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Macy hopes to represent Salem, 6th Congressional District

Aila Boyd
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Author and former journalist Beth Macy has announced her candidacy for the Democratic primary in Virginia's 6th Congressional District, a Republican-held seat that includes Salem and much of western Virginia. Macy made the announcement in November.

The district is currently represented by Republican Rep. Ben Cline, who has served in the U.S. House since 2019. Cline sits on the House committees on the judiciary, appropriations and the budget. Before his election to Congress, he served in the Virginia House of Delegates from 2002 to 2018, representing the 24th District

and chairing the Committee on Militia, Police, and Public Safety.

Macy, a Roanoke resident, spent 25 years as a reporter at The Roanoke Times, where she covered communities across western Virginia. She later gained national recognition as a best-selling author focusing on rural America, economic change and public health.

Her first book, *Factory Man*, examined the effects of globalization on small towns and manufacturing communities. Her 2018 book, *Dopesick*, investigated the opioid epidemic and the role of pharmaceutical companies; it later became an Emmy- and Peabody-winning Hulu series on which Macy served as a writer and producer. Her

most recent book, *Paper Girl*, reflects on her upbringing and career in journalism.

In announcing her campaign, Macy said her decision to run grew out of years of reporting on families struggling with addiction, job loss and limited access to health care and other services. She said she believes the political system increasingly favors corporations and wealthy donors over working families, particularly in rural areas.

Macy said her priorities include making life more affordable for working families, expanding access to health and mental health care, investing in rural communities and improving economic opportunity for children.

She has also been critical of Cline's voting record, saying he has opposed addiction treatment programs, measures aimed at reducing health care costs and investments in rural communities. Cline has defended his record as consistent with fiscal restraint and conservative principles.

The 6th Congressional District stretches from the Roanoke and Shenandoah valleys to the West Virginia border and has been reliably Republican in recent federal elections. Democrats have not held the seat since 2003.

Macy will seek the Democratic nomination in 2026, challenging Cline in what is expected to be a closely watched race in western Virginia.



Macy

COURTESY PHOTO



COURTESY PHOTO

Pictured from left to right are Rhonda Stoots, April McCadden, Mary Jones and Robert Shupe.

Roanoke College honors employees with 2025 STAR Awards

Roanoke College recognized four staff members for exemplary service during its annual holiday gathering on Dec. 17, presenting the 2025 Service to All Roanoke (STAR) Awards. The awards honor staff who exceed expectations in their roles and exemplify the Maroon spirit through positive contributions to the campus and broader community.

The STAR Awards are presented annually to staff members across three categories—

hourly, non-exempt and exempt. Recipients are selected through a nomination process and receive a commemorative trophy and a cash prize.

Robert Shupe, a longtime member of the Buildings and Grounds Department, was honored in the hourly category. Shupe has served the college for 37 years and has played a significant role in shaping the campus landscape, installing extensive brick pavers that have become a visual hallmark

of Roanoke College. Known for his collaborative and solution-oriented approach, Shupe also contributes his time beyond his primary duties, serving as a team coach for the bass fishing team and supporting the cycling team and campus food truck by maintaining equipment and vehicles. His sustained commitment reflects the college's mission and values.

Also receiving an award in

See STAR, page 2

Three killed in I-81 crash in Roanoke County

Aila Boyd
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Virginia State Police are investigating a two-vehicle crash on Interstate 81 in Roanoke County that left three people dead and three others injured.

The crash occurred at 11:08 p.m. Monday, Dec. 22, on northbound I-81 near the 145-mile marker, according to state police.

Police said a 2014 Volvo tractor-trailer was traveling north when it ran off the right side of the roadway and struck a 2025 Honda Odyssey that was stopped on the right shoulder.

There were six occupants in the Honda, all from Charlotte, North Carolina. The driver, 65-year-old Lorraine Renee Williams; a

passenger, 49-year-old Ebony Latasha Williams; and a 2-year-old child, Shazziyah Lesley, were transported to Roanoke Memorial Hospital, where they later died. Police said the adults were wearing seat belts and the child was properly secured in a child safety seat.

Three other passengers — a 63-year-old man, a 73-year-old man and a 10-year-old girl — were also wearing seat belts and were taken to Roanoke Memorial Hospital with injuries.

The driver of the tractor-trailer, 58-year-old El Hadji Karamoko Quattara, was wearing a seat belt and has been charged with reckless driving. Police said additional charges are pending.

The crash remains under investigation.

Salem native Chris Cole delivers holiday cheer to children at Carilion



COURTESY PHOTO

Cole visited Carilion Children's ahead of the Christmas holiday.

Santa arrived early for some children at Carilion Children's this Christmas, thanks to Salem High School graduate Chris Cole.

Cole, a former all-state football standout for the Salem Spartans and current inside linebacker for the University of Georgia Bulldogs, visited Carilion's pediatric unit this week to deliver toys and spread holiday cheer to children spending Christmas in the hospital.

Taking a break from College Football Playoff preparations, Cole

See Cole, page 2

University of Fairfax earns Title IV approval, expanding access to federal aid

Aila Boyd
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The University of Fairfax, which is based on E. Main Street in Salem and affiliated with American National University, has been approved to participate in Title IV federal financial aid programs, clearing the way for students to access federal grants and loans beginning with the Jan. 12, 2026, academic term.

University officials announced the designation last month, calling it a major step toward improving access and affordability for both current and prospective students.

Founded in the aftermath of the Sept. 11 attacks to meet growing demand for cybersecurity expertise, the University of Fairfax began as an institution focused on serving working professionals through flexible online programs. The university has since expanded its offerings to include software development, computer science and engineering, cloud computing and business.

Title IV eligibility signifies that the university meets federal standards for regulatory compliance, financial responsibility and student support.



COURTESY IMAGE

"This recognition from the U.S. Department of Education is a testament to the University of Fairfax's dedication to academic excellence and institutional integrity," President Umesh Varma said in a statement. "Title IV eligibility enhances our ability to serve students from diverse backgrounds by removing financial barriers and supporting their pursuit of advanced education in technology, cybersecurity and related disciplines."

University leaders said access to federal aid will give students greater financial flexibility as they pursue degrees in high-demand technology fields. The institution said the move also strengthens its efforts to support professionals who balance work, military service and continued education by enabling federal loan deferment options.

Title IV status may also open



COURTESY PHOTO

Varma

opportunities for additional federal partnerships. The university said the designation positions it to pursue a Memorandum of Understanding with the U.S. Department of Defense and deepen its collaboration on cybersecurity and information assurance workforce needs.

Officials said the approval reinforces the university's mission to prepare graduate and doctoral students for leadership roles across the technology and innovation sectors.



Briefly: Salem News In Brief

The Losers Club: Held at the Salem Center but not just for seniors. All adults are welcome. Every Tuesday 5 – 6 p.m. No registration fee with \$3/month dues. Contact: Charlene Lester 540-293-7753.

Sam Barber: Rising country sensation Sam Barber will bring his heartfelt lyrics and soulful sound to the Salem Civic Center on Thursday, Feb. 5, 2026.

Winterfest Beach Bash: Salem's annual Winterfest Beach Bash will return in February 2026, featuring the Band of Oz at the Salem Civic Center. The indoor beach party is scheduled for Friday, Feb. 6, at 7 p.m. inside the Salem Civic Center arena. The 2026 event marks the 19th consecutive year the Band of Oz has been selected to headline the popular gathering. This year's concert is sponsored by Renewal

by Andersen. Tickets went on sale at 8 a.m. Tuesday, Dec. 16, at the Salem Parks and Recreation Department, 620 Florida St. Advance tickets are \$10, with tickets priced at \$12 on the day of the show. Tables seating eight are available for \$80. Cash, check and credit cards will be accepted from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. weekdays from Dec. 16 through Feb. 5. Organizers note the event typically sells out.

Black Label Society: Heavy metal powerhouse Black Label Society will bring its blistering riffs and high-energy performance to the Salem Civic Center on Tuesday, May 12. The band will be joined by openers Zakk Sabbath and Dark Chapel. Tickets can be found at the Salem Civic Center box office and through Ticketmaster.

Public meetings: The Salem City Council will meet at

6:30 p.m. on Jan. 12.

The Salem City School Board will meet at 7 p.m. on Jan. 13.

The Salem City Council will meet at 6:30 p.m. on Jan. 26.

The Salem City Council will meet at 6:30 p.m. on Feb. 9.

The Salem City School Board will meet at 7 p.m. on Feb. 10.

The Salem City Council will meet at 6:30 p.m. on Feb. 23.

The Salem City Council will meet at 6:30 p.m. on March 9.

The Salem City School Board will meet at 7 p.m. on March 10.

The Salem City Council will meet at 6:30 p.m. on March 23.

The Salem City Council will meet at 6:30 p.m. on April 13.

The Salem City School Board will meet at 7 p.m. on April 14.

The Salem City Council will meet at

6:30 p.m. on April 27.

The Salem City Council will meet at 6:30 p.m. on May 11.

The Salem City School Board will meet at 7 p.m. on May 12.

The Salem City Council will meet at 6:30 p.m. on May 26.

The Salem City Council will meet at 6:30 p.m. on June 8.

The Salem City School Board will meet at 7 p.m. on June 9.

The Salem City Council will meet at 6:30 p.m. on June 22.

The Salem City Council will meet at 6:30 p.m. on July 13.

The Salem City School Board will meet at 7 p.m. on July 14.

The Salem City Council will meet at 6:30 p.m. on July 27.

