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Council nixes smoke shop and referendum for 1 percent tax for schools

Meg Hibbert
Contributing writer

In one of the longest recent meetings, Salem City Council faced some thorny issues Aug. 10. Council voted down an application for a smoke shop and a proposed 1 percent sales and use tax referendum that would have been used for renovations at East Salem and West Salem Elementary School.

The vote on the proposed referendum was 3-2, with Councilmen Hunter Holliday, John Saunders and Vice Mayor AnneMarie Green voting against it. Mayor Renee Turk and Councilman Randy Foley voted for the referendum on the November ballot. “I am in favor of letting the people have the opportunity to decide,” said Turk, who attended the Council meeting remotely while

on vacation in Italy. Green noted that with the General Assembly allowing localities to have school referendum taxes, “The General Assembly is abdicating its responsibility to provide for schools.” Holliday said “I personally have a problem with the potential to raise tax on retail sales and food and beverages.” Councilmembers voted against the proposed smoke shop

usage in the former Dominos building at 501 W. Fourth Street because, as Foley said, “I don’t believe this is the highest and best use of the property.” The vote was 5-0 to deny. Before the vote, Planning and Zoning Administrator Mary Ellen Wines noted there are already 11 other smoke and vape shops in Salem. The Salem Planning Commission had recommended

Council deny the application for similar reasons. In other zoning matters, Council approved on first reading an application by Community Church Inc. to allow Cornerstone Classical Academy to operate a school for primary and secondary students on the church property at 1923 E. Main Street. The Council meeting that began at 6:30 p.m.

adjourned at 8:05 p.m. Councilmembers Green, Holliday and Foley attended in person, with Mayor Turk and Saunders attending remotely. Saunders’ reason was for a temporary medical condition. Council meetings and Planning Commission meetings are now streamed live on the city’s YouTube channel, <https://www.youtube.com/@CityOfSalem-CityHall>.



The 27 new educators pose for a photo ahead of the start of school.

COURTESY PHOTO

Salem City Schools welcomes 27 new educators for 2026-27 school year

Salem City Schools has welcomed 27 new employees as the division prepares for the start of the 2026-27 school year. The new educators spent part of the week participating in orientation and training sessions designed to help them become familiar with the school division

and connect with their colleagues before students return to the classroom. The group represents a wide range of professional backgrounds and experience levels. Some educators bring more than 25 years of classroom experience from other Virginia

school divisions, while others are beginning their careers as first-year teachers. Several of the new hires are Salem natives and graduates of Salem City Schools, while others are joining the division from neighboring states. School officials encouraged the

community to welcome the new educators as they begin the school year and thanked them for their commitment to Salem students. The 2026-27 school year begins Tuesday, Aug. 18, for Salem City Schools students. -The Salem Times-Register

Roanoke College to phase out four academic programs, launch School of Health Sciences

Aila Boyd
aboyle@mainstreetnewspapers.com

Roanoke College will eliminate four academic programs, create a new School of Health Sciences and Health Innovation, and pursue redevelopment opportunities for its Elizabeth Campus as part of a broader strategy to strengthen the institution’s long-term financial stability. The changes were outlined by President Frank Shushok Jr. in a July 28 update to faculty and staff, in which he said the college has made significant progress in reducing its structural operating deficit while adapting to changing conditions in higher education.

According to Shushok, Roanoke College has reduced its structural cash deficit from as much as \$7.5 million to a projected operating deficit of just over \$2 million for the current fiscal year, the lowest since he became president. He said the college expects to achieve a balanced budget within two years through continued curricular innovation, disciplined budgeting and careful spending.

Shushok also highlighted recent financial milestones, noting that *Forbes* assigned the college a B+ financial health rating this summer and that the institution maintained a BBB+ bond rating with a stable outlook following a Standard & Poor’s review. He added that the college raised \$1.3 million more in cash contributions during the past fundraising year than the previous year.

In his message, Shushok said colleges nationwide continue to face mounting challenges, including declining numbers of traditional college-age students, increasing competition for enrollment, inflation and changing workforce expectations driven in part by artificial intelligence.

As part of efforts to align academic offerings



COURTESY PHOTO

Shushok with enrollment trends and market demand, the college completed a comprehensive review of its academic programs during the summer. Following that review, Roanoke College will sunset its degree programs in health and physical education, French and physics, along with its German studies concentration, at the conclusion of the 2026-27 academic year.

College officials said 29 students are currently enrolled in those majors. Most are expected to graduate in May 2027 before the programs are discontinued, while the remaining students will complete their degrees through teach-out plans.

The program changes will also affect faculty staffing. The contracts of five tenure-track faculty members and three contingent faculty members will not be renewed after the 2026-27 academic year. Shushok said the college will assist those employees as they seek new employment opportunities.

At the same time, the college plans to expand into new academic areas.

During a special meeting on July 21, the Roanoke College Board of Trustees authorized the creation of the School of Health Sciences and Health Innovation. The new school will introduce clinical and allied health programs to the college’s academic offerings.

A national search for

See Programs, page 2

City approves outdoor meeting space for Preston Place



At the Aug. 10 Salem City Council meeting, Dave Robbins, president of Preston Place Preservation Foundation Inc., shows an artist’s rendering of a proposed shelter for weddings and other outdoor gatherings at Preston Place.

Meg Hibbert
Contributing writer

The city’s oldest home will soon be able to hold outdoor weddings and other large gatherings at Preston Place, after Salem City Council approved on first reading a special exception to allow an accessory structure and outdoor gatherings.

Dave Robbins, president of The Preston Place Preservation Foundation Inc., explained at the Aug. 10 Council meeting the

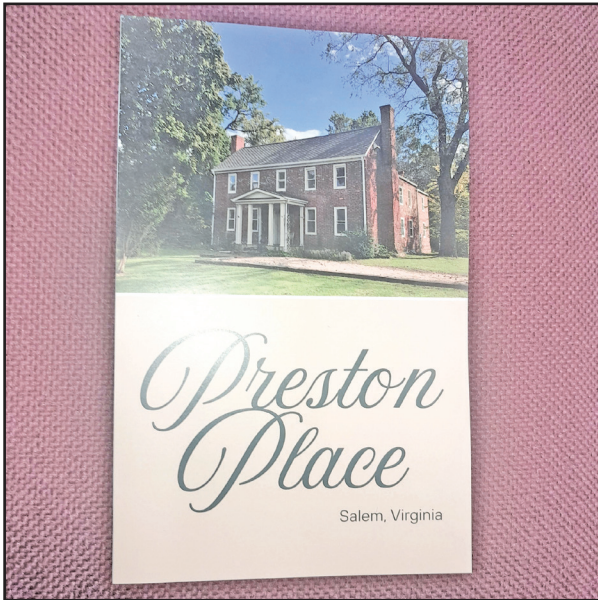
board would like to offer the historic home and grounds at 1936 W. Main St. for weddings and other large gatherings. The foundation has plans for additional parking, Robbins said, including improving the 14 spaces now and 17 additional spaces, with the possibility of parking another 36 vehicles on grass between Preston Place and the GoMart station next door. Salem’s Economic Development Authority has authorized a \$50,000

grant to build parking, Robbins said. Council also approved the idea of an open wooden shelter that Robbins said would be near the house’s osage orange - the third largest osage orange tree in Virginia - and behind the historic two-story brick house that dates back to 1821. Council’s vote to allow total occupancy for special events to 500 people or under was 4-1, with Councilman Randy Foley voting against it.

