denver "Bud" Roupe  
Jacob "J. W." Roupe  
Melinda Kay "Sissy" Roupe  
William "Bill" Schumate  
Richard Silvia  
Steve Silva

Sherwood Spence  
Donna Dooley St. Clair  
Samuel St. Clair  
Eloise Steele  
Irene Kirk Tarpley  
Sylvia Tarpley  
George Tate  
Kitty Tate  
Mary Ann Tate  
Betty Thomas  
Richard Thomas  
Janice Thomas  
Charlie Thompson  
Mary & Rob Thompson  
Bonnie R Tingle  
Betty Tomlin  
Nancy Toppel  
J. C. Trail  
Ella Trail  
Rickie Trail  
John F Tyree III  
John & Jewell Tyree  
David Vanderpool  
Evelyn Vanderpool  
Virginia Vass  
Rennie Viar  
Pierce Lee Viers  
Michael Thomas Volpe  
Albert Warden  
Arnold Whitby  
Izma R Whitby  
Patricia "Patti" Whitby  
Robert Wilcox  
Nancy St. Clair Willard  
Lisa Gillenwater Wiseman  
Robert Gillenwater  
Ruth G Witt  
Christine Wood  
Michael Wood  
Mike Woods  
Al & Geraldine Zimmerman  
Gary Zimmerman  
Donna Zirkle

Blessings from the John M. Oakey & Son family. We would like to wish our families and friends a "light" of hope, joy and peace during the Holiday Season and the coming New Year.



IT IS OUR MISSION TO BUILD A BRIDGE OF TRUST, COMPASSION, RESPECT AND A LASTING RELATIONSHIP WITH OUR FAMILIES DURING THE MOST DIFFICULT OF TIMES.

### ADVANCED PREPLANNING

## A Thoughtful Gift

As uncomfortable as it is, we all must confront the thought of our own death. The last thing we would want to do is to put more burden on our family and loved ones.

Preplanning and arranging your own service is a caring and responsible way to relieve stress from your overwhelmed and grieving loved ones. Now your loved ones may rest assured knowing that they have honored your wishes.

By Preplanning you eliminate emotional overspending. You may lock in funeral costs at today's prices.

We open our doors to you at your convenience. Our licensed Funeral Directors are available to help you with your Preplanning needs.

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Dave Vanderpool, Manager

Send community news and photos to [aboypd@mainstreetnewspapers.com](mailto:aboypd@mainstreetnewspapers.com)

*It is our mission to build a bridge of trust, compassion, respect and a lasting relationship with our families during the most difficult of times.*

# Briefly: Salem News In Brief

**Illuminights:** Illuminights runs through Dec. 30. For more information and to purchase tickets, visit: [www.roanokecountyparks.com/545/illuminights](http://www.roanokecountyparks.com/545/illuminights).

**Stampede Championship Rodeo:** The event will be at 7:30 p.m. Jan. 6 and 7 and 2 p.m. Jan. 8. For 55 years, the Salem Championship Stampede Rodeo brings the perfect mix of sporting event and family entertainment. When the 2023 edition of the rodeo rides back into Salem, fans can expect more of the same non-stop excitement they have come to love. Additional information can be found at: <https://www.salemcenter.com/Events/ArtMID/1693/ArticleID/2687/Stampede-Championship-Rodeo>

**DMV2Go:** The service will be at the Salem Civic Center from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Monday, Jan. 23.

**Salem-Roanoke County Chamber of Commerce Annual Meeting:** The meet-

ing will be on Jan. 27 at Roanoke College at 8 a.m.

**Salem-Roanoke County Chamber of Commerce Awards Business Awards Breakfast March:** It will be on March 17 at 8 a.m. at the Salem Civic Center.

**2023 Mother's Day Brunch Fund-raiser:** The event hosted by Salem Area Ecumenical Ministries will be on Saturday, May 13 from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. at Hidden Valley Country Club. It will benefit ACT Packs for Children, Student Led Food Pantry, Summer Feed & Read and Mrs. Dorsey's Clothes Closet.

**51st Annual Spring Home Show:** The show will be at the Salem Civic Center 2-6 p.m. Friday, March 24, 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Saturday, March 25 and 12-5 p.m. Sunday, March 26. Tickets will be sold at the door.

**2023 Senior Fun & Health Fair Day:**

The event, which is open to the public and free, will be from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Wednesday, April 12 at the Salem Civic Center.

**Roanoke Symphony Orchestra:** The Music of John Denver: The performance will be at 7:30 p.m. on Friday, April 28 at the Salem Civic Center. Tickets are \$31, \$34 and \$45.

**Foreigner:** Greatest Hits Tour: The performance will be at 8 p.m. Sunday, May 21 at the Salem Civic Center. Tickets are \$39.50, \$55, \$69.50, \$85 and \$125.

**Roanoke Symphony Orchestra:** Pink Floyd—Dark Side of the Moon: The performance will be at 7:30 p.m. Friday, June 16 at the Salem Civic Center. Tickets are \$31, \$34 and \$45.

**Public meetings:** The Salem City Council will meet on

Monday, Jan. 9 at 6:30 p.m.

The Salem City School Board will meet on Tuesday, Jan. 10 at 7 p.m.

The Salem City Planning Commission will meet on Wednesday, Jan. 11 at 7 p.m.

The Salem City Council will meet on Monday, Jan. 23 at 6:30 p.m.

The Salem City Council will meet on Monday, Feb. 13 at 6:30 p.m.

The Salem City School Board will meet on Tuesday, Feb. 14 at 7 p.m.

The Salem City Planning Commission will meet on Wednesday, Feb. 15 at 7 p.m.

The Salem City Council will meet on Monday, Feb. 27 at 6:30 p.m.


The Salem City Council will meet on Monday, March 13 at 6:30 p.m.


The Salem City School Board will meet on Tuesday, March 14 at 7 p.m.

The Salem Planning Commission will meet on March 15 at 7 p.m.

The Salem City Council will meet on Monday, March 27 at 6:30 p.m.

## POLICE REPORT

City of Salem Police Department		
		
Weekly Crime Report (Felony Cases)		
Week of December 20, 2022 – December 26, 2022		
DATE REPORTED	LOCATION	OFFENSE REPORTED
21-DEC-2022	100 BLK Kimball Ave	Vehicle Theft
21-DEC-2022	500 BLK Joan Cir	Grand Larceny
22-DEC-2022	800 BLK Union St	Burglary, Grand Larceny
22-DEC-2022	2800 BLK Keagy Rd	Robbery, Damage Property
26-DEC-2022	200 BLK Goodwin Ave	Burglary

City of Salem Police Department			
			
Weekly Arrest Report			
Week of December 20, 2022 – December 26, 2022			
Arrested On	Name	Age	Charges
12/20/2022	Blake E. Hayslett	34	Violation of Probation
12/22/2022	Lucas D. Hatt	41	Public Intoxication
12/22/2022	Dylan K. Smith	27	Possession of Controlled Substance
12/23/2022	Maranto McKiver	48	Robbery, Assault & Battery, Entering Property of Another to Damage It, Damage Property, Petit Larceny
12/23/2022	Amanda N. Bromwell	37	Public Intoxication
12/23/2022	Michael W. Letchford	49	Criminal Trespass
12/23/2022	Shakhia L. Pannell	18	Domestic Assault & Battery
12/25/2022	Jose L. Aguilar	35	Public Intoxication

## 2022 Review

from page 1

woke her youngest brother up and told him to come outside for the sole purpose of hitting him in the face with some snow. "My plan was executed to perfection. I said that mom wanted him to take out the trash. When he wasn't looking, I got him so good," Harris said.

Cold temperatures and snow create slippery streets. Virginia Department of Transportation (VDOT) vehicles were on the roads early Monday morning to use materials like sodium chloride to both remove snow and improve vehicle traction. Said one official, "For ice control and snow, salt is the most plentiful and inexpensive de-icer because it is distilled from seawater. Salt is effective to temperatures of about 28 degrees and above."

