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SALEM TIMES-REGISTER

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A day of remembrance and resolve: Salem VA's Memorial Day ceremony honors the fallen and inspires the living

Edmee CR Hasler
Contributing writer

Veterans, families, and local leaders gathered Monday morning at the Salem VA Medical Center Auditorium for a Memorial Day ceremony dedicated to remembering those who died serving their country.

Hosted by the Salem VA Health Care System in partnership with the Roanoke Valley Veterans Council, the Memorial Day ceremony marked a first-of-its-kind collaboration between the two organizations. Despite the wet weather outside, the auditorium was filled with warmth, reverence, and a deep sense of unity.

"We were approached by Colonel John Miller from the Roanoke Valley Veterans Council," said Becky Stackhouse, Executive Director of the Salem VA Health Care

System. "He asked if we'd be willing to host the ceremony here. It was an immediate yes. We were honored to provide the foundation and the facility."

A Ceremony Rooted in Respect

The program opened with a presentation of colors, setting a respectful tone that was maintained throughout the morning. Attendees stood with hands over hearts as the American flag entered the room, carried by local veterans and representatives from the Virginia National Guard.

The keynote address was delivered by Melissa Gaona, a U.S. Army veteran and local media personality, who emphasized the need to remember the true meaning of Memorial Day.

"This day isn't about barbecues or a three-day weekend," Gaona said in



Veterans bow their heads in prayer at the Memorial Day Ceremony on Monday, May 26, 2025.

her remarks. "It's about honoring those who laid down their lives so that we could live ours in freedom."

Her speech resonated deeply with attendees—many of whom served alongside comrades who never made it home.

"For a lot of these veterans," Stackhouse reflected afterward, "Memorial Day is personal. The men and

women they served with, the friends they lost—this is their time to reflect and honor them."

The ceremony concluded with a wreath-laying and a 21-gun salute, followed by the solemn tones of "Taps," played live as the audience stood in silence.

Personal Stories and Shared Sacrifice Among those in attendance were family



PHOTOS BY EDEEM CR HASLER

Despite the rain, veterans, families, and local leaders gathered Monday morning at the Salem VA Medical Center for a Memorial Day ceremony dedicated to remembering those who died serving their country.

members of Sergeant Michael Aus, a local soldier who was killed in action in Iraq. His memory is preserved in a permanent memorial on-site at the Salem VA.

"His parents were here today," said Colonel John Miller, one of the event's lead organizers and a longtime advocate

for veterans. "You could see the emotion on their faces. This day is not just national—it's deeply local."

Miller, a full-time volunteer and board member of the Roanoke Valley Veterans Council, has spent decades working

See Memorial, page 3



Salem High seniors awarded nearly \$250,000 in scholarships

Salem High School seniors were celebrated with excitement and gratitude on Wednesday, May 21 as 132 scholarships totaling \$246,000 were awarded during the annual Community Scholarship Night.

Students, families and supporters filled the auditorium for the ceremony, which featured fellowship, a performance by the school's award-winning Jazz Band, and food prepared by culinary arts students.

Since 1984, the Salem Education Foundation has provided nearly \$5 million in scholarship support to Salem

High students. The foundation's endowment has grown to \$6 million since the division was established just over four decades ago.

Additional support came from the Salem Sports Foundation and the Chance Crawford Foundation, both of which awarded scholarships to members of the Class of 2025.

The evening ended with a memorable display of Salem spirit. A power outage struck the auditorium with only a few students left to be recognized, but audience members quickly lit up the room



COURTESY OF CITY OF SALEM

During the event, 132 scholarships were handed out.

with the flashlights on their phones so every recipient could be properly honored.

The event was coordinated by the Salem High School Guidance and Counseling Department

-The Salem Times-Register

Salem PE teacher placed on leave after March indecent exposure arrest

Aila Boyd

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A Salem City Schools physical education teacher was placed on administrative leave in March after he was arrested on two counts of obscene sexual display. The arrest, which occurred March 13, became public last week.

According to the Roanoke Police Department, officers responded to Vic Thomas Park at approximately 3:58 p.m. on March 13 after an adult woman reported that a man had exposed himself to her twice while she was walking in the park.

When officers arrived, they found a man inside a vehicle with a towel wrapped around his lower body. He was taken into custody at the scene.

Police identified the man as 56-year-old John Kelso Fedison of Salem. He was charged with two counts of obscene sexual display.

According to school staff directories, Fedison is listed as a physical education teacher at both West Salem Elementary and South Salem Elementary School.

Hannah Glasgow, crime prevention specialist with the Roanoke



COURTESY PHOTO

Fedison Police Department, said Salem City Schools officials were notified of the arrest immediately.

Mike Stevens, communications director for the city and the school division, confirmed Fedison was placed on administrative leave the same day the charge was reported.

"The Salem City School Division was made aware of the charge against Mr. Fedison on March 13, 2025, by Roanoke City Police," Stevens said. "Per school policy, Mr. Fedison was immediately placed on administrative leave, and he has not returned to teach or coach in Salem City Schools since he was charged. Because this is a personnel matter, we cannot elaborate further."

New mural swings into life in downtown Salem

Aila Boyd

aboyd@mainstreetnewspapers.com

A colorful new mural now brightens a wall just off Main Street, the latest addition to Salem's growing collection of public art. Created by Roanoke-based muralist Jon Murrill, the piece features a girl on a swing soaring through the air—an image meant to celebrate the spirit of youth and community.

"When I was first approached about bringing more public artwork to Salem this spring, I was incredibly excited," Murrill said. "There are lots of great walls off of Main Street,

but this wall had the most potential."

The mural captures a dynamic moment: a young girl swinging high, her hair and backpack lifted by the motion. It's more than a striking visual. It's a tribute to Salem's families and children, Murrill said.

"As I designed this mural, I knew that this space needed something larger than life," he said. "Of all my designs, the girl on the swing not only fit the space perfectly, but also created movement and energy within the artwork."

To personalize the mural, Murrill added small



COURTESY PHOTO

Murrill is pictured while working on the mural.

See Mural, page 3



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.

Lebanese Festival: This year marks the 23rd Lebanese festival and will be held May 31 and June 1-2, 2024, at St. Elias Maronite Catholic Church, 4730 Cove Road, N.W., Roanoke, VA. The festival is open Friday and Saturday, 11 a.m. - 9 p.m., and Sunday, 11 a.m. - 8 p.m.

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, June 3: 7-9 p.m. - Eastern Divide. It will take place at the Salem Parks and Recreation Senior Rec Center at 110 Union Street, Salem.

Shane Gillis: Shane Gillis is coming to Salem this summer to headline the arena with his standup comedy on June 21. In 2021, Gillis released his debut comedy special "Shane Gillis: Live in Austin" on YouTube. It has been viewed over 14 million times. Gillis is one-half of Patreon and Apple's top 10 podcasts Matt and Shane's Secret Podcast. Tickets start at \$42.50 and go up to \$92.50. Tickets can be purchased at the Salem Civic Center Box Office or 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, 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.

Hell of a Summer Tour: Ice Night Kills: Dayseeker, Kim Dracula and more will headline the Hell of a Summer Tour at the Salem Civic Center, Sunday, Aug. 31. Produced by Live Nation, the tour will bring the band's twisted theatrical and cinematic carnage to arenas and amphitheatres across the country. The tour's lineup spans a cross-section of modern heavy music's most dynamic voices. Ice Nine Kills will be joined by Dayseeker, Kim Dracula, and The Funeral Portrait. Tickets will be available starting with an artist presale via Ice Nine Kills "Psychos Only" app, beginning today, May 19 at 11 a.m. The Salem Civic Center presale will begin Wednesday, May 21, at 10 a.m. with code: SALEM. Tickets can be purchased at the Salem Civic Center Box Office Monday through Friday from 8 a.m. - 5 p.m. and online.

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.

"Elmo and Friends Say Hello": Round Room Live and Sesame Workshop are proud to announce their new live show, "Elmo and Friends Say Hello." The live show brings the beloved characters from the iconic Sesame Street to life in a brand-new interactive production at the Salem Civic Center on Wednesday night, Nov. 19. From 1985-2014, Elmo and Cookie Monster made an annual stop at the historic Salem arena, but this marks the first Sesame Street stop in Salem since 2014. Elmo, Abby Cadabby, Cookie Monster, and their friends from Sesame Street are coming to Salem. At "Elmo and Friends Say Hello," attendees can sing and dance with their favorite furry friends while enjoying fun surprises along the way. Tickets can be purchased at the Salem Civic Center Box Office Monday through Friday from 8 a.m. - 5 p.m. and online.

Crowder and Zach Williams: Two of the biggest stars in Contemporary Christian Music are returning to Salem on Nov. 20. Crowder and Zach Williams are

co-headlining a fall tour that also includes hitmaker Matt Maher. Williams is an Arkansas native who hit rock bottom on several fronts before producing an endless string of hits and striking a chord with millions of Christian music followers. From "Chain Breaker" to "There was Jesus" with Dolly Parton, to "Little Less Like Me", Williams has created an incredible following with his poignant lyrics and soulful arrangements. Crowder grew up in Texas and was a student at Baylor University when he realized music might help get more students to attend church at the Christian college. So, he formed a band and started drawing a crowd. He has never stopped filling seats. Crowder has been a staple in Contemporary Christian Music since 1996 when he was the leader of the David Crowder Band. In 2012, he embarked on a solo career, and the multi-instrumentalist and vocalist has never looked back. Four of Crowder's five solo albums have hit number one on the charts, with the other compilation of songs landing at number two. Tickets can be purchased at the Salem Civic Center Box Office Monday through Friday from 8 a.m. - 5 p.m. and online.

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, May 28 at 6:30 p.m.

The Salem City Council will meet on Monday, June 10 at 6:30 p.m.

The School Board will meet on Tuesday, June 11 at 7 p.m.

The Salem City Planning Commission will meet on Wednesday, June 12 at 7 p.m.

The Salem City Council will meet on Monday, June 24 at 6:30 p.m.

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.

★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★

FUN FOR THE WHOLE FAMILY!

ANDREW LEWIS WEEKEND AT THE SALEM MUSEUM



June 7th and 8th | 10am-4pm
Salem Museum
801 East Main Street, Salem, VA
SalemMuseum.org | (540) 389-6760

Meet living history interpreters and hear lectures about the War!

This event is FREE



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CITY OF SALEM
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FREE PARKING | FOOD & BEVERAGES AVAILABLE

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OLD TOWN FIELDS SHAWSVILLE VIRGINIA



JARED STOUT BAND
MAY 31



MIDNIGHT BLUE
JUNE 14



MILLER HOLLER
JULY 4



THE HARWELL GRICE BLUEGRASS BAND
SEPT 20



OUT OF SPITE THE 80'S SHOW
OCTOBER 18



VISIT OUR WEBSITE @ EASTMONTCF.COM FOR MORE INFORMATION

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

salemtimes-register.com

RECIPE OF THE WEEK

Let's all take a step back in time to the 1970's. Remember that boxed pasta stuff your mom used to make? Right into the pot, mixed with some meat, and on the table in a half hour-ish? And even though it came in, like, 73 different flavors, they all somehow still tasted the same? Even the tuna versions! As I have said before, my mom did not like to cook. She could but she didn't like to, so boxed meat helper was often on our table.

