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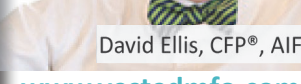
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OurValley.org

Salem Museum to host talk on colonial figure William Fleming

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The Salem Museum will explore the life and legacy of Roanoke Valley colonial figure Col. William Fleming during a free speaker series talk Thursday, Jan. 8, at 7 p.m.

Titled “Surgeon, Soldier, Patriot: The Life of William Fleming,” the program will be presented by Salem Museum Executive Director Garrett Channell and livestreamed exclusively on Zoom. A link to the presentation will be available at

SalemMuseum.org. Channell will examine Fleming’s role in the early history of Virginia and the founding of the nation. Born and educated as a surgeon in Scotland, Fleming immigrated to colonial Virginia, where he became a prominent physician and public servant. He fought alongside George Washington and Andrew Lewis during the French and Indian War, served as a surgeon throughout the commonwealth, and briefly served as Virginia’s third governor during the Revolutionary War.

The talk will trace

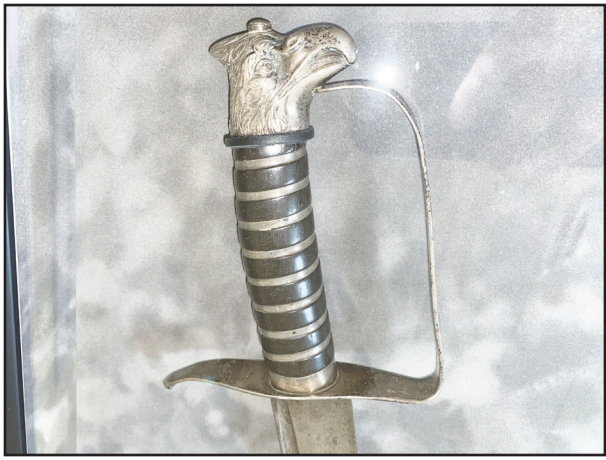
Fleming’s career in medicine, military service and politics, and consider his lasting legacy in the region and the commonwealth.

Channell is a graduate of Roanoke College, where he studied history with a focus on public history, and also studied history and literature at Oxford University. He recently completed a master’s degree in museum studies at Harvard University. While at Roanoke College, he worked with preservation-focused institutions including the Roanoke College Archives and the Library of Congress’ preservation

division.

Before joining the museum’s staff, Channell volunteered in the Salem Museum archives and at museum events. He later served three years as director of education and archives. As executive director, he develops programs and content for all ages, curates the museum’s collection and oversees daily operations.

The Salem Museum is located in the historic 1845 Williams-Brown House at 801 E. Main St. The museum is open Tuesday through Saturday from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Admission and parking are free, with donations accepted. The



COURTESY PHOTO

The grip and eagle-head pommel on William Fleming’s battle-used sword.

entrance is located at the Oakey Field Complex sign across Main Street from the Berglund Ford

service entrance. For more information, call 540-389-6760 or visit SalemMuseum.org.



COURTESY PHOTO

Ingerson

Ingerson selected for VHSL Hall of Fame

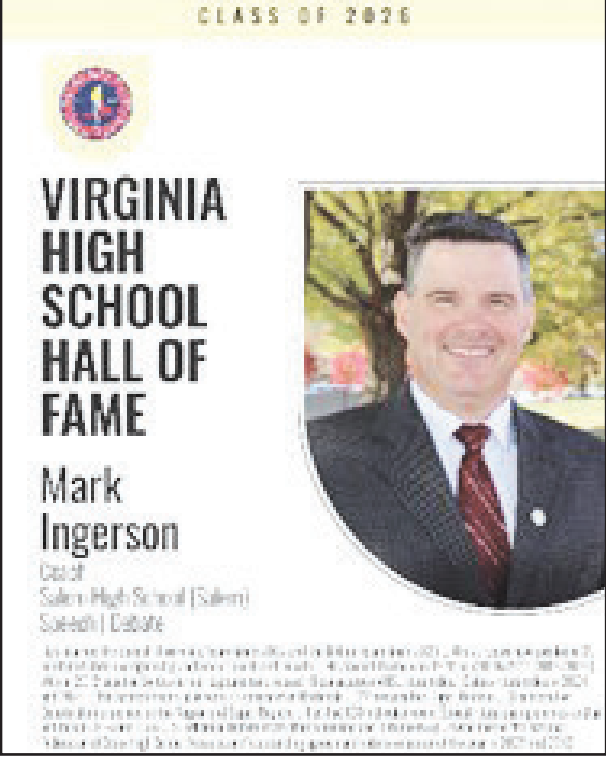
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Mark Ingerson, the longtime and highly decorated speech and debate coach at Salem High School, is closing out 2025 with one of the highest honors in Virginia high school activities.

Ingerson has been selected for induction into the Virginia High School League Hall of Fame as part of the Class of 2026, the VHSL announced. He is one of 11 inductees who will be enshrined during the 37th annual Hall of Fame ceremony on Sunday, April 19, 2026, at the Omni Charlottesville Hotel.

“Obviously this is a great honor and a recognition I certainly never thought about when I started coaching. I just wanted to create a program that was a place of belonging similar to what I found when I did theater in high school,” Ingerson said. “It was certainly not about getting into the VHSL Hall of Fame, which I’m sure at that point I didn’t even know existed. Mrs. Northway was my high school theater director and history teacher and she was the inspiration for coaching Speech and Debate. She created a program in which I could gain confidence and excel and I am forever

See **Ingerson**, page 2



COURTESY IMAGE

Salem attorney suspended 10 months following Virginia State Bar disciplinary action

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A Salem attorney has been suspended from practicing law in Virginia for 10 months following disciplinary action by the Virginia State Bar stemming from conduct in a custody and visitation case.

Marc Brandon Ayers, of The Law Office of M. Brandon Ayers LLC, was suspended effective Dec. 12, 2025, after the Virginia State Bar Disciplinary Board approved an agreed disposition in the matter. The case is identified as Virginia State Bar Docket No. 25-080-134876.

According to the agreed disposition and disciplinary findings, Ayers violated multiple

Rules of Professional Conduct, including those governing the scope of representation, fairness to opposing parties and counsel, bar admission and disciplinary matters, and professional misconduct.

The disciplinary action arose from Ayers’ representation of a client in a custody and visitation matter in early 2024. Findings state that Ayers advised the client to pretend to be ill in order to obtain a continuance of a scheduled court hearing, despite acknowledging during recorded conversations that the plan was unethical and improper.

During a recorded phone call cited in the findings, Ayers discussed what he referred to as a “plan” for the client



PHOTO BY AILA BOYD

The law firm of Ayers in Salem.

to claim illness to avoid appearing in court and suggested the likelihood of consequences was low. He also advised the client that she could visit a doctor and fabricate symptoms in order to obtain a note

to support the request for a continuance, according to the disciplinary record.

The client repeatedly expressed discomfort with the plan and ultimately

See **Attorney**, page 6

Salem sites play role as LOA marks 20 years of Soup for Seniors

The Local Office on Aging will mark the 20th anniversary of its Soup for Seniors program in 2026 with its annual canned food drive, an effort that continues to benefit older adults in Salem and across the Roanoke Valley.

Founded in 2006 as a small food drive serving a limited number of program participants, Soup for Seniors has grown into a monthlong, community-wide initiative. With the help of more than 400 volunteers, the program now delivers more than 3,000 bags of food each year to seniors facing food insecurity, including residents in Salem.

In its first year, the drive focused on seniors enrolled in LOA’s Foster Grandparent and Senior Companion programs. Strong community response allowed the organization to expand service to additional seniors locally and in neighboring communities.

As the number of food-insecure seniors increased, LOA expanded Soup for Seniors into an agencywide initiative in 2012 and partnered with AARP Virginia. The collection and distribution period was moved to early February to better meet seniors’ needs during the coldest part of winter.

“Without the overwhelming community support we have received over the past 20 years, Soup for Seniors would not be the tremendous outreach effort it is today,” said Ron Boyd, president and CEO of LOA. “In 2026, our goal is to collect 50,000 pounds of soup and other nonperishable items to provide food bags for more than 3,000 older adults in need right here in our community.”

Salem-based organizations and sites are among those supporting the 2026 drive. Sponsors include the Salem Host Lions Club, along with AARP Virginia, P1 Technologies, Trinkle and Associates Inc., WFJX Fox Radio and host site St. Peter and St. Paul Anglican Church in Roanoke. Hundreds of volunteers assist with collecting, packing and distributing food throughout the region.

The partnership

with AARP Virginia has helped increase both visibility and volunteer participation, Boyd said.

“AARP Virginia honors the leadership and dedication the Local Office on Aging has demonstrated through the Soup for Seniors program over the past two decades,” said Brian Jacks, associate state director for AARP Virginia. “Our staff and volunteers share a commitment to fighting senior hunger, and we are honored to work alongside LOA to help meet needs directly.”

Recipients of Soup for Seniors food bags include LOA Meals on Wheels clients, Diners Club participants and older adults receiving transportation, case management and in-home care services. The program also serves more than 1,500 residents of low-income, independent senior housing, as well as seniors referred by local departments of social services and partner agencies, including those in Salem.

Food donations will be accepted from Jan. 28 through Feb. 4, 2026, at community collection sites, including the Salem Library, 28 E. Main St. and the Glenvar Library, 3917 Daugherty Road. Donations may also be delivered to the main drop-off site, St. Peter and St. Paul Anglican Church, 4909 N. Lake Drive, Roanoke, from Feb. 2 to Feb. 4 between 9 a.m. and 4 p.m.

Individuals, churches, businesses, schools and community groups are encouraged to hold food drives or volunteer. Monetary donations are also accepted to help offset food shortages and are used exclusively to purchase items for seniors.

More information, including volunteer sign-up, is available at loa.org/soupforseniors or by calling LOA at 540-345-0451, ext. 3055.

-The Salem Times-Register



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.

Ingerson

from page 1

I always hoped my students feel the same way about Salem Speech and Debate.”

In 23 years leading Salem’s Forensics team — now known as Speech — and the school’s Debate team, Ingerson has built one of the most dominant programs in VHSL history. His teams have won a combined 20 VHSL state championships, including 18 Speech titles and two Debate championships.

Salem’s Speech program has captured a state-record 19 consecutive VHSL championships, a run that spans from 2006 to 2025, with the lone exception of 2012, when the team still won the title under the guidance of two former student captains. The Spartans also have won 23 consecutive regional championships and 22 straight super regional titles in Speech.

Since taking over the Debate program in 2023, Ingerson has guided Salem to back-to-back state championships in 2024 and 2025, along with three consecutive regional and super regional titles.

Individually, Ingerson’s students have amassed 103 Speech state championships and 59 runner-up finishes. In Debate, Salem competitors have earned five individual state titles and three runner-up honors.

“Of course, without outstanding students who were willing to take feedback and be challenged to be their best, this recognition doesn’t happen. I also appreciate all the parents who have judged and supported the program because I promise you I would not have

coached this long without that support! All of those students and parents have a part of this award,” Ingerson said.

Beyond team and individual success, Ingerson has received national recognition for his impact on the activity. He has twice been named the National Federation of State High School Associations’ Outstanding Speech and Debate Educator of the Year, earning the honor in 2012 and again in 2025.

The Virginia High School Hall of Fame, presented by the VHSL and VAcorp, recognizes outstanding achievements in high school athletics and activities across the commonwealth. With the Class of 2026, the Hall’s membership will grow to 364 individuals.