It usually takes about an hour for each plow to complete its course. Road conditions started to clear around 1:30 p.m.

Approximately 29 million people were under winter alerts Monday morning throughout the east coast. Roanoke County resident Ryan Andrews says he and his family were without power for a few hours. "I knew that it wouldn't last long so I didn't overreact when it happened. Everyone that I checked on was okay so that's all that really matters," Andrews said.

This will likely not be Salem's only snow this month. According to weather.com, snow showers are expected on Tuesday, January 18.

### From Feb. 24: VDOT names Blevins as new Salem resident engineer

Brian Blevins, P.E., has accepted the position of resident engineer for the

Virginia Department of Transportation's (VDOT) Salem Residency office.

Blevins will serve as VDOT's top transportation official for Roanoke, Botetourt and Craig counties by overseeing road maintenance and operations, land development programs, budgets and business operations. He also will be the primary human resources manager for approximately 130 VDOT employees.

"I look forward to continuing to work with our citizens in my new role to address their transportation needs in their communities," said Brian.

Blevins began his career with VDOT in 2005 and has held several positions, including transportation engineer in the Location and Design Division and land development engineer and area land use engineer in the Salem Residency office. Since 2016, Blevins has served as an assistant resident engineer in the Salem Residency office.

Before working at VDOT, Blevins was a consulting engineer for six years and served as a lead designer and project manager for Pentree Inc. in Princeton, West Virginia. Blevins worked on several sections of the Coalfields Expressway and one section of the King Coal Highway in West Virginia.

Blevins received his bachelor's degree in civil engineering technology from Bluefield State College. He is a licensed professional engineer in Virginia and West Virginia.

"Brian is an accomplished engineer and thoughtful leader, and his previous experience in working with local governments and in different roles at VDOT have positioned him well to take on this new role," said Salem District Engineer Ken King.

-Submitted by

Jason Bond, VDOT communications manager

### From March 17: Nationwide search leads to hiring of Tommy Miller as director of economic development

Tommy Miller has been named Director of Economic Development for the City of Salem, effective April 18. Miller was selected after a nationwide search identified him as a top candidate for the vacant post.

"We are excited to attract a candidate of Tommy's caliber to Salem," said Jay Taliaferro, Salem City Manager. "He has a great skill set and work-related experiences on many different levels. Plus, he has the enthusiasm needed to enhance Salem's business and industry-friendly reputation."

Miller comes to Salem after spending the past five years as a Senior Business Investment Manager for the Virginia Economic Development Partnership. In this position, he was able to manage and lead various projects while cultivating relationships with individuals in state agencies, educational settings, existing businesses, and local communities.

"I have a strong appreciation for the presence of manufacturers in the City of Salem and the resilient work ethic of the community," said Miller. "I am very aware of the growing and evolving high tech and service sectors in the region, and I am continually impressed with the thriving vibrancy throughout Salem and the Roanoke Valley."

"Tommy has been a key

economic development ally to the Roanoke Region in his roles with the Virginia Economic Development Partnership and I am excited to have him join the team of local economic developers in our region," said John Hull, Executive Director of the Roanoke Regional Partnership. "Tommy has a commanding knowledge in the field of economic development and a familiarity with the region that will be a tremendous asset in his service to the City of Salem."

Before joining VDEP in the summer of 2017, Miller served as the Economic Development Director in Orange County. During that time, he managed 10 existing and new business development projects that resulted in nearly 600 jobs and over \$37 million in new capital investment in Orange County.

"I've intentionally guided my career for new experiences related to all levels of economic development ranging from rural to suburban, local to state, existing business outreach to business attraction," said Miller. "All of these experiences have helped open my network and expand my knowledge of how to provide the best resources and services."

Miller earned both his bachelor's and master's degrees from Virginia Commonwealth University. His undergraduate degree is in Real Estate and Urban Land Development while his advanced degree is in Urban and Regional Planning. He also has his Certified Economic Development credential. He has worked as both a Marketing Analyst and Existing Business Manager in Hanover County and he spent three years developing new business in the Franklin Southampton County area.

"I have been given the opportunity to work with



Young Charlotte, almost 2, loves jumping in puddles and throwing little snowballs.



Blevins



Miller

firms ranging from one person startups to global Fortune 500 companies and industries ranging from life sciences to

automotive," he said. "Now, I really look forward to engaging

# OPINION

## Preparing for winter weather

Southwestern Virginia's location in the mid-Atlantic typically favors us with the variety of four seasons balanced with generally mild winters and warm summers. Still, the onset of winter can bring special safety concerns, and simple precautions can increase the safety of everyone during the winter season.

Before the coldest weather sets in, have all home heating systems checked. Clean your wood stove or fireplace chimney yearly and replace any loose bricks and mortar promptly. Know where all the shutoff valves and switches are.

Before you use a portable

heater, check for frayed cords and never bypass the grounding feature of a three-pronged plug. Heaters should have an automatic shutoff if they over- turn. Avoid using a portable heater near curtains, furniture and other combustibles.

Carbon monoxide is an odorless, colorless gas that is poisonous to breathe. Winter is a peak time for carbon monoxide (CO) poisoning as fuel-burning devices can release the gas if not operated properly. Deadly levels of CO can quickly build up as the gas emitted by these sources can linger for hours, even after the generator or grill has been shut off. Operate all gas-

oline-powered devices such as generators outdoors and never bring them indoors.

Your first line of defense against a CO emergency is early detection. Make sure to install CO alarms on every level of the home and in every bedroom.

Depending on the level of exposure, initial symptoms of CO poisoning such as headache and weakness may resemble viral illness. If you suspect that you are experiencing CO poisoning, get fresh air immediately. Leave the home and seek medical attention.

Severe winter weather can cause power outages, so keep extra energy supplies in

an easily accessible place. Emergency supplies should include candles or a lantern, a battery-powered radio, a flashlight with fresh batteries and a supply of unexpired food that needs no cooking or refrigeration. (Don't forget your pets!) If the power fails for an extended period, turn off all electrical appliances, keep your refrigerator and freezer door closed, draw curtains to preserve heat and turn water on to a trickle so pipes won't freeze.

When snow arrives, watch for slippery patches when walking outside. Do not overload your arms because it can make it difficult to keep your balance. Remove snow with caution and avoid doing too much physical work at one time. Work

slowly and rest often to avoid sore muscles, falls and heart attacks. Use a sturdy snow shovel and when shoveling, lift with your leg muscles rather than your back. Complete heavy work before eating a meal. Don't smoke or drink alcohol while working because smoking decreases the flow of blood through your body and alcohol increases the chances of overexertion.

The safety of our residents and their loved ones is very important to us. If you haven't already prepared for severe winter weather, the best time to do so is now.

-Cynthia Morrow  
Roanoke City & Alleghany Health Districts

## Santa through the years



**Morgan Griffith**  
Representative

Christmas is a time of tradition and ritual, both religious and secular.

For Christians like myself, it is a time to celebrate the birth of Jesus Christ. We do so with church services, hymns, readings, and other reli-

gious observances.

But Christmas also has developed traditions outside its religious aspect, or which may have once been connected with Christianity but no longer possess a religious character.

The figure of Santa Claus is perhaps the most obvious example. Christmas is a season of miracles – the virgin birth, the Star of Bethlehem, and so forth – and how a Mediterranean holy man of late antiq-

uity became the red-suited gift-giver of modern Western culture surely fits in the season's theme of the unlikely taking place.

There is little definitive record of Saint Nicholas, the historical figure who provided the basis for Santa Claus. According to History.com, he is believed to have been born around 280 A.D. in modern-day Turkey. The stories that surround him praise his generosity and kindness toward the poor, the sick, and children. The day he is believed to have died, December 6, is celebrated as a feast day by the Catholic and Eastern Orthodox Churches.

