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SALEM TIMES-REGISTER

Thursday, July 4, 2024 • (USPS 631-140) • \$1.00

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OurValley.org

Weeks named chief of police

Salem City Manager Chris Dorsey announced last week that he would appoint Derek Weeks to the position of chief of police for the city of Salem. The move took effect on July 1, one month after Weeks was named as interim chief on June 1.

"I am confident that Chief Weeks has the experience and vision needed to lead the Police Department moving forward," said Dorsey. "Derek knows this city. He's well aware of its character and unique challenges and also what is needed to keep building on the success of

the department. Salem's police force has a strong tradition of providing exemplary service to our city every day and Derek has helped shape that through his years of service."

Weeks becomes the ninth chief of police in the Salem Police Department's history. He began his law enforcement career serving four years with the Roanoke City Sheriff's Office before joining the Salem Police Department in 2001 as a Patrol Officer. In 2006, he transferred to Salem's Detective Division and was elected Salem's Officer of The Year by his

peers in 2007.

In 2009, he was promoted to the rank of sergeant and served in that capacity in the Patrol, Services and Forensics Divisions. During that period, Weeks graduated from the 81st Session of the Virginia Forensic Science Academy. In 2015, Weeks was promoted to the rank of lieutenant and was appointed as Salem's deputy chief by then Chief Michael Crawley in February 2016.

"Serving this department and this community is what I strive to do every single day," Weeks said. "I plan

to continue to build on the foundation started by those administrators who mentored me. Our department will continue to provide Salem's citizens and visitors with outstanding police services."

Chief Weeks, 49, graduated from Glenvar High School in 1992 and from Radford University in 1996. In 2022, he also graduated from the prestigious FBI National Academy in Quantico in the 284th class. He resides in Salem with his wife and family.

-The Salem Times-Register



Weeks

COURTESY PHOTO



Student volunteers work on the R House.



Students gain valuable experience and knowledge when they work on the R House.

PHOTOS BY EDMEE CR HASLER

Roanoke College's R House Program: Building more than just houses

Edmee CR Hasler
Contributing writer

Each year, Roanoke College kicks off its student orientation with a hands-on introduction to community service through the R House program, a unique initiative that brings together incoming freshmen to build a Habitat for Humanity house. This program not only teaches students

the principles of service but also provides a deserving family with a place to call home.

The R House program, part of Roanoke College's long-standing partnership with Habitat for Humanity, involves students working alongside the future homeowner to construct the entire framework of a two-story house. Students, many of whom have never engaged in construction

work before, take on tasks such as raising walls and hammering together roof sheathing, gaining new skills and a deep sense of accomplishment.

A collaborative effort

Jesse Griffin, director of the Center for Civic Engagement at Roanoke College, oversees the project, which marks its 19th year. "We started this in 2005, and it's

See Houses, page 3

Two businesses from Salem competed in The Gauntlet

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The 2024 edition of The Gauntlet Business Program & Competition concluded earlier this year at The Berglund Center with its annual awards ceremony. Two Salem businesses, Dragon Bite Books & Crafts and Lound Hound Woodworking, participated in the competition, and were ultimately given award packages.

"The 10th annual Gauntlet proved once again to be a showcase for diverse entrepreneurial talent, support of every industry from tech to Main Street, and the extraordinary resources available through The Advancement Foundation and our

partner agencies. There is no mistake in hosting entrepreneurs and innovators of all ages, educational background, business experience, and stage of business," Annette Patterson, president of The Advancement Foundation.

Dragon Bite Books & Crafts is a secondhand shop providing books and craft supplies sourced primarily from within the community. "We make often expensive hobbies more accessible while fostering a 'waste nothing' mindset and circular economy where one person's clutter can become another's prize," the business said. The owner is Kathryn Ecsedy. The business was given an award package of \$500 in cash and \$3,185 of

See Gauntlet, page 3

Salem Fair running through July 14

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The Salem Fair kicked off on Wednesday and will run through Sunday, July 14 at the Salem Civic Center/Taliaferro Complex. It will be open to the public from 4-10 p.m. on weekdays and 12-10 p.m. on weekends.

This year marks the 36th anniversary of the fair, which draws in between 250,000-350,000 patrons annually. Spread out across 14 acres, the fair is comprised of 40 rides and over 30 food vendors. Some of the rides include the Haunted Mansion, Grande Wheel, Crazy Chopper, Starship 4000, and Zero Gravity.

Shuttle buses will run constantly from the old General Electric facility on Roanoke Boulevard to the fair starting in the evenings once fair parking lots are full. Starting this year, the area in front of the Salem Civic Center will be closed to vehicle traffic to help pedestrians move easier from the shuttle bus drop-off and parking lots while at the



COURTESY IMAGE

fair.

Free music will be performed nightly at 6:30 and 8:30 p.m. on the Hart Motors Musical Stage. The schedule includes Credence Clearwater Recital on July 4, Mountain Highway on July 5, Pleading the 5th on July 6, Glen Shelton on July 7, Last Chance Band on July 8, Midnight Blue on July 9, The Kings

on July 10, Cimmaron on July 11, Vinyl Nation on July 12, Cimmaron on July 13 and Phat Boys Band on July 14.

Returning free shows this year include Danny Grant Cowboy Circus, Woody's Barnyard Racers, Small World of Agriculture and Hilby: The German Juggling Boy. New shows this year include Wildlife Wendy and Her Tropical

Birds, Dynamo Dogs & Pool Party Pooches and Richard Barker: Incredible Hypnotist.

Some of the food will include kettle corn, gyros, funnel cakes, sausage, shish kabobs and turkey legs.

Commercial exhibits and air-conditioned comfort can be found inside the Salem Civic Center.



During the awards ceremony, 47 businesses received cash and in-kind prize packages.



COURTESY PHOTOS

This year's competition marked the 10th annual Gauntlet.

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Briefly: Salem News In Brief

TOPS (Take off Pounds Sensibly): All ages are invited to participate in the non-judgmental program at the Salem Senior Center on Tuesdays from 5-6 p.m. There is a registration fee and a \$3 per month fee. Call Charlene Lester at 540-293-7753 with questions.

First Mondays: The family-friendly events are held by Gary John, who manages the "Mason Creek" bluegrass group, and Vicky Sword from the center. The bluegrass/acoustic shows are free, but a tip bucket will be passed around for donations to the musicians. Cake raffles and door prizes will be offered. The event is on Monday, July 8: 7 p.m. Virginia-Carolina Band. It will take place at the Salem Parks and Recreation Senior Rec Center at 110 Union Street, Salem.

Switchfoot leads trio of rockers: Switchfoot, Blue October and Matt Nathanson are excited to announce a triple headliner Summer Tour dubbed "Help from My Friends". The 30-city-run of dates will make a stop in Salem on Friday night, July 26. Featuring three of the most beloved and genuine artists of the new millennia, the performances will make for an enthralling evening with each performance complementing the other two. Each night a different artist will open and close the show and fill the middle spot. Ticket prices are: Floor \$49.50, \$39.50, \$49.50, & \$59.50 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.

First Mondays: The family-friendly events are held by Gary John, who manages the "Mason Creek" bluegrass group, and Vicky Sword from the

center. The bluegrass/acoustic shows are free, but a tip bucket will be passed around for donations to the musicians. Cake raffles and door prizes will be offered. The event is on Monday, Aug. 5: 7-9 p.m. - Maynard and Lee Palmer. It will take place at the Salem Parks and Recreation Senior Rec Center at 110 Union Street, Salem.

First Mondays: The family-friendly events are held by Gary John, who manages the "Mason Creek" bluegrass group, and Vicky Sword from the center. The bluegrass/acoustic shows are free, but a tip bucket will be passed around for donations to the musicians. Cake raffles and door prizes will be offered. The event is on Monday, Sept. 9: 7-9 p.m. - The Guard. It will take place at the Salem Parks and Recreation Senior Rec Center at 110 Union Street, Salem.

Rock Royalty ZZ Top: "That Little Ol' Band From Texas" has been at it for well over a half century, delivering rock, blues and boogie on the road and in the studio to millions of devoted fans. ZZ TOP is synonymous with beards, hot rod cars, spinning guitars and that magic keychain, all of which transcend geography and language. The band will perform on Tuesday, Sept. 10 at 7:30 p.m. Tickets are: \$49.50, \$59.50, \$79.50, \$89.50, \$99.50 and \$139.50. 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.

First Mondays: The family-friendly events are held by Gary John, who manages the "Mason Creek" bluegrass group, and Vicky Sword from the center. The bluegrass/acoustic shows are free, but a tip bucket will be passed around for donations to the musicians.

Cake raffles and door prizes will be offered. The event is on Monday, Oct. 7: 7-9 p.m. - Franklin Station. It will take place at the Salem Parks and Recreation Senior Rec Center at 110 Union Street, Salem.

First Mondays: The family-friendly events are held by Gary John, who manages the "Mason Creek" bluegrass group, and Vicky Sword from the center. The bluegrass/acoustic shows are free, but a tip bucket will be passed around for donations to the musicians. Cake raffles and door prizes will be offered. The event is on Monday, Nov. 4: 7-9 p.m. - Luv Buzzards. It will take place at the Salem Parks and Recreation Senior Rec Center at 110 Union Street, Salem.

First Mondays: The family-friendly events are held by Gary John, who manages the "Mason Creek" bluegrass group, and Vicky Sword from the center. The bluegrass/acoustic shows are free, but a tip bucket will be passed around for donations to the musicians. Cake raffles and door prizes will be offered. The event is on Monday, Dec. 2: 7-9 p.m. - The Bluegrass Brothers. It will take place at the Salem Parks and Recreation Senior Rec Center at 110 Union Street, Salem.

Public meetings: The Salem City Council will meet on Monday, July 8 at 6:30 p.m.

The School Board will meet on Tuesday, July 9 at 7 p.m.