POLICE REPORT

City of Salem Police Department



Weekly Arrest Report

Week of December 16, 2025 – December 22, 2025

DATE	NAME	AGE	OFFENSE
12/17/2025	Jacquelin S. Smith	40	Embezzlement
12/17/2025	Sheila M. Slusher	47	Petit Larceny Not From Person
12/19/2025	Jaylan A. Holland	24	Domestic Assault & Battery, Prevent Someone from Summoning Law Enforcement
12/19/2025	Jordan A. Derosha	26	Strangulation, Assault & Battery
12/19/2025	Harry F. Justice	65	Fail to Appear
12/20/2025	Logan T. Owens	20	DUI, Underage Possession of Alcohol
12/21/2025	Jamie M. Mollett	46	Domestic Assault & Battery
12/22/2025	Christopher J. Goff	22	DUI
12/22/2025	Fre'kayla I. Wade	23	Simple Assault & Battery, Disorderly Conduct, Trespassing, Obstruct Justice

City of Salem Police Department



Weekly Crime Report (Felony Cases)

Week of December 16, 2025 – December 22, 2025

DATE REPORTED	LOCATION	OFFENSE REPORTED
12/17/2025	2000 BLK Cook Dr	Grand Larceny
12/17/2025	1800 BLK W Main St	Embezzlement
12/19/2025	1200 BLK W Main St	Strangulation

OBITUARY

Harrison, Jr., Fenton "Spike" Frank

Spike was born July 11, 1944, in Selma, Alabama at an army military base. He was the son of Fenton Harrison, Sr. and Barbara Fries Harrison. He grew up near Buffalo, New York participating in numerous social and sports organizations. He especially loved baseball initiating a lifelong love of the game.



Spike attended Duke University, Durham, North Carolina from 1962 to 1966. He played on the Duke Baseball team. In June 1966, he married Jane Weisner in Greensboro, North Carolina.

In 1967, He joined the US Navy as a commissioned officer. He had two tours of duty in Vietnam on two different ships. He was aboard the USS Yorktown when it retrieved the Apollo 8 astronauts and aboard the USS Hornet when they picked up the Apollo 11 astronauts after their famous moon walk.

After his naval

discharge, he taught a few years in the Buffalo school system before transferring to the Roanoke County School System, Virginia in 1976. Spike worked in several Roanoke county schools before arriving at Glenvar High School where he taught numerous social studies classes, and recognized as teacher of the year in 1995.

Most importantly, Spike started the Glenvar High school girls softball team. He had many successful years, winning state championships in 1985, 1989, 1991, 1992 and 1997. He left coaching to serve on Roanoke County Board

of Supervisors from 1996 to 1999.

He later returned to coaching and teaching until his retirement.

Spike died December 9th, 2025. He is preceded in death by his parents and his son, John Raymond Harrison. He is survived by his wife, Jane Weisner Harrison, and son, Fenton Frank Harrison, III.

His Celebration of Life service will be May 1st at the Unitarian Universalist Church of Roanoke. In lieu of flowers, please send donations to either the Unitarian Universalist Church of Roanoke, 2015 Grandin Road SW, Roanoke, Virginia 24015 or Davis McDaniel Veterans Care Center, 4550 Shenandoah Avenue, Roanoke, Virginia 24017.

The family would like to thank the staff of the Davis and McDaniel Veterans Care Center and especially the staff of 1-East for their excellent care.

Winterfest Beach Bash returns in February with Band of Oz

Salem's annual Winterfest Beach Bash will return in February 2026, featuring the Band of Oz at the Salem Civic Center.

The indoor beach party is scheduled for Friday, Feb. 6, at 7 p.m. inside the Salem Civic Center arena. The 2026 event marks the 19th consecutive year the Band of Oz has been selected to headline the popular gathering. This year's concert is sponsored by Renewal

by Andersen. Tickets went on sale at 8 a.m. Tuesday, Dec. 16, at the Salem Parks and Recreation Department, 620 Florida St. Advance tickets are \$10, with tickets priced at \$12 on the day of the show. Tables seating eight are available for \$80. Cash, check and credit cards will be accepted from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. weekdays from Dec. 16 through Feb. 5. Organizers note the event typically sells out.

Doors will open at 6 p.m., with the band performing from 7 to



COURTESY PHOTO

10 p.m. Proceeds from the event will benefit the Salem Penguin Club's community service projects. The event is presented by the City of Salem Parks and Recreation Department.

Coolers and outside food or beverages will not be permitted inside the arena. Concessions will be available, including beverages from P.A. Short.

The Band of Oz is a member of the North Carolina Music Hall of

Fame and was inducted in 2016 alongside The Avett Brothers, Kellie Pickler and The Carolina Chocolate Drops. The band has performed beach music for nearly 60 years, dating back to 1967.

For additional ticket information, contact Salem Parks and Recreation at 540-375-3057.

-The Salem Times-Register

Cole

from page 1

returned home to give back through the Chris Cole Foundation's Christmas Toy Drive. The initiative collected toys from across the area and distributed them to children unable to be home for the holidays.

"This is all about coming together to bring joy to children spending Christmas in the hospital," Cole said. "No child should ever feel forgotten during the holidays."

The Salem Civic Center served as a drop-off location for toy donations, which were delivered directly to Carilion Children's to ensure they reached patients and families in



COURTESY PHOTO

Cole made the gesture through the Chris Cole Foundation's Christmas Toy Drive.

need. Carilion Children's is a Children's Miracle Network Hospital, serving children and families throughout the region.

-The Salem Times-Register

STAR

from page 1

hourly category was Rhonda Stoots of the Housekeeping staff. Since joining the college 12 years ago, Stoots has consistently demonstrated a strong work ethic and pride in maintaining high standards. Her extensive knowledge of cleaning equipment and products has made her a trusted resource for complex and high-visibility housekeeping tasks. In addition to her technical expertise, Stoots is recognized for her compassion and care toward faculty and students in the buildings she services.

April McCadden, a lieutenant with the Campus Safety Office responsible for neighborhood outreach and education, received the STAR Award in the non-exempt category. McCadden, who will mark a decade of service to the college in 2026, is known for fostering meaningful relationships across campus departments. Through volunteering, committee service and student mentorship, she promotes collaboration and inclusivity. Her leadership approach emphasizes humility and service, contributing to a

stronger campus community.

The STAR Award in the exempt category was presented to Mary Jones, administrative operations and technology manager for Campus Safety. Jones began her career at Roanoke College in 1993 as a student employee and has since demonstrated consistent excellence and quiet leadership. She is widely regarded for her empathy and attentiveness, particularly in her support of students. Most recently, she assisted a student in securing the Homestretch Award to complete his education. Jones remains deeply engaged in campus life, embodying the college's commitment to service and care.

The 2025 STAR Award recipients were recognized for their dedication, professionalism and lasting impact on the Roanoke College community. Their contributions underscore the vital role staff play in supporting the institution's mission and enriching campus life.

-The Salem Times-Register

RECIPE OF THE WEEK



Shelly Koon

Contributing Writer

I became a big fan of oatmeal in while in college. It was simple to make in the microwave and didn't cost that much. Now, I eat it all year long as an alternative to fast food and doughnuts for breakfast.

I like a warm bowl of cooked oatmeal in winter, sometimes for dinner. The simple act of stirring the oatmeal as it cooks calms my mind and soothes my soul after a long day.

This past year, I have recently tried the overnight oats that seem to be all over my social media feeds. Overnight oats are eaten cold right out of the fridge which cuts down on preparation time in the morning. The texture can be a bit weird but the taste is good.

Oats date back about 32,000 years when wild oats were hand ground by paleolithic hunter gatherers. There are many wild oat species, but only four have been cultivated for today's use. The species *Avena sativa* is on grocery store shelves. *Avena byzantina* and *Avena strigosa* are for animal feed. *Avena abyssinica* is exclusive to Ethiopia.

The popularity of oats grew when the Romans introduced it to the British Isles, especially Scotland, where they flourished. Oats came to North and South America in the 17th century and used primarily as animal feed. Today, Europe is the leader in oat production.

There are many varieties of oats on shelves, and knowing which to use for your bowl of oats can be overwhelming. There are six main varieties of oatmeal.

Whole oat groats are the hulled kernels of whole-grain oats, also known as hulled oats and hulled whole oats. They're super nutritious and very chewy, making them a great substitute for rice and other whole grains. Prepare oat groats as you would pasta – simply boil in salted water until tender, then drain.

Steel cut oats, also known as Irish oatmeal, steel cut oats have a great chewy texture and nutty flavor. Steel cut oats are whole, hulled oats that have been cut once or twice with steel blades into smaller pieces. They take a little longer to cook than rolled oats, but have a wonderful, satisfying texture. Enjoy steel cut oats for breakfast, or as an awesome alternative to other grains, like in shrimp and grits.

Scottish oats are oats that have been stone ground, almost to a powder. This centuries-old process results in a creamy, hearty porridge, which cooks a little faster than steel cut oats. Oatmeal historians consider Scottish oats the "original oatmeal."

The most common oats you'll find are rolled oats. They are also referred

to as old-fashioned or regular oats. Rolled oats are whole oats which have been toasted, hulled, steamed and then rolled. These oats absorb a lot of liquid, cook fairly quickly and will hold their shape well when cooked. Rolled oats are mainstay ingredients in granola and overnight oats.

Quick oats, or "quick-cooking" oats, have been cut, steamed and rolled into thinner flakes, making them quicker to cook than rolled oats. With quick oats, you can have a hot, healthy breakfast on the table in less than five minutes, and because of their finer texture they're frequently used in muffins, cookies and breads. These are the oats you usually find in single-serving oatmeal packets, often with added flavoring, that you can microwave with water for a quick breakfast. They have been pre-cooked, then dried, cut and rolled for instant preparation.

Nutrition wise, all types are pretty much the same, as they're made from oats a nutritious whole grain, providing complex carbohydrates, fiber (especially beta-glucan), and protein. They are also a good source of essential minerals like magnesium, phosphorus, zinc, and manganese, along with B vitamins. A one-cup serving of cooked oatmeal contains around 154 calories and 4 grams of fiber.