Saint Nicholas became the patron saint of children and sailors, among others, and was adopted as a patron saint by countries and cities as well. His relics were venerated, and he garnered popularity across Europe, including the Netherlands, which proved to be a key stop on his journey into American popular cul-

ture.

In the Netherlands, Sint Nikolaas, as he is known in Dutch, or Sinter Klaas for short, was said to leave gifts for children on his feast day. Not yet the portly presence we recognize, Sinter Klaas was portrayed as a white-bearded man dressed in red clerical garb.

This version of the Saint Nicholas legend came to North America with the seventeenth-century Dutch settlers of New Amsterdam, renamed New York when acquired by the English, and was celebrated for centuries before it gained a wider foothold in our country's imagination.

In the early nineteenth century, one of the young country's leading authors introduced a version of Sinter Klaas to a larger audience. Some of the products of Washington Irving's pen, such as Rip Van Winkle and the Headless Horseman of "The Legend of Sleepy Hollow," remain well-known to us today.

Irving was a New Yorker familiar with the region's Dutch culture. He helped shape the image of Sinter Klaas, describing a version of the saint who flew in a wagon from house to house, dropping presents for good children down their chimneys.

In 1823, "A Visit from St. Nicholas" was published. Better known by its opening line, "Twas the night before Christmas," the poem was written by Clement Clarke Moore for his children. Moore did not take credit for its authorship at first, but his creation introduced still more details we recognize today, including a sleigh pulled by eight reindeer as his vehicle instead of Irving's wagon.

As the modern portrait of Santa Claus took shape in words during the nineteenth century, it was matched by illustrations. Thomas Nast was a cartoonist famed for his political work. His legacy includes the identification of the Republican Party with the elephant, matched against the Democratic donkey. And it includes a Santa Claus that large-

ly fits how we think of him. Nast's cartoons for Harper's Weekly portray Santa as large and white-bearded, cheerfully distributing presents.

If Nast helped to settle the image of Santa Claus, the Coca-Cola company propagated it. Its colorful ads, drawn by Haddon Sundblom, from the 1920s onward, portrayed a jolly, round, red-cheeked Saint Nicholas inspired by Moore's poem. These ads were in magazines such as The Saturday Evening Post and National Geographic. They always featured Santa and a bottle of Coca-Cola. Through the years they produced many advertising items with the Sundblom Santa from metal trays to dolls.

The popular conception of Santa Claus has evolved over the years, but the consistent association of Saint Nicholas and kindness speak to the lasting meaning of the Christmas season. I will let Santa, as portrayed in "A Visit from St. Nicholas," have the last word:

"Happy Christmas to all, and to all a good-night."

### SALEM TIMES-REGISTER

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

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### CROSSWORD PUZZLE

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
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68					69					70		

**CLUES ACROSS**

1. Product or \_\_\_ (abbr.)
4. Zodiac sign
9. S. China seaport
14. Former OSS
15. Early English printer
16. Aphid genus
17. General's assistant (abbr.)
18. Aussies
20. Dissuades
22. Make law
23. Drench
24. Soak in a liquid
28. Male child
29. It cools your home
30. Small constellation
31. To call (archaic)
33. Explores beneath the Earth
37. Commercial
38. W. hemisphere organization

39. You can find it in a can
41. "Land of the free"
42. 36 inches
43. Footwear
44. Challenges
46. They hold things together
49. Of I
50. Partner to flow
51. Not connected by kinship
53. Worries
55. Garlic mayonnaise
59. A way to take by force
60. Legendary English rockers
64. Your consciousness of your own identity
65. Fencing swords
66. Silly
67. Actor DiCaprio
68. Encircles with a belt
69. Mails a message

**CLUES DOWN**

1. Horse mackerels
2. It can be viral
3. Prickly plants
4. Consciousness
5. Type of sarcoma
6. Tax collector
7. Sun up in New York
8. One who scorches
9. Influential psychotherapist
10. Situated at an apex
11. Communicative
12. Forearm nerve
13. Former CIA
19. Folk singer DiFranco
21. Employee stock ownership plan
24. Large-scale
25. School environment
26. Remove
27. Male parents
31. Large rodent

32. Weighed down
34. Held tightly
35. \_\_\_ route: going there
36. Explains again
40. Exclamation of surprise
41. Courteously
45. Lying down
47. Judge
48. Forcefully took
52. Loosely compacted sediment
53. High mountain
54. Portable conical tents
56. Cereal grass
57. Dining utensil
59. Thoughtful
60. Helps you walk
61. Indicates near
62. Midway between northeast and east
63. Local area network

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# 2022 Review from page 3

with my new team members in Salem to see how we can work together to support the health and livelihood of the community.”

Perhaps his most unique business venture was the establishment of the Richmond Brewery Tours. In 2012, he developed a business and marketing plan to highlight Richmond blossoming craft beer industry and spearheaded the venture from 2012-2020.

Any entrepreneurial venture should be both calculated and gut driven,” he said. “I certainly have an entrepreneurial gene in my DNA, and I am always interested in seeing what the next best venture is in the market.”

Miller and his wife, Julie, have two children. The couple also has family members in Virginia's Blue Ridge and they look forward to enjoying everything this region has to offer.

“I've been visiting friends and family in the area for a number of years, and I am continually impressed with the region's natural resources,” said Miller. “My family and I enjoy the outdoors and you can't live in this part of the state without an appreciation of the mountains and streams that are visible throughout the countryside.”

—Submitted by Mike Stevens, City of Salem communications director

## From April 14: Roanoke College selects Dr. Kathy J. Wolfe as new dean

On the heels of selecting a new president, Roanoke College has selected a new dean of the college.

Roanoke College announced on April 6 that Dr. Kathy J. Wolfe, a champion of integrative and experiential learning, has been named vice president of academic affairs and dean of the college.

Wolfe has 28 years of teaching experience and 12 years in administrative leadership roles, most recently as dean of engaged education at Hamilton College in Clinton, N.Y. She has a broad understanding of higher education, having worked in private and public liberal arts institutions, community colleges and the American Association of Colleges and Universities.

Wolfe will assume the dean's position in July, replacing Dr. Richard Smith, who retired in summer 2021 after 12 years in the position.

Roanoke College President Michael C. Maxey said after a rigorous, competitive national search, “Dr. Wolfe emerged as our candidate of choice for the deanship. She stands out in many ways that will enhance Roanoke College, our academic program, and the experience of our students.”

Dr. Frank Shushok Jr., Roanoke College president-elect who will succeed retiring President Maxey in July, said Wolfe's vision aligns perfectly with Roanoke College's approach.

“I was struck by Dr. Wolfe's authentic connection to Roanoke College's mission, especially our commitment that every student be invited to explore purpose en route to finding meaningful work,” Shushok said. “Dr. Wolfe is student-centered, collaborative, excited about curricular innovation, and eager to partner with our talented faculty to dream forward the next iteration of Roanoke College's offering to the world. She brings refined leadership skills and experience to Roanoke College and believes wholeheartedly that the education Roanoke College delivers translates into powerful marketplace skills critical for thriving communities.”

Hamilton College President David Wippman praised Wolfe as “a student-centered, liberal-arts focused, mission-driven educator who works tirelessly to ensure that all students have equitable access to the resources and opportunities that will make them successful. She has been instrumental

in the development and implementation of ALEX [Advise, Learn, Experience initiative], Hamilton's coordinated advising network for students, and has demonstrated her readiness for this opportunity at Roanoke. We will miss her contributions at Hamilton, but we extend our congratulations to her on this well-deserved appointment.”

At Hamilton College, Wolfe oversaw the ALEX initiative, which seeks to integrate and improve advising, academic support and experiential learning opportunities for students. Prior to that, she served two terms as dean of undergraduate programs and professor of English at Nebraska Wesleyan University, her alma mater. Between deanships there, she spent a year and a half with the American Association of Colleges and Universities as a senior fellow and interim vice president for integrative liberal learning and the global commons.