Hamburger Helper was conceived by General Mills in response to a meat shortage and escalating meat prices in the early 1970s. The brand made its national debut in August 1971 with five flavors: Beef Noodle, Potato Stroganoff, Hash, Rice Oriental, and Chili Tomato.

As I got older and my home economics teachers helped to expand my palate. The taste of helper beef stroganoff was nothing like the recipe I started using in 9th grade.

According to the Stroganoff Foundation, beef stroganoff started as a peasant dish in Russia, being a common way for peasants with enough money to buy meat to use it and make it last. The dish is served with cubes of beef in a cream sauce, spread over wide noodles. The dish's name has unknown origins, but it may be named after the prominent Count Stroganov. The story of beef stroganoff appears to be a mix of fact and fancy.

The origins of the Stroganoff clan date back to just before the reign of Ivan the Terrible. In the 1300s, the family swelled its fortunes through trade, land acquisition, and salt mining. Then, as Ivan the Terrible sealed his control over Moscow and all its surrounding states, the Stroganoff family matriarch (Anika Feodorovitch, 1488–1570) made a daring gambit by seizing much of Siberia and allying herself with Ivan, ceding her territory to him in exchange for a long-term land grant. Effectively, this made the Stroganoff family the de facto manager of all of Siberia.

Flash-forward to the 17th century and the Stroganoffs were still closely aligned with the czarist government, and much wealthier for it. The family was now part of a Europe-hopping Russian aristocracy, which is why Count Pavel Stroganoff (1774–1817) was actually born in Paris. The son of Count Alexander Sergeyevich Stroganoff and Princess Ekaterina Troubetzkaya, Pavel is largely a footnote to Russian history. Despite being as low-key as a ridiculously wealthy member of the Russian elite can be (and kind of a hunk), he did serve as a diplomat to Britain and a general in the Napoleonic Wars. Count Stroganoff's French/Russian background found its way into his diet, as Russian aristocrats would often hire French cooks. Legend says the dish was created by a French chef in the employ of the Stroganov family. The count himself died of tuberculosis at the age of 43, somewhere near Copenhagen. His clan lived on in luxury well into the 19th century, and today they are survived by a vast art collection as well as a grand estate in St. Petersburg known as the Stroganoff Palace.

You can even visit the Stroganoff Palace. Taken by the state in 1917 it became a part of the state's Russian Museum in 1990. The last heiress to the Stroganoff



Shelly Koon

Contributing Writer

dynasty, Countess Olga, died in 1837.

The recipe spread throughout Europe as immigrants came west from Soviet States. As Germans, French, Austrians, and other Europeans moved to the new world, beef stroganoff moved with them. These versions are all slightly different, replacing the noodles with rice or potatoes.

If you'd like to serve a vegetable side with this dinner, I suggest something green. Stroganoff is very rich, so you'll want to balance it out with steamed green beans, fresh green salad, or pickled red cabbage. If you don't care for egg noodles, try this over rice or a mound of mashed potatoes.

This Beef Stroganoff is made with lean ground beef, ground chicken, ground turkey, or any lean steak cut into thin strips. It is made without cream of mushroom soup, an often-used ingredient in most Americanized versions. I also add spinach and peas, but these can be left out.

Beef Stroganoff

Ingredients

- 16 oz Wide egg noodles or fettucine
- 1 lb ground lean beef or sirloin cut into strips (Any meat works, but beef is obviously the traditional recipe)
- 1 tbsp olive oil
- 1 Cup onion diced
- 16 oz mushrooms sliced thickly
- 2 tbsp All Purpose Flour
- 1 tbsp black pepper freshly ground
- 1-2 tsp Kosher or sea salt to taste
- 1/2 tsp dried onion granulated or powdered
- 1 tsp garlic fresh minced, if granulated, or powdered – reduce to 1/2 tsp
- 1 tbsp Worcestershire Sauce
- 1 Cup beef stock- chicken or veg stock work if you're not using beef
- 1/2 Cup heavy cream whole milk, half and half also works
- 4 Cup fresh spinach or 4 large handfuls – this can be omitted.
- 1 Cup frozen peas- fresh peas also work
- 1 Cup sour cream, Reserve 4 tbsp for topping

Instructions

Boil noodles according to package directions in SALTED (about 2 T) water. Drain, then return to pot and add 1 Tbsp butter or oil, stir to coat the noodles. Cover to keep warm and set aside while you prepare the stroganoff. While the noodles are boiling; Sauté Beef in olive oil over medium high heat – reserve 2 Tbsp



Portrait of Count Stroganov by Jean-Laurent Mosnier, 1808



COURTESY IMAGES

drippings and pour off the rest. Add extra olive oil if you don't have 2 Tbsp. Add onions and mushroom and sauté until the onions are translucent and the mushrooms are browned. Sprinkle flour, pepper, salt, garlic & onion seasoning over the mixture and stir. Cook for 2 minutes. Add Beef stock and Worcestershire sauce and stir to combine scraping up browned bits from, the pan. Reduce heat to medium, add heavy cream stirring until thick and bubbly about 5 minutes. Turn off heat. Add spinach and peas. Stir to combine until spinach is wilted. Save 4 Tbsp of sour cream. Add remaining sour cream to your pan stirring to combine. Plate the warmed and buttered noodles then spoon the Stroganoff over adding a dollop of sour cream to each. Add fresh cracked pepper to garnish and serve immediately.

Mural

from page 1

touches such as a patch from Andrew Lewis Middle School on the girl's backpack—"a fun little detail to tie her into the area," he said.

Murrill's process involved both brushwork and spray paint, building depth and texture in layers.

"I actually paint a mural twice when on

the wall," he explained. "The base layers done with brushes and rollers served as my guide prior to adding the softer shading with spray paint."

Throughout the project, Murrill said he felt welcomed by the community.

"The Salem community has been incredible," he said. "I've not only enjoyed spending time at local businesses like Elderberry's, Mill Mountain Coffee and Charlotte's Web, but also having numerous conversations with people walking Main Street excited to see more public art."

Murrill sees public murals as powerful tools for connection and inspiration.

"Once I finish a mural, it is no longer mine. It becomes a part of that community," he said. "You don't need to pay to see public art since it's right there on your walk or commute. This is a really special gift to give to the community."

He thanked the City of Salem for supporting the project and said he hopes the mural brings a bit more joy to the everyday lives of passersby.

"If I can contribute to that in any way, then it's worth it," he said.

Memorial

from page 1



PHOTO BY EDMEE CR HASLER

An 83-year-old veteran created the painting Purple Heart, which was unveiled at the Memorial Day Ceremony. The work is now part of the VA's permanent collection.

with veteran service organizations such as the VFW, American Legion, AUSA, and Vietnam Veterans of America.

"It's always a thrill to do this," he said. "I can never do enough to recognize the sacrifice of others—especially the more than one million service members who died while on active duty."

But Miller also expressed concern about the future of veteran support organizations, noting that membership is declining.

"Younger veterans haven't joined these organizations yet," he said. "Maybe they need more time after leaving service to understand the significance and the camaraderie. But I hope they do—because these organizations serve a real purpose."

Art and Youth Involvement Add Depth

A special moment came with the unveiling of a painting titled Purple Heart, created by an 83-year-old veteran artist who now resides in California. The work is now part of the VA's permanent collection.

"We're delighted that Purple Heart has found a permanent home here," said one of the presenters. "It's a moving tribute to the sacrifices made by so many."

The event also featured youth volunteers, including one young man who distributed blankets to older veterans during the ceremony. This effort

is part of a summer youth program the Salem VA started a few years ago for volunteers aged 14 and up.

"It's really meaningful to have younger generations participating in events like this," said Stackhouse. "It shows that remembrance and respect aren't limited by age."

A Prayer for Peace

The ceremony also included a powerful interfaith prayer led by Chaplain Andrew Chappell of the United Methodist Church.

"We thank you for all those who paid the ultimate price with the blood of their lives," Chappell prayed. "May we never forget those who paid it all... Grant us peace. Teach us peace. Make us instruments of your peace."

Looking Ahead

Though this was the first Memorial Day collaboration between the Salem VA and the Roanoke Valley Veterans Council, the organizations expressed a strong interest in continuing the partnership.

"I believe this will become a tradition," said Stackhouse. "We saw how much it meant to our veterans, to the families, and to the community. It's something we want to grow."

As the celebration came to an end, one veteran remarked with a smile, "We're soldiers, sailors, airmen, and Marines. A little rain doesn't stop us."

POLICE REPORT

City of Salem Police Department



Weekly Arrest Report

Week of May 13, 2025 – May 19, 2025

DATE	NAME	AGE	OFFENSE
5/13/2025	Paul Sandum	66	Strangulation of Another
5/13/2025	Craig A. Bailey	37	Vehicle Theft, Breaking & Entering, Possession of Burglary tools, Larceny From Building.
5/13/2025	Derelle T. Turner	32	Violation of Probation
5/14/2025	Casey Jo H. Heilman	36	Trespassing
5/15/2025	Antwan M. Tinsley	41	Identity Theft
5/16/2025	Jeffrey L. Linkous	63	Simple Assault & Battery
5/16/2025	Alana N. Scruggs	40	Trespassing
5/16/2025	Nicole M. Fink	39	Violation of Protective Order
5/17/2025	Kenneth S. Craighead	53	Public Intoxication

City of Salem Police Department



Weekly Crime Report (Felony Cases)

Week of May 13, 2025 – May 19, 2025

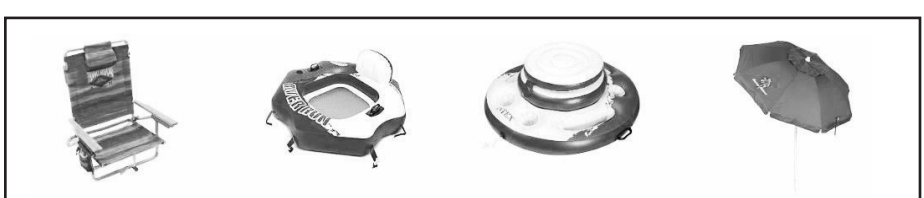
DATE REPORTED	LOCATION	OFFENSE REPORTED
5/13/2025	1600 BLK Narcissus St	Breaking & Entering
5/13/2025	400 BLK Rebecca Ln	Bad Check
5/13/2025	2400 BLK Olde Salem Dr	Obtain Money By False Pretense
5/14/2025	800 BLK Stonegate Ct	Forgery/Uttering
5/14/2025	1300 BLK Intervale Dr	Fraudulent Activity
5/16/2025	300 BLK W Main St	Grand Larceny, Credit Card Theft
5/19/2025	300 BLK Apperson Dr	Grand Larceny, Forgery/Uttering, Obtaining Money By False Pretense

OPINION

Adults: Get in the drawing for the summer sun & fun bundle at the Salem Public Library



Library Corner
 Empowering individuals to build a stronger community
Benita VanCleave



COURTESY IMAGES

Every Salem Public Library summer reading registrant over 18 will be entered into a drawing for our Summer Sun & Fun Bundle: four Tommy Bahama folding beach chairs, a Tommy Bahama beach umbrella, and a cooler-tube!