The Class of 2026 includes five former student-athletes, four coaches, and two contributors. Alongside Ingerson in the coaching category are Garwin L. DeBerry Sr. of Charlottesville, A. Edward Steele of Broad Run, and Jan Thompson of Central (Wise). The class also includes longtime sports journalist Arthur Utley and VHSL baseball rules interpreter Bob Leader.

Tickets for the enshrinement dinner are \$35 and are available through the VHSL.

Ingerson’s induction caps a remarkable year for Salem High School’s speech and debate programs and solidifies his legacy as one of the most successful and influential coaches in VHSL activities history.

VDOT ROADWATCH

INTERSTATE 81
(UPDATED 12-19-25) *
INTERSTATE 81 ACCELERATION RAMP EXTENSION AT EXIT 162 IN BOTETOURT COUNTY – This ramp extension project is underway and as part of the project, the on ramp from Route 11 onto northbound 81 was previously closed but is now back open. This project will extend the on ramp onto northbound I-81 about 1,000 feet. The project also includes installing drainage structures and constructing a retaining wall alongside the slope. As work progresses, additional ramp and lane closures may be in place during nighttime hours. During construction, barrier wall will be installed along the right shoulder of northbound I-81 at exit 162. Electronic message boards will be in place to alert drivers to the upcoming ramp closure and announce any schedule changes. Work is expected to be completed in late 2026.

- **LANE CLOSURES:** Drivers can expect nighttime right and left lane closures in place on I-81.

(UPDATED 12-19-25) *
INTERSTATE 81 BRIDGE WORK AT EXIT 156 IN BOTETOURT COUNTY – Bridge work is underway on northbound and southbound I-81 at Exit 156. Milling and paving the bridge deck will take place in both directions beginning with the northbound side first and then southbound once northbound is completed. Drivers can expect lane closures on I-81 during nighttime hours. Slow roll operations are expected periodically and flagging operations will be used during barrier wall placement on Route 640 (Brughs Mill Road). Expected completion is fall 2026.

- Temporary traffic barrier in place on westbound side of Route 640 under the I-81 bridges off exit 156 with lanes narrowed to 11 feet.
- Nighttime outside and inside lane closures may be in place on I-81 from mile marker 155 to 157, 9 p.m. to 6 a.m. the following morning.

(UPDATED 12-19-25) *
INTERSTATE 81 ACCELERATION RAMP EXTENSIONS AT MILE MARKER 94 IN PULASKI COUNTY AND 105 IN MONTGOMERY COUNTY- Work is underway on the extension of two acceleration lanes on I-81. The first one will be the entrance ramp onto I-81 southbound at mile marker 94, the entrance ramp onto I-81 southbound. The second one will be the entrance ramp onto I-81 northbound at mile marker 105 in Montgomery County. Construction will begin at mile marker 94 location first and then once complete, work will start at mile marker 105. Scheduled completion date for both projects is summer 2026. During construction, drivers can expect:

- **LANE CLOSURES:** Nighttime lane closures northbound and southbound from 7 p.m. to 6 a.m., the following morning, Sunday through Thursday.
- Shoulder closures throughout the work zone area.
- Ramp closures are possible.
- Narrowed or shifted ramps during nighttime hours.

(UPDATED 12-19-25) *
INTERSTATE 81 EXIT 89 BRIDGE REHABILITATION IN PULASKI COUNTY – A bridge project is underway on I-81 at exit 89. A shoulder closure is currently in place at the bridge. Ramp closures and lane closures are possible, northbound and southbound. Drivers should watch message boards for the most up to date information as times and days may vary.

- **RAMP CLOSURES:** The Exit 89B on-ramp from Draper Valley Road to northbound I-81 and the Exit 89B off-ramp from northbound I-81 onto Draper Valley Road are closed. A signed detour will be in place to route traffic. Drivers can use Exit 94 (Pulaski) to get onto or to exit from northbound I-81. Motorists should use Route 11 to Draper Valley Road to reach northbound I-81 at Exit 94. Northbound I-81 traffic heading to Pulaski can use Exit 94B on to Route 99.

(UPDATED 12-19-25) *
INTERSTATE 81 LANE WIDENING CONSTRUCTION PROJECT EXIT 137 TO EXIT 141 – The \$179 million design-build project to widen both directions of I-81 between mile markers 136.6 and 141.8 from two to three lanes is underway. Work is being performed along a five-mile section of both northbound and southbound Interstate 81 in Roanoke County and the city of Salem. Barrier wall is in place along the shoulders. Two lanes of I-81 traffic in each direction are expected to remain open during the project with periodic lane closures scheduled during nighttime hours or outside of peak travel times as needed. Drivers can expect the following lane closures and upcoming traffic impacts in this area on northbound and southbound I-81:

- **RAMP CLOSURE AT EXIT 137:** Exit 137 northbound off-ramp will be closed during nighttime hours, Monday through Friday, December 15-19. Detour will be in place.
- **LANE CLOSURES:** Alternating left and right lane and shoulder closures during nighttime hours between 8 p.m. and 6 a.m., Sunday through Thursday, are possible. Lane widths will be reduced to 11 feet. Nightly lane closures may be in place along the right lane with possible nightly ramp narrows as needed for guardrail and shoulder strengthening.
- **RAMP CLOSURES AT EXIT 140:** Ramp closure of exit 140 on and off ramps onto southbound I-81 in Salem may be closed. Watch message boards for updates.
- **FLAGGING OPERATIONS:** Flagging operations possible on Route 635 and Route 619.
- **UNEVEN PAVEMENT:** Drivers may experience some uneven pavement and/or rough surface throughout the project.
- **TRAFFIC SHIFTS AT I-81 EXIT 140:** Drivers may experience periodic lane closures, narrow ramps or quick merges into traffic onto Thompson Memorial Drive from the southbound or northbound exit ramps of exit 140 off of I-81. Work zone located at bottom of the ramp for work on the I-81 bridge at the underpass.
- **TRAFFIC SHIFTS ON WILDWOOD ROAD:** Expect a work zone with traffic shifts and narrow width on Wildwood Road after exiting I-81 southbound on exit 137 heading towards Salem. Southbound and northbound I-81 exit and entrance ramp narrows are possible at Route 311.
- **WORK ZONE SPEED:** Drivers should adhere to posted 60 mph speed limits in the work zone and allow space when following a vehicle. Narrow spacing in lanes due to barrier walls, lack of shoulders and lane shifts in various locations, are present.

The project also includes replacing six bridges, widening two bridges, installing approximately 2.6 miles of sound barrier walls along northbound I-81, improving the southbound exit 137 off-ramp intersection at Wildwood Road and adding interchange lighting at exits 137, 140 and 141. Expected completion in early 2026.

(UPDATED 12-19-25) *
I-81 WIDENING FROM MILE MARKER 143 TO 150 – The I-81 widening project is underway with survey and preparation work. Shoulder strengthening work will require northbound and southbound lane closures during nighttime hours. Barrier wall installation is possible in late fall or early winter. The expected completion for this project is summer 2031.

- **TRAFFIC SHIFT:** In November, southbound traffic was shifted to the right shoulder from exit 150 in Botetourt County to exit 146 in Roanoke County.
- **LANE CLOSURES:** Periodic right and left lane and shoulder closures in place during nighttime hours 9 p.m. to 6 a.m., on northbound and southbound I-81.

CANNED FOOD DRIVE



SOUP FOR SENIORS

Give a senior a hot meal on a cold day.

January 28 - February 4, 2026

Winter is difficult for seniors in our community living at or below the poverty line. You can help!

What We Need:	Soup	Canned Vegetables
	Peanut Butter	Crackers
	Canned Meats	Oatmeal
	Canned Fruit	Boost or Ensure

Low sodium items preferred. No glass containers.

Please check expiration dates.

Bring non-perishable food items to St. Peter and St. Paul Anglican Church at 4909 North Lake Dr, Roanoke, VA 24019 February 2 - 4, 9 AM–4 PM or to one of our community collection sites between January 28 - February 4.

Visit loaa.org/soupforseniors for a complete list of drop-off sites or call (540) 345-0451.



Collaborating Partner:



Flagship Sponsor:



Unable to collect food? Scan the code to DONATE NOW!



RECIPE OF THE WEEK



Shelly Koon

Contributing Writer

When the paper’s football contest starts, I see more people in the office than usual. On Fridays they visit me and Betsy to bring in their contest forms and will stay to talk or just to pet Betsy. One such visitor always thinks to let me know when he finds a good recipe. Dickie Jennings shared an easy sheet pan dinner recipe using frozen pierogies. I had never had pierogies but I like dumplings, so I knew I had to try them.

Pierogies are a type of filled dumpling. They are made with a flour-based dough and can be filled with savory or sweet ingredients, with potato and cheese, sauerkraut, or fruit being common fillings. Pierogies are typically boiled and then pan-fried, often served with toppings like fried onions or sour cream.

Pierogi history is tied to Eastern and Central Europe, possibly originating from China via the Silk Road and arriving in regions like Poland and Ukraine by the 13th century. A popular legend claims Saint Hyacinth (c.1185-1257) introduced the dish to Poland in the 13th century. He is the patron saint of Poland, Lithuania, weightlifters and those in danger of drowning. He is the patron of weightlifters due to a miracle where he was able to carry a large statue of the Virgin Mary with surprising ease while fleeing an invading army. He is the patron saint of those in danger of drowning, which is linked to a miracle where he led his companions across a river by walking on the water. His feast day is August 17.

There are two pierogi legends about St. Hyacinth, one of them is about his visit on July 13, 1238, to Kościelec. During his visit, a hailstorm broke out, destroying crops and leaving people with the prospect of famine. Hyacinth told them to pray. The next day, the crops were miraculously restored. The people then treated Hyacinth to pierogi made from those crops as a token of gratitude. The second legend mentions Hyacinth feeding people with pierogi during a famine caused by the Mongol invasion of 1241. The Polish exclamation "Święty Jacku z pierogami!" ("St. Hyacinth and his pierogi!") is a phrase said in hopeless circumstances.

Initially considered peasant food, they became a staple across social classes and first appeared in a Polish cookbook in 1682.

Pierogi were brought to the United States and Canada by Central and Eastern European immigrants. They are particularly common in areas with

large Polish or Ukrainian populations, such as Pittsburgh, Chicago, and New York City along with its New Jersey suburbs. Pierogi were at first a family food among immigrants as well as being served in ethnic restaurants. In the post–World War II era, freshly cooked pierogi became a staple of fundraisers by ethnic churches. By the 1960s, pierogies were a common supermarket item in the frozen food aisles in many parts of the United States and Canada, and are still found in grocery stores today.

I have decided that I love pierogies! Potatoes, cheese and pasta. What’s not to love? Whether you bake, air fry, or sauté them they taste great and are so easy.

While I could make my own pierogies (Martha Stewart has an easy recipe) this week’s recipes, one sweet and two savory, use frozen pierogies.

