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SALEM TIMES-REGISTER

Thursday, June 4, 2026 • (USPS 631-140) • \$1.50

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Council honor SHS Girls Basketball, Debate teams

Meg Hibbert
Contributing writer

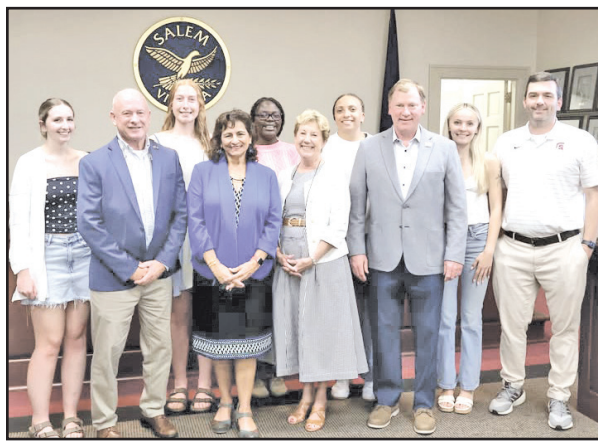
Salem City Council congratulated members of Salem High School's Debate and Basketball Teams and coaches at the May 26 Council meeting.

SHS Girls Basketball had two outstanding seasons, Council's resolution noted. The team finished this year with a 27-2 overall record, and those wins tie the school record for wins in a season, which was set the previous year.

Team members won 54 games and lost only five in the past two years, Council's resolution noted. Coach Scott Jester was named Coach of the Year.

Individual Debate State Champs recognized by Council were Dylan Hancock, Luke Stovall and Kody Hinnant. Salem High School won two of the four events.

Hancock captured his second consecutive individual state title in Student Congress. Stovall and Hinnant won in Policy Debate,



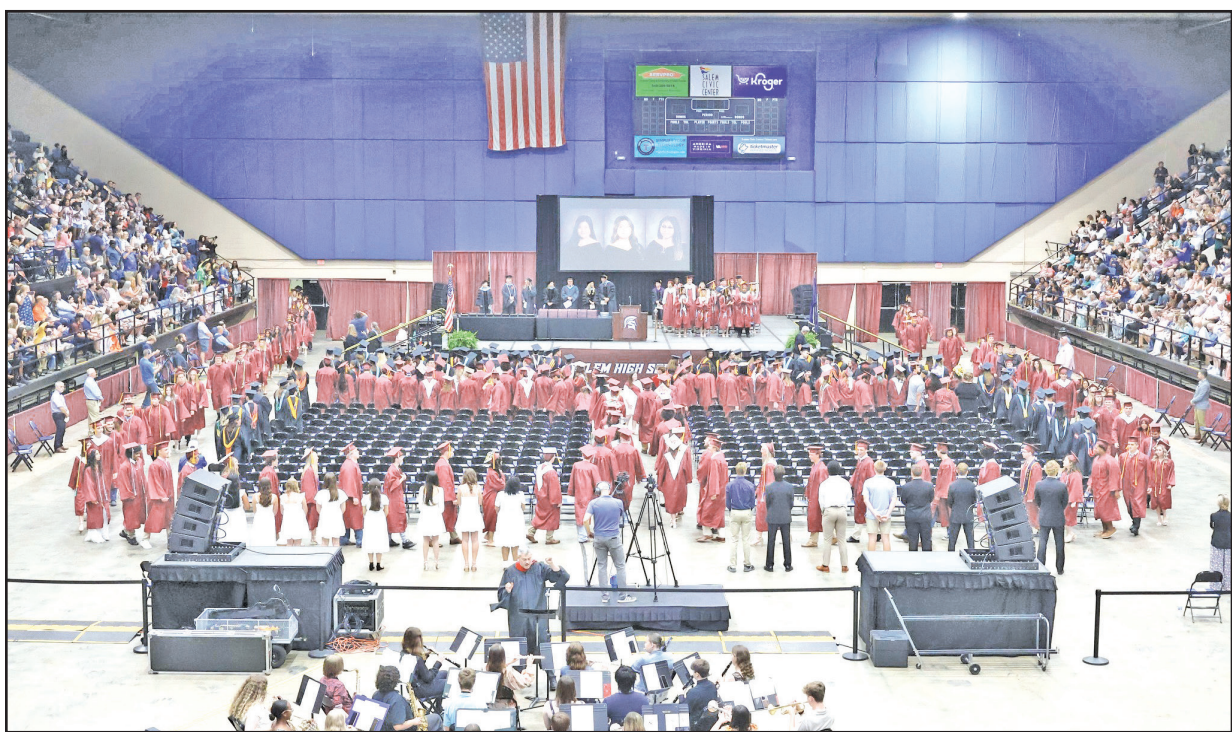
Salem City Council honors the Salem High School Girls Basketball team and coaches at the May 26 Council meeting.

with a 4-1 record. Members and coaches of both teams received individual copies of



Salem City Council recognizes State Champ Debate Team Members and coaches at May 26 meeting.

Council's resolutions well as a SHS champion congratulating them, as pin.



Salem High School held its 2026 commencement ceremony at the Salem Civic Center.

283 graduate from Salem High School

Aila Boyd
aboyle@mainstreetnewspapers.com

Salem High School honored the Class of 2026 during commencement exercises held Friday afternoon at the Salem Civic Center.

A total of 283 seniors crossed the stage to receive their diplomas as family members, friends and community supporters gathered to celebrate the graduates' achievements.

Prior to the ceremony, graduates arrived at the Civic Center dressed in their caps and gowns, preparing for the

milestone event and sharing final moments with classmates before entering the arena. Photos captured the behind-the-scenes excitement as students assembled and lined up for the processional.

The commencement ceremony marked the culmination of the students' high school careers and the beginning of their next chapters, whether pursuing higher education, entering the workforce, joining the military or exploring other opportunities.

Dr. Kelly Linkenhoker delivered her last commencement address

as principal of Salem High School. She will be replaced by Jamie Garst on July 1. "Today, I want to talk to you about something we all take for granted—doors. Because every important moment in life begins the same way—with the decision to walk through one," she said. "Every single day we walk through them without even thinking. We enter and exit hundreds each week."

While some of the doors are wide open, others are barely cracked open or closed altogether, she noted. "How we choose to walk through a door often determines

what happens on the other side," she said.

The Salem High School Class of 2026 was recognized for its accomplishments during the ceremony, concluding another academic year for Salem City Schools.

"Today is not only a celebration of the class of 2026, but also a celebration of this community that helped shape them," Superintendent Dr. Curtis Hicks said. "To the graduates, congratulations. You've reached an important milestone and you should be proud of your accomplishments."

Glenvar High School celebrates Class of 2026



SCREENSHOT

Glenvar High School held commencement ceremonies Wednesday, May 27 at the Salem Civic Center in Salem, celebrating the Class of 2026. Principal Dr. Corie Franklin told graduates, "Class of 2026, what a class you have been. Over the past four years, you've built a legacy that reaches far beyond academics. You've demonstrated phenomenal talent in the fine arts, athletics, leadership and in the classroom." Valedictorian Nick Fraticelli added, "The growth I've witnessed firsthand both in myself and my peers before me has been exponential on a physical, emotional, spiritual and intellectual level over the past four years."

Randy Foley announces retirement from Council

Meg Hibbert
Contributing writer

After 20 years serving the citizens of Salem, Randy Foley has announced he will not run for re-election in November.

Foley made his announcement at the close of the May 26 Council meeting. His term will end the last day of December.

"It has been my absolute honor and privilege to serve this city," he said, reading from a prepared statement. "This experience would not have been possible without the unwavering support of my family, my friends, our dedicated city staff, and most importantly, the voters," he said.

In his 20 years Foley never lost an election. He was elected to Council in May 2006 and was elected mayor by his peers from July 1, 2008, to June 30, 2020.

"I am incredibly proud of everything we have accomplished together to make our city a better place," Foley said. "I want to thank everyone for the partnerships, the memories and the successful journey."

He continued, "During my 20 years as a member of City Council, the need for regional cooperation has expanded greatly. When we combine our strengths and unique features good things happen valley wide."

Foley was part of



COURTESY OF CITY OF SALEM

Councilman Randy Foley announced at the close of the May 26 meeting that he will not seek re-election in November after 20 years on Council

the council team that approved funding for Salem Schools to build the city's first new school from the ground up, South Salem Elementary.

The 1987 Salem High School graduate who played football attended the University of Virginia on a football scholarship. Foley earned a bachelor's degree in government and master's in public administration followed by another master's in business administration from the Citadel.

Foley and his wife, Nicole, have three grown children and six grandchildren.

Salem Rescue Squad Life Members celebrate, reminisce

Meg Hibbert
Contributing writer

Life Members of the Salem Rescue Squad were celebrated for their years of contributions on May 30 barbecue lunch at the Salem Rescue Squad Hall in Salem.

Current Captain Tim Gillinger and Chief Gene Bourne recalled highlights of the Rescue Squad and current accomplishments.

"The Squad currently has 27 members, 12 of them active members, four probationary members and six junior members," Gillinger said. "Change is necessary," he explained. "In the past year we have added the associate membership for college students and others who may not be here all year or want flexible volunteer opportunities."

"We believe this will help retain long-term memberships."

Life members earn that designation after 15 years. There are 34 living Life Members, with three or four living out of state.

Life Members and the order in which they joined are Randy Smith - who joined in 1965 - Kenny Reynolds, Rob Logan, Harold Weikle, Bill Spreaker, Joe Cunningham, Jay Bain, Carey Harveycutter, Tim Cannaday, Ken McCauley, Richie Bolton, Eddie Hite, Mike Moore, Mel Ayers, Scott Sheppard, Ken Cook, Darlene Gee, Tony Rickman, John Beach, Jane Lindsay, Paul Hickerson, Fred Wilson Sr., Rick Hardy, Mike Anderson, Betty Powell, Fred Wilson Jr., Kevin Long, Jack McDaniell, Janet Doss, Mike



PHOTO BY KASSY GILLINGER

Life members of the Salem Rescue Squad gather for a photograph in front of Truck 53 after a May 30 lunch in their honor.

Gosnell, Melissa Gray, Glen Gray, Al Scalera and Gene Bourne.

Gillinger pointed out the squad has obtained a new chief's vehicle and a new outfitted golf cart to use at athletic events, the Salem Fair and other activities that are crowded, making it difficult for full-size

ambulances to maneuver.

"I am thankful for past and present members, particularly life members," said the captain, who joined the Salem Rescue Squad three years ago. "We will continue to move forward."

See Rescue, page 7



VOTE NOW!

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The Roanoke Valley



**Cast your votes from
May 24 to June 21**



More than 100 categories—from
• Steakhouse • Wineries • Pizzerias
• Event Centers • Law firms • Jewelry Stores
• Ice Cream Shops • and much more,
You can cast your votes in each Category

mountainmedianews.com/bestofroanoke/

Our ballot is super simple! Don't know much about the accounting firm in your region? Feel free to skip it and move on. Fill out the entire ballot if you're feeling ambitious, or pick and choose among our categories. Select from our drop down list, or if your favorite coffee shop or spa isn't listed, write in your own winner. And, take your time. Our voting platform saves your votes, so you don't have to feel rushed. That means you can return to the ballot to continue choosing your favorites without worrying about any of your votes being lost.

Winner's will be published in

**New Castle Record & Fincastle Herald on July 29
& Salem Times Register & Vinton Messenger July 30**

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.

Hello Summer Festival: The Hello Summer Festival will be held Friday, June 5, from 6-10 p.m. at Green Hill Park. The free event will feature family activities, lawn games, live music by The Radio Sparks, food vendors and a patriotic drone show celebrating America's 250th birthday. Food and beverages, including a cashless bar, will be available for purchase. Outside food and beverages will be permitted, but no outside alcohol will be allowed. For more information, visit Roanoke County Parks, Recreation and Tourism.

Cub Scout Summer Day Camp: The Great Valley District of the Blue Ridge Mountains Council, Scouting America, will host a Cub Scout Summer Day Camp June 8-12 at Hope Tree Family Services, 931 Mt. Vernon Lane, Salem. The camp is open to youth entering first through fifth grade and will feature outdoor adventures, STEM activities, crafts, games, fishing, archery and nature programs. Tara Kelley serves as camp director.

