

SALEM TIMES-REGISTER

Thursday, February 5, 2026 • (USPS 631-140) • \$1.50

OurValley.org

Salem School Division awarded over \$200K in elementary-level mathematics grant

The Salem School Division announced this week that it will receive more than \$200,000 through a mathematics innovation grant funded by the Virginia Department of Education. This significant award will be used throughout all four Salem elementary schools to strengthen math education for students in grades K-5.

"We are beyond excited to receive this funding, and we know this will enhance the excellent instruction our elementary students are already receiving," said Jennifer Dean, Salem School Division deputy superintendent. "This grant will provide teachers with advanced data analytics for instructional planning and targeted training to support all of our young learners. The money will help us ensure that every elementary student has

access to an engaging math education, and we cannot wait to leverage these resources."

Dean crafted Salem's grant application along with Becky Stroud, Salem's elementary math instructional coach, and Alisa Burns, Salem's secondary instructional coach.

"Congratulations to Deputy Superintendent Dean along with Ms. Burns and Ms. Stroud for securing this grant for Salem," said Dr. Curtis Hicks, Salem School Division superintendent. "This Mathematics Innovation Grant represents a significant investment in our youngest learners and the teachers who support them."

Salem will receive \$203,847 to support innovative strategies that allow students to improve their grades and their understanding of math concepts. In all, the state



Dean

is awarding various school divisions \$12 million dollars for these purposes.

"Being selected through a very competitive statewide process affirms the strong instructional work that is currently taking place in our classrooms," said Hicks. "By adopting high-quality instructional materials and providing instruction that is designed to address specific skill gaps and career goals



West Salem Kindergarten Teacher Heather Moore works with one of her students.

rather than using a one-size fits-all model, we are strengthening math instruction across all our elementary schools and making sure every student has access to engaging, rigorous, and equitable mathematics learning experiences."

The Salem School Division has now received over \$700,000 in grant funding from the VDOE this winter.

-The Salem Times-Register



PHOTO BY AILA BOYD

The Salem Public Library is pictured covered on snow on Saturday.



PHOTO BY BRIAN HOFFMAN

Geese gathered on a partially frozen Lake Spring Pond in Salem on Monday.

Another round of winter weather adds delays as region recovers from prior storm

Aila Boyd

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Just as Salem and the Roanoke Valley were beginning to recover from the previous weekend's prolonged winter storm, additional snow and freezing temperatures late Friday and Saturday brought renewed disruptions to schools and kept transportation crews in extended winter operations across the region.

Salem City Schools announced a two-hour delay for Monday, Feb. 2, citing new snow accumulation

Saturday night, drifting snow and continued subfreezing temperatures. City officials said streets, school sidewalks and parking lots were generally in good condition, but the delay was intended to avoid the peak morning commute, allow for additional daylight and give the Street Department time to address any overnight issues.

"Warmer temperatures and abundant sunshine over the next few days should allow us to return to a normal schedule soon," school

officials said, thanking families and staff for their patience and flexibility.

Salem City Schools returned to a regular schedule Tuesday, Feb. 3, opening on time for all students. School officials credited cooperation among teachers, students, parents and support staff for helping the division get back on track.

Roanoke County Public Schools also operated on a normal schedule Tuesday after being closed Monday, Feb. 2, due to lingering wintry conditions, particularly on neighborhood roads. The division said VDOT crews had made considerable progress clearing most neighborhood streets, allowing school buses to operate safely. However, officials warned that some roads may still be inaccessible, requiring parents to transport students to the nearest cleared intersection.

Meanwhile, the Virginia Department of Transportation continued weeklong winter operations across the Salem District, even as crews prepared for yet another winter weather system that was expected to impact the

region late last week.

VDOT officials said all secondary roads, neighborhoods and subdivisions in the Salem District have been plowed and treated, but many remain covered with packed snow and ice from previous storms.

Crews have been using heavy equipment, including motor graders, loaders and dump trucks, to break up lingering snowpack where possible.

Ahead of the storm, drivers were cautioned not to expect bare pavement until warmer temperatures arrive and to use extreme caution if travel is necessary. With prolonged cold temperatures, VDOT said that the new precipitation would adhere to roadways, compounding existing conditions.

Because crews had to shift focus during the active storm, efforts to fully clear lingering icy patches were paused and resumed once conditions allowed. VDOT crews and contractors have continued working around the clock in emergency response mode to improve conditions on all state-maintained roads.

Detached garage fire causes \$50K in damage on Poor Mountain Road



PHOTO COURTESY OF ROANOKE COUNTY FIRE AND RESCUE

The fire was brought under control within 10 minutes.

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Roanoke County Fire and Rescue responded to a residential structure fire in the 6100 block of Poor Mountain Road in Salem on Jan. 27.

Crews were dispatched at 5:55 p.m. First-arriving units from Company 9 (Fort Lewis) reported heavy smoke rising from the property and upgraded the call to a working fire at 6:02 p.m. Firefighters found a detached garage fully involved.

The fire was brought under control in about 10 minutes. No injuries were reported, and no residents were displaced.

According to the Roanoke County Fire Marshal's Office, the fire was caused by a mechanical or electrical component of a side-by-side vehicle. The fire spread to the garage and damaged multiple vehicles. Estimated damage was \$50,000.

The incident marked the first working fire for firefighters Dewey and Witt, both of whom graduated from recruit school in December.

Roanoke College opens applications for first fully online MBA program

Aila Boyd

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Commission on Colleges and was approved by Roanoke College faculty in November.

Roanoke College has announced it is now accepting applications for its first fully online graduate degree program, a Master of Business Administration designed to provide flexibility while maintaining the college's emphasis on personal connection and mentorship.

The asynchronous, 24-month online MBA program will allow students to begin in either August or January, with the first cohort enrolling this fall. The program is accredited by the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools

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Salem Museum examines Gen. Lewis' finest hour in guest lecture

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Salem Museum & Historical Society will explore one of Gen. Andrew Lewis' most significant moments during the American Revolution in a guest lecture titled "The Battle of Cricket Hill."

The free program is scheduled for Thursday, Feb. 12 at 7 p.m. and will be livestreamed exclusively on Zoom. A link to the presentation will be available at SalemMuseum.org.

The lecture will be presented by independent scholar Michael Rhodes, who will examine the

1776 expulsion of Royal Gov. Lord Dunmore by Virginia Patriot forces under the command of Lewis. Dunmore, the last royal governor of Virginia, fled with Loyalist supporters aboard roughly 100 vessels and sought refuge at Gwynn's Island, about 200 yards off the mainland near present-day Hudgins.

Artillery fire from Fort Cricket Hill, led by Lewis' forces, forced Dunmore to abandon the position, marking his permanent departure from Virginia and ending royal authority in the colony.

Rhodes is a retired



PHOTO COURTESY OF MIKE STEVENS

The Andrew Lewis sculpture outside the Salem Civic Center.

professional with 35 years of experience in supply chain management. He is a graduate of Mary Baldwin University and a member of the Investment Recovery Association,

where he served four terms as president. A former U.S. Marine and Army reservist, Rhodes attained the rank of staff sergeant

See Lewis, page 2



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.

Lambda Craft and Vendor Fair: The Lambda Craft and Vendor Fair will be held Saturday, Feb. 7, from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. at Andrew Lewis Middle School, 616 College Ave. in Salem. Hosted by Lambda, a chapter of Alpha Delta Kappa, the annual fundraiser supports scholarships for students pursuing careers in education. The event features wall-to-wall crafters and vendors, food, door prizes and a new Kid Zone with face painting, balloon animals, games and hands-on activities for children. Admission is free and open to the public.

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.

Gary Allan in concert — Multi-platinum country artist Gary Allan returns to the Salem Civic Center on Saturday, May 16, 2026, at 8 p.m. Tickets go on sale Friday, Feb. 6, at 10 a.m. at the Salem Civic Center Box Office and at Ticketmaster.com. Ticket prices range from \$14.92 to \$134.75. A presale will be held Thursday, Feb. 5, from 10 a.m. to 10 p.m. at Ticketmaster.com with the code RUTHLESS.

Public meetings:

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

POLICE REPORT

City of Salem Police Department

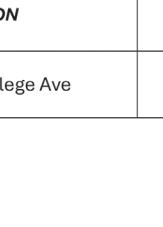


Weekly Arrest Report

Week of January 20, 2026 – January 26, 2026

1/20/2026	Everett M. Wheeling	19	Domestic Assault & Battery
1/20/2026	Patricia O. Burks	51	Trespassing
1/20/2026	Tiara Crowder	37	Damage Property, Violation of Protective Order
1/21/2026	Derek B. Fallen	36	Trespassing, Failure to Identify
1/21/2026	John E. Tingler	25	Public Intoxication
1/22/2026	David W. Henson	37	Assault on Police Officer, Obstruct Justice, Trespassing
1/23/2026	Nicholas S. Stinnett	26	Possession of Controlled Substance, Public Intoxication
1/23/2026	Tanielle D. Russell	37	Identity Theft, Obstruct Justice
1/24/2026	Marielis V. Leyva	26	Public Intoxication

City of Salem Police Department



Weekly Crime Report (Felony Cases)

Week of January 20, 2026 – January 26, 2026

DATE REPORTED	LOCATION	OFFENSE REPORTED
1/22/2026	900 BLK S. College Ave	Assault Police Officer

MBA from page 1

the spring and one in the summer — completing one class at a time through seven-week course modules. Coursework will cover core areas of business, including accounting, leadership, ethics, economics, management, marketing, finance and data analysis.

"This program offers flexibility for mid-career professionals along with the personal connection and mentoring that are hallmarks of a Roanoke College education," said Kathy Wolfe, vice president for academic affairs and dean of the college.

Betsy Parkins, professor of practice and director of the online MBA program, said the goal is to bring the Roanoke College experience into an online format. Faculty will offer virtual office hours, and some will host weekly virtual coffee chats to give students opportunities to ask questions and connect with classmates. The program will also include smaller mini-cohorts within each class to encourage discussion and networking.

"A lot of online programs are really impersonal," Parkins said. "You get the work done without ever meeting your professor, and you have no idea who's also in the class. We don't want that to be the experience at Roanoke."

Students will also have the option

to participate in workshops that complement their coursework. Parkins said these sessions are designed especially for working professionals seeking advancement and will focus on developing leadership and other soft skills.