According to the new Preston Place brochure Robbins distributed to Council, Preston Place was built in 1821 on the site of John Cole’s 18th-century homestead and cabin. Some of those materials were used the current building.

In 1879 the property was purchased by Charles Isaac Preston, a local farmer and sheriff. The Preston family owned and lived in the house for decades. Dr. Esther Brown, one of Preston’s

See Preston, page 2



PHOTOS BY MEG HIBBERT

The new brochure for the city’s oldest home, Preston Place.



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.

Pickin’ in the Park — Salem Parks and Recreation will host the annual Pickin’ in the Park concert on Saturday, Aug. 15, at the Longwood Park Amphitheater. The free event will feature bluegrass headliner Junior Sisk, along with Wound Tight and Southern Rail Express. Attendees are encouraged to bring lawn chairs or blankets. Food trucks will be on site, and outside food is permitted, but outside alcohol is prohibited. Adult beverages will be available for purchase, children’s games will be offered, and pets are not allowed.

Virginia Vintage Comics and Collectibles Show: The show will return to the Salem Civic Center for the 29th year on Saturday, Aug. 22. Show hours are 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Admission is \$5 for adults and free for those 12 and under.

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 Aug. 10.

The Salem City School Board will meet at 7 p.m. on Aug. 11.

The Salem City Planning Commission will meet at 6:30 p.m. on Aug. 12.

The Salem City Council will meet at 6:30 p.m. on Aug. 24.

The Salem City School Board will meet at 7 p.m. on Sept. 8.

The Salem City Council will meet at 6:30 p.m. on Sept. 14.

The Salem City Planning Commission will meet at 6:30 p.m. on Sept. 16.

The Salem City Council will meet at 6:30 p.m. on Sept. 28.

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

The Salem City School Board will meet at 7 p.m. on Oct. 13.

The Salem City Planning Commission will meet at 6:30 p.m. on Oct. 14.

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

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

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

The Salem City Planning Commission will meet at 6:30 p.m. on Nov. 12.

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

The Salem City School Board will meet at 7 p.m. on Dec. 8.

The Salem City Council will meet at 6:30 p.m. on Dec. 14.

The Salem City Planning Commission will meet at 6:30 p.m. on Dec. 16.

OBITUARY

Adams Jr., Rev. Tommy Ivey

Rev. Tommy Ivey Adams, Jr., 91, went to be with the Lord on Thursday, July 30, 2026.

Ivey was most recently of Salem, Va. However, he also spent time in Rocky Mount, Va., Phenix City, Ala., Fort Worth, Texas, and Eufaula, Ala. He pastored Beulah Baptist Church of Rocky Mount, Va., where he retired in 1999. His church membership was then held at Ridgewood Baptist Church in Roanoke, Va. Ivey was also an advocate of the Virginia Baptist Disaster Relief. In the Ham Radio community, he was known by his call sign of KC4DPY. In addition to amateur radio, he enjoyed fishing, camping, hunting,



and traveling.

Preceding him in death were his grandparents, Aaron Robert and Mattie B. Spivey; parents, Tommy Ivey, Sr. and Theda Bara Adams; and a daughter, Martha Adams Sullivan.

His surviving family includes his wife, Ruth B.

“Dolly” Adams; children, Neal Adams (Diane) and Phillip Adams (Tara); grandson, Sean Sullivan (Courtney); and sister, Martha Beatrice Adams (Charles).

A celebration of Ivey’s life will take place on Wednesday, August 5, 2026, in the John M. Oakey & Son Chapel located at 305 Roanoke Boulevard in Salem, Va. The period of visitation will begin at 12 Noon and the funeral service at 2 p.m. Interment will immediately follow at Sherwood Memorial Park. The Rev. Rick Poland will officiate.

Online condolences may be expressed at www.johnmoakey.com.

Bohon, Virginia (Jenny) Francisco

Virginia (Jenny) Francisco Bohon, 94, of Salem, Va., passed away on Monday, August 10, 2026.

Jenny was a longtime and active member of Salem Baptist Church. She worked for Salem City Schools and retired from Andrew Lewis Middle School, the same school she graduated from when it was a high school.

She was preceded in death by her father, Guy C. Francisco of St. Paul, Va., who died at the age of 24 after being involved in an automobile wreck in 1931; her mother and stepfather, Ada Fleming Francisco Adams and Sidney T. Adams of Salem, Va.; her husband of 59 years, Bruce E. Bohon, Sr.; sister, Peggy Francisco Fleenor; and grandchild, Taylor.

She is survived by her



children, Brenda Bohon Hodges and her husband, Paul, Bruce E. Bohon, Jr. and his wife, Judy; niece, Charlotte Wimmer and her husband, Ed; nephews, Buddy Lawrence, Tommy Lawrence and his wife, Beth, and Glenn Landes and his wife, Kathy; and sister-in-law, Almeta

Landes.

Special appreciation is given to Dr. Madhoun, Gentiva Hospice, Nexus Homecare, Friendship Richfield Rehab, and Cindy, her social worker at Richfield, for the love, support, and care given to Jenny and the entire Bohon family.

Jenny’s life will be celebrated by family and friends on Thursday, August 13, 2026, at the John M. Oakey & Son Chapel in Salem, Va. The period of visitation will begin at 1 p.m., and the service at 2 p.m. She will be laid to rest beside her husband at Sherwood Memorial Park, also in Salem. The Rev. Heath Rickmond will officiate.

Online condolences may be expressed at www.johnmoakey.com.

Birch, Clarence Elton

Clarence Elton Birch, Jr. passed away peacefully in his sleep on Wednesday, July 29, 2026.

Elton was born and raised in Salem, Virginia. He graduated from Andrew Lewis High School before attending Virginia Tech, where he was a proud member of the Corps of Cadets, and earned his Bachelor’s degree in Mechanical Engineering in 1963. Following graduation, Elton began his career with DuPont in Richmond, Virginia. It was then that he met the love of his life, Edi Lasher, who

was attending Sweet Briar College. They married and shared 62 wonderful years together. After his time at DuPont, Elton proudly served on active duty in the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, stationed at Fort Campbell, Kentucky. Following his military service, he returned to Salem, where he became President of Old Virginia Brick Company. His career later took him to Montgomery, Alabama, with Jenkins Brick Company, and then to Selma, Alabama, where he worked for Henry Brick Company, overseeing

production operations.