The Salem City Planning Commission will meet on Wednesday, July 10 at 7 p.m.

The Salem City Council will meet on Monday, July 22 at 6:30 p.m.

SALEM MUSEUM SPOTLIGHT



COURTESY PHOTO

WWI American tunic

Happy Fourth of July from the Salem Museum!

The Fourth of July is a huge holiday locally and throughout the nation, but Salem's biggest Fourth of July Celebration came in 1919 when the community welcomed its World War I veterans home.

The Celebration included a parade, speeches, a concert, and a luncheon; all held in the heart of Salem for the returning service members.

You can see this WWI American tunic on display, and learn more about Salem celebrations, in the Salem Museum's new featured exhibit "When

Salem Sizzles: Tales of Summers Past."

"When Salem Sizzles" is now open. Enjoy a fun look back in time to see how locals kept their cool in the days before air conditioning, and the fun they had once the weather turned warm. Learn about graduations, June weddings, Fourth of July parades, scout camps, and lots of sports. And, oh - the trouble they had with the iceman! "When Salem Sizzles" was designed by Alex Burke, the Museum's former Assistant Director.

The Salem Museum is open Tuesday through Saturday from 10 a.m.-4 p.m. and located at 801 E. Main St.

POLICE REPORT

City of Salem Police Department



Weekly Arrest Report

Week of June 18, 2024 - June 24, 2024

DATE	NAME	ARRESTS	OFFENSES
6/18/2024	Jakob A. Dixon	26	Criminal Trespass
6/19/2024	Derelle T. Turner	31	Possession of Controlled Substance
6/19/2024	Clinton, Orin III	34	Criminal Trespass
6/19/2024	Dashe O. Johnson	30	Possess Firearm By Felon, Carrying A Concealed Weapon, Criminal Trespass
6/20/2024	Chelsea L. Stafford	31	Violation of Probation
6/20/2024	James N. Cooper	31	Assault on Police Officer, Possession of Controlled Substance, Public Intoxication, Obstructing Justice, Escape From Custody
6/20/2024	Tishawn A. Simpson	24	Shoplifting
6/20/2024	William S. Parker	52	Public Intoxication
6/20/2024	Mary S. Weeks	22	Shoplifting
6/20/2024	Alan Maldonado	47	Violation of Probation
6/21/2024	Joseph B. Zamorski	66	DUI
6/21/2024	Dominique L. Young	27	Public Intoxication
6/21/2024	Richard A. Taylor	34	Conceal Merchandise
6/21/2024	Michael B. Dillon	45	DUI
6/21/2024	Jakob A. Dixon	26	Failure to Appear
6/22/2024	Jessica A. Boyer	36	Failure to Appear
6/22/2024	Randal L. Wentworth	26	DUI
6/23/2024	Victoria E. Woods	53	Shoplifting

City of Salem Police Department



Weekly Crime Report (Felony Cases)

Week of June 18, 2024 - June 24, 2024

DATE REPORTED	LOCATION	OFFENSE REPORTED
18-JUN-2024	800 BLK W Main St	Possess Firearm By Felon, Carrying Concealed Weapon
19-JUN-2024	1900 BLK Electric Rd	Vehicle Theft
20-JUN-2024	100 BLK Knotbreak Rd	Escape Custody, Assault on Police Officer, Possession of Controlled Substance

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July 4th & July 5th 8 AM - 7PM
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★ **December 14, 2024** ★
National Wreaths Across America Day

Help Fort Lewis Chapter National Society Daughters of the American Revolution honor local heroes!

Sponsor a wreath today to be placed on a veteran's grave this December at East Hill Cemetery, Salem, VA or East Hill North Cemetery, Salem, VA.

Scan the QR code to make a donation online or visit www.wreathscrossamerica.org/VA0839P

#LiveWithPurpose

RECIPE OF THE WEEK



Shelly Koon

Contributing Writer

One thing I remember growing up was making ice cream on the Fourth of July. We made it every year. Our ice cream churn was hand cranked, and I would sit on the top while my dad cranked it to hold it down. The cranking took forever and as the ice cream froze it became harder and harder to crank. Dad would replace the melted ice every so often and add a little more rock salt to the churn. When we got an ice cream churn with an electric crank to do the cranking it was not as much fun. Once it was done, we would immediately eat it. It was the best soft serve ice cream. Sweet, full of vanilla, and melted quickly. The closest store bought I have found is Chick Fil-a's ice cream.

This week's recipe is for that ice cream. My mom got it from our preacher in Toledo, Ohio. Summer meant Sunday evening ice cream socials at the church. There would be 8 or 9 ice cream churns cranking away in the church yard while we kids ran around getting our church clothes dirty. Every family had their own recipe. Some were made with eggs in a custard base, and some were flavored with fruits or chocolate chips. My family always made vanilla. My mom would smash up strawberries to put on top when it was finished. Our churn was a 6-quart churn that used rock salt and ice to freeze the ice cream base. Modern countertop ice cream makers have a 1.5

to 2 quarts insert that you freeze before churning the ice cream base. I have included the amounts for both sizes in this recipe.

Vanilla Ice Cream –1 quart, (4-6 quart)

- 4 cups (10 cups) half and half -Do not use fat free ½ & ½.
- ¾ cup (3 cups) granulated sugar
- 1 Tablespoon (3 tablespoons) vanilla extract
- 1 pinch (¼ teaspoon) salt

In a large mixing bowl, whisk together the half and half and sugar until the sugar is dissolved. Stir in a pinch of salt and the vanilla. Pour into ice cream maker and churn according to the directions of your machine. The ice cream will have a soft texture immediately after churning, similar to soft serve. It's delicious that way, but I like it even better after 2+ hours in the freezer. Use a spatula to transfer the soft ice cream from the ice cream maker into a quart-size airtight container. If you like, press a piece of plastic wrap or foil into the top of the ice cream to prevent ice crystals from forming. Freeze for at least 2 hours and for up to a month. The ice cream will be easy to scoop on the first day, but after that, you may need to let it sit at room temperature for several minutes before you scoop it. It gets firmer after more time in the freezer. Always use full fat half & half; it's the fat content that makes the ice cream creamy.



COURTESY PHOTO

Houses from page 1



Students, volunteers and Habitat for Humanity staff work together on the R House.



Students put their signatures on the R House.

PHOTOS BY EDMEE CR HASLER

been a cornerstone of our community engagement ever since," said Griffin. "Each year, the students are eager to participate, and the college fully funds the project, thanks to generous donors and grant agencies."

The house, built in two parts on a parking lot at Roanoke College, features a first floor with a living room, dining room, kitchen space, and a full bath. The second story includes three bedrooms and another full bath. "It's an awesome floor plan," Griffin remarked. "We do three sections each day over two weeks and get a house built, which is kind of fun."

Continued efforts through the Fall

The initial construction phase is just the beginning. Starting in September and running through mid-December, students volunteer every Saturday to complete the house. "We have about 40 or 50 students sign up each day," said Griffin. "We get a waiting list every weekend. It's all volunteer work, driven by the students' enthusiasm."

Professional oversight ensures the house meets all safety and building standards. "I don't have to know how to build a house because we have professionals like Matt and Joey from Habitat for Humanity who manage the construction," Griffin explained. "My job is to keep the site safe and organized."

Impact on students

Kevin Wassinger, a student involved in the project, shared his experience: "I wanted to be more active on campus and do more service. Habitat has given me a purpose and direction for my future career in non-profit work." Wassinger, who had never engaged in construction work before, found joy in learning new skills and working alongside his peers.

Jessie Sweat, a student site leader, echoed this sentiment. "I got involved in the summer of my freshman year and have loved it ever since," said Sweat. "Working with incoming freshmen and site volunteers has been an incredible experience. I've been a part of R House every summer since I started, and it's been rewarding to see the house come together each year."

A dream realized

The project culminates in December when the house is dedicated to the Hunt family, who have put in over 300 hours of "sweat equity" and completed numerous classes to qualify for homeownership. "This program is about more than just building a house; it's about making the dream of homeownership a reality for families," Griffin emphasized.

Roanoke College's R House program exemplifies the college's commitment to experiential learning, community engagement, and service to others. It's a powerful reminder of what can be achieved when a

community comes together with a shared purpose.

About Habitat for Humanity

Habitat for Humanity is a global nonprofit housing organization working in local communities across all 50 states in the U.S. and in approximately 70 countries. Habitat's vision is a world where everyone has a decent place to live. Since its founding in 1976, Habitat has helped more than 29 million people achieve strength, stability, and independence through safe, decent, and affordable shelter.

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- Office Clerk • Help Desk Assistant

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Gauntlet from page 1

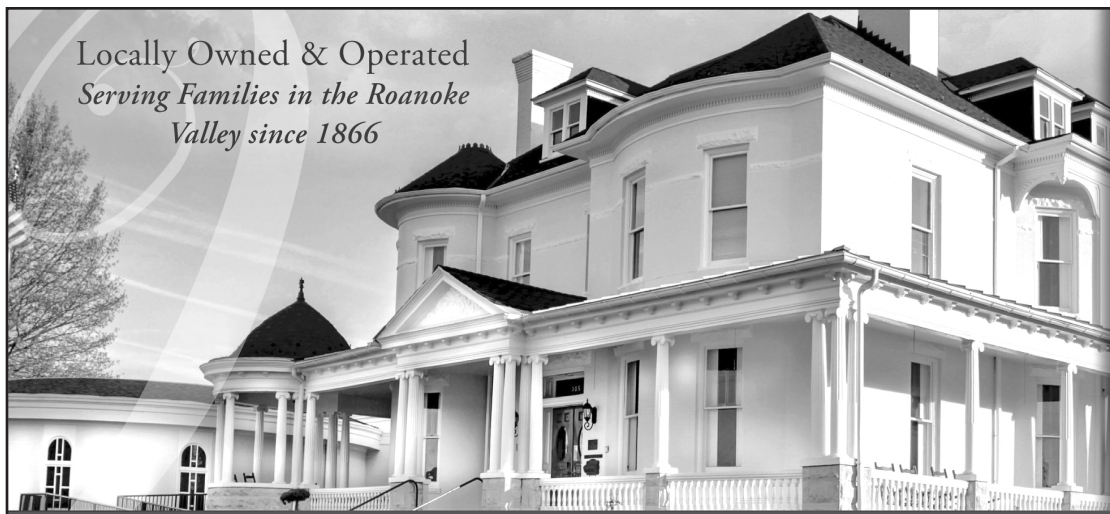
in-kind awards.

