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# SALEM TIMES-REGISTER

Thursday, December 25, 2025 • (USPS 631-140) • \$1.00

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## Roanoke County schools earn high marks in 2025 school quality profiles

**Aila Boyd**  
aboyle@mainstreetnewspapers.com

Roanoke County Public Schools is earning high marks in the Virginia Department of Education's 2025 School Quality Profiles, with no schools labeled as needing intensive support and all five county high schools rated at the top performance level.

The Virginia Department of Education recently released the updated School Quality Profiles, which provide

statewide data on student achievement, school performance, safety, teacher quality and other indicators. The profiles are designed to give families, educators and community members a clearer picture of how schools and school divisions are performing across the commonwealth.

The profiles include both division- and school-level data on measures such as performance on the state Standards of Learning assessments, college and career readiness, program

completion, school environment and teacher quality.

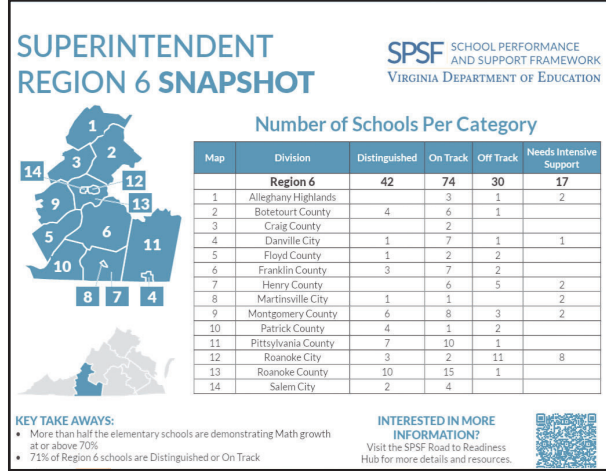
This year's release reflects the state's new accountability system, the School Performance and Support Framework. Under the framework, schools are evaluated across several categories, including mastery of academic standards, year-over-year student growth, readiness for the next stage of learning or employment, and graduation rates for high schools.

Schools are assigned

performance labels on a 100-point scale, ranging from "Distinguished" for scores of 90 or higher to "Needs Intensive Support" for scores below 65.

Ten schools in Roanoke County received a "Distinguished" rating, including all five county high schools: William Byrd, Cave Spring, Hidden Valley, Glenvar and Northside. Fifteen additional schools were rated "On Track," while one school was labeled

See RCPS, page 6



Virginia School Quality Profiles released on Dec. 10 demonstrate Roanoke County Schools are excelling under the new state accountability guidelines.



Authors of "Glimpses Into Our Past" by the Ink Slingers writing group that began at Friendship Richfield Living are, from left in back, Joann Barfield, Betsy Davies Kibbler, leader Linda Horinko, Fran Duran Klaus and Ruth Rossin; and in front, Judi Stenzel and founder Nancy Valle.

## Golden agers turn glimpses into their past into book

**Meg Hibbert**  
Contributing writer

A much-loved nativity scene her parents bought for 29 cents when they married in 1929 prompted Linda Horinko to write one of the essays she and six other "golden agers" turned into a book.

Horinko, Joann Barfield, Betsy Davies Kibbler, Fran Duran Klaus, Ruth Rossin, Judi Stenzel and Nancy Valle wrote and published "Glimpses Into Our Past," by the Ink Slingers

of Richfield. The book contains 110 "memories and flights of fancy" the seven wrote.

The Ink Slingers have met monthly since Valle first got the group together in 2021. Horinko, the current leader, edited the book and had it published by Amazon.com.

The stories in "Glimpses" come from writing prompts members come up with. They range

See Ink Slingers, page 3



PHOTO COURTESY OF THE INK SLINGERS

This creche Linda Horinko's parents bought for 29 cents in 1929 became the subject of one of her essays in "Glimpses Into Our Past".

## Roanoke College spreads holiday cheer through food drives, notes and gifts

During the season of gratitude and giving, Roanoke College students, faculty and staff are sharing the holiday spirit beyond campus through donation drives and long-standing community partnerships that support neighbors across the Roanoke Valley.

A one-day food drive held on Reading Day before finals week brought together student groups, campus offices and community partners to address food insecurity among students and local families. The six-hour effort was organized by Weston Powell '27, a

criminal justice major and student community leader with Residence Life & Housing.

"We're just trying to build community," Powell said.

The drive was supported by residence hall leaders, Campus Safety, Roanoke Promise and Pass on Hunger, with sponsorships from Sheetz, the New Hope Ruritan Club and Cave Spring Dental Arts. Students were encouraged to donate canned and packaged food, meal swipes or time to help assemble care packages with snacks and hygiene items. Raffle prizes



COURTESY PHOTO

Students, faculty, staff and community partners are coming together to organize donation drives and other holiday events. Pictured: Organizers setting up raffle prizes for a campus-wide food drive held on Reading Day.

were offered throughout the day to encourage participation.

Students donated about \$1,600 in food and

meal swipes, in addition to items contributed by community sponsors.

See RC, page 5

## Virginia Western's CCAP accepting applications through Feb. 1

ROANOKE – Thanks to the private-public partnership that funds the Community College Access Program (CCAP), 484 students are attending Virginia Western Community College tuition-free this fall.

Since 2008, public localities and private donors have united in support of CCAP, which is the largest "free college" program at a Virginia community college. CCAP provides up to two years of tuition for recent high school graduates who meet program requirements, as funding allows. More than 4,800 Roanoke Valley students have participated in the program as of fall 2025.

"We are so grateful to all of the CCAP donors – municipal, corporate and private – for helping thousands of students further their education at Virginia Western over the past 17 years," said Russell Ellett, Chair of the Virginia Western Community College Educational Foundation, a nonprofit affiliated with Virginia Western Community College that administers the program.

Roanoke region high school seniors may apply for the fall 2026 CCAP scholarship now through Feb. 1, 2026, at virginiawestern.edu/ccap. Applicants must also apply to Virginia Western and submit the Free Application for Student Financial Aid (FAFSA) by the same date.

Students who are ineligible to complete the FAFSA can complete the Virginia Alternative State Aid (VASA) application as an alternative, also by the Feb. 1 deadline. The VASA provides state aid only and is

for Virginians who have certain nonimmigrant visas, are undocumented, have Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA) status or are otherwise ineligible to file a FAFSA.

Those interested in learning more about CCAP are invited to attend a Zoom information session on Jan. 15, 2026, from noon to 1 p.m. To register, visit virginiawestern.edu/ccap.

To stay up-to-date on important CCAP application deadlines, financial aid workshops and more, sign up for text alerts by texting "2026 ccap" to 877-235-2279. (Reply STOP to cancel, HELP for help; message and data rates apply.)

Recipients of the CCAP scholarship for 2025-26 are:

**CRAIG COUNTY**

First-year students:  
Justin Boitnotte, Hayden Bradley, Emma Cole, Maggie Mays, Jamie Ratliff, Talon Ritter and Erin Snider

Second-year students:  
Matthew Lucas, Seth Parsons and Hayden Reynolds

Third-year students:  
Ashton Early

For more information about CCAP, see virginiawestern.edu/ccap or contact Annie Fentress, CCAP Coordinator, at (540) 857-6371 or afentress@virginiawestern.edu

-The Salem Times-Register



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# 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.

**May Your Home Be Blessed!**



To all our good friends far and near, we wish a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!