Register yourself for our Adult Reading Challenge or sign your child up for the children's or teen program to be entered into the drawing. All registration is online at saalemva.beanstack.org. Registering as a family makes it easier to track everyone's account with one log-in. If you are a parent registering a child, be sure to enter your information under "Adult Information." Beanstack is an online reading challenge tool. Log your reading and complete activities on Beanstack to earn tickets for grand prize drawings in each age category: adults, teens, and children. Children and teens will get a free book for signing up AND another free book when you log 30 days of reading. Adults will receive a free copy of the book, *The Art Thief*,

by Michael Finkel for registering. The Salem Public Library's summer reading program runs from June 1-July 31.

Also, check out all of the exciting events planned for all different ages!

Many thanks to the Friends of the Salem Library for the monetary support for both programming and prizes for the summer reading program.

All ages event
 Saturday, June 7th 10am- Noon: Interactive Art Festival; Join us for an interactive art festival on the Library Lawn! Hands-on activities with real artists! All ages welcome.

Just getting started: Some Children's June Activities!

*** Salem Library's Drop-In Crafts:

Every Saturday in June and July in the Kid's Department for Children of all ages!!! (while supplies last) ***

Wednesdays, June 4, 11, 18, 25 3:15pm. Grades 1-5. Barks & Books: Come read with a therapy dog this summer to keep up your reading skills. Register at saalemvalibcal.com

Thursdays, June 5, 12, 26, 10:15am: Book Babies: Special story time for infants and crawlers! Register at saalemvalibcal.com

11:00am. Story Explorers: Story time for Children aged 0-5; Register at saalemvalibcal.com

Tuesday, June 10, 10:30am, Ages 3+: Colors of Nature: Flower Art! Register at saalemvalibcal.com

Roanoke College Poll: Spanberger leads Earle-Sears

In a still-early look at the likely November gubernatorial matchup, Democrat Abigail Spanberger leads Republican Winsome Earle-Sears by 43%-26%, according to the Roanoke College Poll. The Institute for Policy and Opinion Research (IPOR) at Roanoke College interviewed 658 Virginia residents between May 12 and May 19, 2025. The survey has a weighted margin of error of 5.25%.

More than a quarter (28%) of registered voters are undecided, and 3% said they would vote for someone else. These results are within the margin of error of the February poll. Regarding favorable/unfavorable ratings, about one in five doesn't know enough about

either candidate to have an opinion about them.

Job Approval, Favorable/Unfavorable, and Directions of Virginia and Nation

For the first time in eight years of polling, a majority (51%) thinks things in Virginia have gotten off on the wrong track, while two-thirds (66%) say the same about the country. President Donald Trump's job disapproval rating (65%) is the worst it has been, including during his first term, while his 31% approval rating is low, but not his worst. Gov. Glenn Youngkin's job approval rating (46%) is his lowest and down seven points from November.

Youngkin's unfavorable rating (44% favorable/50%

unfavorable) is also his worst showing, while Trump's is close to his most negative (33% favorable/64% unfavorable). Spanberger's rating (41% favorable/40% unfavorable) is similar to November, while Earle-Sears' numbers have fallen in that time (32% favorable/48% unfavorable), with about one-fifth of respondents not offering an opinion. Mark Warner, whose U.S. Senate seat is up for election in 2026, comes in at 51% favorable, about where he stood five years ago. While the Democratic Party is not seen in a positive light (51% unfavorable), the Republican Party fares even worse (63%

See Poll, page 5

Salem Times~Register

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

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LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Responding to Congressman Ben Cline's Salem Times "Opinion" column (May 22, 2025), remember that Trump campaigned on bringing peace in Ukraine and stopping wars. This was favored by MAGA Trump supporters who also want Trump focusing on domestic needs. Regardless, Republican neocons like Cline reject peace-seeking diplomacy by calling for uncompromising restrictions on Iran's peaceful nuclear enrichment programs.

Retired U.S. Army general/SACE commander (1997-2000), Wesley Clark learned post-9/11 in 2003 from a Pentagon source that the White House was implementing a five-year plan to take out seven majority-Muslim countries to help Israel—a Western settler-colonialist creation that has never declared its borders. By helping Israel annex territories, the U.S. imposes its own rule on the Middle East. To date, this nefarious and dangerous imperialist plot has resulted in regime changes in six of the seven countries, leaving only heavily-sanctioned Iran now threatened by Trump with Cline's help, at the behest of Israel's warmongering Prime Minister Bibi Netanyahu.

Trump's unofficial

global negotiator, Steve Witcoff, recently came to a successful understanding with Iran that allowed nuclear enrichment of uranium for Iran's sacrosanct lifesaving products—advancements in radiotherapy, the production of anti-cancer drugs, sterilization of medical devices and protection of agriculture. Iran's leadership is committed to continuing these projects despite threat of assassination, sabotage and all-out war, but neocon warmongers like Cline pushed Witcoff to renege on the original agreement.

Ayatollah Ali Khamenei, the Supreme Leader of Iran, issued a 2003 religious ruling (fatwa) that the development, production, stockpiling, and use of nuclear weapons is forbidden under Islamic law. But Iran has every right to enrich uranium for peaceful purposes under the terms of the Non-Proliferation Treaty it has ratified. Also, Iran has willingly subjected itself to UN inspections of its nuclear facilities. Representative Cline's demand that Iran be prohibited from any enrichment capability is nothing but a specious attempt to lead the U.S. to endorse and assist Israel in attacking Iran.

Considering that the U.S. has lost all its wars since WWII and even

against Iran's proxy, Yemen, it would be folly for the U.S. to war against hypersonic-missile-armed Iran who can destroy vulnerable U.S. Mid-East bases just to fight Israel's enemy, Iran, which does not threaten the U.S.

It behooves Congressman Cline to cease his warmongering and explain why Israel is allowed to have undeclared and uninspected nuclear weapons that threaten to ignite a terrible war in the Mideast. Incessant U.S. wars and unabated military support for Israel are turning the world against America and raising the U.S. debt to unsustainable levels, threatening the U.S. dollar as reserve currency—a privileged status that sustains America's standard of living. Will Cline ignore that both Wall Street and U.S. treasury bonds are now dangerously volatile?

With loss of political and financial stability, higher interest rates may threaten default on U.S. debt. Cline also voted to increase the deficit in Trump's "Big, beautiful bill" -- the greatest transfer of wealth from the working class to the rich. That doesn't benefit working Americans, does it Mr. Cline?

-Cynthia Munley Salem

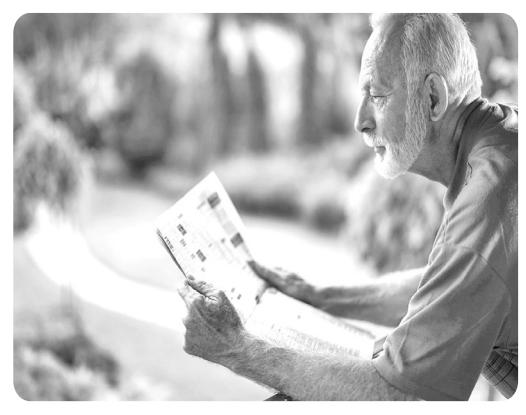
CROSSWORD PUZZLE

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49									51		52	53	54	55
56									58					
59											61			
62											64			

- CLUES ACROSS
- 1. Orator's podium
 - 5. UK-Netherlands gas pipeline
 - 8. Partner to "oohs"
 - 12. African antelope
 - 14. Indigenous Thai person
 - 15. Monetary unit of Angola
 - 16. Becomes less intense
 - 18. Insurance mascot
 - 19. Tech hub __Alto
 - 20. Actress Tomei
 - 21. Airborne (abbr.)
 - 22. Type of smart watch
 - 23. Natives
 - 26. Incompetent person
 - 30. Rare Hawaiian geese
 - 31. Unspoken relationships
 - 32. Passports and licenses are two
 - 33. Claw
 - 34. Status quo
 - 39. Mimic
 - 42. Fur-lined cloak
 - 44. Ancient foreigner
 - 46. In an angry way
 - 47. Ill-intentioned
 - 49. Monetary unit of Serbia
 - 50. S. American plant
 - 51. One or the other
 - 56. An alias for Thor
 - 57. Gratuity
 - 58. In a painful way
 - 59. French commune
 - 60. Promotional materials
 - 61. Greek city
 - 62. Assistant
 - 63. Confederate general
 - 64. Former NJ governor
- CLUES DOWN
- 1. Used by gymnasts
 - 2. "Luther" actor Idris
 - 3. Broad volcanic crater
 - 4. Not for
 - 5. Blur
 - 6. Tots
 - 7. Acted leisurely
 - 8. About the Alps
 - 9. Gets out of bed
 - 10. Town in "The Iliad"
 - 11. Welsh given name
 - 13. Remove salt
 - 17. Calvary sword
 - 24. Mental disorder concerning body odor (abbr.)
 - 25. Keeps a house cozy
 - 26. Ballplayer's accessory
 - 27. Southwestern Russian city
 - 28. Pro sports league
 - 29. Congress investigative body (abbr.)
 - 35. Stop standing
 - 36. Utilize
 - 37. Sign language
 - 38. Famed ESPN broadcaster Bob
 - 40. Being of central importance
 - 41. Ruin environment
 - 42. Dessert dish
 - 43. Sea eagles
 - 44. Fertilized
 - 45. Jerry's friend Benes
 - 47. Indian river
 - 48. Pass into a specified state or condition
 - 49. Nocturnal rodent
 - 52. A way to travel
 - 53. Iron-containing compound
 - 54. Ancient Greek City
 - 55. NFL signal caller Matt

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Poll

from page 4

unfavorable). All these questions show significant partisan differences (see topline).

Political Anxiety and Politics

The overall index of 89.41 is up 13 points since November 2024. While that increase is minimal, it masks significant changes within political parties. Democrats jumped from -10.39 in May 2024 to 101.77 in November 2024, and their current anxiety index stands at 153.35. During the same period, Republicans dropped from 166.59 (May) to 13.52 (November), and are now at -30.10. Political anxiety is closely tied to party control of the White House and Congress.

Most respondents trust the government in Washington to do what is right only sometimes (62%) or never (24%), but a slight majority (52%) thinks that ordinary citizens can influence the federal government. Most Virginians (62%) think their side has been losing more than winning on important issues. A plurality (43%) of those polled is dissatisfied with how the federal government is working, and 31% are angry, which is the highest measure of anger in the eight years we have been asking it. Half (50%) now think the country's best years are behind us, but 48% think the best years lie ahead.

Democrats have become much more pessimistic about the federal government, while Republicans are more positive. The greatest party differences on the questions that comprise the index can be seen in "winning more than losing," "dissatisfied/angry

with how government is working," and "best years ahead." Those results can be found in the crosstabs at the conclusion of the topline.

A large majority (84%) of Virginians see the nation as divided regarding the important issues facing it. More than half (56%) think the federal government makes their life worse, as opposed to the 40% who think the government makes their life better.

Deficit/Debt
The Roanoke College Poll also examined perceptions of the national debt and annual deficit. A large majority of Virginians say they are very concerned (42%) or somewhat concerned (40%) about the deficit and debt. A majority thinks the deficit is a result of spending too much (61%) versus not raising enough money in taxes (34%).