Kielbasa & Pierogies Sheet Pan Meal

Ingredients:

- 14 oz pack kielbasa
- 1 onion, sliced
- 3 bell peppers, sliced
- 2 lb bag frozen Pierogies
- 1/4 tsp each salt, pepper, and red pepper flakes
- 1 tsp each garlic powder, onion powder, and smoked paprika
- 1 tbps minced garlic
- Olive oil

Directions:

Slice your peppers, onions, and kielbasa. Measure out your seasonings and set aside. Spray a large sheet pan with cooking spray and add the frozen pierogies to a large bowl. Add some olive oil to the pierogies and toss or stir until they are coated in oil. Add a little less than half of the seasoning blend to the pierogis and place them on the sheet pan. Next, add the sliced peppers, onions, and kielbasa to the bowl and season them with the rest of the seasoning blend, the minced garlic, and a little bit more oil. Once they are well coated in seasoning and oil add them to the other side of the sheet pan. Bake at 400 degrees F for about 25-30 minutes. Flip the Pierogies about half way through cooking and give the veggies a quick stir. You can also broil it for a couple of minutes if you want to get it nice and browned.

Cheesy Beef & Pierogies Casserole

Ingredients:

- 1 2lb Family Size bag Mrs. T's 4 Cheese Medley Pierogies
- 1/2 lb ground beef
- 1 1/4 cup tomato sauce
- 3/4 cup sharp cheddar cheese,



COURTESY PHOTO



PHOTO BY DICKIE JENNINGS

- shredded
- 1/2 tsp Italian Seasoning
- 1/4 tsp garlic powder
- 1/4 tsp onion powder
- 1/4 tsp black pepper
- Olive oil

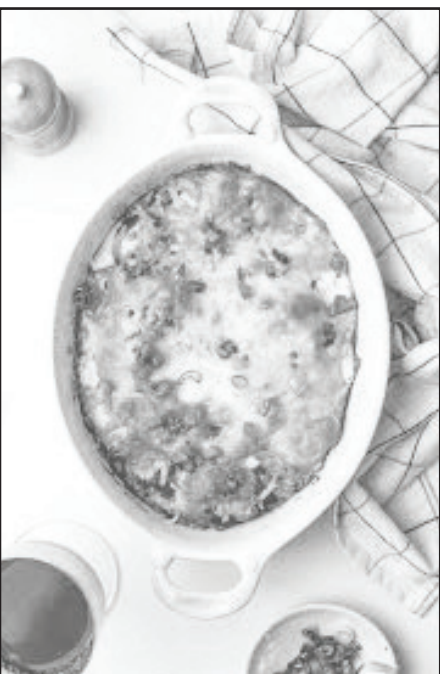
Directions:

Preheat oven to 400°F. Brown ground beef in a pan on medium heat with a drizzle of olive oil. Then, add 1 cup of tomato sauce, 1/2 cup sharp cheddar cheese, Italian seasoning, onion powder, garlic powder, and black pepper. Evenly spread 1/4 cup of tomato sauce in the bottom of a baking pan. Then, add the pierogies in an even layer. Top with the ground beef mixture and 1/4 cup of shredded cheese. Bake on 400° for 18 minutes.

Apple And Cheddar Pierogy Casserole

Ingredients:

- 1 box Mrs. T's® Mini Classic Cheddar Pierogies
- 1/4 cup unsalted butter, cut into cubes, plus melted unsalted butter, for
- brushing pierogies
- 1/4 cup apple juice
- 1 tablespoon cornstarch
- 4 large Honeycrisp apples, peeled and thinly sliced
- 3/4 cup packed brown sugar, divided



COURTESY PHOTO

- 1 teaspoon ground cinnamon
- 1/4 teaspoon kosher salt
- 1/2 cup all-purpose flour
- 1/4 cup old-fashioned rolled oats
- 1 1/2 cups shredded cheddar cheese, divided

Directions:

Preheat oven to 400°F. Coat the bottom of a 9” x 13” baking dish with nonstick cooking spray. Combine apple juice and cornstarch in a small bowl. Combine cornstarch mixture, apples, 1/2 cup sugar, cinnamon and salt in large skillet over medium heat. Cook, stirring frequently, until apples are tender and a thick sauce forms, about 6-8 minutes. Combine the flour, oats and remaining sugar in a large bowl. Add the cubed butter and combine with a fork until coarse crumbs form. Transfer the apple mixture to the prepared baking dish. Sprinkle evenly with 1 cup of the cheese and oat mixture. Top with perogies and brush with melted butter. Sprinkle evenly with remaining cheddar. Bake until pierogies are crisp, light golden-brown and fully heated through, and cheese is melted, about 18-20 minutes. Feel free to serve with your favorite vanilla ice cream.



COURTESY PHOTO

The fire was knocked down in approximately 15 minutes.

Structure fire displaces family, injures resident and dog in Catawba

Aila Boyd
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Roanoke County Fire and Rescue responded to a residential structure fire Sunday afternoon in the Catawba area.

At 3:50 p.m. Jan. 5, units were dispatched to the 6100 block of Newport Road for reports of a structure fire. First-arriving crews from Station 4 (Catawba) reported smoke and flames coming from a camper located in the backyard of the residence and marked the incident as a working fire at 3:55 p.m. Firefighters knocked down the fire in

approximately 15 minutes.

According to the Roanoke County Fire Marshal’s Office, the fire remains under investigation. Estimated damages are \$10,000.

Five adults, one child and eight dogs were displaced by the fire and are receiving assistance from the American Red Cross. One adult was transported to the hospital for treatment of burns. One dog was taken to an emergency veterinary clinic for treatment of minor injuries. Roanoke County Police assisted at the scene.

Meeting scheduled for I-81 widening project between exits 143-150

The Virginia Department of Transportation (VDOT) in conjunction with design-build contractor Branch Civil Inc. will hold a “Pardon Our Dust” public information meeting on Thursday, Jan. 22 to discuss construction impacts and traffic management for upcoming roadwork on Interstate 81 in Roanoke and Botetourt counties.

The meeting will be held from 5-7 p.m. at Lord Botetourt High School located at 1435 Roanoke Road in Daleville. There will be a brief presentation given at 5:15 p.m. and 6:15 p.m. and representatives will answer questions and provide information.

Interstate 81 will be widened to add one lane in each direction between exits 143 and 150. The project also includes replacing bridges over eight crossings on I-81 and installing more than 1.5 miles of sound barrier along the northbound lanes. Two ramps at exit 150 will be

realigned and one will be removed. The improvements are intended to reduce crashes, lessen delays and enhance crash response times.

This widening project is part of the Interstate 81 Corridor Improvement Program (CIP), which aims to improve safety, increase reliability and foster economic growth. The Commonwealth Transportation Board awarded a \$361 million design-build contract for this project in July 2024. Construction started in summer 2025 and is expected to finish in summer 2031.

The I-81 CIP includes 65 capital projects and numerous operational improvements throughout the interstate's 325-mile corridor in Virginia. The nearly \$4 billion program was signed into law in spring 2019. More information is available at Improve81.org.

-The Salem Times-Register

Rep. Cline praises capture of venezuelan president maduro

WASHINGTON — On Jan. 3, Rep. Ben Cline, R-Va. issued a statement following the successful capture of Venezuelan President Nicolás Maduro by U.S. forces during a military operation earlier this month. U.S. troops seized Maduro in Caracas and brought him to the United States to face criminal charges, including narcotics and weapons offenses, in federal court in Manhattan.

“Protecting our people, securing

our border, and dismantling drug trafficking networks is non-negotiable,” Cline said. “We will use every lawful tool available to stop this crisis, hold those responsible accountable, defend our sovereignty, and keep American families safe.”

Cline represents Virginia’s Sixth Congressional District.

-The Salem Times-Register

Send community news and photos to aboyn@mainstreetnewspapers.com

OPINION

Snow much to love at the City of Salem Library this winter

Join us for our All-Ages Winter Reading Program: January 14-February 28!

Beat those cold weather blues and cozy up with a good book. Winter is a great time to burrow under a blanket and read by yourself, with family, or to your pets. Everyone who logs at least 30 days of reading wins a Salem Library beanie and a ticket to the March 7th Railyard Dawgs game! All readers are entered into our weekly prize drawings for additional cozy prizes. Register now at salemva.beanstack.org

Annual Box Party Returns to the Salem Library!

Saturday, January 10th, 11am-noon, Children ages 0 to Fifth Grade: Box Party. What's in the box is not necessary to have fun! Drop in and build, create and play with the best toy in the world: BOXES! Bring your empty boxes to add to the fun. *The library will recycle all boxes after the event. *

January Events for Kids

Tuesday, January 13, 20, 17, 11am. Story Explorers. Register at salemva.libcal.com Create lifelong readers! Join us for stories, songs, and boisterous fun as we share our love of books with your child. Open to children ages 0-5 and their families.

Thursday, January 8, 15, 22, 29; 10:15am. Book

Library Corner

Empowering individuals to build a stronger community
Benita VanCleave

Babies: Did you know? Literacy development begins at birth! Create lifelong readers with us at this special story time designed especially for infants and crawlers.

Thursday, January 8, 15, 22, 29: 11am. Story Explorers Register at salemva.libcal.com Create lifelong readers! Join us for stories, songs, and boisterous fun as we share our love of books with your child. Open to children ages 0-5 and their families.

Tuesday, January 13, 3:30pm, Grades K-3 : The Duckling Gets a Book Club! The Pigeon can't believe it -- The DUCKLING is getting his own book club! No fair! Come celebrate all things Duckling with us! Register at salemva.libcal.com

Wednesdays, January 14, 21, 28: 3:15pm; Barks & Books. Read with a therapy dog! These mellow dogs love books and can't wait to listen to you read. Everyone who signs up gets at least 10 minutes to read with a dog. You can bring your own book or pick one out when you arrive! Open to grades 1-5; must be at least 6 years old to attend. Registration guarantees you a spot in the program, not a specific start time. Students will read one-on-one with a dog on a first-come, first-serve basis. Register at salemva.libcal.com

Friday, January 16, 3:30pm. Grades 4-5. Book Chats: Fabio: The World's Greatest Flamingo Detective! Register at salemva.libcal.com

January Adult Events

Thursday, January 8, Drop in 2pm-3:30pm. 18+ Puzzles and Games Afternoon: Play board games card games and puzzles.

Monday, January 12, 10:30am: Friends of the Salem Library Meeting. Join us to discuss library advocacy and support initiatives, book sales, and more!

Tuesday, January 13, 6:30-7:30pm: True Crime Book Club: A book club for amateur sleuths who like to discuss crimes and cold cases. This month's selection is "Framed" by John Grisham.

VDOT

from page 2

Nighttime right lane and shoulder closures are being scheduled.

- BARRIER WALLS: Drivers will see barrier walls in place throughout the project.
- SHOULDER CLOSURES: Shoulder closures in place with additional barrier wall to be installed next year.

WORK ZONE SPEED: Drivers should adhere to posted 60 mph speed limits in the work zone and allow space when following a vehicle. Speed reminders are posted for drivers.

- Belle Haven Road – Drivers may see periodic daytime flagging operations in place.
- RAMPS - Ramps on I-81, northbound and southbound, may be narrowed at exit 150. 146 and 143.
- DETOUR SIGNS: While detour signs are in place on I-81 and routes around the project such as Route 11 and Plantation Road, these do not designate a permanent or scheduled detour. The signed detour route is suitable for all traffic during incidents including

tractor-trailers and other large vehicles. These signs are used for traffic incident detours only.

(UPDATED 9-12-25) * I-81 NORTHBOUND AT EXIT 105 NEW RIVER BRIDGE REPLACEMENT IN MONTGOMERY COUNTY – Traffic on northbound I-81 has been switched onto the newly constructed bridge over the New River at the Montgomery/Pulaski County line. Lane and shoulder closures may be in place near exit 105. Lane closure may be in effect during the week from 8 p.m. to 7 a.m. Shoulder closures may be in effect at any time during the week. 7low rolls may be performed on I-81 in the north and southbound lanes from mile marker 98 to 109. Speed limit is reduced to 60 miles per hour in the work zone. Shoulder closures will remain in place though the duration of the project.