Loud Woodworking is a small custom furniture and repair shop. "Our mission is to cater to the diverse needs of our community, offering a spectrum of services ranging from basic, cost-effective repairs to the intricate design and construction of bespoke furniture pieces. With a strong foundation in woodworking and a passion for unparalleled customer service, we strive to exceed the expectations of our clients by delivering high-quality solutions tailored to their unique furniture requirements,"

the business said. The owner is Patrick Gregoire. The business was given an award package of \$500 in cash and \$3,935 of in-kind awards.

The 47 awardees this year received \$130,000 in cash and \$193,874 of in-kind awards, according

to Kathy Deacon, vice president of business and resource development at The Advancement Foundation.



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OPINION

July events for all ages

Saturday, July 13, 10:30 a.m., All ages: **Wildlife Meet and Greet.** Meet the wildlife ambassadors of the SW VA Wildlife Center. This show will take place under a tent on the lawn. Bring a blanket!

Saturday, July 20, 10 a.m.-1 p.m. **Adventure Day at the Library.** Summer adventure begins at Salem Library! Take a turn on the climbing wall or the inflatable water slide! Bring your friends and family and enjoy music and outdoor fun. All welcome, no registration needed.

July 1-15 activities for kids
 Tuesday, July 9, 1:30-2:30 p.m.; open to grades K-3. Mercy Watson at the Library; Join us for a special virtual author talk with the Mercy Watson creator, Kate DiCamillo! We'll make a pig craft

Library Corner

Empowering individuals to build a stronger community
Benita VanCleave

before the talk begins, then kick back with buttered popcorn (not toast) to hear all about the latest Mercy Watson book. Supplies are limited, so please sign up in advance at salemva.libcal.com

Thursdays, July 11, 18, 25, Aug. 1; 10:15 a.m.; **Book Babies.** Did you know? Literacy development begins at birth! Create lifelong readers with us at this special Storytime designed especially

for infants and crawlers. Register online at salemva.libcal.com

Thursdays, July 11, 18, 25, Aug. 1; 11 a.m.; **Story Explorers.** Create lifelong readers! Join us for stories, songs, and boisterous fun as we share our love of books with your child. Open to children ages 0-5 and their families. Register online at salemva.libcal.com

Friday, July 12, 10 a.m.; **Mill Mountain Theater presents Flat Stanley: The Musical.** Join Stanley, a flat but fearless adventurer, on a journey around the globe! This show will take place under a tent on the front lawn. Bring a blanket!

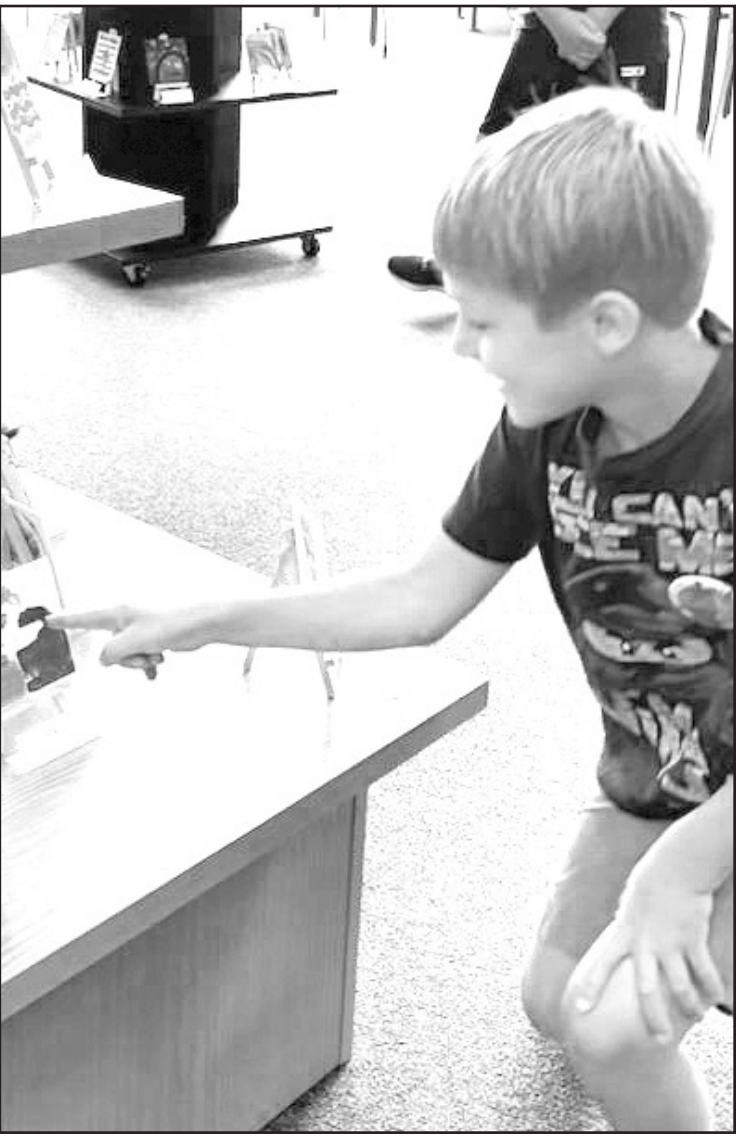
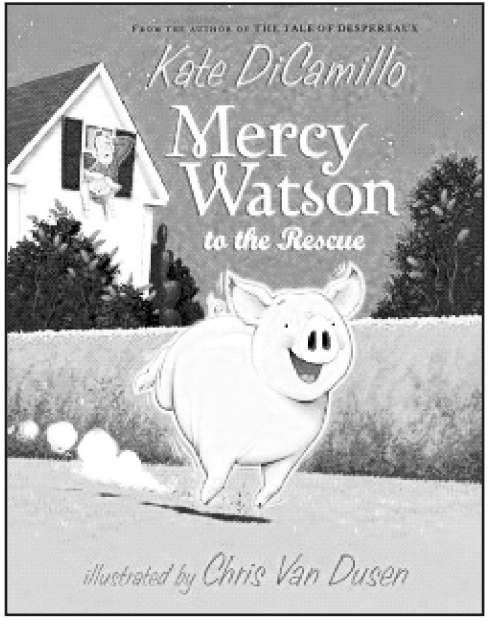
Friday, July 12, 2:30 p.m.; Grades 6-8. **Middle School Book Club;** "Nevermoor: The Calling of Morrigan

Crew" by Jessica Townsend; Register at salemva.libcal.com

Saturday, July 13, 2:30 p.m., Grades 6-12. **Teen Chill & Create.** Embrace your inner artist and join as we create with air dry clay! Register at salemva.libcal.com

July 1-15 activities for adults
 Tuesday, July 9, 6:30 p.m.; **True Crime Book Club:** Participants will discuss the book "The Kill Jar" by J. Reuben Appelman.

Thursday, July 11, 2-3:30 p.m.: Ages 13 and up; **Puzzles & Games Afternoon for Adults:** Play boardgames, card games and puzzles. You are welcome to bring a game or suggest one. No registration required-just drop in! Stay or a few minutes or the whole time. Snacks will be provided.



COURTESY PHOTOS
See **Events**, page 6

SALEM TIMES-REGISTER

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

USPS 631-140
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The Times-Register (USPS 631-140) is published weekly for \$46 a year in Salem and Roanoke County, \$50 in adjoining counties and \$54 out of state by Virginia Media Inc., P.O. Box 429, Lewisburg, WV 24901. Periodical postage paid at Salem, VA. POSTMASTER: Send address changes to THE SALEM TIMES-REGISTER, P.O. Box 1125, Salem, VA 24153

Gas prices pop ahead of July 4 holiday

WASHINGTON, D.C.—The national average shook off nearly three weeks of stagnation, moving a nickel higher since last week to hit \$3.50. The move came as the cost of oil crossed the \$80 per barrel mark, putting upward pressure on pump prices. With oil costs accounting for about 54% of what you pay at the pump, more expensive oil usually leads to more expensive gas.

"Summer got off to a slow start last week with low gas demand," said Andrew Gross, AAA spokesperson. "But with a record 60 million travelers forecast to hit the road for the July 4th holiday, that number

could pop over the next ten days. But will oil stay above \$80 a barrel, or will it sag again? Stay tuned."

Several states will adjust fuel taxes and fees starting Monday, July 1. Indiana is increasing the tax on gasoline/gasohol by a cent to 35cts/gal. Virginia increased the tax on gasoline, gasohol, and alternative fuels such as CNG and LNG by a penny to 30.8cts/gal. However, Michigan will keep the current gas tax rate at 18.8cts/gal while reducing the clear diesel fuel and kerosene tax from 21.3cts/gal to 20.4cts/gal.

According to new data -AAA

from the Energy Information Administration (EIA), gas demand fell 9.38 million b/d to 8.96 last week. This demand level is about 240,000 b/d below the same week of last year. Meanwhile, total domestic gasoline stocks rose from 231.2 to 233.9 million barrels. Low gasoline demand and increasing supply may help counter higher oil costs, slowing any rise in pump prices.

Today's national average is \$3.50, nine cents less than a month ago and six cents less than a year ago.