**Shannon Hines, REALTOR®**  
 shannonhinesrealtor@gmail.com

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 Love and Friendship, Health and Prosperity  
 ...This Holiday Season and All Year!*

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**Merry & Bright Wishes**

To all of our patients, associates and friends, **Happy Holidays and thanks for bringing so many smiles to our year!**



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## Lights of Love Memorial Tree

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

*~In Loving Memory~*

- |                                  |                                   |                              |                           |                          |
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| Jenny Carter Agee                | Howard C. Crotts                  | Butch Johnson                | David Nixon               | Janice L. Thomas         |
| Ruby Altice                      | Jimmie L. Deel                    | Ronald Jordan                | Carolyn J. O'Dell         | Richard J. Thomas        |
| Eddie Amos                       | Joshua, Maggie & Isabella Deel    | Donna Kantrowitz             | Dorothy O'Dell            | Bochie Thompson          |
| Janet Amos                       | Leslie R. & E. Lucy Coleman Deel  | Herbert Keenan               | Roy Max O'Dell            | Tony Thompson            |
| Vickie Ayers                     | Pickles, Baby Go Go & Mimi Deel   | Marion Keenan                | Stephen Scott Oliver      | Betty Mae Tomlin         |
| Roland Bagnell                   | Cecelia P. DeLong                 | Richard E. Kile              | Lear Overfelt             | Nancy Toppel             |
| Margaret Yule Bain               | Jesse Dickens                     | Frank Kingery                | Samuel Overfelt           | Ella Trail               |
| Celia Barnett                    | Robert W. Dickens                 | Rebecca Kingery              | Nellie Overstreet         | J. C. Trail              |
| William Barnett                  | Barbara Doyle                     | Jackie Klivansky             | "Babs" Paine              | Richie Trail             |
| Alex Barton                      | Charles Dummick                   | Michael Klivansky            | Dr Bob & Alice Paine Jr   | Jewell Tyree             |
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| Doug Barton                      | Marilyn Eaton                     | Ana Kut                      | Robert Parson Paine       | John Frank Tyree III     |
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| Brookes Beistel                  | Beatrice Fuller                   | Albert LePage                | Dr. Andrew & Anne Parson  | Raymond Van Valkenburg   |
| Patricia Blackburn               | William J. Fuller                 | Leo LePage                   | Steven RayPendleton       | Dorothy Van Valkenburg   |
| Theodore Blankenship             | John C. Gleason                   | Tom LePage                   | Joyce Perdue              | David L. Vanderpool      |
| Alford Bolduc                    | Martha G. Gleason                 | Lorraine Lewis               | Junior Perdue             | Evelyn Vanderpool        |
| Corrine Bolduc                   | Juliet Gleason                    | Sandy Lewis                  | Gene Prillaman            | Virginia Helvey Vass     |
| Barbara Booker                   | Paul Gleason                      | Jerry Mack                   | Isaac Prillaman           | Yadi Velasquez           |
| Erik Paine Brady                 | Shirley B. Godwin                 | Josephine Martin             | Kristin Noelle Prillaman  | Henry Viers              |
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| Jean Lamb Brugh                  | Gladys Goodwin                    | Michelle Mattocks            | Debbie Pugh               | Norma J. Walters         |
| Wilber & Mary Byer               | James R. Goodwin Jr.              | Christopher Chris McClanahan | Debora T. Pugh            | John A. Ward             |
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| Maurice Cabral                   | Dianne Gray                       | Smyth Meador                 | Amy Rickman               | K. T. Whitescarver       |
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| Michael S. Camden Jr.            | Willie Alberta Mitchell Hawthorne | Jessica Meredith             | Wesley Adam Scott         | Ralph Williams           |
| Michael S. Camden Sr.            | Michael Daniel Helvey             | Michael Meredith             | Frankie Cochran Shockley  | Mike Williamson          |
| Delores Carroll                  | Katherine Hodge                   | Winford Meredith             | Caleb Spence              | Bayes Wilson             |
| Teddy Caudell                    | June Huff                         | Adolph Mewald                | Sherwood Spence           | Ella Wilson              |
| Bonnie Chattin                   | Harold Hughes                     | Marie Mewald                 | Marty St. Clair           | Nancy D. Wilson          |
| Joyce Shepherd Cheeks            | Roger Reagan Ingle                | Theresa Mewald               | Harry L. Stanley          | Sherry Ann Winkler       |
| Megan Rian Clark                 | Robert Jackson                    | Chris Mills                  | Jessica Stephenson        | Jefferson D. Wolfe Sr.   |
| William Fred Clark               | Angela Jenkins                    | Richard Mills                | John Stevens              | Murtis Wymer             |
| William H. Cleary                | Edward Jobe                       | Glen L. Mitchell             | Ned Tarpley               | Jamie D. Wymer           |
| Shirley Coffey                   | Gertrud Jobe                      | Jack Neff                    | Sylvia Tarpley            | Al & Geraldine Zimmerman |
| James & Pearl Conner             | Ida Jobe                          | Ruth Nixon                   | Betty Thomas              | Gary Zimmerman           |
| Bill Cooper                      | Russell Jobe                      | George Nixon                 |                           |                          |

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

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

# RECIPE OF THE WEEK



## Shelly Koon

Contributing Writer

There's a lot to love about Christmas; food, family, friends, and all kinds of other words that don't start with the letter F. I think there's no better way to enjoy the holidays than by watching holiday movies. The Holiday movie has long been a family tradition; your nearest and dearest gathering together to enjoy a seasonal classic is as much a part of the festivities for many people as the opening of presents or grandpa falling asleep on the sofa shortly after finishing Christmas dinner. Americans rank watching holiday movies as one of their favorite traditions, above tree decorating and cookie baking. Hallmark's 40 new holiday movies this season is a drop in a bucket already filled with old holiday classics from A Christmas Story and White Christmas to new ones like Love Actually and the Christmas Chronicles. Yes, holiday movies are formulaic, predictable, and often cheesy. But they also offset the stress, family pressure, and gloom from shorter days and less sunshine. An evening spent watching a feel-good movie can be an easy, low-cost, and rewarding form of self-care.

Since very few of us have "Hallmark Christmas" lives, the movies provide a welcome escape from the pressures and demands of the real world. The holiday season can bring unwanted guests and annoying family members and the burdens of gift-giving and entertaining. Holidays can exacerbate financial strain and emphasize our loneliness and isolation. Images of Christmas can also make us aware when our lives, families, jobs, or friends don't live up to our hopeful ideals and desires. It's no wonder that depression and anxiety spike during the holidays. It also explains the relief we feel when holiday movies wildly exaggerate those holiday woes, like Christmas with the Cranks, Bad Santa, or Bad Moms Christmas.

There are several benefits from a journey into Christmas movie land.

There is comfort in predictability. It is the grown-up version of your kid

watching the exact same video, or wanting the exact same book read every single time. We want that familiarity, but with dashes of novelty to keep us more engaged. No matter what happens, we know the two main characters will end up together. The world is messy but you know these will always have a happy ending. (Unless you are the jerk boyfriend).

People often turn to their favorite programs when feeling lonely. Just thinking about a favorite movie increases positive emotions, decreases stress, and increases the sense of community.