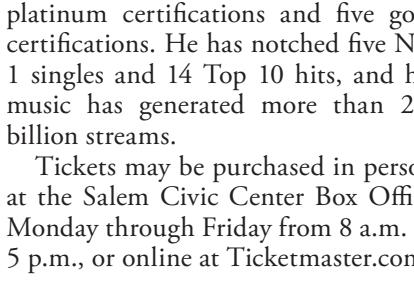
"Our faculty understand that students have different needs when they're working and going to school at the same time, and they're dedicated to meeting those needs," she said.

Parkins developed the program in collaboration with Sharon Gibbs, associate professor; Allie Kassens, John S. Shannon Professor of Economics and dean of the School of Business, Economics, & Analytics; and Michelle Hagadorn, professor and assistant dean of the School of Business, Economics, & Analytics.

The online MBA program does not require the Graduate Management Admission Test. Applicants must hold a bachelor's degree or equivalent from any academic background. The \$75 application fee is waived for Roanoke College alumni and is waived for all applicants through August 2026.

More information is available on the online MBA webpage or by contacting Parkins at parkins@roanoke.edu.

Gary Allan returning to Salem Civic Center in May



COURTESY PHOTO

Allan

Multi-platinum country recording artist Gary Allan will return to the Salem Civic Center on Saturday, May 16, 2026, with an 8 p.m. performance.

Tickets go on sale Friday, Feb. 6, at 10 a.m. at the Salem Civic Center Box Office and online at Ticketmaster.com. A presale will be held Thursday, Feb. 5, from 10 a.m. to 10 p.m. at Ticketmaster.com using the unlock code RUTHLESS.

Ticket prices at the box office range from \$14.92 to \$134.75, with additional price points of \$28.85, \$38.10, \$56.65 and \$76.15. Additional fees may apply to online purchases.

Known for his gritty vocals, rebellious lyrics and high-energy live performances, Allan has built a career blending traditional country roots with a modern outlaw edge. A California native, he has released 10 studio albums, including *Set You Free*, which topped the *Billboard* 200 chart.

Tickets may be purchased in person at the Salem Civic Center Box Office Monday through Friday from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m., or online at Ticketmaster.com.

-The Salem Times-Register

Virginia Western uses virtual reality to help students explore career paths

ROANOKE — Gamification is greater than old-fashioned career assessments.

That's the theory behind Virginia Western Community College's latest outreach through the Hall Associates Career Center, which is using virtual reality headsets to give students a preview of jobs that might interest them.

Dr. David Porter, career center manager, began work in his post this academic year and was looking for a tool "that would draw students into a situation where they could safely do what we call work-based learning."

"Robinhood is an investing app. The reason why Robinhood took off is because it took a very dry topic and it gamified it," Porter said. "So now you have 20-year-olds that are doing a lot more investing because it's fun to do."

At the same time, he pondered the rise of virtual reality systems. "Well, if I bring you into the center, and I have you sit down at a computer and do an assessment, well, that's something," he said. "People like to discover themselves, but still, it's just an assessment. Inside the headset, you can take a career assessment that is a gamified system where it asks you questions, and then based on the results, it will suggest to you any one of more than 50 career paths. You can then do 8- or 9-minute sessions of virtual reality immersion into that career."

The module for paramedics, for example, is at the scene of a simulated motor vehicle accident. "You're assessing the patient, you're pulling the patient out of the vehicle, putting them on a stretcher," Porter said. "You get to see firsthand in a controlled environment, what could this be like?"

The module for paramedics, for example, is at the scene of a simulated motor vehicle accident. "You're assessing the patient, you're pulling the patient out of the vehicle, putting them on a stretcher," Porter said. "You get to see firsthand in a controlled environment, what could this be like?"

Could this be something that I would be interested in?"

The college invested in three VR headsets that use modules from Transfr Trek, a program designed for immersive career exploration and training. Students can walk into the career center, sign in, and use a headset to explore at no cost to them.

The interactive VR simulations provide a "day-in-the-life" view of jobs that align with potential career pathways. Samples of module options include broadband utility construction, pipefitter, HVAC, surgical technologist, certified nursing assistant, robotics specialist, welder, automotive service technician, financial analyst, soil and plant scientist, web developer and electrical engineer. Beyond the modules, users can discover detailed career profiles and up-to-date information on more than 150 careers.

"I completed the solar panel installation module in the VR program, and it was a great hands-on learning experience," said Virginia Western student Michelle Brown. "It helped me understand the steps of installation, wiring and safety in a realistic way without needing to be on-site. I think students will appreciate how the VR modules make complex concepts easier to grasp and allow them to learn by doing."

If a student doesn't have clear ideas or plans, the VR headset helps staff members discuss possible career pathways. If the student talks about healthcare, for instance, "Let's throw on the headset and take that assessment to see what you may be leaning toward," Porter said. "Let's do some modules,

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Lewis from page 1

and received honorable discharges from both branches. He and his wife live in Irvington, less than 25 miles north of the Fort Cricket Hill site.

The Salem Museum is located in the historic 1845 Williams-Brown House at 801 E. Main St. The museum is open

Tuesday through Saturday from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Admission and parking

are free, with donations accepted. The entrance is marked at the Oakey Field Complex sign across Main Street from the Berglund Ford service entrance.

For more information, contact

Garrett Channell, executive director, at 540-389-6760 or garrett@salem-museum.org.

RECIPE OF THE WEEK

I am not much of a baker but when I do I tend to make cookies. Cookies date back to 7th century Persia, one of the first countries to cultivate sugar. With European colonization and global trade, cookies found their way around the world, evolving with local ingredients and cultural influences. This resulted in a diverse range of flavors, textures, and forms. The word 'cookie' is derived from the Dutch word 'koekje', which literally means 'little cake'. The first batch of cookies was put in the oven as small test portions of the cake batter.

Cookies are just so craveable. When do we crave cookies? When we are sad, happy, celebrating, or bored. In many cultures, cookies symbolize love and care. The act of sharing cookies is akin to sharing happiness; it conveys warmth and kindness, making them ideal gifts. I believe that a fresh-baked cookie is nothing short of a sweet little circle of love.

A good cookie is a blend of textures and flavors designed to make you want more. When that sugar hits your tongue, your brain says "Hello!" and you get a rush of dopamine rewarding you for that first bite. A study at Drexel University suggests that just seeing a cookie can provoke a dopamine response in your brain.

I have a list of reasons to eat a cookie. (I never need a reason to eat a cookie but it sounded good when I wrote it!)

With a really good cookie one is enough. Eaten slowly and with good company is best. With cookies, you can easily keep track of what you're eating and indulge in a little treat. Enjoy yourself and know this: you're allowed to have a cookie (or two).

You can pronounce and recognize all the ingredients in a homemade cookie. The flavor variety and combinations are practically endless. What that really means is there is something out there for everyone to enjoy.

A cookie is cheaper than a new Vera Bradley bag. It's a reward that won't hurt your credit score.

Baking cookies is good for you because it forces you to slow down and follow one step at a time. The time between baking and eating requires patience and you get a reward for waiting.

A cookie goes with other good things like a picnic, Santa, and bake sales. No other dessert is as portable as a cookie. You can fit them in purses, pockets, gym bags, book bags, or briefcases.

People smile when offered a cookie. Maybe it's treasured memories of childhood that are being evoked, or maybe it's just a simple feel-good vibe that comes cookie shaped and flavored. There is no better way to connect with people than over a plate of cookies with a glass of milk.

At midnight, whether you're unable to sleep or you're overthinking about somethings, or you just want to be with yourself, a chocolate chip cookie is your best friend. It doesn't talk, it doesn't



Shelly Koon

Contributing Writer

ask you to not eat late at night, it's low maintenance. You don't need any cutlery.

And finally, most cookie recipes have a story. My kitchen sink cookie recipe is from my mom's best friend Marge and my recipe card is in her handwriting. Just seeing that recipe brings back memories of her kitchen in Ohio and her warm hugs. Marge always asked what we wanted her to put in these cookies. I always choose potato chips and M&M's, my mom wanted pretzels, peanuts, and raisins. So, of course she added them all.

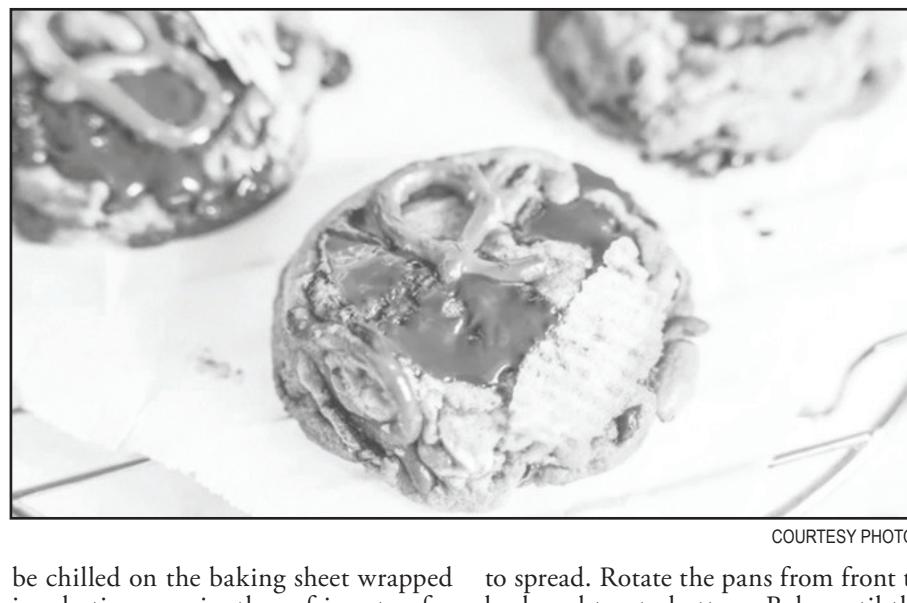
Kitchen Sink Cookies

Ingredients

- 2 1/2 cups all-purpose flour
- 1 3/4 teaspoons baking soda
- 1 1/4 teaspoons kosher salt
- 1/2 teaspoon baking powder
- 1 cup unsalted butter, melted and cooled
- 3/4 cup firmly packed light brown sugar
- 1/4 cup granulated sugar
- 1 3/4 teaspoons vanilla extract
- 2 large eggs, at room temperature
- 1 1/3 cups Chocolatey mix-ins, such as semi-sweet chocolate chips or chunks
- 1 1/3 cups salty mix-ins, such as ridged, salted potato chips or pretzels
- 1/2 cup nutty mix-ins, such as chopped, roasted peanuts
- 1/4 cup chewy/sticky mix-ins, such as toffee bits, dried fruit