CROSSWORD PUZZLE

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| <p>CLUES ACROSS</p> <p>1. Plant of the mint family</p> <p>7. Hand tool</p> <p>13. Made of the color of gold</p> <p>14. A volume of several novels</p> <p>16. Type of degree</p> <p>17. Good job!</p> <p>19. Seventh tone in major scale</p> <p>20. Fevers</p> <p>22. One's mother</p> <p>23. Fertile desert spots</p> <p>25. Large integers</p> <p>26. Plate for Eucharist</p> <p>28. Tennis matches have them</p> <p>29. Peyton's little brother</p> <p>30. Monetary unit of N. Korea</p> <p>31. Head movement</p> <p>33. Twelve</p> <p>34. Renaissance musical instrument</p> <p>36. Behavior showing high moral standards</p> | <p>38. Letter of the Hebrew alphabet</p> <p>40. Notes to be sung</p> <p>41. Women's garment</p> <p>43. Coarsely ground corn</p> <p>44. One point south of due east</p> <p>45. A way to deplete</p> <p>47. Rough, prickly covering of a seed</p> <p>48. LA hoopster, but not a Laker</p> <p>51. Hindquarters</p> <p>53. Franz van ____, German diplomat</p> <p>55. Liquid body substances</p> <p>56. Rhythmic patterns</p> <p>58. A beaver might build one</p> <p>59. Police officer's tool</p> <p>60. Indicates who you are</p> <p>61. Pinwheel</p> <p>64. Exist</p> <p>65. Ornamental molding</p> | <p>67. Closes again</p> <p>69. Verses</p> <p>70. Come into view</p> <p>CLUES DOWN</p> <p>1. Short stick used as a weapon</p> <p>2. An alternative</p> <p>3. Laws</p> <p>4. Sense organs</p> <p>5. One from Utah</p> <p>6. Mariner</p> <p>7. People in charge of cattle</p> <p>8. Health insurance organization</p> <p>9. Ornamental box</p> <p>10. Forest-dwelling deer</p> <p>11. One quintillion bytes (abbr)</p> <p>12. Atomic #71</p> <p>13. Become less intense</p> <p>15. Cowards</p> <p>18. Body ornament (slang)</p> <p>21. Applicable to all cases</p> <p>24. Multiplied by 6</p> <p>26. Afghanistan monetary unit</p> | <p>27. Calendar month</p> <p>30. Cena and Lennon are two</p> <p>32. Monetary unit of Serbia</p> <p>35. First time on the market</p> <p>37. Georgia rockers</p> <p>38. Free from contamination</p> <p>39. Coastal region of Canada</p> <p>42. Clothing retailer</p> <p>43. It rises and sets</p> <p>46. Fathers</p> <p>47. Stain with mud</p> <p>49. Suitable for crops</p> <p>50. Feels concern for</p> <p>52. Orange-brown</p> <p>54. Buddy</p> <p>55. Late sportscaster Craig</p> <p>57. Used to align parts</p> <p>59. Wake up</p> <p>62. Solid water</p> <p>63. Semiprecious stone</p> <p>66. Atomic #45</p> <p>68. Top lawyer</p> |
|---|--|--|--|

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Wreaths Across America announces new theme for 2024

Wreaths Across America, the national nonprofit whose year-long mission is "to remember the fallen, honor those who serve, and teach our children the value of freedom," has announced its theme for 2024: "Live with Purpose."

Each year, millions of volunteers and patriots gather in local, state, and national cemeteries across all 50 states and abroad states - most recently at East Hill Cemetery and East Hill North Cemetery - to pay tribute to our veterans. This year's theme, "Live with Purpose," draws inspiration from the remarkable stories of Wreaths Across America volunteers whose impactful work in their communities is a beacon of inspiration for all.

In 2023, over three million sponsored veterans' wreaths were placed by volunteers on headstones at 4,224 participating locations worldwide. Wreaths Across America volunteers tirelessly work year-round to "Remember, Honor, and Teach," with each veteran's name spoken out loud in grateful acknowledgment of the sacrifices made by them for our freedoms.

"The Fort Lewis Chapter National Society Daughters of the American



COURTESY IMAGE

Revolution is proud to serve as the location sponsor for the East Hill Cemeteries located in Salem. It is a privilege to honor the veterans who are buried here through this meaningful program. This is an excellent opportunity for all of us to live our lives with purpose," commented Elizabeth Vincel, regent of the chapter. "While we are experiencing the warmth of the summer sun, planning for the December 14, 2024, event is in progress now. We welcome volunteers as well as wreath sponsors as we work diligently to honor as many veterans as possible." Those interested in volunteering for

Wreaths Across America or sponsoring a wreath to support Fort Lewis Chapter NSDAR are invited to visit the Chapter's WAA webpage (www.WreathsAcrossAmerica.org/VA0839P) to learn more.

This year, National Wreaths Across America Day will be held on Saturday, Dec. 14. This is a free event open to all, and the organization encourages community members to participate by volunteering locally or sponsoring a wreath for an American hero.

-The Salem Times-Register

Roanoke County Offers New Business Equipment Acquisition Grant

ROANOKE COUNTY — The Roanoke County Economic Development Authority announced on Tuesday a new Business Equipment Acquisition Program (BEAP) grant aimed at helping businesses in Roanoke County and the town of Vinton. The grant will offer funding opportunities for eligible for-profit businesses looking to enhance their operations through the acquisition of new capital. On a competitive basis, the authority will award grants of up to 50% of capital acquisition costs in amounts up to \$20,000 per award.

Eligible acquisitions must be taxable as business personal property or business machinery or tools. Some examples include furniture, fixtures, office and business machines, tools and equipment, and computer equipment.

To be eligible, businesses must:

- Employ more than three full-time employees at a physical location in Roanoke County.
- Have operated as a for-profit business in Roanoke County for at

least one year.

- Hold a current Roanoke County or town of Vinton business license and be in good standing with all local requirements and taxes.

Applications will be accepted beginning July 1, through Sept. 1. Funding is limited and competitive, and grants are awarded at the sole discretion of the Authority. Recipients will be notified in the fall of 2024 and must complete their proposed acquisitions within one year of award notification.

For more information on the grant program and to apply, visit www.yesroanoke.com/BEAP, call 540-772-2185 or email Karli Foster at kfoster@roanokecountyva.gov. For help completing the application, visit any Roanoke County Public Library and request assistance at the desk. Upcoming Zoom webinars are also available and can be found on the website.

-The Salem Times-Register

Virginia State Police investigating fatal I-81 crash

The Virginia State Police announced on Monday it is investigating a two-vehicle crash which resulted in a fatality. The crash occurred Friday at 4:25 p.m. on Interstate 81 southbound at the 133-mile marker in Roanoke County.

A 1998 International 4700 was traveling south on Interstate 81, when the vehicle struck a 2022 Freightliner tractor trailer in the rear. The driver of the International was

identified as Jerry A. Mailhoit, Sr., 67, of Crossville, TN. Mailhoit was wearing his seatbelt and was flown from the scene to Roanoke Memorial Hospital, where he later died.

The driver of the Freightliner was not injured.

The crash remains under investigation, according to the police.

-The Salem Times-Register

FROM THE ARCHIVES

TIMES-WORLD CORPORATION ONE OF OUTSTANDING LEADERS IN FIELD OF DAILY NEWSPAPERS

Goes Back 52 years - Notable Editors Have Directed Policies - Grew With Progress Of Magic City

From the 1938 centennial edition of The Times-Register

The history of the Roanoke Times dates back nearly 52 years, or to be exact, to November 30, 1886, when the first issue came off the old flat-bed, hand-fed press under the supervision of the founder and then owner, N. H. Claytor, a native of Bedford.

The beginning of the paper whose rapid growth was destined to be synonymous with the magic development of Roanoke and its trading area occurred in a small frame building on the east side of Commerce street, about 150 feet north of Salem avenue.

Several years prior to the start of the Roanoke Times, Mr. Claytor had published a newspaper in San Antonio, Texas. After selling out at Sand Antonio he transferred his residence to Dallas, and while on a trip to his old Virginia home got the idea of venturing again into the publishing business. The Roanoke Times was the result.

Associated with Mr. Claytor, in an editorial capacity, was Dr. J. W. Davis, who was brought to Roanoke from St. Charles, Mo. Dr. Davis, however, formerly lived in Virginia. He remained as editor of the Times until Mr. Claytor sold the paper three years later to Messers Copeland and Freeman, publishers of the Danville Register.

Ownership Changes
During the next few years the paper changed ownership several times being held in turn by H. Janvrine Browne, a Mr. Grandy, a Mr. Hall, and H. B. Lafferty.

In 1894 Mr. Claytor again became owner of the paper, having purchased it from Mr. Lafferty, but in 1909 sold the Times and the Evening News which had started publication in 1889 by A. D. Dooley and two printer associates, to Junius B. Fishburn and associates.

The original home, as small frame building on the east side of Commerce street, was used for a year for housing and publishing plant. Then the paper was moved to the west side of the same street, adjoining the Bell Printing and Manufacturing company, remaining there until December 23, 1888.

It should be noted that when Freeman and Copeland sold their interest to A. B. Hammond and Prof. Wm. Taylor Thom, it was consolidated by the new owners with the Telegram, a new afternoon paper, and published for a short time as "The Times-Telegram." A little later the word "Telegram" was dropped.

Moves to Jefferson Street
It was under the ownership of Hammond and Thom that the Times was moved from Commerce street to Jefferson street, occupying part of the building housing Hammond Printing company. Eventually Hammond and Thom sold the paper to J. T. Hall and C. T. Grandy who continued the publication until the spring of 1890. Grand and Hall sold their interests

in the Times on October 4, 1890 to the Roanoke Times Publishing Company, a stock company formed to publish a daily and weekly newspaper in Roanoke. Along the stockholders were P. L. Terry, H. D. Lafferty, D. H. Matson, H. D. Lazell, J. B. Levy, E. C. Pechin and C. T. Grandy.

The next transaction was in 1891 with The Roanoke Times Publishing Company sold the business to H. D. Lafferty, D. H. Matson and Herbert J. Browne who was then editor.

