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SALEM TIMES-REGISTER
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OurValley.org

Salem School Divisions receives over $500K in State Literacy Grants

The Salem School Division is excited to announce it has been awarded more than $500,000 through the 20-2026 Comprehensive Literacy State Development (CLSD) Grant to expand literacy resources, provide professional development for staff, and strengthen family engagement across all six schools. The highly competitive statewide process attracted more than 150 applicants from across the commonwealth.

"We are incredibly proud to receive this funding, and we believe this investment affirms the strong work already happening in our classrooms," said Dr. Curtis Hicks, Salem School Division superintendent. "These grants will allow us to further strengthen literacy instruction and family engagement from early childhood through high school."

In its second year, the grant program will provide more than $7 million to schools across the commonwealth. The funding is designed to strengthen classroom instruction, support teachers and school leaders, and give families practical tools to help their child become strong readers. Meg Crew, Salem's coordinator of state and federal programs, and Leigh Leslie, Salem's instructional coach for literacy, were instrumental in securing this funding for Salem's children.

"By expanding resources for our families and strengthening literacy supports at every level, we are reinforcing our belief that strong literacy foundations are essential to student achievement," said Hicks. "We are grateful to the

See **Grants**, page 3



COURTESY PHOTO

Salem students are pictured in a group reading setting.

Annual Box Party returns to Salem Library





COURTESY PHOTOS

Children build, create and play with cardboard boxes during the Salem Library's annual Box Party on Saturday, Jan. 10. The drop-in event, held from 11 a.m. to noon, invited children ages 0 through fifth grade to use their imaginations with donated boxes, which were recycled by the library after the party.



SCREENSHOT

Clemons, right, is pictured during the Jan. 8 meeting.

Clemons re-elected as Roanoke County School Board chair; 2026 meeting dates approved

Aila Boyd
aboyd@mainstreetnewspapers.com

The Roanoke County School Board has re-elected Cave Spring District representative Shelley Clemons to serve as board chair for 2026.

Clemons, who was first elected chair in 2025, was nominated during the board's Jan. 8 work session and approved by a majority vote of the board. In nominating Clemons, Hollins District representative David M. Linden cited her leadership skills, collaborative approach and commitment to the division's mission.

Linden said Clemons has demonstrated an ability to bring people together, work effectively with the Roanoke County Board of Supervisors and maintain a focus on long-term priorities, making her well suited to continue in the leadership role.

Catawba District representative Brent Hudson was also re-elected to continue serving as vice chair for 2026.

In addition to leadership elections, the board approved its

See **Clemons**, page 2

Salem VA nurse honored with DAISY Award for compassionate end-of-life care

Aila Boyd
aboyd@mainstreetnewspapers.com



COURTESY PHOTO

Thompson

Mandy Thompson, a licensed practical nurse in the Community Living Center at the Salem VA Medical Center, has been recognized with a DAISY Award for the compassionate care she provided to a veteran and the veteran's family during end-of-life care.

Thompson was honored for demonstrating respect, comfort and unwavering commitment while supporting the veteran and family through an emotionally difficult time. According to the award nomination, Thompson formed a strong bond of trust by taking time to learn the veteran's needs and story of military service.

Colleagues and family members noted that Thompson communicated openly and sincerely, providing regular updates and offering heartfelt support throughout the veteran's final days. Her approach emphasized dignity, respect and recognition of the veteran's sacrifice to the nation.

A sibling of the veteran praised Thompson's dedication in the nomination, writing that her goal "has always been to provide cheer, smiles, comfort and caring."

"Mandy goes way beyond providing

See **DAISY**, page 3

Council approves gas station zoning

Meg Hibbert
Contributing writer

At the first meeting of 2026, Salem City Council members unanimously approved on first reading rezoning for a gas station and convenience store at 1000 Electric Rd.

The property is currently zoned Residential Business District and would change to Highway Business District. The change would allow installation of gas tanks and a canopy for a gas station-convenience store where the former Speedway gas station was located until it closed in 2023.

Steve Drake, speaking for property owner Khalil LLC and contract purchaser Jay Patel, said the business would hire 14 full-time and part-time employees, and produce an estimated income of $500,000 the first year and $30,000 in tax revenue in food and beverages for the city. He was the only speaker at the public hearing. A second reading will be held at the Jan. 26 meeting.

Council also held a public hearing but delayed a vote until the Feb. 9 meeting on a change to the zoning ordinance pertaining to signs, especially lighting.

Community Development Administrator Mary Ellen Wines said the proposed change would restrict the type of lighting around signs in certain districts. No one spoke in favor nor against the change. Wines said the delay was to give Councilmembers and the public time to review proposed changes.

In other actions, Council adopted a resolution approving a 5 percent salary supplement effective Jan. 1 for Salem's Constitutional Officers who do not already receive a 5 percent Virginia Retirement System supplement.

Council also reappointed Steve Poff to the Board of Zoning appeals, and recommended Economic Development Director Tommy Miller be appointed to the Western Virginia Regional Industrial Facility Authority, with Crystal Williams as the alternate.

The meeting adjourned at 6:52 p.m. All five Councilmembers were present.



PHOTO BY MEG HIBBERT

At the Jan. 12 Salem City Council work session before the regular meeting, Councilmembers and staff discuss recommendations from the September Council retreat.

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.

The Candidates by Robert Munford - A Staged Reading at the Salem Museum: The Salem Museum is excited to host a staged reading of Colonel Robert Munford's "The Candidates; or, The Humours of a Virginia Election - A Comedy in Three Acts." Written and set in the early 1770s on the eve of the American Revolution, this farcical tale about a Virginia House of Burgesses election satirizes the corrupt campaigning culture of the day. With stinging critiques of electioneering and witty dialogue to boot, Munford's three act comedy will be put on in the Roanoke Valley for the first time ever through a staged reading at the Salem Museum. Volunteer Steve Aaron will lead this production, and is actively seeking participants to read for numerous characters. If interested in reading a part or volunteering on the project, please contact the Salem Museum via phone at 540-389-6760 or via email at info@SalemMuseum.org.

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. 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.

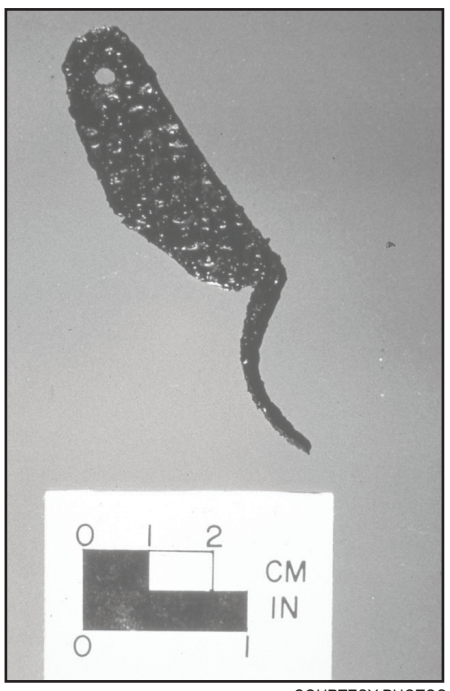
The Salem City School Board will meet at 7 p.m. on July 14.

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

Salem Museum Spotlight

In 1990, a Virginia Indian village was discovered during the construction of the Moyer Sports Complex along the Roanoke River in Salem. This is believed to be the site of Totero Town, an important trading center and where European explorers Thomas Batts and Robert Fallam once stayed. Shells, beads, pottery, arrowheads, and stone tools were all discovered, along with a trigger from an 18TH century European gun.

This snaphaunce rifle trigger clearly demonstrates trading connections with other Indian tribes and European explorers, and hints that this location is likely the site Batts and Fallam visited. Visitors can see it on display now at the Salem Museum in their current featured exhibit "The First People of the Roanoke Valley."



COURTESY PHOTOS

18th Century snaphaunce rifle trigger

In "The First People of the Roanoke Valley," visitors look back into the time of the Tutelo. Drawing on archaeological artifacts, maps, and interpretive displays, this exhibit reveals how the Tutelo and other Eastern Siouan peoples shaped the land long before European settlement. Examine tools used in hunting, view pottery once storing a winter's meal, and discover the many uses of animal hides and bones!

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

Police Report

City of Salem Police Department

Weekly Arrest Report

Week of December 30, 2025 – January 5, 2026

12/30/2025	Austin W. Fay	26	Fail to Appear
1/4/2026	Wayne A. Smith	45	Simple Assault & Battery
1/5/2026	Jessica T. Rosario	40	Public Intoxication
1/5/2026	Yvonne P. Hunter	51	Violation of Probation

City of Salem Police Department

Weekly Crime Report (Felony Cases)

Week of December 30, 2025 – January 5, 2026

DATE REPORTED	*LOCATION*	*OFFENSE REPORTED*
12/31/2025	2000 BLK Cook Dr	Grand Larceny
1/4/2026	0 BLK Spartan Dr	Damage Property
1/5/2026	2000 BLK Cook Dr	Breaking & Entering, Grand Larceny

Cline-backed bankruptcy reform bill passes house, heads to president

The U.S. House on Monday passed the Bankruptcy Administration Improvement Act of 2025, bipartisan legislation sponsored by Rep. Ben Cline, R-Va., aimed at strengthening the federal bankruptcy system while keeping it fully funded by users rather than taxpayers.

The bill now heads to the president's desk for signature.

According to Cline, who represents Virginia's 6th Congressional District, the legislation makes updates intended to improve efficiency and oversight within bankruptcy courts nationwide.

"My bill makes common-sense improvements to an essential part of our judicial system," Cline said in a statement. "It keeps bankruptcy courts running efficiently, fairly compensates trustees, and ensures the system remains self-funded without burdening taxpayers."

The measure extends existing user fees to maintain funding for bankruptcy court operations, preventing the need for taxpayer subsidies. It also increases per-case compensation for Chapter 7 trustees to reflect inflation and support effective case oversight.

In addition, the bill extends temporary bankruptcy judgeships, a move supporters say will help courts manage growing caseloads and reduce delays for families, small businesses and creditors navigating the bankruptcy process.

Cline said the legislation will help ensure bankruptcy courts can continue serving those who rely on them and expressed optimism that the bill will soon be signed into law.

-The Salem Times-Register

Rep. Cline secures nearly $190 million for rural health care improvements in Virginia

Virginia will receive nearly $190 million to support rural health care improvements under a new federal program backed by Rep. Ben Cline, R-Va., according to an announcement from the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services.

CMS said Virginia has been awarded $189,544,888 through the Rural Health Transformation Program, which was created through H.R. 1, legislation supported by Cline. He also joined other members of Virginia's Republican House delegation in backing the Commonwealth's successful grant application.

"I was proud to support Virginia's application and help secure nearly $190 million to improve access to quality health care in our rural communities," Cline said in a statement. "This investment will expand access to care for families who often face long travel times and provider shortages, support and retain rural health care workers, and modernize facilities so they can better meet the needs of patients across the Commonwealth."

Cline said the funding is aimed at strengthening rural health care systems by improving access to care close to home, addressing workforce challenges and upgrading facilities to better serve patients.

The Rural Health Transformation Program includes $50 billion in funding to be distributed to approved states over five years. CMS will allocate $10 billion annually from 2026 through 2030, with states eligible to receive additional funding each year during that period.

Cline represents Virginia's 6th Congressional District, which includes much of the Shenandoah Valley and surrounding rural communities.

-The Salem Times-Register

Clemons from page 1

meeting calendar for the 2026 calendar year. Regular school board meetings will be held at 6 p.m., while work sessions will begin at 3:30 p.m. unless otherwise noted. Dates are subject to change.