Instructions

In a medium bowl, whisk the flour, baking soda, salt, and baking powder to combine and set aside. In a large bowl, stir together the melted butter, brown sugar, granulated sugar, and vanilla with a rubber spatula until well combined and the mixture is glossy and almost creamy looking. Add the eggs to the butter mixture and beat together with the spatula until the eggs are completely broken up and fully combined with the butter mixture. Add the flour mixture to the butter mixture and stir until the flour mixture is almost fully combined. A few dry streaks of flour are okay. Add the chocolatey, salty, nutty, and chewy/sticky mix-ins to the dough and gently stir until all the mix-ins are evenly distributed, taking care not to break up any delicate mix-ins (such as potato chips) too much. Portion the dough and chill: Line a small rimmed baking sheet (or alternatively a plate) with parchment paper. Using a 2 1/2-inch scoop or measuring cup, divide the dough into 1/3 cup portions to yield 13 to 16 portions and place on the lined baking sheet. Transfer the scooped dough to the freezer to chill until firm while the oven preheats, about 15 minutes. Alternatively, the dough can



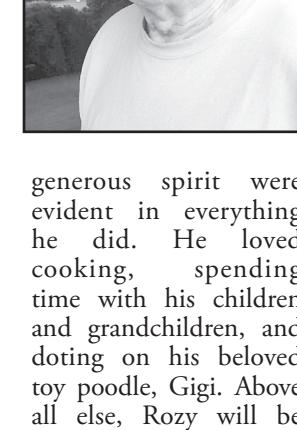
COURTESY PHOTOS

be chilled on the baking sheet wrapped in plastic wrap in the refrigerator for up to 24 hours. Arrange the racks in the top and bottom thirds of the oven. Preheat the oven to 350°F. Line 2 large rimmed baking sheets with parchment paper. Arrange the chilled portions of dough on the lined baking sheets spaced about 3 inches apart. Bake at 350°F for 8 minutes, until the cookies are starting

to spread. Rotate the pans from front to back and top to bottom. Bake until the cookies are light golden and set in the center and just turning golden brown around the edges, an additional 6 to 9 minutes (14 to 17 minutes total). Let the cookies cool on their baking sheets set over wire racks for a few minutes, then transfer to the wire racks to cool completely.

OBITUARY

Rozich, Donald E. "Rozy"



Donald E. "Rozy" Rozich, 80, of Salem, Virginia, went to be with the Lord on January 16, 2026. Born on September 22, 1945, in Kirkland Lake, Ontario, Rozy later made Salem his cherished home, where he lived a life marked by dedication, humility, and a steadfast commitment to those he loved.

A talented athlete in his early years, Rozy began his hockey career after being drafted by the Detroit Red Wings before going on to play professionally in the Eastern Hockey League, ultimately landing him in the Roanoke Valley to skate for the Salem Rebels and the Roanoke Valley Rebels. His love of sports continued throughout his life—he especially enjoyed playing golf and later worked part time at Hidden Valley Golf and Country Club, where he formed many lasting friendships.

Rozy's kind heart and

Tiffany, his daughters, Sherry Cruey, Pam Easter and husband Scott, and Kristen Evans and husband Rich; his siblings, Tina Rozich, and Erika Audet; and his eight treasured grandchildren—Tenley, Piper, Parker, Zach, Zane, Colton, Meaghan, and Richie—who brought him immense joy.

To honor Rozy's memory and lifelong connection to the sport he loved, the family invites friends and community members to join them for a tribute to "Rozy" at the Roanoke Rail Yard Dawgs hockey game on March 7th at 7:00 p.m.

Rozy's legacy of integrity, quiet strength, and heartfelt service to others will remain an inspiration to all who had the privilege of knowing him.

Online condolences may be expressed to the Rozich family by visiting www.johnmoakey.com.

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OPINION

From District 4

Virginia's Governor, Doug Wilder, wisely advises that Virginia "must distinguish between niceties — the policies that may sound appealing or politically rewarding but do little to ease the pressures Virginians face — and necessities, those actions that directly address affordability, economic security and opportunity. Government must focus first on what helps families remain afloat, not on what merely satisfies ideological impulses."

Virginians would greatly benefit if Governor Wilder's advice were heeded by everyone currently serving in government.

Democrats Charge Taxpayers \$5 Million for Gerrymandering

Gerrymandering is wrong whenever and wherever it happens. Virginia voters demonstrated their



David Suetterlein

Senator

opposition to the practice in 2020, when a majority of voters in 132 out of 133 localities voted to prohibit legislators from drawing their own lines. Unfortunately, partisan fevers have led Virginia Democratic legislators to seek to redraw Virginia's congressional lines in the middle of the decade.

Last Tuesday, a Circuit Court Judge ruled the Democrats' proposed mid-decade gerrymander was illegal on at least three different counts. On Thursday, Democratic legislators defied the Court and quickly passed legislation spending \$5 million of taxpayer funds for an April gerrymandering special referendum that had just been ruled illegal. Then

on Friday, Democrats broke their promise to make their proposed maps public by January 31. As of this column's submission deadline, Democratic legislators were still wrestling over how to gerrymander the Roanoke Valley and Loudoun County based on how the lines affect their preferred primary candidates — which, in many cases, is themselves.

Virginians still do not know what these maps would look like, but the very first bill to reach Governor Abigail Spanberger's desk would spend \$5 million in taxpayer funds for a Court-invalidated referendum. Governor Spanberger should not make such a partisan and

misplaced priority the first law she signs.

Democrats Explore Ending State Support for VMI

Despite being recognized as one of the nation's top liberal arts colleges for decades, the Virginia Military Institute is now coming under legislative fire from Democratic legislators. House Bill 1374 would strip VMI of its own governance in Lexington and transfer it to Virginia State University, located two and a half hours away in Petersburg. Meanwhile, HB1377 would create a task force to determine if VMI is even worthy of receiving continued taxpayer support. I strongly oppose these ideological attacks on VMI.

Career and Technical Education Advance

Last week, my Senate Bill 538 passed the Senate with a 30-10 vote. This bill ensures prosecutors are notified when the Parole Board considers granting early release to an inmate. Additionally, Senate committees advanced



COURTESY PHOTO

Roanoke Valley and New River Valley Homebuilders visited lawmakers to advocate for pro-housing policies and expansions of career and technical education

my bills to expand career and technical education opportunities. These will be considered by the full Senate this week.

Share Your Views & Track Legislation

With two thousand votes cast each year, I do not expect us to always agree, but I always want to hear from you. You can share your views with me by taking the legislative survey at <https://tinyurl.com/2026VASurvey>, by emailing David@Suetterlein.com, or by calling 540-302-8486.

You can read every bill and track votes through the Legislative Information System at <https://lis.virginia.gov>.

Thank you for the opportunity to serve our Commonwealth.

Senator David Suetterlein represents the Roanoke and New River Valleys in the Virginia Senate. He and his wife, Ashley, live in Roanoke County, where their children attend public schools. David works as a Realtor at MKB, Realtors.

Take your child to the Library Day (Feb. 7) for ice cream for breakfast day

Salem Library will be closed on Friday, Feb. 6, for Staff Training.

On the first Saturday in February, thousands of libraries across the

Library Corner

Empowering individuals to build a stronger community
Benita VanCleave

Library is celebrating both on Saturday, February 7th. Stop by the library between 10:30-11:30am for ice cream with all the (breakfast-themed) toppings! Kids ages 0-17 and their grownups are invited to participate. Children are invited to participate in the February Scavenger Hunt to find paper candy hearts hidden around the children's area of the library. Find a librarian to collect your prize when

you find them all.

Rail Yard Dawgs Library Night, Saturday, March 7

Kids who complete the Salem Public Library Winter Reading Challenge by February 28th will score a free ticket to see the Rail Yard Dawgs play on Saturday, March 7, 2026.

Tickets are valid in select seating sections and must be redeemed using a QR code provided upon completion. Tickets

cannot be redeemed through the box office or team websites.

Families may also purchase additional discounted tickets for parents or guests using the same QR code. Parking is available for purchase, and a free shuttle will run from the Elmwood Park Garage in downtown Roanoke for those who prefer not to drive.

Remember the Winter Reading Challenge is for all ages and there are drawings for prizes each week for all who are registered. Register at salemva.beanstack.org

Additional February events for kids

Wednesdays, Feb. 4, 11, 18, 25; 11am; Children ages 0-5. Story

Explorers. Register at salemva.libcal.com

Wednesdays (same dates): 3:15pm. Grades 1-5. Barks & Books: Read with a therapy dog. Register at salemva.libcal.com

Thursdays, Feb 5, 12, 19, 26; 10:15am; Book Babies: Special story time for infants and toddlers. Register at salemva.libcal.com

Thursdays (same dates): 11am; Children ages 0-5. Story Explorers. Register at salemva.libcal.com

***DMV Connect at the Salem Library: February 10th, 2026, 10am-4pm. Walk-ins only. Closed for lunch 12:30-1:30pm. ***

wrestling

- Jan Thompson, Central High School (Wise), theatre and speech

Contributors

- Bob Leader, VHSL baseball state rules interpreter and umpire

- Arthur Utley, Richmond Times-Dispatch, sportswriter

Hotel accommodations are not included with banquet registration,

and attendees are responsible for making their own arrangements. Several hotels in the Charlottesville area are available, including the Omni Charlottesville Hotel, which is hosting the event.