The Dandelion Tour — Ella Langley will perform at the Salem Civic Center on Thursday, June 25, at 7 p.m., with special guests Dylan Marlowe and Gabriella Rose. Tickets range from \$53.50 to \$123.50 and go on sale Friday, Feb. 6, at 10 a.m. Tickets are available at the Salem Civic Center box office, open Monday through Friday from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m., and online at Ticketmaster; additional fees may apply to online purchases.

Happy Trails Film & TV Festival: The Happy Trails Film & TV Festival will return to the Roanoke Valley June 26-28 with events centered at Community Church and a special side program at Pink Cadillac Diner. The festival promotes faith-friendly productions and raises money for

cancer research. Film and television stars will meet fans and present new projects during a weekend featuring films, music, workshops, panels and a banquet. Award-winning performer Don Richmond will present a special Elvis-style performance. The 2026 event marks the festival's ninth year and traces its roots to the RoVaCon media events that began 50 years ago in Roanoke County.

Justin Moore: Justin Moore will return to the Salem Civic Center at 7:30 p.m. Saturday, June 27. The multi-platinum country artist last performed in Salem in 2017 during his "Hell on a Highway" Tour with Dylan Scott. Known for hits including "This Is My Dirt," "You, Me, and Whiskey," "Small Town USA" and "If Heaven Wasn't So Far Away," Moore's show tickets go on sale Friday, April 3, at 10 a.m. Prices start at \$39.50. Tickets are available at the Salem Civic Center box office, open weekdays from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m., and online through Ticketmaster.

Foreigner: The rock band Foreigner will return to the Salem Civic Center this fall as part of its 50th anniversary tour celebrating five decades of performances since the group's first rehearsal in 1976. The concert is scheduled for Wednesday, Sept. 23, at 7:30 p.m. The band last performed in Salem in May 2023, playing a sold-out show featuring many of its best-known songs. Tickets may be purchased at the Salem Civic Center box office from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday or online through Ticketmaster.

Public meetings:
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.



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RECIPE OF THE WEEK



Shelly Koon

Contributing Writer

So far no one has complained about the stories or the dog. June 6, 2023 was my first column about peanut butter and included a recipe from the STR archives. I could have written one sentence to introduce the archive recipe but I chose to write about the history of peanut butter instead.

Despite being high in calories, the high protein and fiber content of peanut butter can boost feelings of fullness and reduce appetite, which may aid in weight management when eaten in moderation. It provides a good source of plant-based protein, iron, and magnesium. Pairing peanut butter with carbohydrates can help prevent sharp spikes in blood sugar, making it a good choice for stabilizing energy levels.

Peanut butter is incredibly versatile for sweet and savory dishes, including blending into smoothies, making peanut sauce for noodles or stir-fries, baking into cookies and brownies, or pairing with apples and celery. You can also make savory stews, create homemade energy balls, or simply use an empty jar for overnight oats. Choose natural peanut butter containing only peanuts (and perhaps salt) to avoid added sugars and hydrogenated oils. Stick to a 2-tablespoon serving size to gain benefits without excess calories. Natural peanut butter should be stored in the refrigerator once opened to prevent oil separation and rancidity.

Here are some of my favorite peanut butter recipes including that first recipe.

Fluffy Frozen Peanut Butter Pie

- 1 pkg (3 oz.) cream cheese softened
- 1 cup confectioners' sugar
- 1/3 cup creamy peanut butter
- 1/2 cup milk
- 1 container (9 oz) frozen whipped topping
- 9-inch baked pastry shell

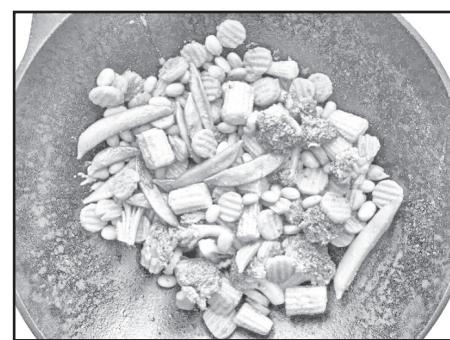
1/4 cup roasted peanuts
Whip cheese until light and fluffy. Beat in sugar and peanut butter. Slowly add milk, blending thoroughly into the mixture. Fold in topping. Pour into pie shell. Sprinkle with chopped peanuts. Freeze and serve.



PB & J Poke Cake

- Ingredients
- 1 (15.25-ounce) box vanilla cake mix
 - 1 1/4 cups milk
 - 1 1/4 cups peanut butter, divided
 - 4 large eggs
 - 1/2 cup butter, melted
 - 1 1/4 cups grape jelly, divided
 - 8 ounces whipped topping
 - 1/4 cup chopped peanuts
- Directions
- Preheat the oven to 350 degrees F. Grease a 9x13-inch baking pan. Add cake mix, milk, 1 cup peanut butter, eggs, and melted butter to a large bowl; stir until well combined. Batter may

be slightly lumpy. Pour batter into the prepared pan. Bake in the preheated oven until a toothpick inserted into the center comes out clean, about 35 minutes. Let stand for 10 minutes. Use the handle of a wooden spoon to poke holes into the cake. Melt 1 cup jelly in the microwave until pourable, 1 to 2 minutes, stirring every 30 seconds. Spread jelly over warm cake with a spatula and work jelly down into the holes. Let cake cool completely. Spread whipped topping over cake; refrigerate until ready to serve. Microwave remaining 1/4 cup peanut butter and 1/4 cup jelly until just pourable; drizzle cake with peanut butter and jelly and sprinkle with peanuts to serve.



Frozen Vegetable Stir Fry

- Ingredients
- 2 tablespoons soy sauce
 - 1 tablespoon brown sugar
 - 2 teaspoons peanut butter
 - 2 teaspoons garlic powder
 - 2 teaspoons olive oil
 - 1 (16 ounce) package frozen mixed vegetables
- Directions
- Combine soy sauce, brown sugar, peanut butter, and garlic powder in a small bowl. Heat oil in a large skillet over medium heat. Add frozen mixed vegetables; cook and stir until just tender, 5 to 7 minutes. Remove from heat and fold in soy sauce mixture. I add cubed baked chicken for protein.

City of Salem Police Department



Weekly Crime Report (Felony Cases)

Week of May 19, 2026 – May 25, 2026

| DATE REPORTED | LOCATION | OFFENSE REPORTED |
|---------------|---------------------|------------------------|
| 5/21/2026 | 300 BLK Electric Rd | Grand Larceny |
| 5/21/2026 | 600 BLK Lee St | Grand Larceny |
| 5/22/2026 | 0 BLK E Calhoun St | Violation of Probation |
| 5/23/2026 | 0 BLK E Calhoun St | Violation of Probation |

City of Salem Police Department



Weekly Arrest Report

Week of May 19, 2026 – May 25, 2026

| | | | |
|-----------|--------------------------|----|--|
| 5/19/2026 | Daniel E. Main | 38 | Grand Larceny, Entering/Setting Vehicle In Motion |
| 5/19/2026 | Robert W. Clatterbuck | 38 | Profane/Threatening Language over phone |
| 5/19/2026 | Thomas L. Dommer | 25 | Carrying Concealed Weapon |
| 5/20/2026 | Jenna L. Miller | 36 | Inhaling Drugs |
| 5/20/2026 | Christopher A. Lindamood | 64 | Public Intoxication |
| 5/21/2026 | Bobbie J. Doyle | 43 | False Report to Police |
| 5/21/2026 | Christopher A. Lindamood | 64 | Public Intoxication |
| 5/22/2026 | Elizabeth M. Ransom | 66 | Contempt of Court |
| 5/22/2026 | Colin K. Sides | 32 | Public Intoxication, Interfere with Property Rights of Another |
| 5/23/2026 | Timothy R. Brown | 56 | Carrying Concealed Weapon |
| 5/23/2026 | Sean T. Lake | 36 | Public Intoxication |
| 5/23/2026 | Lawon T. Jones | 25 | Public Intoxication |
| 5/23/2026 | Timothy R. Brown | 56 | Tampering with Vehicle, Damage Property |
| 5/23/2026 | Matthew P. Murphy | 41 | Conditional Release Violation |
| 5/24/2026 | Roytez N. Wright-Ragland | 32 | Petit Larceny Not From Person |
| 5/24/2026 | Karson T. Sowers | 18 | Petit Larceny Not From Person, Credit Card Fraud |

Virginia Treasury has successfully reunited more than \$1.4 billion in unclaimed property with its rightful owners!

Look for the 2026 list of unclaimed properties in next week's newspaper.

What is Unclaimed Property?

Inactive or dormant bank accounts, uncashed checks, customer refunds, safe deposit box contents, securities, dividends, insurance policy proceeds, etc.

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Search our free website for the entire list of unclaimed properties and start your claim today!



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Saturday, June 13, 2026 | 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

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Salem-Times Register

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OPINION

Unearthing excitement with dinosaurs

Dinosaur-Themed Events for Kids!

Saturday, June 13, 10:15am. VA Museum of Natural History: Dino Dig! Dig for dinosaur “bones” with experts from the Virginia Museum of Natural History! Perfect for the budding paleontologist in your life! Open to PreK-2nd graders (minimum age 4) and their grown-ups. Register at saalemva.libcal.com to save your spot!

Saturday, June 13, 1:30pm, Grades 3-8. VA Museum of Natural History: Make a Fossil! Learn about (and make) fossils! Register at saalemva.libcal.com

Tuesday, June 16, 2pm. Grades K-3. Tea Rex Tea Party in the Garden! Join us for a tea-rifficly good time in the children’s garden! We will read the book *Tea Rex*, complete a craft, and enjoy tea party-inspired refreshments. Register at saalemva.libcal.com
Tiny Art Show Returns to Salem Library!

Library Corner

Empowering individuals to build a stronger community
Benita VanCleave

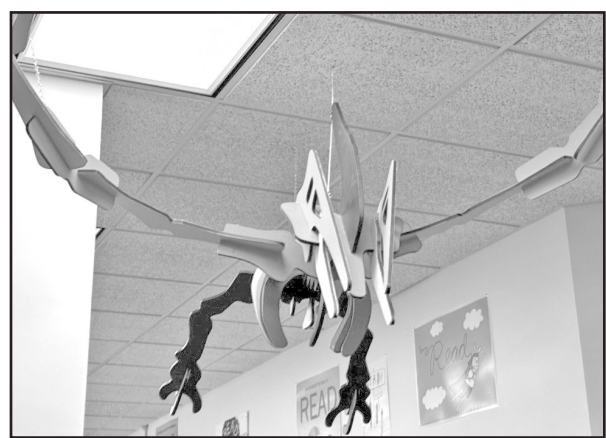
Want to participate in this year’s Tiny Art Show at the Salem Public Library?

Pick up your free tiny art kit at the library starting June 1

Return artwork to the Salem Library by July 11

Attend our Art Show Reception on July 18 from 1-2pm

Ages 5 and Up (Adults too!)



COURTESY PHOTO

New pterydactyl soars over path to children’s and teen areas

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Dear Editor,

Our 6th District Congressional race “is on” between incumbent Congressman Ben Cline and well-known author Beth Macy. Highest on the list of the deep red 6th District is affordability for families. Macy wants to “restore “economic sanity” for rural people who have taken the hardest hit from both NAFTA and the opioid crisis. She vows to fight against cuts to Medicaid and the SNAP program under Trump’s Big Beautiful Bill.

The price at the pump directly affects not only the cost of driving, but grocery and general inflation. Cline expresses concern about high gas prices stemming from Trump’s Iran War but claims they are “temporary.” Cline is “optimistic” that the ceasefire will lead to a long-term agreement, thus lowering prices. This reasoning fails to address the formidable obstacles to resolving an unnecessary conflict that greatly raised the power of Trump’s adversary, Iran, who now controls the Strait of Hormuz. Iran will not give up controlling Hormuz because that control will help it fund war reconstruction and serves as Iran’s substitute for producing nukes to match its new strategic power. Trying to exit this conflict with “a

win” over President Obama’s effective JCPOA that codified Iran’s compliance to not build nukes—an agreement that Trump jettisoned in his first term. Despite Trump’s clear loss to Iran after trying every tactic that was ill-advised by Israel and opposed by US military advisors, Trump nears agreement only to have it sabotaged by Israel again.