Overnight oats are a cold oatmeal-based breakfast that originated in Switzerland. It's also referred to as Bircher muesli, named after Swiss nutritionist Maximilian Bircher-Benner. The 1900's original recipe consisted of oats, nuts, apples, lemon juice, honey and cream. These days, it's made in different ways using various ingredients. According to Google trends, searches for overnight oats started to rise around 2012.

Regular oatmeal is cooked and eaten the same morning and enjoyed warm, while overnight oats are prepared the day before and are eaten cold. They're actually uncooked; the oats soak in milk or yogurt overnight in the fridge, becoming soft and creamy without the need to be heated.

There's so much you can do with a container of oats. You can enjoy them warm, soak them overnight, bake them into bars or muffins, or even add them to meatloaf.

Easy Overnight Oats
Servings: 1
Ingredients

- 1/3 cup milk
- 1/4 cup Greek yogurt
- 1/4 cup rolled oats
- 2 teaspoons honey
- 2 teaspoons chia seeds
- 1/4 teaspoon ground cinnamon or more to taste
- 1/4 cup fresh blueberries

Instructions
Gather all ingredients. Combine milk, yogurt, oats, honey, chia seeds, and cinnamon in a 1/2-pint jar with a



COURTESY PHOTOS



- 1/2 teaspoon vanilla extract
- 1/2 teaspoon ground cinnamon
- pinch of salt

Instructions

Combine all ingredients into a small saucepan and turn heat to medium/high. Bring to a boil. Then, turn the heat down to low/medium and continually stir for around 3-5 minutes as the oatmeal cooks and thickens. Once oatmeal is at the desired consistency, remove from heat, and serve immediately.

Bacon and Cheddar Savory Oatmeal

Servings: 2

Ingredients

- 4 bacon strips thick-cut, diced
- 4 green onions sliced
- 1 cup quick oats
- 2 cups water
- salt pinch
- 1/2 cup cheddar cheese grated, divided
- black pepper to taste
- 2 eggs optional

Instructions

In a medium saucepan, sauté bacon over medium-high heat until crisp. Transfer to a paper towel-lined plate to drain. Remove bacon fat from pan, leaving only a thin layer to sauté the onions in. Sauté just the white parts of the onions for 30 seconds. (Save the green parts for garnish.) Add oats and sauté with the onions for about a minute, stirring constantly. The oats will absorb the remaining bacon fat. Add water and a generous pinch of salt, and bring to a simmer. Reduce heat to medium low and cook, stirring occasionally, for 5 minutes. Adjust seasoning, adding pepper to taste. Stir in cooked bacon and most of the cheese. Divide oats between two bowls. Top each portion with remaining cheese and reserved green onions. Next level – top each serving with a perfectly fried egg.

lid; cover and shake until combined. Fold in blueberries. Cover and refrigerate, 8 hours to overnight. Enjoy!

Easy Baked Oats

Servings: 1

Ingredients

- 1/2 cup Mixed berries, Use fresh or frozen
- 1 Egg
- 1/2 cup Rolled oats
- 1/4 cup Milk, Whole, semi-skimmed or dairy free
- 1 tsp Runny honey
- 1/4 tsp baking powder
- To serve:
- Spoonful of yogurt, a few berries, drizzle of honey

Instructions

Preheat oven to 350F. Mix your berries, eggs, oats, milk, honey and baking powder together until combined. Pour into a small dish. Bake for 30 minutes until golden and cooked though. Top with a spoonful of yoghurt, a couple of whole berries and a drizzle of honey. Grab a spoon and enjoy!

Cooked Oatmeal

Ingredients

- 1 cup rolled oats
- 2 cups milk (I use 1% milk but any kind of milk works)
- 1 medium banana mashed

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SIXTH DISTRICT PERSPECTIVE

Putting Patients First: Lowering Healthcare Costs

Advancing patient-centered health care reforms that lower costs and improve access to care remains a priority for me as your Congressman. Last week, I voted in favor of The Lower Health Care Premiums for All Americans Act. This bill takes meaningful steps to reduce health care premiums and expand access to care throughout the health care system. For over a decade, Americans have been burdened by rising premiums, fewer plan options, and higher out-of-pocket costs under the Democrat-passed Affordable Care Act. Rather than continuing policies that rely on massive taxpayer subsidies to cover up these failures, this legislation addresses the true drivers of health care costs. It increases accountability for Pharmacy Benefit Managers (PBMs) by requiring clear reporting on prescription drug pricing, rebates, and formulary decisions. These reforms give employers and workers greater insight into where their health care dollars are going and help put downward pressure on costs.

The bill passed last week also works to stabilize the individual market by responsibly funding cost-sharing reductions beginning in 2027, while ensuring assistance is directed toward low-income Americans who need it most. At the same time, it expands affordable coverage options for workers and small businesses. Employers and self-employed individuals will have greater access to Association Health Plans, allowing them to purchase high-quality coverage at more affordable rates. Small and mid-sized businesses will also benefit from clearer access to stop loss insurance, helping them manage risk and offer better coverage to their employees. In addition, the legislation strengthens CHOICE arrangements, allowing workers to use pre-tax dollars to select coverage that best fits their individual needs.

Lowering premiums is essential, but affordability alone is not enough if patients cannot receive timely care. I also cosponsored the Improving Seniors' Timely Access to Care Act, a bipartisan bill that addresses the broken prior authorization process that too often delays or denies care for seniors. Nearly 33 million Americans rely on Medicare Advantage, yet outdated systems and excessive paperwork continue to stand between patients and the care they deserve. This bipartisan legislation brings the prior authorization process into the modern era by establishing a standardized electronic system and increasing transparency around coverage requirements. These reforms will help seniors receive medical care more quickly while allowing doctors to spend more time focused on caring for patients rather than navigating



Ben Cline
Congressman

paperwork. Through both initiatives, I will continue working to put patients first and strengthen a health care system that delivers lower costs and provides more options for Americans at every stage of life.

Safeguarding Our Ballots From Foreign Influences

Last week, I introduced bipartisan legislation to safeguard our ballot measures through the Protecting Ballot Measures From Foreign Influence Act. This bill would prohibit foreign nationals from making contributions or donations to influence state and local ballot initiatives and referendums. Foreign nationals should have absolutely no role in shaping the outcome of American ballot measures at the state or local level.

This commonsense legislation closes a dangerous loophole by ensuring that ballot initiatives and referendums are decided by American citizens alone, not foreign money or foreign interests. By strengthening election integrity, this bill reaffirms a simple principle: the future of our communities should be determined by the people who live in them. In Congress, I remain fully committed to keeping our elections safe and secure so the voice of the American people is never undermined by foreign influence.

Ensuring the Safety of America's Streets

The failures of out-of-touch policies embraced by Democrats under the previous administration allowed dangerous criminals to enter our country. Innocent Americans have paid the price for those decisions, including Kayla Hamilton, whose life was tragically cut short by a seventeen-year-old illegal immigrant who had been released to a sponsor by the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) in 2022 without proper vetting or background checks.

Because basic screening procedures were not completed at the time of his release, it was not known that this individual had an extensive criminal history in his home country of El Salvador, including alleged ties to MS-13 and involvement in multiple violent crimes prior to coming to the United States. The failure to properly screen unaccompanied alien children and their sponsors has created incentives for criminals to exploit the system and enter our country. It is deeply troubling that inadequate vetting led to such a tragic outcome. To prevent senseless tragedies like this from happening again, Congress passed the Kayla Hamilton Act with bipartisan support, strengthening safeguards within the unaccompanied alien children program. This bill ensures thorough background checks are conducted before placement, protecting American communities while also safeguarding vulnerable children from abuse, trafficking, and exploitation.

I voted in favor of the legislation because it requires HHS to contact the appropriate consulate or embassy of a child's home country to determine any known criminal history or gang affiliation for unaccompanied alien children aged twelve or older. Additionally, it mandates comprehensive background checks for potential sponsors and all adult members of their household. The bill also directs HHS to screen for gang tattoos, requires individuals with known gang ties to be placed in secure facilities, and prevents placement with sponsors who are unlawfully present in the United States. We must protect our children and make our streets a safer place for all Americans.

Making American Energy Affordable Again

Affordable and reliable energy is the backbone of a strong economy and a secure nation. When Green New Deal policies undermine dependable power and bury projects in red tape, hardworking Americans pay the price through higher utility bills and increased risk of outages. Congress took action last week by passing two bills that put American energy first. For years, radical energy mandates pushed by the left have forced reliable baseload power including natural gas, coal, nuclear, and hydropower off the grid faster than it can be replaced. At the same time, electricity demand is surging due to growing manufacturing, data centers, and electrification.

Grid reliability experts warn that premature power plant retirements could create a generation shortfall in the coming decade.

When plants close before dependable alternatives are ready, energy prices rise and grid reliability weakens. To address this, Republicans put forward and passed the Power Plant Reliability Act, which strengthens oversight and helps prevent reckless plant closures that jeopardize the electric grid. The bill requires advanced notice before critical power facilities shut down and gives states and regional transmission organizations the ability to petition the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission to keep plants operating when closures would threaten reliability. These protections help prevent one state's extreme energy policies from driving up costs and creating instability in neighboring states. High energy prices are also driven by a federal permitting system that is slow, unpredictable, and overly burdensome. Energy, and infrastructure projects routinely face years of delays often not because of environmental concerns, but due to excessive paperwork and endless litigation that stops projects before they ever break ground.

Last week, the House also passed the bipartisan SPEED Act, legislation that modernizes the National Environmental Policy Act and streamlines the federal permitting process. The SPEED Act shortens approval timelines, curbs frivolous lawsuits, clarifies when federal reviews are required, and prevents politically motivated permit reversals after approval. These reforms make it easier to build energy projects, strengthen supply, and reduce costs for consumers. Together, these bills work hand in hand to lower energy costs by keeping reliable power on the grid while clearing the way for new development. By strengthening reliability and cutting unnecessary red tape, House Republicans are taking real steps to bring down energy costs, protect the grid, and ensure American families have access to affordable, dependable power.