Asked to make choices to address the issues, the largest group favors raising taxes for those making more than \$400,000 annually (74%), but 82% oppose raising taxes for everyone. A large majority (71%) likewise oppose across-the-board spending cuts. More than half (56%) oppose cutting programs other than defense, Social Security, and Medicare; 55% oppose cutting defense; and 73% oppose significantly modifying Social Security and Medicare to save money. If forced to choose an option that would impact them or their family, 29% would prefer increased taxes, 28%

picked fewer services, and 15% boldly chose both. More than a quarter (27%) picked neither because they think the debt and deficit aren't that big of a problem.

Analysis
"Six months in a gubernatorial election season is an eternity in politics, but one would prefer to be ahead by 17 points," said Dr. Harry Wilson, interim director for IPOR and professor emeritus of political science at Roanoke College. "More than a quarter of Virginians are undecided, and there is good news for both candidates. Spanberger is obviously leading at this point, and she leads among independents, but a large number of Republicans are undecided, and they will most likely end up voting for Earle-Sears. The favorable rating for Earle-Sears, however, should be cause for concern."

"Both Trump and Youngkin are taking some hits in terms of job approval and favorable ratings. Most of that comes from Democrats and independents, but some Republicans have soured on both as well. That could be related to internal squabbles in the Republican Party, statewide and nationally, but we do not have data on that."

"With regard to the deficit and debt, most see them as a problem, but not as many seem to be willing to pay the piper."

- Conducted by the Institute for Policy and Opinion Research

OBITUARIES

Lucas, Bonnie Lynn Altizer

Bonnie Lynn Altizer Lucas passed away peacefully at her home in Salem, VA, on Sunday, May 18, 2025. Married to David P. Lucas for fifty years, she was a devoted wife and proud mother of two wonderful sons, Jonathan "Jon" Lucas of Asheville, NC, and Grayson Lucas of Shawsville, VA. A cancer survivor of 17 years, Bonnie was preceded in death by her parents, Shirley M. and Ocie S. Altizer of Christiansburg, VA; and two siblings, Donald L. Altizer and Janet A. Shelton. She is survived by a sister, Sandra A.



White of Dobson, NC, as well as many nieces and nephews.

Bonnie had several friends who meant a lot to her over the years. Linda, Dawn, Sandra, Bob, and Ruth, and her husband's Auburn High School classmates. These people all made

her life better, and she was thankful for the kindness they showed her and the time she was able to spend with them.

Funeral arrangements are being handled by John M. Oakey & Son Funeral Home located in Salem, VA. Visitation is scheduled for Friday, April 23, 2025, from 1 p.m. – 2 p.m., with the service starting at 2 p.m. in the funeral home's chapel. A private interment at the Lucas Family Cemetery will take place at a later date.

Online condolences may be expressed by visiting www.johnmoakey.com.

Jobe, Regina

Regina Jobe, 96, of Salem, Virginia, passed away peacefully on Tuesday, May 13, 2025, in Salem, where she was born and spent her life.

A devoted wife, mother, grandmother, and great-grandmother, Regina cherished time with her family above all else.

She is survived by her two sons, Steve Jobe and his wife, Lynn, and Tim Jobe and his wife, Pat; three grandchildren,

Chad, Chris, and Hunter; and three great-grandchildren, Lane, Logan, and Josh.

She was preceded in death by her beloved husband, Carl Jobe.

Regina's life was a quiet testament to love, resilience, and grace. Her legacy will live on through the many lives she touched with her kindness and strength.

A viewing was held from 4 to 6 p.m. on Sunday, May 18, 2025,

in the John M. Oakey & Son Chapel in Salem, Virginia.

A funeral service took place at 11 a.m. on Monday, May 19, 2025, also in the chapel, with Rev. Dan Netting officiating. Interment immediately followed at Sherwood Memorial Park.

Online condolences may be expressed by visiting www.johnmoakey.com.

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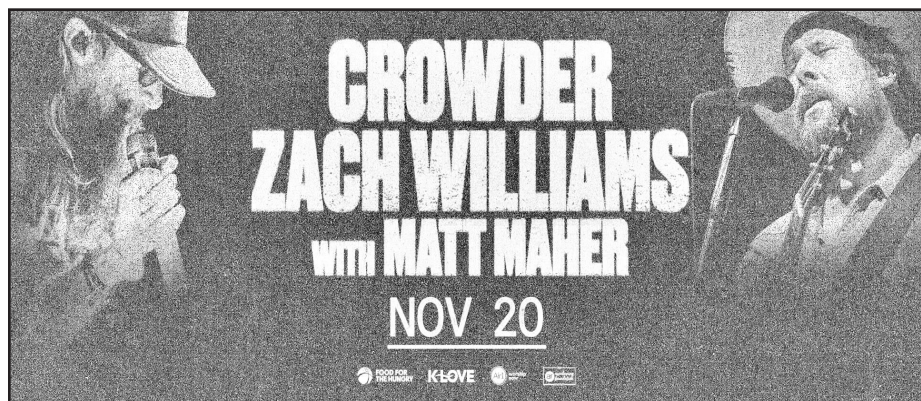
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COURTESY PHOTO

Crowder, Zach Williams set to tag team Salem in November

Two of the biggest stars in Contemporary Christian Music are returning to Salem on Nov. 20. Crowder and Zach Williams are co-headlining a fall tour that also includes hitmaker Matt Maher.

Williams is an Arkansas native who hit rock bottom on several fronts before producing an endless string of hits and striking a chord with millions of Christian music followers. From “Chain Breaker” to “There was Jesus” with Dolly Parton, to “Little Less Like Me”, Williams has created an incredible following with his poignant lyrics and soulful arrangements.

Crowder grew up in Texas and was a student at Baylor University when he realized music might help get more students to attend

church at the Christian college. So, he formed a band and started drawing a crowd. He has never stopped filling seats. Crowder has been a staple in Contemporary Christian Music since 1996 when he was the leader of the David Crowder Band. In 2012, he embarked on a solo career, and the multi-instrumentalist and vocalist has never looked back. Four of Crowder’s five solo albums have hit number one on the charts, with the other compilation of songs landing at number two.

Tickets can be purchased at the Salem Civic Center Box Office Monday through Friday from 8 a.m. – 5 p.m. and online.

-The Salem Times-Register

Salem Police, fifth graders celebrate annual D.A.R.E. Picnic at Spartan Field



COURTESY OF CITY OF SALEM

The Salem Police Department welcomed the city’s fifth graders to Spartan Field last week for the annual D.A.R.E. Picnic, a tradition that celebrates the culmination of the school year with games, food and fun. Fifth-grade students from all four of Salem’s elementary schools gathered for the event, which included several hours of activities alongside Salem police officers. The picnic serves as a rite of passage for students before they head to Andrew Lewis Middle School in the fall. The department thanked the many teachers, school staff and officers who helped make the day possible. Chick-fil-A provided lunch for the students. The event continues to be a highlight of the year for Salem’s rising sixth graders.

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BAPTIST (INDEPENDENT)

THE BEACON BAPTIST CHURCH OF SALEM, 307 N. Bruffey Street, Salem, VA, and **THE BEACON CHRISTIAN ACADEMY K-12**, 307 N. Bruffey Street, Salem, VA, Phone: (276) 340-2445, Sunday Services: 10 a.m., 11 a.m., 5 p.m., Thursday Evening Services: 7 p.m. Find us on Facebook at: The Beacon Baptist Church or on the Web@bbcsalem.org, Pastor Jeremy Raby and the Congregation Welcome You! Independent, Fundamental, Bible Believing, KJV Bible Church

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 6:30p.m.; Fellowship Meal 5:45 p.m.; Praiz Kidz 6:00p.m.; Family Night Activities 6:30 p.m. website: 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

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Michael Varner, Phone: 540-389-5109. Facebook: “GREENHILLCOB,SALEM,VA”. Youtube: “ @greenhillcob4205”. Adult Bible Study, Sunday: 10 am. Sunday Traditional Worship, 10:45 am.

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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. Ministers Luke Tatum and Jerry Anderson, 389-9139, Sunday Bible Study: 9:30 AM, Morning Worship: 10:30 AM, Evening Worship: 6:00 PM, Wednesday Bible Study, 7:000 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.salemccog.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!

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5365. People of all faiths are welcome.

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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 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, Sunday: Genesis Contemporary Service at 8:45 a.m., Traditional Service at 11:00 a.m., Sunday School classes meet at 9:50 a.m. www.fumcsalemva.org.

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Legals - City of Salem

Order of Publication
Commonwealth of Virginia
VA Code §§ 1-211.1; 8.01-316, -317, 20-104
Case No. CL25-626
VIRGINIA: IN THE CIRCUIT COURT FOR THE COUNTY OF ROANOKE COUNTY OF ROANOKE, VIRGINIA, Complainant, vs. MICHAEL P. GRIFFIN, et al, Respondents.

ORDER OF PUBLICATION TO: THE RESPONDENTS:
The object of this suit is to enforce the lien for taxes assessed by the County of Roanoke, Virginia against certain real property designated as Tax Map Parcel No. 080.00-07-09.00-0000.

An affidavit having been made and filed that diligence has been used without effect to ascertain the location of Michael P. Griffin and that there are or may be persons with an interest in the subject property, including heirs, devisees, and successors in title of Michael P. Griffin, who may be deceased.

Whose names and addresses are unknown, it is hereby ORDERED that each of these parties appear on or before the June 30, 2025, and do whatever is necessary to protect their interests in said land.

It is further ORDERED, pursuant to Va Code Ann. §8.01-321, that this Order of Publication be published one week in the *Salem Times Register*, a newspaper of general circulation in the county of Roanoke, and that a copy be posted at the front door of the Courthouse in County of Roanoke, Virginia. Entered this 16th day of May, 2025.

Honorable James R. Swanson.
I ASK FOR THIS:
Mark D. Kidd, Esquire
VSB#24149
OPN Law
3140 Chapparral Drive,
Suite 200-C
Roanoke, VA 24018
Phone: (540) 725-4700
Fax: (540) 772-0126
E-mail: mikidd@opnlaw.com
Counsel for Complainant

Legals - Montgomery County

LEGAL NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING OF THE TOWN OF CHRISTIANSBURG PLANNING COMMISSION

The Town of Christiansburg Planning Commission will hold a Public Hearing on Monday, June 16, 2025, at 7:00 PM in the Council

Legals - Montgomery County

Chambers of the Christiansburg Town Hall, 100 E. Main Street, Christiansburg, Virginia 24073, pursuant to Sections 15.2-2204 and 15.2-2285 of the Code of Virginia, as amended. The purpose of the public hearing is to receive public comments concerning:
A. Conditional Use Permit request by Main Street Preservation LLC, Property Owner, and Joseph L. Simmons, Applicant, to allow residential use, specifically the construction of ten (10) townhomes, in the General Business District (B-3) on property located at 511 Roanoke Street, identified as Tax Parcel 528-((35))-1 (Parcel ID 031706), and consisting of approximately of 1.008 acres. The property is designated as Business/Commercial on the Future Land Use Map of the 2013 Christiansburg Comprehensive Plan. Town Hall will be open and available to receive public comment in-person at the time of this Public Hearing. A copy of the application, the Town's Zoning Map, Zoning Ordinance, and Future Land Use Map may be viewed in the Planning Department Office, 100 E. Main Street, Christiansburg, VA 24073, during normal office hours of 8:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m. Monday through Friday. Contact Retta Jackson, Planning Director, at (540) 382-6128, Ext. 1120 or by email at rjackson@christiansburg.org, with any questions or if you require reasonable accommodations.