Tickets must be purchased online, and all tickets will be held under the names provided at the time of purchase. Tickets: <https://gofan.co/event/5619937?schoolId=VHSL>

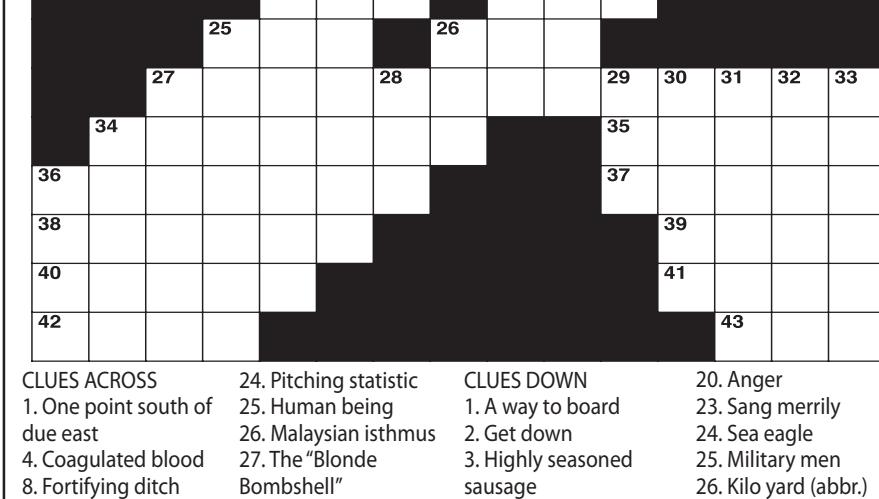
Questions regarding ticket orders

may be directed to the VHSL office.

With the induction of the Class of 2026, the Virginia High School Hall of Fame will grow to 364 members, continuing its mission of preserving and celebrating excellence in Virginia's public high school athletics and activities.

-The Salem Times-Register

CROSSWORD PUZZLE



CLUES ACROSS

- One point south of due east
- Coagulated blood
- Fortifying ditch
- Devotee of Hinduism
- Trunk of a tree
- Bank note
- Capital of Guam
- Study again
- Covered with hoarfrost
- Opening
- Legendary Rolling Stone
- Stray
- Computer storing system
- Signal
- Pitching statistic
- Human being
- Malaysian isthmus
- The "Blonde Bombshell"
- A gland
- Bluish greens
- Endangered
- Three-dimensional
- In a way, precipitated
- God associated with dissolution
- Blemished
- Flow or leak
- Slowly
- Disco legends
- Bee
- Midway between south and southeast
- Human being
- Malaysian isthmus
- The "Blonde Bombshell"
- A gland
- Bluish greens
- Endangered
- Three-dimensional
- In a way, precipitated
- God associated with dissolution
- Blemished
- Flow or leak
- Slowly
- Disco legends
- Bee
- Midway between south and southeast

CLUES DOWN

- A way to board
- Get down
- Highly seasoned sausage
- First day of month
- Eurasian shrubs
- The organ that bears the ovules of a flower
- Small lake
- Belief
- Sunrooms
- Metric weight unit
- Vasopressin
- Bravo! Bravo!
- One-time family room staple
- Got back together
- A way to board
- Get down
- Highly seasoned sausage
- First day of month
- Eurasian shrubs
- The organ that bears the ovules of a flower
- Small lake
- Belief
- Sunrooms
- Metric weight unit
- Vasopressin
- Bravo! Bravo!
- One-time family room staple
- Got back together

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VWCC

from page 2

and now let's debrief. Let's have the human conversation where we sit down with you and talk through what do we do now."

Users can take a guided tour of an industry and specific jobs, and the online Transfr Trek platform even offers the ability to examine budgeting based on inputs for expenses and what that career is projected to make. "So it will help me in budgeting the lifestyle, monetarily, and be able to do career planning from a monetary standpoint," Porter said.

In addition to uses within the Hall Associates Career Center, the headsets are being deployed in two other areas: outreach to middle and high school students, and workforce programs.

High school students at outreach events will be able to take a mobile career interest assessment and then complete a VR simulation within one of their top careers, said College Recruiter Paige Miller, who

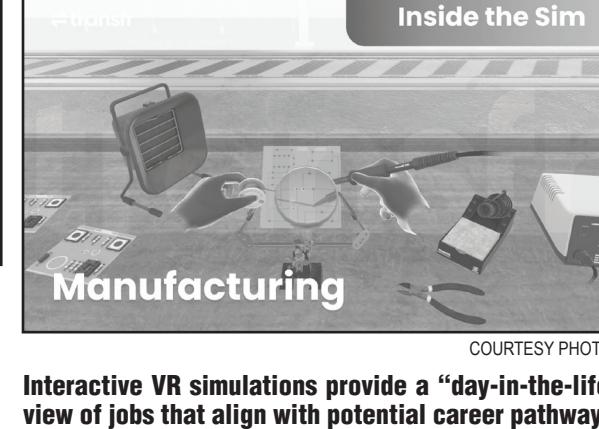
said that the modules will be projected so other students are able to view each simulation. "While students watch their peers, they will be taking notes on what they find interesting about the job and what challenges they may encounter in each job," Miller said.

The high-schoolers can then discuss what they noticed, what surprised them and how they feel about the career.

"At the middle school age, it is all about exploration," Miller said. When middle school groups visit Virginia Western's campus, they will rotate through a station with the headsets, see a projected simulation, discuss what they notice. "The headsets will help students gain an understanding of what these



At the Hall Associates Career Center, Virginia Western student Michelle Brown uses the virtual reality headset with career exploration modules from Transfr Trek.



Manufacturing

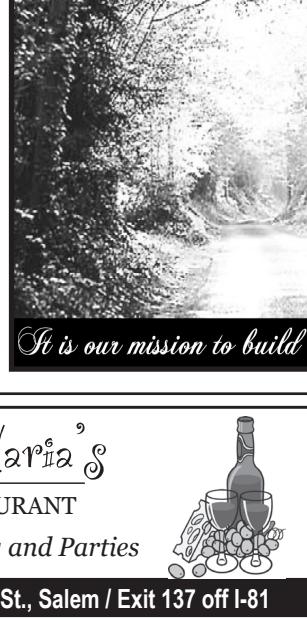
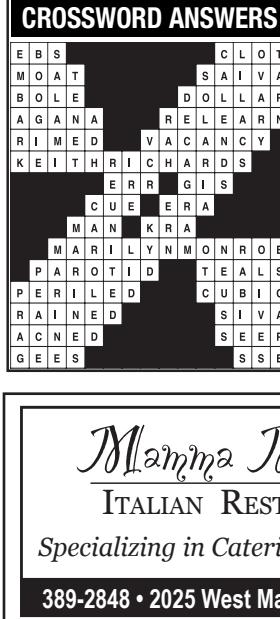
COURTESY PHOTOS

Interactive VR simulations provide a "day-in-the-life" view of jobs that align with potential career pathways, such as this scenario in the Manufacturing module. Image courtesy of Transfr.

The VR headsets provide engaging simulations and user-friendly analysis in short spans of time, Porter said. "That's why I wanted to go with virtual reality, because

it just ticks off so many checkmarks for what students these days need and what they're interested in."

-The Salem Times-Register



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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. Sunday School 9:30 AM, Sunday Morning Worship Service 11:00 AM, Wednesday Bible Study and Prayer Meeting 7:00 PM.

SHILOH BAPTIST - 201 South Market Street, Salem, Rev. Adrian E. Dowell, H) (389-0409). Sunday School at 8:30 a.m. (All classes) via zoom and conference call line. Wednesday Adult Bible Study at 7:00 p.m. in person for adults, children and teens. Adult class is also streamed on Facebook. Men's Bible Study Saturday at 7:00 a.m. (Zoom). Saturday Intercessory Prayer Service at 8:00 a.m. (conference call line). Sunday Women's Bible Study Class at 8:30 p.m. (Zoom). In-person Worship on Sunday at 11:00 a.m. or worship with us on line via Facebook. Church office can be contacted for additional information.

PENTECOSTAL HOLINESS

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

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH (USA)

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

UNITED METHODIST

FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH - 125 W. Main St, Salem, VA. 540-389-5459. Pastor Alan Combs, Sunday: Genesis Contemporary Service at 8:45 a.m., Traditional Service at 11:00 a.m., Sunday School classes meet at 9:50 a.m. www.fumcsalemva.org.

To list your church, contact Wendi Craig at 276-340-2445 or email advertise@ourvalley.org



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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 grantor's 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

**TRUSTEE SALE OF
1131 2nd Street,
Blue Ridge, VA
24064**

In execution of the Deed of Trust dated November 30, 2017, in the original principal amount of \$148,265.00, recorded as Inst. 170004619, assigned as Inst. 200000435, in the Clerk's Office of the Circuit Court for the County of Botetourt, Virginia, default having occurred in the payment of the indebtedness thereby secured and at the request of the holder of the note, the undersigned, as Substitute Trustees, either of whom may act, will sell at public auction at the front entrance of the Circuit Court for the County of Botetourt on February 24, 2026, at 1:00 p.m., the property located at the above address and described as Lot 5, Block 7, Section 5, Blue Ridge Heights, County of Botetourt. TERMS: CASH. WITH SPECIAL WARRANTY OF TITLE. A WARRANTY OF TITLE. A deposit of \$10,000.00 or 10% of the successful bid.

Legals - Botetourt County

amount (whichever is lower) will be required immediately of the successful bidder, in cashier's check or certified funds only payable to or signed over to "DOLANREID PLLC, TRUSTEE", no person checks accepted. Balance due within 15 days from date of sale VIA BANKWIRE ONLY. Sale is subject to post sale confirmation and audit of the status of the loan including, but not limited to, determination of whether the borrower filed for and obtained bankruptcy protection, entered into any repayment agreement, reinstated or paid off the loan prior to the sale. In any such event, or if trustee is unable to complete the sale, or if it is set aside or not fully completed for any reason except purchaser's default, the sale shall be null and void, and the purchaser's sole remedy, in law or equity, shall be the return of the deposit without interest. Upon purchaser's default, the deposit shall be forfeited and the property resold at the risk and costs of the defaulting purchaser. Sale is subject to all prior liens, easements, restrictions, covenants, reservations and conditions, if any, of record, as well as inchoate liens and any other matters which would be disclosed by an accurate survey or inspection of the premises. Real estate taxes will be adjusted to the date of sale. All costs of conveyance, deed, examination of title, recording charges, grantor's tax and possession will be at the expense of the purchaser. All risks of casualty immediately pass to the successful bidder. Time is of the essence. Winning bidder must sign a memorandum of sale immediately upon completion of sale. Additional terms may be announced at the time of sale. Trustee's affidavit and a copy of the notice of sale available at the foreclosure sale. The opening bid is not announced until the sale. Current sale status available at dolanreid.com/foreclosure-sales.