Ensuring Capitol Hill is Working for the American People, Not Wall Street

Restoring trust in Congress starts with making it clear that public service is about serving the American people, not personal profit. For far too long, some Members of Congress have been trading individual stocks while writing the very laws that can influence the market. That conflict of interest has damaged public confidence. As a result, I cosponsored the Restore Trust in Congress Act, a bipartisan bill that restricts Members of Congress from buying and selling individual stocks while serving in office. This legislation puts the interests of the American people first and ensures those on Capitol Hill are focused on serving the American people, not their portfolios.

Thank you for the opportunity to serve as your Congressman. If my office can ever be of assistance, please contact my Washington office at (202) 225-5431.

V DOT ROADWATCH

ROANOKE CITY

(UPDATED 12-12-25) * ROANOKE RIVER GREENWAY PROJECT - Work is underway with grading for new Greenway and concrete for the sidewalk. There are currently no lane closures at this time. Drivers should watch for large dump trucks entering and exiting work areas on Route 419 and Route 11. Flagging operations are possible on Route 419 for asphalt trucks. Expected completion is summer 2026.

BOTETOURT COUNTY

(UPDATED 10-31-25) * CRAIG BOTETOURT SCENIC TRAIL BRUSH CUTTING AND STABILIZATION WORK - Residents along the former Chesapeake and Ohio (C&O) Craig Valley Branch railbed in Botetourt and Craig counties may notice maintenance work continuing on the old railbed. These activities are intended to prevent additional deterioration and to help designers who are developing plans for the Craig Botetourt Scenic Trail. VDOT continues to collect d23ta and conduct site visits and field reviews on the railbed. The design plans for Craig Botetourt Scenic Trail are still being refined and a specific schedule for construction has yet to be determined.

Salem Times~Register

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

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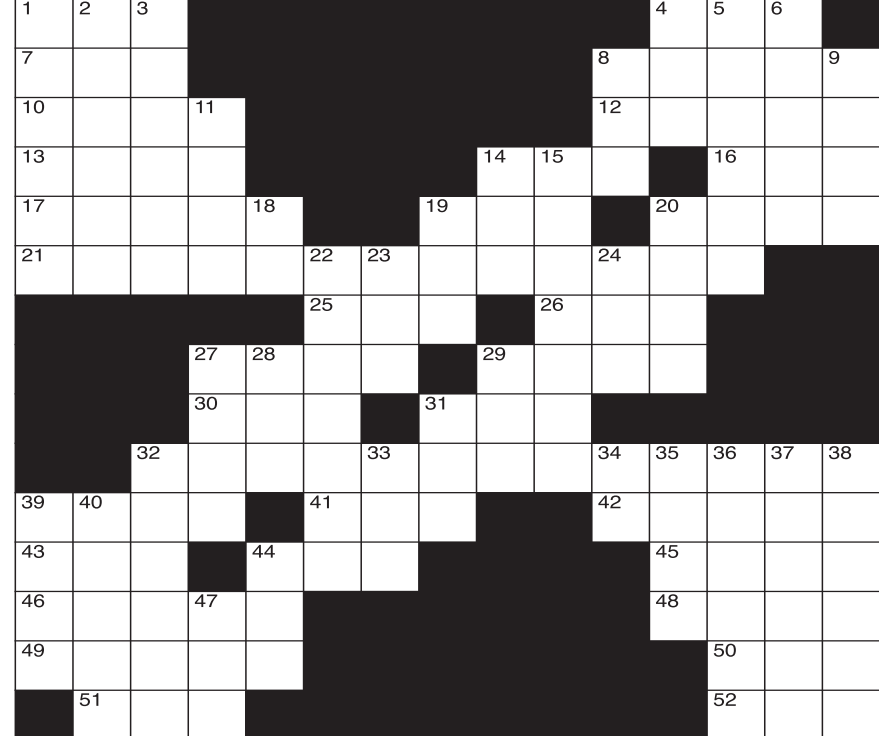
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The Times-Register encourages letters from our readers on topics of general interest to the community and responses to our articles and columns. Letters must be signed and have a telephone number where you can be reached to be considered for publication.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

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CROSSWORD PUZZLE



CLUES ACROSS

- 1. Basics
- 4. Swiss river
- 7. Constrictor snake
- 8. Building occupied by monks
- 10. Discount
- 12. Deal a blow to
- 13. Relating to the ear
- 14. Thyrotropin
- 16. Loud, unpleasant noise
- 17. Large intestines
- 19. Move with a curving trajectory
- 20. Witnesses
- 21. You need both to live
- 25. Dash
- 26. Network
- 27. Dig
- 29. C. European river

- 30. Supplement with difficulty
- 31. Corporate executive
- 32. Carroll O'Connor's onscreen wife
- 39. No variation
- 41. Airborne (abbr.)
- 42. "Heidi" author
- 43. Affirmative
- 44. Pie ___ mode
- 45. W. Asian country
- 46. Grottesque or bizarre
- 48. Delicacy (archaic)
- 49. Textile
- 50. Denial
- 51. Electronic data processing
- 52. Attempt

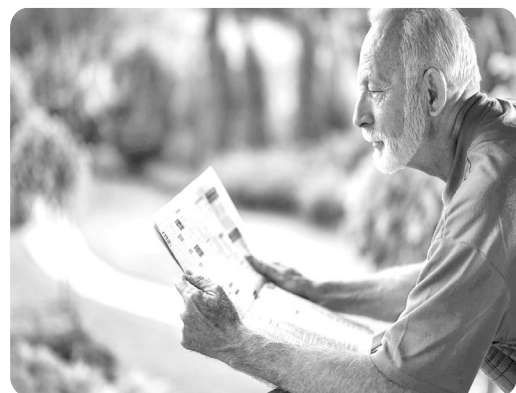
CLUES DOWN

- 1. Engulf
- 2. Waterside hotel
- 3. Printed cotton fabric
- 4. Defensive nuclear weapon
- 5. One who follows the rules
- 6. Lace up once more
- 8. Fire byproduct
- 9. Hankerings
- 11. Outer
- 14. One-time aerospace firm
- 15. Seafood
- 18. Commercial
- 19. Epoxy hardener (abbr.)
- 20. Samoan monetary unit
- 22. Type of gland
- 23. Arrest
- 24. Check
- 27. Past participle of be

- 28. Alias
- 29. A major division of geological time
- 31. Kids programming channel (abbr.)
- 32. Joked
- 33. Helps little firms
- 34. Roman numeral 50
- 35. Impressive in size or scope
- 36. Domineering leader
- 37. A person who delivers a speech
- 38. One after 89
- 39. Young hawk
- 40. The scene of any event or action
- 44. A team's best pitcher
- 47. Integrated data processing

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 Leave your contact information.

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 located in Garden of Devotions.
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Contact Philip or Shirley Gilley at gilly1325@msn.com or at 540-320-4755

Legals - City of Salem

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

Notice is hereby given to all interested persons that the Council of the City of Salem, at its regular meeting on Monday, January 12, 2026, at 6:30 p.m., in Council Chambers, City Hall, 114 N. Broad Street, in the City of Salem, Virginia, will hold a public hearing, pursuant to Sections 15.2-2204 and 15.2-2285 of the Code of Virginia, as amended, to consider the following requests relative to the CODE OF THE CITY OF SALEM, VIRGINIA:

1. Consider the request of Khalil LLC, property owners, and Jay Patel or Assigns, contract purchaser, to rezone the property located at 1000 Electric Road (Tax Map #221-2-1) from RB Residential Business District to HBD Highway Business District to allow the installation of fuel tanks and a canopy for operation of a gasoline station.
2. Consider amending Chapter 66, Article I, in General, Section 66-11, Application of chapter to certain types of signs, Article IV, Permitted signs by use and district, Sections 66-105, Permitted signs and 66-107 Prohibited signs, and Article V, Definitions, Section 66-151 Definitions, of the CODE OF THE CITY OF SALEM, VIRGINIA pertaining to signs. Copies of the proposed plans, ordinances or amendments may be examined in the Office of Community Development, 21 South Bruffey Street, Salem, Virginia. At said hearing, parties in interest and citizens shall have an opportunity to be heard relative to the said requests.

THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF SALEM, VIRGINIA BY:
 H. Robert Light
 Clerk of Council

Notice is hereby given to all interested persons that the City of Salem Planning Commission.

at its regular meeting on January 14, 2026, at 6:30 p.m., in Council Chambers, City Hall, 114 North Broad Street, in the City of Salem, Virginia, will hold a public hearing, pursuant to Sections 15.2-2204 and 15.2-2285 of the Code of Virginia, as amended, to consider approval of the following requests relative to the CODE OF THE CITY OF SALEM, VIRGINIA:

1. Consider the request of McDonald's Corporation, property owner, to rezone the property located at 101 Electric Road (Tax Map #80-4-1) from HBD Highway Business District with condition to HBD Highway Business District. Copies of the proposed plans, ordinances or amendments may be examined in the Office of Community Development, 21 South Bruffey Street, Salem, Virginia. At said hearing, parties in interest and citizens shall have an opportunity to be heard relative to the said requests.

THE PLANNING COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF SALEM, VIRGINIA BY:
 Christopher J. Dorsey
 Executive Secretary

Legals - Botetourt County

Trustee's Sale 187 SPRING HOLLOW RD, TROUTVILLE, VA 24175 (Parcel ID: 11123)

Default having been made in the terms of a certain Deed of Trust dated 1/5/2024, in the original principal amount of \$264,926.00 and recorded in the Clerk's Office of the Circuit Court of the Botetourt County, Virginia on 1/8/2024, as Instrument No. 240000041, the undersigned Substitute Trustees will sell at public auction on 3/4/2026 at 2:00 PM, Front of building of the Circuit Court Building For Botetourt County, 1 West Main Street, Fincastle, Virginia 24090, the property designated as 187 SPRING HOLLOW RD, TROUTVILLE, VA 24175.