A man of faith, Elton devoted much of his life to serving his church communities. He was a longtime member and Deacon at Salem Presbyterian Church and later served as an Elder at Pisgah Presbyterian Church and Cornerstone Presbyterian Church in Selma.

Elton never met a stranger. Known for his warm smile, quick wit, and wonderful sense of humor, he had a gift for making everyone feel welcome. He loved golf and tennis, but nothing brought him

more excitement than cheering on Virginia Tech Hokies football. Above all, he treasured time with his family and especially enjoyed traveling to visit his daughters and grandchildren. He believed in the value of hard work and led by example, instilling a strong work ethic in his daughters that continues to guide them today.

Elton was preceded in death by his parents, Clarence and Margaret Birch.

He is survived by his loving wife of 62 years, Edi Lasher Birch; his

daughters, Katherine Broschart (Chris) and Suzanne White; his cherished grandchildren, Mason Broschart and Sydney White; his brother, James D. Birch (Wanda); and many beloved cousins, nieces, nephews, extended family members, and friends.

Elton will be remembered for his unwavering faith, his dedication to his family, his integrity, his generous spirit, and his ability to make others laugh. His legacy lives on in the lives he touched and the values he passed on to those who

loved him.

A graveside service will be conducted at 2 p.m. on Friday, August 14, 2026, at Sherwood Memorial Park located at 1250 East Main Street in Salem, Virginia, followed by a celebration of life at the Salem Museum. In lieu of flowers, memorial gifts may be made to the Virginia Tech College of Engineering Scholarship Fund in Blacksburg, Virginia, through the Virginia Tech Giving Page, or to the donor’s favorite house of worship. Online condolences may be expressed at www.johnmoakey.com.

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Preston

from page 1

descendants and Salem’s first female physician, inherited the property.

Her family deeded the home and grounds to the Salem Historical Society and Museum. More recently The Preston Place Foundation Inc. received the property and now has plans to expand the offerings of history, culture and community for future generations, according to the new brochure.

Salem City Council meetings are now being livestreamed at <https://www.youtube.com/@CityOfSalem-CityHall>.

Programs

from page 1

the school’s inaugural dean will begin this fall, with additional details about the initiative expected in the coming months.

Shushok also announced that the college has entered into what he described as a confidential agreement that could lead to a partnership to develop the Elizabeth Campus, potentially creating a new revenue source for the institution.

As part of those plans, student housing on the Elizabeth Campus will be relocated to the main campus beginning with the 2027-28 academic year. The college said it will work with fraternities this fall to identify future residential and social space, while noting that the Environment Center and athletic fields on the Elizabeth Campus would not be affected by the proposed partnership.

Shushok said the decisions reflect the college’s effort to remain financially sustainable while investing in programs that meet regional workforce needs and position the institution for future growth.

Be sure to ‘Like’ the Salem-Times Register on Facebook.

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RECIPE OF THE WEEK



Shelly Koon

Contributing Writer

It's strange. I did not know about sweet tea until I got to Virginia. Growing up with parents from Arkansas you would think we drank sweet tea all the time. But, no, Mom drank black coffee and Dad drank milk. Cold tea in the North is served plain with a choice of sweeteners on the side.

I like tea; southern sweet tea on a hot day or hot milk tea in the winter. I have been known to drink a chai tea latte also. When I was in 5th grade, I had a friend who was from Bath, England. Whenever we went to her house after school, we would have milky tea and cookies. I then went home and had to have hot tea with milk. My mom indulged me and let me have my British tea. I still add milk to my hot tea.

I was talking with our advertising guy, Tucker, about tea last week. He saw a TV show about how sweet tea got started. It was weird because I had just come across an article in 1938 Salem Times about Sir Tom Lipton. I then had to know more about him (Lipton not Tucker).

Sir Thomas Johnstone Lipton, 1st Baronet (1848–1931) was a legendary Scottish self-made merchant, philanthropist, and yachtsman who created the globally renowned Lipton Tea brand. Rising from desperate childhood poverty in Glasgow, he built a massive grocery empire before revolutionizing the global tea trade. Beyond his business success, he earned international affection as “the world’s most cheerful loser” for his persistent, unsuccessful attempts to win yachting’s most prestigious prize. Bypassing Middlemen Rise to Business Fame

Born to Irish immigrant parents in a Glasgow tenement, he left school early to help support his family. As a teenager, he spent five years working odd jobs across the United States, where he carefully observed American retail, marketing, and aggressive advertising techniques. Returning to Scotland in 1871, he opened his first grocery store, “Lipton’s Market”. By leveraging clever stunts and striking directly with local producers, his business rapidly grew into a nationwide chain of over 300 stores. In 1888, Lipton entered the tea market with a vision to make what was then a luxury item affordable for the working class. He bypassed traditional London auctions by purchasing bankrupt coffee plantations in Ceylon (now Sri Lanka) and replanting them with tea. Operating under the mantra “Direct from the Tea Gardens to the Teapot,” he achieved high profit margins while drastically lowering prices for consumers. He became a pioneer in standardizing packaging, pre-sorting tea into specific weights rather than selling it loose, which ensured consistent quality worldwide.

Sailing was Lipton’s lifelong passion. Between 1899 and 1930, he challenged the American holders of the America’s Cup five separate times using a succession of yachts named Shamrock through Shamrock V. Though he lost every single challenge, his unwavering grace, humor, and supreme sportsmanship completely charmed the American public. Following his final defeat in 1930, the

Mayor of New York presented him with a specially designed gold cup honoring him as “the best of all losers”. This extensive sailing publicity served as a masterclass in public relations, ultimately making his brand a household name in the United States. Lipton was knighted by Queen Victoria in 1898 and created a baronet in 1902. During World War I, he famously funded medical volunteer organizations and repurposed his personal steam yachts to transport Red Cross staff. He died a bachelor in 1931, leaving the bulk of his massive fortune to benefit the poor and build hospitals in his beloved native city of Glasgow. His personal memorabilia and historic racing trophies are preserved today inside Glasgow’s Kelvingrove Art Gallery and Museum.

Whether you want an energizing morning brew or a calming nighttime ritual, the “best” tea depends on your goal. Generally, true teas are packed with antioxidants, while herbal teas offer remedies for sleep and digestion. For overall health benefits use Black, Green, Matcha or Oolong teas. Green Tea is the ultimate antioxidant powerhouse. Rich in EGCG, it boosts metabolism, brain function, and heart health. Black Tea is fully oxidized and robust, it contains higher caffeine levels and flavonoids that support gut and heart health. Matcha is a concentrated, powdered form of green tea that provides a calm, focused energy boost without the jitters of coffee. Oolong Tea is a traditional Chinese tea partially oxidized to sit between green and black. It is known to boost metabolism and lower inflammation. Rooibos is a caffeine-free red tea from South Africa with a naturally sweet, nutty flavor that is full of antioxidants. To help you sleep and relax try chamomile or lavender tea. For an upset stomach try ginger tea or peppermint tea.