How does Cline reason that gas prices will fall considering the new landscape created by US wars of aggression? Ukraine has destroyed about 25% of Russia’s energy infrastructure, significant Persian Gulf infrastructure is hobbled for at least five years and could be further destroyed if the war is resumed. Ironically Trump’s war on renewable energy where our tax dollars paid to stop green energy projects throughout the South, worsens our energy situation by increasing demands on fossil fuels over renewables. Prewar gas prices will not resume at least until 2032, if ever. The US is losing dominance over China who planned for cheap electricity and widespread recharging stations. Trump took bad Israeli advice promising a quick win after assassinating Iran’s leaders. Trump cannot afford a land invasion and is stuck between achieving an agreement and pressure from Israel who is conducting an uncontrollable sabotage of a resolution

by destroying Lebanon.

What Cline offers is not “common sense,” but magical thinking that a world controlled by billionaires and Israel, whose leader, Netanyahu, blocks Trump from settling with Iran, can prioritize the needs of Cline’s rural constituents for lower gas prices by a permanent peace agreement or just walking away. So, Cline stands squarely with weak Trump as he commits one strategic blunder after another that hurt Cline’s constituents, while imagining Trump will suddenly bring his 6th District rural voters pre-war gas prices. This, while Cline fails to fulfill his constitutional duty to reign in a deranged President Trump who wakes in the night to tweet 50 unhinged Truth Social tweets to compare himself to America’s great leaders.

Cline’s constituents desperately need Cline to do a reality check on Trump and Cline’s own pro-Trump stand. This is unlikely, but reality stares 6th District constituents squarely in the face every time they fill up at the pump or pay for groceries. Constituents need problems solved—no platitudes and rubber-stamping Trump’s blunders.

-Cynthia Munley
 Salem

Salem Times~Register

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Friendship announces inaugural Seniors for Seniors Scholarship recipients

ROANOKE — Friendship Retirement Community has announced the recipients of its inaugural Seniors for Seniors Scholarship, recognizing local high school seniors for academic achievement, leadership, community involvement and meaningful connections with older adults.

The 2026 scholarship recipients are Emily Tull of Cave Spring High School, Rawlin Hanks of Glenvar High School and Rylee McNeill of Salem High School.

The scholarship program is unique in that applications are reviewed and selected by Friendship residents, who evaluate students based on their accomplishments, essays, service and character.

Tull was selected for her strong academic record and involvement in volleyball, golf, DECA, Key Club and Fellowship of Christian Athletes. She also has an extensive record of volunteer service throughout the community. Friendship residents cited her essay on perceptions of aging, noting its thoughtful reflections, compassion and respect for older adults.

Hanks was recognized for his participation in football, track and Fellowship of Christian Athletes, as well as his volunteer service at Friendship Richfield Living. His essay, titled “A Lesson from an Older Adult,” earned praise from the resident selection committee for its heartfelt perspective and appreciation

for the experiences and wisdom of seniors.

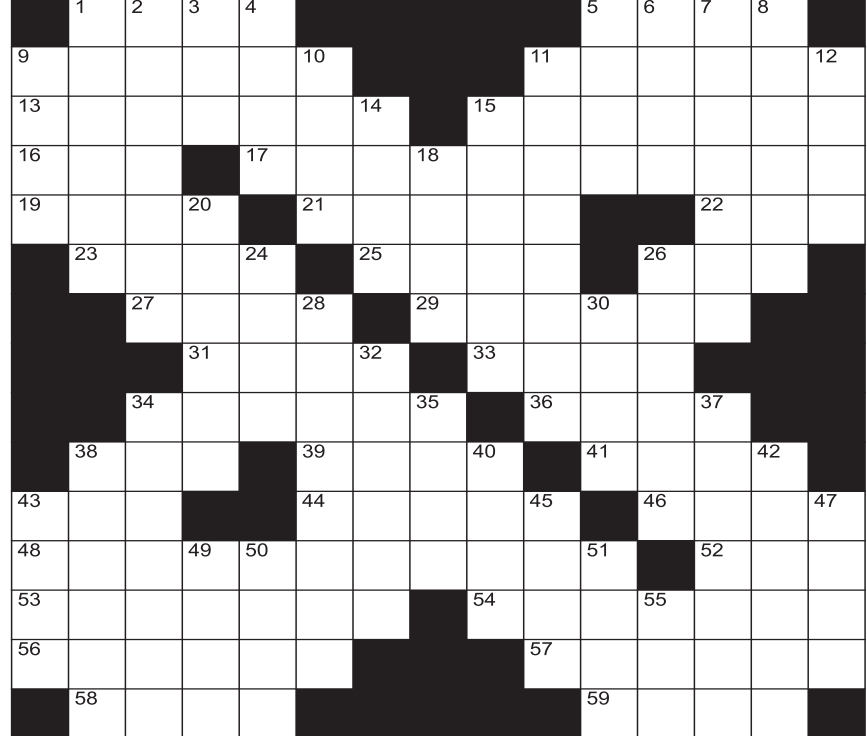
McNeill was honored for her academic achievements, leadership and volunteer work with Friendship through Keyettes and Girl Scouts. She is also active in lacrosse, soccer and student council. According to Friendship, her application demonstrated a strong commitment to community service and reflected the intergenerational connections the scholarship was designed to encourage.

“This is the first year we have offered this scholarship, and our residents took tremendous pride in this scholarship program,” Friendship President and CEO Joe Hoff said in a statement. “The Seniors for Seniors Scholarship reflects Friendship’s ongoing commitment to fostering meaningful intergenerational relationships and investing in the next generation of leaders.”

Friendship Retirement Community is a nonprofit senior living organization serving the Roanoke Valley. With four campuses, including locations dating back to 1919, Friendship offers a continuum of care that includes independent living, assisted living, home care, outpatient therapy, inpatient rehabilitation, long-term care, and Alzheimer’s and memory care services. The organization also provides services for residents with limited financial means.

-The Salem Times-Register

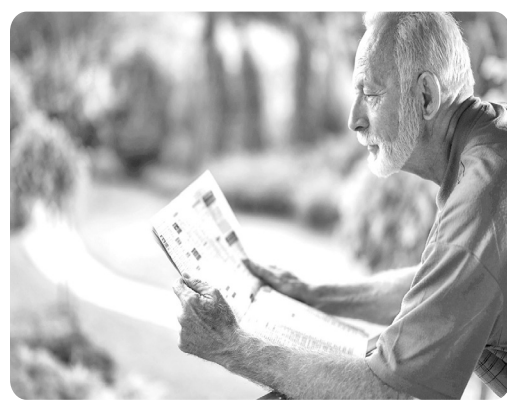
CROSSWORD PUZZLE



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| <p>CLUES ACROSS</p> <p>1. Slovenian mountain</p> <p>5. Growl</p> <p>9. Where things stand</p> <p>11. Made a sharp sound</p> <p>13. Female spirit in Irish folklore</p> <p>15. Deteriorate with age</p> <p>16. A way to save for retirement</p> <p>17. The Big Apple</p> <p>19. Intestinal pouches</p> <p>21. City in New Hampshire</p> <p>22. Giving a bad impression</p> <p>23. Samsung laptops</p> <p>25. Without (French)</p> <p>26. Scientist’s tool (abbr.)</p> <p>27. System of one more computers</p> <p>29. Captures</p> <p>31. Authentic</p> <p>33. Female mammal’s</p> | <p>nipple</p> <p>34. Pandemonium</p> <p>36. Satisfy</p> <p>38. Arrived extinct</p> <p>39. Shipborne radar (abbr.)</p> <p>41. Network of nerves</p> <p>43. Monetary unit</p> <p>44. Showed old TV show</p> <p>46. They help you hear</p> <p>48. One who eliminates</p> <p>52. Congress’ investigative arm</p> <p>53. Parties</p> <p>54. Most supernatural</p> <p>56. Takes illegally</p> <p>57. Breathes while asleep</p> <p>58. Sea eagles</p> <p>59. German surname</p> <p>CLUES DOWN</p> <p>1. Looks at for a long time</p> <p>2. Solution for diseases</p> | <p>3. Belonging to a thing</p> <p>4. Former Packers fullback</p> <p>5. Contemptible person</p> <p>6. One billionth of a second (abbr.)</p> <p>7. Helps</p> <p>8. Final section of the large intestine</p> <p>9. Invests in little enterprises</p> <p>10. Look for</p> <p>11. Unbeliefs</p> <p>12. Susan and Tom are two</p> <p>14. Female sheep</p> <p>15. A poet writes it</p> <p>18. Affirmatives</p> <p>20. “Full House” actress</p> <p>24. Traveled rapidly</p> <p>26. Long upholstered</p> | <p>seat</p> <p>28. Set wages</p> <p>30. Peter Gabriel song</p> <p>32. Sides of a jacket</p> <p>34. More beautiful (abbr.)</p> <p>35. Actress Kate</p> <p>37. Furniture with open shelves</p> <p>38. Indicate</p> <p>40. The cost of a room</p> <p>42. Gets rid of something</p> <p>43. Impudence</p> <p>45. No No No</p> <p>47. Drunkards</p> <p>49. Middle eastern country</p> <p>50. High energy lasers (abbr.)</p> <p>51. Primary component of ribosomes</p> <p>55. An informal debt instrument</p> |
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OBITUARY

Leonard, Virginia Masters

The family of Virginia Masters Leonard announces with great sorrow her passing in May 2026 at age 94. Visitation will be on June 1, 2-4PM at Amory Funeral Home in



Yorktown, Virginia. A Celebration of Life will be held at Seaford Baptist Church on June 15 at 11AM. Her final resting place will be in Salem, Virginia.

Poff, Cheryl Muth

Cheryl Muth Poff of Roanoke County, Va., passed away on May 21, 2026, at Roanoke Memorial Hospital following a brief illness. She was 70 years old.

Cheryl was born to the late George and Rita Muth in Berea, Ohio. In addition to her parents, Cheryl was preceded in death by her beloved husband, Ronald C. Poff, and sister-in-law, Lisa Poff Bain.

Left to cherish Cheryl's memory is her son, Ryan C. Poff; sister Sheila Hyde and husband, Norman Hyde, along with nephew Joshua Hyde; brother, Scott Muth and wife, Martha Muth, their children Tika Wiseman and Otha Wiseman, along with several grand-children and great-grandchildren;



brother-in-law, Mark Bain and his children, Kerri Bain and her husband, Sonny Joy-Hogg, Stephen Bain; and sister-in-law, Linda Wintermeyer and her husband, Butch Wintermeyer.

Cheryl spent many years as a Girl Scout adult leader, was an avid bowler, and enjoyed sharing her crafting and sewing skills with everyone. She enjoyed taking trips with

her friends and traveling with loved ones to visit the beach and many other interesting places.

The family would like to extend their gratitude to the staff of the Richfield Rehab Center, Roanoke Memorial, and Lewis-Gale Hospitals for their care and comfort during her last months.

A service will be held Saturday, June 20, 2026, at 11 a.m. at Our Lady of Perpetual Help Catholic Church located at 314 Turner Rd., Salem, VA 24153. A reception with lunch will follow. Memorial gifts may be sent to Our Lady of Perpetual Help Catholic Church or Richfield Rehab Center.

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

Salem students earn academic honors, degree recognition

Several Salem students were recognized for academic achievement during the spring 2026 semester at Shenandoah University and the College of William & Mary, while another local student earned a bachelor's degree from Cedarville University.

At Shenandoah University, 1,019 students earned Dean's List recognition for the spring 2026 term. To qualify, students must be enrolled full time in bachelor's degree programs and earn a semester grade-point average of 3.50 or higher.

Salem students named to the Shenandoah Dean's List were Kameron Brown, Cara Butler, Ethan Fox and Hannah Hylton.

In addition, Shenandoah recognized 437 students on its President's List for the spring 2026 term. Students earning the honor must be enrolled full time in bachelor's degree programs and achieve a semester GPA of 3.90 or higher.

Salem students named to the President's List were Ethan Fox and Hannah Hylton.

Founded in 1875, Shenandoah University is headquartered in Winchester and offers programs at additional locations in Clarke and Loudoun counties, as well as online.

Meanwhile, several Salem students were named to the spring 2026 Dean's

List at William & Mary.

To earn Dean's List honors, full-time degree-seeking undergraduate students must complete at least 12 credit hours and achieve a 3.6 GPA during the semester.