VIRGINIA: IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF MONTGOMERY COUNTY NOTICE OF TAKING PROOF OF DEBTS AND DEMANDS

At the request of the Co-Executors for the Estate of Bonnie Gwen Ferris Ewing, deceased, as provided by §64.2-550 of the Code of Virginia, I hereby designate 9:30 a.m., on the 11th day of June, 2025, as the time, and my office located at 104 South Franklin Street, Christiansburg, Virginia, as the place for receiving proof of debts and demands against the estate. Given under my hand this 16th day of May, 2025. Daniel D. Hamrick
Commissioner of Accounts for Montgomery County
104 S. Franklin Street
Christiansburg, VA 24073
(540) 382-0131

Legals - City of Radford

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING ON THE PROPOSED ISSUANCE OF UP TO \$6,000,000 PRINCIPAL AMOUNT OF CITY OF RADFORD GENERAL OBLIGATION BONDS FOR THE PURPOSE OF REFINANCING CURRENT DEBT AND FINANCING THE REIMBURSEMENT OF CERTAIN CAPITAL EXPENDITURES

Notice is hereby given that the Radford City Council will hold a public hearing in the City Council Chambers, located in the City Administration Building at 10 Robertson Street, Radford, Virginia, on June 17, 2025, during a meeting of the City Council at 7:00 p.m. or as soon thereafter as the matter may be called on the agenda, concerning the proposed issuance by the City of its general obligation bonds (the "Bonds"). The maximum principal amount of the Bonds is estimated to be \$6,000,000 and the purposes of and proposed uses for which more than ten percent of the proceeds of the Bonds are expected to be used is to (1) refinance a portion of the City's outstanding debt issued for school purposes and (2) reimburse the City for prior capital expenditures for certain projects. Persons may appear and present their views at the public hearing. For disabled individuals who may require special auxiliary aids or services, reasonable accommodations will be made available by the City of Radford upon request at least five (5) days in advance of the public hearing. For such accommodation or additional information, please contact the City Manager's office at (540) 731-3603 or (800) 828-1120 (TTD – Virginia Relay Center).

Interim City Manager
City of Radford, Virginia



Legals - City of Radford

NOTICE OF TRUSTEE'S SALE OF IMPROVED REAL ESTATE LOCATED AT: 912 SIXTH STREET, RADFORD, VA 24141 CITY OF RADFORD

Tax Map# 14-(5)-SEC 8-10
ACCOUNT NO: 02-001250
IN EXECUTION OF A DEED OF TRUST IN THE ORIGINAL PRINCIPAL AMOUNT OF \$46,000.00, DATED THE 4TH DAY OF NOVEMBER, 2015, RECORDED IN THE CLERK'S OFFICE OF THE CIRCUIT COURT FOR THE CITY OF RADFORD, VIRGINIA, AS INSTRUMENT NO. 2015-1066. DEFAULT HAVING OCCURRED IN THE PAYMENT OF THE NOTE SECURED THEREBY, AND AT THE REQUEST OF THE HOLDER OF THE NOTE, THE UNDERSIGNED SUBSTITUTE TRUSTEE, WILL OFFER FOR SALE AT PUBLIC AUCTION AT THE ENTRANCE OF THE CIRCUIT COURT FOR THE CITY OF RADFORD, LOCATED AT: 619 SECOND STREET, RADFORD, VIRGINIA 24141, ON 20TH DAY OF JUNE, 2025 AT 10:00 A.M., THE REAL ESTATE WITH IMPROVEMENTS THEREON, LYING AND BEING SITUATE IN THE CITY OF RADFORD,

Legals - City of Radford

STATE OF VIRGINIA AND MORE PARTICULARLY DESCRIBED AS FOLLOWS.

ALL that certain lot or parcel of and, together with all the buildings and improvements thereon ad privileges and appurtenances thereunto belonging, fronting 50 feet on the southeastern side of Sixth Street, designated as Lot No. 10, Section 8, Plan G, upon a plat entitled, "Survey Of Lots For Lynchburg Foundry Co., Radford, Virginia" made by Childress Hall, County Surveyor, Christiansburg, Virginia, dated July 27, 1946, which said plat is recorded in the Clerk's Office of the Circuit Court of the City of Radford, Virginia, in Deed Book 45, Page 102 & 103; the building thereon being known as: 912 Sixth Street, Radford, VA. Tax Map No. 14*(5) *Sec. 8-10
Account No. 02*001250
ADDRESS: 912 SIXTH STREET, RADFORD, VIRGINIA 24141

SALE WILL BE MADE SUBJECT TO ALL EXISTING EASEMENTS AND RESTRICTIVE COVENANTS AS THE SAME MAY LAWFULLY AFFECT THE REAL ESTATE.

TERMS OF SALE: CERTIFIED FUNDS OR CASHIER'S CHECK. A BIDDERS DEPOSIT OF TEN PERCENT (10%) OF THE SALES PRICE, WITH FULL SETTLEMENT TO

Legals - City of Radford

BE MADE WITHIN FIFTEEN (15) DAYS FROM DATE OF SALE. ADDITIONAL TERMS MAY BE ANNOUNCED AT THE TIME OF SALE THIS NOTICE IS AN ATTEMPT TO COLLECT A DEBT AND ANY INFORMATION OBTAINED WILL BE USED FOR THAT PURPOSE.

PLACE OF SALE: FRONT OF RADFORD CITY COURTHOUSE, 619 SECOND STREET, RADFORD, VIRGINIA
DATE OF SALE: JUNE 20, 2025
TIME OF SALE: 10:00 AM
Daniel D. Hamrick, PC, Trustee

By: Daniel D. Hamrick, Agent
FOR INFORMATION CONTACT:
Daniel D. Hamrick, Agent for
Daniel D. Hamrick, P.C., Trustee
104 South Franklin Street
Christiansburg, VA 24073
(540) 382-0131

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DREW PEREZ

continued from page 12

Drew's parents, Jill and Scott Perez, have had to adjust to Drew not being around all the time.

"It's been incredibly hard," said Jill, who is the first year girls' tennis coach at Salem High School. "The decision for him to move to Hilton Head Island to Smith Stearns happened two weeks before school was scheduled to start in August of last year. We had to make a quick decision, and it was not easy. Ultimately, we knew it was becoming too hard to piece meal together daily training for Drew here in the Roanoke Valley. Most kids his level train for four to five hours a day with players at their level or higher. We simply don't have that here and if Drew had any chance at playing in college, we knew we needed to give him the opportunity to maximize his potential, whatever that may be."

Drew comes from a sports oriented family. His grandfather, Bob Archer, played linebacker for state football championship teams at Andrew Lewis under legendary coach Eddie Joyce. Bob's younger sister Jackie played basketball and tennis on the first Salem High teams when it opened in 1977 and she was outstanding in both.

Jill, Bob's daughter, was a standout tennis player at Salem High and Radford University and her sister Lori (now Rabile) was a champion distance runner at Salem High who went on to run at Wake Forest. Drew's dad, Scott Perez, started playing tennis after college and that's where he met Jill.

While Drew is now "all tennis" it wasn't always that way. He played on Salem Recreation football and basketball teams and played tennis and lacrosse until the eighth grade, when he decided his future would be tennis.

"Lacrosse was actually my favorite," he said. "When I decided tennis would be my main focus there was no point to playing lacrosse. There wasn't enough time to do both."

Mom made sure she didn't push her son into the sport that has meant so much to her.

"My husband Scott is also a tennis player, so Drew had no option but to give tennis a try at a young age," said Jill. "We knew early on he had great hand-eye coordination to make contact with the ball on the tennis court but that also translated on the lax field. I wasn't sure how it would pan out but, of course, I secretly wanted him to learn to love tennis as it was something he could do for life. I tried not to push him, and I knew it had to be his decision."

By his freshman year Drew was already one of the top players in the state. Salem High boys' coach Steve



Lily could see him coming.

"Drew is among the most talented players I have coached," said Lily. "Scott Gibson (former SHS coach) told me he noticed Drew's ability at once years ago."

"I have coached over 60 nationally-ranked players and about 12 who played pro tennis with varying success. I raised a girl who was the national high school champion. Three students won USTA national events and one was an Israeli national winner. Their success is, of course, attributed to their own skill and perseverance."

"One of my assistants was the on-court coach of John McEnroe under legendary coach Harry Hopman, coach of Laver, Rosewall, Newcome, Roche, Emerson. He showed me some racquet control exercises and tricks John would do and my opinion is that Drew has a special aptitude for controlling the racquet face and has some tricks of his own."

"Drew is still in rapid-improving mode. Training at the Smith Stearns Academy has helped move his game up a notch from 2024. There is much upside."

While Drew is the undisputed "big dog" on the Salem High team he doesn't come off as cocky or condescending.

"All the players on the team respect Drew," said Lily. "They admire his tennis, but more importantly we all enjoy his team spirit, good humor, and willingness to play with everyone, even beginners. He was a rock star at last year's tennis camp conducted with the Recreation Department."

Drew plans on playing college tennis but isn't looking to make a career of it. His goal is to study finance and continue playing tennis for fun. Professional tennis is not in his future.

"In professional tennis the level is ridiculous," he said. "College is so competitive, the top Division I schools are comprised of mostly international players. In professional tennis you're basically competing against the rest of the world."

Tommy McDonald, a former Salem High and collegiate standout, is one of Drew's practice partners. Tommy is quite the competitor and he still plays for fun.

"Tennis is a lifetime sport," said Perez. "A lot of kids get burned out on the game but I still find it fun. It's hard work, but the fun comes with winning."

The Perez family has made lots of friends on the court, both through Jill and Scott's experiences and now raising Drew.

"Tennis is a sport that everyone should learn," said Jill. "It's a sport for life and you meet so many wonderful people on the tennis courts. I met my husband on the tennis courts in Raleigh and we have so many wonderful tennis friends here in the Roanoke Valley."

"The O'Keefes are not just friends, but we consider them family. Chris O'Keefe was my coach growing up and we both played at Salem High School and at Radford University. I was Patrick and Harrison's regular babysitter and would travel on vacations with them to watch the boys. Chris has been Drew's coach since he was five years old and he and Patrick are like brothers! I can promise you, Drew would not be where he is today without the support and encouragement of the O'Keefe family. It has taken a village to



PHOTO BY BRIAN HOFFMAN

Drew Perez loads up for a backhand in a recent match at Hidden Valley High School.

get Drew to where he is today."

While Drew has played in many prestigious tournaments, the Virginia High School League matches are right up there. Jill and Scott will be on the edge of their seats in the weeks ahead as Drew pursues a second straight state championship. He'll also be playing with the team and doubles with teammate Logan Butcher, Salem's number two player. They're undefeated in doubles, including Monday's region quarterfinal win over the duo from E.C. Glass.