The approved schedule includes:

- Jan. 22 — School Board Meeting
- Jan. 27 — Budget Work Session
- Feb. 5 — Work Session
- Feb. 19 — School Board Meeting
- Feb. 24 — Budget Work Session
- March 3 — Work Session
- March 11 — Budget Work Session
- March 31 — School Board Meeting
- April 2 — Work Session
- April 16 — School Board Meeting
- May 7 — Work Session
- May 21 — School Board Meeting
- June 4 — Work Session
- June 11 — School Board Meeting
- July 9 — Work Session
- July 23 — School Board Meeting
- Aug. 6 — Work Session
- Aug. 20 — School Board Meeting
- Sept. 3 — Work Session
- Sept. 17 — School Board Meeting
- Oct. 1 — Work Session
- Oct. 15 — School Board Meeting
- Nov. 5 — Work Session
- Nov. 12 — School Board Meeting
- Dec. 3 — Work Session
- Dec. 10 — School Board Meeting

All meetings and work sessions will be held at the Roanoke County Public Schools Central Office, 5937 Cove Road, unless otherwise announced. Meetings are open to the public, though in-person attendance may be limited and overflow rooms may be used.

The board chair may schedule additional meetings or work sessions as needed.

Meetings are livestreamed and available for on-demand viewing at rcps.us/schoolboardmeetings. Agendas are posted online at rcps.us/SBagenda.

Salem students earn academic honors at SNHU, Shenandoah University

Several Salem students were recognized for academic achievement during the Fall 2025 semester at Southern New Hampshire University and Shenandoah University.

Keith Olson of Salem was named to Southern New Hampshire University's Dean's List for the Fall 2025 term. Dean's List recognition is awarded to full-time undergraduate students who earn a grade-point average between 3.50 and 3.69 during the reporting term. SNHU's fall term runs from September through December.

In addition, Venecia Holloman and Adam Faizi, both of Salem, were named to Southern New Hampshire University's President's List for Fall 2025. The President's List honors full-time undergraduate students who achieve a GPA of 3.70 or higher for the term.

At Shenandoah University, several Salem students earned academic honors for the Fall 2025 semester.

Ethan Fox and Hannah Hylton, both of Salem, were named to Shenandoah University's President's List, which recognizes full-time students who earn a semester GPA of 3.90 or higher. President's List honorees are also included on the university's Dean's List.

Fox and Hylton were also among Salem students named to Shenandoah University's Dean's List, along with Kameron Brown and Cara Butler. Dean's List recognition is awarded to full-time baccalaureate students who earn a GPA of 3.50 or higher during the semester.

-The Salem Times-Register

RECIPE OF THE WEEK



Shelly Koon

Contributing Writer









COURTESY PHOTOS

I know by now you have heard that all K & W cafeterias have closed for good. I felt bad when we lost the Salem location but knew I could still go to Crossroads and get my cafeteria fix. I always got the German chocolate pie and baked spaghetti. Notice how the dessert is listed first?

I grew up eating at cafeterias. More specifically Franke's Cafeteria in Little Rock Arkansas. A fixture downtown since 1919, both of my parents grew up eating there. Every time we visited my grandparents we had to go to Franke's.

They closed for good in 2020 during the covid pandemic. I remember getting the chocolate cake with fudge icing and mashed potatoes. My mom always got the egg custard pie. My dad liked the eggplant casserole.

I am a great lover of cafeterias. I always liked being able to choose what I wanted to eat instead of what my mom fixed. Cafeterias were fancy places for most regular folks. They had real linen napkins, heavy silverware, carpet in the dining room, chairs with casters. Light music in the background, typical elevator music. The cafeteria was one of the first air-conditioned buildings in town after the movie theater.

Cafeterias used to be abundant. K&W, S&S, S&W, and Morrison's were all in Roanoke at some point in time. I thought going to Morrison's at Valley View Mall was extravagant in 1985.

A cafeteria is a restaurant where instead of first sitting down at a table, you wait in line, grab a tray and roll of silverware, then go down the line a pick and choose what items you want. Often, the traditional way is a la carte pricing. Pick a salad, a protein, couple of side veggies, dessert, roll and butter, a beverage such as sweet tea. Traditionally, you pay before you leave, usually at the end of the line.

Why do we like cafeterias? Unlike a buffet, it is hot and portioned out to you by a server. No strangers touching every piece of chicken or sneezing on the salad's fixings. It is extremely fast. All the food is already made and just portioned out to you. The food follows very traditional recipes and tastes exactly like a quality home cooked meal. So, you see all this delicious food and options but it's not all cold/laid out for big eaters like in a buffet. It's very appealing on a sensory level.

The cafeteria, as we know it today, has roots that trace back to the late 19th century in the United States. Depending on whom you ask, the American cafeteria started in 1885, when a New York self-service restaurant opened, or in 1893, when a Chicago restaurateur named his business a "cafeteria" (Spanish for "coffee shop," though the American version of the term is now in use around the world).

The Industrial Revolution also spurred the cafeteria's growth. A new class of workers had emerged who looked down on bringing steel lunch boxes to work. And unlike the saloons that offered free lunches, cafeterias were open to women.

By the turn of the 20th century, cafeterias started appearing across the United States, especially within large businesses and factories where feeding a mass workforce quickly and economically was essential. This model became particularly popular in the bustling urban centers, where speed and efficiency in dining became as valued as the food itself.

In the 1920s, as the U.S. urban population continued to grow, the cafeteria-style adapted to various environments, including public spaces and educational institutions. Childs Restaurants in 1898 introduced trays and the "tray line," where patrons move along a counter selecting items, becoming a standard model.

Despite facing competition from fast-food outlets and casual dining establishments in the mid-20th century, cafeterias held a unique niche, especially in settings like schools and hospitals, where large, diverse groups needed to be served simultaneously.

If you have never been to a cafeteria outside of school, then you may have to drive to Charlotte, NC and visit Ikea to have the cafeteria experience. The company now estimates that about 30 percent of visitors to its blue and yellow behemoths come solely for the food, which, in addition to its famous Swedish meatballs, includes three meals a day spanning scrambled eggs to salmon filets, chicken meatballs to cappuccinos.

This week's recipes are for some of my favorites. While there is no official K&W cookbook there are recipes online that are very close to those we love to eat.

K&W Copy-cat Baked Spaghetti

Ingredients

- 1 small box uncooked spaghetti
- 1 pound ground beef
- 1 cup chopped onion
- ¾ teaspoon salt
- ¼ teaspoon black pepper
- ½ teaspoon chili powder
- ¾ cup shredded cheddar cheese, divided
- 1 tablespoon Worcestershire sauce
- 1¼ cups ketchup
- 1 tablespoon prepared yellow mustard
- ¾ cup beef stock or broth
- ½ cup shredded mozzarella cheese

Directions

Heat the oven to 350°F. Lightly grease a 2-quart baking dish. Cook the spaghetti according to the package directions. Drain and set aside. In a large skillet over medium heat, cook the ground beef and onion together, breaking up the meat as it browns. When no pink remains, drain off the extra fat. Stir in the salt, pepper, chili powder, about ¼ cup of the cheddar cheese, the Worcestershire sauce, ketchup and mustard. Let this simmer for a few minutes so the flavors come together. Add the beef stock and the cooked spaghetti to the skillet and toss until the pasta is well coated and everything is evenly mixed. Pour the mixture into the baking dish. Sprinkle the top with the remaining cheddar cheese and the mozzarella. Bake 20–30 minutes, until the casserole is hot and bubbly and the cheese on top is lightly browned around the edges.

German Chocolate Pie

Ingredients

- 1 cup sugar
- 1 tbsp cornstarch
- 2 tbsp flour
- 2 tbsp cocoa
- 1 tsp vanilla
- 2 eggs
- 3 tbsp melted butter
- 2/3 cup milk
- 3/4 cup coconut
- 1/2 cup chopped pecans.

Directions

Mix all together and pour into an unbaked 9" pie shell. Bake at 400 degrees for 30 minutes.

Franke's Egg Custard Pie

Ingredients

- 1 cup sugar
- ½ stick butter -softened
- 6 eggs
- 2 pie crusts (or 1 for a Deep-dish pie)
- Pinch of salt 1 tsp ground nutmeg
- 1 tsp vanilla extract
- 2 cups + 2 TBLSP whole milk
- 2- 9" pie pans or 1- 9.5-10" deep dish pie pan

Directions

Preheat oven to 400 degrees. Place pie crust(s) in pie pan(s); do not bake. In a large mixing bowl, cream the butter, sugar and salt. Add 3 eggs and beat for 2 minutes on medium speed. Add 3 more eggs and nutmeg and beat for 2 more minutes. Add vanilla extract and milk and stir in with a spoon. Pour into unbaked pie shell(s) and bake for 8 minutes at 400 degrees. Reduce heat to 275 degrees and cover the pie(s) loosely with aluminum foil to prevent the tip and crust from getting too dark. (Take care the aluminum foil doesn't touch the top of the pie.) Bake for 60 to 70 minutes for deep dish or 45 to 50 minutes for regular pies or until the middle is firm enough to shake (or until a sharp knife inserted in the middle comes out clean). For a darker pie, remove the aluminum foil for 5 to 10 minutes before the pie is done. Allow to cool before serving.

Franke's Scalloped Eggplant Casserole

Ingredients

- 1 large or 2 small eggplants
- ½ teaspoon salt
- Dash black pepper
- 2 cups canned tomatoes well drained
- ½ cup finely chopped onion
- 1 Green pepper, seeded and chopped (optional)
- 2 eggs well beaten
- 2 cups cornbread crumbs
- 2 tablespoons butter or margarine
- Grated cheese (at least 1 cup)

Directions

Peel and cube the eggplant. Cok in water to cover until tender, drain well. Add salt and black pepper; mash the mixture with a potato masher. Mash the tomatoes with the onion and if using the green pepper. Add to the eggplant along with the eggs and cornbread crumbs. Grease a 2-quart casserole with butter or margarine. Pour the eggplant mixture into the casserole dish. Pour in enough milk to cover. Top with grated cheese. Bake at 375 degrees 30-35 minutes.

DAISY

from page 1

adequate and professional care," the sibling wrote. "She demonstrates sweet kindness and love and has throughout the years. She truly shows love to every patient and family member."

The DAISY Award recognizes nurses for extraordinary compassion and clinical excellence. Thompson was commended for consistently bringing a positive attitude, warmth and a bright smile to her work, qualities that left a lasting impression on the veteran's family.

Salem VA officials encouraged the community to join in recognizing Thompson for her devotion to serving veterans, their caregivers and families, noting that her compassion continues to inspire those in her care.

Grants

from page 1





COURTESY PHOTOS

Crew

Virginia Department of Education for recognizing Salem's commitment to this work."

During the grant's first year, 90 schools from 33 divisions were CLSD grant recipients. This year, following a competitive grant process, 106 schools from 27 divisions were provided with the grant awards.

"Virginia is making a clear choice to invest in literacy for every K-12 student," said Emily Anne Gullickson.

Leslie

Superintendent of Public Instruction in Virginia. "Building off of the strong foundation established by the Virginia Literacy Act, these funds will support teachers in using proven reading practices to help every child learn to read and provides resources to families to support reading at home."

-The Salem Times-Register

VDOT ROADWATCH

INTERSTATE 581

INTERSTATE 581 EXIT 2N AT PETERS CREEK ROAD - This $4 million project will re-align and signalize the exit 2N ramp from northbound I-581 to northbound Peters Creek Road. Construction is expected to begin in early 2026 and be completed in late fall 2026.

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.

ROANOKE COUNTY

FRANKLIN STREET CLOSURE - Weather permitting in Roanoke County, there will be road work on a portion of Franklin Street between Route 1396 (Fairway Ridge Road) and the City of Salem line. The work will require a road closure to through traffic from 7 a.m. to 5 p.m. School bus traffic and those who live along the closed section will have access, but may have a few minutes of delay. Drivers should pay attention to signs and message boards for when work will be happening.