THIS IS A COMMUNICATION FROM A DEBT COLLECTOR. ANY INFORMATION OBTAINED WILL BE USED FOR THAT PURPOSE. For Information Contact: DolanReid PLLC and G. Benny Moore, Substitute Trustee(s) 12610 Patrick Henry Dr., Ste. D, Newport News, VA 23602; (757) 320-0255, ext. 220 or ext. 260

**TRUSTEE'S SALE
OF 1449
LAKERIDGE
CIRCLE,
TROUTVILLE, VA
24175.**

In execution of a certain Deed of Trust dated January 4, 2006, in the original principal amount of \$175,000.00 recorded in the Clerk's Office, Circuit Court for Botetourt County, Virginia as Instrument No. 060000421. The undersigned Substitute Trustee will offer for sale at public auction in the front of the Circuit Court building for Botetourt County, Main Street, Fincastle, VA 24090, or any such temporary alternative Circuit Court location designated by the Judges of the Circuit Court, on April 3, 2026, at 10:45 AM, the property described in said Deed of Trust, located at the above address, and more particularly described as follows: ALL THAT CERTAIN TRACT OR PARCEL OF LAND, WITH IMPROVEMENTS THEREON AND EASEMENTS AND APPURTENANCES THEREUNTO APPERTAINING, LYING AND BEING IN BOTETOURT COUNTY, VIRGINIA, AND MORE PARTICULARLY DESCRIBED AS FOLLOWS: TO-WIT: PARCEL 1: BEING LOT 4, BLOCK 24, ACCORDING TO MAP NO. 3 OF BLOCKS 11-24, RAINBOW FOREST, PROPERTY OF BOTETOURT DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION, BOTETOURT COUNTY, VIRGINIA, MADE BY C. B. MALCOLM & SON, S.C.E., DATED JUNE 29, 1962, CONSISTING OF SHEETS 1 THROUGH 5

RECORDED IN THE CLERK'S OFFICE OF THE CIRCUIT COURT FOR THE COUNTY OF BOTETOURT, VIRGINIA, IN PLAT BOOK 4, AT PAGE 143. PARCEL 2: LOT NO. 5, BLOCK 24, ACCORDING TO MAP NO. 3 OF BLOCKS 11-24, RAINBOW FOREST, PROPERTY OF BOTETOURT DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION, BOTETOURT COUNTY, VIRGINIA, MADE BY C. B. MALCOLM & SON, S.C.E.'S, DATED AUGUST 15, 1960 OF RECORD IN TILE CLERK'S OFFICE OF THE CIRCUIT COURT OF BOTETOURT COUNTY, VIRGINIA, IN PLAT BOOK 4, PAGE 102. TERMS OF SALE: ALL CASH. A bidder's deposit of ten percent (10%) of the sale price or ten percent (10%) of the original principal balance of the subject Deed of Trust, whichever is lower, in the form of cash or certified funds payable to the Substitute Trustee must be present at the time of the sale. The balance of the purchase price will be due within fifteen (15) days of sale, otherwise may be forfeited by the Substitute Trustee. Time is of the essence.

Legals - Botetourt County

sale. The balance of the purchase price will be due within fifteen (15) days of sale, otherwise Purchaser's deposit may be forfeited to Trustee. Time is of the essence. If the sale is set aside for any reason, the Purchaser at the sale shall be entitled to a return of the deposit paid. The Purchaser may, if provided by the terms of the Trustee's Memorandum of Foreclosure Sale, be entitled to a \$50 cancellation fee from the Substitute Trustee, but shall have no further recourse against the Mortgagor, the Mortgagee or the Mortgagee's attorney. A form copy of the Trustee's memorandum of foreclosure sale and contract to purchase real property is available for viewing at www.bwssales.com. Additional terms, if any, to be announced at the sale and the Purchaser may be given the option to execute the contract of sale electronically. This is a communication from a debt collector and any information obtained will be used for that purpose. The sale is subject to seller confirmation. Substitute Trustee: Equity Trustees, LLC, 8100 Three Chopt Road, Suite 240, Richmond, VA 23229. If you have any questions or concerns, please contact the Virginia Pre-Sale Department of counsel for Equity Trustees, LLC at 301-961-6555, website: www.bwssales.com.

Additional terms may be announced at the time of sale. Trustee's affidavit and a copy of the notice of sale available at dolanreid.com/foreclosure-sales.

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For Information Contact:

DolanReid PLLC and G. Benny Moore, Substitute Trustee(s) 12610 Patrick Henry Dr., Ste. D, Newport News, VA 23602; (757) 320-0255, ext. 220 or ext. 260

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Legals - Botetourt County

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Legals - City of Salem

property from sale at any time. In addition, should the Trustee be unable, for any reason, in its sole discretion, to convey title, the successful bidder's sole remedy in law or equity shall be the return of his deposit. Upon refund of the deposit, the sale shall be void and of no effect.

Additional terms may be announced at the time of the sale. The Trustee will convey the above-described property to the purchaser(s) by Special Warranty deed at settlement and makes no additional representations or warranties of any kind regarding the title to said property.

John K. Prillaman, Esq. Trustee

For Information Contact: John K. Prillaman, Esq. OPN Law, PLC 3140 Chaparral Drive, #200-C Roanoke, Virginia 24018 (540) 725-8194

Legals - Montgomery County**ABC NOTICE**

TANGLED WISDOM LLC, trading as TANGLED WISDOM, 4287 & 4289 North Fork Road, Elliston, Montgomery Co. VA 24087.

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Sean Burrows, Managing Member

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 that the Board of Supervisors hereby schedules a public

hearing for Monday, February 23, 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 proposed Ordinances Temporarily changing the A-3, E-3 and F-3 Precinct Polling Place from Squires Student Center located at 290 College Avenue, Blacksburg, Virginia, to Johnston Student Center located at 920 W. Campus Drive, Blacksburg, Virginia, for the June 16, 2026 Primary Election Only.

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

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

PLANNING COMMISSION

The Town of Christiansburg Planning Commission will hold a Public Hearing on Tuesday, February 17, 2026, at 7:00 PM in the Council Chambers of the Christiansburg Town Hall, 100 E. Main Street, Christiansburg, Virginia 24073, pursuant to Sections 15.2-2204 and 15.2-2285 of the Code of Virginia, as amended. The purpose of the public hearing is to receive public comments concerning:

A. Rezoning request by LZM-BAM, LLC, Applicant and Property Owner, for an amendment to proffers on property located at 2886 Roanoke Street, identified as Tax Parcel 501-1-((1))-24A (Parcel ID 011123), consisting of approximately 0.968 acres. The property is zoned General Business District (B-3) with proffers, and the request is to amend the proffers accepted with the 2001 rezoning action. The property is designated as Business/Commercial on the Future Land Use Map of the 2013 Christiansburg Comprehensive Plan.

B. Conditional Use Permit request by Rockstep LLC, Property Owner, to allow a Carnaval to be held on March 26, 2026 through April 5, 2026 on the

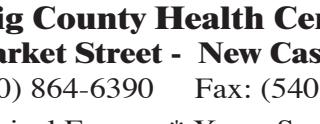
ourvalley.org

Legals - Montgomery County

property located at 782 New River Road NW, Tax Parcel 435 - ((A)) - 41, Parcel ID 007741, zoned General Business District B-3. The property is designated as Business/Commercial on the Future Land Use Map of the 2013 Christiansburg Comprehensive Plan.

Town Hall will be open and available to receive public comment in-person at the time of this Public Hearing. A copy of the application, the Town's Zoning Map, Zoning Ordinance, and Future Land Use Map may be viewed in the Planning Department, 100 E. Main Street, Christiansburg, VA 24073, during normal office hours of 8:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m. Monday through Friday. Contact the Planning Department, by phone at (540) 382-6128, Ext. 1902 or by email at planning@christiansburg.org, with any questions or if you require reasonable accommodations.</

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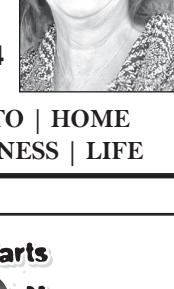


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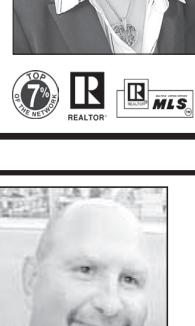
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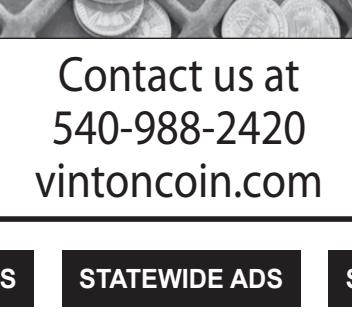
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GENERAC

Brown v. Board of Education SCHOLARSHIP COMMITTEE

Accepting Applications through April 12, 2026

The Brown v. Board of Education Scholarship Program was established by the General Assembly to provide educational opportunities for persons who were denied an education in Virginia between 1954 and 1964 due to the closing of the public schools during Massive Resistance. The scholarship is now available to those individuals and to their descendants. The program is open to eligible applicants for the 2026-2027 school year. For applications and information on eligibility, visit: BROWNSCHOLARSHIP.VIRGINIA.GOV



Left RC's Mitchell Taylor, a freshman from Salem, glides over the hurdle in the 60 meter race in last week's Bast-Cregger Invitational in Salem. Right, Roanoke's Ophelia Ladner (far left in photo, #6) and Rebecca Carr (far right) finished first and second in the women's 60 meter hurdles

PHOTOS BY BRIAN HOFFMAN

Maroons combine to take eight firsts in indoor meet

The Roanoke College indoor track & field team hosted the Bast-Cregger Invitational in the campus fieldhouse last weekend and had some excellent performances against some strong competition. The men's team had three event winners and four second places and the women had five first-place finishes and recorded a slew of personal-best times as the team celebrated their senior class.

In the men's meet Amari Carter won

the 200m with a time of 22.51 seconds. Lorenzo Camobreco and Max Cardwell claimed the top two spots in the 400m, crossing the tape in 49.44 and 49.71 seconds. Cardwell's PR time allowed him to join Camobreco in the school's all-time Top 10.