Students from Salem recognized on the William & Mary Dean's List were Elizabeth Bocock, Addy Funk, Kaelyn Henzey, Ella Light, Caroline Loveday, Carson Tucker, Adeline Velasquez and Audrey Yates.

William & Mary, located in Williamsburg, is the second-oldest institution of higher education in the United States.

In addition, Johnson Stephens of Salem earned a Bachelor of Arts degree from Cedarville University.

Cedarville University is an evangelical Christian institution in southwest Ohio that offers undergraduate and graduate residential and online programs in the arts, sciences and professional fields. The university enrolls more than 7,200 students and was ranked among the nation's top five evangelical universities in The Wall Street Journal's 2026 Best Colleges in the U.S. rankings.

Cedarville is also known for its Christian-centered campus community and academic programs that integrate faith and learning.

-The Salem Times-Register

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ASSEMBLIES OF GOD

BETHEL ASSEMBLY OF GOD - 1683 Red Lane Extension, Salem, Va. Senior Pastor Jesse L. Bass. 540-580-7748. Sunday morning worship 10:30am. Wednesday night, Bible Study Bible Engagement Project (A Walk through the 66 books of the Bible in one year), 5:00pm.

BAPTIST (INDEPENDENT)

THE BEACON BAPTIST CHURCH OF SALEM, 307 N. Bruffey Street, Salem, VA, and **THE BEACON CHRISTIAN ACADEMY K-12**, 307 N. Bruffey Street, Salem, VA, Phone: (276) 340-2445, Sunday Services: 10 a.m., 11 a.m., 5 p.m., Thursday Evening Services: 7 p.m. Find us on Facebook at: The Beacon Baptist Church or on the Web@bbcsalem.org, Pastor Jeremy Raby and the Congregation Welcome You! Independent, Fundamental, Bible Believing, KJV Bible Church

CALVARY BAPTIST CHURCH - 7th and Florida Streets, Salem VA. Pastor: Roger D. Counts, 540-389-3818. Sunday School 10:00 a.m., Morning Worship 11:00 a.m., Sunday Evening Service 6:30 p.m., Wednesday Night Prayer Service, 6:30 p.m.

LAKESIDE BAPTIST CHURCH - 447 Dalewood Avenue, Salem, 986-0062, Pastor Carl Goodman. Coffee Bar 9:00 a.m., Connect Groups 9:30 a.m., Sunday Worship 10:30 a.m., Children & Student Ministry 5:00-6:30 p.m.; Thursday 7:00 pm Young Single Adults, Wednesday Morning Prayer Service 10:30, Lifegroups meeting throughout the week. www.lbcva.com.

TEMPLE BAPTIST CHURCH - 4339 Daugherty Road, Salem, Greg Irby, Pastor, Church: 380-3567; Home: 389-7240, Sunday School 10:00 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 - 703 Hemlock Rd NW Roanoke, VA 24017 www.rwbvca.com, 540-362-6492 Dan Carawan, Pastor Buck Hutton, Youth Pastor, Sunday School: 9:45 AM; Morning Worship: 11:00 AM; Adult Study: 1:45 PM, Wednesday Bible Study: 6:00 PM; Youth: 6:30 PM; Choir/Praise Practice: 7:00 PM. UPCOMING: June 6th - Divine Glory Concert (Ladies Trio) at 6PM, June 14th - Share God's Sunday. Please join us for a covered dish luncheon following our morning Worship service.

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;

Salem WORSHIP DIRECTORY

To list your church,
contact Tucker Frye
at 540-309-9485 or
email tfrye@ourvalley.org

10:30 AM for Español. For more information, visit: www.fcclife.org

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/ CHRISTIAN CHURCHES

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, 7:00 PM.

CHURCH OF GOD/ANDERSON

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

CHURCH OF GOD/CLEVELAND

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

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.

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 Intercourse Prayer Service at 8:00 a.m. (conference call line). Sunday Women's Bible Study Class at 8:30 p.m. (Zoom). In-person Worship on Sunday at 11:00 a.m. or worship with us on line via Facebook. Church office can be contacted for additional information.

PENTECOSTAL HOLINESS

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

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH (USA)

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

UNITED METHODIST

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.

Senior walk brings Salem Class of 2026 back to former schools



COURTESY OF SALEM CITY SCHOOLS

Members of Salem High School's Class of 2026 returned to their former schools last week for the annual Senior Walk, revisiting the hallways where their educational journeys began. The 283 graduating seniors, dressed in caps and gowns, traveled by bus to Andrew Lewis Middle School and their former elementary schools, where they were welcomed by current students and reunited with teachers who helped shape their academic careers. The soon-to-be graduates received cheers and applause as they walked through the schools, creating emotional moments with former educators. After returning to Salem High School, the seniors completed one final walk through the halls, where classmates, teachers and parents offered congratulations ahead of commencement exercises Friday afternoon at the Salem Civic Center.

SPRING SALEM HOLIDAY MARKET

Craft & Vendor Show
@ Salem Civic Center

June 6th, 2026
(9:00AM to 4:00PM)

Free Admission

Bring canned foods or non-perishable items! Items will be donated to the Salem/Roanoke Food Pantry.

NOTE: This location enforces a clear bag policy. Clear bags up to 12x12x6 are permitted.

OTF Summer Concert Series

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June 6th The Jared Stout Band

July 4th Area 581 Band

August 1st Miller Holler Band

September 19th Glen Shelton Band

October 10th Big Daddy Ray Band

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PUBLIC NOTICE OF OPEN HOUSE MEETING Virginia DHCD Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Planning Grant

The City of Salem invites all interested citizens to attend a public meeting regarding a proposed Virginia Department of Housing and Community Development (DHCD) Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Planning Grant application.

The City is seeking \$75,000 in CDBG Planning Grant funding to conduct a comprehensive Housing Study. The study will assess current housing conditions, identify existing and projected housing needs, evaluate affordability and availability issues, and provide recommendations to guide future housing planning and development efforts within the community.

Date: Tuesday, June 16, 2026

Time: 2 – 4 p.m. and 5:30 – 7:30 p.m.

Location: Council Chambers, City Hall, 114 North Broad Street

The purpose of the meeting is to:

- Present information about the proposed CDBG Planning Grant application.
- Discuss the need for a citywide housing study.
- Gather public input regarding current housing challenges and future housing needs.
- Provide citizens an opportunity to comment on the proposed project and application.

All residents, property owners, businesses, housing providers, and other stakeholders are encouraged to attend and participate.

For additional information or to submit comments, please contact:

City of Salem
Community Development Department
Planning & Zoning Division
21 South Bruffey Street
540-375-3032 • mewines@salemva.gov

The City of Salem encourages citizen participation in the planning process and welcomes public comments regarding this proposed grant application.

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Rescue from page 1

Chief Bourne, who began volunteering with the squad when he was 40 in 2011, noted the squad's biggest personnel need is more volunteers between the ages of 26 and 45. Currently there are none in that age span, he said.

"People aren't interested in volunteering like this any more," added Bourne.

Several of the squad's vehicles are 15 or more years old, such as Truck No. 154 that is 20 years old, Bourne said. The squad is in the process of talks with a firm in Greenville, Tenn., to

remodel one of the Salem squad's ambulances, which would save the squad a substantial amount over buying a new one, the chief said.

"We have 2,000 years of experience in the people sitting here," he added.

Among Life Members at the gathering was Ken Cook, who joined in 1985. "At that time, people would join our squad to get experience before joining the fire department," he said.

Life Member Jane Lindsay, who joined in 1989, said she did so "because when I

was at Virginia Tech I saw someone fall off a building. I wanted to do something to help." She continues volunteering for the squad because "it is an addiction," she joked.

Currently the squad averages one rescue call a night, and 10-15 calls or week, members said.

The Salem Rescue Squad was formed in 1932 and is the oldest in the United States as well as being the oldest active Rescue Squad in the Roanoke Valley. Roanoke's rescue squad no longer answers 911 calls, Bourne said.

Roanoke College honors faculty for service, teaching excellence



COURTESY PHOTO

Brenzovich, Murray and Sienkewicz.

Aila Boyd
aboyle@mainstreetnewspapers.com

Roanoke College recognized three faculty members this year with awards for exceptional service to students and the broader community, with nominations pouring in from students, faculty and alumni.

"Choosing winners is always difficult. It's truly an honor to be part of such a dedicated and amazing team of faculty and staff," said Kathy Wolfe, vice president of academic affairs and dean of the college.

Dean's Exemplary Service Awards

Chemistry Professor Skip Brenzovich and Assistant Professor Sarah Murray of the criminal justice department each received a Dean's Exemplary Service Award, which recognizes faculty for outstanding work advancing the college's mission of preparing students for meaningful lives of learning, service and leadership.

Brenzovich, who directs the college's Honors Program, was praised for his close work with students as an academic advisor. One nominator cited his "abounding charity" toward hardworking pupils. He also led the acquisition of a nuclear magnetic resonance spectrometer — an instrument that uses powerful magnetic fields to analyze the molecular structure of chemical compounds — and now oversees its operation as a research and teaching resource.

Murray was described by peers as an invaluable collaborator whose work spans curriculum development, student engagement and mentorship. She coordinated the PA Promise Awards to recognize incoming students in the Public Affairs program and chaired the college's Curriculum Committee. She also serves as faculty advisor for Mosaic, Roanoke's living-learning community for LGBTQIA+ students

and allies.

Dean's Exemplary Teaching Award

Associate Professor Julia Sienkewicz of the art history department received the Dean's Exemplary Teaching Award, which honors professors who help students grow both academically and as whole persons.

Under Sienkewicz, students have contributed to a City of Roanoke public art project, curated a full-scale museum exhibition and traveled across Italy retracing the path of the historic grand tour. She frequently partners with community organizations to provide students with hands-on professional development opportunities.

Nominations from colleagues, students and alumni described her as a mentor who goes beyond the classroom. "She has presented me with challenges and growth opportunities I didn't think I would ever have the courage or capability of doing," one student wrote.

Glenvar graduate earns \$115,000 scholarship package from University of South Carolina

Recognized for his academic and musical achievements, Glenvar High School graduate Nicholas Fraticelli recently received congratulations from University of South Carolina officials and music educators. Pictured are Dr. Sheldon Johnson, saxophone professor at Radford University, Nicholas Fraticelli and Jennifer Jablonski, assistant dean of the University of South Carolina School of Music. Not pictured is Kim Davidson, director of the Roanoke Valley Children's Choir. Fraticelli was awarded the Academic Scholar Superlative Award to participate in the University of South Carolina Honors College, recognized as the nation's top-ranked public honors college, along with a music scholarship. His combined scholarship package is valued at more than \$115,000 over four years. Jablonski traveled to



COURTESY PHOTO

Salem to personally recognize Fraticelli's accomplishments. In November 2025, he was one of approximately 120 Virginia seniors selected for the Virginia Honor Choir from more than 700 students who auditioned statewide. He also participated in District Choir and the VMEA All-Virginia Chorus in both 2025 and 2026. A 10-year member of the Roanoke

Valley Children's Choir, Fraticelli studied piano under Davidson for a decade. As a saxophonist, he represented Glenvar High School in the VMEA District Band for Virginia's 6th District in 2023, 2024, 2025 and 2026. Johnson served as his saxophone instructor throughout his high school career.

-The Salem Times-Register



COURTESY PHOTO

Mann named Virginia Optometrist of the Year

Dr. Scott Mann of Invision has been named the 2026 Virginia Optometrist of the Year, the highest honor awarded to an optometrist in the commonwealth.

The award was presented during the annual meeting of the Virginia Optometric Association in Richmond. Mann recently completed his term as president of the organization and is the first optometrist from the Roanoke Valley and New River Valley region to receive the award in more than 30 years.

The presentation carried special significance for Mann, as the award was presented by his son, Dr. Will Mann, who recently joined the family practice. Also attending the ceremony were Mann's wife, Dr. Becky Mann, son Michael Mann and several colleagues from the practice.

The Virginia Optometrist of the Year Award recognizes an optometrist whose

leadership, professional achievements, public service and contributions to eye care have had an exceptional impact on Virginia residents. The honor also considers civic, charitable, educational and community involvement. As part of the recognition, Mann will be nominated by the association for Southern Optometrist of the Year and National Optometrist of the Year.