ROUTE 11 PEDESTRIAN IMPROVEMENTS – This project has just started on Route 11 (Williamson Road) to add pedestrian safety improvements. A southbound lane closure will be in place on Route 11 (Williamson Road), Monday through Friday, from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. Message boards will alert drivers to traffic impacts.

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.

ROUTE 220 AT CROSSBOW CIRCLE & PHEASANT RIDGE ROAD INTERSECTION IMPROVEMENTS – Construction activities for this project are underway

See **VDOT**, page 5

OPINION

New quiet hours for Silent Book Club at Salem Public Library

Do you love to read and want to join a book club but are nervous about speaking to a group? Or perhaps you have a busy life and need some downtime to enjoy reading uninterrupted. Join us for a morning before the library opens or an after library closes evening of reading quietly at the library on Friday, January 23. This group does not include any discussion questions or sharing about the books. No judgment. No pressure. It is simply a time to sit and read whatever you like in a peaceful, calm environment. Refreshments are provided, but you may bring your own food or drink to enjoy. Choose from two quiet times: 7am to 9am OR 6pm-8pm. Register at salemva.libcal.com

Library Corner

Empowering individuals to build a stronger community
Benita VanCleave

Additional adult book clubs

Wednesday, January 21, 6:30pm. Same Page Book Club; An LGBTQ+ book club. Reader's Choice: Mystery novel.

Thursday, January 22, 6:30pm. End of the World Book Club. Join our horror/sci-fi book club! Each month features a different theme - choose any title you'd like to read and discuss! Dates and themes are listed below. Theme this month is Genetic/body modifications.

Tuesday, January 27, 1pm. Afternoon Book Club: This month's selection is reader's choice of your favorite book from 2025. Bring your favorite book that you read in 2025 to share with the group.

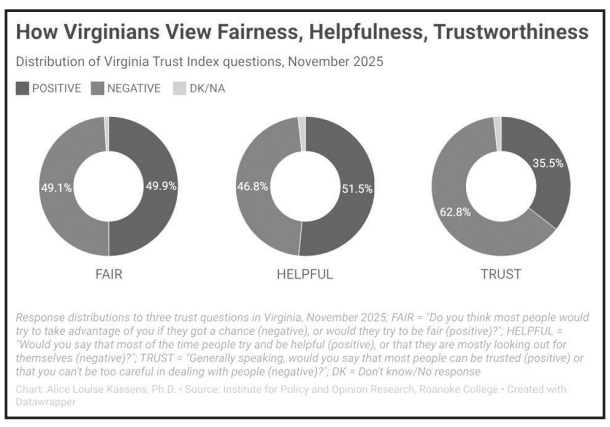
Virginia Trust Index Report: Trust rebounds despite soft consumer sentiment

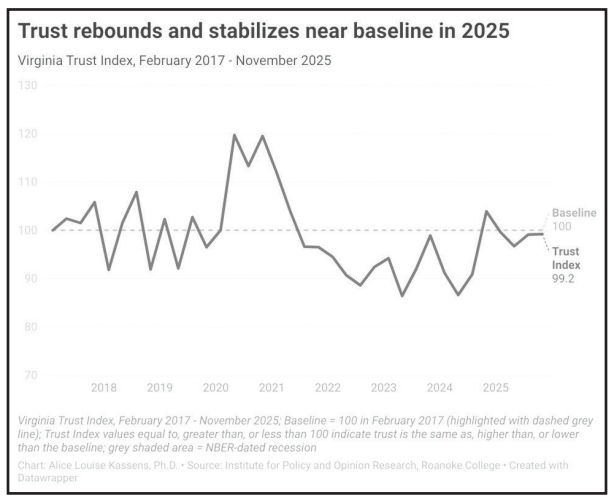
Roanoke College Poll

Trust in Virginia rebounded in 2025, returning close to its longtime baseline after years of pandemic-driven volatility. The Virginia Trust Index averaged 98.7 for the year, signaling stability and confidence among Virginians even as household economic sentiment softened.

This report examines developments in 2025, why trust matters for civic and economic resilience, and how trust compares with other indicators, such as consumer sentiment and unemployment. The Institute for Policy and Opinion Research (IPOR) at Roanoke College conducted quarterly polls of Virginians to measure their level of trust in others.

Trust in Virginia rebounded in 2025 and settled near its long-run baseline after several years of volatility. The Virginia Trust Index averaged 98.7 for the year, up more than five points from 2024, and quarterly readings hovered around 99, signaling stability. This marks a sharp contrast to the pandemic surge in 2020, when trust spiked to historic highs, and the subsequent decline through mid-2023. By 2025, trust appears to have re-anchored, even as household economic sentiment softened.





COURTESY IMAGES

Why is social trust important?

Social trust, the belief that others are fair, helpful and trustworthy, is more than a feel-good metric. Research consistently shows that higher trust reduces friction in everyday transactions, strengthens democratic institutions and supports economic growth. When trust erodes, polarization deepens, compromise becomes more difficult and productivity declines. In Virginia, the return to near-baseline trust suggests communities are regaining confidence in one another, a positive sign for civic and economic resilience.

The story becomes even more interesting when compared to consumer sentiment. While trust stabilized, household economic sentiment fell in 2025, reflecting caution about prices and the economic outlook. This divergence highlights that trust and sentiment are not interchangeable. Sentiment responds quickly to visible costs, especially gas and food, whereas trust reflects deeper social norms that change more slowly. When we examined the data, trust remained an important signal even after accounting for unemployment and price changes. In fact, the strongest downward pressure on sentiment came from rising gas prices, while trust held steady, reinforcing that social cohesion is not simply a byproduct of short-term economic conditions.

Looking at the components of trust, November 2025 survey responses show that about half of Virginians believe most people try to be fair or helpful, but only about one-third say most people can be trusted. This gap, which is the norm in Virginia, mirrors national patterns and underscores that generalized trust, the broad confidence in strangers, remains harder to build and maintain than confidence in fairness or helpfulness.

Analysis

"Building and maintaining trust pays dividends," said Dr. Alice Kassens, senior analyst at IPOR. "Communities with higher trust experience lower transaction costs, more efficient governance and greater resilience during crises. As Virginia navigates future business cycles, maintaining trust near or above its baseline should be a pragmatic goal for policymakers, businesses and civic leaders. While prices and economic sentiment will continue to fluctuate, trust offers a stabilizing force that supports cooperation and long-term growth."

-Conducted by the Institute for Policy and Opinion Research at Roanoke College

Salem Times~Register

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Cline-backed transparency bill advances to House floor

Legislation sponsored by Rep. Ben Cline, R-Va., that would require greater transparency in federal regulatory settlements advanced to the House floor this week.

The House Judiciary Committee voted Jan. 8 to advance the Sunshine for Regulatory Decrees and Settlements Act of 2025, which aims to increase public oversight of consent decrees and settlement agreements entered into by federal agencies.

Cline said the bill is intended to prevent major regulatory changes from being made through lawsuits negotiated behind closed doors, without public participation.

"The American people should never be shut out of decisions that reshape federal policy," Cline said in a statement. "This legislation ensures these agreements are opened to public notice, comment, and meaningful judicial review, giving taxpayers, workers, and small businesses the opportunity to be heard."

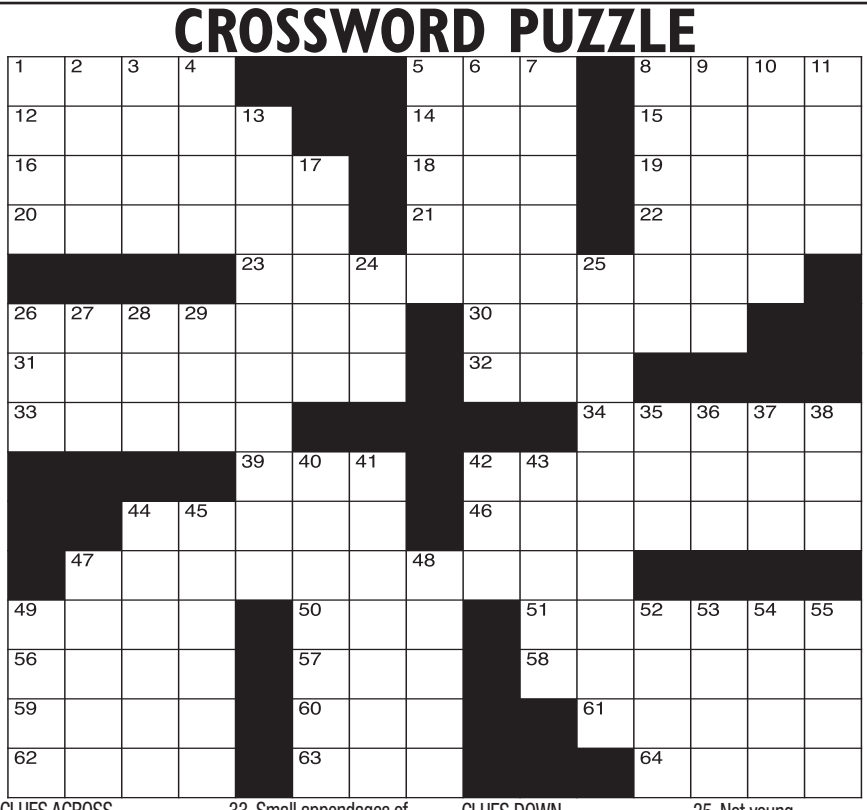
According to Cline's office, the measure would require federal agencies to provide public notice and allow comment on proposed settlements, strengthen judicial review of consent decrees, require certification by agency heads that agreements serve the public interest, and mandate detailed reporting to Congress.

Supporters of the legislation argue that activist groups have used litigation to pressure agencies into broad regulatory changes without going through the traditional rulemaking process, limiting input from affected industries and the public.

Cline represents Virginia's 6th Congressional District, which includes parts of the Roanoke Valley, Shenandoah Valley and Southwest Virginia.

-The Salem Times-Register

CROSSWORD PUZZLE



CLUES ACROSS
1. Requests
5. Calendar month
8. Invests in little enterprises
12. Bird sound
14. S. American plant cultivated for tubers
15. Car
16. Bullfighter
18. Hill (Celtic)
19. Strong criticism
20. Detector
21. When you hope to get there
22. Having the skill to do something
23. Legendary MLB broadcaster
26. Vulcanite
30. C. Asian mountain range
31. In a way, healed
32. Midway between east and southeast
33. Small appendages of insects
34. __ Greene, "Bonanza" actor
39. A place to bathe
42. Postal worker accessory
44. Classical music
46. A way of wrecking
47. Terminator
49. You eat three a day
50. Pointed end of a pen
51. NATO official (abbr.)
56. Genus of clams
57. Boxing's "G.O.A.T."
58. A colorless, odorless gas used as fuel
59. Covered thinly with gold paint
60. Bachelor of Laws
61. Red fluorescent dye
62. Engineering group
63. Female sibling
64. Adjacent

CLUES DOWN
1. What a thespian does
2. Footwear
3. Adjust spacing between
4. Witnesses
5. Who shows excessive fondness
6. Distinct form of a plant
7. National capital
8. Hunting expedition
9. Related to medulla oblongata
10. European country
11. Cola
13. Excluded from use or mention
17. Speak
24. Bloodshot
25. Make better
26. Keyboard key
27. Type of degree
28. Paddle
29. Peacock network
35. Not young
36. Baseball stat
37. One's grandmother
38. Breakfast food
40. Bathroom features
41. Disease-causing bacterium
42. NY ballplayer
43. Got up
44. Prophet
45. Part of the mouth
47. Unnatural
48. Acronym for brain science study
49. Three are famous
52. Languages spoken in Patagonia
53. Freedom from difficulty
54. Widely used OS
55. Many people pay it

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VDOT from page 3

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.

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

ROUTE 11 LANE SHIFT AND CLOSURE -Drivers should expect several impacts to Route 11 for various projects that are underway.