The Maroons secured a victory in the 4x400 relay, with Cardwell, Brandon Heffinger, Camobreco and Salem High grad Bryson Hill logging a mark of 3:25.58. Mitchell Taylor, a freshman

from Salem High, was the runner-up in the 60m hurdles, finishing in 8.41 seconds.

For the women, Lindsey Hobin took first place in both the 200m and the 400m. She set a personal record in the 400, clocking in at 58.72 seconds, and logged a time of 25.61 seconds to win the 200m race. The 4x400 relay team of Mae Kaufman, Ophelia Ladner, Maryrose Molina-Shuman and Hobin was victorious with a time of

4:01.53.

Ladner and Rebecca Carr produced a 1-2 finish in the 60m hurdles. Ladner registered a PR time of 9.20 seconds to win the event, while Carr came in at 9.36. Nolanda Henderson won the 60m with a season-best time of 7.89 seconds.

The Maroons next travel to the JDL Fast Track in Winston-Salem, N.C. for the Camel City competition this weekend.

Maroon wrestlers take first among 30 teams in Illinois tournament

RC has home match with W&L on Friday

The Roanoke College wrestling team will host Washington & Lee in a big ODAC dual at the Cregger Center in Salem Friday night. The first whistle blows at 7 pm and it's "Senior Night"

for the Maroons.

Roanoke had three individual champions last Friday and Saturday to win the team title at the 2026 Pete Willson Wheaton Invitational in Wheaton, Illinois. The Invitational is the oldest and largest small-college wrestling tournament in the country, dating back to the original Wheaton Invitational in 1938, and the Maroons finished first among 30 teams.

Mac Cafurello won the title at 125 pounds, in the process recording his 100th career win – the first student-athlete to do so in program history. He won all five of his matches over the weekend enroute to the title.

Jude Robson earned five victories on his way to the 133 pound title, one by pin and one by technical fall. Lorenzo Pellet-Vazquez secured five wins, two by pin and one by technical fall to take the 197-pound championship. Roanoke had 154 team points, besting the University of Wisconsin-La Crosse with 148.5 points. The Maroons had eight place winners.

Women need wins to make ODAC b'ball tournament

The Roanoke College women are hoping to make a late season run and qualify for the Old Dominion Athletic Conference basketball tournament. The Maroons won their second conference game of

the season last Friday when they defeated Randolph College, 50-40, at the Cregger Center in Salem.

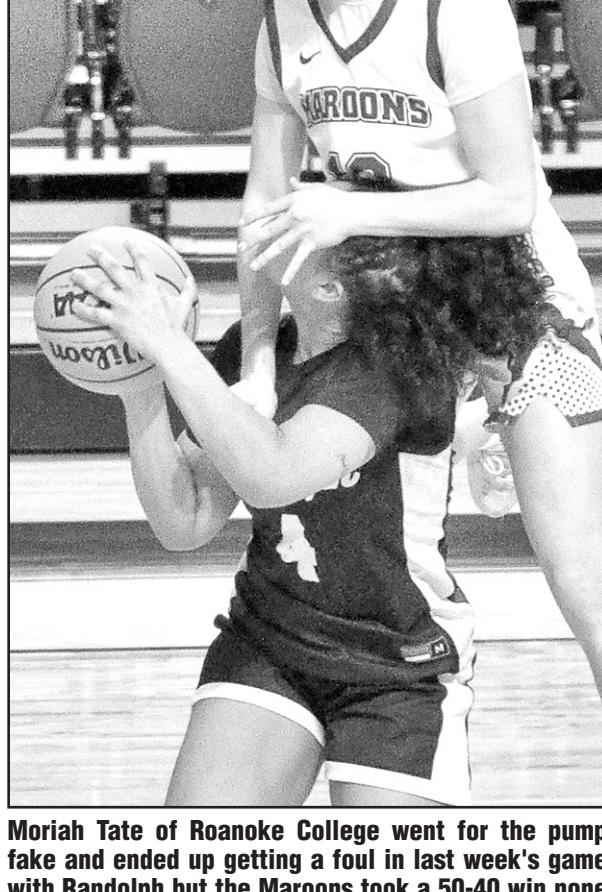
With the win the Maroons are now 8-11 overall and tied for ninth place in the ODAC

standings. The top eight in the conference make the tournament and, coming into the week, the Maroons were two games behind eighth place Lynchburg (4-6) with a 2-8 record in the 12 team conference.

The Maroons were scheduled to play 6-4 Hollins at home on Wednesday, but results were too late for publication. On Saturday they go to Harrisonburg to play 0-10 Eastern Mennonite, then finish up with games against 2-8 Averett, 6-4 Shenandoah, Lynchburg and Randolph-Macon. The Lynchburg game, on February 18, could decide if the Maroons make the tournament.

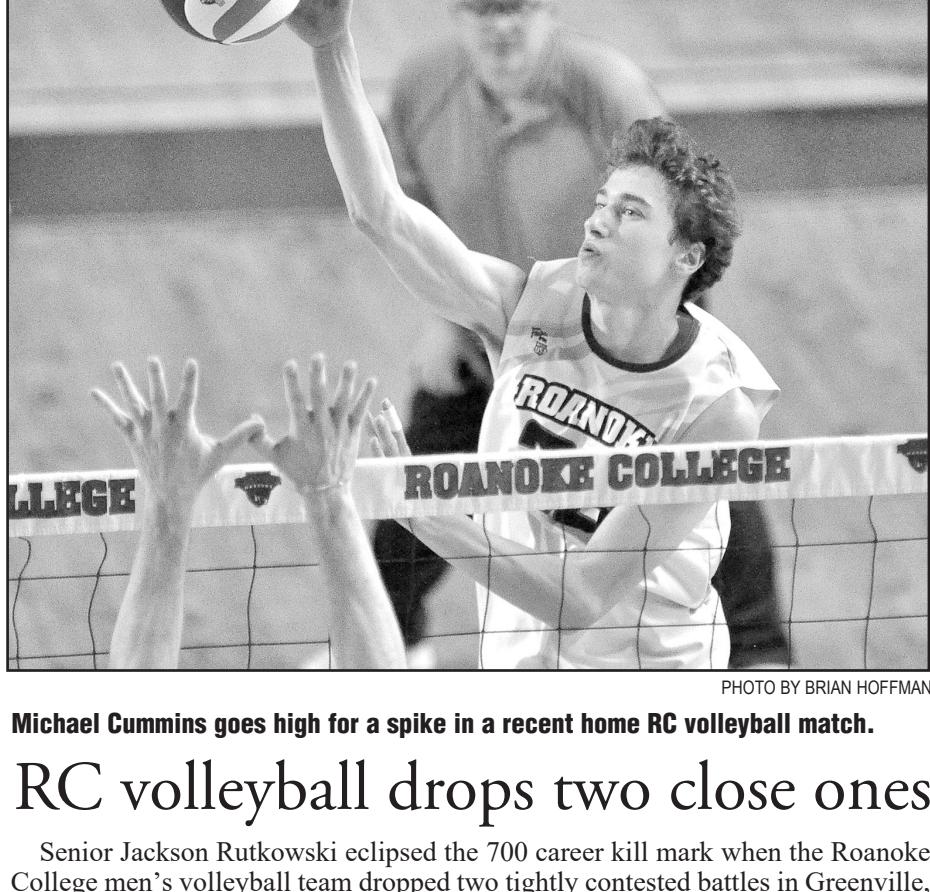
Last Friday at home Paige Breuer and Cecilia Robinson both hit double figure points in the win over Randolph. Roanoke led 12-5 after the first quarter and 28-17 at the half. Randolph cut the lead to eight early in the fourth period but the Maroons were able to regroup and finish off the 50-40 win.

Breuer topped the squad in scoring with 16 points and Robinson hit double digit points for the second time in her career with a dozen while also grabbing eight rebounds. Nadia Snesarey had four steals for the Maroons.



Mariah Tate of Roanoke College went for the pump fake and ended up getting a foul in last week's game with Randolph but the Maroons took a 50-40 win none the less.

PHOTO BY BRIAN HOFFMAN



Michael Cummins goes high for a spike in a recent home RC volleyball match.

RC volleyball drops two close ones

Senior Jackson Rutkowski eclipsed the 700 career kill mark when the Roanoke College men's volleyball team dropped two tightly contested battles in Greenville, Pennsylvania last weekend. The Maroons lost to Thiel College in four sets and St. John Fisher University in five.

Against Thiel all four sets were close with the final two requiring extra points. Thiel took the first set, 25-21, before RC grabbed the second at 25-20. Thiel then finished out the game with 34-32 and 26-24 set victories. Rutkowski, Cade Kinne, and Colin Mendoza all hit double digit kills.

It was another tightly contested match against St. John Fisher. The Maroons took the first and fourth sets (25-23 and 25-21) to force a fifth set but ultimately fell in that final set, 15-13. Rutkowski also led in kills for match two, tallying 12. His combined 25 kills on the day put him at 717 career kills, making him just the second Maroon to surpass the 700 mark, joining teammate Michael Cummins.

The Maroons, now 4-2, are back in Pennsylvania this Saturday when they travel to Elizabethtown to face Hood College at 1 pm and host Elizabethtown at 3 pm.

RC HOOPS

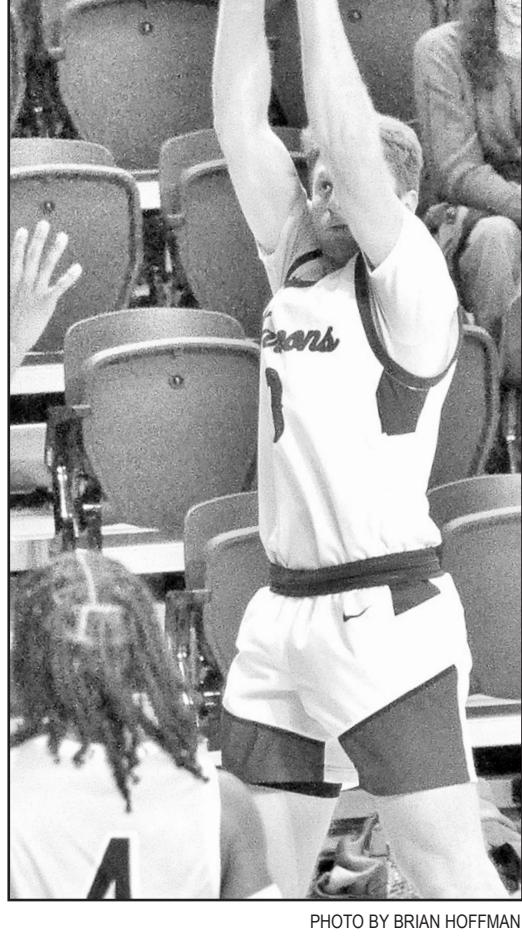
continued from page 10

ble of the season with 13 points and a game-high 12 rebounds. Marcus Morgan scored a game-high 16 points to go with six rebounds and Jackson Bell netted 11 points with five rebounds, two assists and two steals. Caleb Franze had eight points while Zach Rosenthal compiled seven points and five rebounds.