Located in the County of Botetourt, Commonwealth of Virginia: Lot 15, Block 2, according to Map No. 2 Subdivision, Portion of Property of S. E. Wilkinson and G. W. Wills, made by C. B. Malcolm & Son, S.C.E., dated November 21, 1951, recorded in the Clerk's Office of the Circuit Court of Botetourt County, Virginia, in Plat Book 3, page 184, and being further described as follows: BEGINNING at the intersection of Lot 14 and Lot 15 at an iron pipe in the edge of Spring Hollow Road; thence along the property line of Lots 14 and 15, N. 30° 22' W. 203.14 feet to an iron stake in the property line of Lots 2 and 3; thence N. 58° 44' E. 100.01 feet to an iron stake in the property line of Lots 15 and 16; thence S. 30° 22' E. 204.71 feet along the property line of Lots 15 and 16 to an iron stake in Spring Hollow Road; thence S. 59° 38' W. 100 feet along Spring Hollow Road to the point of Beginning; and BEING the same property conveyed to the Grantor herein by Deed dated January 4, 2024, recorded contemporaneously with this Deed of Trust.

TERMS: CASH. A deposit of \$26,492.60 or 10% of the sale price, whichever is lower, will be required of the successful bidder at time of sale. Prior to the sale, interested bidders will be required to register with and must present a bid deposit which may be held during the sale by the trustee. The bid deposit must be certified funds and/or cash, but no more than \$9,900.00 of cash will be accepted. The successful bidder's deposit will be retained at the sale and applied to the sale price. If held by the trustee, all other bid deposits will be returned to the unsuccessful bidders. Settlement is to be made within 15 days. The successful bidder will be responsible for obtaining possession of the property, and for all costs and fees related to recording the Trustee's Deed, including the grantors tax. The successful bidder will be required to execute a Memorandum of Trustee's Sale, available for review upon request before the sale, outlining additional terms of sale and settlement. A Trustee's Deed will be prepared by Trustee's attorney at high bidder's expense. This is a communication from a debt collector. Vylla Solutions - Virginia, LLC, 283 Constitution Drive, Suite 102, Office B, Virginia Beach, VA 23462, File No. 25-37622, Tel: 888-313-1969

Legals - City of Radford

TRUSTEE'S SALE OF 904 17th Street, Radford, VA 24141

In execution of a Deed of Trust in the maximum principal amount of \$107,500.00 dated February 14, 2008 recorded among the land records of the Circuit Court for City of Radford on February 20, 2008 as Instrument Number: 200800177, the undersigned appointed Substitute Trustee will offer for sale at public auction, at the Main entrance of the courthouse for the Circuit Court of City of Radford, 619 Second Street, West Radford, VA 24141 on January 30, 2026 at 02:30 PM the property described in said deed of trust, located at the above address and briefly described as: All that tract or parcel of real estate located, lying and being in the West Ward of the City of Radford, Virginia, and more particularly described as follows, to-wit: Beginning at a point which is located N. 51 deg. 11' E. a distance of

Legals - City of Radford

72.00 feet from the intersection of the westerly boundary of Taylor Street with the northerly boundary of Seventeenth Street, thence S. 43 deg. 03' E. a distance of 209.90 feet to a point thence S. 63 deg. 23' W. a distance of 68.50 feet to a point; thence N. 41 deg. 27' W. a distance of 224.00 feet to a point; thence along the northerly boundary of Seventeenth Street, S. 51 deg. 11' W. a distance of 72.10 feet to the point of Beginning, and being all of Lot 17-B, of the Re - Subdivision of a portion of P.L. Carter's Lots "as shown on a plat prepared by E. Staley Clements, Jr., C.L.S., dated September 3, 1962. Tax ID: 16-(2)-17B. TERMS OF SALE: A bidder's deposit of \$10,000.00 or 10% of the sale price, whichever is lower, will be required in the form of a certified or cashier's check. Cash will not be accepted as a deposit. Settlement within fifteen (15) days of sale, otherwise Trustee may forfeit deposit. Additional terms to be announced at sale. This is a communication from a debt collector. This notice is an attempt to collect on a debt and any information obtained will be used for that purpose. (Trustee # 25-012428) Substitute Trustee: ALG Trustee, LLC C/O Orlans Law Group PLLC PO Box 2548, Leesburg, VA 20177 (703) 777-7101 website: www.Orlans.com

TRUSTEE'S SALE OF 2507 THIRD STREET, RADFORD, VA 24141.

In execution of a certain Deed of Trust dated May 1, 2003, in the original principal amount of \$56,840.00 recorded in the Clerk's Office, Circuit Court for Radford City, Virginia, in Book 236 at Page 710 as Instrument No. 0300609. The undersigned Substitute Trustee will offer for sale at public auction in the front of the Circuit Court building for the City of Radford, 619 Second St., W., Radford, VA, or any such temporary alternative Circuit Court location designated by the Judges of the Circuit Court, on February 18, 2026, at 11:00 AM, the property described in said Deed of Trust, located at the above address, and more particularly described as follows: ALL THAT CERTAIN LOT OR PARCEL OF LAND WITH ALL THE EASEMENTS AND APPURTENANCES THEREUNTO BELONGING OR IN ANYWISE APPERTAINING THERETO, SITUATE, LYING AND BEING IN THE WEST WARD OF THE CITY OF RADFORD, VIRGINIA, AND AS MORE PARTICULARLY DESCRIBED AS FOLLOWS: ALL OF LOTS NUMBER TWO (2), FOUR (4), FIVE (5), AND SIX (6), SECTION EIGHTEEN (18), PLAN A, MAP OF THE RADFORD WEST END LAND COMPANY, WHICH ORIGINAL MAP IS OF RECORD IN THE CLERK'S OFFICE OF THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE COUNTY OF MONTGOMERY, VIRGINIA IN DEED BOOK 32, PAGE 460 AND OF RECORD IN THE CIRCUIT COURT CLERK'S OFFICE OF THE CITY OF RADFORD, VIRGINIA, IN DEED BOOK 42, PAGE 18. TERMS OF SALE: ALL CASH. A bidder's deposit of ten percent (10%) of the sale price or ten percent (10%) of the original principal balance of the subject Deed of Trust, whichever is lower, in the form of cash or certified funds payable to the Substitute Trustee must be present at the time of the sale. The balance of the purchase price will be due within fifteen (15) days of sale, otherwise Purchaser's deposit may be forfeited to Trustee. Time is of the essence. If the sale is set aside for any reason, the Purchaser at the sale shall be entitled to a return of the deposit paid. The Purchaser may, if provided by the terms of the Trustee's Memorandum of Foreclosure Sale, be entitled to a \$50 cancellation fee from the Substitute Trustee, but shall have no further recourse against the Mortgagor, the Mortgagor or the Mortgagor's attorney. A form copy of the Trustee's memorandum of foreclosure sale and contract to purchase real property is available for viewing at www.bwvsales.com. Additional terms, if any, to be announced at the sale and the Purchaser may be given the option to execute the contract of sale electronically. This is a communication from a debt collector and any

Legals - City of Radford

information obtained will be used for that purpose. The sale is subject to seller confirmation. Substitute Trustee: Equity Trustees, LLC, 8100 Three Chopt Road, Suite 240, Richmond, VA 23229. If you have any questions or concerns, please contact the Virginia Pre-Sale Department of counsel for Equity Trustees, LLC at 301-961-6555, website: www.bwvsales.com. VA-380049-1.

Legals - Montgomery County

LEGAL NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

The Christiansburg Town Council will hold a Public Hearing on Tuesday, January 13, 2026 at 7:00 p.m. in the Council Chambers of the Christiansburg Town Hall, 100 E. Main Street, Christiansburg, Virginia 24073. The purpose of the public hearing is to receive public comments concerning: A. Conditional Use Permit request by Clayco, LLC, Property Owner and Applicant, to allow a Planned Housing Development of 28 multi-family residential dwelling units on approximately 2.031 acres located northwest of the intersection of Chrisman Street SW and First Street SW, between 101 Chrisman Street SW and 400 W Main Street; consisting of all of Tax Parcel 526-(A)-138 (Parcel ID 013446); zoned Multifamily Residential District (R-3). The property is designated as Residential on the Future Land Use Map of the 2013 Christiansburg Comprehensive Plan. A copy of the applications, 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 the Planning Department, at (540) 382-6128, ext. 1902 or by email at planning@christiansburg.org, with any questions or if you require reasonable accommodations.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, By the Board of Supervisors of the County of Montgomery, Virginia

that the Board of Supervisors intent to consider a proposed Ordinance to Delay the Assessment of Penalty and Interest on the 2025 Real Estate B Taxes and the 2025 Personal Property Taxes Due on December 5, 2025 to December 8, 2025 to be considered by the Board of Supervisors at their regularly scheduled meeting on Monday January 12, 2026, at 7:15 p.m., or as soon thereafter at the Montgomery County Government Center, 2nd floor Board Room, 755 Roanoke Street, Christiansburg, Virginia.

A copy of the full text of the Ordinance is on file in the Office of the County Administrator and is available on line on the County Website Montva.com for public inspection or copying.

BY ORDER OF THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
 Angela M. Hill
 County Administrator

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Legals - Montgomery County

LEGAL NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING OF THE TOWN OF CHRISTIANSBURG TOWN COUNCIL

The Town of Christiansburg Town Council will hold a Public Hearing on Tuesday, January 13, 2026, at 7:00 PM in the Council Chambers of the Christiansburg Town Hall, 100 E. Main Street, Christiansburg, Virginia 24073. The purpose of the public hearing is to receive public comments concerning: A. Conditional Use Permit request by Clayco, LLC, Property Owner and Applicant, to allow a Planned Housing Development of 28 multi-family residential dwelling units on approximately 2.031 acres located northwest of the intersection of Chrisman Street SW and First Street SW, between 101 Chrisman Street SW and 400 W Main Street; consisting of all of Tax Parcel 526-(A)-138 (Parcel ID 013446); zoned Multifamily Residential District (R-3). The property is designated as Residential on the Future Land Use Map of the 2013 Christiansburg Comprehensive Plan. A copy of the applications, 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 the Planning Department, at (540) 382-6128, ext. 1902 or by email at planning@christiansburg.org, with any questions or if you require reasonable accommodations.