• Route 11 northbound will have an outside lane closure between Route 772 and the I-81 ramp from through January 2026 for fiber installation.

• Route 11 southbound will have a lane shift between Route 838 (Vista Drive) and Route 1007 (Bryant Road) for construction of a temporary construction entrance through January 2026.

MONTGOMERY COUNTY

ROUTE 460 BUSINESS PEDESTRIAN IMPROVEMENT PROJECT – Work is underway on a pedestrian improvement project for Route 460 Business between the intersection of Route 460 and Laurel Street (Entrance to Walmart) and to the intersection with Spradlin Farm Drive. Drivers can expect lane closures in the eastbound and westbound lanes from 9 a.m. and 4 p.m. and 7 p.m. to 6 a.m. the following morning. Closures of turn lanes onto 460 Business from each side of the intersection with Laurel Street may also be in place. Message boards will alert traffic. Expected completion is Summer 2026.

• LANE CLOSURES: Nighttime lane closures including left hand turn lanes may be in place on the eastbound side of North Franklin may be in place 7 p.m. to 6 a.m. the following morning. These closures will also involve restricting turn lane access from Pepper's Ferry Road through the signaled intersection.

ROUTE 8 PARK AND RIDE PROJECT – Work is underway to build a park and ride lot on Route 8 near the entrance/exit to I-81 at mile marker 114. This project will include a parking structure, bus shelter, as well as road and pedestrian improvements for adjoining streets. Traffic impacts will include alternating lane closures on Route 8 between Mud Pike Road and the entrance/exit ramps for I-81 at MM 114 and shoulder and single lane closures with flagging operations on Route 666 (Mud Pike Road) at the intersection with Moose Drive and between the intersections of Mud Pike Road and College Street except during peak hours, Monday through Friday. Expected completion is winter 2027.

• TRAFFIC SHIFT: Traffic shifts may be in place on Route 666 (Mud Pike Road). Drivers should use caution.

• PAVING: Alternating single lane closures along Route 8 is possible for paving, weather permitting.

• LANE CLOSURES: There will be temporary lane closures in place in the following location19

o Eastbound lane and turn lane on Mud Pike Road may be closed.

o Northbound right turn lane at traffic light on Route 8 may be closed.

o Right turn lane at traffic light on Moose Drive onto Route 8 may be closed.

o Right turn lane from Route 8 into service station may be closed.

RCPS launches free telehealth counseling service for students and families

Aila Boyd
aboyd@mainstreetnewspapers.com

Roanoke County Public Schools has launched "Let's Talk," a new free telehealth counseling service available to elementary, middle and high school students and their families.

Through the program, families can receive up to five free counseling sessions to address issues such as relationships, stress, anxiety or depression, grief or loss, and other difficult life situations.

District officials said the service is designed to help address a shortage of licensed mental health counselors in the Roanoke Valley due to high demand. Let's Talk connects students and families with counseling support through virtual sessions, helping reduce barriers such as transportation and scheduling.

"This program will support students and families through direct counseling, prevention, and early intervention services delivered by a contracted mental telehealth provider," said Dr. Shawn Hughes, director of school counseling for Roanoke County Public Schools. "We're working to improve access to care by reducing barriers such as transportation and scheduling challenges, supporting early identification and intervention for mental health concerns, and fostering a more supportive and responsive school environment that promotes wellness and academic success."

The Let's Talk service is powered by Gaggle Therapy and funded through a grant from the Virginia Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Services.

Families can schedule a counseling session by visiting the Let's Talk webpage at www.rcps.us/letstalk.

Let's Talk is one of several mental health support services offered by the school division. For several years, the district has provided SpeakUp, an anonymous phone, text and email reporting system that allows students and parents to share concerns related to safety, bullying or a student's mental health. Reports can be made by calling or texting 540-595-0706 or emailing speakup@student.rcps.us.

At the start of the 2025-26 school year, the district also launched ReachOut, a 24/7 mental health support and crisis line for middle and high school students and parents. The ReachOut line provides immediate assistance for urgent issues, including emotional support, grief or loss, and suicidal ideation. Students and parents can call or text 540-405-6650 for support.

Since 2018, every middle and high school in Roanoke County Public Schools has had a dedicated licensed mental health professional, known as a LIFE counselor. These counselors provide individual and group counseling, as well as education on approved mental health, trauma and substance-related topics for students, staff and parents.

In addition, every school in the division has one or more school counselors who provide academic and mental health support and guidance to promote students' educational, career and personal development.

Salem-Times Register

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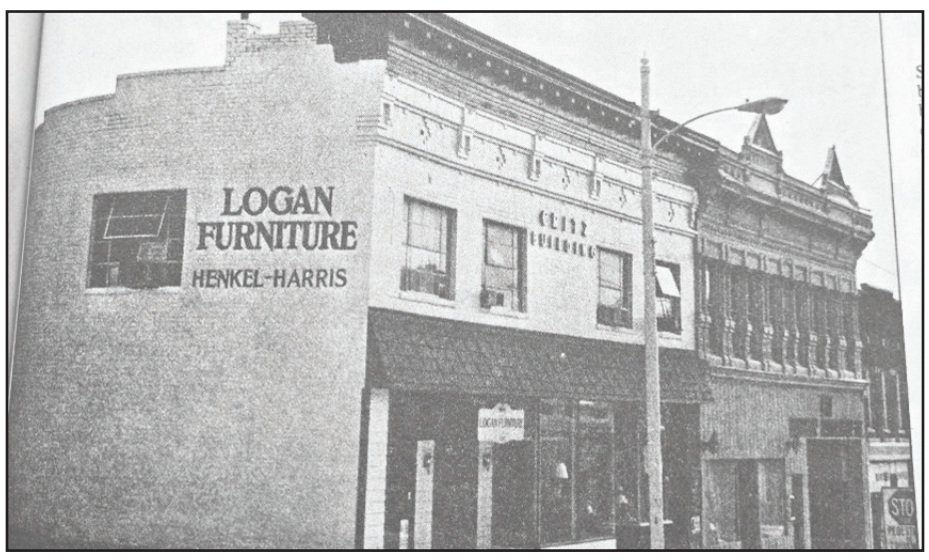
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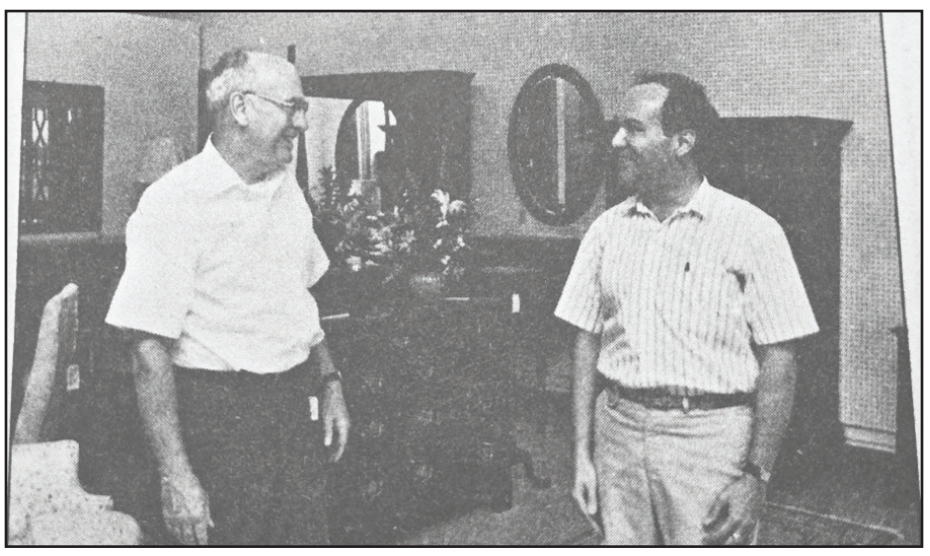
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FROM THE ARCHIVES

Logan Furniture Co. brings fresh look to downtown store





FROM THE TIMES-REGISTER ARCHIVES

By Robert Downey, Staff Writer

From the July 25, 1985 edition of The Salem Times-Register

The mention of Main Street in Salem might bring visions of empty buildings and parking lots to many, but to Bob Logan it has meant an opportunity to express a commitment to other Salem Merchants.

After extensive interior and exterior renovations to the building which housed the old Eagle Store downtown, Logan has moved his furniture business there from College Avenue.

Now called "Logan's Furniture", the business began as the "Furniture Mart" when it was opened by the late Henry Stokes in 1946.

Logan purchased the firm in 1978, and in 1983, he changed the name.

Earlier this year, Logan's son, Rob, expressed a desire to join the prospering family business.

A need for more room prompted the expenditure of about $14,000 to completely remodel the front of the vacant downtown store, and to paint the interior. Moveable partitions have been installed to create room "areas" for displaying furniture.

"This building was just ideal," Bob Logan said, and his son quickly added, "It gave us an opportunity to fill one of the holes on Main Street."

Logan's Furniture is best known for its high-quality Henkel-Harris furniture and its American antiques. Now that the expansion is complete, the Logans have added pine and oak country furniture, oriental rugs, lamps, and bedding.

"We sell strictly high-quality furniture, which gives us the best possible clientele," says the elder Logan. "Our customers are very happy with what they buy and we have no problems with merchandise."

Rob Logan added, "Our business is such that our clients are spread out—Roanoke City and County, The New River Valley and other areas as well as Salem."

Other merchants on Main Street are happy with their new neighbors. Dennis West of the West Heritage Store said, "They've made a real effort to represent their business and to brighten the downtown area. More businesses will benefit all of us in downtown.

Cindy Menefee of Salem Office Supply agreed. "From the outside, the store looks real nice…they have done a lot for the block." She added, "We wish we could someone in the Newberry's building."

The Logans plan to stay downtown. "Our family has been rooted in Salem for a longtime. We have no desire to leave, "Rob Logan said.

-Prepared by Shelly Koon

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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 Worship11:00 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 10:00 AM, Worship Services 11:00AM & 6:00PM, Mid-week Prayer Meeting Wednesday 7:00PM, www.templebaptch.com.

BAPTIST (SOUTHERN)

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

MOUNTAIN PASS BAPTIST CHURCH - 311 Catawba Valley Dr., (Ro. Co.) Salem, VA 24153. Rev.Jack Richards, Jr., Pastor, Study 384-6720, Home 427-1508. 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, 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 9:30 AM, Sunday Morning Worship Service11:00 AM, Wednesday Bible Study and PrayerMeeting 7:00 PM.

SHILOH BAPTIST- 201 South Market Street, Salem, Rev. Adrian E. Dowell, H) (389-0409). Sunday School at 8:30 a.m. (All classes) via zoom and conference call line. Wednesday Adult Bible Study at 7:00 p.m. in person for adults, children and teens. Adult class is also streamed on Facebook. Men's Bible Study Saturday at 7:00 a.m.(Zoom). Saturday 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.

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Public Sale

Notice of Public Sale

Notice is hereby given that LocalStorage Blue Ridge will sell the contents of the storage units listed below at a public auction to satisfy a lien placed on the contents (pursuant to Virginia Self Storage Act § 55.1-2900 through § 55.1-2906). The sale will take place at the website http://www.StorageTreasures.com. The sale will be conducted on http://www.StorageTreasures.com, under the guidance of Christopher Rosa (AU005857) on behalf of the facility's management. Units will be available for viewing prior to the sale on http://www.StorageTreasures.com. All sales are final. Seller reserves the right to withdraw the property at any time before the sale or to refuse any bids. The property to be sold is described as general household items unless otherwise noted.

LocalStorage Blue Ridge, 3579 Blue Ridge Boulevard, Blue Ridge, VA 24064, will list storage units on the website http://www.StorageTreasures.com until sold or disposed of on January 29, 2026, at 10:00 AM.
Units:
#102 Anthony Edwards,
#227 Judith Smith

Legals - Botetourt County

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

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

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

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

Legals - 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.