A graduate of the University of Alabama at Birmingham School of Optometry, Mann has built a career focused on patient care, professional leadership and community service. He has served as team eye doctor for Radford University athletics, provided care for the Salem Red Sox, lectured on sports-related eye injuries and ocular emergencies, and represented the optometry profession on Capitol Hill through the American Optometric Association.

Mann is also a past

president of the Southwest Virginia Optometric Society. Alongside his wife, he has participated in medical mission trips to Colombia and Nicaragua, providing eye care to underserved communities.

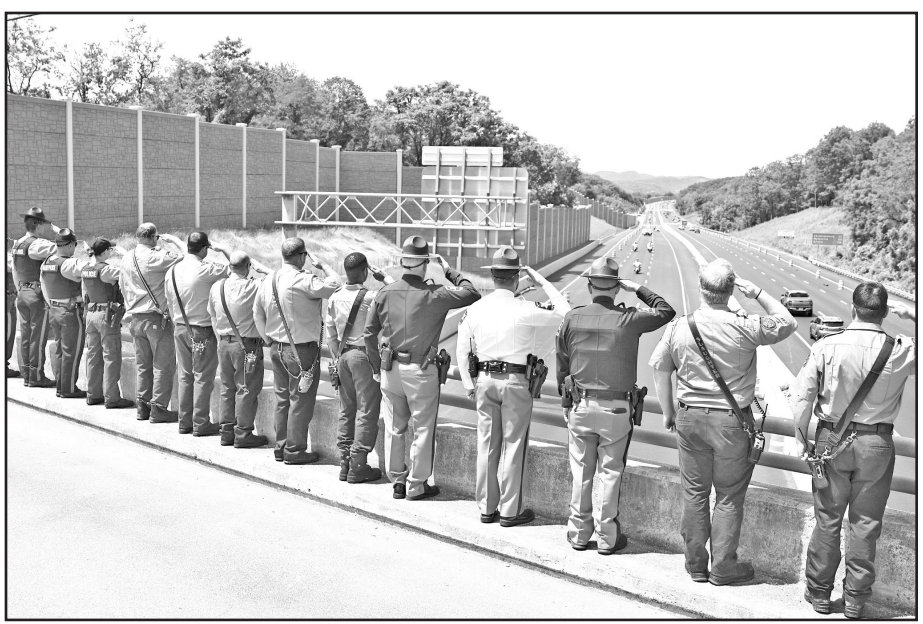
"It was an incredible honor to receive this award from my son and share the moment with my friends and family," Mann said in a statement. "I am grateful to my colleagues, staff, patients and the profession that has given me so much throughout my career."

Today, Scott Mann, Becky Mann and Will Mann practice together at Invision, an eye care center with offices in Salem and Christiansburg.

Invision is a locally owned practice that provides comprehensive eye care, medical eye treatment, contact lenses, eyewear and advanced vision services for patients of all ages.

-The Salem Times-Register

Fallen deputy honored as escort passes through Salem



COURTESY OF CITY OF SALEM

Members of the Salem Police Department, Fire & EMS and Sheriff's Office stand on the Red Lane Bridge to honor fallen Carroll County Sheriff's Deputy Logan Utt as the escort procession passed through Salem en route to Roanoke on Sunday.

Glenvar graduate awarded Virginia Bear Hunters Association scholarship

Avery Steger, a 2026 graduate of Glenvar High School, has been awarded a \$1,000 college scholarship from the Virginia Bear Hunters Association.

Steger, the daughter of Clint and Kelly Steger of Catawba, received the scholarship through the association's annual program, which is open to members and their families.

She plans to attend Randolph College, where she will pursue a degree in sports medicine while competing on the college's women's soccer and women's wrestling teams.

The Virginia Bear Hunters Association is a statewide organization dedicated to preserving the tradition of hunting bears with dogs and promoting sound



COURTESY PHOTO

Steger receiving her scholarship.

wildlife management principles.

According to the association, scholarship recipients are selected based on academic achievement, intended course of study,

community and association involvement, honors and awards, and an essay submitted as part of the application process.

-The Salem Times-Register

V DOT Roadwatch

INTERSTATE 81

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

LANE CLOSURES:

Weather permitting, alternating northbound and southbound lane closures for drainage improvements will be in place on Route 11 in Buchanan between I-81 and the Exxon station next to the northbound off ramp at exit 162. All I-81 ramps will remain open.

- o Drivers can expect other nighttime right and left lane closures in place on I-81. Drivers use caution in the area of the work zone.

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

SLOW ROLLS: Slow roll operations are possible during nighttime hours, 12 a.m. to 5 a.m., on I-81 will be in place for bridge jacking and blocking. Slow roll operations for northbound will start at Exit 150 and slow roll operations for southbound will start at the Troutville Rest Area at mile marker 158. Flagging operations will be in place on Route 640 under the bridges at Exit 156 will also be in place.

Temporary traffic barrier in place on westbound side of Route 640 under the I-81 bridges off exit 156 with lanes narrowed to 11 feet.

Nighttime outside and inside lane closures may be in place on I-81 from mile marker 155 to 157, 9 p.m. to 6 a.m. the following morning.

INTERSTATE 81 ACCELERATION RAMP EXTENSIONS AT MILE MARKER 94 IN PULASKI COUNTY AND 105 IN MONTGOMERY COUNTY- Work is underway on the extension of two acceleration lanes on I-81. The first one will be the entrance ramp onto I-81 southbound at mile marker 94, the entrance ramp onto I-81 southbound. The second one will be the entrance ramp onto I-81 northbound at mile marker 105 in Montgomery County. Scheduled completion date for both projects is summer 2026. During construction, drivers can expect:

RAMP CLOSURES: The entrance ramp to I-81 southbound at exit 94 will be closed during overnight hours on May 31 through June 2. Traffic will be detoured onto F-064 (Draper Valley Road) to the entrance ramp at exit 89. Other closures are possible. Watch message boards for updates.

LANE CLOSURES: Nighttime lane closures northbound and southbound from 7 p.m. to 6 a.m., the following morning, Sunday through Thursday.

Shoulder closures throughout the work zone area.

Slow rolls on I-81 between mile markers 98 and 105 of up to 15 minutes may be in place during nighttime hours.

Ramp closures are possible and drivers should watch message boards for updates.

Narrowed or shifted ramps during nighttime hours.

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

RAMP CLOSURES TO INCREASE: Drivers will see an increase in ramp closures for paving of exit 137 and 140 on and off ramps from and onto northbound and southbound I-81 in Salem, 10 p.m. to 5 a.m. Watch message boards for updates on times and dates of occurrence and plan ahead.

EXIT 140 SOUTHBOUND ON AND OFF-RAMP CLOSURES scheduled nightly from May 26 through May 29.

TRAFFIC SHIFTS AT I-81 EXIT 140: Drivers may experience traffic pattern changes, periodic lane closures, narrow ramps, or quick merges into traffic as well as full stops at the bottom of the ramp onto Thompson Memorial Drive from the southbound or northbound exit ramps of exit 140 off of I-81. Periodic work zones located at bottom of the ramp for work on the I-81 bridge at the underpass is also possible.

MILLING AND PAVING: Paving operations will require lane closures northbound and southbound during nighttime hours, 9 p.m. to 5 a.m. the following morning.

Milling operations are being performed on Route 311, Route 635 and Route 619 as well as on I-81. Flagging operations on Route 635 under the bridge is possible. Paving and marking operations will follow. Expect delays and plan ahead.

UNEVEN ROUGH PAVEMENT: Drivers may experience some uneven pavement and/or rough surface throughout the project.

LANE CLOSURES: Alternating left and right lane and shoulder closures during nighttime hours between 8 p.m. and 6 a.m., Sunday through Thursday, are possible. *Lane widths will be reduced to 11 feet.* Nightly lane closures may be in place along the right lane with possible nightly ramp narrows as needed for guardrail and shoulder strengthening.

WORK ZONE SPEED: Drivers should adhere to posted 60 mph speed limits in the work zone and allow space when following a vehicle. Narrow spacing in lanes due to barrier walls, lack of shoulders and lane shifts in various locations, are present.

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

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

SOUTHBOUND EXIT 143 RAMP ONTO I-581: Southbound I-81 exit 143 ramp is reduced to one lane for traffic merging onto I-581 towards Roanoke. Drivers should stay alert for traffic pattern changes and additional barrier wall to be installed in the vicinity.

BARRIER WALLS: Drivers will continue to see barrier walls with an eight-foot shoulder being put into place throughout the project. Drivers should watch for changes in traffic patterns.

TRAFFIC SHIFT: Southbound traffic is shifted to the right shoulder

from exit 150 in Botetourt County to exit 146 in Roanoke County.

LANE CLOSURES: Periodic right and left lane and shoulder closures in place during nighttime hours 9 p.m. to 6 a.m., on northbound and southbound I-81.

RAMPS - Ramps on I-81, northbound and southbound, may be narrowed at exit 150, 146 and 143.

S H O U L D E R CLOSURES: Shoulder closures in place with additional barrier wall to be installed next year.

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

'PINK' DETOUR SIGNS: While pink detour signs are in place on I-81 and routes around the project such as Route 11 and Plantation Road, these do not designate a permanent or scheduled detour. The signed detour route is suitable for all traffic during incidents including tractor-trailers and other large vehicles. These signs are used for traffic incident detours only.

I-81 NORTHBOUND AT EXIT 105 NEW RIVER BRIDGE REPLACEMENT IN MONTGOMERY COUNTY – Work on this project continues with the initial work beginning behind the barrier wall. Then, beginning in May and through September, the barrier wall will be moved, and the existing lanes will be narrowed. In the fall of 2026, I-81 traffic will be shifted into a new pattern at the bridge. Two lanes of traffic will continue to be open in the work zone, but motorists will be traveling on a different portion of roadway on the right side of the bridge. Throughout construction, two lanes of northbound I-81 will remain open during daytime hours with nighttime closures possible during the hours of 8 p.m. to 6 a.m. Slow rolls may be performed on I-81 in the north and southbound lanes from mile marker 98 to 109. Speed limit is reduced to 60 miles per hour in the work zone. The project is expected to be complete and the bridge in its final configuration with two lanes of Interstate 81 and the right deceleration lane/exit ramp by the end of 2026.

LANE CLOSURES: Nighttime right and left lane closures may be in place on I-81 northbound or southbound between mile marker 98 and 109 from 8 p.m. to 6 a.m. the following morning.

SLOW ROLLS: Slow rolls may be utilized periodically on both the northbound and southbound lanes from mile marker 98-109 for structural steel deliveries and setting beams.

SPEED LIMIT: The speed limit is reduced to 60 miles per hour in the work zone.

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

ROANOKE CITY

APPERSON AND ORCHARD DRIVE SAFETY IMPROVEMENT – The installation of a new traffic signal and new turn lanes is underway as part of safety improvements at the intersection of Apperson Drive and Orchard Drive in Salem. Traffic shifts and lane closures may be in place on eastbound Apperson Drive (Route 11) going towards Route 419 (Electric Road) in Salem. Apperson Drive will remain open during the entirety of the project. Electronic message boards and signs will alert drivers to the upcoming changes in traffic pattern. Message boards will be updated with the most current schedule. Estimated completion is late fall 2026.

ROANOKE COUNTY

ROUTE 864 EMERGENCY CLOSURE - A section of Route 864 (Old Catawba Road) is closed to repair a pipe failure under the roadway. The section is near 3880-3917 Old Catawba Road, between Route 699 (Bendemeer

Road) and Route 890 (Carterdell Road). The road will be closed to through traffic, but residents will still be able to access their homes. VDOT is working on an estimate for how long repairs will take, but the upcoming rain may delay the work.

DRY HOLLOW ROAD SIGNAL INSTALLATION - A project to install a signal on Dry Hollow Road in Roanoke County is underway. Periodic flagging operations may be used during daytime hours and delays are possible. The signal work is expected to be completed the first part of June 2026 and is the first part of an upcoming safety improvement project that will reinforce the retaining wall and install a roadside barrier. It is expected to begin this summer.

ROUTE 221 (BENT MOUNTAIN ROAD) UTILITY WORK – Drivers should expect daytime flagging along Route 221 (Bent Mountain Road) between Poage Valley Road and Crystal Creek Drive for utility installation through May 2026. Delays are possible.

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 that 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 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. Signal pole installations during nighttime hours.

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. Signal pole installations during nighttime 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 Avenue 14 drivers now turn left or right to make U-turn.