Americans drink an astounding amount of tea, consuming over 84 billion servings (about 3.9 billion gallons) every single year. Roughly 75% to 85% of all tea consumed in the U.S. is iced, with iced sweet tea being especially prevalent across the Southern United States. About 84% of the tea Americans drink is black tea, while 15% is green tea. On any given day, over 159 million Americans, more than half the population, drink some form of tea.

cup. Boil water and pour it over the tea bag. Wait 3 to 5 minutes for the tea to brew, without stirring or squeezing the tea bag. Remove the teabag and pour in a dash of milk. Note: milk should act as a flavor-enhancer, so you only need enough to add creaminess. Too much milk will mask the taste of the tea. Judge it by the change color as you add the milk and aim for an even shade - a very pale brown means you’ve probably poured in too much. Stir with a spoon to blend evenly.

Hot and Spicy Chocolate Tea

Ingredients

1 cup 2% milk

1 cup water

2 Lipton® Cup Size Tea Bags or Decaffeinated Tea Bags

1 Tbsp. chocolate syrup

1/8 tsp. ground cinnamon

1/8 tsp. ground ginger

1/8 tsp. ground nutmeg

Instructions

Bring milk and water just to a boil in 2-quart saucepan. Remove from heat and add Lipton® Cup Size Tea Bags. Cover and brew 2 to 5 minutes. Remove Tea Bags and squeeze; stir in remaining ingredients. Sweeten as desired.



Chai Tea Latte

Ingredients

2 tea bags (black tea)

1 teaspoon ground cinnamon

1/2 teaspoon ground ginger

1/4 teaspoon ground allspice

1 cup water

1 cup whole milk

1/4 cup packed brown sugar

2 tablespoons refrigerated French vanilla nondairy creamer

Optional: Whipped topping and ground nutmeg

Instructions

Place the tea bags, cinnamon, ginger and allspice in the coffee filter of a drip coffeemaker. Add water; brew according to manufacturer’s directions. Meanwhile, in a small saucepan, combine the milk, brown sugar and creamer. Cook and stir over medium heat until heated through and sugar is dissolved. Pour milk mixture into mugs; stir in tea. If desired, dollop with whipped topping and sprinkle with nutmeg.



HOW TO MAKE MILK TEA

Add a Lipton Black Tea teabag to your favorite

FROM THE ARCHIVES

Sir Thomas Lipton

From the October 7, 1938 edition of The Salem Times-Register

When Sir Thomas Lipton died at his home in Osidge, London, on October 2, 1931, newspapers throughout the world carried the famous picture of Sir Thomas in his yachting cap and gave their readers the story of his life.

But these articles, in the main, stressed the story of his pater years: Sir Thomas as great philanthropist, Sir Thomas as ambassador of good will, Sir Thomas as celebrated yachtsman; and forgot to emphasize the title of which he was proudest. This title was Thomas Lipton, Tea Planter, Ceylon.

For tea was the consuming interest of Thomas Lipton’s life, from the day in 1889whenhis first purchase of twenty thousand chests of tea arrived in Glasgow and the loads were drawn through the streets of that great Scottish city accompanied by brass bands and bag pipes, until the day 42 years later when the beloved old man passed away.

Up to the time of Lipton’s entry into the tea business, most of the tea in the world came from China. The island of Ceylon was known as a great coffee-growing country. There was not a tea plant on the island, but in 1870, Ceylon was visited by a blight that snuffed out the life of every single coffee plant, and promised to spell economic disaster for

Ceylon.

In the gloomy days that followed, young Thomas Lipton and some other adventurous souls thought: “Why not try to grow tea in this rich Ceylon soil and exceptionally gentle climate?” Tea plants were imported and cultivated with scientific care.

Never was experiment more successful. Ceylon proved to be one of the great tea-growing spots in the world. Here sprang from Mother Earth tea unsurpassed for delightful flavor. And, oddly enough, the finest of all the tea gardens in Ceylon were Thomas Lipton’s.

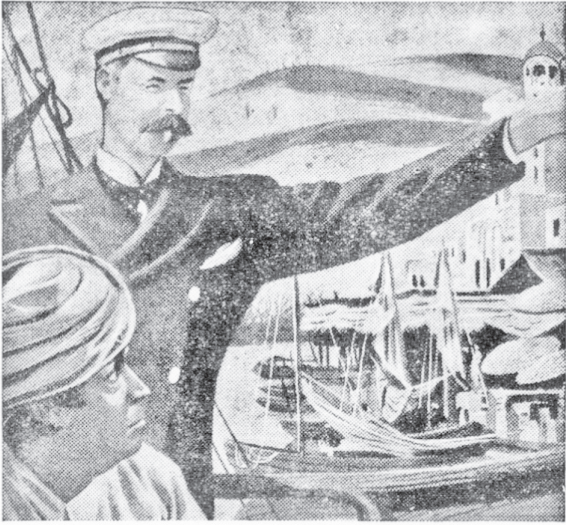
With his own superb tea as a basis, Thoms Lipton mixed a blend so fine that it has carried off top honors in five world’s fairs. And, at the Great Tea Exposition of Ceylon and India, Lipton’s own tea was awarded the Gold Medal.

Lipton’s tea came to the attention of royalty, and he became “Tea Merchant by Appointment” to three different royal families. A day arrived when knighthood was bestowed upon him and he became Sir Thomas Lipton.

Today, T.O.M. Sop with, Esq. instead of Sir Thomas, comes to America to try to win back the “America’s Cup”, symbol of yachting supremacy, but the memory of Sir Thomas is dear and his picture still familiar to Americans and other people of the world. This picture, appropriately enough,

The Real Love of

Sir Thomas Lipton’s Life



FROM THE TIMES-REGISTER ARCHIVES

is seen most often accompanied by the thing he would like to be remembered for. It is printed on the familiar yellow labeled packages of his own tea. The signature below the picture reads, quite simply, “Thomas J. Lipton, Tea Planter, Ceylon.”

-Prepared by Shelly Koon

JOHN M. SINCE 1866

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Salem-Times Register

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OPINION

SPL’s Summer Financial Literacy Series wraps up

Elder Law and Estate Planning, the final presentation in the Salem Public Library’s 2026 Summer Financial Literacy Series, will be held Tuesday, August 18, at 11am. Join Mark W. Dellinger, Elder Law Attorney with Rhodes, Butler & Dellinger, PC (Roanoke, VA) for a clear and practical overview of essential estate planning and elder law topics that help you plan and protect your financial future. Topics include: Wills, trust, and core estate planning tools; Powers of Attorney and Advance Medical Directives; Estate, gift, and income tax considerations; Acting as a fiduciary; Practical strategies for organizing your legal and financial affairs. Register at saalemva.libcal.com or call the library at 540-375-3089 to register.