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

The Town of Christiansburg Planning Commission will hold a Public Hearing on Tuesday, January 20, 2026, at 7:00 PM in the Council 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. Rezoning request by Roger Woody, Registered Agent for RWJW Properties, LLC, Applicant and Property Owner, to rezone property located at 300 Kimball Lane SW, identified as Tax Parcel 557-(A)-20; (Parcel ID 016002), and consisting of approximately of 37.987 acres, from Agricultural District (A) to Single-Family Residential District (R-1). The applicant has proffered new conditions after the initial public hearing for this request. Current proffered conditions are related to density, construction of a public road connection, warranted road improvements, preservation of an existing vegetated area, and phasing. The property is designated as Residential 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 the Planning Department, at (540) 382-6128, Ext. 1902 or by email at planning@christiansburg.org, with any questions or if you require reasonable accommodations.

BY ORDER OF THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
 Angela M. Hill
 County Administrator

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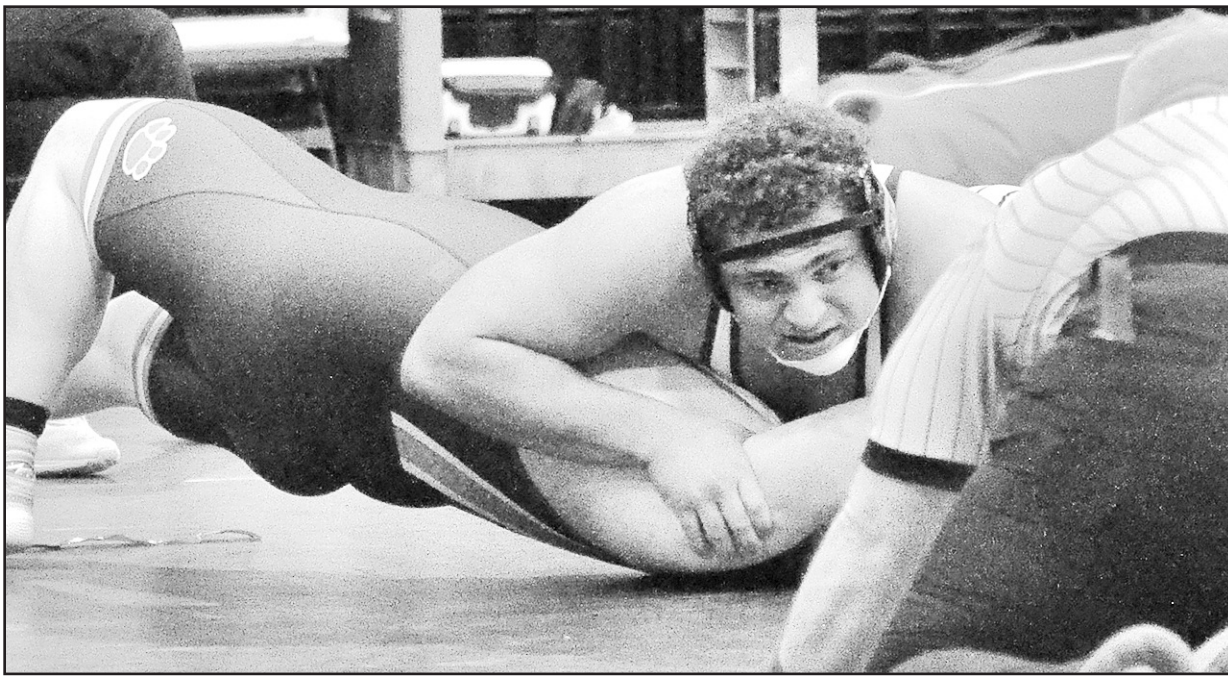



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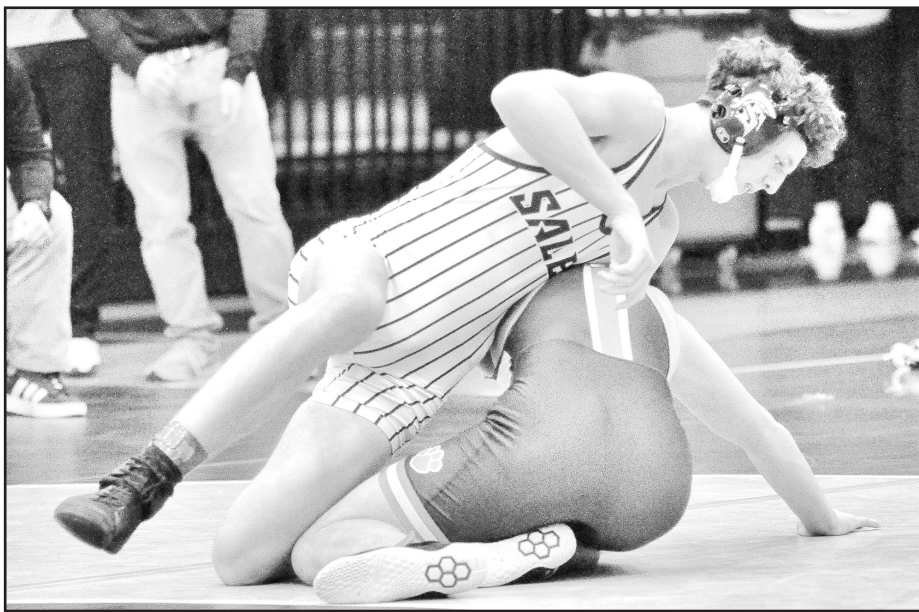
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Above, Robert Herndon finishes off Salem High's wrestling win over William Byrd with a pin at 285. Below, Rocket Cowling makes a spin move in his match and, bottom, Spartan coach Lawrence Van Liew(right) is congratulated after recording his 100th dual win as Salem High coach.

PHOTOS BY BRIAN HOFFMAN



Van Liew gets 100th dual win

The high school wrestling teams will be back in action this weekend as both Salem and Glenvar are entered in the "Takedown the New Year" Invitational at Heritage High in Lynchburg on Saturday.

This will be Salem's first action since December 17 when the Spartans defeated William Byrd in a dual match, 46-30. The win marked Lawrence Van Liew's 100th dual match win as head coach at Salem High School.

That same night Glenvar lost a dual match at Rural Retreat, 45-25. Glenvar wrestled in a big tournament in Newark, Delaware on December 20 and finished 105th out of 200 teams.

"We had most of our guys win matches in Newark," said Glenvar coach Tim Miles.



Last winner of 2025

It's time to announce the winner of the December 18 football contest, the second last contest of the season. The winner is the best little fruit cake baker in Salem, Pam "The Little General" Cassell.

Pam swept the six college games on the contest and was an amazing eight out of nine on the tough pro games. Her only slipup was picking the Lions to beat the Steelers, and if you watched the crazy end to that one she was real close to a perfect week. Pam may not have won the billion and a half dollar lottery but she'll get a \$50 gift certificate from Mac & Bob's, and that's almost as good.

For the 19th hole question I asked you to guess the score of the Oregon-James Madison opening round CFP game, which Oregon won 51-34. Closest to the actual score was Chas Colley of Salem, who guessed the Ducks would win 41-38. He'll get a free round of golf at the Salem Municipal Course on Academy Street, and the weather's been pretty nice lately.

That's all we have for now. The winner of our Christmas contest will be announced after the Super Bowl. Enjoy the college playoffs and NFL games in the meantime and I'll be back at you in February to announce the winner.

-Brian Hoffman



PHOTO BY JOHN WACHER

Peyton Lewis talks to kids during his football camp at Salem Stadium last summer.

Lewis in transfer portal

Salem High graduate Peyton Lewis has entered the NCAA Division I transfer portal. Lewis made the announcement on Instagram over the holidays.

Peyton earned High School All-American honors as a runningback playing for the Spartans. He was on the 2023 team that was Class 4 state runners-up before graduating and signing to play at the University of Tennessee.

In two seasons at UT Peyton played in 23 games and rushed 134 times for 629 yards, an average of 4.7 yards per attempt. He scored 10 touchdowns running the ball for the Volunteers.

Lewis also had eight pass receptions for 56 total yards and had 13 kick returns, averaging 21.5 yards per return.

RC basketball teams return from break

The Roanoke College basketball teams will be back in action to start the New Year after hosting holiday events this week.

Both the men's and women's teams hosted the Cregger Invitational tournaments on Monday, December 29, and Tuesday, December 30, but results were too late for early holiday deadlines. The men hosted the Cregger Invitational and the women were hosts to the Susan Dunagan Holiday Classic. Look for results in next week's edition.

The men came into the week at 6-3 after splitting two games in the Hampden-Sydney Classic on December 19 and 20. RC lost to the University of Redlands, 79-60, but bounced back to defeat Wilson College a day later, 104-69.

In the win over Wilson the Maroons scored 25-straight points to ease to the win. RC led 8-7 four minutes into the game and used the 25-0 run over the next seven minutes to forge a 33-7 advantage. Jackson Bell led RC with 17 points. Zach Rostenthal had four threes and 13 points and was named to the All-Classic team.

Marcus Morgan posted 12 points, six rebounds, three assists and two steals in just 16 minutes on the court against

Wilson. Grant Hamilton sank all four of his shots for 11 points and Patrick Clevenger added 10 points and 11 rebounds.

After this week's Cregger Invitational the Maroon men will be off for a week, returning January 7th for an ODAC game in Winchester against Shenandoah University.