With the win the Maroons improved to 15-4 overall and 8-2 in the conference. They were scheduled to play at Washington & Lee on Wednesday in a big conference game. The Generals beat RC by one point in a prior meeting in Salem when the Maroons had three shots in the final seconds that wouldn't fall.

Virginia Wesleyan continues to lead the conference with an 8-1 ODAC record. Randolph-Macon and Roanoke have two ODAC losses each, then W&L, Hampden-Sydney and Averett follow with four conference losses each.

The Maroons have a favorable schedule as they head down the home stretch. They play Eastern Mennonite in Harrisonburg this Saturday then finish up the regular season with four straight home games against ODAC foes Guilford, Shenandoah, Lynchburg and Randolph.



Zach Rosenthal shoots a three Friday.

PHOTO BY BRIAN HOFFMAN

Salem-Roanoke Baseball Hall of Fame inducts Class of '26

Five area baseball greats were inducted into the Salem-Roanoke Baseball Hall of Fame at the 34th hot stove banquet and induction ceremony Sunday night at the Salem Civic Center. This year's inductees include Drew Bailey, Allen Lawrence, Wes McMillian, Donald Minnick and Jackie Bradley, Jr., who was also scheduled to be the keynote speaker. Bradley could not attend due to transportation issues from the winter storm that impacted travel along the east coast. In addition, Roy Lower received the Wayne LaPierre, Sr. Community Service Award.

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

Bradley joined the Boston Red Sox in 2013, just one year after playing in Salem. From there, he became one of Major League Baseball's best defensive outfielders, showing his range, strong arm and spectacular highlight catches. He was named an All-Star in 2016 and then earned a Gold Glove Award in 2018 while helping the Red Sox win the 2018 World Series, also claiming American League Championship Series MVP honors.

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

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

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

Bailey began a collegiate head coaching career at Averett University before leading Bluefield State to a pair of HBCU National Championships and compiling a 95-79 won-lost record from 2021-24. He is currently the head baseball coach at his alma mater, Concord.

Allen Lawrence has built a distinguished career in professional baseball operations in the Roanoke Valley where he currently is the general manager of the Carolina League's Salem RidgeYaks. A 1996 graduate of North Cross School and a 2004 graduate of Elon University, he began his career as a game-day employee of the Colorado Rockies' Class A affiliate, the Salem Avalanche, advancing through roles including food and beverage director, director of stadium operations, vice president of sales, and assistant general manager.

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

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

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

He was a two-time River Ridge District Coach of the Year and Timesland baseball Coach of the Year in 2018.

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

Minnick was chosen by the Cincinnati Reds in the 19th round of the 1977 Amateur Draft but opted to play at ETSU, where he helped the Buccaneers to the Ohio Valley Conference title. He was taken in the second round of the 1979 January Draft by the Seattle Mariners. He played for three seasons for affiliates of the Mariners and Baltimore Orioles, helping the Hagerstown Suns to the 1981 Carolina League championship.

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

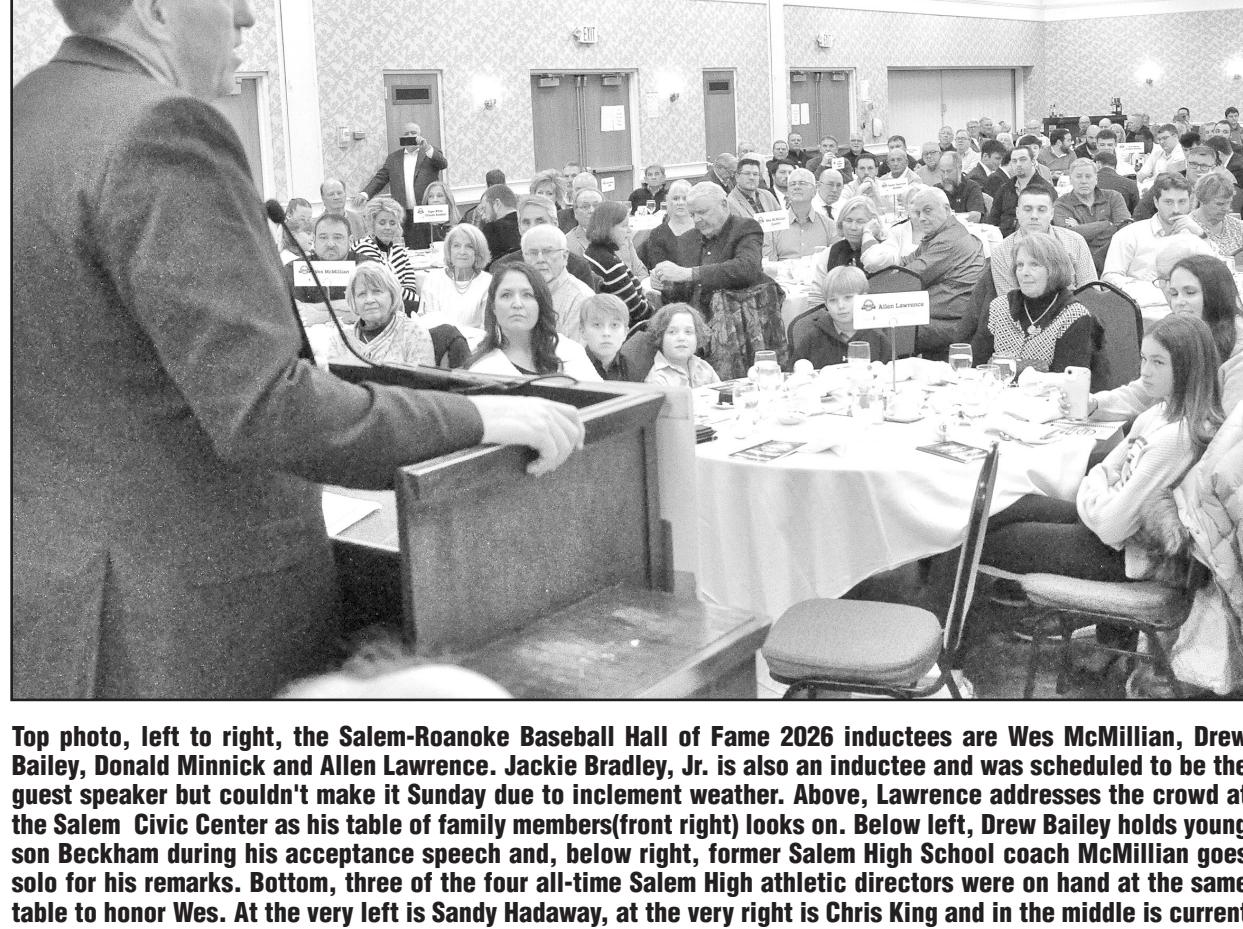
Lower coached baseball for nine years at the Little League level, four years in AAU, seven years in American Legion baseball and two years of Cave Spring High baseball and basketball. He served on the Cave Spring Little League board of directors and served on the booster boards at Cave Spring and Hidden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

The banquet also recognized Tristan Lange as the 2025 Ray Bellamy Award winner. The Bellamy Award goes to the player selected as the top high school player in the area served by the Salem-Roanoke Baseball Hall of Fame. Lange, a current senior at North Cross School, struck out 123 batters in 64 innings while holding his opponents to a .161 batting average. At the plate, Tristan had a .441 average. He has signed a baseball scholarship offer from Virginia Commonwealth University.

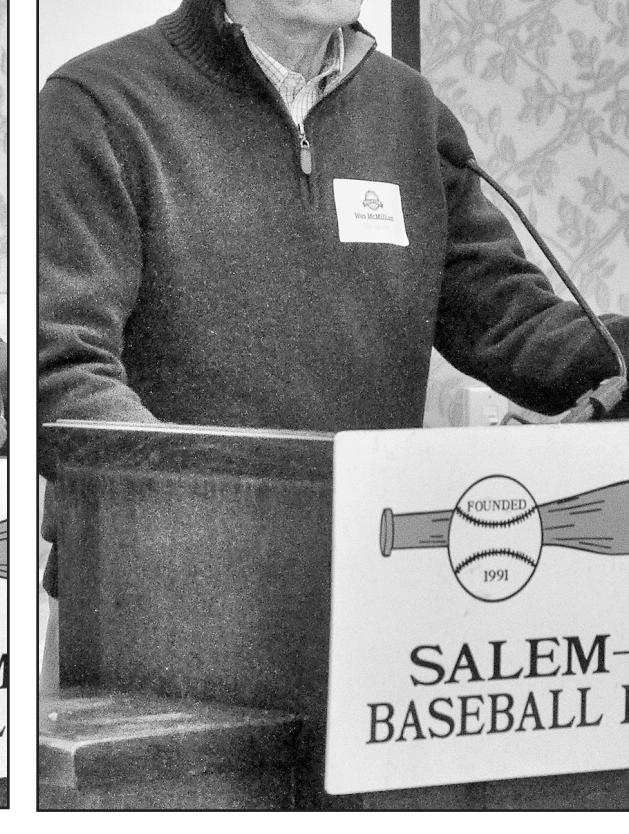
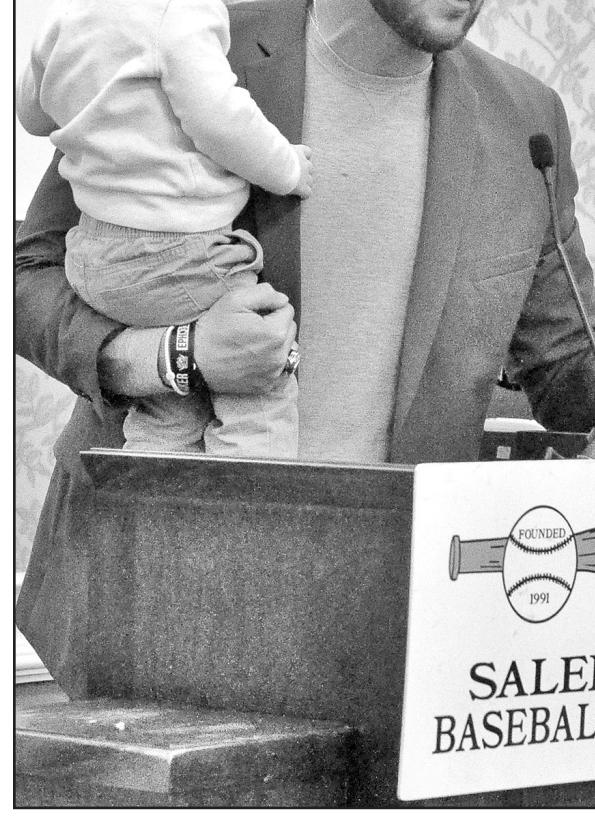
The Salem-Roanoke Baseball Hall of Fame was founded in 1991 and honors players and contributors from the counties of Alleghany, Roanoke, Bedford, Botetourt, Craig, Floyd, Franklin and Montgomery and the independent cities located within the boundaries of those counties.