Wolfe said she was drawn to the College for a variety of reasons. One is that she wanted to make a difference in the academic curriculum, where she can work with faculty to help integrate liberal arts study and career exploration.

“What drew me to Roanoke College was the college's willingness to embrace thoughtful change while maintaining a firm commitment to high-quality, affordable and equitable liberal arts education,” Wolfe said. “I'm excited about the partnership with President-elect Frank Shushok, and eager to get to know the community and collaborate with the faculty, staff, administrators, students, alumni, the board and others to develop creative new programs. We will connect with the local community and articulate the value of the liberal arts.”

Wolfe, who was a first-generation college student, holds a B.A. in English from Nebraska Wesleyan University and a Ph.D. in English from Texas Christian University. She is a member of the American Association of Colleges and Universities, the American Conference of Academic Deans, the National Academic Advising Association and the National Council of Teachers of English/College Composition and Communication.

Roanoke College, located in Salem, Virginia, offers an innovative core curriculum and majors that allow for depth of study and research. Roanoke College encourages students to believe in themselves and their potential. Students participate in internships, creative projects, community service, and study away endeavors that help them find their purpose in life. The Roanoke College experience is a full one, only enhanced by its setting minutes away from a vibrant city and the scenic Blue Ridge Mountains.

—Submitted by Roanoke College News

## From May 25: City Council: Salem car owners may get rebate after July 1

Meg Hibbert, Contributing writer

Salem car owners could get money back on their personal property taxes after July 1. In a work session Monday night, Salem City Council members spent 30 minutes talking about the best way to set up what amounts to a rebate.

Council directed City Manager Jay Taliaferro to work with the Commissioner of the Revenue to set up a system that could mean a return to all car owners, with funds coming from federal COVID money the city is scheduled to receive.

The amount could be 50 percent was Council's consensus. Car owners, should still go ahead and pay personal property taxes, it was brought out in discussions with Counsel Michael Lockabee, because the change would not take place until after July 1 and personal property tax is

due May 31.

It would be a one-time rebate and only on cars, not motorcycles or company-owned cars, Councilman Bill Jones emphasized.

Councilman Randy Foley noted “We're in this predicament because we have free money,” referring to figuring out how to give citizens some tax relief.

In the regular session Monday night, Council recognized Van Gresham for his 46 years of service on the Board of Zoning Appeals of which he is still an active member.

Mayor Renee Turk read a proclamation on Gresham's accomplishments, including being a staunch supporter of the Salem Sports Foundation since 1977. She pointed out his father was one of the foundation's founding members.

“Van is the epitome of a true Salemite,” she said.

Council heard from two citizens in the public hearing on setting the real estate tax rate for Fiscal Year 2022-23. The rate remains the same at \$1.20 per \$100 of assessed value.

Robert Andrews encouraged Council to lower the rate in the long run. “Any tax burden is going to come at the pain of the citizens,” Andrews said.

Jim Soderburg agreed with Andrews, pointing out that taxes have more impact on people with fixed incomes. “The increase in Social Security has been eaten up by one car,” he said.

It was a busy night for Council, that included approving 16 items including:

Tax rates on real estate, tangible property, machinery and tools;

Electric Rate Tariffs; The Book of Rates; Miscellaneous fees;

Job classes and pay rates; The Salem School Division's budget for the next school year;

Appropriation of funds to the Virginia Risk Sharing Association grant;

Appropriation grant funds awarded by the Virginia tourism Corporation, and

Fiscal Agent agreements with Court-Community Corrections and Cardinal Criminal Justice Academy.

Council heard from two citizens, Patricia Clark and John Breen, during the Citizen Comment period at the start of the meeting.

Clark urged Council to do something to clean up car lots, especially one across from her Maple Street home. Vice Mayor Jim Wallace noted he believes that particular one is designated a salvage yard, not a car lot. He said perhaps it could be screened.

Breen asked Council to give citizens more response instead of only listening during the comment period. He suggested neighborhood round tables, crowd scoping and submitting questions for citizen opinions on the November ballot.

In rezoning matters, Council voted 4-1 with Wallace dissenting to change zoning from Highway Business District with condition to HBD with amended conditions to allow retail sales. The property is Ridgewood Gardens shopping center, where a vendor wants to open a vaping and tobacco shop. This was the second reading.

Council meeting lasted 67 minutes, adjourning at 7:37.

## From June 30: Council recognizes forensics state champs, track star

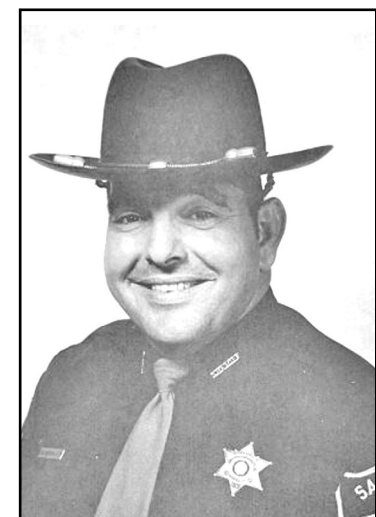
Meg Hibbert, Contributing writer

Members of Salem High School's Forensics Team and a sophomore track star who excelled nationally were recognized for their excellence during Monday night's Salem City Council meeting.

Forensics Head Coach Mark Ingerson and seven members of the 12 on the team attended the Council meeting and were applauded for the 16th consecutive win



Wolfe



Retired Sheriff Obenshain



Track champion Peyton Lewis, center, with his mom Sara and coach Darryl McCoy and members of Salem City Council.



Salem High School's State Championship Forensics Team and Head Coach Mark Ingerson with members of Salem City Council.

in March. Mayor Renee Turk noted this was a new state record.

Council also passed a resolution commending SHS track star Peyton Lewis and sprinters coach Darryl McCoy. Lewis posted the fourth fastest time in the nation for a sophomore, and set both indoor and outdoor state track records.

He won the 2022 Virginia High School League State Title in the 55 meter dash in the Indoor Track Championships and the 100 meter dash in the Outdoor Track Championship.

Lewis posed for a picture with his coach, Council members and mother Sara Lewis, while proud dad Preston Lewis took photographs.

Forensics team members included Captain Julia Vaughn, Captain Nash Lakin, Graham Roudebush, Taylor Barenbaum, Ben Hathaway, Connor Smythers, Ryan Long, Ruby Spence, Kyra Netting, Grasy Mitchell, Emma Snead, Lebron Parsell, Charlie Bain, Colton Easter, Zac Hathaway, Mary Martha Blackwell, Paige Netting, Inessa Everett, Rebekah Steinweg, Quinn Roudebush and Madison Church.

The resolution unanimously passed by Council praised the team for bringing “recognition, honor and pride to Salem High School and the City of Salem.”

SHS's team won this year's state title with a 34-15 victory over second-place John Handley High School.

In other matters before Council Monday night, two citizens spoke on items that concern them.

Shirley Converti urged Council to protect youth from the dangers of vaping by limiting vape stores;

John Breen asked Council to develop a plan to address non-conforming uses. He mentioned unscreened junk, dilapidated large homes on Union Street and junked cars outside businesses.

In other actions: Council appropriated \$15 million from the sale of bonds for Moyer Sports Complex renovations, and \$79,400 for issuance costs. The sale of bonds was previously approved by Council in February.

Council appropriated \$450,707 to connect the existing Hanging Rock Battlefield Trail to East Main Street along Kesler Mill Road. The city received the money from VDOT, and provided a

local match of \$112,676.

Council also approved:

A \$43,395 for erosion, sediment control and landscaping bond for Kanawha Stone, and set completion date for 12 months;

A bond of \$45,181 for erosion and sediment control for Craghead Lawson Storm Sewer Construction on High Street, with a time limit of 12 months;

A \$20,284 for erosion, sediment control and landscaping bond for Layman Distributing Co. where it is moving warehouse operations to 2157 Apperson Drive, the site of a former Food Lion.