Additional August adult events
Wednesday, August 19, 6:30pm. Same Page Book Club. An LGBTQ+ book club. This month we are reading any romance novel of your choice.
Monday, August 24, 1:30-6pm. Red Cross Blood Drive at Salem Library. Make an appointment at

Library Corner

Empowering individuals to build a stronger community

Benita VanCleave

www.redcrossblood.org
Tuesday, August 25, 1pm. Afternoon Book Club: *Lulu Dean’s Little Library of Banned Books* by Kristen Miller.
Tuesday, August 25, 2pm: Virtual Speaker Event Join us at home for a riveting conversation with award-winning biologist Beronda Montgomery as we discuss her book, *When Trees Testify: Science, Wisdom, History, and America’s Black Botanical Legacy*. Register to watch at home at www.salemlibrary.info

Wednesday, August 26, 2pm. Solo Aging Café. A growing number of adults are aging without a spouse, partner, children, or nearby family. If this sounds like you, you’re not alone — and you’re warmly invited to join us. Register at saalemva.libcal.com or call the Salem Library at 540-375-3089.
The Solo Aging Café is a friendly, welcoming space for connection, conversation, and shared learning. Whether you’re exploring what it means to age solo or simply looking to build community, this is a place to feel supported and understood.
Thursday, August 27, 2pm. Virtual Speaker Event: High Altitude and High Stakes: A Miss Marple Mystery. Join in for a thrilling conversation with acclaimed author Lucy Foley as we delve into her brand-new Miss Marple mystery, *Murder at the Grand Alpine Hotel*. Register to watch at home at www.salemlibrary.info
Thursday, August 27, 6pm. The End of the World Book Club (Horror/Sci-Fi) Theme: Back to school: Realistic/hard science fiction.

SIXTH DISTRICT PERSPECTIVE

Celebrated World War II Navy Veteran Who Turned 100

Last week, it was an honor to celebrate World War II Navy Veteran Jack Cassell on his 100th birthday. Our country is grateful for the heroic men and women who served and sacrificed for our Nation’s freedom. Jack Cassell’s story is a remarkable testament to generations who have answered the call to defend our nation and its freedom. It was a pleasure to celebrate this milestone birthday with Jack while also honoring all those who serve.

Our Nation is forever grateful to the brave men and women who have worn the uniform and defended the American way of life. I am incredibly proud to represent the Veterans of Virginia’s 6th District and to vote for legislation that provides resources that benefit them. Thank you to Jack and



Ben Cline

Congressman

every Veteran in Virginia’s 6th District for their bravery and service to our Nation. I will continue to fight to ensure your sacrifices are always honored.

Lead Efforts to Protect SNAP From Retailer Fraud

Americans deserve accountability for every taxpayer dollar, which is why I am leading efforts to uncover and stop fraud in the SNAP program. My House Republican colleagues and I are continuing our investigation into government fraud, and protecting SNAP from retailer abuse is part of that effort. Recently, the U.S. Department of Agriculture released findings on the SNAP program that included \$3 billion in potential fraud and waste, 244,000 people using deceased people’s Social Security numbers, and 500,000 individuals double-enrolled in multiple states. By investigating these findings, we are providing accountability and transparency and reaffirming our commitment to hardworking taxpayers in our Nation.

We cannot allow fraud and abuse to go unchecked. That is why I am devoted to ensuring that Congress continues to strengthen oversight, provide clarity, and earn the trust of the American people. Taxpayers deserve to know their hard-earned dollars are being protected. Republicans are working hard to verify these findings, take action, and ensure that this corruption ends now.

Continued Support for America’s True Daughters

Last week, I was honored to see continued support for my bill, the *Daughters of the American Revolution Membership Integrity Act*. My district has seen a staggering amount of support for this legislation, which continues to champion women who are part of the Daughters of the American Revolution (DAR). This continued support from

leaders like Senator Marsha Blackburn empowers women who represent the exceptional heritage of the birth of our Nation. I am honored to stand alongside Members who hold the standard of confidence, faith, and encouragement for our Nation.

The *Daughters of the American Revolution Membership Integrity Act* is common-sense legislation that requires the congressionally-chartered DAR to return to serving the true daughters of the American Revolution. The bill adds a requirement to the federal charter that limits membership to only individuals who are biological females and otherwise keeps the genealogical and membership qualifications established by the corporation. By establishing a clear statutory eligibility requirement, the bill aims to eliminate uncertainty regarding membership qualifications in the DAR. This bill would create lasting change for generations to come.

Delivered 15 Months of Zero Illegal Border Entries

This month marked 15 months of zero releases at the border. This signifies another month of historic success at our Nation’s borders. The increase in border security continues to keep Americans safe and provide stability for our community. A Nation without secure borders is not a sovereign nation. We must ensure that those entering our country do so legally and respect the rule of law. Recently, as a member of the House Judiciary Committee, I voted to pass the *Permanent Trump Secure Border Act* out of Committee. This critical legislation would ensure our border remains secure and protected permanently.

For years, Democrats have refused to fix our immigration system and instead have allowed open borders and criminal illegal aliens to terrorize our Nation. Now, we’re closing the border and supporting the men and women who keep our Nation safe. I’m proud to continue securing the border, restoring accountability, and providing safety for all Americans.

Thank you for the opportunity to serve as your Congressman. If my office can ever be of assistance, please contact my Washington office at (202) 225-5431.

Salem Times~Register

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

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www.ourvalley.org

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The Times-Register encourages letters from our readers on topics of general interest to the community and responses to our articles and columns. Letters must be signed and have a telephone number where you can be reached to be considered for publication. All letters will be verified before publication. The Times-Register reserves the right to deny publication of any letter and edit letters for length, content and style.

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CROSSWORD PUZZLE

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68								69					70	

CLUES ACROSS

1. Midway between south and southeast
4. Fathers
9. Wine grape
14. Al Bundy’s wife
15. Derived from ammonia
16. Venezuelan state
17. Interest rate
18. Experts
20. Vascular tissues
22. Smooth and glossy
23. Administrative region in S. Korea
24. One from Damascus
28. Special interest group
29. It cools your home
30. Oh, God!
31. Intestinal pouches
33. Men
37. Twelfth star in a constellation
38. Former CIA
39. Arrange in grades of size

41. A baglike structure in a plant or animal
42. ÖThe Great Lakes StateÖ
43. Having earlike appendages
44. Momentarily stop
46. Ancient kingdom
49. Of I
50. White clerical vestment
51. Songs to one’s beloved
55. Charges
58. Computer application originator
59. A place to dock a boat
60. One guided by reason
64. Slang for cigarette
65. ÖJerry MaguireÖ actor Zellweger
67. Screen type

68. Country legend Haggard
69. Puts together in time
70. When you anticipate arriving
CLUES DOWN

1. Involuntary muscular contraction
2. Eastern US transit agency
3. Leaves a place
4. Cease to participate
5. Current units
6. Cease to exist
7. General’s assistant (abbr.)
8. Earth vibration
9. Very strong winds
10. For each one
11. A bog
12. The creation of beautiful or significant things
13. Affirmative
19. Pie ____ mode
21. Nonclerical
24. Indonesian island
25. Educational environment

26. Namibian peoples
27. Bring out or develop
31. Moves into a place of thought
32. Out of the way
34. Loads a ship
35. Beloved Hollywood alien
36. Distinguishes
40. The ancient Egyptian sun god
41. Secondary or explanatory title
45. Relating to a wing
47. One who gives a speech
48. In the middle
52. Loop with a running knot
53. Airborne (abbr.)
54. Sweet persons
56. Put into play
57. Small cattle breed
59. Millisecond
60. Revolutions per minute
61. They ____
62. Moon crater
63. A place to stay the night

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VDOT

from page 5

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. Northbound and southbound lane closures possible during nighttime hours. Various tasks are being performed throughout the project. The expected completion for this project is summer 2031.