Holiday movies tap into tradition and ritual, triggering nostalgia for "the good old days" when things seemed simpler, kinder, and slower. Nostalgia increases perceptions of social support and fosters mental health by amplifying positive memories and recalling when everything seemed possible. Holiday movies let us revisit that innocence, increasing our confidence while escaping our obligations, stressors, and realities and helping us reimagine our world as full of possibilities.

Whether laughing, crying, or going "awwww," holiday movies allow us to experience positive emotions, putting more psychological resources at our disposal and making us more able to combat negative emotions that raise blood pressure and increase the release of stress hormones.

It's an added benefit that most holiday movies are family-friendly, providing a way to create new traditions. Watching together creates traditions and strengthens bonds.

Also, they are good for drinking games or trope bingo. I don't drink alcohol but it works with hot cider too! I will include the rules later. Grab your beverage of choice and settle in for a fun time.

It's always fun to indulge in a bit of cringe around the holidays. It's like eating junk food. Empty but satisfying. There is enough stress in the world and this is a good escape. Even if we roll our

eyes while watching.

In the years before on-demand services, Blu-Rays or DVDs, watching a Christmas movie was more of a shared experience, a time when a whole nation was beholden to the whims of the programmers working at the major broadcasters who decided what we watched and when. Mom would write notes on the calendar so we wouldn't forget to watch. My mom told me my 2nd grade school pageant was moved to an earlier time so we all could get home in time to watch Charlie Brown's Christmas.

With Christmas on a Thursday the deadlines for all the papers are moved up and the days leading up to the holiday are very busy in our office. On Christmas Day, Betsy and I will stay in our pjs, watch movies, work a puzzle, and eat Christmassy foods. I started a new tradition a few years ago on Christmas of making myself nachos for dinner and watching The Holiday. I really look forward to my Christmas nachos and movie!

### Loaded Sheet Pan Nachos

#### Ingredients

- 1 tablespoon olive oil
- 1 pound ground beef (or turkey)
- 1 (1.25-oz) package taco seasoning
- 1 (16-oz) jar salsa
- 1 (12-oz) bag corn tortilla chips (red and green ones, I get mine at Food Lion)
- 1 (15-oz) can black beans drained and rinsed
- 1 (8.5-oz) can corn drained
- 1 small can sliced black olives drained
- 1.5 cups shredded Mexican cheese blend (cheddar works too!)
- 1 Roma tomato diced
- 1 small red onion diced
- 1 jalapeno thinly sliced
- 1 avocado cubed
- Chopped cilantro (if you like it)
- sour cream for serving

**1. Prep:** Heat oven to 400°F. Line a baking sheet with aluminum foil and spray with nonstick cooking spray. Brown beef: Add olive oil to large skillet over medium-high heat, then add ground beef and cook until browned. Drain if desired, then stir in taco seasoning and salsa. Assemble: Place tortilla chips in single layer on the prepared baking sheet. Top with ground beef mixture, black beans, corn, olives and cheese. Bake: Place into oven and bake until heated through and the cheeses have melted, about 5-6 minutes. Top with tomato, onion, jalapeño,



COURTESY PHOTOS

avocado, cilantro and serve with sour cream.

### Holiday Drinking Game

Google Christmas drinking games and several lists will show up.

#### The Rules:

#### Drink When...

Character's name related to Christmas  
Reference to a dead relative  
Hot cocoa, cider, or eggnog  
Candy canes!  
Snowball fight or ice skating  
Adult bonds with an unrelated child  
Ugly Sweater or tie  
Baking, Caroling, Tree Trimming  
Big City Person in Small Town  
Widow/er or Single Parent  
Scenic Snow Vista  
Precocious child/pet  
Gratuitous dramatic exterior  
**Take 2 Drinks When...**  
Outsider partakes in an old tradition  
Near-miss/almost kiss  
"Magical" Christmas item  
Snowing on Christmas  
Mistletoe!  
Santa/Angel in disguise  
Snowed-in or Flight Canceled  
"Big Event" saves the day!  
Montage  
Someone says, "But, it's Christmas"

#### Finish Your Drink When...

The cynic is filled with the Christmas Spirit  
The protagonist leaves town, only to return at the end  
Community Tree Lighting Ceremony!  
The movie ends with "The Kiss"

## Ink Slingers

from page 1

from autumn leaves, to Klaus losing all her front teeth in second grade, to Barfield's Icelandic and Norwegian family traditions, Rossin's world travels with her Ambassador son, Valle fulfilling her bucket list desire to walk the beach at Normandy, and Stenzel's parents staying up most of the night to put together toys to create the magic of Christmas.

"What's amazing each month that what everybody writes is different from same prompt," said Horinko. "They are always very different."

"Our book is a fun kind of thing. It's an easy read. People say they will read one or two of the entries before going to bed. Some are funny, or have information about places people never get to. One of the fun prompts was a list of history's unsolved mysteries and we were to write our conclusion to that story."

In November the prompt she chose was "A cup of steaming tea...all there was left now was to wait."

The December prompt is "Write about a place you couldn't wait to get out of." A second choice is "A story in the form of a letter or several letters send back and forth."

Speaking about her treasured family creche, Horinko said, "My creche is small, but contains wise men, sheep,

cattle, but no shepherds. It means a lot to me because it's almost 100 years old, and my parents, Ed and Gwen Amole, bought it the first Christmas when they were married, in Coatesville, Pa."

"The figures have 'Japan' stamped on the bottom. I display it on a round table in our living room," said Horinko. She and her husband, Bob, have lived in Richfield's Lake Retreat four-and-a-half years ago, after living in Pennsylvania, New Jersey, Pensacola, and Mobile, Ala.

Not all the writers live in Richfield now but are nearby.

They meet the fourth Monday of each month, in Richfield's Community Room in the Towne Center. Horinko said the group would consider new members.

For meetings, they make copies of their essays and everybody reads along, she said, and might make suggestions. "We are not really tough on each other." She had not published before but said she had kept a journal for 30 years.

"We don't claim to be professionals; we are women who discovered a joyful way to preserve our pasts, stretch our imaginations and connect with each other through writing.

"Glimpses Into Our Past, Memories and Flights of Fancy from Golden Agers," is available from Amazon.com for \$14.99.

## FROM THE ARCHIVES

# Salem's Cannaday winner of season street races

From the January 24, 1985, edition of The Salem Times-Register

C a l l a w a y, VA—Orville Reedy of Daleville was officially crowned "Track Champion" Saturday night (Jan12) at Franklin County Speedway's annual awards banquet in the Salem Civic Center.

The speedy Reedy won 4 Late Model Sportsman feature events during 1984 and was in the top five 13 times in 20 races on the swift 3/8 mile paved oval. Reedy held off hard driving Ray Huff of Salem to take the LMs season title while Orvil's son Tink Reedy made it a big

family year at Franklin County by claiming 3rd place in the points standing.

Bobby Radford of Ferrum, the 1983 champ, finished 4th this year and was on hand to introduce the new title holder at the most spectacular celebration ever held by the speedway.

Jay Stone of Christiansburg, in his first year of racing on a paved track, won the limited Sportsman Championship by only 8 points over fast finishing

Terronz

Moore of Boones Mill with Rocky Mt.'s Rick Sigmon only eight more points back in third place.

Dean Cannaday of Salem, who collected 11 wins in 16 starts, took the 1984 V-8 Street trophy with John Cox of Roanoke runner up and Salem's Dicky Wilson in 3rd spot.