Council appropriated a fund balance of \$689,500 to allow work to proceed on improvements from East Main Street, Union Street and Broad Street. Finance Director Rosie Jordan explained the project would improve crosswalks, lighting and streetscaping \$500,000 of the project came from Virginia Department of Transportation funds, with a revenue match.

All five Council members were present. The meeting that began a 6:30 p.m. ended at 7:06 p.m.

## From July 21: Retired Sheriff Obenshain passes at 82

Alexander Shedd, Former editor

Retired City of Salem Sheriff Everett Obenshain Jr., who served in the position for more than 30 years, passed away on July 14, 2022. He was 82.

Obenshain was first elected to the position of City Sergeant in 1969, before the Code of Virginia was amended in 1971 to create the Office of Sheriff instead. Prior to his election, he was a patrolman with the City of Salem from 1966-1969. After his tenure as sheriff, Obenshain continued to serve his city as a member of the Electoral Board for 19 years.

“It is with heavy hearts that we share Retired Sheriff Everett Obenshain passed away yesterday morning, July 14, 2022,” the City of Salem Sheriff's Department shared on Facebook. “The City of Salem Sheriff's Office sends our

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deepest sympathies to Sheriff Obenshain's family with prayers for peace and comfort during this difficult time."

Obenshain's cause of death has not been made public as of presstime. Roanoke's Lotz Funeral Home has stated that a full obituary for Sheriff Obenshain is forthcoming.

## From Aug. 11: Man dies after setting self on fire in park

*Alexander Shedd,  
Former editor*

A man who reportedly doused himself with a flammable liquid and lit himself on fire in Lake Spring Park on Sunday, August 7 died in the hospital from his injuries later that night.

The man, whose name has not been released by the City of Salem, was acting normal, smiling and greeting those around him in the sunny afternoon before covering himself with the fluid, kept in inconspicuous energy drink bottles.

"When we walked by him, he smiled at my kids and said that they were beautiful. So we said thank you and smiled back," eyewitness Kelseigh Meador told the Roanoke Times. Kelseigh was one of three individuals at the park at the time who attempted to put the flames out and call emergency services.

Getting ready to leave the park, Meador had just put her children in her car when she looked back over at the man, who yelled something before going up in flames. "I screamed," said Meador. She immediately ran to help the man along with a married couple.

"The lady jumped over the gate of the pond and was getting water while I was pouring water bottles from my car on him," Meador said. "The husband ran to the store to grab a fire extinguisher."

Salem emergency services responded to the call at 1:07 p.m. The man was quickly rushed to Roanoke Carilion Memorial Hospital, where he later perished from his injuries.

Salem Communications Director Mike Stevens said of the tragic scene, "While this is a very sad and unfortunate incident, we do not anticipate any charges to result from it. It remains under investigation." The City of Salem has since stated that they have nothing further to report on the incident.

While little is known about what happened to the victim or what led him to this, the possibility of suicide seems likely. Suicide awareness and prevention resources are available to citizens of Salem through the LewisGale Center for Behavioral Health on Braeburn Drive, as well as through the Veteran's Affairs Medical Center for veterans.

Additionally, the National Suicide Prevention Hotline now has a 3-digit emergency number for crises, 988. If you or a loved one are suffering from depression or suicidal ideations, contact these resources today.

## From Sept. 1: 3,640 students return to Salem Schools

*Meg Hibbert,  
Contributing writer*

More than 3,600 students returned to school in Salem Monday, with smiles, new notebooks, backpacks and excitement over a new year.

"We had a very smooth opening, especially when you consider the effort that went into Salem High ready to open after construction," said new Salem Schools Superintendent Curtis Hicks, after his first opening day as superintendent.

"There are always a handful of transportation delays on the first week of school," Hicks continued, "but we did not experience anything out of the ordinary. All in all, it was a great start to Salem's 40th year as an independent school division."

Before that, Salem Schools were part of Roanoke County's education system.

Hicks noted this was the

first "normal" school year for rising ninth graders since they were in fifth grade, because of COVID 19.

As at Salem's other three elementary schools, SHS and Andrew Lewis Middle School, students started arriving early at G.W. Carver Elementary at 7:20, getting off buses and out of parents' and grandparents' cars.

Teachers were outside to meet them, in front of a grassy area filled with welcome back posters created by Fellowship Church members for teachers.

"Monday was a fabulous day at Carver," said Principal Kristyn Schmidt. "I love seeing all the smiling faces on students and teachers. Several students told me the summer was too long and they were so glad to be back at school," she added.

West Salem Elementary Principal Amanda Gibson was similarly excited about the first day.

"Our faculty, staff, students and families made our 70th school opening memorable for sure. It was great to see so many smiling faces eager to start school today, and we are looking forward to having a wonderful school year together," Gibson said.

Salem High School was open as an almost-new school, with a completely redone front area and lockers, ventilation system and roof.

Construction started before the end of last school year.

Superintendent Hicks pointed out that the unusually hot weather presented some heating, ventilation and air conditioning issues Monday, "but we were able to get those resolved and eventually get SHS and the middle school cooled properly."

Salem has six schools. In addition to Carver and West Salem elementary schools, they are South Salem and East Salem, the high school and middle school.

Roanoke County Public Schools started classes Aug. 11. Those in the Salem area are Fort Lewis Elementary, Glenvar Elementary, Glenvar Middle School, Glenvar High School, Masons Cove Elementary and Burton Center for Arts & Technology, across the street from East Salem Elementary.

Salem and Roanoke County schools will be closed for Labor Day Monday, Sept. 5.

## From Oct. 13: Salem Volunteer Rescue Squad celebrates 90th anniversary

*Aila Boyd,  
Executive editor*

Members of the Salem Volunteer Rescue Squad celebrated the squad's 90th anniversary Saturday with a luncheon at Hidden Valley Country Club's 49 Lounge.

"It was very nice," Mike Moore, senior member, said. "Everybody had a good time. We enjoyed catching up."

The squad was organized Nov. 15, 1932. Originally called the Salem Life Saving Crew, it was modeled after the Roanoke Life Saving & First Aid Crew that was organized in 1928.

"Their many years of service shows a true dedication to the citizens of Salem," Moore said of the life members of the squad.

Moore has been part of the squad for 41 years. He initially joined because he had some friends who were involved in volunteer fire and rescue work in Covington, where he was born and raised. When he moved to Salem, he needed something to do because of his work schedule. He was sitting around the house a lot but wanted to get involved in an extracurricular activity. "I got into an EMT class and from there it's history," he said. At the time, it was required that all members lived within the city limits.

He described the work that the members do as being "the right thing to do. It's part of being a part of the community." He added, "It's something we enjoy doing. We feel like we can help our fellow citizens. It sort of gets in your blood."

Currently, the squad has roughly 20 members. Those who volunteer at the squad come from all walks of life.

"With 20 people, we're struggling," he said.

When Moore first joined, there were 61 members. "Volunteer rescue squads are going by the wayside every day," he noted. "People don't have the time. It's hard to get your certification now. It's gotten costly."

He said it costs around \$1,000 to take a certification class. Most who take the time to get the certification nowadays decide to pursue a career path instead of the volunteer route.

For those who are interested in volunteering, they should call the squad's part-time secretary at 540-375-3001.

In looking ahead, Moore said he is optimistic about the future of the squad. The squad had a booth during Olde Salem Days. "Even though the weather was bad, we picked up 10 applications that day," he said. "I'm tickled to death with that."

The squad covers a number of events and public gatherings. January through October, the squad covered 48 events in the city.

"We're covering three nights a week now. We'd like to cover seven nights from 6 p.m. to 6 a.m.," he said.

## From Nov. 10: Ground zero flag used in Salem

A flag that flew over ground zero in New York on Nov. 2, 2001 and has been on three tours in Iraq flew at Salem Fire-EMS Station 1 in Salem where the 9/11 monument is for a couple of hours

Wednesday, Nov. 2. The flag came to Salem as part of a ceremony that was attended by local first responders.