Blasting: Starting the week of August 17, blasting will occur for about eight weeks between 9 a.m. to 11 a.m, Monday through Thursday. Exact days and times will be communicated weekly. Drivers should expect loud noises and are encouraged to allow for extra travel time. Expect delays, heavy congestion and use alternate routes. Message boards will provide updated information. Slow rolls will be used in both directions:

Northbound lanes beginning at the 146 on-ramp (Plantation Road)

Southbound lanes beginning at the 156 on-ramp (Troutville)

Ramp closures: Various closures and narrowing of ramps will be in place over the next few weeks. Drivers can use alternate exits at 150 during any of the ramp closures or use exit 146 for access to Route 11 to return to the area at exit 150. Message boards will alert drivers of the closures and should watch for any changes or updates as these closures are weather dependent.

Truck entrances on I-81: Openings for trucks to enter into the work zone for deliveries are possible where barrier walls are present. Watch for trucks that may slow down on the interstate to enter these areas.

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.

Flagging operations: Flagging operations are possible on various secondary roads impacted by bridge work. Watch for message boards and signage.

Daytime flagging operation on Reservoir Road until Tuesday, September 1.

Daytime flagging operation on Belle Haven Road until Tuesday, September

1. Ramps: Ramps on I-81, northbound and southbound, may experience periodic closures or be narrowed at exit 150, 146 and 143.

Shoulder closures: Shoulder closures in place with additional barrier wall to be installed next year.

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

‘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 widening from mile marker 133.8 to 137

The I-81 widening project from mile marker 133.8 to 137 will begin with work to collect survey and geotechnical data that may require periodic northbound and southbound right and left lane and shoulder closures during nighttime hours. This is the northern portion of a larger project that extends to mile marker 127 at Ironto. It is being performed in three sections with this being the first section and is expected to start in early 2027.

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.

Interstate 581

Interstate 581 exit 2N at Peters Creek Road

Work is underway on this \$4 million project to re-align and signalize the exit 2N ramp from northbound I-581 to northbound Peters Creek Road, eliminating the current merge ramp and making it easier for drivers to access Valleypointe Parkway. One lane each direction will remain open during work. During spring and summer 2026, the current exit ramp will be narrowed as construction begins on the new exit ramp. Construction is expected to be completed in late fall 2026.

Lane closures: Drivers may see intermittent lane closures in place, 9 a.m. to 2 p.m., on Peters Creek Road northbound and southbound in the city of Roanoke between Valleypointe Parkway and Thirlane Road NW.

I-581 patching operations

Weather permitting, crews will perform paving and patching operations. Lane closures will be in place northbound and southbound, Sunday through Thursday, during nighttime hours, 7 p.m. to 7 a.m. the following morning. Drivers should watch for signs and expect possible delays.

I-581 bridge deck repairs

Weather permitting, crews will repair bridge decks on Interstate 581, right and left lane closures may be in place 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 County

New traffic signal to be activated on Peters Creek Road

A new signal will be activated at the intersection of Peters Creek Road and Alpine Road at the new Roanoke County Career and Technology Center. Beginning Friday, August 7, electronic message boards will be in place on Peters Creek Road to alert drivers to the upcoming new signal and change in traffic pattern. On August 10, the new signal will be set to flashing yellow to alert drivers to the upcoming signal activation. The new signal will remain in flashing yellow mode for 48 hours before becoming fully operational on Wednesday, August 12.

Dry Hollow Road safety improvements

A safety improvement project on Dry Hollow Road that will reinforce the retaining wall and install a roadside barrier is expected to start. Beginning Monday, August 10, drivers may encounter flagging operations and delays of up to five minutes throughout the life of the project. Delays of up to 15 minutes are also possible during the hours of:

5 a.m. to 7 a.m.
10 a.m. to 2 p.m.
9 p.m. to 11 p.m.

Nighttime road closures are expected to begin in summer 2027 after Roanoke County Public Schools have closed. Drivers should pay attention to message boards that are already in place. A new signal has already been installed as the first part of this project. Expected completion is fall 2027.

Route 220 traffic pattern change at Clearbrook Village Lane and Indian Graves Road

As of Thursday, July 9, after 7 p.m., a new traffic pattern at the intersection of Clearbrook Village Lane and Indian Graves Road on Route 220 is nearing completion. Motorists who used to drive straight across Route 220 at this intersection will instead turn right or left onto Route 220 and make a U-turn at the next available median crossover or signal. Message boards will be in place and drivers will see barrels in place as barriers to separate left and right turn movements until concrete islands are constructed. Motorists will still be able to access Clearbrook Village Lane and Indian Graves Road from Route 220 by using existing turn lanes. Nighttime work to improve the intersection will continue and lane closures and flagging operations are possible between the hours of 7 p.m. and 6 a.m. Drivers should pay attention to signs and message boards in the area. Work is expected to be completed by end of 2026, weather permitting.

Route 220 traffic pattern change at Sontag Road and Cassell Drive

As of Monday, July 20, after 7 p.m., drivers will use a new traffic pattern at the intersection of Sontag Road and Cassell Drive on Route 220 to improve safety and traffic flow. Motorists who currently drive straight across Route 220 at this intersection will instead turn right or left onto Route 220 and make a U-turn at the next available median crossover or signal. Newly constructed U-turns on Route 220 are now open. Message boards will be in place and drivers will see barrels in place as barriers to separate left and right turn movements until concrete islands are constructed. Motorists will still be able to access Sontag Road and Cassell Drive from Route 220 by using existing turn lanes. Nighttime work to improve the intersection will continue over the next few weeks.

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Help Wanted

Fincastle United Methodist Church is seeking a part-time Adult Choir Director

to join our worship team, lead our adult choir effectively and joyfully, and improve and encourage the musical capabilities of our musicians. Responsibilities include selecting music for the choir, leading weekly choir rehearsals (September – June), conducting the choir and congregation for Sunday morning and special services, planning and coordinating special music for summer services, and serving as coordinator/advisor for related musical groups. Qualifications:

- Experience directing church choirs.
- Formal education and background in music or music education.
- Ability to collaborate with, teach, and inspire volunteer musicians in an affirming manner.