CRAIG COUNTY

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

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Glenvar's Sophia Hammersley placed second in the 100m hurdles, just 0.04 seconds behind Appomattox County's Kaysen Kesler in a time of 16.32.

PHOTO BY JON FLEMING

Highlanders win six first places in region track meet at Radford

Floyd County of the Three Rivers District swept the Region 2C track and field team championships when Radford High School hosted the meet last Friday. The top eight athletes scored in the meet and the top four advanced to this weekend's state Class 2 meet.

Glenvar's boys finished second to Floyd County and had six first place finishes. Joey Loder won two golds, winning the 110 high hurdles in 14.92 and the 300 hurdles in 39.66.

Evan Harris was first in the 800 with a time of 2:01.18 and Aldin Smith won the 3,200 in 10:41.80. Tre Dawyot took a third in the 200.

Glenvar also won two relay races. In the 4x100 Ranger Swanson, Grayson Harris, Dawyot and Lode combined to win in 43.99. In the 4x800 Asher Faight, Cash Malcolm, Will Howard and Smith finished first at 9:01.46.

For the girls, Sophia Hammersley was second in the 100 hurdles and third in the triple jump and Kailee McDonald was second in the 200. Glenvar's 4x800 relay consisting of Anna Hall, Everly Shanks, Lauren Smith and Rayya Bryson took first in 10:34.71 and the 4x100 team was third with Meena Chen, Hammersley, Elle Graffeo and McDonald.

The state meet is Friday and Saturday at James Madison University.

Salem's Jones wins region 110 hurdles at Eastern Mennonite

It was a long and sometimes wet day in Harrisonburg last week when the Salem High track team competed in the Region 4D meet at Eastern Mennonite University. The Salem boys finished fifth and the girls were 13th as the Charlottesville boys and Blacksburg girls took team titles.

The top eight in each event scored and the top four qualified for this weekend's state meet. The Class 3 and 4 meet will be held at Liberty University in Lynchburg on Friday and Saturday.

For the boys, DaVon Jones won the 110 hurdles in 15.39 and also was third in the 300 hurdles, with Nicholas Baxley taking fifth in that event. Aiden Wiley was third in the 200 and fifth in the 100. In the 400, Tristen Noel was fourth, Nazzer Miller was seventh and Keenan Helm was eighth.

In the relay events the team of Austin Prosser, John Stovall, Isaac Snow and Thomas Scharp placed fourth in the 4x800. In the 4x100 Baxley, Ji'zaiah Johnson, Fergens Ciril and Wiley took sixth.

In the field events Jayden Wood took third in the triple jump and fourth in the long jump. Phoenix Brown was seventh in the discus.

For the girls, Olivia Huff and Audrey Harmon were sixth and seventh in the 400 meters and both ran on relay teams that placed. The 4x800 was fifth with McKenzie, Olivia Huff, Caroline Huff and Harmon, breaking their 10 day old school record with a time of 10:08.33. The 4x400 team of Huff, Huff, Addison Hancock and Harmon was eighth.



Above, bubbles fill the air as Trine University's Tyra Marcum is greeted at home plate after blasting a home run in Sunday's win over Belhaven at the James I. Moyer Complex. The win sent the Thunder to Tuesday and Wednesday's best-of-three NCAA Division III championship series against Redlands, who won the days' first game over Simpson College. Below, Emily McCutcheon of Rowan no-hit Virginia Wesleyan for five innings last week and picked up a complete game win as the Profs gave the Marlins their first loss of the season after 50 straight wins.

PHOTOS BY BRIAN HOFFMAN

Redlands, Trine make finals in NCAA D-III softball

The University of Redlands and Trine University were scheduled to play for the NCAA Division III softball national championship on Wednesday of this week at the James I. Moyer Complex in Salem.

Redlands, from California, needed just one win on Wednesday to wrap up the championship. The Bulldogs defeated Trine in the first game of a best-of-three on Tuesday morning, 11-3. Wednesday's championship was scheduled for 11 am, and if Trine was able to even the series another game would be played Wednesday afternoon to decide the champion.

Redlands was 46-6 on the season after defeating Simpson College on Sunday morning to earn a spot in the championship series, then defeating Trine on Tuesday. Trine made their second consecutive trip to the final, and fourth in the past five years, after defeating Belhaven, 5-2, on Sunday. The Thunder fell to 41-7 after Tuesday's loss.

Virginia Wesleyan of the Old Dominion Athletic Conference was 50-0 coming into the tournament but lost their first two games and was eliminated. The Marlins lost the first game of the tournament last Thursday morning to Rowan of New Jersey, 3-2. Virginia Wesleyan didn't have a hit until the sixth inning, then rallied for two in the bottom of the seventh but left the potential tying run on base. VWU was then eliminated by Linfield University of Oregon, also by a score of 3-2.



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JUNE 10th 6:35 PM

JUNE 11th 6:35 PM
Futbol Night

JUNE 12th 6:35 PM Mythical Magic Night

JUNE 13th 6:35 PM Dinos After Dark

JUNE 14th 4:05 PM



Region 2 C soccer championships are at Smith River Complex

Glenvar boys in quest for 4th straight state title

The Glenvar High boys' soccer team keeps rolling along. The three-time defending state champion Highlanders were scheduled to play Liberty High on Wednesday of this week with a spot in this year's state tournament on the line.

Wednesday's game was played at the Smith River Complex in Axton and results were too late for press deadlines. Appomattox and Floyd County were in the other bracket and the two Wednesday winners will play tonight for the Region 2C championship, also at the Smith River Complex. Both finalists make the state tournament with the region winner getting a quarterfinal home game.

Glenvar opened Region 2C play last Friday with a convincing 10-0 win over Chatham. The Highlanders scored four goals in the first half to hold a 4-0 lead at the break. Levi King recorded a three goal hat trick while Henry Schruth scored two goals. Other scorers on the night were Parker Doolan, Adam Saunders, Jacob Saunders, Heath Russell and Issac Sevilla as Glenvar won by slaughter rule.

Zach Williams led Glenvar in assists with three. Tyler Curfiss had two and with one each were James Housh, Doolan, Schruth, Jackson Jones and Adam Saunders. Glenvar outshot Chatham, 38-0.

"I really thought we did a good job of coming out in the second half and finishing the game off," said coach Josh Jones. "Now it is on to the next round where we will need to play our best to be successful."

With the win Glenvar improved to 17-0-1 on the season.



Glenvar's Jackson Jones hits a corner kick in last week's win. PHOTO BY BRIAN HOFFMAN



PHOTO BY BRIAN HOFFMAN

Glenvar's Scarlett McCall settles the ball in last week's win over George Wythe.

Nelson, Glenvar are top seeds in girls region

The Glenvar girls took a 17-1 record to Axton Wednesday for a Region 2C quarterfinal soccer game with Auburn at the Smith River Complex. Results were too late for publication, but the winner will play in the region championship game tonight on the complex pitch.

Tonight's game is also for a spot in the state championship tournament. The Glenvar-Auburn winner will play the winner of a game between Liberty and Nelson County, which was also in Axton Wednesday. What's more, both teams in tonight's final will continue on in the Class 2 state championship tournament with the region champ getting a quarterfinal home game.

Glenvar earned the trip to Axton with a 9-1 thumping of George Wythe in the region opening round game last Friday. It was the first game of a doubleheader with the boys at Highlander Stadium and the girls set the tone for the night.

Freshman Gabby Barba continued her spectacular season with five more goals and an assist. Amber Credille, Chloe Childers, Avery Steger and Ryan Jones had one goal each for Glenvar while Sawyer Wilson had five assists and Annie George assisted on two goals.

Bruins oust Salem girls' soccer

The Salem High girls soccer team saw their season end one win away from a trip to the state tournament. Salem dropped a 6-3 decision to the host Bruins in Blacksburg Tuesday night in Region 4D semifinal game.

The loss to Blacksburg was the third time this season the Bruins came out on top in this River Ridge District rivalry. Laikyn Funk scored all three goals for Salem but it wasn't enough.

The loss ended Salem's season with a 10-8-2 record. The Spartans won their first two region games, opening with a 7-0 shutout of Mecklenburg County. In the quarterfinals they played at Jefferson Forest and came from

2-0 behind to stun the host Cavaliers, 3-2. Funk scored all three goals again in the win while Emma Elder had an assist.



Salem's Laikyn Funk controls the ball in Monday's game in Blacksburg. Laikyn scored all three goals for the Spartans. PHOTO BY JON FLEMING



Salem's Tucker Preas watches one of his six goals hit the net in last week's win over William Byrd at Spartan Field. PHOTO BY BRIAN HOFFMAN

Salem lax is on the road for state quarterfinal after loss

If the Salem High boys are going to repeat as state lacrosse champions this spring they're going to have to do it on the road. The Spartans missed a chance to host a state quarterfinal game when they lost a heartbreaker to E.C. Glass Tuesday, 7-6 at Spartan Field in the region final.

This was a thriller played before a big crowd, and close all the way. The game was tied 2-2 at the half and Salem held a 4-3 lead heading into the fourth quarter. However, beginning with 9:49 remaining the Hilltoppers scored three goals within a span of a minute and 21 seconds to take a 6-4 lead.

Salem cut the margin to one when Holden Custer scored with 5:12 on the clock, and the Spartans had a couple opportunities to tie the game down the stretch. The missed chances magnified when Glass scored after a scramble in front of the crease with 1:30 on the clock to go back up by two, 7-5. Custer scored a goal with four seconds remaining but that didn't leave enough time to get another shot off to possibly

tie the game.

With the loss the Spartans will have to play Friday's quarterfinal game at Broad Run in Ashburn while Glass gets to host Woodgrove in Lynchburg. The semifinals are Tuesday at sites to be determined and the championship game is Saturday, June 13, at Heritage High School in Leesburg.

With the loss Salem fell to 14-2 on the season. The Spartans opened Region 4D play with a 17-3 win over William Byrd at Spartan Field last Thursday. Visiting Byrd earned the trip to Salem by beating Blacksburg in a "play in" game.

Thursday was a big night for Salem junior Tucker Preas, who scored six goals and assisted on two others. Senior Parker Dallas also had a big game with four goals and six assists.

Wade Marble and Logan Sparks had two goals each for the Spartans and Oliver Farber, Alex Foster and defenseman Ronnie Frith had one each. Farber and Marble had two assists each and Richard Hof had five saves in the goal.

Salem girls edge Bruins to make state lax tourney

The Salem High girls' lacrosse team will be in Sterling, VA Friday to take on Dominion High in a Class 4 state quarterfinal game. The Spartans have to make the trip after falling to Rockbridge High in Lexington Tuesday, 22-2, in the Region 4D championship game.

The Spartans will take a 12-4 record to Sterling. They earned the chance to play in the state tournament with a thrilling 7-6 win over the host Bruins in Blacksburg last Thursday. That was a region semifinal game and it went down to the wire, with goalie Bailey Redford killing out the final seconds of the win.

"I called a time out with a minute and a half left on the clock and we had possession in the Blacksburg attacking end," said Salem coach Mary Schwartz. "I said at one minute pass it back to Gabby (Crawley) on defense, then give it to Bailey and she will run out the last minute, and she did!"

Salem never trailed but always had the Bruins right on their tail. Salem led 2-0 after the first quarter and 4-3 at the half. Blacksburg tied the game at 6-6 after three quarters but the Spartans regained the lead and held on.

Anne Thomas led Salem with three goals while Ashlyn Davis and Madison Southern had two each. Redford caused three turnovers, scooped four ground balls and had 10 saves in the goal. Aniyah Fox had three caused turnovers and four ground balls.

"Defense had an amazing showing and the attack adjusted well," said Schwartz. "What a great win for this team. We played as a team and won as a team. So proud of how hard they worked."



The Glenvar girls are the Region C runnerup in tennis. Left to right are Priya Patel, Annaleigh Hall, Emma Peters, Cay Jones, Karis Gillespie, Coach Shannon Hall, Rayah Kelley, Shawna Garwood, Riley Price and Rebecca Magruder. PHOTO COURTESY GHS TENNIS

GHS girls team, boys doubles in state tennis

Glenvar tennis players are still alive with the post-season nearing an end. The Glenvar girls' team will play at Ridgeview on Friday in the state quarterfinals after finishing as region runners-up and the boys' doubles team will play a state semifinal match on June 12th at Liberty University.