Upon reorganization of the paper it was published in a new home, corner of Campbell avenue and Henry street, where it remained until October 30, 1892. On Tuesday, November 1, the paper occupied the Times Building, designed especially for a daily newspaper, at 122 Campbell avenue, S. W.

Mr. Claytor, who repurchased the paper in 1894, operated it for 15 years through a difficult period, eventually selling out to the Fishburn interests. Incidentally, the Times acquired its first linotype machine in April, 1900.

The first experiment in Virginia in operating a morning and evening paper from one establishment was made by Mr. Claytor during the second ownership of the Times. Having an opportunity to secure The Evening News from a mere trifle, he purchased the name of that paper with its few belongings and commenced the issue of an evening edition.

The Times-World Corporation was organized July 1, 1918, superseding the Roanoke Times Company and absorbing the World Publishing company. The latter company had been inactive since organization in April, 1913, its holdings, rights and franchises having been leased to The Roanoke Times Company.

All preferred stock of The Times company and The World Publishing Company was cancelled and a new issue of common stock to the amount of \$200,000 was issued as of July 1, 1918.

The stockholders at that time were Junius B. Fishburn, W. S. Battle, Jr., Edward L. Stone, A. E. King, W. E. Thomas, G. G. Gooch, Jr., W. C. Stephenson, Mrs. Grace P. Fishburn, Junius P. Fishburn and J. B. Fishburn, trustee.

J. B. Fishburn, President
The officers chosen under the new setup were Junius B. Fishburn, president; Edward L. Stone, W. S. Battle, Jr. and J. P. Fishburn, vice-presidents; W. E. Thomas, secretary-treasurer and general manager.

In 1922 the outstanding stock of the Times-World Corporation was acquired by Junius B. Fishburn, and at the close of the year the capital amounting to \$200,000 was owned by Junius B. Fishburn and J. P. Fishburn, and other scattering shares by members of the Fishburn family.

In April 1923, the capital stock of the company was increased from \$200,000

FROM THE TIMES-REGISTER ARCHIVES

to \$500,000, at which figure it now stands, with authority to increase to 1,000,000.

Junius B. Fishburn, who had been president of the company since Alfred B. Williams severed his relations with it tendered his resignation September 27, 1923, and J. P. Fishburn was elected in his stead. He has served continuously as the president since.

The Times was moved into its present home, on the northwest corner of Campbell avenue and Commerce (First) street on January 1, 1914.

In 1936 the building was modernized from basement to the top floor, and an engraving plant was installed, giving the paper every facility for coping with an ever increasing circulation.

- Prepared by Lingjie Gu

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Events from page 4



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BAPTIST (INDEPENDENT)

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

LAKESIDE BAPTIST CHURCH - 447 Dalewood Avenue, Salem, 986-0062, Pastor Carl Goodman. Coffee Bar 9:00 a.m., Connect Groups 9:30 a.m., Sunday Worship 10:30 a.m., Children & Student Ministry 5:00-6:30 p.m.; Thursday 7:00 pm Young Single Adults, Wednesday Morning Prayer Service 10:30, Lifegroups meeting throughout the week. www.lbcva.com.

SOUTHSIDE BAPTIST CHURCH, 2721 12 O'Clock Knob Rd., Salem, Pastor: Clay Dalton; 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: Connect Groups meet at 9:30am; Worship Service starts at 10:30am. You can stream live with us at 10:30am on Facebook, YouTube, our App & Website (www.bethelbaptistva.com). Tuesday mornings we have Adult Bible Study at 9:00am.; Wednesday evenings at 6:15pm we have TeamKid for kids 3 years old through 5th grade, Amplify Youth (6-12th grade), Band of Brothers Men's Bible Study and then our College & Young Adult Bible Study at 8:00pm.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.; Praiz Kidz 6:00 p.m.; Family Night Activities 6:30 p.m. www.ridgewood-baptist.com.

FELLOWSHIP COMMUNITY CHURCH - Salem Campus: 1226 Red Lane Extension (Salem). North Campus: 7640 Alpine Road (Roanoke). Español Campus: 1226 Red Lane Extension (Salem). Worship Times: 9:00 AM and 10:45 AM for Salem and North; 10:30 AM for Español. For more information, visit: www.fcclife.org

CATHOLIC

OUR LADY OF PERPETUAL HELP CATHOLIC CHURCH - 314 Turner Rd, Salem VA. 540-387-0491. Mass Times: Saturday 5 pm and Sunday 10:30 am (nursery available). Visit our website: olphsalem.org for our full schedule.

CHURCHES OF CHRIST/ CHRISTIANCHURCHES

DALE RIDGE CHURCH OF CHRIST - 7165 Cloverdale Rd., NW Roanoke, 24019; office: 992-

Salem WORSHIP DIRECTORY

4385. Sunday Bible Study, 9:30 a.m., Worship, 10:30 a.m., Wednesday Bible Study, 6 p.m. Ladies class - Thursdays 10:00 a.m. Visit our new web page: daleridgechurchofchrist.net, it's updated each week from local, national and international sources with news of interest to Christians. Take a video tour of our facilities. Read articles taken from the word of God that apply to our lives today. View a new sermon each week. Dale Ridge is reaching out to the Roanoke/Botetourt area with the good news of Jesus Christ. Come join our plea to return to the Bible. We believe in the inspired Word of God which is as relevant today as it was when it was written. We believe in the Holy Spirit is a gift, given to every Christian when we respond to the Gospel as taught in the context of Acts 2 and emphasized in verse 38. We believe Jesus is the only means of our salvation. (Acts 4:12) Is this your time to make a choice? (John 16:13) Have you been looking for a church family that's led by the Holy Spirit into all truth? (John 13:35) You will know we are His disciples by our love for one another. Follow the advice of Philip when he told Nathanael about Jesus in (John 1:46) "Come and See."

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.salemcg.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 - 9:30 am, Worship - 10:30 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. A light and sound service is held on the 2nd Sunday of each month at 11:00 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 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.

EPISCOPAL

ST. PAUL'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH - 42 East

Main Street, Salem, 389-9307. 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

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

INDEPENDENT

RESTORATION CHURCH - a Community on Mission Following Jesus into the World - 10:10am Sundays at the Salem YMCA - 1126 Kime Lane, Salem - 540-384-1601 - www.restorationsalem.org. Watch Live at: YouTube: Restoration Church-Salem, VA. Facebook: RestorationChurchSalem

NATIONAL BAPTIST CONVENTION, U.S.A., INC.

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH - 226 South Broad Street, Salem. Rev. Melton Johnson, 389-9648. SundaySchool 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) via zoom and conference call line. Wednesday Adult Bible Study at 7:00 p.m. in person for adults, children and teens. Adult class is also streamed on Facebook. Men's Bible Study Saturday at 7:00 a.m.(Zoom). Saturday Intercessory Prayer Service at 8:00 a.m. (conference call line). Sunday Women's Bible Study Class at 8:30 p.m. (Zoom). In-person Worship on Sunday at 11:00 a.m. or worship with us on line via Facebook. Church office can be contacted for additional information.

PENTECOSTAL HOLINESS

CHRISTIAN LIFE INTERNATIONAL CHURCH - 1 CLI Way, Salem, VA, 540-343-3801 | www.clichurch.org. Sundays @ 10 am | Wednesdays @ 7 pm. Livestream on YouTube & Facebook.

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH (USA)

SALEM PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH - 41 East Main Street, Salem, VA . 389-3881. Come worship with us, Pastor, Rev. Chris Vogado, and our Associate Pastor, Rev. Janet Chisom each Sunday at 11:00 AM (10:00 AM from Memorial Day - Labor Day). In- Person Sunday School is 9:30 AM (9:00 AM Memorial Day - Labor Day). You may still worship with us online live at www.salempres.org, or Facebook, or YouTube. During in-person worship, masking for health reasons is optional.

UNITED METHODIST

FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH - 125 W. Main St, Salem, VA. 540-389-5459. Pastor Alan Combs, Genesis Contemporary Worship at 8:45 a.m., Sunday School at 9:50 a.m., Traditional Worship at 11:00 a.m. www.fumcsalemva.org.

LOCUST GROVE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH - 3415 Locust Grove Lane, Salem, 540-315-0881, Pastor Mike Sanborn. Each Sunday Traditional Worship 9:30 a.m.

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SALEM BASKETBALL CAMP

Salem High girls' basketball coach Scott Jester had a great turnout for the recreation department basketball camps at West Salem Elementary School last week. Jester, his staff and the Salem girls team instructed future Spartans for two sessions, one for younger girls(above) and a second one for the older girls(below).



PHOTOS BY AJ BLANKENSHIP



Spartan girls play at JMU

The Salem High girls competed in a varsity team basketball camp at James Madison University on June 22nd. Participating were, left to right; Bailey Rider, Gabby Crawley, Aniyah Fox, Liz Smith, JMU Coach Sean O'Regan, Leci Kasey, Shaniya Robinson, Ashlyn Adkins, Emme Custer, Lexie Hart, Ashlin Hudson and Skyler Woodard.

SUBMITTED PHOTO

Andrew Lewis Middle School tryouts and practices are in July, athletes must have dated physical

Andrew Lewis Middle School fall sports will soon be having tryouts and practices. Volleyball tryouts will start July 29th at 8 am in the main gym at Andrew Lewis Middle School. Football equipment will be handed out starting at 9 am on Thursday, July 25th, at the Salem High

Fieldhouse. Football practice starts Monday July 29th at 8:30 am. Football practice is held at Salem High. To participate in Andrew Lewis athletics you must have a physical on the Virginia High School League (VHSL) form dated after May 1, 2024.