Tommy Allie of Christiansburg was named Driver of the

See Archives, page 6

**Filled With Joy**

We're overflowing with happiness and gratitude to be celebrating another holiday season here. Thanks for making 2025 a great year for us. **We really appreciate your support, and we wish you all the best at Christmas and always!**

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Hope your holiday is trimmed with every happiness.  
Thanks for hanging with us all year!

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**Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!**

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**HO, HO, HOLIDAY GREETINGS**

Delivering wishes merry and bright to all of our friends and neighbors at Christmastime!

With sincere thanks for your loyal support, we wish you and yours a very merry Christmas!

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# SIXTH DISTRICT PERSPECTIVE

## Delivering on the Peace Through Strength Agenda

House Republicans are committed to ensuring America remains the most capable and lethal fighting force in the world, prepared to stay ahead of rising threats from foreign adversaries. Passed last week by the House, the FY26 National Defense Authorization Act strengthens our readiness, modernizes critical systems, and drives innovation across every branch of our military. This legislation includes key national security provisions that address today's rapidly evolving challenges by accelerating breakthroughs in artificial intelligence and cyber operations so the United States remains ahead of foreign adversaries such as China, Russia, Iran, and North Korea.

A major focus of the FY26 NDAA is reforming our outdated acquisition system, which for far too long has delayed the delivery of essential tools and technologies to our troops. The bill cuts unnecessary bureaucracy, speeds up the development and deployment of new capabilities, and ensures promising innovations reach our servicemembers when they need them most. It also strengthens America's posture in the Indo-Pacific to deter China, supports essential defense priorities, funds troop deployments to the southern border, and provides significant resources to combat drug traffickers. This year's NDAA eliminates wasteful programs, restores merit-based standards, and saves taxpayers nearly twenty billion dollars, ensuring that resources stay focused on mission readiness. As foreign threats grow more complex, Republicans delivered on critical investments, reforms, and capabilities needed to keep our fighting force strong and sets the stage for meaningful progress across the military.

## Solidifying Americans Voice in the Federal Rule Making Process

Far-left activists and activist judges are using closed-door lawsuits to push sweeping regulations. Currently, everyday Americans, job creators, and the industries affected are completely left out of the federal rule making process, leaving them no place to advocate for themselves against sweeping regulations that affect their operations and bottom lines. For too long, activist judges and radical groups have used the courts through litigation to "Sue and Settle", bypassing Congress and forcing major policy changes at federal agencies without public input. Last week, I introduced the Sunshine for Regulatory Decrees and Settlements Act to stop this abuse and restore



**Ben Cline**  
Congressman

transparency in the federal rulemaking process. This legislation would require public notice and comment, agency head certification of settlements, stronger judicial review, and detailed reporting to Congress to make sure these agreements serve the public interest. I am proud to have introduced this bill, which empowers everyday Americans to have a voice in this process once again.

## Spurring Economic Growth with the INVEST ACT

Expanding economic opportunity for families, small businesses, and investors is critical to keeping America competitive and the INVEST Act moves us in that direction. This legislation modernizes outdated rules that have held back growth and opens the door for more Americans to participate in investment opportunities that can help secure their financial future. As public markets continue to contract, with the number of U.S. public companies declining from 8,800 in 1997 to fewer than 4,000 today, and outdated investment thresholds limiting how smaller companies raise capital, this legislation addresses these barriers to expand opportunity. By making it easier for entrepreneurs to access capital and streamlining the process for companies to go public, the bill helps more businesses grow and create jobs here at home. It also strengthens protections for older Americans while broadening the investment options available to retirement savers. At the same time, the bill updates the rules so more individuals can take part in markets that were once limited to a select few.

These changes make our capital markets stronger, more accessible, and more supportive of innovation and economic growth. This legislation represents a focused effort to expand access to capital and give Americans greater control over their financial futures.

It balances opportunity with protections to ensure our markets remain resilient. By modernizing our markets and expanding opportunities, the bill helps families, entrepreneurs, and investors build a stronger financial foundation and ensures America remains a place where innovation and growth thrive.

## Working to Strengthen our Grid and Lower Energy Costs for Americans

Strengthening our energy security and lowering costs for hardworking families remains a priority, and Congress took an important step forward with the Electric Supply Chain Act and the State Planning for Reliability and Affordability Act. These two pieces of legislation deliver real action to protect our grid, prevent dangerous vulnerabilities, and shield families from higher energy bills. Energy security is national security, and this bill moves us closer to true American energy dominance. By improving grid reliability, expanding domestic energy production, and ensuring we can power the artificial intelligence data centers of the future, it supports long-term American energy strength. Both bills work to prepare utilities for rising electricity demand, maintain dependable power supplies, and prevent the outages that disrupt communities and drive prices higher. They also protect families from sudden spikes in energy costs caused by poor planning or the premature retirement of power plants. These reforms, paired with additional energy legislation passed last week, work together to drive down costs, strengthen reliability, and put American energy production first.

For years, Democrats pushed out-of-touch energy policies and burdensome regulations that raised prices and undermined energy reliability for families across the country. The Electric Supply Chain Act takes a different approach by restoring balance, strengthening the energy supply chain, and ensuring that reliability and affordability remain central in national and state-level decision making. It also holds regulatory entities accountable so families are not left covering the cost of poor planning or politically driven mandates. Together, the Electric Supply Chain Act and the complementary reforms passed last week represent a major step toward restoring American energy leadership.

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.

# 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 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

FEATURING THE BAND OF OZ

Click here for more info

COURTESY PHOTO

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

## Salem Times~Register

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

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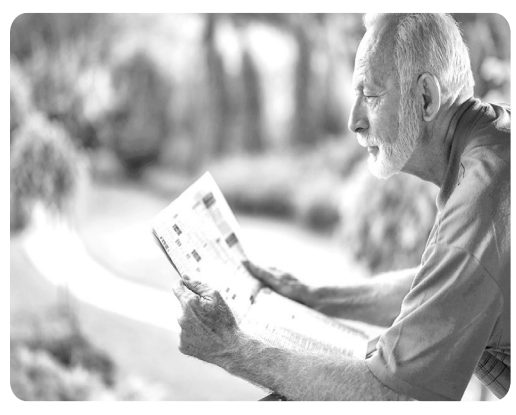
## CROSSWORD PUZZLE

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68					69						70	

- CLUES ACROSS
- Product or \_\_\_ (abbr.)
  - Zodiac sign
  - S. China seaport
  - Former OSS
  - Early English printer
  - Aphid genus
  - General's assistant (abbr.)
  - Aussies
  - Dissuades
  - Make law
  - Drench
  - Soak in a liquid
  - Male child
  - It cools your home
  - Small constellation
  - To call (archaic)
  - Explores beneath the Earth
  - Commercial
  - W. hemisphere organization
  - You can find it in a can
  - "Land of the free"
  - 42 36 inches
  - Footwear
  - Challenges
  - They hold things together
  - Of 1
  - Partner to flow
  - Not connected by kinship
  55. Worries
  - Garlic mayonnaise
  - A way to take by force
  - Legendary English rockers
  - Your consciousness of your own identity
  - Fencing swords
  - Silly
  - Actor DiCaprio
  - Encircles with a belt
  - Mails a message
  - Longing
  - CLUES DOWN
  - Horse mackerels
  - It can be viral
  - Prickly plants
  - Consciousness
  - Type of sarcoma
  - Tax collector
  - Sun up in New York
  - One who scorches
  - Influential psychotherapist
  - Situated at an apex
  - Communicative
  - Forearm nerve
  - Former CIA
  - Folk singer DiFranco
  - Employee stock ownership plan
  - Large-scale
  - School environment
  - Remove
  - Male parents
  - Large rodent
  - Weighed down
  - Held tightly
  - \_\_\_ route: going there
  - Explains again
  - Exclamation of surprise
  - Courteously
  - Lying down
  - Judge
  - Forcefully took
  - Loosely compacted sediment
  - High mountain
  - Portable conical tents
  - Cereal grass
  - Dining utensil
  - Thoughtful
  - Helps you walk
  - Indicates near
  - Midway between northeast and east
  - Local area network