The 3-foot by 5-foot flag flew in Salem exactly 22 years after it flew over ground zero. It was signed by some of the workers who were at ground zero when it was flown there. To avoid damaging the flag, it is handled with gloves.

A moment of silence was held before the flag was flown. Those in attendance signed a book that travels with the flag.

The flag was brought to Salem by the "Ground Zero Flag Team."

The flag, which travels with a cross fashioned out of marble recovered from what is believed to have been the lobby of the South Tower, has been flown over the Pentagon, on U.S. Navy warships like the USS Harry S. Truman and USS John Warner and on installations like Fort Bragg and Fort Dix.

The purpose of the remembrance/tribute ceremonies like the one that took place in Salem is focused on "remembering 9/11 victims and survivors; paying tribute to the U.S. military battling the Global War on Terror; honoring the first responders who serve their communities and to also assure all of their families that we will 'never forget' the sacrifices their loved ones have made and continue to make for this great nation."

The "GZ Flag Team" will likely be retired on the 25th anniversary of when the flag last flew over the rubble of the World Trade Center, which will be Nov. 2, 2026.

## From Dec. 12: Hoffman recognized for covering three generations of athletes

*Meg Hibbert,  
Contributing writer*

The man who has written about and photographed three generations of Salem and Glenvar athletes was recognized with a "Salem Salutes" award by Salem City Council Monday night.

Brian "Hoop" Hoffman, sports editor of the Salem Times-Register and other newspapers in the Mountain Media weekly chain, has been writing about local athletes, coaches and teams since graduating from Roanoke College in 1974.

As Mayor Renee Turk said when presenting the award, "He has done more for City of Salem athletes than any other person."

Hoffman is a Philadelphia native who is in the Salem Sports Hall of Fame and active in other sports organizations. Turk noted he has spent "countless hours highlighting sports in the area."

Taking the podium after getting the award, Hoffman said, "I am very lucky to have found this place," meaning Salem. "I went to Roanoke College and 'did enough to get by,' left for two months and came back.

"If you want a good place to live and raise your kids, I can't think of anywhere better than

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South Salem's Summer Custer is joined by some of her students on opening day. This is Ms. Custer's 23rd year teaching in Salem City Schools.



Members of the Salem Volunteer Rescue Squad are pictured from left to right: Randy Smith (1965), Harold Weikle (1972), Pat Counts (1973), John Beach (1988), Rob Logan (1971), Kenny Reynolds (1971), Joe Cunningham (1973), Cary Harveycutter (1974), Fred Wilson, Sr. (1992), Fred Wilson, Jr. (1998), Jane Lindsay (1988), Melissa Gray (2004), Glen Gray (2004), Tony Rickman (1987), Eddie Hite (1980), Darlene Gee (1986), Ken Cook (1985), Janet Doss (2002), Al Scalera (2005) and Mike Moore (1981).



Local first responders were in attendance for the remembrance ceremony Wednesday, Nov. 2.

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Salem," he said. Councilman Bill Jones presented Hoffman with an award of his own, a statue of the Philadelphia

Eagles mascot, "Swoop." The Eagles are Hoffman's favorite team. Hoffman pointed out he had covered two of

the Councilmembers, Randy Foley and Jones, when they played sports, "before today's Salem High School even

opened." Jones mentioned he was in 10th grade when he first met Hoffman. In other matters at the meeting, Council:

Heard from John Breen during the Citizen Comment portion. He said Council needs to do more to address non-conforming signs, discarded tires and asked for a 100-tire limit, and exterior storage buildings. "Salem is treading water," Breen said;

Approved on second reading a change to local law to be in line with the state, regarding payment of personal property taxes and motor vehicle license fees;

Approved after a public hearing at which no one spoke an amendment to the current budget to appropriate American Rescue Plan Act funding; Accepted the Annual Comprehensive Financial Report for the year ending June 30, 2022,

as presented by John Aldridge of Brown Edwards; Vice Mayor Jim Wallace noted "We are fortunate to have so much capital to work with because of the City Councils before us";

Appropriated \$23,687 from the Library of Virginia that will be used to increase the number of books and other materials;

Amended the School Grants Fund and School Cafeteria Fund budgets by \$17,402 and \$66,374, respectively;

Amended the School Grants Fund Budget to clean up an error in the spread sheet, according to the vice mayor;

Set \$21,707 bond for erosion, sediment control and landscaping for Layman-Apperson fill site on Apperson Drive;

Adopted a Resolution adopting a Legislative Program for the 2023 session of the Virginia General Assembly and

petitioning the General Assembly to consider favorable issues and topics addressed in the resolution;

Adopted a resolution authorizing the City Attorney to take necessary steps to obtain a "Certificate of No Objection" to change polling places for the West Salem and Beverly Heights precincts to the Salem Civic Center where all the other precincts vote.

The final Salem City Council meeting for the calendar year adjourned at 7:01 p.m.



TIMES-REGISTER FILE PHOTOS

Salem Times-Register Sports Editor Brian Hoffman, third from right, receives a "Salem Salutes" award from Salem City Council at the Dec. 12 meeting. From left, Councilmembers are Randy Foley, Vice Mayor Jim Wallace, Mayor Renee Turk, John Saunders and Bill Jones.

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**SALEM CHURCH OF CHRIST** - 401 West Main Street. 540-389-2400. Minister Taylor Plott; 10:00am Sunday Bible Study; 11:00am 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 9:30 am; Worship and Kids Church 10:30 am, Wednesday Bible Study and Classes at 7:00 pm. www.salemcog.church

**DISCIPLES OF CHRIST FIRST CHRISTIAN CHURCH**, 712 Front Ave. Salem, Pastor Dan Netting (540) 389-6831. www.firstchristiansalemva.com. Adult and Children Sunday School - 9:45 am, Worship - 10:45 am. Nursery Provided for both. Everyone welcome

**FORT LEWIS CHRISTIAN CHURCH** - 2931 West Main Street, Salem - Pastor Matthew Cox - 380-4636 - website: www.flccsalem.org. Sunday: 9:30am Adult Study Group, 10:30am Worship, Youth & Children's Church. All are welcome!

**ECKANKAR ECKANKAR, THE PATH OF SPIRITUAL FREEDOM**, is a simple teaching that focuses on the Light and Sound of God to help people find more love in their life. The Roanoke Eckankar Center is located at 1420 3rd St. SW, Roanoke, VA 24016. The Center was closed during the COVID crisis but is now open. A spiritual event is held on the 2nd Sunday of each month at 10:30 a.m. Since contracting COVID-19 may still be possible, please take the health steps that are best for you. It is appreciated that by attending you are taking responsibility for your own health. Visit www.eck-va.org, www.meetup.com/Roanoke-Spiritual-Experiences Group or call 540-353-5365 for other Eckankar programs and for more information about how the teachings of Eckankar can lead you to spiritual freedom.

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**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: of-fice@clichurch.org. Find us on facebook.