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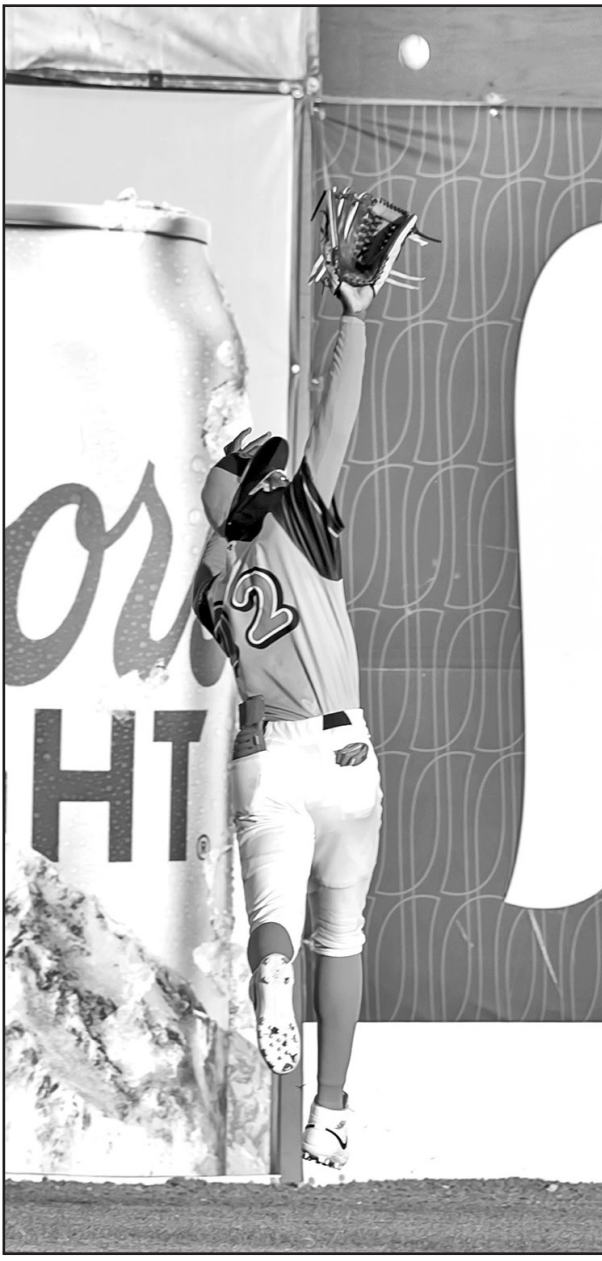


PHOTO BY JOHN WACHER



PHOTO BY KYLE NIXON



PHOTO BY BRIAN HOFFMAN

It was a big week for the Salem Red Sox as the team played their final games before taking off for 18 days with the Salem Fair in town. Top left, Natanael Yuten makes a running over-the-shoulder catch on "Beer Monger Night" last Thursday. Middle, Addison Nixon cleans off third base Sunday afternoon. Top right, Tyler of "Tyler's Amazing Balancing Act" entertains the crowd by balancing a baby stroller on his face Saturday, and below Salem's Fraymi De Leon steals second against Fredricksburg.

Sox on 18 day hiatus

The Salem Fair is now here and the Salem Red Sox are not. The Sox began a stretch of 18 straight games without a home game on Monday of this week.

Salem fans can still see the Sox so so inclined this week as the team will be playing Lynchburg, only a short drive from the Roanoke Valley. Salem will be playing in Lynchburg through Saturday. Game time every night is 6:30 pm.

The Sox hosted Fredricksburg for six games last week and dropped four of six, including the last three in a row by scores of 6-1, 6-4 and 2-1. On Monday in Lynchburg they dropped their fourth game in a row, 10-5.

Salem trailed just 4-3 after six

innings Monday but the Hillcats scored three runs in the seventh and three in the eighth to pull away. Michael Sansone, who had Salem's best ERA coming into the series, was touched for five hits, two walks and four earned runs in two and a third innings. He took the loss, dropping his record to 4-2 on the season.

Leadoff hitter Nazzan Zantello had three hits and drove in four runs for the Sox. Catcher Daniel McElveny walked twice and had a hit, scoring three times.

After Saturday's game the Red Sox are off Sunday and Monday. Then they head to Down East for a six games series with the Wood Ducks next Tuesday.

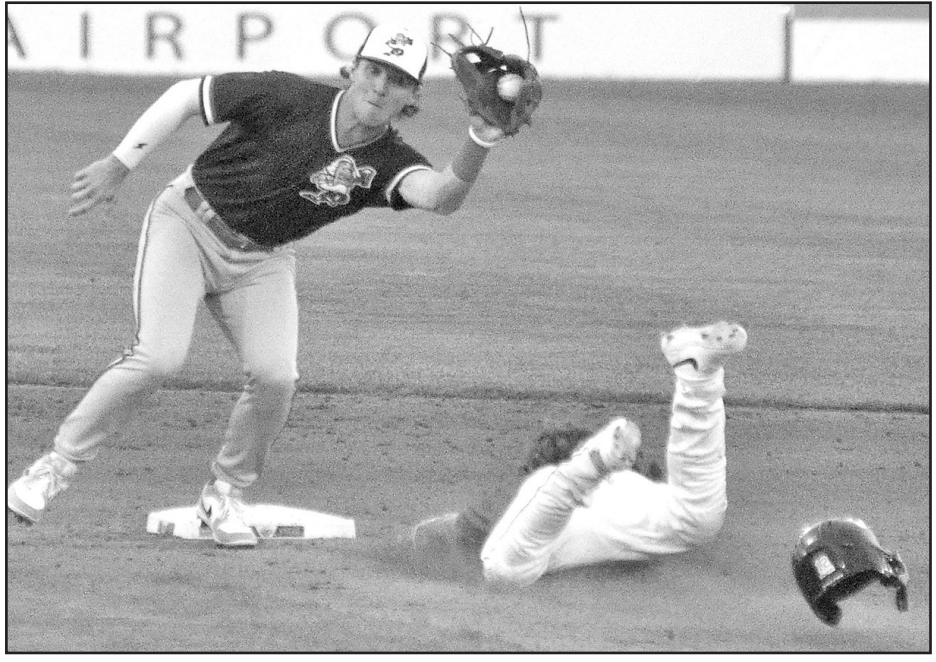


PHOTO BY BRIAN HOFFMAN

New plaque for track records

The outdoor track at Salem High School now has a plaque with all the school records mounted on the building that serves as the concession stand, storage area and restrooms.

"Drew(Salem Athletic Director Barrett) ordered record boards to be mounted in the gym several months ago," said Salem track coach Tom Roth. "I have always thought it would be nice to have a record board for outdoor track mounted up at the track. We used the same company, and Mark Johnson built the frame and mounted it for us. There are some recent records and some from the 80's."

The board in the gym lists both the indoor and outdoor track records while the new board at the outdoor track has only the outdoor records.

SALEM HIGH SCHOOL SPARTANS S						
BOYS			GIRLS			
PEYTON LEWIS	2023	10.50	100m DASH	JULIE SANDY	1986	11.87
PEYTON LEWIS	2023	21.20	200m DASH	JULIE SANDY	1986	24.35
MATT WEST	2012	49.45	400m DASH	JULIE SANDY	1986	55.94
JUSTIN GINNINGS	2012	1:58.19	800m RUN	AMY FLINT	1989	2:18.30
GLENN ROACH	1983	4:19.24	1600m RUN	HANNAH MORAN	2016	5:07.29
RICHARD SWENSON	1990	9:47.24	3200m RUN	HANNAH MORAN	2017	11:24.22
KEITH GAINES	2006	14.32	110m/100m HURDLES	CYNTHIA LUNDSTRUM	1995	14.92
SCOTT CAMPBELL	2010	38.61	300m HURDLES	ASHLEY BUSH	1998	44.97
P. LEWIS, J. PERSINGER,	2023	41.16	4 x 100m RELAY	J. BLAKENEY, C. HUFFMAN,	2016	49.07
J. VERNON, D. WILSON				T. HUNT, S. PRICE		
J. ANDERSON, K. GAINES,	2006	3:25.52	4 x 400m RELAY	S. GRAHAM, J. SANDY,	1983	3:53.92
M. LEWIS, K. SISKA				L. WEBB, S. WEBB		
K. HIPP, E. MAUGHAN,	2005	8:09.80	4 x 800m RELAY	M. ELMORE, L. FOLSTER,	2000	10:20.70
D. MORRIS, K. SISKA				C. MARTIN, L. STONE		
RICHARD MORGAN	1983	6' 9"	HIGH JUMP	DENISE POFF	1986	5' 4.5"
RICHARD MORGAN	1984	23' 5"	LONG JUMP	JULIE SANDY	1986	18' 7.5"
JOE VILLANUEVA	2006	46' 1"	TRIPLE JUMP	NICOLE ROSE	2007	37' 6"
JODY SEASE	1982	59' 11.75"	SHOT PUT	LISA JETER	1983	38' 10.5"
JODY SEASE	1981	165' 8"	DISCUS	LISA JETER	1983	139' 4"
JOE SAMMONS	1986	12' 9"	POLE VAULT	MCKENZIE MORAN	2021	8' 6"

SUBMITTED PHOTO

Maroons hire swim coach

The Roanoke College athletic department has announced the promotion of Maroon assistant coach Nick Breschi to head men's and women's swimming coach.