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# POLICE REPORT

## City of Salem Police Department



### Weekly Arrest Report

Week of December 9, 2025 – December 15, 2025

DATE	NAME	AGE	OFFENSE
12/9/2025	Timothy R. Brown	55	Domestic Assault & Battery, Strangulation
12/10/2025	Dylan S. Dooley	30	Domestic Assault & Battery
12/11/2025	Linda G. Peery	69	Fail to Appear
12/11/2025	Dane A. Homiczewski	27	Public Intoxication, Obstruct Justice
12/12/2025	Kaiden A. Sowers	22	Contempt of Court
12/12/2025	Nicholas S. Jacobs	32	Embezzlement
12/12/2025	Billy J. Salisbury	45	Petit Larceny
12/12/2025	Robert N. Harvey	68	Public Intoxication
12/13/2025	Ezra J. Boren	20	Indecent Exposure, Public Intoxication
12/14/2025	Jaxson G. Walker	20	Breaking & Entering, Domestic Assault & Battery, Trespassing
12/15/2025	John D. Wray	53	Fail to Appear

## City of Salem Police Department



### Weekly Crime Report (Felony Cases)

Week of December 9, 2025 – December 15, 2025

DATE REPORTED	LOCATION	OFFENSE REPORTED
12/9/2025	100 BLK Sheraton Dr	Strangulation
12/10/2025	600 BLK S Colorado St	Domestic Assault
12/11/2025	100 BLK N Broad St	Embezzlement
12/13/2025	600 BLK Lee St	Breaking & Entering

# V DOT ROADWATCH

## ROANOKE COUNTY

**Franklin Street Closure** (New Dec. 12, 2025) – Portion between Route 1396 (Fairway Ridge Road) and Salem city line closed 7 a.m.–5 p.m. School buses and local access allowed; minor delays expected.

**Route 11 Pedestrian Improvements** (New Dec. 12, 2025) – Southbound lane closure Monday–Friday, 8 a.m.–4 p.m. to add pedestrian safety improvements. Message boards alert drivers.

**Route 220/Route 419 Diverging Diamond Interchange** (Updated Dec. 12, 2025) – Interchange reconfigured to diverging diamond; multiple intersections modified to improve flow.

Completion staggered through fall 2028.

**Route 220 at Crossbow Circle & Pheasant Ridge Road** (Updated Oct. 24, 2025) – Curb and median removal underway.

- New traffic pattern: Left/right turns required to make U-turn; no straight across.

**Route 220 at Southern Hills & Valley Avenue** (Updated Oct. 10, 2025) – Nighttime lane closures 7 p.m.–6 a.m., Sunday–Friday; shoulder closures possible during daytime.

- New traffic pattern: Left/right turns required to make U-turn; signal installed.

## RC from page 1

Donations benefited the RC Pantry, which is open year-round to assist students in need, and Feeding Southwest Virginia, a regional food bank based in Salem.

“Our sponsors were really onboard, which we were very fortunate to have,” Powell said. “It’s all going to stay local. This was a fun way for students to get involved and help people in the area who could really use it.”

Community service continued during Roanoke College’s Community Day, when dozens of students wrote handwritten notes of gratitude and encouragement for residents of Brandon Oaks retirement community and children served by the West End Center for Youth. Messages ranged from words of thanks to affirmations encouraging young recipients to believe in themselves and persevere.

Roanoke College has long partnered with both organizations through service-learning opportunities that connect classroom learning with real-world needs. The card-writing effort was part of a broader Community Day focused on character education, supported by the Program for Leadership and Character at Wake Forest University.

“We hope the notes were something encouraging and warm for people to

receive, especially at the holidays,” said Heather Johnson, senior director of strategic partnerships and a Community Day organizer. “It was one small way of offering kindness and creating moments of connection with our wider community.”

The season of giving also included participation in the West End Center for Youth’s annual angel gift drive. This year, Roanoke faculty, staff and retirees purchased gifts for 143 children, with each child receiving at least one new outfit.

“This is one of our absolute favorite holiday projects,” said Lindsey Nair ’98, associate vice president for strategic marketing and communications, who organized the drive. “There’s something special about knowing you’re helping make the season a little brighter for another family.”

The partnership has been in place for many years, with gift drop-offs temporarily turning Nair’s office into a holiday workshop before being collected by the West End Center. Together, the efforts highlight Roanoke College’s ongoing commitment to service and community engagement during the holiday season.

-The Salem Times-Register

Salem-Times Register

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YD	SHOES	DARES
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# Cline introduces bill to bar foreign money from state, local ballot measures

WASHINGTON — Rep. Ben Cline, R-Va., has joined Rep. Marie Gluesenkamp Perez, D-Wash., to introduce legislation aimed at preventing foreign influence in state and local ballot initiatives and referenda.

The Protecting Ballot Measures From Foreign Influence Act of 2025 would prohibit contributions and donations from foreign nationals intended to sway the outcome of ballot measures at the state and local levels.

“Foreign nationals should have absolutely no role in influencing the outcome of American elections, whether at the federal, state, or local level,” Cline said in a statement. He said the bill would close what he described as a loophole by

ensuring ballot initiatives and referenda are decided by U.S. citizens rather than foreign money or interests.

Gluesenkamp Perez said the issue crosses party lines.

“Folks of all political stripes agree that U.S. citizens, not foreign nationals, should determine the outcome of U.S. elections,” she said. “Ballot measures can have an immense impact on life in the United States, and they must be protected from the whims of international bad actors.”

Cline represents Virginia’s Sixth Congressional District, which includes Salem and much of western Virginia.

-The Salem Times-Register

# RCPS

from page 1

“Off Track” by less than one point. No Roanoke County schools were categorized as needing intensive support.

“The School Quality Profiles give us a benchmark, but our purpose goes far beyond test scores,” Superintendent Ken Nicely said in a statement. “Our goal is to ensure every student is opportunity-ready — prepared with the knowledge, skills and mindset needed for success after graduation. These results affirm that our students are gaining the skills, confidence and curiosity they need to thrive.”

Nicely also addressed the single “Off Track” designation, saying the label does not accurately reflect the progress being made.

“The ‘off track’ label misrepresents the hard work and progress made by

our teachers and students,” he said. “They are doing all the right things and, despite the label, are very much on track toward continued improvement.”

Nicely credited the division’s C-Change Framework for the results, pointing to an emphasis on high-quality instruction and a positive learning culture.

“The progress reflected in this year’s profiles shows how our C-Change Framework is working in classrooms every day,” he said. “Our teachers are creating deeper learning experiences that build real-world thinking, collaboration and problem-solving.”