Compensation:

- Choir Director: \$11,000 - \$13,000

Please reply to office@fincastleumc.org or call (540) 473-3001

Fincastle United Methodist Church is seeking a part-time Piano and/or Organist

Accompanist to join our worship team and help lead our congregation in meaningful, spirit-filled worship. Responsibilities include playing music for Sunday morning and special services, practicing with and accompanying the choir and other musicians, selecting music, and maintaining our instruments in good working order. Qualifications:

- Proficiency with piano and/or organ
- Ability to sight-read music
- Ability to work collaboratively with clergy, choir, and other musicians
- Strong sense of musicality and sensitivity to worship flow

Compensation:

- Pianist: \$5,000 - \$7,000
- Organist: \$12,000 - \$16,000

Please reply to office@fincastleumc.org or call (540) 473-3001

Storage Auction

STORAGE AUCTION

Salem Storage
736 Roanoke Street
Salem, Va. 24153
August 20, 2026 at 9:00 AM

Salem Storage will conduct a public sale of merchandise to collect liens from the following delinquent building.

Owner: Linda Devincenzi
Units 29, 103
Cash Only

We reserve the right to refuse bids.

Legals - Botetourt County

Commissioner's Sale

Pursuant to the Single Family Mortgage Foreclosure Act of 1994, 12 U.S.C. Chapter 38A and the Secretary's Foreclosure Commissioner designation, a COMMISSIONER'S SALE of 360 Maple Ridge Lane, Fincastle, VA 24090 (Short Legal Description: TAX ID 27569) will occur at public auction outside the main entrance to the building of the Circuit Court of Botetourt County Circuit Court, VA located at 1 W Main Street, Fincastle, VA 24090 on August 21, 2026 at 1:00 PM, pursuant to a default of a note secured by a deed of trust executed by Cary W. Obenshain and Patricia Y. Obenshain recorded 4/24/2012, in the Circuit Court of Botetourt County Circuit Court, VA, Instrument Number 120001707, and the Assignment in favor of the Secretary of HUD recorded 10/31/2019, in the Circuit Court for Botetourt County Circuit Court, VA Instrument Number 190004095. THIS IS A COMMUNICATION FROM A DEBT COLLECTOR AND ANY INFORMATION OBTAINED WILL BE USED FOR THAT PURPOSE. TERMS OF SALE can be reviewed by the recorded notice of default on file with the Botetourt County Circuit Court Circuit Court, for which all terms are incorporated herein into this notice. A 10% deposit

Legals - Botetourt County

payable to Secretary of Housing and Urban Development is immediately required for winning bidder in certified funds. Third party certified checks will not be accepted. Full Terms of Sale and opening bids are listed at <http://www.virginialawoffice.com/hud>.
Anderson Law,
2492 N. Landing Rd, #104,
Va Beach, VA 23456.

Order of Publication

Commonwealth of Virginia
VA Code §§ 1-211.1; 8.01-316; 317.20-104
Case No. W240000024
BOTETOURT COUNTY
CIRCUIT COURT, 5 W. MAIN STREET,
FINCASTLE VA 24090

ESTATE OF RUBY ANN HALL PERDUE, DECEASED

The object of this suit is to: CREDITORS AND ALL OTHERS SHOW CAUSE AGAINST PAYMENT AND DELIVERY OF ESTATE ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE AGAINST DISTRIBUTION It appearing that the report of the account of Bria Lashae Stephens, Administrator of the Estate of Ruby Ann Hall Perdue, deceased, and of the debts and demands against her estate have been filed in the Clerk's Office of this Court, and that six (6) months have elapsed since the qualification of the administrator, on motion of Bria Lashae Stephens, Administrator; IT IS HEREBY ORDERED that the creditors of and all others interested in the estate do show cause, if they can, on the 6th day of October, 2026, at 11:00 a.m. before this Court at its courtroom in the Circuit Court of Botetourt County, Virginia, 1 W. Main Street #120, Fincastle, Virginia, 24090, against the payment and delivery of the Estate of Ruby Ann Hall =Perdue, deceased, to pay all the unpaid taxes and levies thereon and all debts and demands reported by the Commissioner of Accounts that are approved and remain unsatisfied, and then to make payment and delivery of the remaining estate, if any, to the heirs, in accordance with the laws of the Commonwealth of Virginia with or without refunding bonds, as the Court Prescribes.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that the foregoing portion of this Order be published for two (2) successive weeks in The Fincastle Herald, a newspaper of general circulation in The County of Botetourt, Virginia. Enter: July 27, 2026
Honorable Joel R. Branscom, Judge
I ask for this:
Michael S. Whitlow, (VSB No. 38320)
P.O. Box 779 Roanoke Va 24004
(540) 904-7835
Fax: (866) 684-7835
Counsel for Bria Lashae Stephens, Administrator of the Estate of Ruby Ann Hall Perdue

Legals - City of Salem

ABC NOTICE

CARINA DUE LLC., trading as DOM VITO'S,
10 WEST MAIN STREET,
Salem VA. 24153.

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

Dominic Vito Marletta, Owner.

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

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ADVERTISEMENT FOR SNOW REMOVAL EQUIPMENT SERVICES WITH OPERATOR SIGNUP

The Virginia Department of Transportation invites heavy equipment owners to sign up for the rental of their equipment with operators for SNOW & ICE REMOVAL purposes in Salem Residency which includes the counties of Roanoke, Botetourt and Craig during the winter of 2026-2027. Price per hour shall include operators, fuel, tire chains, supplies and required insurance. VDOT will need dump trucks, pickups with plows, motorgraders, backhoes, dozers, track loaders, tractors, rubber-tire loaders and farm tractors. All equipment shall be equipped for night work and be in good mechanical condition to ensure a safe and dependable 24/7 operation. VDOT reserves the right to determine acceptability of equipment size and condition for the task. Contractors submitting prices meeting the requirements of the Agreement may be contracted with and may be eligible to receive a bonus payment and a minimum guaranteed payment for the season. Contractors must submit their application on the electronic M7B bidding site at <https://plow4va.vdot.virginia.gov>. All new and returning Contractors must be active in the Virginia eProcurement Portal (eVA) in order to do business with the Commonwealth of Virginia (<https://eva.virginia.gov>). Applications received by 7:00 PM on Friday September 18, 2026 may be eligible for a bonus payment. See the EVA posting for additional information, including contract requirements. Questions can be directed to the Salem Residency from 8:00 AM to 5:00 PM Monday – Friday. Phone: 540-387-5497. Email: SalemDistrictSnow@vdot.virginia.gov EEO/AA Employee

Legals - Montgomery County

ADVERTISEMENT FOR SNOW REMOVAL EQUIPMENT SERVICES WITH OPERATOR SIGNUP

The Virginia Department of Transportation invites heavy equipment owners to sign up for the rental of their equipment with operators for SNOW & ICE REMOVAL purposes in Christiansburg Residency which includes the counties of Floyd, Giles, Montgomery, and Pulaski during the winter of 2026-2027. Price per hour shall include operators, fuel, tire chains, supplies and required insurance. VDOT will need dump trucks, pickups with plows, motorgraders, backhoes, dozers, track loaders, tractors, rubber-tire loaders and farm tractors. All equipment shall be equipped for night work and be in good mechanical condition to ensure a safe and dependable 24/7 operation. VDOT reserves the right to determine acceptability of equipment size and condition for the task. Contractors submitting prices meeting the requirements of the Agreement may be contracted with and may be eligible to receive a bonus payment and a minimum guaranteed payment for the season. Contractors must submit their application on the electronic M7B bidding site at <https://plow4va.vdot.virginia.gov>. All new and returning Contractors must be active in the Virginia eProcurement Portal (eVA) in order to do business with the Commonwealth of Virginia (<https://eva.virginia.gov>). Applications received by 7:00 PM on Friday September 18, 2026 may be eligible for a bonus payment. See the EVA posting for additional information, including contract requirements.