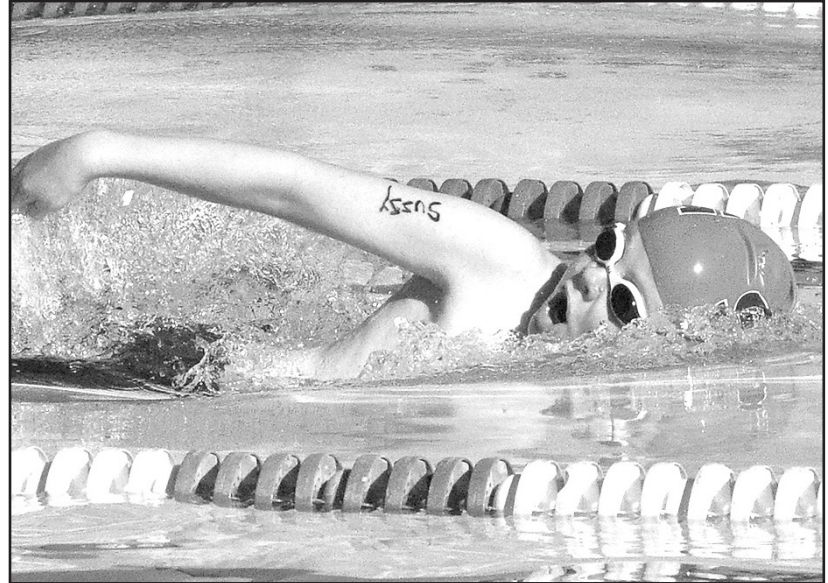
After two years as an assistant at Roanoke, Breschi moves up to the head spot after Brandon Ress recently left the College to serve as an assistant at Division I UNC Wilmington.

"I am grateful and excited to be here with this opportunity to lead this team," said Breschi. "This is an amazing team with a great culture and I am excited to continue to build upon that legacy."

The Maroon women's team finished second in the Old Dominion Athletic Conference (ODAC) Championship this winter in Greensboro, N.C., while the men's team placed third. Junior Lily Mullens became the first Maroon swimmer since 2019 to be invited and go to NCAA competition.

Breschi joined the Roanoke staff after spending four years as the head swimming coach and aquatics director at Loyola Blakefield, a Catholic college preparatory school for boys in grades 6-12 located in Towson, Maryland. Loyola had won 20 out of 21 Maryland Interscholastic Athletic Association (MIAA) championships, six National Catholic Swimming championships, and is one of the premier high school swim programs in the country.

Prior to his time at Loyola, Breschi and Ress were teammates at Towson University.



PHOTOS BY BRIAN HOFFMAN

Gators have home meet

The Stonegate Swim Club hosted the Hidden Valley Country Club and Limestone Park teams in an RVAA meet Monday in Salem. Far left, Bryce Murray of Hidden Valley does the breaststroke, and left Saige Supanich of Stonegate competes for the girls. Above, Berkley Tucker swims a freestyle race for the Gators. Next Monday, July 8, is the last Monday Night meet of the six week RVAA regular season. Stonegate will be swimming at Castle Rock and Hidden Valley is home against the Ashley Plantation team.

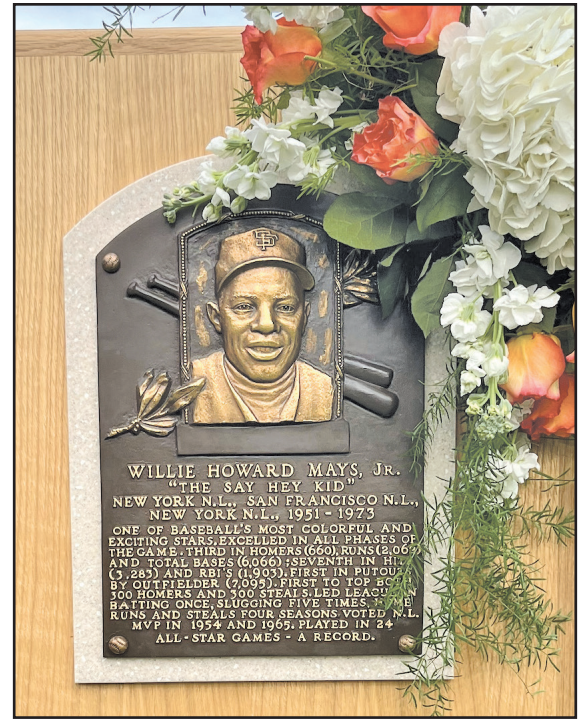


PHOTO COURTESY OF MURRAY COOK

Left, Murray Cook and his crew put a big "24" behind the plate at Rickwood Field in Birmingham in honor of Willie Mays, who died two days before the game.

Cook and crew make beautiful diamonds in England, Alabama

Salem native Murry Cook, the world's most well-respected guru of baseball diamonds, has been busy again this summer. Murray was recently in charge of the fields that hosted big league games in London, England and Birmingham, Alabama.

Cook, President of BrightView Sports Turf Division, is Major League Baseball's Field and Stadium Consultant. Cook began his trade as groundskeeper at the current Kiwanis Park in Salem and worked his way up to be the most respected person in his field, creating and maintaining diamonds for the Olympics, MLB special events and anywhere a ballgame might be played.

Cook was recently in charge of the field for the two-game series between the Mets and Phillies in London on June 8th and 9th, converting a soccer(football in England) stadium to a big league diamond.

"The 2024 London series was our third transformation of the London stadium that is the home of the West Ham Football Club," said Cook. "Although it was the third time, we still only had 18 days to flip the venue into an MLB ballpark, which still amazes me. It's a very sustainable project, as everything from the turf to padding, infield clay, backstop, dugouts etc. goes into a 20,000 square foot storage facility and then reused again. We are going back in 2026."

After the London games Murray flew to Birmingham to get the field ready for the game between the Giants and Cardinals at historic Rickwood Field. The game

was a tribute to the old Negro Leagues and played at a stadium that had been home for many Negro League games. And, it took some doing to get it ready for Major League baseball.

"I basically went directly from London to Birmingham," said Cook, who had been working on the Rickwood project for quite some time.

"We started looking at Rickwood as a potential site in 2021," said Cook. "The field needed to be replaced along with dugouts that

were basically bunkers. We built the field, fencing, backstop and foul poles.

"We partner with BAam productions and Populous on these builds for MLB. BaAm handles all the back of house temporary build items like locker rooms, media center, hospitality while Populous handles the

traffic flow of people, fan plaza etc."

Cook's baby is the playing surface itself, and no one does it better.

"The infield crown on the field was so high if you looked out of the old dugout to find your outfielder you could only see him from the chest up," he said. "Also, the old distance from home plate to the backstop was 85 feet. The average backstop distance in big league parks is about 50 feet. We moved the field back and closed up the wall behind home plate to get to 60 feet.

"The stadium still has one of the original fences behind the wooden fence we replaced. It was used in the 30's and 40's and is concrete. The distance on those walls made Salem's old Municipal centerfield at 420 feet look small. They had 478 feet to center and 405 down the left field line."

It was anticipated that Willie Mays would be a featured guest at the game, as he grew up there and played at Rickwood for the Negro League Birmingham Black Barons. Unfortunately, Mays passed away just two days before the game.

"When we began building in the fall there was a lot of talk about Willie being at the game," said Cook. "Unfortunately he became ill and passed. We painted the 24 behind home plate in his honor.

"It was a moving experience for the players and fans as they escorted the 40 plus Negro League players to the foul lines before the national anthem."



MURRAY COOK



PHOTO BY BRIAN HOFFMAN

MOYER COMPLEX READY TO OPEN

Ribbon cutting for the opening of the renovated James I. Moyer Sports Complex is scheduled for Monday, July 8. The new site includes 13 new Pickleball courts with a big tournament scheduled for September. See next week's edition for more photos.



SUBMITTED PHOTO

DREW PEREZ

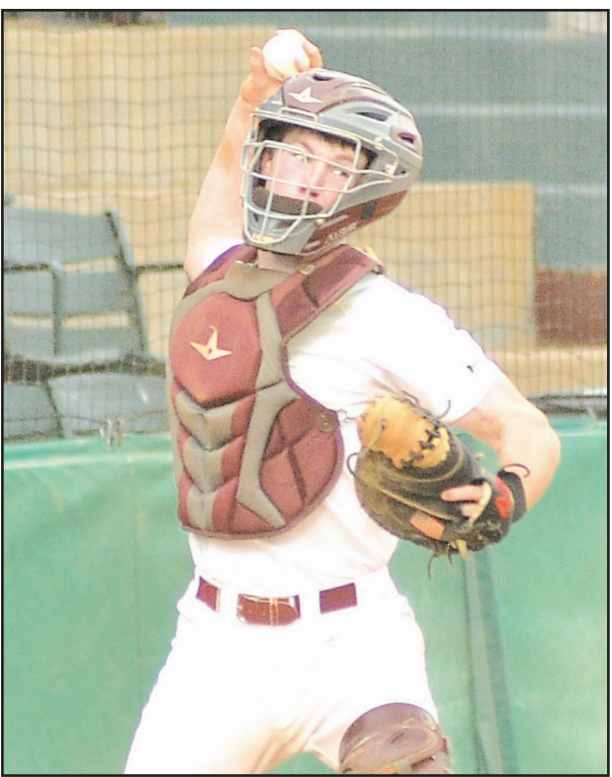


PHOTO BY BRIAN HOFFMAN

CALEB FURMAGE

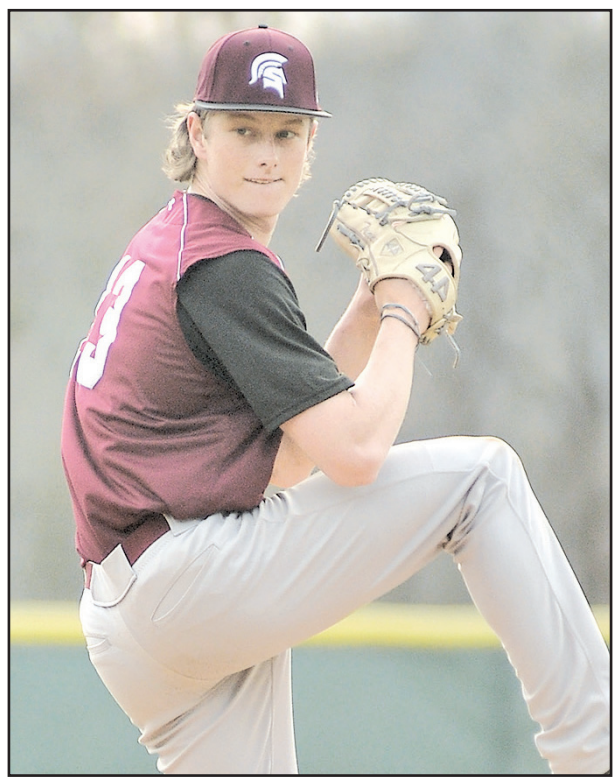


PHOTO BY BRIAN HOFFMAN

TRACE MONROE

Honors for Salem High tennis, baseball players

The Class 4 All-State tennis and baseball teams were announced last week by the Virginia High School League.