The full School Performance and Support Framework data for Region 6 is available through the Virginia Department of Education.

# Archives

from page 3

Year in the Family Car division and Lary Boyd of Salem took that honor in the “Any Car” category.

Among the many special awards at the extravaganza was the recognition of the dean of the nation’s technical inspectors. The incomparable Bill Garlick, chief inspector at Franklin County, was named the track’s Man of the Year.

These are the final standings in the major divisions during 1984 at Franklin County Speedway, with the top 10 listed in each category.

Late model Sportsman—1. Orvil Reedy, 500; 2. Ray Huff, 398; 3. Tink Reedy, 298; 4. Bobby Radford, 238; 5. Tim McGuire, 190; 6. Rick Seay, 202; 7. Johnny Bryant, 192; 8. Maury Miles, 190; 9. Butch Isom, 172; 10. Darryl Lacks, 170.

L i m i t e d Sportsman—1. Jay Stone, 394; 2. Terron Moore 386; 3. Rick Sigmon, 380; 4. Mike Elkins, 218; 5. Randall woods, 200; 6. Jay Light, 194; 7. Tim Mahanes, 188; 8. Roger Foley, 114;



Franklin County Speedway announcer Art Boothe (left) presents Salem’s Dean Cannady with the trophy signifying the 1984 V-8 Street championship.

FROM THE SALEM TIMES-REGISTER ARCHIVES

9. Carl Dadian, 102; 10. Claude Wright, 92. V-8 Street—1. Dean Cannady, 456; 2. John Cox, 382; 3. Dicky Wilson, 372; 4. Danny Corn, 318; 5. Rodney Cundiff, 296; 6. Jerry Godbey, 220; 7. Jimmy Arnold, 212; 8. Joey Sigmon, 178; 9. Bobby Harmon, 176; 10. Malcolm Fink, 168.

-Prepared by Shelly Koon

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**ASSEMBLIES OF GOD**  
**BETHEL ASSEMBLY OF GOD** - 1683 Red Lane Extension, Salem, Va. Senior Pastor Jesse L. Bass. 540-580-7748. Sunday morning worship 10:30am. Wednesday night Bible Study “Facing your giants” 5:00pm

**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.lbeva.com](http://www.lbeva.com).

**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](http://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](http://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](http://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. Sunday Morning Worship 11:00 a.m. with nursery available and children’s ministry, Ladies Mission Group.

**RIDGEWOOD BAPTIST** - 540-342-6492, 703 Hemlock Rd NW Roanoke, VA 24017 Website: [www.rwbeva.com](http://www.rwbeva.com) Dan Carawan, Pastor. Sunday School 9:45AM, Morning Worship 11:00AM Wednesday Bible Study 6:00PM, Youth 6:30PM. UPCOMING: CANTATA Practice - Every Wed 7PM. Sat 11/01 CRAFT SHOW Fellowship Hall 9AM - 2PM Breakfast and Lunch for sale too!! Thurs 12/13 Operation Christmas Child PACKING PARTY 6PM to 7PM in the Fellowship Hall. Sat 12/06 CHRISTMAS TEA 5PM in the Fellowship Hall.

**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](http://www.fcclife.org)

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**GREEN HILL CHURCH OF THE BRETHERN**, 2699 Harborwood Road, Salem, Interim Pastor J. 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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**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, 7:00 PM.

**CHURCH OF GOD/ANDERSON COVENANT COMMUNITY CHURCH** - 955 Bird Lane, Salem, Va 24153, 389-5639. Pastor: Scott Hudson. Sunday School 10:00AM, Worship 11:00AM; Bible Study 6:00PM.

**CHURCH OF GOD/CLEVELAND SALEM CHURCH OF GOD** - 600 Craig Avenue, Todd Stiffler, Pastor, 387-2068, Sunday School 9:30 am: Worship and Kids Church 10:30 am, Wednesday Bible Study and Classes at 7:00 pm. [www.salemcog.church](http://www.salemcog.church)

**DISCIPLES OF CHRIST FIRST CHRISTIAN CHURCH**, 712 Front Ave. Salem, Pastor Dan Netting (540) 389-6831. [www.firstchristiansalemva.com](http://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](http://www.flccsalem.org). Sunday: 9:30am Adult Study Group, 10:30am Worship, Youth & Children’s Church. All are welcome!

**ECKANKAR**  
**Eckankar, The Path of Spiritual Freedom**, is a simple teaching that focuses on the Light and Sound of God to help people find more love in their life. We offer a Spiritual Event on the 2nd. Sunday of each month. The program may be a Light and Sound Service, a Spiritual video and discussion, or other topics and techniques to help Raise Your Spiritual IQ. The Roanoke ECK Center is located at 1420 3rd.

St. SW, Roanoke, VA 24016. For more information visit [www.eck-va.org](http://www.eck-va.org) or call 540- 353-5365. People of all faiths are welcome.

**EPISCOPAL**  
**ST. PAUL’S EPISCOPAL CHURCH** - 42 East Main Street, Salem, 389-9307. Rev. J. Edward Morris, Minister. Sundays at 7:30am and 10am. Holy Communion in church and live-streamed on YouTube@StPaulSalemVa.

**EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN COLLEGE EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH** - 210 S. College Avenue, Salem VA 24153. Please visit our website [www.collegelutheran.org](http://www.collegelutheran.org) for information on services.

**FOURSQUARE**  
**theBRIDGE SALEM CHURCH** - 4335 West Main Street, Salem. 540-404-1414 | [bridge.salem@icloud.com](mailto:bridge.salem@icloud.com) • [www.salemva.church](http://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](mailto: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](http://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 Service11:00 AM, Wednesday Bible Study and PrayerMeeting 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 Intercersory 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](http://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](http://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](http://www.fumcsalemva.org).

To list your church, contact Wendi Craig at 276-340-2445 or email [advertise@ourvalley.org](mailto:advertise@ourvalley.org)



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### Cemetery Plots For Sale

**Burial Plot for Sale**  
Sunrise Burial Park, Fairlawn, VA.  
Section: Garden of The Good Shepherd, near statue of Christ.  
\$950.00. Contact N.J. Burke, 540-639-6966. Leave your contact information.

### For Sale 2 Burial Plots located in Roselawn Cemetery in Christiansburg, Va.

located in Garden of Devotions.  
Price is \$1,500.00 per plot. This price is several hundred dollars UNDER market value.