ABC NOTICE

THEM BEARCATS INC. trading as FEATHER BONE PROVISIONS & ASSEMBLY, 4237 Prices Fork Road, Suite A, Blacksburg, Montgomery County, VA 24060.

The above establishment is applying to the VIRGINIA ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGE CONTROL (ABC) AUTHORITY for a Restaurant with Caterer license to sell or manufacture alcoholic beverages.

Matthew Boling
Kasey Garito-Reighley
OWNER

NOTE: 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

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

Legals - Montgomery County

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 that the Board of Supervisors hereby schedules a public hearing for Monday, January 26, 2026 at 7:15 pm or as soon thereafter, at the Montgomery County Government Center, 755 Roanoke Street, Christiansburg, Virginia, in order to receive citizen comments on the Board of Supervisors intent to adopt a resolution amending the FY 2025-2026 budget by more than one percent of the total expenditures shown in the currently adopted budget by appropriating the Christiansburg High School Capital Bond Interest proceeds in the amount of $5,095,650 to the Montgomery County Public School Capital Improvement Budget and any additional county general appropriations, as needed, not to exceed $1,000,000.

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

New River Valley HOME Consortium/Town of Blacksburg Substantial Amendment to HOME ARP Allocation Plan

Notice of Public Comment

In accordance with guidelines established by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD), the New River Valley HOME Consortium/Town of Blacksburg seeks public comment on the proposed amendment to the 2020 HOME ARP Allocation Plan. The purpose of HOME-ARP is to provide homelessness assistance and supportive services to qualifying populations through several eligible activities. The approved 2020 HOME ARP Allocation Plan designated that the funding allocation would be used to support the development of affordable housing for these populations. This Substantial Amendment includes the following changes to the original, approved plan:

Change in funding allocation from $2,161,332 to $2,164,582

The designation of a Preference for program participation by persons from Qualifying Populations who have been diagnosed with a serious mental illness.

The adoption of Coordinated Entry as the referral method for the project.

Members of the public are invited to comment on the draft amendment to the plan during the 30-day public comment period of 1/14/26–2/12/26. In-person comments will be received at a public meeting on 1/30/26 from 10 – 11 am at the offices of the Town of Blacksburg Housing and Community Connections, 104 Draper Road SW, Blacksburg. The draft Plan can be viewed and comments entered on the Town of Blacksburg's website at https://www.blacksburg.gov/departments/departments-a-k/housing-and-neighborhood-services. Comments may also be given via e-mail to: housing@blacksburg.gov , by phone at (540) 443-1613, by mail to Town of Blacksburg Housing and Community Connections, 300 South Main St. Blacksburg, VA 24060 or in person at the scheduled public meeting. Accommodations for people with disabilities and non-English speaking residents will be provided upon request. For additional information, please call (540) 443-1613.

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 AMERCIANS 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.

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Spartans finish second in Big Orange, small GHS team is 10th

Salem finished second and a limited Glenvar team took 10th in the annual Big Orange Classic wrestling tournament at William Byrd High School last weekend. Independence High was the team winner among 26 schools entered.

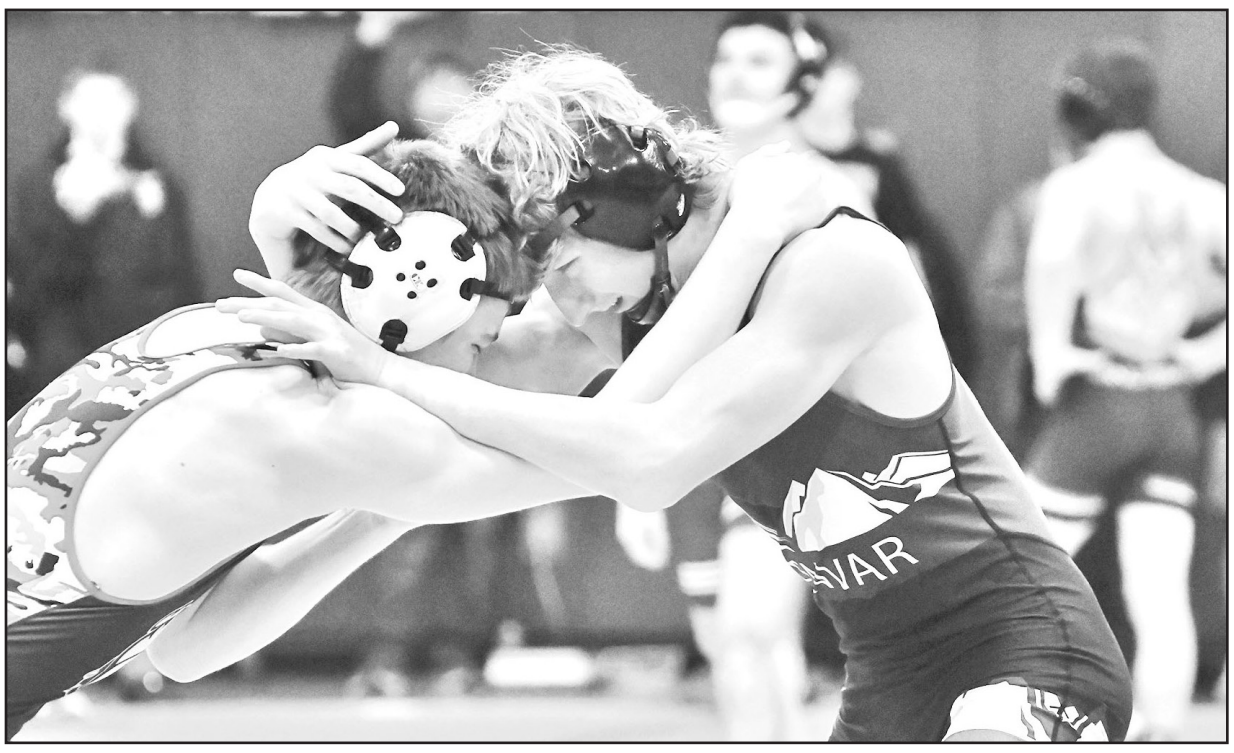
Salem scored 193 points and had three champions, finishing just seven points behind Independence. Glenvar had two champions and 110.5 points.

Winning Big Orange championships for the Spartans were Derek Bush at 120, Jay Preston at 215 and James James at 285. James' teammate Robert Herndon was second at 285, while Anthony Baudanza was runnerup at 132. Other Spartans to score included Kolynn Eastmas with a fourth at 126, Tolin Saul with a fourth at 165, and Giuseppe Baudanza with a fifth at 138.

"Big weekend in Vinton," said Salem coach Lawrence Van Liew. "We had several guys out ill but battled all weekend."

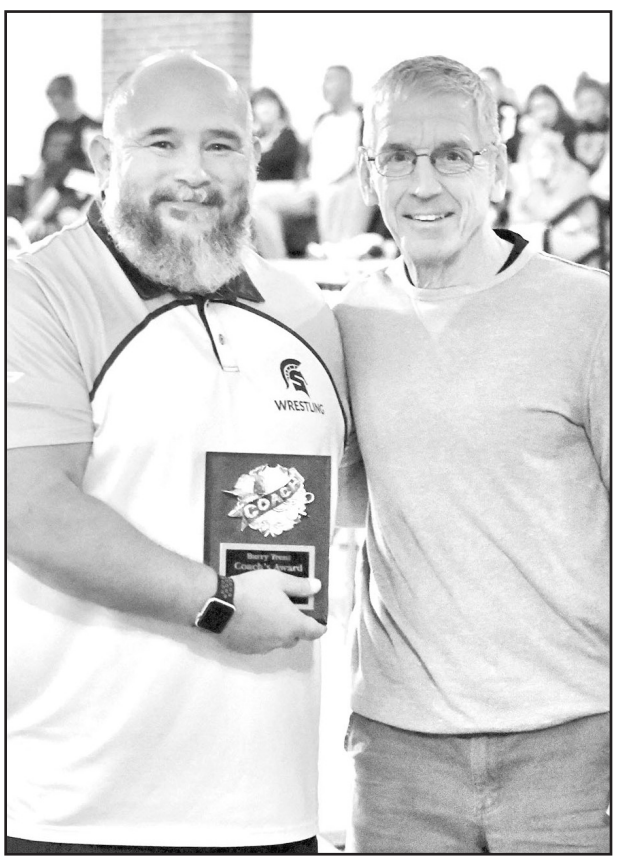
Glenvar had just eight wrestlers competing but still managed to finish in the top 10 thanks some strong performances. Jack Yetzer and Levi Wright took Big Orange championships at 106 and 144 while John Vishneski was third at 165 and Nick Yetzer was fourth at 113.

This weekend both Salem and Glenvar are scheduled to wrestle in the Big Blue in Christiansburg.



PHOTOS BY SUZANNE WITCHER

Above, Glenvar's John Vishneski(right in photo) battles to a third place finish in last weekend's Big Orange Classic tournament in Vinton. Below, Salem's Derek Bush(left in photo) has a hold on Lord Botetourt's Jackson Dean in the 120 pound final, won by Bush. Below left, Salem coach Lawrence Van Liew(left in photo) is presented the tournament's "Barry Trent Coaches Award," and it was presented by Barry Trent himself.





Maroon wrestlers defeat top ranked Division III teams

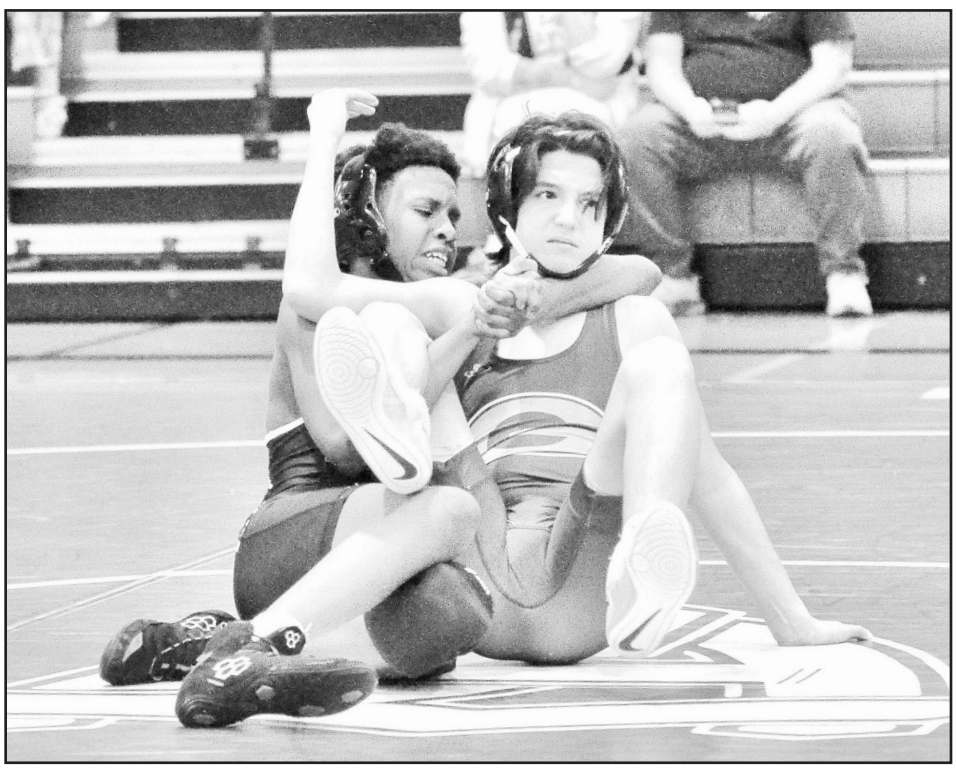
The nationally ranked Roanoke College wrestling team defeated the top two teams in the nation Saturday to win the NWCA/USMC Multi-Division National Dual Meet Championships, hosted by the University of Northern Iowa.