In tennis, Salem sophomore Drew Perez was a first team selection. There is no selection meeting for tennis, as tournament results determine all-state and Drew won Class 4 singles with a 6-3, 6-4 win over Neel Pasunuri of Broad Run in the championship match.

In Class 4 baseball Cayden Suchy of Dominion High School was named

Player of the Year and Mike Morris of Atlee is the Class 4 Coach of the Year. The River Ridge District had no one on the first team and only two selections on the all-state second team, catcher Major Marshall and firstbaseman Brice Abbott, both of Blacksburg.

Two Salem High players made the All-Region 4D team. Junior Trace Monroe was first team in the outfield and second team as a pitcher while senior Caleb Fumage made second team at catcher.

Monroe, who has committed to play at VMI, hit .475 for the Spartans while scoring 26 runs and driving in 19. He had 10 doubles. Trace had a 5-0 record on the mound with a 0.69 earned run average, striking out 67 in 40.2 innings.

Fumage, a graduated senior headed to Marshall University, set a new Salem High School record with a .491 season batting average. Caleb had 21 runs batted in to lead the team. Caleb also participated in the second annual Virginia Baseball Coaches

Association All-Star game at "The Diamond" in Richmond on June 19th.

Fumage was named Player of the Year and first team at catcher on the All-River Ridge District team. Monroe was named first team at both pitcher and in the outfield.

Salem had four players named to the All-RRD second team. James Buckles was second team at first base, Wilson Rakes at shortstop and both Carter Black and Mason Hale in the outfield.

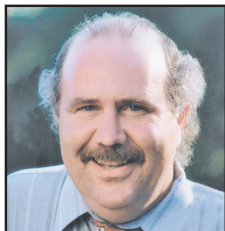
Blacksburg's Dave Dustin was named RRD Coach of the Year.

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Brian Hoffman

It all started here

When you watch kids playing in high school you have no idea what the future may hold. Certainly you don't envision them striking out New York Yankees with the bases loaded or coaching the Los Angeles Lakers.

I consider myself very lucky to have seen two of the area's best compete in the high school ranks, Lord Botetourt graduate Zack Kelly and Cave Spring's JJ Redick. It's not like I saw this coming, but it's fun looking back.

Let's take Kelly, who played baseball for LB and is now coming out of the bullpen for the Boston Red Sox. I asked long time Cavalier coach Todd Smith if he looked at Zack as a future major leaguer when he donned the red and grey of LB.

"Possibly as a hitter, maybe, but not a pitcher," said Smith. "He's worked really hard to get where he is today."

Kelly is one of Boston's most reliable relief pitchers. Through Monday he appeared in 21 games with 29 and a third innings pitched. He has a 2-1 record, four holds and an outstanding earned run average of 1.53. His WHIP, which is figured by combining walks and hits allowed and dividing by innings pitch, is just 0.92. Anything under 1.00 is considered exceptional, as Zack has allowed 14 hits and 13 walks over close to 30 innings.

Kelly has 32 strikeouts, an average of over one per inning, and opposing batters are hitting just .136 when he's on the mound. He hasn't given up an earned run since June 12th, a span of nine and a third innings and seven games.

Perhaps his signature game of the year came on June 16 against the Yankees at Fenway Park. The Sox were up 4-2 in the top of the seventh but the Yanks had the bases loaded and no one out when manager Alex Cora signaled for Kelly. Zack struck out Gleyber Torres and Jose Trevino, both swinging, then got DJ LeMahieu to fly out to center to end the inning unscathed. The Sox scored three in the bottom of the inning and went on to win, 9-3, but Kelly's performance was the highlight of the game. A few



These local fans made the trip to Boston to see the Red Sox beat the Yankees last month. Left to right are Salem's Graham Fischer, former Spartan baseball standout Zach McNally, Zack Kelly of the Boston Red Sox holding son Kayden, Salem's JP McNally and Will Krause.

of Zack's friends from the Roanoke Valley drove to Boston for the game, including former Salem High player Zack McNally, and they enjoyed time on the field after the big win.

Kelly, who was inducted into the Lord Botetourt High School Hall of Fame in 2023, has worked hard to get to this point. He's battled several injuries and had pitched just 23 innings in the big leagues prior to this season. Last year he appeared in eight games with a 3.86 ERA and spent a weekend in Salem the first week of September rehabbing with the Salem Red Sox.

Now an established big leaguer, Zack recently got his own bobblehead. On June 22nd the Salem Red Sox gave away Zack Kelly bobbleheads to fans while Zack's mother, Tracy Kelly, threw out the first ball. Zack couldn't make it, as he was busy picking up the win in a 4-3 victory over the Reds in Cincinnati.

And then you have JJ Redick, who was recently named head coach of the Los Angeles Lakers. While Kelly was somewhat of a surprise to make the big show in baseball Redick was destined for big things at a young age. But head coach of LeBron James and the LAKERS!!!

I've been around for a while, and I can remember some hype about JJ prior to his freshman season at Cave Spring. I went to an early season Knights' game with the attitude, "okay big guy, let's see if you're as good as they say."

Well, he was. I left the gym thinking this was one of the best freshman basketball players I'd ever seen, at least live.

People ask me sometimes if so-and-so is a Division I player. I usually tell them, if you have to ask he's probably not. When you see a JJ, a George Lynch or a Richard Morgan you don't have to ask that question. You just ask where, and you get Duke, UNC and Virginia.

Area basketball fans know all about JJ; Coach K coming to the gym at Cave Spring, fighting off foot pain to lead his team to a state championship, signing to play for Duke. After a great run with the Blue Devils he goes to the NBA for a solid career with several teams, playing in 940 games over 15 seasons. I went to see him play for the Clippers in Charlotte, and I saw him play for the Sixers in Philly. There was no denying he could shoot it with the best of them.

If that's not enough he becomes the top analyst on the ESPN broadcast team for NBA games, a job not many would leave. Unless, of course, you're offered the head coaching job of one of the NBA's premier franchises. People wonder how he'll do. I have no reason to believe he won't be anything short of terrific.

Pretty cool, isn't it, to have two guys we saw grow up playing on the biggest stage of their sport? Makes you wonder who will be next.



PHOTO BY BRIAN HOFFMAN

Here Cave Spring freshman JJ Redick shoots his patented jumper against Salem High.

He was a lifetime .297 hitter, nine times ending the season over .300. He had 2,351 hits, hit 379 home runs and drove in 1,365 runs. He was the 1967 MVP with the Cardinals, played in 11 all-star games and went into the Hall of Fame in 1999.

What many folks might not know is that his first professional baseball season began in Salem. He was a 17 year old kid from Puerto Rico in 1955 when

ANOTHER GIANT LOSS

The 1960's San Francisco Giants of Willie Mays and company didn't drop many flies, but unfortunately 60 years later they're dropping like flies.

If you didn't see it, I wrote a tribute to Willie Mays in my column last week, the week after he passed. I related a story about seeing Willie play live at old Connie Mack Stadium when I was a kid, and one of the things I remember was the Phillies walking Mays intentionally to load the bases and pitch to Orlando Cepeda. The "Baby Bull" then made them pay by drilling a grand slam home run off the left field roof.

Well, the day after that column came out Cepeda also died at the age of 86. The Hall of Famer played 17 years in the big leagues, the first eight and a half with the Giants before he was traded to St. Louis for pitcher Ray Sadecki. He also played for the Braves, the A's, the Red Sox and the Kansas City Royals before retiring after the 1974 season.

he was assigned to the Salem team in the Appalachian League. He opened the season as an infielder and played 26 games for the Rebels, who played at Salem Municipal Field, now known as Billy Sample Field at Kiwanis Park.

Young Cepeda hit .247 with one home run in 93 at bats before being sent to the Kokomo Hit .247 with one home run in 93 at bats before being sent to the Mississippi-Ohio Valley League. He hit 21 home runs and batted .393 for the Giants' affiliate for the remainder of the season.



"Dad said he was really homesick in Salem," said Chuck Johnston, son of the late Paul Johnston who was a teammate of Cepeda's on the 1955 Salem team. Salem folks remember Paul as the long time curator of the Salem Golf Course on Academy Street, a position Chuck now holds.

Just three years after opening the season in Salem Cepeda joined the big league Giants, who had moved from New York to San Francisco after the 1957 season. Cepeda was a charter "San Francisco" Giant and that year he was the National League Rookie of the Year, hitting .312 with 25 home runs and 96 RBIs.

I have somewhat of a special tie to Cepeda, distant that it may be. My mother-in-law, the late Rose Dooley, was a native of Puerto Rico who met and married my father-in-law when he was in the Navy and stationed in Puerto Rico. Rose's younger brother, Eduardo, told me about giving a young Orlando Cepeda rides to the ballfield in Puerto Rico when they were teenagers. I didn't know about that until many years after Cepeda retired from baseball, but it was still pretty cool.

In closing, a 10 year old Brian Hoffman never suspected he would someday marry the niece of a guy who used to give rides to the future Hall of Famer he just watched hit a grand slam home run against the Phillies. Small world indeed!!



In this 1955 picture from the Salem Times-Register future Major League Hall of Famer Orlando Cepeda is on the far left and pitcher Paul Johnston, a Salem-Roanoke Baseball Hall of Famer, is on the far right.