"I always get a little nervous, but I have never felt as nervous as I did last year at the Regional Finals and the State Semi-Final match," said Jill. "We knew the opponent in the semi-finals was going to be more difficult than the potential opponent in the finals. Tournaments are typically played to gauge a player's progress and there is always a consolation bracket. You lose your first round, and you move to play through the back draw. The school regional and state tournaments are one and done. He was playing for his school and if you lose, it's over. I know for a fact, I was way more nervous than Drew was."

Drew is excited to be back in the state tournament, and at the end of the day he knows it's up to him. There's not much mom or Coach Lily can do once the volleying begins.

"Steve is very encouraging and supportive, but in the end it's just you and yourself," said Drew. "It can be tough mentally. If something goes wrong you have to figure it out on your own."

So far, Drew's been able to do just that. His success speaks for itself as he begins his quest to defend his state championship this week.

Salem competes in Region 4D tennis

The Region 4D tennis tournament is underway and the Salem players have been successful so far.

Region team play began last Friday and the fourth seeded Salem boys took a 6-2 win over the top seed, Jefferson Forest. The match was stopped by darkness with Salem having clinched at that point.

The Salem boys' team will now play Blacksburg today, Thursday. The Salem girls' team did not make the region final.

Individual singles and doubles began Monday

and Salem swept the opposition. In singles Drew Perez won his boys' match 6-0, 6-0 against the GW-Danville number one while Salem's Claire Rawlins beat her Jefferson Forest foe, 6-2, 6-4. In doubles Perez and Logan Butcher beat E.C. Glass, 6-3, 6-3 and Rawlins teamed with Caroline Loveday to beat the Halifax duo, 6-2, 6-1.

Singles semis and final were scheduled for Tuesday with doubles semis and final on Wednesday, but results were too late for publication.

Region 2C tennis is in Radford this week

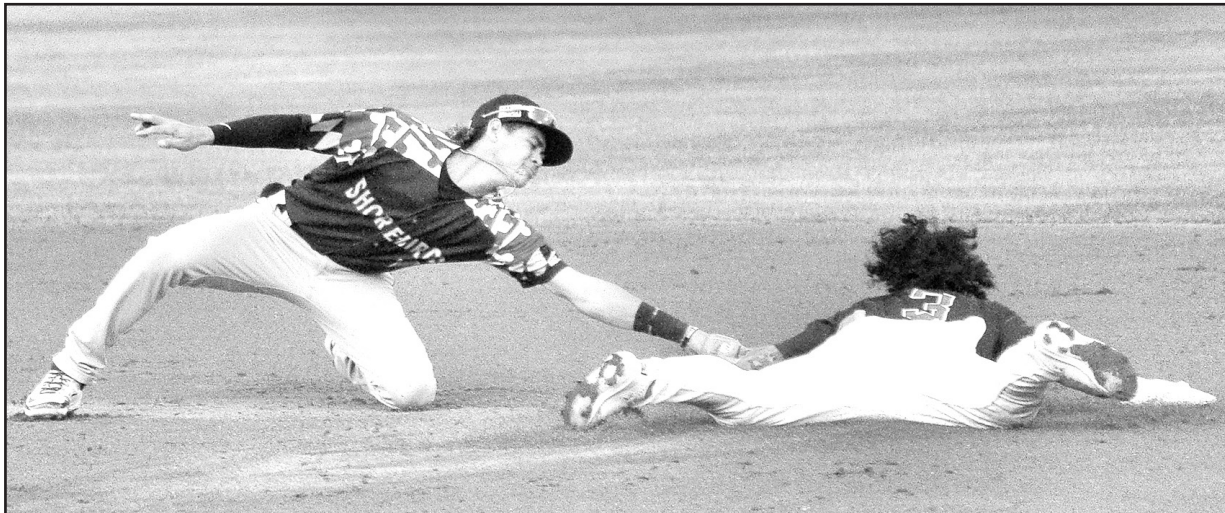
The Glenvar tennis players were hoping to get in some matches after Region 2C tournaments were washed out on Monday and Tuesday of this week.

The Glenvar boys ended the regular season with a 6-3 loss to Radford last week. The Highlanders were scheduled to play George Wythe on Wednesday in the Region 2C quarterfinal.

"We lost to Radford in a very close match that went down to the end," said coach Bob Haynie. "We've closed the gap since the last time we played them and look forward to playing them again if we can win against George Wythe."

Alec McIlwain will represent Glenvar in the singles tournament and team with Connor Wilkes in doubles.

The girls ended the regular season with a 9-0 loss to Floyd. They're scheduled to play Appomattox to open the region.



PHOTOS BY BRIAN HOFFMAN

Above, Fraymi De Leon of the Salem Red Sox is safe at second in Saturday's game with Delmarva. Below, "Roger Clamons" of the Zooperstars spits out a lightly clad ballplayer during a between innings routine to the delight of the Salem crowd.



Red Sox hope to pick up ground in Zebulon

The Salem Red Sox are back on the road this week after going 2-4

in last week's homestand with the Delmarva Shorebirds. The Sox are off to Zebulon, NC this week to take on the Carolina League North Division leading Carolina Mudcats.

The Mudcats, a Milwaukee Brewers farm team, are 29-15 following last week's results and three and a half games ahead of second place Lynchburg in the North Division standings. Salem finished the homestand at 19-25, exactly 10 games behind the Mudcats.

Last week in Salem the Sox dropped the first two games of the

six game series with Delmarva, losing 11-9 and 14-4. They bounced back with a 10-3 win on Thursday, lost 11-5 on Friday then won 4-3 Saturday in front of a big crowd to see the Zooperstars promotion. Yoeilin Cespedes and Natanael Yuten had two hits each and Jay Allmer picked up the win with three one-hit innings of shutout ball in relief for Salem.

On Sunday the Sox had a chance to break even for the week and had a 5-2 lead after five innings. However, the Birds scored two in the sixth, two in the seventh

and one in the eighth to pull out a 7-5 "get-away day" win and take the series four games to two.

On Tuesday outfielder Eddy Azocar was assigned to Salem from the FCL Red Sox. Also, the Portland Sea Dogs sent righthand pitcher Noah Song to the Sox on a rehab assignment last weekend. Song, a hard-throwing righthander, pitched a scoreless first inning Saturday, striking out two of the three batters he faced.

After this week's series in Zebulon the Sox will return home June 3rd to host Lynchburg for six games.

LYNCHBURG HILLCATS VS SALEM RED SOX

JUNE 3rd	6:35 PM
<i>2 for 1 Tuesday</i>	
JUNE 4th	6:35 PM
<i>Wing Wednesday</i>	
JUNE 5th	6:35 PM
<i>Country Night / Bark in the Park</i>	
JUNE 6th	6:35 PM
<i>Pickleback Night / Fireworks</i>	
JUNE 7th	6:35 PM
<i>Star Wars Night</i>	
JUNE 8th	6:35 PM
<i>Fatherhood Day</i>	

SALEM RED SOX

SALEM RED SOX

SALEM RED SOX

RC hires Wilkes to direct the "Marching Maroons" band

When the Roanoke College marching band takes the field at Maroon football games this fall it will be under the direction of Salem's own Chris Wilkes. The Roanoke College athletic department announced Tuesday the hiring of Wilkes as the College's Director of Bands.



CHRIS WILKES

"We are fortunate to have Chris join us as the new band director," said Curtis Campbell, Roanoke's Director of Athletics. "His background and experience make him the perfect fit for the position. I look forward to watching him groom our students into an amazing band"

Basketball fans got a look at Chris this past season as he directed the pep band, who performed behind the basket on the "windows end" of the

Cregger Center during several Maroon games. He'll be back in that position next winter, and in addition to directing the school's marching and spirit bands he will be teaching two instrumental classes for the fine arts department: Jazz Band and Wind Ensemble.

"I am looking forward to directing the bands at Roanoke College," said Wilkes. "I fell in love with the college during my three years as the men's and women's tennis coach. I am excited about the challenge of building a marching band program at Roanoke College."

Wilkes hails from Rocky Mount, Virginia. After graduating from Franklin County High School, he studied music at James Madison University. There, he studied trumpet under James Kluesner and marched with the JMU Marching Royal Dukes. During his time with the MRD's, the band was awarded the Sudler Cup, which honors the nation's top college marching band. Wilkes performed with the JMU



PHOTOS BY BRIAN HOFFMAN

Chris Wilkes, right, directed the Roanoke College "Spirit Band" at Maroon basketball games during the winter.

Trumpet Ensemble, Jazz Band, Concert Band, Wind Symphony, and Symphonic Band before graduating with a degree in Music Education in 1995.

Wilkes was a high school and middle school band director for 18 years. He taught at Staunton River Middle and High Schools, Andrew Lewis Middle School and Salem High School. In 2010, Wilkes was recognized as the Andrew Lewis and Salem City Teacher of the Year. He was also named a Paul Harris Fellow by the Salem Rotary Club for outstanding contributions to the Salem community. In 2010, Wilkes received his Master of Education degree from the Curry School at the University of Virginia.

From 2010-2012, Wilkes served as the Fine Arts Coordinator for the Roanoke City Public Schools where he served 68 fine arts teachers and over 12,000 students. In 2012 Chris returned to Salem to direct the band program at Salem High School. At SHS, he directed the Symphonic, Concert, and Jazz Bands as

well as the "Pride of Salem" marching band.

Wilkes has been a long-time member of the soul band Sunset Drive. He has backed up such artists as Percy Sledge, Archie Bell, Dee Dee Sharp, Eddie Floyd, Jerry Butler and the Impressions. He has performed in 13 states and two countries with Percy Sledge, including a performance on ABC's Good Morning America. He has twice performed at the Lincoln Center in Manhattan and once shared the stage with legend Jerry Lee Lewis. He has performed on two albums and one DVD with Percy Sledge.

Wilkes has spent the last several years as a school administrator in Salem. Wilkes is no stranger to Roanoke College as he was the head coach of the RC Men's and Women's Tennis teams for three seasons starting in 2020.

Wilkes resides in Salem with his wife, Kristen, two children, Andrew and Jenna, and Yellow Lab Duke.



PHOTOS BY BRIAN HOFFMAN

There's joy in Salem!!

There was a lot of joy, at least for the winners, when the City of Salem hosted the NCAA Division II and Division III women's lacrosse national championships at Kerr Stadium on the campus of Roanoke College last week. Left, Tampa girls react to a goal in their 15-9 win over Adelphi in the D-II women's championship on Saturday. Right, girls from Middlebury celebrate with the D-III trophy after defeating Tufts, 10-9, on Sunday. It was the second straight Division II championship for Tampa and the fourth consecutive Division III national championship for Middlebury.