The Roanoke women came into the week at 4-4 and had not played since splitting two games in the Jamie Lynn Roberts Fairfield Inn DC Holiday Classic on December 15 and 16. The women are home to host Warren Wilson at 2 pm this Saturday, then they'll take on Bridgewater College in an ODAC game at the Cregger Center in Salem on January 8th.

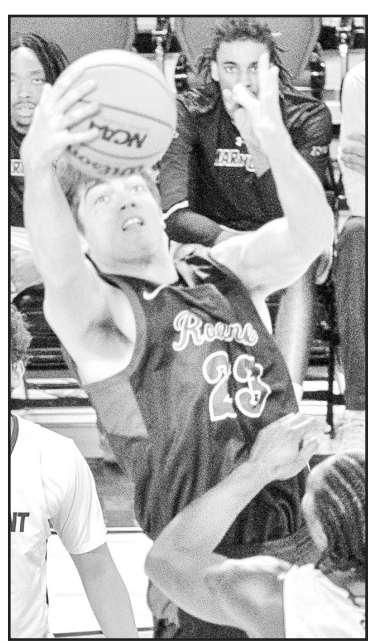


PHOTO BY REGINA DEVINNEY

Porter Stanley rebounds for RC.

RC wrestlers sweep weekly ODAC honors

The Roanoke College wrestling team swept the Old Dominion Athletic Conference (ODAC) Athlete of the Week awards for the week of December 22. Taylor Smith earned Lighter Weight Wrestler of the Week accolades while Hunter Moore took home Heavier Weight Wrestler of the Week honors.

Smith, a junior from Mifflintown, Pa., went 4-1 on the way to a second-place finish at 149 pounds at the 92nd Wilkes Open Championship. In the semifinals, he registered a 4-1 decision

by sudden victory over teammate Jackson Rowling. In the final, Smith dropped a 6-0 decision to Easton Broxterman from the U.S. Military Academy Preparatory School.

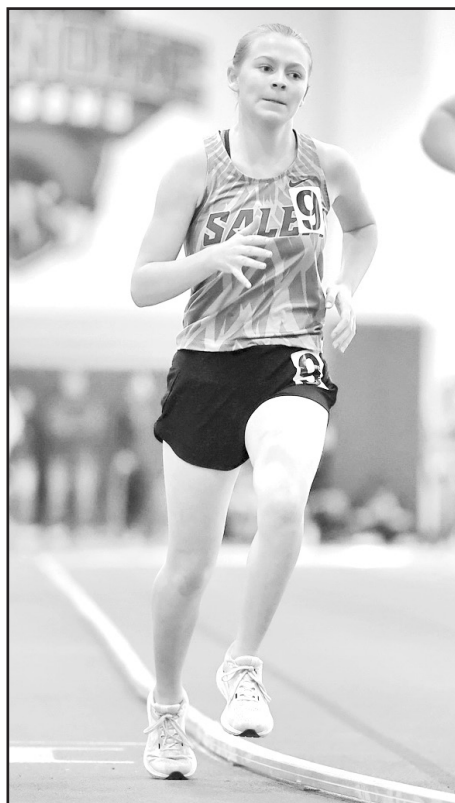
Smith is currently ranked fifth in Division III and first in Region 4 at 149 pounds.

Moore, a junior from Boulder City, Nev., posted a 5-0 week at 197 pounds overall that included a win in an ODAC dual with Randolph College and the weight class title at the 92nd Wilkes Open Championship. He opened his

week with a tech fall (21-6 - 4:31) over Gabriel Wade in the Maroons 57-0 dual win over Randolph. Moore then went 4-0 to claim the 197-pound crown at Wilkes. In the semifinal bout, Moore posted a 6-4 decision over Gabriel Smith from the Hill School. In the final, Moore defeated teammate Lorenzo Pellot-Vazquez by 4-1 decision.

Moore is currently the third-ranked wrestler in Region 4 at 197 pounds.

The Maroons face Penn College January 1 at Skyline High School.



Left, Salem High's McKenzie Eversole placed 10th overall in the girls 1600 m event with a time of 6:03.75 at the ECE meet at Roanoke College. Right, Glenvar's Aldin Smith(#12) won Heat 2 of the boys 1600 m at the East Coast Elite meet.

PHOTOS BY JON FLEMING



RC is site for indoor track meet Sat.

The Salem and Glenvar High track teams will be back at Roanoke College for the East Coast Elite #3 meet this Saturday. Action is scheduled to begin at 9 am at the Kerr-Cregger Indoor Fieldhouse on the RC campus in Salem.

Both schools competed in the East Coast Elite #2 "Winter Wonderland Holiday Hat Invitational" meet at Roanoke College on December 20. Glenvar had two second place finishes in the big meet as Joey Loder took second in the boys' 55 meter hurdles and the girls' 4x200 team of Anna Hall, Kailee McDonald, Rayya Bryson and Aiden Beverly also took a second.

Loder also finished fourth in the 300 meter race. Evan Harris was fifth in the boys' 1,000 and the girl's 4x400 team also took fifth with Meena Chen, McDonald, Elle Graffeo and Beverly. Beverly was sixth in the 300.

The boys finished in the top seven in two relays. The 4x400 team of Jackson Wimmer, Will Howard, Asher Faught and Harris was sixth and 4x800 team of Cash Malcolm, Dainel Tozier, Colin Graffeo and Wimmer was seventh.

"We had two more athletes qualify for states, Evan Harris in the boys 1000 with a time of 2:46.82, and Elle Graffeo in the girls 55H with a time of 10.01, bringing our total to seven," said Glenvar coach Bekka Loder.

For Salem, the girls 4x800 relay team of McKenzie Eversole, Addison Hancock, Olivia Huff and Audrey Harmon placed second. Markiya Webb was seventh in the 55 dash.

For the boys, DeVon Jones placed second in the 300 and Aedon Wiley took a third. Tristen Noel was third in the 500.

SHS boys hoops off to fast start

The Salem High basketball team finished up the pre-Christmas portion of their schedule with a 6-1 record. That included a home-and-home sweep of Northside and a win at Patrick Henry, so coach Kevin Garst has to be pleased.

“With our tough early season schedule I’m real happy to be 6-1,” said Garst. “We’ve learned a lot about ourselves and have some time off during the break where we can work on some things.”

Salem was scheduled to host William Byrd on Tuesday of this week but results were too late for early holiday deadlines. After winning their first five games of the season the Spartans lost at home to Cave Spring, 63-52, on December 19. They bounced back to win at Northside the following Monday, December 23, to sweep the season series from the Vikings.

Salem trailed 18-9 after one period at Northside but held the Vikings to three second quarter points to take a 24-21 halftime lead. They outscored Northside 41-17 in the second half to win going away, 65-38.

The Spartans scored 24 points off turnovers to just 10 for Northside, a big turnabout from recent seasons. Salem outrebounded the Vikings, 41-33, and had 40 “points in the paint” to just 16 for the home team. Salem shot 46 percent from the floor and held Northside to 23 percent.

“Our defense was much better,” said Garst. “We struggled on defense against Cave Spring.”

Salem had four players in double-figures at Northside, led by Jaydius Hamm with 14. Cam Boles and Tanner Overstreet had a dozen each and Braylon Smith had 11. Overstreet had 11 rebounds and Elijah Paddyfote had five assists and four steals.

The Spartans will open the New Year with a River Ridge District game at Blacksburg on January 5th.

Smokin' hot Salem girls play in Smokey M'tains

The Salem High girls took a 7-0 record to Tennessee this week to compete in the challenging Smokey Mountain Winter Classic in Sevierville, Tennessee. The three day invitational began Monday but results were too late for early holiday deadlines.

The Spartans have been smokin' prior to the Smokey Mountain tournament. In their seven season opening wins they've won by over 40 points six times. Their average margin of victory was 45.1 points.

Salem ended the pre-Christmas portion of their schedule with two routs. On December 19 they won at Cave Spring, 61-10, as post girls Emme Custer and Kourtney Goes scored 15 points each and combined for 15 boards.

“We did a good job of getting the ball inside,” said coach Scott Jester. “Our defense was excellent as well.”

Three days later Salem hosted Northside and won 81-16 with five girls scoring in double figures. Gabby Crawley and Custer had 16 points each, Bailey Rider had 14 and Goens and Aniyah Fox hit for 10 each.

“Great night for us offensively,” said Jester. “We made the extra pass all night to get the shots we wanted and were able to knock them down.”

After the Tennessee trip the Spartans will open the New Year with a home game against Blacksburg on January 5.



Above, Salem's Rosaline Horne reaches to save the ball in. Below, Emme Custer goes to the hoop in Salem's home win over Lord Botetourt. PHOTOS BY BRIAN HOFFMAN



PHOTO BY BRIAN HOFFMAN

Salem's Camden Boles drives the lane and puts down a slam dunk in last week's win over Northside.

Glenvar will play Graham in Floyd in Chance Harman Classic hoops Friday

The Glenvar High boys' basketball team is entered in the annual Chance Harman Classic, which is hosted by Floyd County High School. The Highlanders are scheduled to play Graham this Friday, January 2nd, at 7 pm.

Glenvar was competing in the Northside Invitational Tournament as the paper went to press this week. The championship game was set for Tuesday but results were too late for publication due to early holiday deadlines.

This year's eight team tournament included Alleghany, George Wythe, Rustburg, North Cross, Blacksburg, Liberty Christian, Glenvar and the host Vikings. Northside is traditionally favored in this tournament but not this year, according to Viking coach Billy Pope.

“This will be the first time in a few years we aren't favored,” said Pope prior to the start of the three day tournament. “I'd have to say North Cross was the favorite this year. They're loaded.”

Glenvar went into the tournament at 3-1 with wins over two larger schools the week prior to Christmas. They won at



PHOTO BY JON FLEMING

Glenvar's Parker Doolan pushes the ball down the floor in last week's win in Blacksburg.

Blacksburg, 81-63, as Jax Bolling had 23 points, Ryder Francisco had 16 and Parker Doolan had 13.