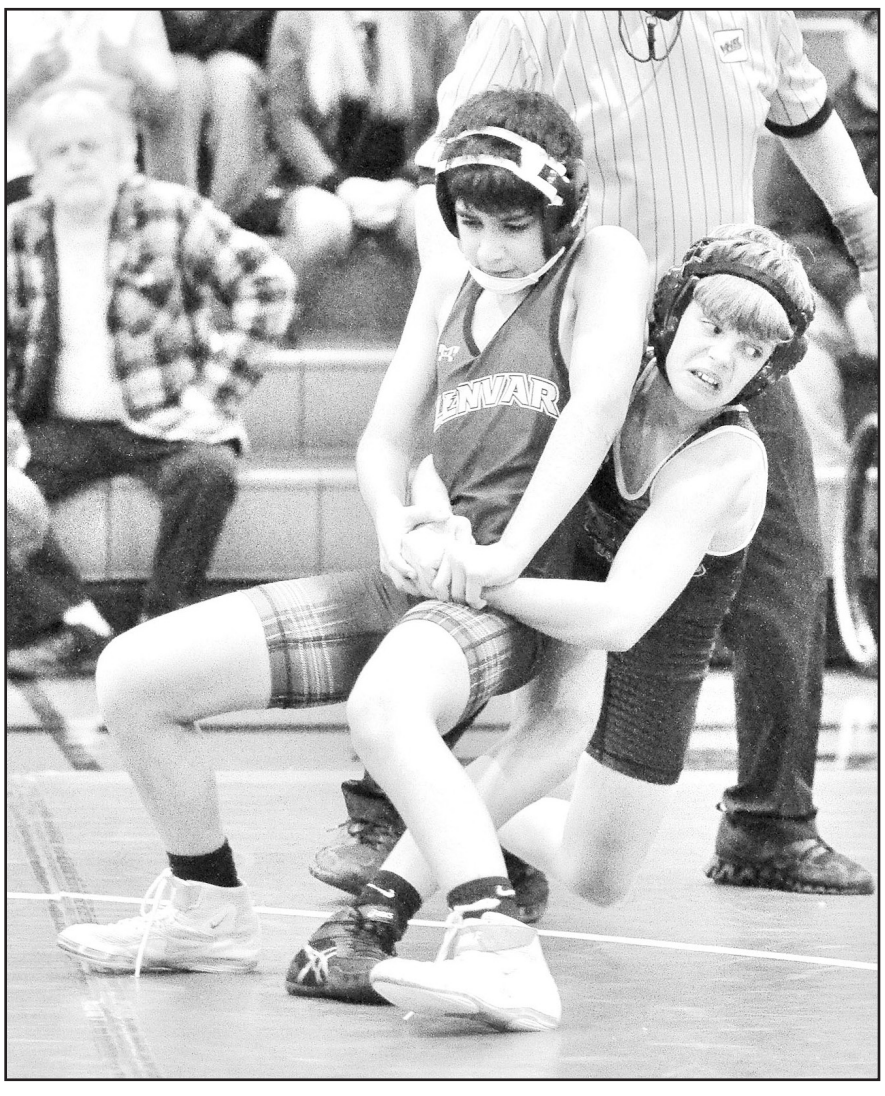
After two wins against ranked opponents Friday, the sixth ranked Maroons downed second ranked Augsburg, 23-11, in the semifinals. RC led just 9-8 against number one Wartburg in the finals after five of the 10 matches, but Cade Parent (7-5) at 165 pounds and Xavier Preston (18-7) at 174 scored important victories to push the lead to 16-8. Hunter Moore's 8-5 win at 197 sealed the dual match victory and the team championship.

Roanoke is just one of two schools to have won this event besides Augsburg or Wartburg since 2002, when it originated. Augsburg or Wartburg has won this event every year since aside from 2022 when UW-La Crosse won it. Augsburg and Wartburg both withdrew due to Covid results that year and the 2021 event was canceled due to the pandemic.

Mac Cafurello opened both matches with victories at 125 pounds, including a technical fall in the semifinals. Defending national champion Mark Samuel was challenged in both contests at 141 but came out on top 4-1 against Augsburg and 5-2 in a sudden victory session against Wartburg. Preston won both of his matches Saturday, including a 10-4 win in the semifinals, and Moore also won his earlier match 12-9 in sudden victory.

The Maroons (10-0) return to Old Dominion Athletic Conference tonight, Thursday, traveling to Shenandoah University for a 7 pm start.





Lewis and GMS battle on the mats

Andrew Lewis and Glenvar Middle Schools met on the wrestling mats at Lewis last week with the host Wolverines taking a 69-21 win. Above, Bryce Parker of Lewis has a neck hold on Glenvar's Ikey Clinevell. Right, Jacob Palleria of Lewis(right in photo) tries to pull Glenvar's Mohammad Neyazi to the mat. This Saturday both teams will be competing in the annual Norsemen Invitational at Northside Middle School. The first whistle is scheduled for 9 am and most of the area middle school teams are scheduled to attend.

PHOTOS BY BRIAN HOFFMAN

Adam Ward Classic basketball is looking for sponsors

The Adam Ward Classic basketball committee is look for sponsors for the annual event, which is scheduled for February 6 and 7 in Salem.

Since 2016, Salem High School, the Western Virginia Basketball Officials Association, and the City of Salem have joined forces to honor the memory of Adam Ward by hosting a basketball classic in his honor. Adam was tragically killed on August 26, 2015, while working as a photojournalist for WDBJ7. The 2007 Salem High School alumnus, who graduated from Virginia Tech in 2011, played football at Salem High School and was an avid fan and supporter of all types of athletic events his entire life.

"Adam Ward personified the true meaning of a student-athlete," said Grant Smythers, Salem High School teacher and tournament co-founder. "He was a huge sports fan, who loved high school basketball, and the Adam Ward Basketball Classic will highlight some of the best teams in the state of Virginia each season."

The event is being sponsored by various businesses and organizations throughout the Roanoke Valley. The majority of the proceeds from the event will go to the Adam Ward Scholarship Fund that is administered by the Salem Educational Foundation and Alumni Association. To date, the Adam Ward Classic has contributed over $130,000 dollars to the Adam Ward Scholarship Fund. In addition, the Adam Ward Classic Committee will be making donations to the Make a Wish Foundation and the Special Olympics in Adam's honor.

"The money generated from this event will provide scholarship opportunities for high school students who were deemed Adam-like during their high school careers," said Smythers. "Salem High School is honored to host such a worthy event for such a special young man."

The Salem Parks and Recreation Department, under the leadership of John Shaner, has served as the title sponsor for our event each season. In addition, the Western Virginia Basketball Officials Association, which has a track record for supporting charitable causes, has been instrumental in making the event a success each year.

"This is a great way to honor Adam Ward's memory, as well as all of the others who have been touched and affected by his passing, and I think Adam would be pleased we are doing this through the game of basketball," Commissioner Jerry Spangler said.

To learn more about sponsorship or scholarship opportunities, please contact: Grant Smythers gsmythers@salem.k12.va.us, Hank Luton HankLuton@gmail.com, Jerry Spangler jspangler1129@gmail.com, Drew Barrett dbarrett@salem.k12.va.us, Chris Williams cjpdubya@gmail.com.

Sponsorship Opportunities:

Gold ($1,000) - event banner, in game recognition, logo on shooting shirts , 6 admission tickets.

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Bronze - ($250) - in game recognition, 2 tickets.

All sponsors will be shared via numerous social media accounts as well.



PHOTO BY BRIAN HOFFMAN

E&H Bound **Glenvar senior distance runner Tyler Davis has announced his intention to attend Emory & Henry University to continue his education and compete in track and cross country. Tyler signed a letter of intent at the high school gym last week in front of family, teammates and friends. Left to right are Tyler's brother, Zachary Davis, mother Lee Davis, Tyler, father Ronnie Davis and cross country coach James Osborne.**

Highlanders, Spartans compete in indoor meets

The Glenvar and Salem indoor track teams were back on the oval and pits last weekend as Glenvar attended the Liberty Premier Invitational at Liberty University in Lynchburg and the Spartans were in Salem at the East Coast Elite "Pajama Invitational" at Roanoke College.

Glenvar's Joey Loder had an outstanding day of competition in Lynchburg. He took second place overall in the boys 55 hurdles, breaking his own school record with a new PR of 7.53. Joey also came in 10th out of 173 athletes in the boys 300 dash, breaking the school record held by Colby Thompson with a new PR of 35.73. Joey is now 21st in the nation with his time in the 55 hurdles.

The GHS girls' 4x800 team of Anna Hall, Lauren Smith, Kailee McDonald and Rayya Bryson stepped onto the track for the first time this season and qualified for states, taking seventh overall with a time of 10:55.73.

"This meet was a strong turnout of nearly 1,500 athletes, with many high-quality performances," said Glenvar coach Bekka Loder. "This caliber of meet helps set the tone for our athletes to push themselves to a higher level. We had seven athletes set new PRs and two new school records."

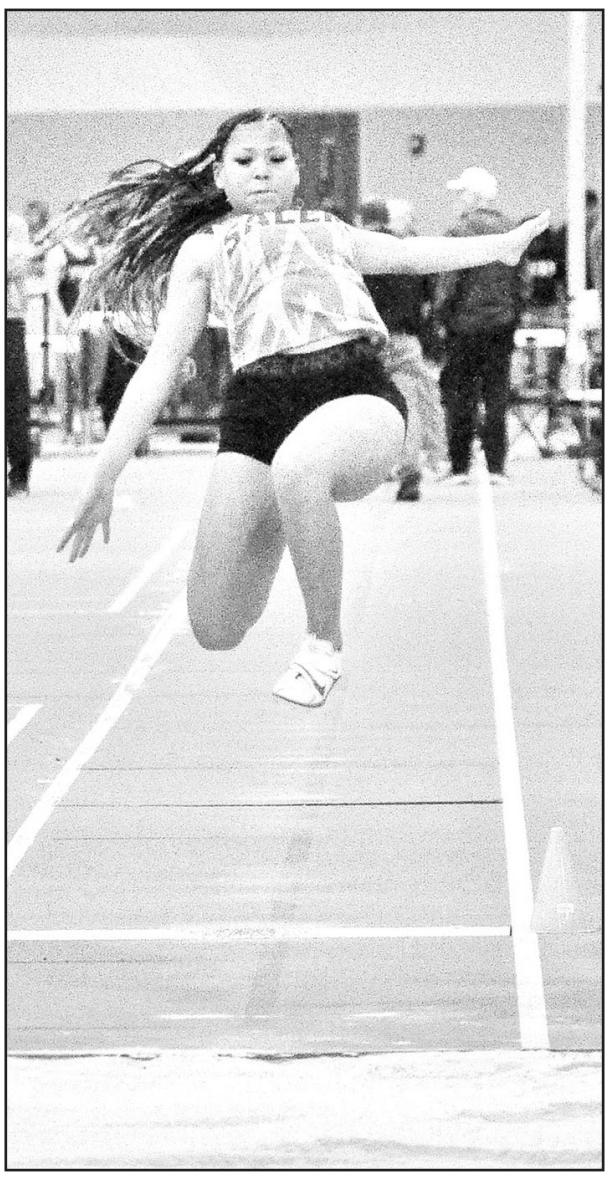
At RC the Salem boys' 4x200 relay team of DeVon Jones, Nicolas Baxley, Tristen Noel and Aedon Wiley took first place and the 4x400 relay team with the same four Spartans was second. Jones was second in the 1,000 hurdles while John Stovall and Austin Prosser took second and third in the 1,000 meter run. The boys 4x800 relay of Grant Horner, Thomas Scharp, Stovall and Prosser was fourth.