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

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

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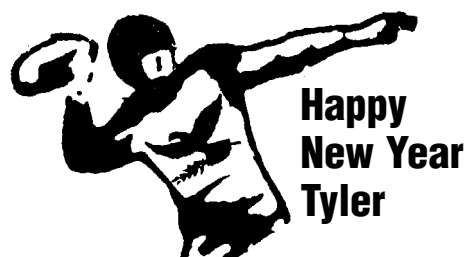
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# GHS swimmers sweep five

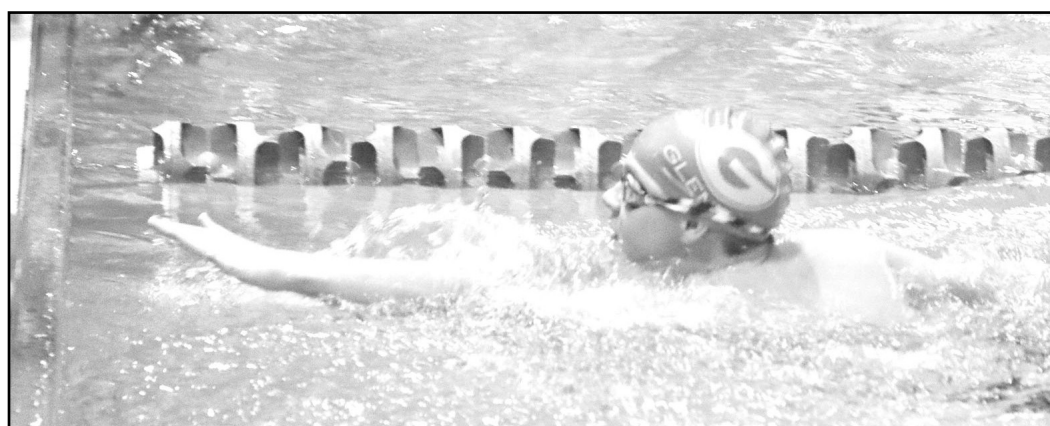


The Glenvar swimmers had their first home meet last week at the Salem YMCA and swept the meet against five schools.

The boys moved to 16-2 on the season with the following scores: Glenvar 79 Fort Chiswell 0, Glenvar 78 Giles 4, Glenvar 68 James River 35, Glenvar 78 Rural Retreat 4 and Glenvar 66 George Wythe 42. The girls are now 13-5 for the season in dual meets and their scores last week were Glenvar 54 James River 14, Glenvar 62 Fort Chiswell 10, Glenvar 49 George Wythe 40, Glenvar 50 Giles 29 and Glenvar 62 Rural Retreat 0.

Twelve new high school personal records were set as well as two new school records and three new state championship qualifying times established.

Connor Wilkes won the 200 freestyle, setting a new high school personal record and topping his own school record while cutting a state championship qualifying time. Wilkes also won the boys 100 breaststroke, setting a new high school personal record and lowering his own school record in the



## Swimmin' Highlanders

**Above, Glenvar's Cooper Ermel reaches for the wall in last week's meet at the Salem YMCA. Right, Izzy Shearer swims the breast stroke for the Highlanders.**

SUBMITTED PHOTOS



event.

Landon Cairns won the 200 individual medley, setting a new personal record. Cairns won the boys 100 backstroke and Adrianna

Hall won the event for the girls.

Claire Griffith won the 50 free event for the girls and also won 500 free and cut a state qualifying time.

Avery Thompson won the 100 Butterfly for the boys while Adrianna Hall finished second for the girls and cut a state championship qualifying time.

—Brian Hoffman

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# Glenvar wrestlers have 5 champs, place 3rd at Agie Skeens tournament

*Spartans will wrestle in "Ring in the New Year" tournament at Heritage High School this week*

The Salem and Glenvar High wrestlers are both entered in Holiday Tournaments over vacation with the Spartans competing in the "Ring in the New Year" tournament at Heritage High School this week. The tournament begins at 10 am today and runs through Friday.

Glenvar made the long trip down to Grundy High, alma mater of Glenvar coach Jason Cline, to compete in the Agie Skeens Memorial tournament on Tuesday and Wednesday of last week. This year's event featured 14 teams from across Virginia, West Virginia, and North Carolina. Glenvar was missing a couple of wrestlers due to illness but the Highlanders were able to fill 12 of 14 weight classes for the tournament and finish third. Host Grundy won the tournament and Ashe County High of North Carolina was runnerup.

"This tournament is always a good mid-season measure of how we are progressing as a team," said Cline. "I'm pleased with where we are overall but we still have several areas to improve on as we head into the second half of the season. We put five kids into the finals and walked away with five champions, I'm certainly happy with that."

Individually, Alan Vu had an outstanding tournament at 106, winning his first tournament championship against a very strong Ashe County wrestler. Mason Hylton won the 120 pound class with solid wins over his Grundy opponent in the semi-finals and a pin in the finals against an Ashe County wrestler to win his second Agie Skeens Championship.

River Smith dominated through the semi-finals in the 126 pound class. In the finals, he faced a returning state place winner from Grundy and was able to pick up a solid 7-3 decision to win his first ever Agie Skeens Championship.

At 150 Trey Lawrence picked up his 100th career win in the semi-finals, a huge accomplishment for a wrestling career. Trey faced a very physical state runner-up from Graham in the 150 pound class finals. The match was close the entire time with Trey picking up a 10-8 decision to win his first ever Agie Skeens Championship.

Jake Cline had another solid tournament at 157. Jake dominated a very talented Ashe County wrestler in the semi-finals and then faced a returning state place winner from Grundy in the 157 pound class finals. Jake was in control of the entire finals match and picked up a dominant 10-3 decision to win his second Agie Skeens Championship. Jake was also voted overall tournament Outstanding Wrestler for the two day event.

Joey Loder picked up a third place finish at 120 and Zach Adams(113), Chris Molina-Hernandez(165), Tony Miranda-Angeles(175), Wesley Heltzel(190) and Adam Waldron(285) all scored with fifth place finishes. Avery Steger was sixth at 132.

The Highlanders will return to the mats for the new Old Dominion Cup Duals at Roanoke College on January 7th.

"This inaugural event brings together some of the toughest teams across Virginia to compete for



Above, Glenvar's Alan Vu is on top and in control in his 106 pound match at Grundy last week. Below, Chris Molina-Hernandez goes for the pin at 165.

PHOTOS BY SHEY CLINE



the Old Dominion Cup," said Cline. "It should be a really good event where we'll face some of Virginia's best wrestlers across all classifications"

Some of the teams entered are Brook Point (5A),

Skyline (3A), Riverbend (5A), Loudon County (4A), Riverheads (1A), Grundy (1A), Mountain View (5A), Grassfield (6A), Cox (5A), Alexandria City (6A), and Lord Botetourt (3A).

# RC men, women host basketball tournaments this week



Left, Tripp Greene shoots a three-pointer for the RC men's basketball team. Right, Rose Sande nails a jumper for the Maroon women.



PHOTOS BY BRIAN HOFFMAN

The Roanoke College Cregger Center will be the site for men's and women's collegiate basketball tournaments this week.

The RC men will host the Cregger Invitational with the Maroons playing Methodist at noon Thursday, followed by NYU against Hanover of Indiana at 2 pm. The two losers will play Friday at noon, followed by the winners at 2 pm as they play for the Cregger Invitational championship.

The RC women will host the Susan Dunagan Holiday Classic over the same two days. On Thursday the Maroons host Eastern at 5 pm, followed by Washington College against NJCU at 7 pm. The losers will play a 5 pm consolation game on Friday, followed by the tournament championship at 7 pm.

Both Maroon teams are in the midst of fast starts to begin the season. The men are 9-1 after defeating Transylvania, 75-67, in the Music City Classic in Gallatin, Tennessee last week. Kasey Draper's 19 points led three Roanoke players in double-figures with Efosa U-Edosomwan adding 16 points and Zach Rosenthal scoring 11. Ethan Rohan had the team-high in rebounds with eight.

The RC women are 7-1 after going down to defeat for the first time in the Daytona Beach Shootout in Daytona Beach, Florida last week. The Maroons dropped a 70-49 decision to Wisconsin-Oshkosh after opening the season with seven straight wins.

The third quarter saw Roanoke pull within four at 39-35 with 1:22 left in the period before the Titans answered back with a three and a layup to extend their lead to nine with 36 seconds left. In the final 10 minutes the Titans outscored the Maroons 24-12 for a 70-49 win. Rose Sande finished with the game-high 16 points to lead the Roanoke.

The 2023 schedule gets off to a fast start next week as the women host William Peace on Monday at 4 pm, then Hollins University comes to town on Wednesday for a 7 pm game. The RC men host Eastern Mennonite at 5 pm next Wednesday in the first game of a doubleheader with the women.

The Salem High girls' basketball team was scheduled to wrap up the old year with a home game against Staunton River on Wednesday of this week. The jayvee game had a 2 pm tip-off with the varsity to follow.