Contact Philip or Shirley Gilley at gilley1325@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 Khalili 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

#### PUBLIC NOTICE PROPOSAL TO CLEANUP AN UNDERGROUND STORAGE TANK (UST) SITE

There has been a release from an underground storage tank system at: Former Speedway #4635 1000 Electric Road Salem, Virginia 24153 The Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) is requiring Speedway, Inc. (Speedway) to develop a Corrective Action Plan to address cleanup of the petroleum release at this site. If you have any questions regarding the cleanup, please contact Speedway's environmental consultant, AECOM: Travis McKee Travis.McKee1@aecom.com The Corrective Action Plan is currently in development and will be submitted to the Blue Ridge Regional Office of DEQ by December 15, 2025. If you would like to review or discuss the proposed Corrective Action Plan with the staff of DEQ, please feel free to contact Mr. Jonathan Newbill (DEQ) at 540-562-6700. DEQ Blue Ridge Regional Office will consider

### Legals - City of Salem

written comments submitted no later than January 15, 2026, regarding the proposed Corrective Action Plan and may decide to hold a public meeting if there is significant public interest. Written comments should be sent to DEQ at the address listed below. DEQ request that all written comments reference the tracking number for this case, PC#2019-2038. Department of Environmental Quality Blue Ridge Regional Office Petroleum Remediation Team 901 Russell Drive Salem, VA 24153

### 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

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### 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 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 Orleans Law Group PLLC PO Box 2548, Leesburg, VA 20177 (703) 777-7101 website: www.Orleans.com

### 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: Street vacation request by Zack Brackett to vacate an approximately 206-foot portion unimproved right-of-way on the west side and an approximately 82-foot unimproved rightof-way on the north side of property located at 301 Radford Street NW, (identified as Tax Parcel 526 - ((23 BK 2)) - 1; Parcel ID 009163. Information on the preceding ordinance, the Town's Zoning Map, Zoning Ordinance, and Future Land Use Map may be viewed in the Planning Department, 100 E. Main Street, Christiansburg, VA 24073-3029 during normal office hours of 8:00

### Legals - Montgomery County

a.m. - 5:00 p.m. Monday through Friday. Contact the Planning Department by phone at (540) 382-6120 ext. 1902 or by email at planning@christiansburg.org with any questions or if you require reasonable accommodations. Written comments may be sent to the preceding address; please allow adequate mailing time.

#### 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

#### 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.

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#### SERVICES

DIVORCE-Uncontested, \$475+\$86 court cost. WILLS-\$295.00. No court appearance. Estimated completion time twenty-one days. Hilton Oliver, Attorney (Facebook). 757-490-0126. Se Habla Espanol. BBB Member. https://hiltonoliverattorneyva.com.

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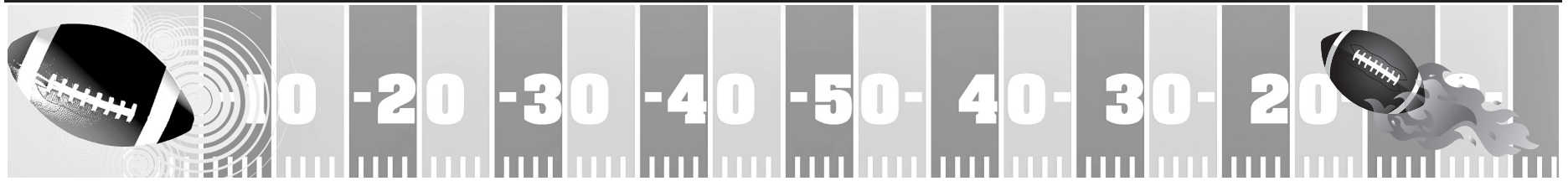


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### CONTEST RULES:

-All entries must be on an official Salem Times-Register entry blank. No duplicates please. No limit on the number of entries as long as the current blank is used.

-Each advertisement on this page includes one football game to be played this week. Find the game in the ad and print your predicted winner on the line corresponding to the advertiser in the list included on this page.

-First prize will be awarded to the person who picks the most games correctly.

-Be sure to include your name, address, and high point total for the week. High point total is decided by the most points scored by ANY ONE TEAM in the games listed for the week. High point total is used to break ties only, and all decisions will be final.

-Clip and mail THE ENTRY PART ONLY to Salem Times-Register, Football Contest, P.O. Box 1125, Salem, VA 24153. Entry must be postmarked by 5 p.m. on the Friday immediately following the date of the paper, or bring your entry by the Salem Times-Register office at 1633 West Main Street in Salem. Your entry must be in the box by 5 p.m. Friday.

-All entries not conforming to the rules may be declared null and void. Decisions are final. For questions call Brian Hoffman @ 389-9355. Winners will be announced in the contest story the following week.

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The 19th Hole (see story)

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*Brian  
Hoffman*



## Another Christmas Story

Merry Christmas everyone!!

It's the most wonderful time of the year. That is if you don't mind being cold, slipping on ice, shoveling snow or worrying about how you're going to get your car up that hill to go to work. Or, sometimes, if you work for the newspaper.

You may notice I don't have our usual sports coverage in the paper this week. There's a reason for that, and it's called Christmas.

I have early deadlines this week so my colleagues at the paper don't have to work Christmas Eve. I was given a deadline of Monday morning to have all my sports finished when I usually get until Tuesday night or Wednesday noon, depending on the paper.

Same thing happens at Thanksgiving, and I was in the office for most of the day Saturday and Sunday to get the games in. I even managed to get home in time to watch the Eagles blow a 21-0 lead against Dallas in the late game that Sunday.

For Christmas, it's a little different. Same deadlines, but last weekend I took my wife and two grandsons to Pennsylvania to celebrate Christmas. We left Friday, visited that night, went to the Sixers game against Dallas on Saturday night and returned Sunday. So, a Monday morning deadline left little time to catch up on the many games played over the weekend. Rest assured I'll catch you up in next week's paper.

It's always a chore juggling the work schedule around the holidays, as I'm the only guy in the sports department for four papers. I just wouldn't feel right not visiting the relatives for Christmas, so it takes some planning.

When I was a kid it was easy. Get up Christmas morning and enjoy the most Wonderful Time of the Year. When I went to college, 400 miles away, it got a little tougher.

I was at Roanoke College back when Charlie Moir was the basketball coach for the Maroons. It doesn't seem like that long ago but, in reality, it was over 50 years ago. Time flies, especially when you get older.

When I was in school I did the statistics at Roanoke College basketball games and also worked for the Sports Information Department. Roanoke always hosted a Christmas Tournament at the Salem Civic Center so it was important that I was there. I would drive home to Pennsylvania after exams, celebrate Christmas, drive back to RC for the basketball tournament, then back to PA until second semester began.

To make things more complicated the dorms were closed over Christmas and the heat was turned down. I had to sleep somewhere, and one year I snuck into the fraternity house for the days I was in Salem for the basketball tournament. One night I was awakened by

Harold McCann, who some of you may remember, who was head of security at the time. He told me I couldn't sleep there, but luckily Harold was a big basketball fan so he said I could stay as long as no one else was in there with me.

Once I started working for the paper, in 1974, I never failed once to get home to Pennsylvania for Christmas. When I was single it was no problem, because Pennsylvania WAS Christmas. However, once I got married I had Christmas at two places, and every year I had to juggle it around sporting events to cover like high school and college winter sports. So, forgive me if the Friday night results aren't in this week's paper. Like I said, I'll catch you up next week.

Christmas brings back lots of memories. I still remember getting my first bicycle, and that was a big deal in the '60s because that was my mode of transportation for many years. I can still see in my mind those two red bicycles, one for me and one for my sister, on Christmas morning.

I was talking about bikes with my wife the other day. You don't see kids riding them like you did when I was growing up. Most of the people I see on bikes these days are adults wearing leotard pants, shirts with all kinds of advertisements and helmets. Where are the kids?

We rode our bikes everywhere. It wasn't unusual in the summer for me to take off on my bike at 10 o'clock in the morning and not come home until supper time at 5 pm. Then I'd eat and be off again, usually to the pool or the baseball field.

And I never wore a helmet. I'm not saying that's good, I'm just saying it's a fact. And I never knew anyone who got a head injury from falling off their bike. Were we just tougher, luckier or what?