For the girls, Audrey Harmon, McKenzie Eversole, Olivia Huff and Alayah Copney combined to take a fourth in the 4x400 relay. Harmon was sixth in the 500 dash.

The Spartans and Highlanders will be at Liberty University this Saturday for the Walt Bass High School Invitational and Glenvar will also send athletes to the Virginia Showcase meet in Virginia Beach.



The Glenvar girls 4x800 relay team. Left to right; Anna Hall, Lauren Smith, Kailee McDonald and Rayya Bryson. PHOTO COURTESY GHS TRACK



Kaylin Ross long jumps for Salem at last Saturday's indoor meet at Roanoke College. PHOTO BY BRIAN HOFFMAN

GLENVAR BOYS BASKETBALL

continued from page 12

Last Friday at home the Highlanders pulled away from James River for a 64-46 win. The game was close early but the Highlanders went on a run in the second quarter and never gave up the lead.

"We played well in spurts and made enough shots to keep them at bay," said Luton. "I'm proud of our defensive effort against their methodical style. It was a good district win against a well-coached James River team. Ethan Humphries is one of the top coaches in our area, they are always prepared."

Glenvar had three players in double figures, led by Francisco with 19. Landen Rakes had 14 points and Doolan had a bakers' dozen. Luton also had praise for Evan Harris.

"Evan made some great decisions in the second half, finding some driving lanes and kicking to shooters, namely Ryder Francisco who hit some big shots," he said.

Glenvar has the second game of a back-to-back at Patrick County on Friday night. Then they won't play again until Wednesday, January 21, at William Byrd.



PHOTO BY KYMN DAVIDSON-HAMLEY

Gabby Crawley scores in Friday's win in Christiansburg.

Salem girls hoops

cont. from pg 12

The Spartans were at Franklin County for a non-district game on Wednesday, but results were too late for publication. They'll be home to Pulaski on Friday, then they're off until next Wednesday, January 21, when they play Lord Botetourt in a non-district game in Daleville.



PHOTO BY LEIGH DOWNEY

Glenvar's Raegan Duncan handles the ball against James River last Friday.

GHS girls still looking for a win

The Glenvar girls are still looking for a win. The Highlanders saw their four season losing streak reach 51 games Tuesday with a 67-23 loss to Radford at Glenvar High.

Audrey Moles led Glenvar in scoring against Radford and Grace Fiedler had seven.

Last Friday in Buchanan the Highlanders dropped a 52-32 decision to host James River. River jumped to a 15-5 lead after the first quarter and the Highlanders never got the lead back under 10.

"We struggled to get back into a flow offensively," said coach Cheryl Hayes.

Fiedler led Glenvar with 12 points while Raegan Duncan, Halie Watkins and Moles all chipped in a half dozen.

The Highlanders, now 0-9, will be at Martinsville for a Three Rivers District game tonight. On Friday they host Patrick County and next Monday the girls are home to Craig County. The Rockets beat Glenvar the first time around but Craig has lost four in a row and could be ripe for an upset against a Highlander team hungry for a win.

RC MEN'S BASKETBALL

continued from page 12

kicked out to Jackson Bell he had a shot at the buzzer at the foul line extended that came up short as the buzzer sounded.

Gavin O'Malley paced Roanoke with 17 points and six rebounds. Morgan recorded a double double of 11 points and 10 rebounds while battling foul trouble, Bell had 11 points and Porter Stanley had 10 points and five rebounds.

With the loss the Maroons, who came into the game ranked 15th, fell to 9-4 overall and 2-2 in the ODAC while W&L improved to 11-2 overall and 3-1 in the conference. Virginia Wesleyan leads the conference with a 3-0 ODAC mark while Randolph-Macon and Lynchburg are both 4-1 and Hampden-Sydney is tied with W&L at 3-1 as of Tuesday this week. Averett is 2-1 after beating Randolph-Macon last week, 62-60, for the Yellow Jackets' first loss of the season.

The Maroons have another big week as Hampden-Sydney was scheduled to be here Wednesday followed by a trip to Virginia Beach Saturday to take on first place Virginia Wesleyan at 2 pm.

Roanoke College women get ODAC win

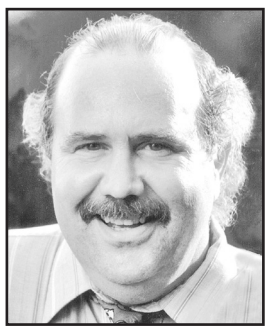
Roanoke College junior Ashley Fowler put up a career high 24 points as the Roanoke College women's basketball team defeated Eastern Mennonite for their first ODAC win of the season Saturday. The Maroons beat the Royals, 70-54, at the Cregger Center in Salem.

Roanoke came out firing in the third quarter, putting up 12 unanswered points at the outset. The Maroons ended the quarter with a 23-8 scoring advantage to make the score 52-34 going into the final 10 minutes. The bench kept the momentum going in the fourth to finish out the game and earn RC their first ODAC win of the season.

Fowler went nine-for-13 from the field and six-for-nine from three point range to record a new career high of 24 points. It is the first time since November 2023 that a Maroon has recorded 24 or more points in a single game. Ashley has now surpassed her overall point total from last season in just 13 games this year. Paige Breuer also had double figures with 10 points and Alicea Faramer had a dozen rebounds.

With the win the Maroons improved to 7-6 overall. They were scheduled to play Averett in Danville Wednesday and this Saturday they're in Virginia Beach to play the second game of a doubleheader with the RC and Virginia Wesleyan men. Tip-off time for the women is 4:30 pm.

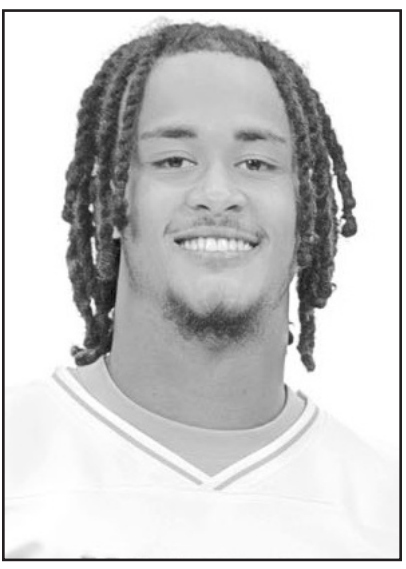
Brian Hoffman



Changing Oranges

Salem's Peyton Lewis is changing shades of orange. Peyton has turned in his Tennessee orange attire for the orange of the University of Virginia.

Peyton, a high school football All-American as a senior on the 2023 state runner-up Salem High football team, has committed to the UVA football team after two years at UT. He entered the transfer portal in late December and last week announced he'd be taking is talents to Charlottesville.



PEYTON LEWIS

"The main reason is playing time," said Lewis. "I wanted to get the opportunity to get more carries. I didn't feel like Tennessee was optimizing my talent."

In two seasons in Knoxville Peyton played in 23 games and rushed 134 times, an average of just under six touches per game. He ran for 629 yards, averaging 4.7 yards per attempt, and scored 10 touchdowns. He also had eight pass receptions for 56 total yards and 13 kick returns, averaging 21.5 yards per return.

As a freshman he played behind Dylan Sampson, who is now a running back for the Cleveland Browns. This past season Peyton's 70 carries were third on the team behind 182 for redshirt-sophomore DeSean Bishop and 104 for senior Star Thomas.

Lewis figures to have a chance to be the lead back at Virginia. The Wahoos top two runningbacks in 2025 were J'Mari Taylor(222 carries for 1,091 yards) and Harrison Waylee. Both were graduate students who won't be on the team this fall, and Petyon likes the style of the UVA offense.

"They run a pro style that correlates to the NFL," he said. "Tennessee doesn't really have a pro style offense."

Lewis has two years of eligibility remaining and he plans to finish school and get his degree at UVA, then hopefully find his way into the National Football League. He was a Sports Management and Kinesiology major at UT.

"I may have to change it depending on what UVA offers," he said. "I'm really impressed by the school. It's a cool school and they take academics seriously."

The Virginia coaches were quite interested in Lewis when he was coming out of Salem High School two years ago. Peyton remembers a conversation he had with UV head coach Tony Elliott.

"Coach Elliott said they would be building something, and two years later they won 11 games," said Lewis. "He showed a lot of interest in me."

When Peyton was a high school senior the Cavaliers were 3-9 and Tennessee was 9-4. Two years later the Wahoos were a win in the ACC championship game away from playing in the CFP playoffs, and the future looks bright.

"They have their whole line coming back," said Lewis.

Peyton will be reunited on the Wahoos with former Salem teammate Josiah Persinger. Josiah was a standout runningback and cornerback for the Spartans and he was a freshman cornerback for UVA last year, seeing time in 10 games. Josiah and Peyton were in touch during Lewis' decision to join the Wahoos.

Dennis Haley, who played for Salem and UVA before a stint in the NFL, is also a friend of the Lewis family. He was also in contact with Peyton during the transfer process.

"I never really repped UVA growing up, but I'm excited to be going there," said Lewis. "My main goal is to get playing time."

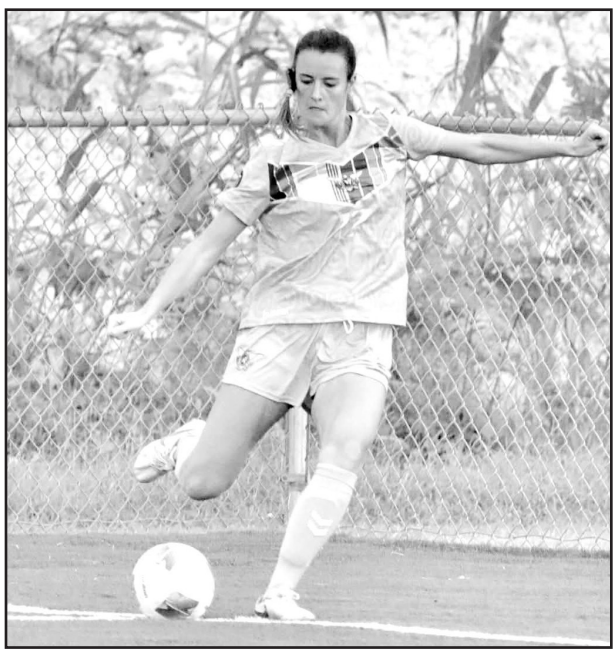


PHOTO COURTESY JOE FOLEY

Maia Foley hits a corner kick for the Virgin Islands.

FOLEY PLAYS ON VIRGIN ISLANDS TEAM

Salem's Maia Foley was a member of the United States Virgin Islands Senior Women's National soccer team in December. The team played in the CONCACAF Women's Championship, a World Cup and Olympic qualifying tournament, where Maia earned her first international cap with a start against St. Lucia. She had an assist on the game winning goal in a 3-1 win.

The CONCACAF W Championship[a] is a women's association football competition for national teams organized by the Confederation of North, Central American and Caribbean Association Football (CONCACAF) that often serves as the qualifying competition to the Women's World Cup, and recently the Olympics.

Maia was a three-year starter on defense for the James Madison University team, graduating in 2020. For the Spartans she was a member of the Salem team that set a school record for fewest goals allowed in a single season.

The next game for the Virgin Islands team is a home game on St. Croix on March 4th against Puerto Rico. Games are streamed on YouTube.

Tucker inducted into VATA Hall of Fame

Salem's Chris Tucker, a former trainer and faculty member at Salem High School, is the newest member of the the Virginia Athletic Trainers' Association Hall of Fame. The Class of 2026 was inducted January 3rd during the VATA annual meeting in Hampton, VA.

"Chris's continued contributions to the field of Athletic Training and to the advancement of practice in the Commonwealth of Virginia for the past three decades set him apart as a true leader," said VATA past president Michael Kotelnicki. "His fellow athletic trainers lauded his excellence in practice and his contributions to the field of athletic training. Over the course of his remarkable career, Mr. Tucker has demonstrated unparalleled dedication, expertise, and leadership in the field of athletic training, leaving an indelible mark on both the profession and the countless individuals he has served."