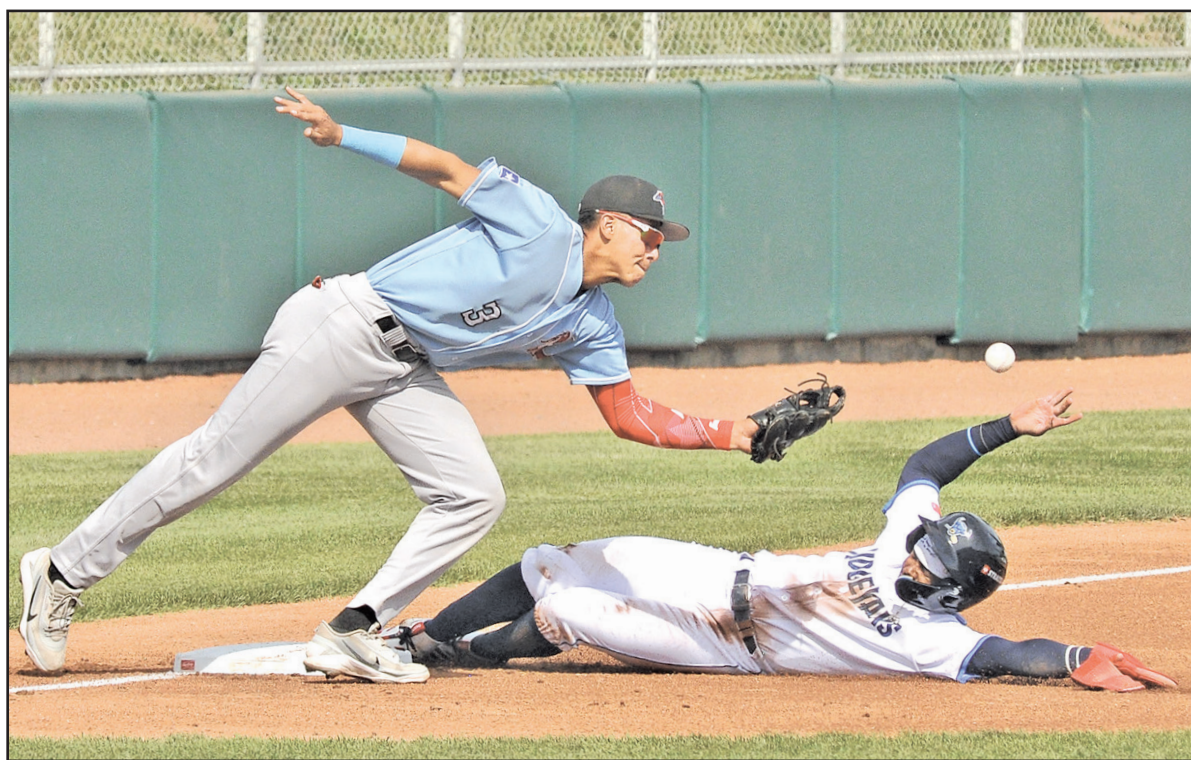
The girls defeated James River, 5-3, in the region 2C semifinal last Wednesday at Virginia Tech. Rebecca Magruder, Karis Gillespie and Rayah Kelley won singles victories. Magruder and Shawna Garwood, along with Gillespie and Cay Jones, had doubles wins to clinch the match and earn the Highlanders a state berth.

Glenvar lost to Radford in the region final on

Thursday, 5-1, with Magruder the lone winner. Following the team championship Magruder and Garwood defeated the James River duo, 7-5, 6-0, in a region doubles quarter final. The pair lost in the semifinal to a tough Floyd County team.

"This senior led group of girls just won't give up," said coach Shannon Hall. "To say I'm proud of their effort is an understatement."

The boys' doubles team that will play at Liberty University consists of senior Christian Hill and sophomore Chaitanya Gohil. The Glenvar team was knocked out of the region tournament by a strong Floyd County team after Glenvar beat Bland, 5-3, in their region opener.



Left, Salem speedster Givian Sirvania steals third base in Sunday's win over Hickory. Sirvania had stolen second on the previous pitch. Right, it was "Take Meow to the Ballgame" last Thursday and Haley Wise treated her cat "Fred" to the game. A pin on his carrier noted it was Fred's "First Yaks Game," but who looks more excited?



PHOTOS BY BRIAN HOFFMAN

RidgeYaks earn homestand split with 1-0 shutout of Hickory Sunday

The Salem RidgeYaks are on the road this week for a six game series with the Wilson Warbirds. The 'birds are a farm team of the Milwaukee Brewers.

Salem completed a six games series with Hickory last Sunday, defeating the Crawdads 1-0 as three pitchers combined for a two-hit shutout. Jacob Mayers started and pitched three innings without allowing a hit. Cole Tolbert was next and he went four and two thirds to get the win, allowing two hits. Wuilliams Rodriguez came on to pitch the last inning and a third for his second save of the season.

Salem's only run came in the bottom of the first inning when Andrew Opatka scored from second on a single by Andruw Musett. Opatka had two of Salem's six hits.

With the win the Yaks split the six game series. Salem had lost three in a row before taking a 5-1 win Saturday followed by the Sunday shutout.

Prior to last week's homestand the parent Boston Red Sox promoted outfielder Eddy Azocar and catcher Luke Heyman to the High-A Greenville Drive. Coming back to Salem from the Drive were

pitcher Joey Gartrell, catcher Adonys Guzman and pitcher Calvin Bickerstaff along with shortstop Louis Andujar, who was called up to Salem from the Sox Florida Coast League team. Bickerstaff was sent back to Greenville this week.

Following last week's split Salem had a 23-28 record and was 14 games behind first place Fredericksburg in the Carolina League North Division standings. The Yaks will be back home on Tuesday, June 9, to open a five game series with the Fayetteville Woodpeckers, a farm team of the Houston Astros.



Salem's Mason Hale is quick out of the batters' box in last week's game in Blacksburg. PHOTO BY JON FLEMING

Bruins win pitchers' duel to end Spartan baseball season in region

The Salem High baseball team saw their season come to an end in a good ole fashioned pitchers' duel last week. Unfortunately for the Spartans host Blacksburg came out on top, 2-1.

The 4D region quarterfinal featured two of the top pitchers in the valley, Sam Szeffc of Blacksburg and Salem's Zack Bocoock. Both are committed to Division 1 programs, Szeffc with his father's team at Virginia Tech and Bocoock at JMU.

The flame throwers did not disappoint. Szeffc topped at 92 miles per hour, keeping the Spartan hitters off balance the entire game. He allowed only two hits and two walks in seven innings, striking out 10. Bocoock's fastball topped at 94, and he too kept the Blacksburg hitters in check. Zach allowed just two hits while walking four and fanning 11 over six complete innings.

The Spartans got on the board first, scoring a run at the top of the first inning. Chase Rutledge led off with a double on a solid line drive that skipped past a diving right fielder. Trey Dent drew a walk and Rutledge scored on a ground ball by Mason Hale that was overthrown at first on a double play attempt. Szeffc stranded a runner at third by striking out Aiden Poff and getting Brayden White to ground to second base.

Salem threatened again in the second inning when Bocoock scorched a line drive off the left field fence for a lead-off double. However, Szeffc managed to

pick off the courtesy runner, then got a ground out and a strikeout to blank the Spartans. After the that inning Szeffc was dominate the rest of the way, only allowing two base runners, a walk in the third, and a runner who reached base on an error by the shortstop in the fifth.

The Bruins scored their first run in the bottom of the third, tying the game at 1-1. Second baseman Soma Kato lifted a ball on a 3-2 count that fell just past the left field fence for a solo home run. Bocoock got out of the inning and struck out the side in the fourth. Then, a 30-minute lightning delay put both teams in the dugout at the top of the fifth.

The Bruins scored what would be the game winning run in the bottom of the fifth. Kam Caldwell drew a lead-off walk, moved up on a wild pitch, went to third on a sacrifice bunt and scored on an opposite field single. Szeffc retired Salem in the sixth and seventh to close out the win and end Salem's season at 12-9-1.

"We played nearly the toughest schedule since I took the team in 2023," said Salem coach Jimmy Winterer. "Our players fought hard every game. These eight seniors really left it all on the field this year, and I couldn't be more proud of this group. Many will go on to play at the next level and I look forward to following them in college. They set high standards for our program, and they will all be missed."

GLENVAR BASEBALL

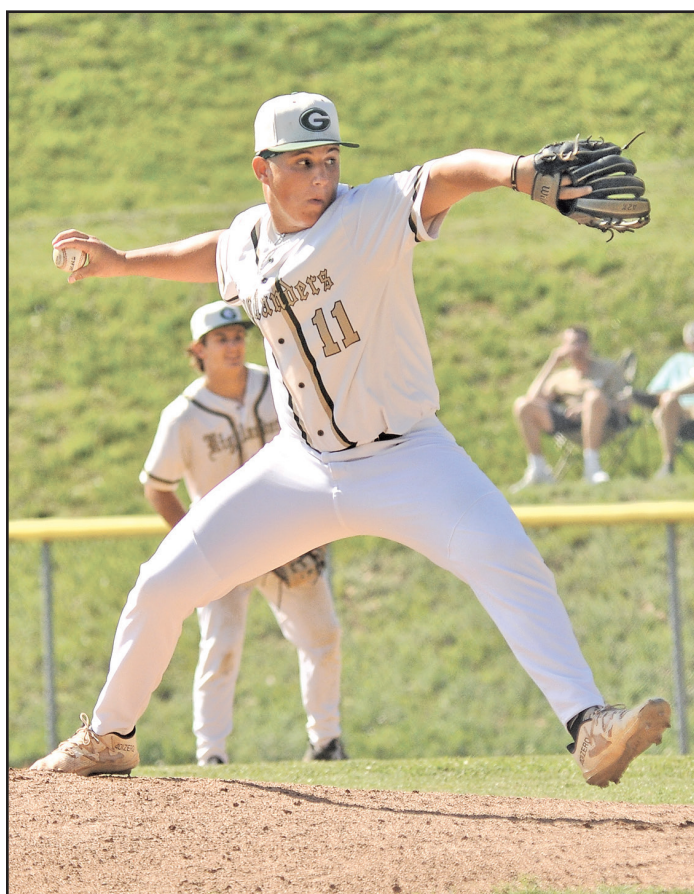
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High. Senior Cale Vaughan came within one out of tossing a no-hitter against the Cavaliers. With two outs in the top of the seventh a Chatham batter fisted a fastball off the handle that found an open spot, denying Vaughan the no hitter.

Regardless, Cale pitched a terrific game. He struck out 12 and allowed just three baserunners, the one hit, one walk and he also hit a batter.

Glenvar took control early, scoring five runs in the first inning. The big blow was a bases loaded double to the base of the centerfield fence by Jake Franklin, clearing the bases. The Highlanders scored three more in the bottom of the fourth inning to leave no doubt. Cam Feazell was four-for-four at the plate with an RBI and Evan Johnson drove in three.

The Class 2 state tournament is scheduled to start with quarterfinal games next Tuesday. The state semifinals and finals will be played on Billy Sample Field at Kiwanis Park in Salem on June 12 and 13.

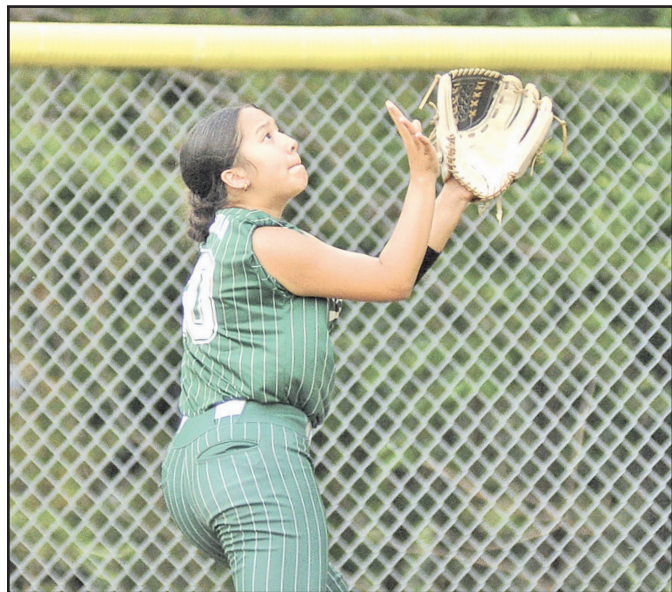


Left, Glenvar's Cale Vaughan pitches Glenvar to a win over Chatham in last week's region game, missing a no-hitter by just one out. Right, John Deel slides safely into third during a Highlander rally. PHOTOS BY BRIAN HOFFMAN



Glenvar's Mia Bayarsaikhan catches a ball in deep leftfield in a recent game.