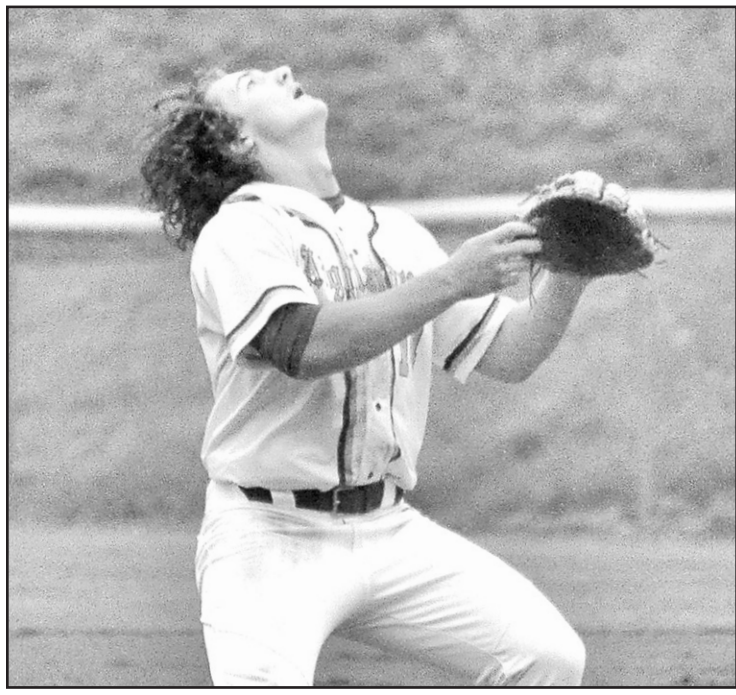


PHOTO BY BRIAN HOFFMAN

Glenvar pitcher Jake Franklin loses his hat but manages to catch a high pop up in last week's game with James River.

GHS baseball at Dan River

The Glenvar High baseball team is headed to Ringgold today to open Region 2C tournament play. The Highlanders are scheduled to face Dan River at 5:30 pm.

Dan River is the fourth seed in the eight-team tournament while Glenvar comes in as the fifth seed. The Highlanders are 9-11 overall after opening the season 0-6. They've been on the verge of climbing back to .500 several times but haven't quite been able to get there. Coach Jeremy Cromer hopes to do that in the post-season.

"Last year Dan River came here for a region game with a 9-11 record and they beat us and went on to the state semifinal," said Cromer. "I feel like we have the pitching to go far if we hit the ball like I know we can."

The Highlanders split two games to end the regular season last week. On Wednesday they hosted James River and dropped a 10-3 decision that might have cost them a first round region home game. The Highlanders beat the Knights the first time around, 7-1 in Buchanan, but this time it was all River as the visitors scored 10 runs on just six hits while taking advantage of four Glenvar errors. Six of River's 10 runs were unearned.

On Friday the Highlanders bounced back with a 5-3 win at Floyd County in nine innings. Glenvar was down 3-0 after six innings but freshman Cam Fezell blasted a three-run homer in the top of the seventh to tie the game. Fezell then singled in Jack Osburn, who had walked and moved to second on a sacrifice bunt, for what proved to be the winning run in the top of the ninth. Rhett Henderson knocked in an insurance run and Gray Hutchison closed out the game on the mound for the win. Hutchison pitched two no-hit innings after Cale Vaughan pitched the first seven.

If Glenvar can win today the Highlanders would advance to the region semifinals next week. The semifinals and finals will be played at Ferrum College.

Salem softball is second seed in Region 4D

The Salem High softball team will open Region 4D "sub-region" play next Monday, June 2nd, at the James I. Moyer Complex. The Spartans are the number

two seed and will host Amherst at 6 pm.

Salem is the River Ridge District champion at 13-1 and the Spartans finished with a 17-4-1 overall regular sea-

son record. The softball south division sub-region finals are scheduled for June 4, and the winner of that game is assured a spot in the state tournament.

Glenvar and River meet again in softball today

The Glenvar softball team will play James River for the third time in 11 days to open the Region 2C tournament. The Highlanders will host River today, Thursday, at 5 pm.

Last week the Knights hosted the Highlanders on Monday, May 19, and Glenvar took a 3-1 win in Springwood. Two days later at Glenvar, both teams hit the ball much better as Glenvar took a 12-5 win.

Glenvar trailed in this one, 4-3 into the home fifth. Then, with two outs in the bottom of the fifth, Glenvar's Audrey Moles hit a hard infield single to shortstop. A single by Abby Teubert and an intentional walk to Hannah Street preceded a huge base hit to right field by Haley Leginus. The hit, compounded by a Knight error, led to all three base runners and Leginus scoring on the play. Amelia Gierke then singled and scored on a single by Carsyn Mables, putting Glenvar ahead 8-4 and that was pretty much the ballgame.

Glenvar had 14 hits in the game, including three each by Teubert and Gierke. Street had two hits, including a home run, and drove in four runs. Teubert and Street split time on the mound, striking out five and allowing seven hits.

On Friday the Highlanders traveled to Floyd for the final game of the regular season and came up a run short, 5-4. Glenvar had several chances to tie the score but wasn't successful in getting the runner across the plate. The Highlanders had 10 hits with Zella Hayes, Madison Duncan, Hayden Hartz and Street all having two each. Teubert went all seven innings on the mound.

With the loss the Highlanders finished 14-7 in the regular season, earning the fourth seed in the region. Tonight's winner will advance to the semifinals, and the semis and finals will both be played at the Botetourt Sports Complex next week.



PHOTO BY BRIAN HOFFMAN

Glenvar girls greet Hannah Street at the plate after her home run against James River last week.

A dozen Maroons make All-Region in track

The U.S. Track & Field and Cross Country Coaches Association (USTFCCCA) has announced its 2025 NCAA Division III Outdoor Track & Field All-Region honorees, and Roanoke had 12 athletes included on the list.

Seven members of the women's team secured All-South Region recognition in four events, while the men's squad was represented by five athletes across four competitions.

For the women, Ophelia Ladner was selected in the 400m hurdles, while Olivia Viers garnered the accolade in the 100m hurdles. Both Roanoke relay teams also earned All-Region honors, with the 4x100 squad of Nalonda Henderson, Eleanor Hinckley, Mae Kaufman and Lindsey Hobin recognized alongside the 4x400 quartet of Kaufman, Ladner, Hobin and Maryrose Molina-Shuman.

Brady Fowler highlighted the All-Region performers on the men's side by securing honors in three separate events, including an individual nod in both the 100m and 200m. Amari Carter joined him in the 100m,

and the 4x100 relay team of Carter, Fowler, Drew Bitzer and Bryson Hill was also recognized. Jim Sarsfield rounded out the honors with an All-Region designation in the hammer throw.

Several Maroons competed in the NCAA Division III Outdoor Championships in Geneva, Ohio last week. Carter and Fowler secured All-America status in the 100m dash. Racing in the same heat in the preliminary rounds, Carter and Fowler finished back-to-back with times of 10.68 and 10.69 seconds. They placed third and fourth in their heat, and their times were good for 15th and 16th overall in the prelims. Those finishes earned Second Team All-America honors for both Maroons.

In the women's Division III national meet Ladner placed 12th overall in the 400m hurdles. She clocked in at 1:02.65 in the preliminary rounds. Coming in as the 22nd overall seed, she placed fifth in her heat and 12th overall in the field of 22 athletes. Ladner's 12th-place finish earns her Second Team All-America honors.

Region track meets are this week, Highlanders will host Region 2C

Region track meets are scheduled for Salem and Glenvar teams this week, with the Highlanders hosting the Region 2C meet.

Salem was scheduled to run in the Region 4D meet on Tuesday at Millbrook High School. Results were too late for publication.

Glenvar is scheduled to host the Region 2C meet at Highlander Stadium on Friday, but

that was up in the air at press time with thunderstorms predicted for mid-day Friday. The meet is scheduled to begin at 8:30 am but it could be moved back to Saturday.

The Highlanders ran in the Three Rivers District meet at Floyd County last Thursday. In the boys' meet Tyson Hobbs took second in both the high jump and long jump and was third in both the 100 and 200 meter runs.

Matthew Johnson was third in the 110 hurdles and fourth places went to Tre Dawyot in the 200, Aldin Smith in the 1,600 and Asher Faught in the 3,200.

For the girls, Sophia Hammersley won the 100 hurdles in 17.72. Anna Hall took second in the 1,600 and third in the 800. Kailee McDonald was third in the high jump and Jade Evans took third in the 100 hurdles.



Glenvar 8th grader wins two-mile race in Glen Allen

Zachary Davis, left, an eighth grader at Glenvar Middle School, won the two mile event at the first ever Middle School Outdoor Track & Field State Championships. The meet was held on Saturday, May 24, in Glen Allen, VA. Zachary ran for the Apex Elite Track Club. He won the two mile event with a time of 10:32. He's the son of Lee and Ronnie Davis of Roanoke County.

COURTESY PHOTO



UVAATHLETICS PHOTO

Jeremiah Wilson glides over a hurdle at a track meet at the University of Virginia.

Salem's Wilson qualifies for NCAA East Regional track meet

Salem's Jeremiah Wilson, a senior at the University of Virginia, has qualified for the NCAA East Regional Track Meet at the University of North Florida in Jacksonville, FL this week. Wilson will be competing in the 110 high hurdles.

This will be the first round of regional competition. Florida will host the east first round and Texas A&M University, in College Station, Texas will host the west first round. The qualifiers out of these two regions will compete in the NCAA DI men's and women's outdoor track and field championships held June 11-14 in Eugene, Oregon.

Wilson qualified for the East Regional at the ACC meet at Kentner Stadium on the campus of Wake Forest University on May 17. Jeremiah finished 10th in the 110 high hurdles with a personal best time of 13.95, the sixth best all-time mark in UVA track history.

In a prior meet this year Jeremiah won the men's 110-meter hurdles at the Colonial Relays in Williamsburg, crossing the line in 14.17 seconds. During the indoor season he ran a season's best in the 60 meter hurdles at the ACC championships and he also took a bronze medal in the 60 hurdles final at the Virginia Tech Challenge with a time of 8.07.

Wilson, the son of Salem's Tra and Kristy Wilson, was the Virginia High School League Class 4 champion in the 55 hurdles in 2020. He was named all-state five times for the Spartans before the outdoor meet his senior year was cancelled due to the COVID pandemic.

Region 4D soccer this week

The Salem High boys and girls soccer teams will open Region 4D sub-region play this week with the boys at home and the girls on the road.

Both teams were scheduled to open tournament play on Wednesday. The girls were 11-6 and they were at 12-7-1 Mecklenburg County. The boys,

who also finished the regular season 11-6, were scheduled to host 10-6 Halifax.

Wednesday's winner will advance to the sub-region semifinals next Monday. If the Salem boys won they would be at Blacksburg for a third meeting of the season with the Bruins.

Glenvar soccer teams host girls-boys region doubleheader

The Glenvar soccer teams will begin defense of their 2024 state championships this Friday with a girls-boys doubleheader at Highlander Stadium. The girls will play at 6 pm with the boys at approximately 7:45 pm against opponents that were yet to be determined at press time.

The Glenvar girls enter the post-season at 14-2 and they've won their last 13 in a row. Glenvar was undefeated in Three Rivers District play to claim the district championship. The girls finished the regular season with a 7-1 win over James River on Senior Night at Highlander Stadium last week. Cam Stevens had two goals, Davin Tate had a goal

and two assists and Annie George, Sawyer Wilson, Adalee Harvey and Avery Steger had one goal each.