PHOTOS BY BRIAN HOFFMAN



Top photo, left to right, the Salem-Roanoke Baseball Hall of Fame 2026 inductees are Wes McMillian, Drew Bailey, Donald Minnick and Allen Lawrence. Jackie Bradley, Jr. is also an inductee and was scheduled to be the guest speaker but couldn't make it Sunday due to inclement weather. Above, Lawrence addresses the crowd at the Salem Civic Center as his table of family members(front right) looks on. Below left, Drew Bailey holds young son Beckham during his acceptance speech and, below right, former Salem High School coach McMillian goes solo for his remarks. Bottom, three of the four all-time Salem High athletic directors were on hand at the same table to honor Wes. At the very left is Sandy Hadaway, at the very right is Chris King and in the middle is current Salem AD Drew Barrett. The only one who couldn't make it was Dale Foster, the first Salem AD and one of only four over 49 years of Salem High School.



SPORTS

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Adam Ward Classic basketball event at Salem High this weekend

Salem and Glenvar boys meet Friday night, six big games Saturday including North Cross against William Fleming

Once again the Salem and Glenvar basketball teams are scheduled to play in the annual Adam Ward Classic. Salem High will be the site for three games Friday night and six games Saturday, including a head-to-head game between the Salem and Glenvar boys on Friday evening.

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

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.

FRIDAY SCHEDULE

5:00 pm Salem vs. Glenvar jayvee boys
6:30 pm Salem vs. Staunton River varsity girls
8:15 pm Salem vs. Glenvar varsity boys

SATURDAY SCHEDULE

(all varsity boys unless otherwise noted)
10 am Cave Spring vs. Lord Botetourt
11:45 am Floyd County vs. Parry McCluer
1:30 pm George Wythe vs. Radford
3:15 pm Wm. Fleming vs. Woodgrove (Girls)
5:00 pm John Handley vs. Varina
6:45 pm Northside vs. PH
8:30 pm North Cross vs. William Fleming

Admission is \$10 for all day and ages 5 and under are free. VHSL and school issued passes will not be honored for this event.

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

After 10 consecutive days of no high school sports the Salem and Glenvar teams are hoping for some warmer weather this week. A full slate of action is scheduled, weather permitting of

course.

Glenvar played high school basketball games on Tuesday to break the string of inactivity but Salem's games with Christiansburg were postponed as

Montgomery County Public Schools were still not allowed to travel or host games. Glenvar's boys won at James River, 52-49, and the Glenvar girls lost to the Knights at home, 65-35.

On Wednesday the Salem High basketball teams were scheduled to play Blacksburg, with the boys at home and the girls at Blacksburg. At press time there had been no decision from Montgomery County on whether those games would be played. Salem's wrestlers were scheduled to compete at Lord Botetourt, and that was most likely "a go."

Today, Thursday, the Glenvar basketball teams are scheduled to play Radford with the boys at home and the girls at Radford. This weekend is the big "Adam Ward Classic" with the Salem boys and girls and Glenvar boys all participating. See the related story in this section for details.

On Saturday the Region 4D wrestling

tournament, with Salem, is scheduled for Orange County High School. The Region 2C tournament, with Glenvar, has been moved from this Saturday to February 14. Also Saturday Salem will be participating in the Region 4D swim meet at Liberty University and Glenvar will swim in the Region 2C meet at the Hargrave Military Academy pool.

Next Monday, February 9, Salem will make up previously postponed basketball games with Hidden Valley. The boys are at home hoping to avenge a prior loss and the girls are at Hidden Valley.

Next Tuesday, February 10, Salem's basketball teams take on Pulaski with the boys at home and girls in Dublin. Glenvar has basketball games with Patrick County, with the boys at home and the girls in Stuart.

Obviously, events and times are subject to change due to the weather but that's how it looks as of Wednesday.



Glenvar coach Cheryl Hayes talks to the girls during a timeout. The Highlanders returned to action Tuesday for their first game in 11 days.

PHOTO BY BRIAN HOFFMAN

Roanoke men move up to 17th in D3hoops.com after dominating win over Averett

The Roanoke College men picked up a big Old Dominion Athletic Conference basketball win last Friday when they dominated a solid Averett University team. The Maroons won their sixth straight game and moved up to 17th in the D3hoops.com national Division III up early as a 20-5 run

rankings with a 68-46 win put the RC ahead 25-9 at the Cregger Center in the 10-minute mark. RC extended the lead to 18 at halftime, 36-18, and went ahead by 20 with 11:41 left in the second half.

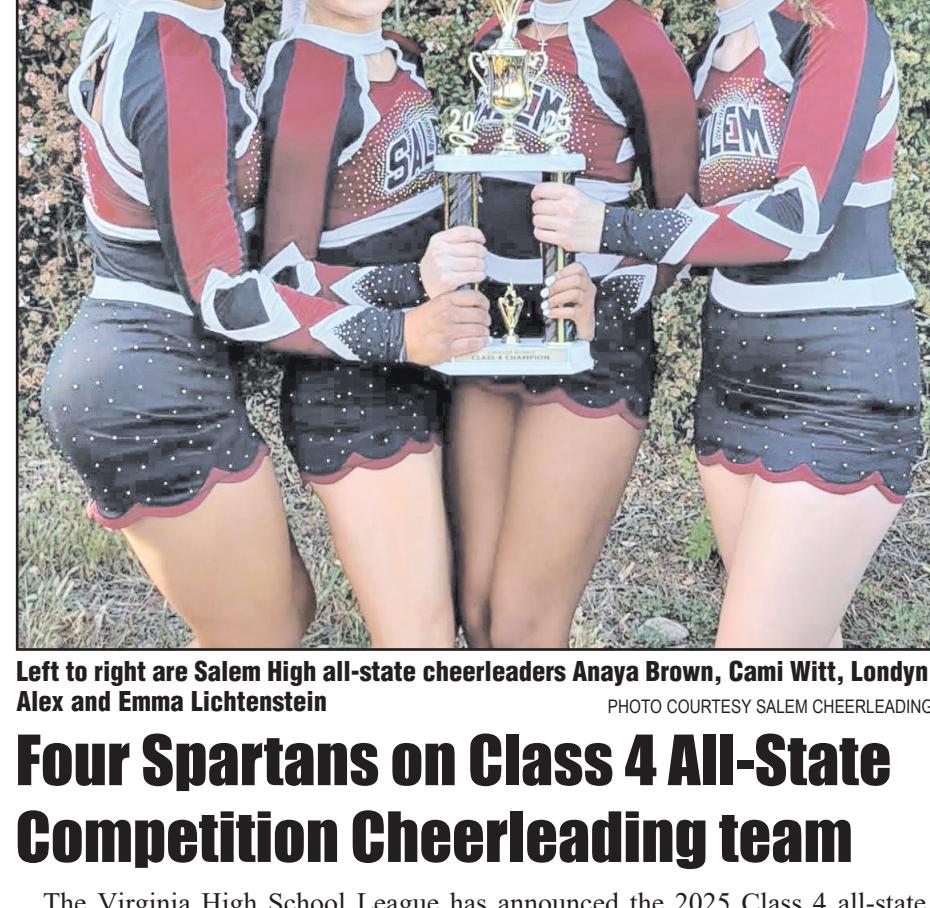
Gavin O'Malley recorded his fourth double-double. The Maroons went

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Marcus Morgan of RC drives to the hoop against Averett.

PHOTO BY BRIAN HOFFMAN



Left to right are Salem High all-state cheerleaders Anaya Brown, Cami Witt, Londyn Alex and Emma Lichtenstein.

PHOTO COURTESY SALEM CHEERLEADING

Four Spartans on Class 4 All-State Competition Cheerleading team

The Virginia High School League has announced the 2025 Class 4 all-state competition cheer team and Salem is well represented. Salem's Cami Witt was named to the first team while three Spartans made second team all-state, Anaya Brown, Londyn Alex and Emma Lichtenstein.

Broad Run senior Hannah Dufour is the Class 4 Player of the Year, and Broad Run head coach Megan Bichy is the Class 4 Coach of the Year. The competition cheer player and coach of the year come from the state championship team in each classification.

Dufour and Bichy guided Broad Run to a fifth state cheer championship for the program. In this year's 2025 finals at VCU, judges awarded Broad Run 264.75 points. Grafton followed with 259.25 points, then Jefferson Forest with 248.75, and Salem High was fourth in the state with 246.75 points.

The top ten athletes from each first-team all-region squad qualify for all-state consideration. Of these ten, the top five—determined by ranking—make the all-state first team, while the next five are placed on the second team. The highest-rated cheerleader among the state championship team is named Player of the Year (POY), and the coach of that team is named Coach of the Year (COY).