PHOTO BY BRIAN HOFFMAN



Appomattox ace no-hits Glenvar in region softball

The Glenvar softball team had a tough hill to climb to open the Region 2C playoffs last week and it proved to be a little too steep. The eighth seeded Highlanders fell to the top-seeded Appomattox Raiders, 10-0, in Appomattox.

Glenvar hung tough in a scoreless battle into the bottom of the third when the Raiders hung six on the board with five hits. Meanwhile, Glenvar struggled against Appomattox's senior pitcher Paisley Mann's rise ball, as Mann

pitched a no-hitter for Appomattox.

A Radford University commit, Mann struck out 14 of Glenvar's 17 batters in the game. The only ball Glenvar put in play was a deep fly ball by Audrey Moles that the right fielder was able to snag. Glenvar only had two base runners in the five innings before the game ended by slaughter rule. Zella Hayes was walked and Augusta Ford was hit by pitch.

With the loss Glenvar ended the season with a 5-18 overall record.

SPORTS

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New Glenvar basketball coach is a life-long Highlander

Tyler Crockett grew up with a dad who was a coach, and now that he's going to be a dad it's Déjà Vu all over again.

Tyler and his wife Brooke are expecting a baby boy in November, about the same time he takes the bench for the first time as Glenvar varsity boys' basketball coach. Last week Tyler was named to replace Hank Luton, who recently stepped down as head coach of the Highlanders.

For the past four seasons Crockett has served as an assistant coach on the Glenvar varsity basketball staff, first with Cliff Bordewisch and then with Luton. His familiarity with the team, community and traditions of Glenvar athletics positions him to seamlessly lead the program into its next chapter according to GHS Athletic Director Andy Clapper.

"We are thrilled to name Tyler Crockett as the next head coach of Glenvar Boys Basketball," said Clapper. "Tyler understands what it means to be a Highlander. His passion for Glenvar, deep roots in the community, his experience as both a player and coach, and his commitment to developing young men on and off the court make him an outstanding choice to lead our program."

Tyler is a Highlander from way back. His dad



STR FILE PHOTO

New Glenvar basketball head coach Tyler Crockett will move over a spot on the bench after being an assistant for the past four seasons.

Brian Crockett, who is also a Glenvar graduate, coached just about every sport but cheerleading for the Highlanders. He's been the varsity head coach for baseball, golf and girls' basketball, an assistant on the boys' basketball team, and at the middle school he had stints coaching football, basketball and track.

"There were times when he was coaching three sports and he was on the go all the time," Tyler remembers. "I was the water boy and he put me in a tough spot sometimes. If a player didn't remember what he just said he'd ask me to repeat it, and I always remembered. That player usually wanted to put me in the trash can after practice."

Tyler grew up loving sports and enjoying the time with his dad. He was a good athlete in high school, playing basketball for David Redding and baseball for Billy Wells. He's second all-time in career scoring for the basketball team with 1,235 points, behind only former teammate Jeremy Williams. Tyler holds the record for points in a game with 45 against Eastern Montgomery on his "Senior Night."

"I think I hit 10 threes and I didn't play in the fourth quarter," said Crockett. "It was just one of those nights."

As for the career mark, Tyler played four years on the varsity. He started out on the jayvee team his

freshman year, but after three games he was called up to the varsity.

"I was about five feet tall and 105 pounds," he said.

Tyler figures both records would have been shattered this year if Brody Dawyot had played on the basketball team. An outstanding football player, Brody left Glenvar at mid-term to begin his collegiate football career at UNC-Charlotte. He was close to breaking the career record in basketball when he decided to forgo his senior season.

"I have no doubt he would have shattered all the records, including the 45 points in a game," said Crockett.

Tyler was a three-year captain and earned all-district, all-region and all-state honors during his time on the Highlander basketball team. Following his playing career at Glenvar Crockett continued to play basketball at Randolph College, where he competed under current Roanoke College head coach Clay Nunley.

"Coach Nunley texted me the night before I had my interview," said Crockett. "When I was helping Cliff I would go to Roanoke College practices and watch what they were doing. He was an unreal scout. He always had his team well-prepared and I'm very fortunate to be around that wealth of knowledge. It's really cool to have that connection."

Tyler is hitting the ground running. Many coaches have already planned their summer camps and programs by this time.

"There's a lot to do, I'm sort of behind the eight ball with camps," he said. "I met with Hank and checked with what he had planned and I talked to coach Nunley about getting in their camp."

As for style of play, Tyler will pull from his experiences as a player and from the coaches he played for and assisted. Luton liked to play fast, and that won't change.

"We want to keep playing fast and shoot the open threes," he said. "And I'll use a lot of the stuff I learned from coach Nunley about half court defense."

As for assembling a staff, Tyler has talked with several candidates but hasn't made final decisions on who will be sitting beside him on the bench. There is one coach who he decided on, the one who taught him the love of competing and playing basketball.

"My dad agreed to help as an assistant," said Tyler. "He just retired and we agreed it would be fun to coach together."

And, someday, wouldn't it be something if father, son and grandson were wearing the Glenvar green and gold at the same time?

"Having the opportunity to coach alongside with Tyler at the same school where I once coached him makes me incredibly proud," said Brian. "I'm excited that he wants to coach and continue giving back to Glenvar. It's a truly special place."

Then, adding with a smile, "I'm hopeful that I can stay healthy enough to coach another little Crockett."



Tyler Crockett drains a three-pointer during his school record 45 point game against East Mont in 2013 on "Senior Night."

PHOTO BY BRIAN HOFFMAN

Glenvar wrestling coach Wright aims to "Finish the Job"

Jeb Wright plans to finish the job he started years ago as the new head coach of the Glenvar High wrestling team. Jeb was hired last week to replace Tim Miles, who stepped down after three years as coach of the Highlanders.

Jeb will fit right in. He's been assisting Miles for the past couple years after coaching the Glenvar Middle School team. In fact, he goes back farther than that on the green and gold mats.

"I was with these kids when we had a Glenvar Recreation Wrestling team," he said. "I've been around most of them since the first or second grade. I've been with this program a long time."

Growing up, Jeb wrestled in the Salem program through his junior year of high school. He left the Spartans to wrestle for legendary coach Kevin Dresser at Christiansburg High School for his senior year. Jeb was a three-time state placer and developed a competitive foundation that has guided his coaching philosophy throughout his career.

A United States Marine Corps veteran, Jeb is currently serving as Master Deputy in the Roanoke County Sheriff's Department. He brings discipline and structure to the wrestling mats as well as two decades of wrestling coaching experience and a lifelong connection to the sport. In addition to Glenvar his coaching background includes serving as an assistant coach at Lord Botetourt High School under former Glenvar educator

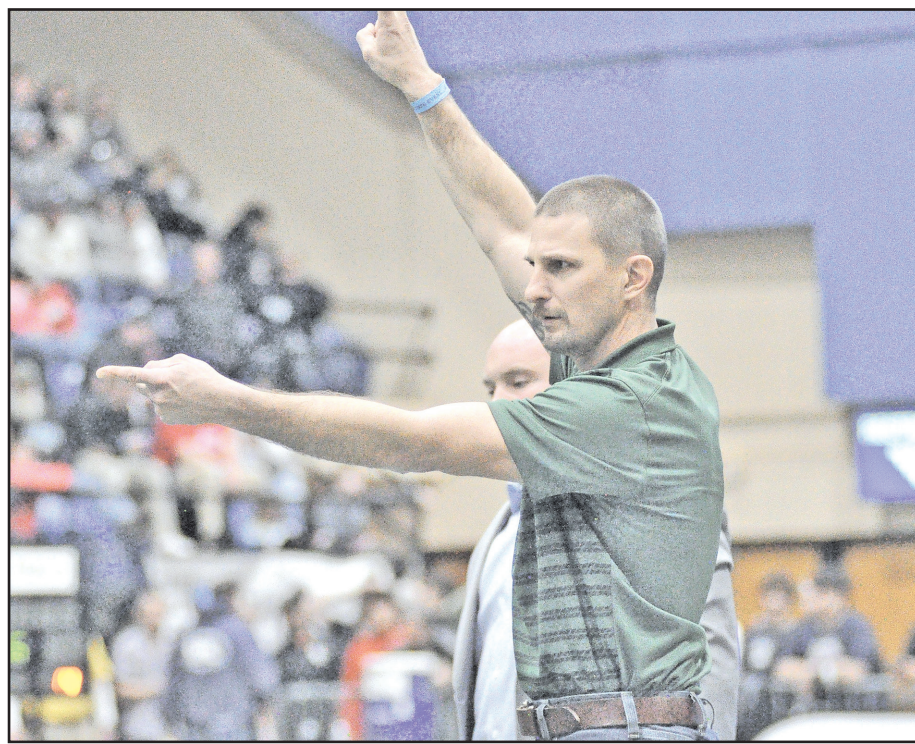
Bob Haynie and a stint as an assistant coach at William Byrd High.

"We're excited to name Jeb Wright as the next leader of our wrestling program," said Glenvar Athletic Director Andy Clapper. "His extensive coaching experience, passion for student-athlete development, and deep roots within the Glenvar community make him the ideal person to continue the tradition of excellence that our program has established."

Wright will have plenty of talent returning. He returns two state champions, including his son Levi, a state runner-up and two other state placers. They're all rising juniors, and he's been working hard to fill out a team that had been lacking in big men the past few years. There was somewhat of a conflict between the wrestling and football programs last season and Jeb is working hard to get some of those big football players back on the mat.

"Coach (Football head coach Kevin) Clifford and I have talked and we're encouraging those kids to wrestle," he said. "We had big boys wrestling when I was at the middle school. We'll work together, it's all about Glenvar."

The Highlanders have finished a little higher in each of the previous three seasons Miles was coach. Glenvar was Region 2C champions every year and finished sixth in the state in Class 2 in 2024, fourth in 2025 and third this past season. Jeb figures, with some talent added in the upper weights, the Highlanders can return to the days when they were perennial



Jeb Wright was in the corner when son Levi won a state championship at the Salem Civic Center in February.

PHOTO BY BRIAN HOFFMAN

state contenders.

Jeb has already started assembling his staff. Gil Ortega will return, two-time state champion at GHS Jake Cline will join the staff, as will Roanoke College All-American Mac Cafurello. Mac wrestled for Nate Yetzer at RC, and Nate's twin boys are rising juniors at Glenvar and both are outstanding wrestlers.

As mentioned, Jeb's son Levi is one of the returning state champs, and like the Yetzers the acorn has not fallen far

from the tree. Father and son share a love for wrestling.

"Some fathers and sons go fishing, some go hunting," said Jeb. "Wrestling is something we've done all our lives."

There's no doubt what Jeb's goal is this year. Finish the job he started when the kids were little.

"Getting all these kids back and winning the state, that's our goal," he said. "Our motto is work hard and have fun, and everything else will take care of itself."

Patrick County tops Glenvar in region baseball

The Glenvar High baseball team saw their season come to an end with an extra inning loss to Patrick County in the Region 2C semifinal Tuesday. The Highlanders dropped an 11-10 game in eight innings at Hooker Field in Martinsville.

Glenvar had beaten Patrick twice during the season, but the Cougars played one of their best games at the most opportune time. The Highlanders rallied from 10-7 down to score three runs in the seventh and send the game into extra innings, but Patrick pulled out the win in the eighth.

"The kids battled but it just wasn't our day," said Glenvar coach Jeremy Cromer.

With the win Patrick advanced to tonight's Region 2C championship game and also earned a spot in the state Class 2 tournament. Glenvar's season ended at 16-6-1.

Coming into Tuesday's game the Highlanders had won nine of their last 10 games with only a tie against Salem interrupting the streak. Last Thursday Glenvar opened Region 2C play with an 8-0 win over Chatham at Larry Wood Field at Glenvar

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