- LANE CLOSURES: Nighttime right and left lane closures may be in place on I-81 northbound or southbound between mile marker 106 and 104 from 8 p.m. to 6 a.m. the following morning.
- ROUTE 605: Alternating lane closures and flagging operations may be present on Route 605, located under the New River Bridge, for paving operations and work overhead on the bridge.
- SLOW ROLLS: Slow rolls may be utilized periodically on both the northbound and southbound lanes from mile marker 98-109 for structural steel deliveries and setting beams.

(UPDATED 12-19-25) * I-81 BRIDGE DECK REPAIRS – Weather permitting, crews will repair bridge decks on Interstate 81 between mile markers 170 to 89, right and left lane closures will be in place northbound and southbound during nighttime hours, 9 p.m. to 6 a.m. the following morning. Drivers should watch for signs and work zone areas. Delays are possible.

- I-81 BOTETOURT COUNTY: Deck patching repairs are underway on I-81 northbound and southbound with right and left lane closures. From mile marker 160 to 164 during nighttime hours, 8 p.m. to 7 a.m.

INTERSTATE 581

(UPDATED 12-5-25) * I-581 PATCHING OPERATIONS – Weather permitting, crews will perform paving and patching operations. Lane closures will be in place northbound and southbound, Sunday through Thursday, during nighttime hours, 7 p.m. to 7 a.m. the following morning. Drivers should watch for signs and expect possible delays.

(UPDATED 12-19-25) * ROUTE 220/ROUTE 419 DIVERGING DIAMOND INTERCHANGE - The Route 220/Route 419 interchange project is underway. It will be reconfigured with a diverging diamond concept and multiple intersections on both Route 220 and Route 419 will be modified to enhance signal timing and reduce congestion. The intersections include Route 220 are at Valley Avenue/Southern

Hills Drive, Crossbow Circle/Pheasant Ridge Road, Buck Mountain Road/Stable Road and Indian Grave Road/Clearbrook Village Lane. The intersections on Route 419 are at Ogden Road, Elm View Road and South Peak Boulevard. With multiple activities scheduled, completion at different locations will take place throughout the life of the project. Daytime, 9 a.m. to 3 p.m., and nighttime, 7 p.m. to 6 a.m., work hours will occur depending on location. Drivers should expect alternating lane closures, turn lane closures and shoulder closures. Expected completion is fall 2028.

(UPDATED 10-24-25) * ROUTE 220 AT CROSSBOW CIRCLE & PHEASANT RIDGE ROAD INTERSECTION IMPROVEMENTS – Construction activities for this project are underway starting with removing the existing curb along the outer perimeters followed by removal of concrete medians. Drivers should use caution in the area and watch for work zones and message boards providing updated information.

- NEW TRAFFIC PATTERN in place. Instead of driving straight across Route 220, Crossbow Circle/Pheasant Ridge, drivers turn left or right to make U-turn.

(UPDATED 10-10-25) * ROUTE 220 AT SOUTHERN HILLS & VALLEY AVENUE INTERSECTION IMPROVEMENTS – Construction activities for this project are underway starting with lane closures during nighttime hours from 7 p.m. until 6 a.m. the next morning, Sunday night through Friday morning. Shoulder closures possible during daytime hours.

- NEW TRAFFIC PATTERN with signal is in place at Route 220 and Southern Hills Drive/Valley Avenue. Instead of driving straight across Route 220, Southern Hills Drive/Valley Avenue14 drivers now turn left or right to make U-turn.

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.

USPS 631-140

(540) 389-9355

1633 West Main Street

www.ourvalley.org

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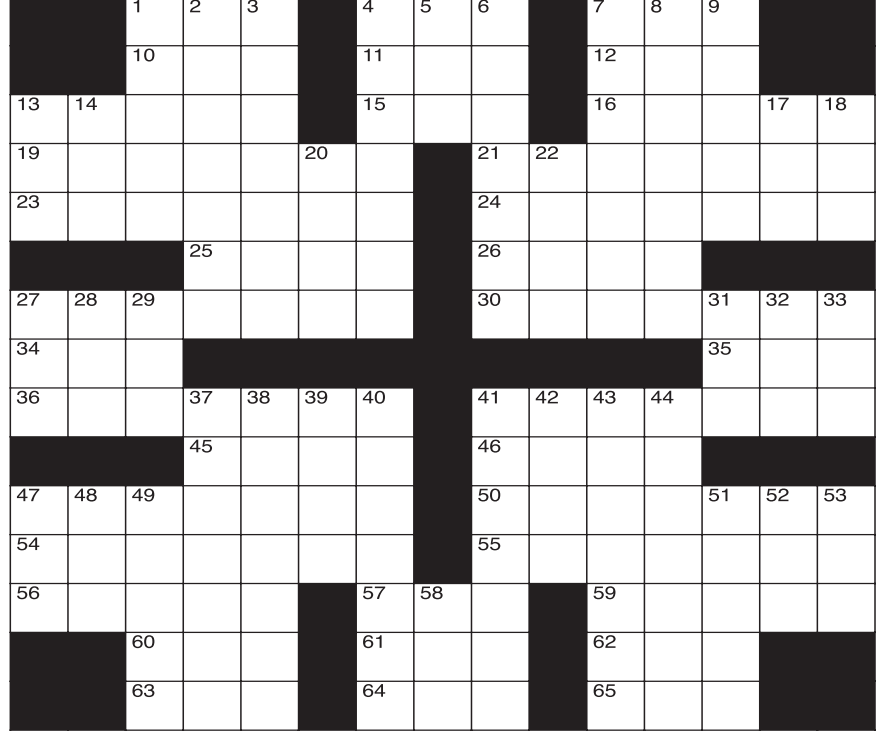
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The Times-Register encourages letters from our readers on topics of general interest to the community and responses to our articles and columns. Letters must be signed and have a telephone number where you can be reached to be considered for publication. 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.

The Times-Register (USPS 631-140) is published weekly for \$49 a year in Salem and Roanoke County, \$55 in adjoining counties and \$57 out of state by Virginia Media Inc., P.O. Box 429, Lewisburg, WV 24901. Periodical postage paid at Salem, VA. POSTMASTER: Send address changes to THE SALEM TIMES-REGISTER, P.O. Box 1125, Salem, VA 24153

CROSSWORD PUZZLE



CLUES ACROSS

- Atomic mass unit
- Criticize mightily
- Sino-Soviet block (abbr.)
- Stand in for
- Everyone has one
- Brew
- Rectify
- Popular Dodge truck model
- Beef or chicken intestine
- Satisfy
- Of a particular people or localized region
- Movements in quick tempos
- Able to pay one's debts
- Fleshy bird beak covering
- Dueling sword
- Helps
- Court is in it
- Touch lightly

35. Airborne (abbr.)

- Of one
- Baked good
- Jai __, sport
- About aviation
- Low oval mound
- Rugged mountain ranges
- Compel to do something
- A way to carve
- Sao __, city in Brazil
- Mustachioed actor Elliott
- American Idol runner-up Clay
- A way to soak
- Car mechanics group
- Born of
- Time zone
- Sea eagle
- Even's opposite

CLUES DOWN

- Sharp mountain ridge
- Thin, fibrous cartilages
- Provides new details
- Muscular weaknesses
- Ottoman military title
- Banes
- Horse-riding seats
- Arms of a shirt
- Narrow path along a road edge
- Viper
- Disfigure
- Variety of Chinese language
- Portray in a show
- Wrongful act
- No (slang)
- State of agitation
- __ Diego
- One point east of due south
- 007's creator
- The NBA's Toppin
- Midway between north and

northeast

- Examples
- __ Gould, actor
- The habitat of wild animals
- Artful subtlety
- Infielders
- Keep under control
- Herb
- Distressed
- A way to go down
- Type of acid
- Take by force
- Collected fallen leaves
- Shout of welcome or farewell
- Monetary unit
- Swiss river

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Council approves stadium plan

FROM THE SALEM TIMES-REGISTER ARCHIVES

-Prepared by Shelly
Koon

CROSSWORD ANSWERS

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	P	S	T		E	R	N		Q	U	D			

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OBITUARY

Paitsel, Kenneth “Kenny” James

Kenneth “Kenny” James Paitsel, Sr., 81, of Salem, Va., went to be with the Lord on Monday, December 29, 2025. He was born on July 11, 1944, to the late James and Alva Paitsel in Craig County. Kenny retired from Pepsi Co. and was an avid sportsman. He adored his family. In addition to his parents, he is preceded in death by his wife, Linda Paitsel; son, Kenneth James “Jimmy” Paitsel; sisters, Margaret Paitsel, Shirley Paitsel, Ruby St. Clair, and Lucille Huffman; and an infant brother.

Left to cherish his precious memory include his daughter, Lynn Paitsel Young



and husband, Scott; grandchildren, Krystal Paitsel and Kenneth “KJ” Paitsel and his wife, Kelly; great-grandson, Kyle James Paitsel; sisters, Harriet Medley, Oneta Paitsel, and Diane Ray; special sister-in-law, Bonnie Jenkins; and numerous nieces and nephews also survive.

A funeral service to celebrate his life was held at 2 p.m. on Saturday,

January 3, 2026, at the John M. Oakey & Son Funeral Home Chapel in Salem. She was laid to rest at Sherwood Memorial Park in Salem.

Friends visited with the family from 1 p.m. until the hour of the service at the funeral home.

In lieu of flowers, the family asks that you make a charitable contribution to the Alzheimer’s Association in memory of Kenny.

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

To order memorial trees or send flowers to the family in memory of Kenneth Paitsel, please visit our flower store.

Attorney

from page 1

chose not to proceed. Ayers later withdrew from the case, refunded the client’s fee, and both appeared in court on the scheduled hearing date.

The matter came to the attention of the Virginia State Bar through a complaint filed in March 2025. During the investigation, Ayers initially denied counseling the client to misrepresent her condition to the court. However, the disciplinary findings state that a recording of the phone call contradicted those statements. In a later affidavit, Ayers acknowledged making statements suggesting the client should call in sick.

The disciplinary board found that Ayers’ conduct involved dishonesty, fraud, deceit or misrepresentation and reflected adversely on his fitness

to practice law. As part of the agreed disposition, Ayers accepted a 10-month suspension of his license to practice law in the Commonwealth.

Under the order, Ayers is required to notify current clients, opposing counsel and presiding judges of his suspension and make arrangements for the disposition of any active cases. He must also certify compliance with those requirements to the Virginia State Bar.

The Law Office of M. Brandon Ayers LLC is located at 209 S. College Ave. in Salem. The Virginia State Bar does not provide additional comment in cases resolved through agreed dispositions. Ayers did not return a request for comment by press time.

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ANGLICAN
ST. THOMAS ANGLICAN CHURCH - located at 4910 Hubert Rd, NW Roanoke, Va. Traditional Liturgical Lenten Services, Sunday at 10:30 am. Call (540) 589-1299 or visit www.sttofc.org for midweek masses and events. (In Roanoke, go E on Hershberger, L on Hubert to 4910).

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.lbcva.com.