The boys wrapped up their regular season at James River and polished off their district championship with an overall record of 17-0. The two-time defending state champion Highlanders have not lost in their last 55 games dating back to the spring of 2023. This season Glenvar has outscored the opposition 102-2, not counting a 1-0 win over Floyd when the Buffaloes forfeited the game last Friday.

Last week in Buchanan the Highlanders scored five goals in the first 15 minutes of the game to get out to an early lead over the Knights. Goal scorers

were Kian Fisher and Evan Harris with two each and a goal apiece by Aidan Hylton, Luke Farmer, Kees Van Gerven, Griffin Geddes and Levi King. Wesley Feliciano (2), Farmer, Alan Vu, Seth Nichols, King, Grayson Shepherd, Tyler Curfiss, and Jackson Jones picked up assists as Glenvar out-shot their hosts 33-3.

"We started the game much better than the previous two games," said coach Josh Jones. "We have to bring that fire each and every time we take the field as we head into the postseason. It was a tremendous regular season but now it's time to refocus and look to postseason play."



PHOTOS BY BRIAN HOFFMAN

Left, Glenvar's Anna Vecellio(#8 in black) and Camryn Stevens(#2) get out of the way as they watch Davin Tate's corner kick go past James River goalie Kylee Aaron and straight into the goal in the Highlanders 7-1 win over the Knights last week. Right, Kees Van Gerven of the Glenvar boys team passes the ball in a match last week.

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Perez is back in town trying to win another state ring

Salem High junior spends most of his days at Smith Stearns Academy

by Brian Hoffman, Sports Editor

Salem High junior Drew Perez has begun his quest for a second straight Virginia High School League tennis singles championship this week in the Region 4D tournament. Perez is undefeated coming into the tournament and 48-3 in singles during his high school career through Monday's region quarterfinals, which he won 6-0, 6-0.

Drew comes into the post-season as the favorite and defending state champ. The two players who beat him in the past three years won't be in the tournament. As a freshman he lost in the region tournament to Gordon Fairborn, a senior at the time who went on to win the state championship. Last year he lost one match during the season to Lucas Beasley of Christiansburg, but Drew beat him the second time they played and they didn't go up against each other in the post-season as Christiansburg is a Class 3 school and Salem is Class 4.

"We've always had battles," said Perez of Beasley. "We'd go to tournaments together and we've played doubles together. He's become a good friend."

Drew defeated Neel Pasunuri of Broad Run in last year's championship match, 6-3, 6-0, to claim the Class 4 title. One of his toughest matches was against Sean Frank of Charlottesville in the region final and Frank is back in the tournament this year and anxious for a rematch this week.

This season has been a little different for Drew, as he's spent much of the school year at the Smith Stearns Tennis Academy on Hilton Head Island in South Carolina. He's been taking classes at Salem High on line and he's been home enough to play the required number of matches for state tournament participation.

When he's at Hilton Head he's been staying with Chris O'Keefe, who has a house five minutes away from the Smith Stearns courts. She was Chris Nelson when she was a standout player for Salem High, and after marrying Mike O'Keefe their two boys, Patrick and Harrison, won state championships with the Spartans.

Chris has given lessons to many of the top play-



PHOTO COURTESY SHS TENNIS

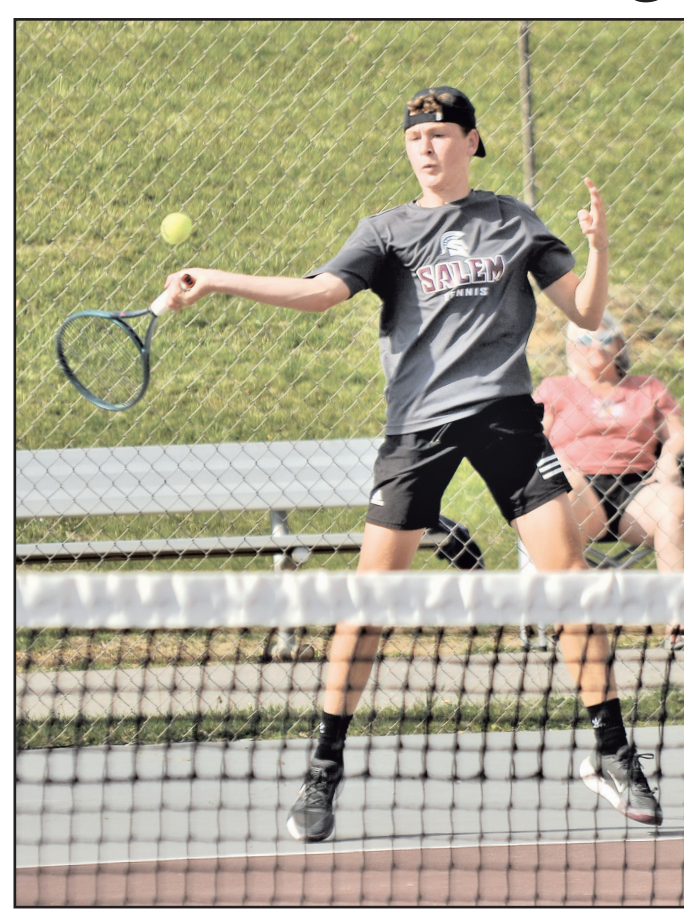


PHOTO BY BRIAN HOFFMAN

Left is Salem's Drew Perez after winning the Class 4 singles championship last spring, and right hitting a baseline shot in a match at Salem this season.

ers in the area, and now goes back and forth between Salem and Hilton Head. Patrick is the Director of Tennis at the Sea Pines Racquet Club, and they share courts with the Smith Stearns Academy. Harrison O'Keefe lives in Dallas and gives lessons there.

It's been an interesting experience for Drew. In the past he spent a few weeks at the academy in the summer, but living there full time has not only upped his game but given him an insight on what it takes to be a champion tennis player. His daily routine is a challenging one at the academy, founded by tennis legend Stan Smith.

"I wake up early at around 7:30," said Perez. "Then

I practice tennis from 8 to 10 before getting a break from 10 to 2:30. That's when I do my school work. I really like learning in person better but I figure this will help prepare me for college.

"At 2:30 I'm back on the tennis court until 4:30. Then, from 4:30 to either 5:30 or 6:30, depending on what day it is, I have conditioning."

If you wonder why someone needs "conditioning" after playing tennis for four hours during the day you're probably not alone.

"It's crazy," said Drew. "I'm so tired by the end of the day."

continued on page 9

Spartans slaughter rule PH to clinch RRD baseball pennant

The Salem High baseball team is the River Ridge District champion. The Spartans beat Patrick Henry last Friday, 15-4, to finish with the best district record and lay claim to the first place trophy.

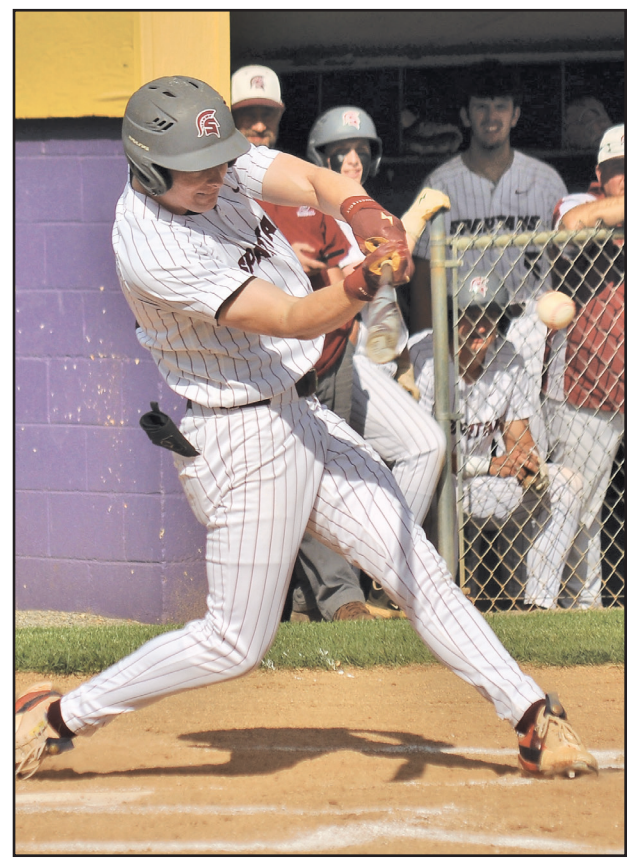
Salem finished the regular season with a 10-2 RRD record and a 15-6 record overall. That's good for third place in the Region 4D sub-region tournament, and the Spartans will open tournament play at Blacksburg next Monday, June 2nd.

The Spartans wrapped up the regular season at Patrick Henry last Friday. It would have been "Senior Night" in Salem but the postponed game was moved to PH because a "Movie Night" was scheduled at Kiwanis Field, the Spartans home diamond. The players decided not to celebrate Senior Night in Roanoke, but all the seniors got a good amount of playing time as Salem cruised to the win.

Senior Keegan Craighead started on the mound and picked up the win. Craighead pitched four innings and allowed four runs while striking out two. Carter Black threw one inning to close out the slaughter rule win.

Seniors Black and Trace Monroe led the offense with three doubles and six runs scored between them. Monroe had two doubles, giving him 24 for his four year Salem career and a new school record for two-baggers. Brayden White and Zach Bock each drove in two runs.

Jefferson Forest is the top seed in the sub-region and will play the winner of a



PHOTOS BY BRIAN HOFFMAN

Left, Salem's Trace Monroe hammers a double against Patrick Henry Friday to set a new school record for doubles in a career. Right, Keegan Craighead pitches against the Patriots and picks up a win to clinch the River Ridge District title.

game between fourth seeded Halifax and fifth seed E.C. Glass in the semifinal on Monday. The winner of that

game will meet the Salem-Blacksburg winner in the south sub-region final, and the south winner will then play

the north sub-region winner and both will qualify for the state Class 4 tournament.



PHOTO BY EDMEE CR HASLER

Salem's Logan Sparks(left in white) screens for Jackson Jones in last week's win over Blacksburg.

Salem boys will host JF for region lacrosse championship tonight

Girls season ends with loss to Bruins in region semis

The Region D lacrosse championships are scheduled to be played this week and Salem will host the boys' championship tonight at 7 pm.

Salem reached the final with an 18-2 win over Blacksburg in a steady rain at Salem's Spartan Field Tuesday. With the win the Spartans improved their record to 13-3 overall.

The Salem boys will host Jefferson Forest tonight for the region crown. The Cavaliers defeated E.C. Glass on Tuesday to earn a spot in the championship against Salem. The Spartans defeated Jefferson Forest in Salem on April 1st, 14-7.

The Salem boys ended the regular season with a 23-0 win over Blacksburg at Spartan Field last week. Holden Custer had six goals for Salem, Jackson Jones and Parker Dallas had three each and scoring twice were Ronnie Frith, Ty Hicklin and Ethan Russell. Custer and Tucker Preas had three assists each.

The girls were at Blacksburg for their semifinal game Tuesday and lost to the top-seeded Bruins, 14-12. It was the exact same score that the Spartans lost to the Bruins by two weeks on May 14, also in Blacksburg.

With the loss the Salem girls end their season with an 8-7 overall record. Blacksburg improved to 15-1 with the win and the Bruins will host the Region D championship game against an opponent yet to be determined at press time.