“Solid road win, need to continue to make progress on the defensive side of ball,” said

Glenvar coach Hank Luton. “Proud of our group effort!”

On December 19 at home the Highlanders beat William Byrd, 66-57. Bolling had 30 and Francisco and Doolan had 16 each.

“We were able to force turnovers early against an experienced, good Byrd team,” said Luton.

After Friday's game at Floyd the Highlanders will be back in action Monday, January 5, to host Hidden Valley.

GHS girls return Monday with back-to-back games

The Glenvar girls are still looking for a win as 2025 comes to a close, with a New Year's resolution to turn things around in 2026.

The Highlanders were winless in both the 2024 and 2025 calendar years as their losing streak reached 47 with their final game of the year, a 71-20 loss to William Byrd in Vinton. Audrey Moles had 16 points to lead Glenvar.

The Highlanders have yet to win a game this season but they've been more competitive. Their next chance to end the streak will be January 5th at Hidden Valley, followed by a home game against Carroll County a day later on January 6th.

“We're hoping to get some good work in over break and come back refreshed,” said Glenvar coach Cheryl Hayes.



PHOTO BY SUZANNE WITCHER

Chloe Meyer (left) and Zella Hayes double-team a Byrd girl.

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PHOTOS BY BRIAN HOFFMAN

Highlanders fill 11 spots on Class 2 All-State football team *Dawyot is first team on both offense and defense and second team punter*

The Glenvar High football team had one of its best years ever and the Virginia High School League Class 2 all-state football team reflects the talent on the 2025 Highlander squad. Glenvar filled five spots on the all-state first team and six on the second team.

Senior Brody Dawyot was listed on three spots of the all-state team. Brody was named first team at both quarterback and defensive line and was also selected as the second team punter.

Dawyot had a spectacular four-year career for the Highlanders, setting the VHSL record for career touchdown passes with 134. He finishes second all-time with 180 total touchdowns, counting passing and rushing, second all-time in total yards with 12,312 and fourth all time in passing yards with 9,822.

This season alone Brody passed for 49 touchdowns and scored 61, adding in his rushing TDs. The 61 touchdowns

is fourth best for a VHSL single season and the 49 TD passes ranks fifth.

Dawyot also set playoff records with six touchdown passes against Floyd County, tying the previous record, and 28 completions against Strasburg in the 2025 Class 2 championship game.

Also named to the first team all-state were senior lineman Jackson Hartman and senior receiver Cooper Mullins on offense and senior linebacker Rawlin Hanks on defense. Mullins was also named to the second team defense at all-purpose.

Senior Cale Vaughan made second team all-state on both sides of the ball. Cale was a second team selection at tight end on offense and linebacker on defense. Other second team selections from Glenvar include senior Nick Wilson on the defensive line and senior Jace Forster at defensive back.

Strasburg junior running back Quincy Williams was named the Class 2 Offensive Player of the Year and

Strasburg senior defensive lineman Hutson Conrad is the Class 2 Defensive Player of the Year. Strasburg head coach Tripp Lamb is the Class 2 Coach of the Year after the Rams defeated Glenvar for the state championship.

Glenvar dominated the All-Region 2C team this year as Brody Dawyot was named both the Offensive and Defensive Player of the Year and coach Kevin Clifford was named the Region 2C Coach of the Year after leading Glenvar to a 14-1 overall season and the region championship.

On offense Glenvar players named to the all-region first team included Dawyot, Hartman, Mullins and Vaughan and on defense Dawyot, Wilson, Hanks, Vaughan, Forster and Mullins. Brody was named first team at quarterback, defensive line and punter.

Second team all-region Highlanders on offense are Forster and Tre Dawyot at receiver and Dalton Shoemaker on

the offensive line. Tre Dawyot also made second team on defense.

In the Three Rivers District Brody Dawyot was named Offensive Player of the Year, Hanks is Defensive Player of the Year and Clifford is the Coach of the Year.

First team on offense are Brody at quarterback along with Hartman, Mullins, Forster and Vaughan. First team all-district on defense are Brody Dawyot at both punter and defensive line, Wilson, Hanks, Vaughan, Forster and sophomore Jake Franklin.

Second team all-3RD on offense are junior Daulton Nolen at center, senior Emelio Harris on the line, junior Ranger Swanson at runningback, Tre Dawyot at receiver and Mullins is the placekicker. Defensive second teamers are senior Jacob Campbell at linebacker, Tre Dawyot and senior Carter King at defensive back, Swanson at punt returner and Mullins at defensive all-purpose.

Spartans shut out on All-Class 4 state team

McCadden is first team RB, kick returner in Region 4D

For the first time in recent memory the Salem High football team was not represented on either the first or second team when the all-state football team was announced.

The Virginia High School League recently released the Class 4 all-state team and state champion Varina dominated with six first team selections, sweeping the top honors. Varina junior quarterback Kaleb Wyche is the Class 4 Offensive Player of the Year, and Varina junior defensive lineman JaySean Richardson is the Class 4 Defensive Player of the Year. Varina head coach Marcus Lewis is the Class 4 Coach of the Year.

Salem had a solid representation on the All-Region 4D team, including junior Jordan McCadden at both runningback and kick returner on the first team offense. Sophomore Jake James was named to the second team on the offensive line and senior Tolin Saul was named to the second team at linebacker. The region named Honorable Mention selections and Salemites include James on the defensive line and

junior Tanner Overstreet at punter.

Junior quarterback Owen Neal of James Wood was named the region Offensive Player of the Year, senior lineman Chris Law of GW-Danville is the region Defensive Player of the year and Jefferson Forest's JT Crews is the Coach of the year.

Salem was well-represented on the All-River Ridge District team. First team offense included James on the line and McCadden at both runningback and kick return. On defense first team Salemites include James on the line, Saul at linebacker, Jamari Hairston at defensive end and Nick Baxley at punt return.

Second teamers on offense are Michael Crawley at tight end, Ethan Millard and Kevin Easley on the line, Saul at runningback and Baxley at kick return. Second team all-district on defense are Robert Herndon on the line, Jamalaci Law at end, Gabe Johnson at linebacker and Overstreet at punter.

Honorable Mention goes to Kafur Gulfan and Alex Regan on the offensive line, DaVon Jones at linebacker and McCadden at defensive back.

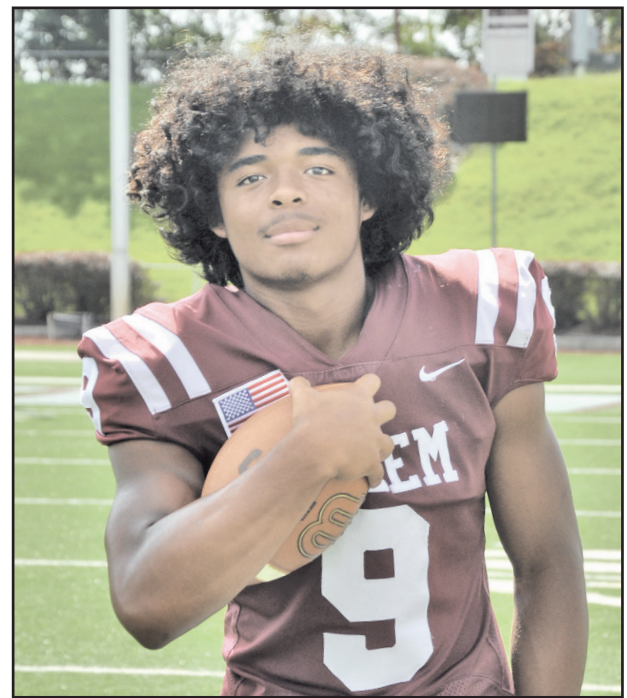


PHOTO BY BRIAN HOFFMAN

JORDAN McCADDEN

Former Red Sox star Bradley will be speaker, inductee for HoF banquet

Former Boston Red Sox standout Jackie Bradley, Jr., who began his pro career with the Salem Red Sox in 2012, will be the guest speaker and one of five inductees into the Salem-Roanoke Baseball Hall of Fame at the 34th hot stove banquet and induction ceremony. Bradley will be joined by four additional inductees, Drew Bailey, Allen Lawrence, Wes McMillan and Donald Minnick. The banquet will be held at the Salem Civic Center on Sunday, February 1st, 2026.

A native of Prince George, Bradley helped lead South Carolina to the 2010 College World Series championship, earning CWS Most Outstanding Player honors. Selected by Boston in the 2011 MLB draft, he highlighted the Opening Day roster for the 2012 Salem Red Sox, quickly becoming a fan favorite showcasing elite defense, strong plate discipline and a .359 average over 67 games that fueled his rise through Boston's farm system.

Bradley joined the Boston Red Sox in 2013, just one year after playing in Salem. From there, he became one of Major League Baseball's best defensive outfielders, showing his range, strong arm and spectacular highlight catches. He was named

an All-Star in 2016 and then earned a Gold Glove Award in 2018 while helping the Red Sox win the 2018 World Series, also claiming American League Championship Series MVP honors.

Jackie later played for Milwaukee, Toronto and Kansas City. Post-MLB, Bradley has worked as a college baseball analyst with the SEC Network and recently joined the Indianapolis Clowns of the Banana Ball League.

The Salem-Roanoke Baseball Hall of Fame was founded in 1991 and honors players and contributors from the counties of Alleghany, Roanoke, Bedford, Botetourt, Craig, Floyd, Franklin and Montgomery and the independent cities located within the boundaries of those counties. The Hall of Fame building is located on the grounds of the James E. Taliaferro Complex, next to the Salem RidgeYaks administrative office behind the third base seating area of Salem Memorial Ballpark. It is open to the public on selected nights during the Carolina League season and upon request.

For information on tickets, tables or ads in the program, contact Hall of Fame President John Montgomery at 540-761-6751.



PHOTO BY JOHN WACHER

Jackie Bradley, Jr. played for the Salem Sox in 2012.