TEMPLE BAPTIST CHURCH - 4339 Daugherty Road, Salem, Greg Irby, Pastor, Church: 380-3567; Home: 389-7240, Sunday School 10:00AM, Worship Services 11:00AM & 6:00PM, Mid-week Prayer Meeting Wednesday 7:00PM, www.templebaptch.com.

BAPTIST (SOUTHERN)
BETHEL BAPTIST - 1601 S. Colorado St., Salem, Pastor Hilton Jeffreys, 389-2376, Sunday: Connect Groups meet at 9:30am; Worship Service starts at 10:30am. You can stream live with us at 10:30am on Facebook, YouTube, our App & Website (www.bethelbaptistva.com). Tuesday mornings we have Adult Bible Study at 9:00am.; Wednesday evenings at 6:15pm we have TeamKid for kids 3 years old through 5th grade, Amplify Youth (6-12th grade), Band of Brothers Men’s Bible Study and then our College & Young Adult Bible Study at 8:00pm. www.bethelbaptistva.com

MOUNTAIN PASS BAPTIST CHURCH - 311 Catawba Valley Dr., (Ro. Co.) Salem, VA 24153. Rev.Jack Richards, Jr., Pastor, Study 384-6720, Home 427-1508. 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.rwbcva.com Dan Carawan, Pastor, Sunday School 9:45AM, Morning Worship 11:00AM Wednesday Bible Study 6:00PM, Youth 6:30PM, UPCOMING: Happy New Year. Come join us for worship as we look into Time, Tithes and Talents in the month of January. More activities coming soon!!

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

CHURCH OF THE BRETHREN
GREENHILLCHURCHOFTHEBRETHREN,

Salem WORSHIP DIRECTORY

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.

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

CHURCHES OF CHRIST/ CHRISTIANCHURCHES
DALE RIDGE CHURCH OF CHRIST - Will you “come back to the Bible”, learn more and follow Him? If you live locally in this beautiful Roanoke Valley or Botetourt County area, there is a Church, you will know it’s the ONE when you see the name on the end of the building that reads Church of Christ. 7165 Cloverdale Rd., NW, Roanoke, VA 24019. We offer a free 3 lesson, OPEN Bible course entitled “Back to the Bible.” Only available in home or where our Church meets: Sign up now on our website, daleridgechurchofchrist.net or email us at comeback2thebible@gmail.com and request to be scheduled for lesson #1 of 3 entitled “who has the Authority In Religion today”. You will be contacted promptly. All studies are conducted by 2 individuals, never alone. May God Bless you in choosing this “open book Bible study.

SALEM CHURCH OF CHRIST - 401 West Main Street. 540-389-2400. Minister Taylor Plott; 10:00am Sunday Bible Study; 11:00am Sunday Worship Service; Wednesday Life Groups: 5:30 -7:00pm. For more info contact the Church Office.

WESTSIDE CHURCH OF CHRIST - 1705 Starview Drive, Salem. Ministers Luke Tatum and Jerry Anderson, 389-9139, Sunday Bible Study: 9:30 AM, Morning Worship: 10:30 AM, Evening Worship: 6:00 PM, Wednesday Bible Study, 7:000 PM.

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

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

DISCIPLES OF CHRIST
FIRST CHRISTIAN CHURCH, 712 Front Ave. Salem, Pastor Dan Netting (540) 389-6831.www.firstchristiansalemva.com. Adult and Children Sunday School - 9:30 am, Worship - 10:30 am. Nursery Provided for both. Everyone welcome

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

ECKANKAR
Eckankar, The Path of Spiritual Freedom, is a simple teaching that focuses on the Light and Sound of God to help people find more love in their life. 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 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 for information on services.

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

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

NATIONAL BAPTIST CONVENTION, U.S.A., INC.
FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH - 226 South Broad Street, Salem. Rev. Melton Johnson, 389-9648. SundaySchool 9:30AM, 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 Intercessory Prayer Service at 8:00 a.m. (conference call line). Sunday Women’s Bible Study Class at 8:30 p.m. (Zoom). In-person Worship on Sunday at 11:00 a.m. or worship with us on line via Facebook. Church office can be contacted for additional information.

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

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

UNITED METHODIST
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Marketplace



The Fincastle Herald

The Vinton Messenger

The New Castle Record

Salem Times-Register

News Messenger

RADFORD News Journal

Legals - City of Salem

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

The Towers, LLC is proposing to construct a 199.0 ft Monopole telecommunications tower facility located at 319 Rowan Street, Salem, Salem County, Virginia 24153, approximately 1700 feet northeast of the Colorado and Rowan Streets intersection. Any interested party wishing to submit comments regarding the potential effects the proposed facility may have on any historic property may do so by sending comments to: Project 250053974PR, EBI Consulting, 21 B Street, Burlington, MA 01803, or at (617) 715-1822.

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

Legals - Botetourt County

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 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 Mortgagee or the Mortgagee'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.bwwsales.com. Additional terms, if any, to be announced at the sale and the Purchaser may be given the option to execute

Legals - City of Radford

the contract of sale electronically. This is a communication from a debt collector and any 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.bwwsales.com. VA-380049-1.

Legals - Montgomery County

ABC NOTICE

TINGJIE BLACKSBURG LLC., trading as VIET PHO YOU, 126 Jackson Street NW, Blacksburg VA 24060.

The above establishment is applying to the VIRGINIA ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGE CONTROL (ABC) AUTHORITY for a Mixed Beverage Restaurant License-Beer, Wine, and Mixed Beverages Consumed On-and Off-Premises license to sell or manufacture alcoholic beverages.

TINGJIE LIU- OWNER

Objections to the issuance of this license must be submitted to ABC no later than 30 days from the publishing date of the first of two required newspaper legal notices. Objections should be registered at www.abc.virginia.gov or 800-552-3200.

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

that the Board hereby schedules a public hearing on Monday, January 26, 2026 at 7:15 p.m., in the Board Chambers, Montgomery County Government Center, 755 Roanoke Street, Christiansburg, Virginia for the purpose of receiving citizens' comments on the following:

Fiscal Year 2026-2027 County Budget

The purpose of this public hearing is to gather citizen comments on the upcoming 2026-2027fiscal year budget.

BY ORDER OF THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

Angela M. Hill
County Administrator

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

hereby schedules a public hearing on January 26, 2026 at 7:15 p.m. or as soon thereafter in the Board Room in the Montgomery County Government Center located at 755 Roanoke Street, Christiansburg, Virginia 24073, in order to hear citizens comments on a proposed ordinance entitled "AN ORDINANCE ESTABLISHING THE BIENNIAL ASSESSMENT AND EQUALIZATION OF PROPERTY VALUES OF ALL REAL ESTATE IN THE COUNTY OF MONTGOMERY FOR THE PURPOSE OF TAXATION EFFECTIVE FOR TAX YEARS BEGINNING JANUARY 1, 2030".

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 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 or g. with any questions or if you require reasonable accommodations.

Legals - Town of Vinton

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

Notice is hereby given that on January 20, 2026, at 6:00 p.m. in the Council Chambers of the Vinton Municipal Building, located at 311 South Pollard Street, Vinton, Virginia, a public hearing will be held before Town Council to receive comments on the following:

1. Update of the Town of Vinton's Solid Waste Management Plan pursuant to Chapter 14, Code of Virginia, particularly §10.1-1411 which requires the preparation of local or regional solid waste management plans. Additional information on this public hearing is available in the Town Manager's Office, located in the Vinton Municipal Building, (540) 983-0607. Interested persons may be heard at the above public hearing. Given under my hand this 29th day of December 2025.

Megan Lawless, Town Clerk

NOTICE OF INTENT TO COMPLY WITH THE AMERICANS WITH DISABILITIES ACT. Reasonable efforts will be made to provide assistance or special arrangements to qualified individuals with disabilities in order to participate in or attend Town Council meetings. Please call (540) 983-0607 at least 48 hours prior to the meeting date so that proper arrangements may be made.

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.

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PHOTO BY BRIAN HOFFMAN

They were there when men's fast-pitch softball was king in Salem

Former players from the days when men’s fast-pitch was king gathered at the Salem Civic Center on December 29th to reminisce about their days on Oakey Field diamonds and the national stage. It was a gathering for players who played on fast-pitch softball teams with Tom Williams, a member of the Salem-Roanoke Baseball Hall of Fame. Teams Tom played on include Holiday Inns, Rudy Cox Realtors, and Oak Hall Caps. Tom was a manager on the 1984 team that advanced to the National Tournament in St. Joe’s , Missouri. Gathering for a group picture at the Civic Center are, front row left to right; Gary Walthall, Charlie Hammersley, Joe Davis, Tom Williams, Sam Croft, Howie Burgess, Mack McClung, Ric Atkins and Steve Martin. Standing, left to right, are Mac McMillan, T.G. Williams, Steve Hyer, Billy Call, Roy Lower, Rick Crotts, Mike East, Craig Williams, Denton Willard, Buster McCallum, Bill Rutledge, John Finnerty, Charlie Daniel, Danny Feathers, Randy Lower, Scott Atkins, Ron Reynolds, Wes McMillian and Lyn Thomas.

Highlanders are in 2nd place in VHSL Cup standings after fall season

The VHSL has announced the 2025-26 National Guard Cup fall standings presented by the Virginia Army National Guard for year-long athletic and academic activities success. Auburn, Poquoson, Western Albemarle, Hanover, Midlothian, and West Springfield sit atop the Cup standings following the fall sports season.

After the fall season Glenvar is in second place in Class 2, just 25 points behind Poquoson with 145. The Highlanders earned 50 points each with state

championships in boys’ cross country and cheerleading and 45 with a runner-up in football.

Salem is 18th in Class 4 with 35 points, all scored by the Spartan competitive cheer team.

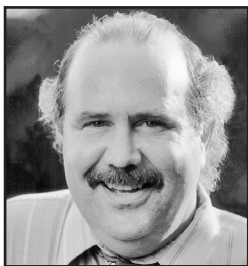
First awarded in 1990, the Cup represents 37 seasons of excellence. Six Cups are awarded for academic activities and athletics in each of the VHSL’s six enrollment classifications. A point system determines the winners based on overall performance in VHSL state championship competitions. In athletics, first

place earns 50 points, second place earns 45 points, third place earns 40 points, fourth place earns 35 points, fifth place earns 30 points, sixth place earns 25 points, seventh place earns 20 points, and eighth place earns 15 points.

Leaders after the fall season are as follows: Class 1 Auburn –172.5 pts.; Class 2 Poquoson –170 pts.; Class 3 Western Albemarle –172.5 pts.; Class 4 Hanover – 170 pts.; Class 5 Midlothian –182.5 pts.; Class 6 West Springfield –240 pts.

Brian Hoffman

NCAA got this one right



Why didn’t the NCAA come up with this sooner?

After watching the CFP quarterfinal football games last week I can’t say enough about how much more I enjoy this than the old system. The NCAA went to a four team tournament for the 2023-24 season and then expanded to a 12 team tournament last year, and I thoroughly enjoyed watching this season’s quarterfinal games over the New Year’s Holiday.

Everything is decided on the field, and that’s a good thing. We had four “bowl” games that really meant something to the players and fans. It wasn’t long ago that players on good teams were opting out of those bowl games to make sure they didn’t get hurt before the NFL draft and the games were played in half empty stadiums. That’s not happening in the CFP tournament, and the games are better for it.

This is a crazy season. Alabama, Georgia and Ohio State, who combined for 10 national championships in the past 15 years, all lost in the quarterfinal round. I’ll bet the bookies cleaned up when you compare the lines to the results.