Another clear memory is receiving my electric football game. I wanted one SO BAD and on Christmas morning it was not under the tree. I was certainly disappointed, but didn't want to sound ungrateful because my parents always made sure my sister and I had a nice Christmas.

Then my grandparents, God bless their souls, came over for Christmas dinner. I could see "Gramps" carrying a package wrapped in holiday paper about the size an electric football game might be. It was a top-of-the-line model, with three dimensional players and a cool scoreboard. It had magnetic balls, not the felt ones like the cheaper models. You felt special if you had magnetic balls.

As I mentioned, my parents always made sure we had a nice Christmas. They weren't rich, but they weren't poor, either. They were hard-working Pennsylvania German folks who earned everything they had.

My dad came from a family of 14 kids, although four of them had died before he was born, three in the flu epidemic of 1918 and one of a heart defect. My dad was born in 1926, the 13th of 14, and he would have been 99 Thanksgiving week if he was still with us.

When you're one of many and growing up on a farm in the depression, Christmas could be tough. He never talked about it but I know he didn't get a lot of Christmas presents as a child. In fact, I still have one of his presents in my corner cupboard at our house. It's a small wrought-iron tractor that was his favorite Christmas present when he was a kid. It was the only thing Santa brought on Christmas morning, but it was special.



Above is my dad's favorite Christmas present when he was a kid. Actual size is about five inches long. Below is one of the many Hess Trucks I found under the tree.



My dad joined the Navy during World War II, came home and got a good union factory job and married the love of his life, who I called mom. He made a good life for our family and that tractor always reminded me of how lucky we were.

Have you ever seen those "Hess Trucks" the oil company puts out every year? Well, my dad would buy one of those trucks for me, and himself, every Christmas. He was too old to play with it, but he still got excited when he'd stop for gas and the new Hess Trucks, in the green and white boxes, were neatly stacked by the register. He'd buy two, but I'd never get mine until Christmas morning.

That tradition lasted until he passed away in the summer of 2018. I was 65 years old and still finding a gift-wrapped Hess Truck under the tree when we went to visit at Christmas.

I have several of those big plastic tubs you can get at Wal-Mart filled with Hess Trucks, still in the box. I kept getting them a few years after my dad died, because it had been such a tradition at our house. As I grew older I realized he loved those trucks so much because his dad couldn't afford stuff like that when he was a kid. Obviously they didn't have Hess Trucks back then, but they did have toy trucks and fire engines and the like. As an adult, he was making up for lost time.

And you know what? I have a bunch of grandchildren and even great-grandchildren and among the group are three little boys age five and under. My wife and I decided we would start a new tradition this year and buy them Hess Trucks. And really, they're pretty cool. This year's edition is a two-car stock car set that would make Michael Jordan stand up and take notice.

Merry Christmas to all, and keep on truckin'.

## Salem-Roanoke Baseball Hall of Fame announces Class of '26

Four area baseball greats will be inducted into the Salem-Roanoke Baseball Hall of Fame at the 34th hot stove banquet and induction ceremony. The banquet will be held at the Salem Civic Center on Sunday, February 1st, 2026.

This year's inductees include Drew Bailey, Allen Lawrence, Wes McMillan and Donald Minnick. In addition, Roy Lower has been selected to receive the Wayne LaPierre, Sr. Community Service Award.

Drew Bailey was a three-sport athlete at Christiansburg High School where he threw two no-hitters as a senior pitcher. He was a two-time all-WVIAC selection from 2008-10 at Concord University where he was inducted into the school's Hall of Fame in 2017.

Drew became the first Concord pitcher selected in the MLB Amateur Draft when he was taken in the 35th round in 2010 by the Oakland Athletics. He played two seasons in the Athletics' organization and reached the Class A level for the Vermont Lake Monsters in 2011, finishing with a 5-0 record and a 2.34 ERA.



**WES McMILLAN**

employee of the Colorado Rockies' Class A affiliate, the Salem Avalanche, advancing through roles including food and beverage director, director of stadium operations, vice president of sales, and assistant general manager.

Allen served as interim general manager of the Salem Red Sox before being named general manager in 2019. Recognized for his leadership and impact, he has been named one of the "Ten Most Outstanding Young Professionals in the Community," reflecting his dedication to Salem and the Roanoke Valley.

Wes McMillan built a legacy of excellence and consistency over nearly four decades of coaching baseball and softball in the Roanoke Valley. Beginning with the North Roanoke Rec Club (1984-1999), he guided countless young players before leading a 1992 softball team to a Dixie League state championship and national tournament appearance.

After baseball assistant coaching roles at Northside and Salem High, Wes became Salem's head baseball coach in 2011. As Salem's head coach for 12 years, he never posted a losing season. During his tenure Salem made six regional appearances and four Class 4 state tournaments, winning the VHSL championship in 2018 with a 2-1 walk-off victory over Jamestown. He was a two-time River Ridge District Coach of the Year and Timesland baseball Coach of the Year in 2018.

Donald Minnick starred as a left-handed pitcher at Liberty High School and at East Tennessee State before playing three seasons of Minor League baseball. At Liberty from 1974-77, he compiled a 34-5 career pitching record, was a first-team Seminole District selection and led the Minutemen to the 1977 VHSL Group AA state championship. He also was the winning pitcher in the VHSCA East-West All-Star game.

Minnick was chosen by the Cincinnati Reds in the 19th round of the 1977

Amateur Draft but opted to play at ETSU, where he helped the Buccaneers to the Ohio Valley Conference title. He was taken in the second round of the 1979 January Draft by the Seattle Mariners. He played for three seasons for affiliates of the Mariners and Baltimore Orioles, helping the Hagerstown Suns to the 1981 Carolina League championship.

Roy Lower has made his mark in baseball as a player, coach, administrator and school booster for more than 50 years. He was a two-sport athlete at Cave Spring High School, graduating in 1976. He played baseball at East Tennessee State, graduating in 1980.

Lower coached baseball for nine years at the Little League level, four years in AAU, seven years in American Legion baseball and two years of Cave Spring High baseball and basketball. He served on the Cave Spring Little League board of directors and served on the booster boards at Cave Spring and Hidden Valley high schools.

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.



## Final Football Contest

This week is our last football contest of the season.

Where did the season go? It seems like just yesterday I was taking pictures at high school summer camps and getting ready for the season. Sure, we still have college and lots of pro games to go, but the high school season is special and it's over.

It's Christmas so I didn't have time to correct last week's contests. Rest assured I will announce the winners next week. If you get your paper on Friday this week due to the post office being closed on Christmas you can put your entry in the box any time before noon on Saturday, as there are no

Friday games.

Some explanation for this week's games. You'll notice the space for two CFP tournament finalists. You'll just have to make an educated guess as to who those teams will be. If you think James Madison and Ohio State will play for the championship put those two in the "CFP Finalist" spots and then the national champion in blank number 12.

Likewise, you'll have to predict who will be in the Super Bowl, and then who will win that game. Be careful not to pick the Panthers and the Steelers in spots 13 and 14 and then pick the Cowboys as Super Bowl champs, because you're bound to get a least one wrong.

We'll add a year's subscription to the Salem Times-Register, paper or digital, to the \$50 gift certificate from Mac & Bob's that goes to the winner. Also, for our 19th Hole question give me your Super Bowl prediction, with score, and the closest will get a free day of golf. And, the weather should be nicer by then.

Everyone have a great Christmas and get those entries in by Saturday morning.

**-Brian Hoffman**