Tucker has been a cornerstone of the athletic training community for over 30 years, during which he has achieved numerous milestones. He has consistently gone above and beyond in developing medical coverage for high schools in southwestern Virginia, mentoring aspiring athletic trainers, and advocating for athlete safety. He has been a mentor to many, fostering the growth of future leaders in athletic training and inspiring others to strive for excellence.

"Tucker's legacy of excellence and commitment to advancing the profession will undoubtedly inspire generations to come," said Kotelnicki. "We are proud to have him leading the continued growth of our profession."



VATA PHOTO

Chris Tucker(left) is presented his Hall of Fame plaque by current VATA President, Kirk Armstrong.

Salem boys win All-Timesland meet, Glenvar boys take third



Salem's Carter Biscotte won two events at the All-Timesland meet and anchored two winning relay teams. PHOTO BY BRIAN HOFFMAN

The Gator Center in Roanoke was the site of the All-Timesland swim meet last Saturday, and Salem and Glenvar both had swimmers in the meet. The annual meet includes most of the area teams and is one of the biggest in the regular season, and the Salem boys finished in first place.

The Spartans' 200 medley relay team of Starke Griffith, Riley Handy, Jack Lawrence and Carter Biscotte finished in first place, as did the 200 free relay of Griffith, Zach Bocock, Mike Bateman, and Biscotte. The free relay swam a state cut with a time of 1:32.82.

Individually, Biscotte won both the 50 free and the 100 butterfly while Lawrence took a third in the 100 fly and a fifth in the 400 free. Handy was third in the 200 IM and in the 50 free Bocock was fourth and Griffith took sixth. Handy also took a third in the 100 breast while in the 100 backstroke Bateman was fifth and Garrison James took sixth. The boys' 400 free relay of Bateman, Bocock, Handy and Jack Lawrence was third.

The Salem girls finished seventh as a team. The 200 free relay of Layla Vaught, Gracie Michael, Riley Miller and Aubrey Snead was fourth and the 200 medley relay foursome of Miller, Keeley Prosser, Vaught and Snead was sixth. Miller also took a fourth in the 100 back and Snead took a fifth in the 500 free.

The Glenvar boys' took third place at the Gator Center Saturday despite being the smallest school competing. The Highlanders opened the meet with a third-place finish in the 200-yard medley relay, improving their preliminary time to post a 1:49.62 in the finals. The relay team of Avery Thompson, Landon Cairns, Aspen Thompson, and Brendan Miller set the tone for a competitive day.

Individually, sophomore Aspen Thompson led Glenvar with a first-place finish in the 100-yard freestyle and added a runner-up finish in the 200-yard freestyle. Senior Landon Cairns delivered one of the meet's signature moments by finishing second in the 500-yard freestyle, setting a new Glenvar High School record, and followed it with a second-place finish in an exciting 100-yard breaststroke race.

The meet concluded with a strong showing in the 400-yard freestyle relay, as Avery Thompson, Nikita Larin, Aspen Thompson, and Landon Cairns dropped nine seconds from their preliminary time placing second in the finals.

RC Swimmers sweep B'water

The Roanoke College women's swimming team defeated Bridgewater College Saturday afternoon on Senior Day, while the Maroon men tied the Eagles.

The women's team had 11 first-place finishes. Women's winners included the 200 medley and 200 free relays, Julianna Morrow in the 100 and 200 back, Halle Schart in the 200 free and 200 IM, Carter Satterfield in the 500 and 1,000 free, Kate Pearson in the 100 and 200 breast and Claire Ballard in the 100 free.

The RC men won six evenets. Tyler Hill won the 100 and 200 butterfly, Ryan Franceys won the 200 and 500 free, Peyton Meyer won the 1,000 free and the 200 free relay team of Dyllan Hartman, Regan Euker, Franceys and Hill won the race in 1:27.95.

Roanoke travels to Southern Virginia University in Buena Vista this Saturday.



PHOTO BY BRIAN HOFFMAN

Davion Bowie of Roanoke College goes high for a spike at the Cregger Center.

Roanoke Volleyball men open season with a win

The Roanoke College men's volleyball team picked up a 3-0 win over Lancaster Bible College in their season opener last Friday night at the Cregger Center in Salem.

Senior Cade Kinne led the team in kills with 13 on the night to tie his career high. He also posted a .524 hitting percentage. Michael Cummins was the next closest Maroon in kills with eight.

Freshman Johnny Moran started his collegiate career off with a team high 19 assists. Leo Houser was too far behind Moran, adding 16 assists, and in his first game as the starting libero CJ Kingston led in digs with 10 in the match.

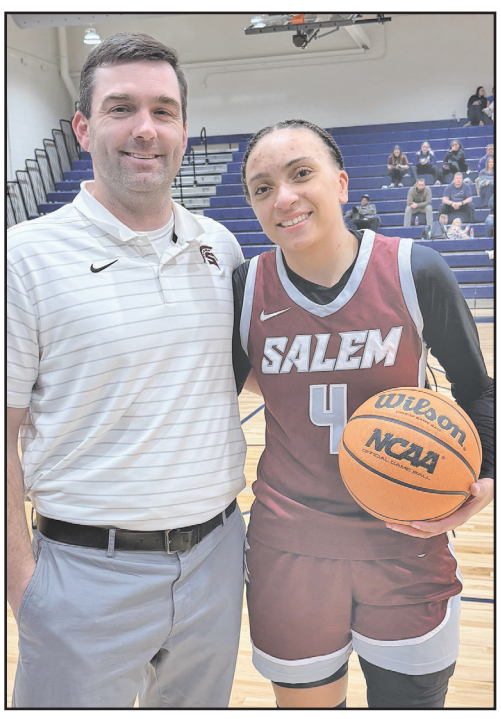
Dominic Wheaton and Colin Mendoza had four blocks each. Wheaton had one solo and three assists while Medoza had two solo blocks and two assists. Mendoza also posted a .625 hitting percentage for six kills on the night.

The Maroons have the week off before returning to the Cregger Center for a trimatch this Saturday with Shenandoah and the Virginia Tech club team. The squad will take on Shenandoah at 1 pm and Viginia Tech at 5 pm.

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PHOTOS COURTESY SHS GIRLS BASKETBALL



PHOTO BY BRIAN HOFFMAN

Left is Salem senior Gabby Crawley with coach Scott Jester after scoring her 1,000th point at Christiansburg last Friday, and middle is senior Emme Custer with Jester after hitting the 1,000 point mark Tuesday at Patrick Henry. Right, Salem's Cam Boles is flanked by coach Kevin Garst(left) and athletic director Drew Barrett after scoring his 1,000th point as a Spartan in Tuesday's win over PH at home.

3 Grand Spartans

Salem boys sweep season series from Patrick Henry

The Salem High boys' basketball team will be in Dublin Friday for a River Ridge District basketball game against Pulaski County. The Spartans are 10-2 overall and 4-2 in the district after an exciting 59-49 win over Patrick Henry in Salem Tuesday night.

This one was much like the thriller the Spartans won in Roanoke in a prior meeting in December. It was a very physical game and close throughout, with Salem leading 30-26 at the half and 40-39 after three quarters.

Salem senior Cam Boles came into the game needing seven points for 1,000 for his career. He drew extra attention from the Patriots and had just three points at the half but Tanner Overstreet picked up the scoring with 13 first half points.

The Patriots scored the first points of the fourth quarter to take a 41-40 lead but Overstreet answered with a three and Salem never trailed again. Boles got his 1,000 point on a stick-back and was fouled on the play, canning the free throw for a 46-41 Salem lead with 6:31 to go.

PH hit one of two free throws to pull to 51-46 with 2:48 to go but the visitors would not score again. Braylon Smith seven points to close it out with a layup and five free throws as the Patriots were forced to foul. Overstreet was game high with 22 points, Boles had 12 and Smith finished with 11 as the Spartans swept the season series.

"I told the guys the day before that these are the type of games we love," said Salem coach Kevin Garst. "Playing teams like PH forces you to play at a high level, and I thought our guys responded well."

Last Friday at home Salem raced to a big lead then held on to beat Christiansburg, 75-63. Salem outscored the Blue Demons 21-5 in the second quarter to build a 40-17 halftime lead, then saw that 23 point advantage trimmed to four with plenty of time remaining in the fourth quarter. However, they pulled together and pulled out the win over a strong Christiansburg team.

Boles had a big night for Salem with a season-high 34 points. He was 12 for 21 from the floor and drained two three-pointers while making eight of 11 free throws. He also had a team-high 14 rebounds, including seven on the offensive board. Smith had 13 points for the Spartans.

Salem has two non-district games next week, at Alleghany on Monday and home against Lord Botetourt on Wednesday, January 21.



Salem's Cam Boles throws one down with authority for two of his 34 points in last Friday's win over Christiansburg in Salem. PHOTO BY SCOTT GARDNER

Salem girls hold PH to 7 points in win

The Salem High girls keep on rolling. The Spartans improved to 13-1 overall and 6-0 in the River Ridge District with a dominating 50-7 win over Patrick Henry in Roanoke Tuesday.

Salem swept the season series with the win and had a girl go over the 1,000 career point total for the second game in a row. Emme Custer led Salem with 18 points, eclipsing the 1,000 point mark one game after Gabby Crawley did so last Friday at Christiansburg. Bailey Rider had a dozen against PH and all 10 players scored.

"Real happy to see Emme and Gabby get their 1,000th points," said Salem coach Scott Jester.

Last Friday in Christiansburg the Spartans had no trouble disposing of the Blue Demons with a 79-30 win. Crawley had 24 points to lead the Salemites, needing 21 points coming into the game for the grand total. She nailed a three-pointer in the third quarter to hit the mark. Crawley had lots of help as Rider had 18 points and five rebounds and Custer had 14 points.

continued on page 10

Highlanders battle in tough Three Rivers

The Glenvar boys are home tonight to take on Martinsville in another tough Three Rivers District matchup. The Bulldogs come into the week at 9-3 and thus far they're the only team to beat Floyd County, another tough district team.

On Tuesday the Highlanders fell to 5-7 with a loss at Radford, yet another strong district team. Glenvar had a 13 point lead in the third quarter but the Bobcats rallied for a 69-59 win.

"Couldn't close it out," said Glenvar coach Hank Luton. "It's on me to coach better late in games. That's two road district games we could have gotten that we led for most of game and didn't finish."

Ryder Francisco led Glenvar with 22 points. Parker Doolan haad 15 and Gray Hutchison was in double figures with 10.

continued on page 10



Glenvar's Parker Doolan goes to the hoop to score in last Friday's win over James River. PHOTO BY BRIAN HOFFMAN

W&L edges Maroons, 58-57

The Roanoke College men had three shots to win the game in the final seconds Saturday but couldn't get one to fall in an Old Dominion Athletic Conference basketball game with Washington & Lee. The Maroons fell 58-57 in front of a big crowd at the Cregger Center in Salem.

This was a big game for both teams, as both came in with just one ODAC loss and looking to remain near the top of the conference standings. Roanoke led for most of the first half but entered intermission with just a one point lead at 30-29.

The second half was just as tightly contested, with neither team able to gain more than a six-point edge. With the score tied Caleb Franze made one of two free throws with 34 seconds left to give RC a 57-56 lead before W&L's Bryce Breeden hit a layup with 18 seconds on the clock. After RC coach Clay Nunley called a timeout Marcus Morgan had a contested shot in the lane roll off the rim. Morgan than had a follow tap that wouldn't drop, and when the ball

continued on page 10



Marcus Morgan of Roanoke College shoots over a W&L defender in Salem Saturday. PHOTO BY BRIAN HOFFMAN