## Salem girls thump Titans

Salem took a 5-2 record into Wednesday's game after thumping Hidden Valley in Salem last week, 71-31, in their final game before Christmas. My'la Green led the Spartans with 15 points, Emme Custer had a dozen and Summer Bayne scored 11.

"Great team effort," said Salem coach Scott Jester. "We did a good job of attacking and sharing the ball offensively and had nine players score. We tightened up our defense in the second half."

The Spartans will open the 2023 portion of their season next Tuesday, January 3, when they host Rockbridge at SHS with a 7 pm varsity start.

# Glenvar hoop boys play in NIT this week, girls take a break after downing Auburn

The Glenvar boys' basketball team will be competing in the Northside Invitational Tournament this week while the Highlander girls take the week off.

Glenvar's boys were scheduled to open the "NIT" on Wednesday against Liberty Christian. If they won that game they would play the winner of William Byrd and Roanoke Catholic at 6 pm today, Thursday. If they lost they would play the loser of the Byrd-Catholic game today at 2:30 pm.

Also in the tournament are Auburn, Abingdon, Hidden Valley and Northside. The championship game is at 7:45 pm on Friday preceded by a seventh place game at 2:30

pm, a fifth place game at 4:15 pm and a third place game at 6 pm.

Glenvar came into the tournament with a 5-1 record. They'll open 2023 at Carroll County next Tuesday, January 3rd, with a girls-boys doubleheader against the host Cavaliers. The girls will open at 5:30 pm with the boys to follow and both jayvee teams will play a doubleheader at Carroll County Middle School.

The Glenvar girls are off this week, taking a break after defeating Auburn last Thursday at GHS, 39-37. Rhyann Harris had 20 points and McKenzie Harris had nine as Glenvar held on for the win to improve to 5-3 on the season.

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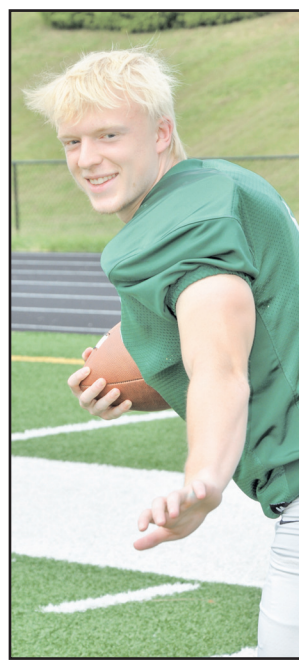
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**JACKSON SWANSON**



**CALEB CROWDER**



**TYLER PIERCE**

## Six Highlanders named to Class 2 All-State football teams

Six Glenvar boys were named to seven spots on the Virginia High School League Class 2 All-State football team that was announced this month, including four first team selections.

On offense Glenvar senior Will Johnson was a first team choice on the line, and on defense his younger brother Nate Johnson, a junior, is a first team selection at defensive end. Also named to the all-state first team were Jackson Swanson at punt return and Jack Camper at punter. Swanson is a senior and Camper is just a sopho-

more.

Camper was also named to the second team at linebacker. Other second team selections from Glenvar included Caleb Crowder on the defensive line and Tyler Pierce at placekicker.

The All-Region 2C first team offense has Will Johnson and Crowder on the offensive line and Pierce at placekicker. First team defensive Highlanders are Crowder and Nate Johnson on the line, Camper at linebacker and punter and Swanson at punt return.

The All-Region second team offense has Swanson at both receiver and "all-

purpose." The second team defense has junior Dawson Anderson at defensive back and senior Nick Woodson at "all-purpose."

The All-Three Rivers District first team offense includes Glenvar's Will Johnson, Crowder and Pierce along with Swanson at three positions, receiver, kick return and all-purpose. Jackson is also first team punt return on defense and other Highlanders on the All-3RD first team defense are Nate Johnson, Crowder, Woodson, Anderson and Camper at both linebacker and punter. Nate Johnson was

named defensive Player of the Year and Glenvar coach Kevin Clifford is the district Coach of the Year.

Freshman Brody Dawyot made the All-District second team at quarterback. Joining him from Glenvar on the second team offense are senior Lucas Birdleough on the line, junior Anthony Larosa at center, senior Elijah Carter at runningback, and seniors Gabe Ford and Woodson at receiver.

The All-Three Rivers second team defense has Carter and senior Avone Noel at defensive back and junior Ben Holiday on the d-line.

## Spartans have matinee today against Liberty

The Salem boys' basketball team will have a rare matinee today when they host Liberty High. The jayvee game is scheduled for 1 pm with the varsity to follow at approximately 2:30 pm.

The Spartans come into the game with a 5-5 record after splitting two games last week before breaking for Christmas. They dropped a 74-61 decision at Hidden Valley before bouncing back with 58-43 win over Staunton River in Salem last Thursday.

At Hidden Valley the Spartans led 14-13 after one quarter and trailed by just one, 29-28, at the half before the Titans outscored Salem in the second half, 45-33. Hidden Valley outrebounded Salem 37-29 and shot 50 percent from the floor.

Clayton Davidson led the Spartans with 20 points, hitting seven of 10 field goal attempts. Josiah Moyer had 10 points and four assists, Ryan Coe had six rebounds and Grant Clemens and LaMarius Foxx had three steals each.

On Thursday at home the Spartans fell behind Staunton River after one quarter, 13-10, but Salem won the next three quarters to pull away. This

time the Spartans owned the boards, outrebounding the Eagles 44-28 and scoring 28 points in the paint.

Davidson led Salem in scoring again with

12 points, Cam Boles had 10 and Clemens had nine. Coe had 10 rebounds in 18 minutes.

The Spartans will close out the 2022 por-

tion of the schedule on Friday with a game at Rockbridge. They'll open the New Year next Wednesday, January 4, with a home game against Northside.



Left, Salem's Josiah Moyer goes to the hoop in last week's game at Hidden Valley.



Right, Kam Brown shoots over a Titan defender.

PHOTOS BY JIM DEVINNEY

## It will be Mayhem at the Salem Civic Center Friday



The new "Salem Mayhem" box lacrosse team debuts this Friday night at the Salem Civic Center. The valley's newest professional team will open at 7 pm the Hampton Hammerheads.

The Mayhem is one of nine teams in the Professional Box Lacrosse Association (PBLA) debut season. Also in the league are three teams located in New York state, the Elmira Renegades, Syracuse Spark and Binghamton Bombers. The Jim Thorpe All-Americans are in Pennsylvania, the Trenton Terror are in New Jersey, Hampton, VA is home to the Hammerheads, Charlotte, NC has the Bootleggers and the New England Chowderheads will split time between Manchester, New Hampshire and Springfield, Massachusetts.

Box Lacrosse is a mix between regular lacrosse and ice hockey. The dimensions of the playing surface are the same as hockey but the game is played on artificial turf. There are boards surrounding the playing surface, like hockey, and each team will field six players at a time, a goalie with two defensemen and three forwards.

"Every seat is going to be a good seat for this fast-paced action!" said Wendy Delano, Salem's Director of Civic Facilities. "The Indoor lacrosse set-up will be a perfect fit in our facility and it will be exciting to see the Salem Civic Center look somewhat like it did in the old pro hockey days with the dasher boards, protective panels, and fast-paced action."

The Salem Mayhem roster features elite athletes under the guidance of Coach Lindsay Sanderson. He is the former general manager and head coach of the Philadelphia Wings, and he is a member of both the Ontario and Canadian Lacrosse Halls of Fame.

The Mayhem will play seven home games through April 1 as well as seven road games. Tickets for Salem Mayhem games are now on sale. Single Game Tickets are \$15, \$20, and \$25. Season Tickets are \$99 and \$149. Tickets can be purchased at the Salem Civic Center Box Office Monday through Friday from 8 a.m. - 5 p.m. and online at [www.ticketmaster.com](http://www.ticketmaster.com).