For example, when was the last time you wouldn’t take Alabama getting seven in a football game with Indiana? How about Georgia on the money line to beat Ole Miss? Losers, losers.

Here’s a good one that I’m sure some fans are still shaking their heads over. You know how some folks do a 100-block grid with numbers for each team? If your numbers match the final score you can win a nice sum, depending on how much it costs to get in the pool.

Well, how about if you were sitting on a block that had Georgia-4 and Ole Miss-7. When the Rebels kicked a field goal with six seconds to go and it’s Ole Miss 37, Georgia 34 you had to feel like you were going to win.

Then Ole Miss kicks off and Georgia tries one of those lateral deals, and the first toss misses the intended recipient and rolls out of bounds, nipping the goal line pylon in the process! The side official signals “safety” and that’s a punch to the gut for the guy who had 7 and 4. Now the guy who has Ole Miss 9 and Georgia 4 is set to win, but the game is ruled to still have one second left.

Now, in case you didn’t see it, Georgia has to kick-off due to the safety and the Bulldogs recover an onside kick! Everyone now thinks the game is over, but it’s ruled the clock should not start if the kicking team recovers and, after much discussion, they have to push the victory stand back off the field for one more play with a second still on the clock. At this point Georgia tries another of those lateral plays that turned out to be unsuccessful, but if they had somehow scored that would have been the craziest finish I’d seen since the band came on the field in that California-Stanford game in 1982.

So, Ole Miss advances to play Indiana and Oregon, who dominated Texas Tech, will take on Miami in the semifinals on Thursday and Friday of this week. With all the crazy stuff the NCAA is doing these days with NIL money and transfer portals, this is one thing they got right.

RC's Johnson is one of six Maroons on SCC Academic All-District football team

The Roanoke College football team had six players honored this week with the release of the 2025 College Sports Communicators (CSC) Academic All-District Team. The Maroons honored were: Charlie Davis, Nathan Johnson, Lane Shoemaker, Silas Fitzgerald, Ethan Cyr and Arlie VanDyke.

Davis, a linebacker, is a sophomore education major from Radford, VA. Johnson, a Glenvar High graduate, majors in health and exercise science and is a sophomore offensive lineman. Shoemaker, a sophomore health and exercise science major, is a defensive back from Roanoke and a graduate of William Byrd. Fitzgerald, a senior elementary education major, is an offensive lineman from Hidden Valley High in Roanoke County. Cyr, a sophomore business administration major, is a kicker from Stuarts Draft and VanDyke, a sophomore long snapper from Stanardsville, VA, is a health and exercise science major.

The 2025 Academic All-District® Football Teams, selected by College Sports Communicators, recognize the nation's top student-athletes for their combined performances on the field and in the classroom. The CSC Academic All-America® program separately recognizes honorees in four divisions — NCAA Division I, NCAA Division II, NCAA Division III and NAIA.



Nate Johnson is a Glenvar grad. PHOTO BY BRIAN HOFFMAN

Maroon women top Warren Wilson

The Roanoke College women were looking for their first Old Dominion Athletic Conference win when the Maroons hosted Bridgewater on Wednesday of this week. Results were too late for pub-

lication but Bridgewater came to town as one of five teams without an ODAC loss. RC was 0-2 in the conference with losses to Guilford and Shenandoah, who are also both 2-0.

The RC women moved to the good side of .500 last Saturday as they improved to 6-5 with a non-conference win over Warren Wilson. The Maroons just missed scoring 100 points as they took

a 98-51 win over the Owls on Camper Appreciation Day.

The Maroons shot the ball well early in opening a 29-12 first quarter lead. From that point it was all Roanoke as they sent the Owls to their 14th loss in 15 games.

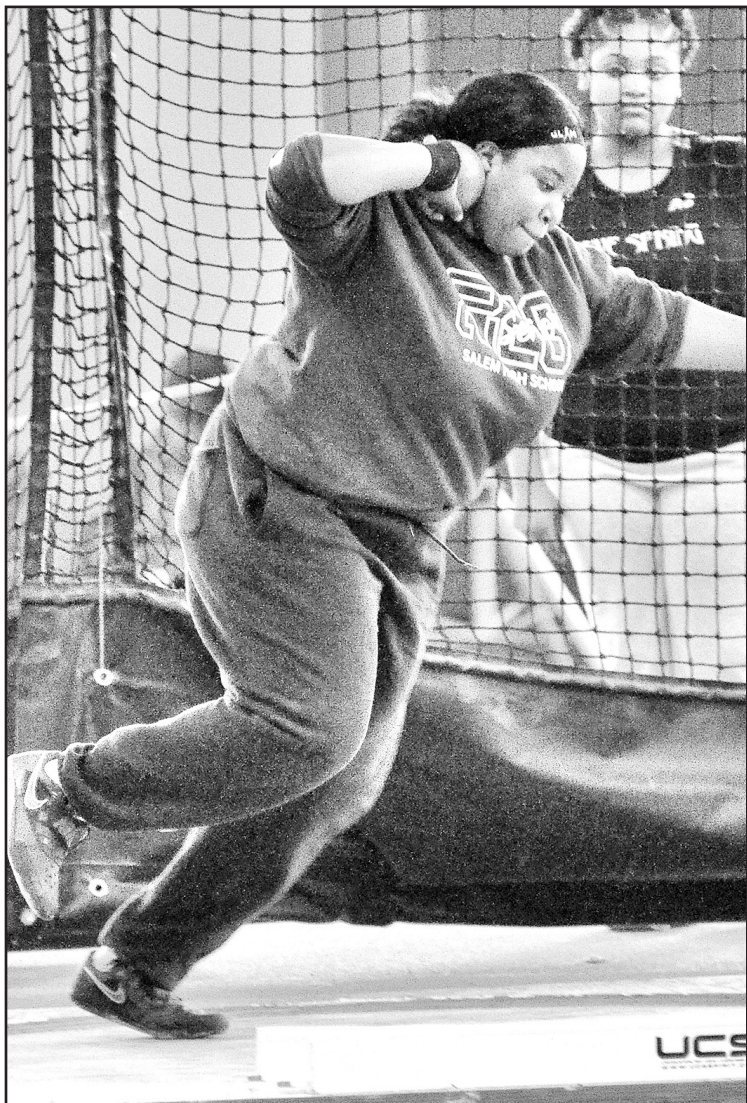
Ashley Fowler led Roanoke in points with her season high of 21 while Abigail Rice scored 13. Roanoke freshman Laila Staples picked up her first career double-double after tallying 11 points and pulling down 10 rebounds. Her point total tied her career high, and she set a new career mark with her rebound total. Freshman Cecilia Robinson tallied a career high with her team leading 13 rebounds. Every Maroon that was available to play saw at least 10 minutes of floor time as coach Carla Flaherty substituted freely with a big lead.

The Maroons hosted the Susan Dunagan Holiday Classic on December 29 and 30 and finished second in the tournament. They defeated Geneva College in the opener, 80-60, but lost to Denison University in the championship game, 80-57. Fowler and Rice were named to the All-Tournament team from RC.

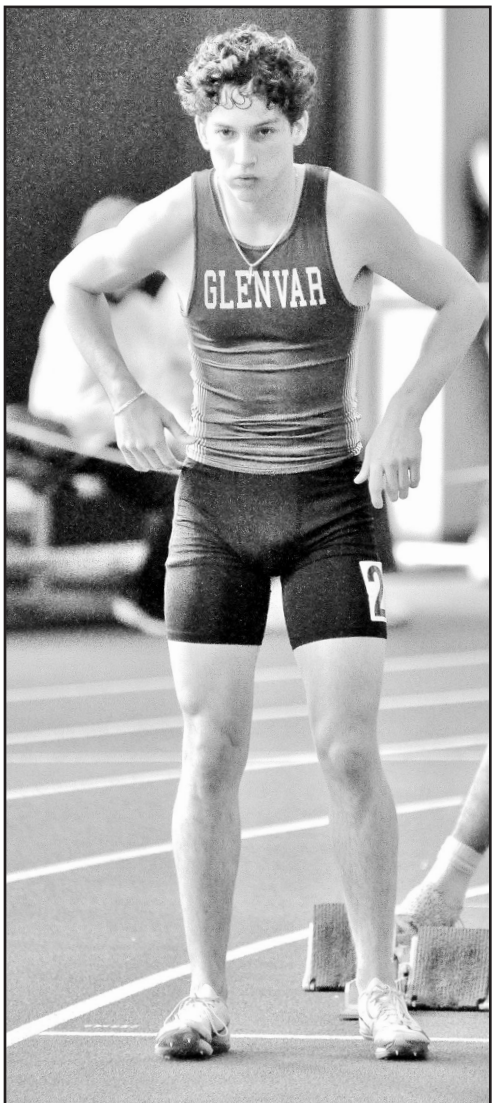
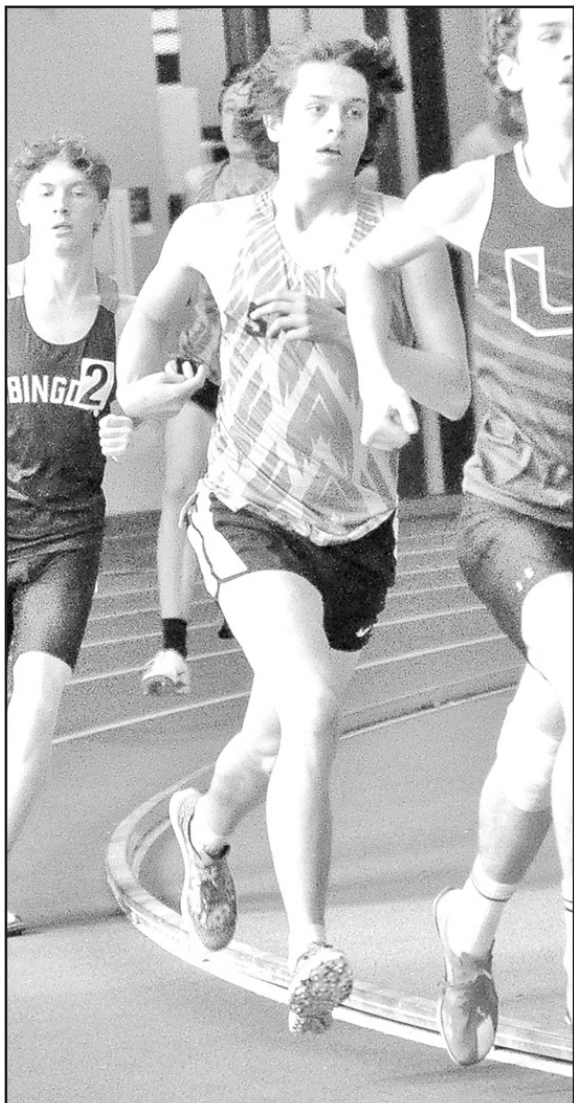
The Maroons will now play conference games for the rest of the season. They’ll host Eastern Mennonite on Saturday at 4:30 pm and head to Danville next Wednesday, January 14, to play Averett University.



RC's Abigail Rice was named to the All-Tournament team when the Maroons hosted the Susan Dunagan Holiday Classic last week. PHOTO BY BRIAN HOFFMAN



Left, Salem's Quinn Bowens makes the turn in the shot put competition at Roanoke College Saturday. Middle, Isaac Snow runs the 1,000 meters for the Spartans and, right, Glenvar's Joey Loder gets ready to run the 300.



PHOTOS BY BRIAN HOFFMAN

Salem, Glenvar indoor teams compete at Roanoke College

Both Salem and Glenvar entered athletes in the East Coast Elite “Around the World” Invitational track meet last Saturday. The meet was held at the Kerr-Cregger Fieldhouse at Roanoke College.

“It was good to be back on the track after winter break, and we look forward to the next few weeks,” said Glenvar coach Bekka Loder. “The athletes had a great day setting eight new personal records, six season’s bests and two state-qualifying times.

Glenvar took first in the girls’ 4x200 with Meena Chen, Kallie McDonald, Anna Hall and Aiden Beverly. The 4x400 foursome of Hall, McDonald,

Rayya Bryson and Beverly was second.

Joey Loder took two seconds for Glenvar. He had a season’s best time of 36.42 to take second in the 300 dash and also was runner-up in the 55 hurdles.

Aldin Smith was fourth in the boys’ 3,200 with a state qualifying time of 10:19.10. Beverly took fifth in the girls 300 dash with a state qualifying time of 44.64. Evan Harris had a new PR in the boys’ 500, finishing fifth, and the Glenvar boys’ 4x400 team of Will Howard, Jackson Wimmer, Asher Fought and Harris took sixth.

For Salem, the boys’ 4x200 team of Nicolas

Baxley, Tristen Noel, Aedon Wiley and DaVon Jones was second and the girls’ 4x800 relay of McKenzie Eversole, Addison Hancock, Oliva Huff and Audrey Harmon ran a season’s best time to finish third. Eversole was also fifth in the 1,600.

For the boys, Jones took third in the 55 hurdles, Ciril Fergens was third in the 55 dash and Wiley was sixth in the 55 dash.

The Spartans will be back at Roanoke College this Saturday for a meet at the Cregger Center while Glenvar’s team will compete at Liberty University this weekend.

Glenvar girls come close at Carroll

The Glenvar girls opened 2026 with a couple losses as the Highlanders fell to Hidden Valley on the road and Carroll County at home.

On Monday Hidden Valley held the Highlanders to 18 points, of which 11 were scored by Aubrey Moles in a 46-18 loss. On Tuesday the Highlanders were back home against Carroll County and fell 42-37 in a Three Rivers District game to fall to 0-7. Tuesday’s game was one of Glenvar’s closest of the young season as Grace Fiedler had 10 points, Moles had nine and Halie Watkins and Chloe Meyer had seven points each.

“We had a few chances to pull out a

win but had a few untimely turnovers,” said Glenvar coach Cheryl Hayes. “We also did not shoot well from the free throw line, which in close games really matters. I was proud of our girls for responding and playing well after not playing well the night before.”

Glenvar’s losing streak has now reached 49 games stretching over four seasons and four calendar years. They’ll try to avoid making it 50 when they travel to Buchanan Friday for a Three Rivers District game against James River.

Next week Glenvar will host Radford on Tuesday, then travel to Martinsville a week from tonight, on January 15.

SALEM GIRLS BASKETBALL

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the bench to score 11. Kourtney Goens had 11 rebounds.

“Important game since Blacksburg is in our district and region,” said Salem coach Scott Jester. “We shot it well from three, making eight as a team, and got some good contributions from our bench as well.”

On Tuesday it was more of the same against Hidden Valley. Salem’s defense smothered the Titans and led to easy baskets. Crawley had 26 to double Hidden Valley’s team score herself while Custer had 15 and Goens had a dozen.



Salem's Gabby Crawley reacts to a call in Monday's win.

PHOTO BY BRIAN HOFFMAN

Last week the Spartans spent the last three days of 2025 in Sevierville, Tennessee playing in the Smokey Mountain Winter Classic. They lost for the first time this season but won twice against some of the best competition they’ll play all year.

“Overall it was a good trip for us,” said Jester. “It was good to get out and see some different teams with varying styles of play.”

Salem opened the event with a 58-51 loss to Gatlinburg-Pittman High of Tennessee. Four girls scored in double figures led by Goens with 13 points. Crawley had a dozen and Rider and Custer had 11 each.

“Tough loss against a really good team,” said Jester. “We didn’t do a good enough job of taking care of the ball to win. Learned a lot from this game.”

On Tuesday the Spartans bounced back with a 68-34 win over Wren High as Custer scored 23, Rider had 11 and Crawley 10.

“Good bounce back game,” said Custer. “We did a great job of attacking in transition for easy baskets.”

Salem closed out the Classic with a 70-48 win over Farragut. Rider led with 15 points in this one, Custer and Crawley had 13 each and Hart had 11.

“We were able to get paint touches all day, which allowed us to shoot 56 percent from the field as a team.”

The Spartans will hit the road this Friday with a game at Christiansburg. Next Tuesday, January 13, they go to Patrick Henry.

SALEM BOYS BASKETBALL

continued from page 12

Hidden Valley pulled away.

“They’re probably the best team we’ve played so far,” said Salem coach Kevin Garst. “We got close but every time we did they’d hit a big shot. They play fast and shoot the ball good.”

Salem had balanced scoring as Boles had a dozen, Smith had 11 and Hamm and Overstreet had 10 points each.

The Spartans will have their hands full again when Christiansburg comes to town Friday.

“They’re really good,” said Garst. “They beat Cave Spring and they should have beaten Patrick Henry. They led most of the game but lost it at the end. They have a 6’8” guy who’s a good player.”

The Spartans will be back home next Tuesday to host Patrick Henry in a rematch of a close win over the Patriots in Roanoke on December 12.



PHOTO BY ASHLEY AKERS

Glenvar's James Housh takes it to the hoop in last week's game against Graham.

GLENVAR BOYS BASKETBALL

continued from page 12

by a 77-50 score as the Titans remained undefeated on the season. Doolan led Glenvar with 18 points.

“Tough night against a very good, well coached Hidden Valley team,” said Glenvar coach Hank Luton. “They turned us over 25 times and we aren’t going to be competitive when we do that. I’ve still got great confidence in our group.”

Glenvar had little time for New Year’s festivities last week as the Highlanders played in two annual events. They finished sixth in the eight team Northside Invitational on December 27, 29 and 30, winning one game around two losses.

The Highlanders opened the tournament with a 61-50 loss to host Northside. Ryder Francisco led Glenvar with 20 points, Jax Bolling had 13 and James Housh had 10. Glenvar went down 9-0 at the outset but battled back to make it a game.

“Credit to our guys for responding well,” said Luton. “We couldn’t get over the hump in the fourth quarter. Credit Northside for their pressure the entire game. They are athletic and always well coached.”

The Highlanders bounced back in the next round with a 63-62 win over Blacksburg, their third win over the Bruins in the month of September. Francisco hit the winning shot to finish off a big night with 36 points.

“Ryder shot the ball well,” said Luton. “Credit to our guys for continuing to find him in rhythm. Jax Bolling made a big play late to get Ryder a clean look to win it. Credit Doug Day and his Blacksburg team for really outplaying and out coaching us. It’s always a challenge against them, we are fortunate to come out on top.”

That put the Highlanders in the fifth place game, where they fell to George Wythe, 62-50. Francisco had 22 points and Evan Harris had 10.

“Our best offensive game of the year in terms of moving the ball, getting clean looks, and executing our stuff,” said Luton. “Unfortunately we just didn’t shoot it well. GW made a ton of shots. They are always well coached and have some talented players. I’d expect them to compete for another State Title run this season.

“Overall, just thankful to play in the NIT this season. I’ll take three games against the quality teams and coaches any day, over taking break off.”

Last Friday Glenvar played in the annual Chance Harman Invitational hosted by Floyd County. Glenvar played and fell 76-56. Bolling had 17 to lead the Highlanders.

Glenvar will host James River in a Three Rivers District game this Friday, followed by a trip to always tough Radford next Tuesday, January 13.

“I’m pleased with our effort and attitudes, but lacking results right now,” said Luton. “We need to get closer to full strength to compete in the next few weeks.”



Spartans win 'Takedown the New Year' wrestling tournament at Heritage High

Salem, Glenvar are in "Big Orange" this weekend

The Salem and Glenvar wrestlers will be competing on the same mats for the second week in a row when William Byrd hosts the annual Big Orange Classic tournament in Vinton this weekend. The tournament will be held Friday and Saturday and include most of the teams in the Roanoke Valley and beyond.

Last weekend Salem and Glenvar competed in the 28 team Takedown the New Year tournament at Heritage High School in Lynchburg. Salem took first place as a team and Glenvar was fourth in the annual event.

"We wrestled very well and beat a very deep Turner Ashby team to win the title," said Salem coach Lawrence Van Liew.

Derek Bush was named the outstanding wrestler of the tournament voted on by the coaches, taking first place at 120 pounds. Salem's Jack James won the 285 pound class and Glenvar also had a champion as Jack Yetzer won the 106 pound title.

Five other Salem or Glenvar wrestlers made the final and took seconds. For Salem Sayge Herndon lost to Yetzer in the 106 pound championship and finished second, Anthony Baudanza was second at 132 and Tolin Saul was runnerup at 165. For Glenvar, Levi Wright was second at 144 and Haden Henderson took second at 150.

Other Salemites who finished in the top five included Jay Preston with a third at 215, Robert Herndon with a third at 285, fourth places by Kolynn Eastman at 126 and Giuseppe Baudanza at 138 and fifths by Patrick Patterson at 113 and Keegan Price at 190.

For Glenvar, four wrestlers took fourth place including Nick Yetzer at 113, Jacob Long at 120, Jack Osburn at 157 and John Vishneski at 165. The Highlanders are very thin in the heavier classes and had just 10 wrestlers entered but still finished fourth as a team.

Both Salem and Glenvar hosted



Above left, Salem's Derek Bush drives his opponent to the mat in last week's tournament at Heritage High. Derek was named the tournament's Most Valuable Wrestler. Above, Jack Yetzer of Glenvar is on top and on his way to a first place finish at 106 at Heritage. Below, Glenvar's Levi Wright looks to put the finishing touches on his foe at 144.

PHOTOS BY SUZANNE WITCHER



matches on Wednesday but results were too late for publication. Hidden Valley and Cave Spring were at Salem and Floyd and James River wrestled at Glenvar.

This weekend's Big Orange Classic lineup of high school teams will include Bassett, Blacksburg, Brookville,

Charlottesville, Christiansburg, Floyd County, Franklin County, Giles, Lord Botetourt, Heritage, Hidden Valley, Liberty, LCA, Martinsville, Northside, Parry McCluer, Riverheads, Roanoke Catholic, Rustburg, Western Albemarle, William Fleming, host Byrd and both Salem and Glenvar.

RC wrestlers defeat 11th ranked Eau Claire in Salem

The Roanoke College wrestling team swept the Old Dominion Athletic Conference (ODAC) weekly awards Monday, with Taylor Smith earning Light Weight Wrestler of the week accolades and Lorenzo Pellot-Vazquez taking home Heavier Weight Wrestler of the Week honors.

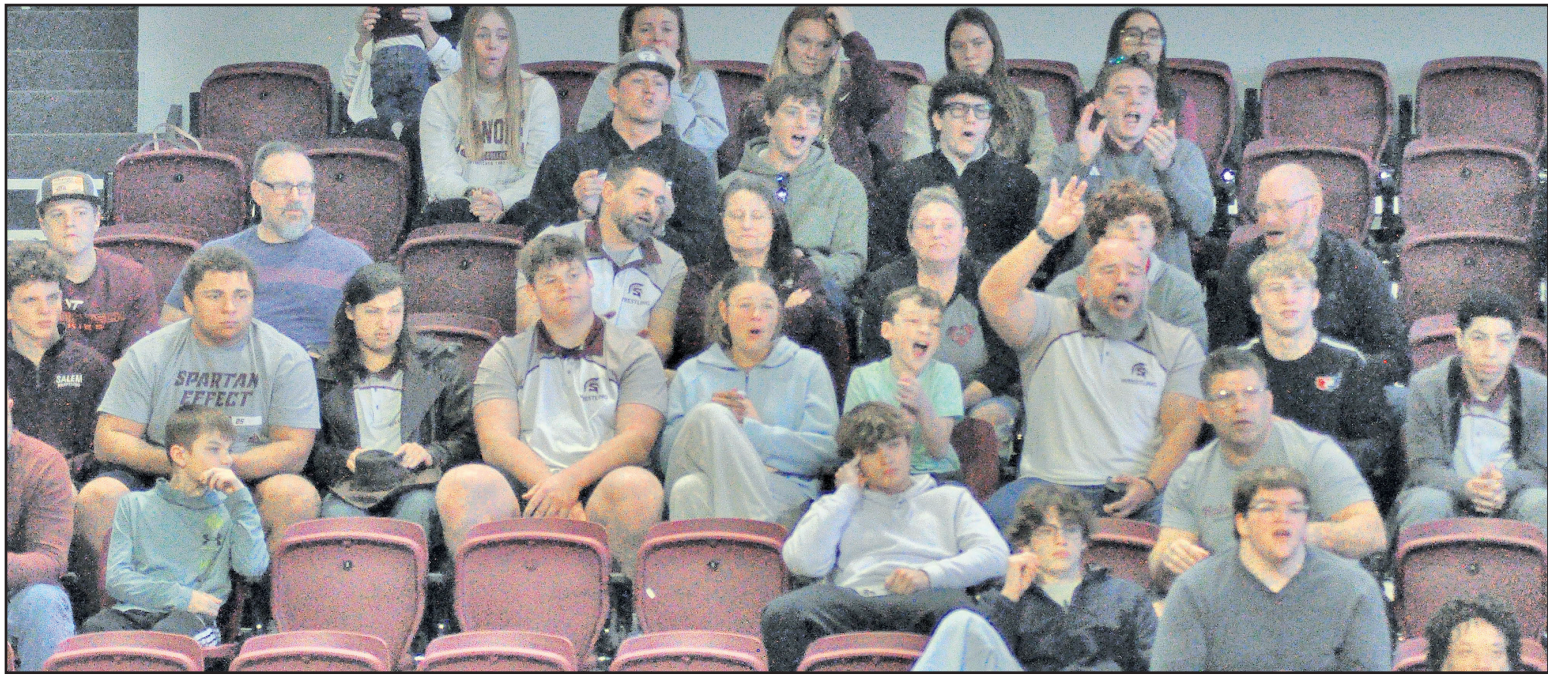
Smith, a junior from Mifflintown, PA, collected his second ODAC weekly honor after posting a nationally-ranked victory during the sixth

ranked Maroons' 26-15 dual victory over 11th ranked Wisconsin-Eau Claire Sunday. Following a win by forfeit in Roanoke's 51-0 triumph over Penn College, Smith took to the mat for a highly-rated showdown at 149 pounds with Landon Church. Smith, the No. 5 wrestler in the class in the latest rankings published by the NWCA, earned an 11-2 major decision victory over the Blugold's 15th-ranked competitor.

Pellot-Vazquez, a sophomore from Fairfax, VA,

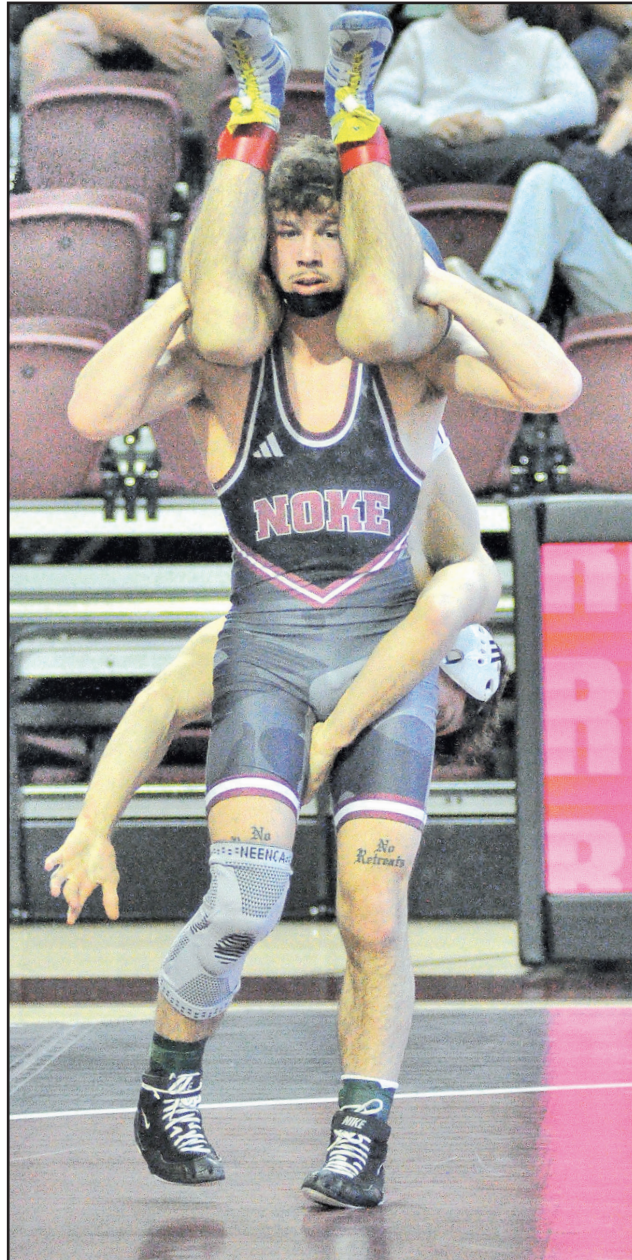
put the finishing touches on the win over Eau Claire. The 197-pound class was the final bout of the high-profile dual with the Maroons' leading, 20-15, heading into the showdown between Pellot-Vazquez and Jackson Peak. Pellot-Vazquez sealed the win in style, pinning Peak in 5:50.

The Maroons, now 6-0 in duals, take part in the NWCA National Duals this weekend at the University of Northern Iowa.



Left, members of the Salem High wrestling team watch Roanoke College compete against the Wisconsin Eau Claire team at the Cregger Center Sunday afternoon. Below left, Roanoke's Mac Cafurello has his opponent upside down before winning his match at 125. Below, Lorenzo Pellot-Vazquez of RC is seconds away from a match ending pin at 197.

PHOTOS BY BRIAN HOFFMAN



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Above, the Roanoke College basketball team poses for a group shot after winning the Cregger Invitational in Salem last week. Below, tournament MVP Jackson Bell puts down a dunk in the win over Wilkes College.

PHOTOS BY BRIAN HOFFMAN

Maroons will host W&L in big ODAC game Saturday *Roanoke wins Cregger Invitational over holiday break*

The Roanoke College men's basketball team will host Washington & Lee in a big Old Dominion Athletic Conference game Saturday. Tip-Off time is 2 pm at the Cregger Center in Salem.

The Maroons come into the week with an 8-3 overall record, pending a trip to Winchester on Wednesday to meet Shenandoah University. The Generals are off to a great start with a 10-1 record in the 2025 portion of their schedule.

It's still early in the ODAC season but this is a big game. Roanoke is 1-1 in ODAC games with their loss coming to undefeated Randolph-Macon College, on the road, the first week of December. W&L is 2-0 in ODAC games and the Generals have yet to play Randolph-Macon. The only other team without an ODAC loss is Virginia Wesleyan at 2-0 in the conference and 7-4 overall.

The Maroons are coming off a championship in last week's Cregger Invitational at RC. Roanoke ham-

mered Husson College on the first day of tournament, 91-62, then defeated Wilkes College in the championship game, 81-54, as tournament MVP Jackson Bell scored a career-high 30 points.

Bell scored 20 points in the first half against Wilkes as Roanoke opened a 50-32 lead at intermission. The Maroons were never threatened in the second half as they cruised to the win.

RC's Porter Stanley joined Bell on the All-Tournament Team with a career-high 13 points to go with seven rebounds. Caleb Franze contributed 14 points and five rebounds, Patrick Clevenger had eight points and seven rebounds and Marcus Morgan contributed in several stat categories with five points, five rebounds and four steals.

After Saturday's game with Washington & Lee the Maroons will be back home next Wednesday, January 14, to host Hampden-Sydney in another big ODAC game. That one will begin at 7 pm.



Spartans fall to undefeated Titans

The Salem High boys' basketball team will be home Friday night for a River Ridge District

basketball game with Christiansburg. It will be the third district game of the week for the Spartans,

who beat Blacksburg on Monday and fell to undefeated Hidden Valley on Tuesday, both on the

road, to go 8-2 after 10 games.

On Monday in Blacksburg the Spartans rolled to a 71-37 win. After leading by one point, 13-12, after the first period Salem opened a 31-19 lead at the half. Salem then buried the Bruins by outscoring them 30-14 in the third quarter and coasted to the win.

Salem held a 32-25 edge in rebounding and had 14 steals to just three for Blacksburg. The Spartans shot 53 percent from the floor and held the Bruins to just 33 percent.

Cam Boles led Salem in scoring with 17 points and also had three assists. Tanner Overstreet had 12 points and five rebounds while Gabe Martn had 11 points. Overstreet, Jaydius Hamm and Braylon Smith had three steals each.

On Tuesday at Hidden Valley the Titans remained undefeated at 9-0 with a 60-48 win over the Spartans. Salem trailed for most of the game but cut the lead to four in the fourth quarter before



Salem's Elijah Paddyfote goes high to fight for a rebound in last week's win over William Byrd.

PHOTO BY BRIAN HOFFMAN

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Salem girls go 2-1 in Tennessee

The Salem High girls basketball team won back-to-back games to start the week and improve to 11-1 on the season. Salem beat Blacksburg on Monday, 76-24, and Hidden Valley on Tuesday, 74-13, both at home.

The Spartans dominated the two district opponents. On Monday they raced to a 19-0 lead and never looked back. Emme Custer had 14 points, Gabby Crawley had 13, Bailey Rider had 13 points and eight steals and Aniyah Fox came off



PHOTO BY BRIAN HOFFMAN

continued on page 10 Salem's Lexie Hart lines up a shot in Monday's win over Blacksburg.



Glenvar's Ryder Francisco(#12) goes to the hole in last week's game against Blacksburg.

PHOTO BY BRIAN HOFFMAN

Glenvar drops 3RD opener

The Glenvar Highlanders had a light schedule early in December with a prolonged football season, but they've been making up for it. The Highlanders lost at Carroll County on Tuesday as they played their sixth game in 11 days, including stints in the Northside Invitational Tournament and the Chance Harman Classic in Floyd County.

On Tuesday in Hillsville the Highlanders fell to 4-6 with an 80-76 loss against host Carroll County. It was the first Three Rivers District game for both teams as Carroll improved to 5-4 overall. Parker Doolan scored 35 points for the Highlanders.

On Monday at home Glenvar lost to Hidden Valley for the second time this season, this time

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