Questions can be directed to the Christiansburg Residency from 8:00 AM to 5:00 PM Monday – Friday. Phone: 540-381-7201
Email: SalemDistrictSnow@vdot.virginia.gov
EEO/AA Employer

LEGAL NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING OF THE TOWN OF CHRISTIANSBURG PLANNING COMMISSION

The Town of Christiansburg Planning Commission will hold a Public Hearing on Monday, August 31, 2026, at 7:00 PM in the Council Chambers of the Christiansburg Town Hall, 100 E. Main Street, Christiansburg, Virginia 24073, pursuant to Sections 15.2-2204 and 15.2-2285 of the Code of Virginia, as amended. The purpose of the public hearing is to receive public comments concerning:

A. Conditional Use Permit request by The Economic Development Authority of Montgomery County, Virginia, Property Owner and Applicant, to allow a structure greater than 70 feet in height, specifically a manufacturing area with a footprint of 8,500 square feet and a height of 105 feet, in the General Industrial (I2) zoning district on property located at 2040 Parkway Drive SE, identified as Tax Parcel 558-((A))-24A (Parcel ID 300149), consisting of approximately 38.102 total acres. The property is designated as Mixed Use w/ Buffer (Industrial) on the Future Land Use Map of the 2013 Christiansburg Comprehensive Plan. Town Hall will be open and available to receive public comments in-person at the time of this Public Hearing. A copy of the application, the Town's Zoning Map, Zoning Ordinance, and Future Land Use Map may be viewed in the Planning Department Office, 100 E. Main Street, Christiansburg, VA 24073, during normal office hours of 8:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m. Monday through Friday. Contact the Planning Department, at (540) 382-6128, ext. 1902 or by email at planning@christiansburg.org with any questions or if you require reasonable accommodations.

TRUSTEE'S SALE OF 4681 FISHERSVIEW ROAD, PILOT, VA 24138.

In execution of a certain Deed of Trust dated November 22, 2013, in the original principal amount of \$196,000.00 recorded in the Clerk's Office, Circuit Court for Montgomery County, Virginia as Instrument No. 2013011218. The undersigned Substitute Trustee will offer for sale at public auction in the front of the Circuit Court building for the City of Radford, 619 Second St., W., Radford, VA, or any such temporary alternative Circuit Court location designated by the Judges of the Circuit Court, on October 8, 2026, at 4:15 PM, the property described in said Deed of Trust, located at the above address, and more particularly described as follows: ALL THAT CERTAIN LOT OR PARCEL OF LAND, LYING AND BEING IN THE SHAWSVILLE MAGISTERIAL DISTRICT OF MONTGOMERY COUNTY, VIRGINIA, LOCATED SOUTHWEST OF VIRGINIA STATE ROUTE NO. 609, MORE PARTICULARLY DESCRIBED AS FOLLOWS: BEING THAT CERTAIN PARCEL CONTAINING 11.703 ACRES IN THE AGGREGATE, AS SHOWN ON A PLAT BY L.J. QUESENBERRY, LAND SURVEYOR, DATED MARCH 30, 1978, AND REFERRED TO AS JOB NO. 115, A COPY OF WHICH IS RECORDED IN DEED BOOK 396 AT PAGE 926, IN THE CLERK'S OFFICE OF THE CIRCUIT COURT OF MONTGOMERY COUNTY, VIRGINIA. TERMS OF SALE: ALL CASH. A bidder's deposit of ten percent (10%) of the sale price or ten percent (10%) of the original principal balance of the subject Deed

of Trust, whichever is lower, in the form of cash or certified funds payable to the Substitute Trustee must be present at the time of the sale. The balance of the purchase price will be due within fifteen (15) days of sale, otherwise Purchaser's deposit may be forfeited to Trustee. Time is of the essence. If the sale is set aside for any reason, the Purchaser at the sale shall be entitled to a return of the deposit paid. The Purchaser may, if provided by the terms of the Trustee's Memorandum of Foreclosure Sale, be entitled to a \$50 cancellation fee from the Substitute Trustee, but shall have no further recourse against the Mortgagor, the Mortgagee or the Mortgagee's attorney. A form copy of the Trustee's memorandum of foreclosure sale and contract to purchase real property is available for viewing at www.aldridgepите.com. Additional terms, if any, to be announced at the sale and the Purchaser may be given the option to execute the contract of sale electronically. This is a communication from a debt collector and any information obtained will be used for that purpose. The sale is subject to seller confirmation. Substitute Trustee: Equity Trustees, LLC, 8100 Three Chopt Road, Suite 240, Richmond, VA 23229. If you have any questions or concerns, please contact the Virginia Pre-Sale Department of counsel for Equity Trustees, LLC at 301-961-6555, website: www.aldridgepите.com. VA-384975-1.

Legals - Town of Vinton

VINTON TOWN COUNCIL NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

Please take notice that on Tuesday, September 1, 2026, at 6:00PM, or as soon thereafter as the matter may be heard, in the Council Chambers of the Vinton Municipal Building, 311 South Pollard Street, Vinton, Virginia, the Vinton Town Council will hold conduct a public hearing on the following: RESOLUTION NO. — A RESOLUTION PURSUANT TO VIRGINIA CODE § 15.2-202 REQUESTING THAT THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY AMEND THE CHARTER OF THE TOWN OF VINTON TO REMOVE AND/OR RESOLVE INCONSISTENT, OUTDATED, AND/OR UNNECESSARY LANGUAGE, TO CLARIFY LANGUAGE REGARDING THE TOWN MANAGER'S AUTHORITY, AND TO INCORPORATE OTHER LANGUAGE REQUESTED BY TOWN COUNCIL. If adopted, the proposed Resolution will permit the Vinton Town Council to request that the Virginia General Assembly approve the requested edits to the Town's Charter. A copy of the proposed Resolution may be examined either (i) at the Office of the Town Manager at 311 South Pollard Street, Vinton, Virginia 24179, from 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m., Monday through Thursday, and by appointment on Friday, or (ii) on the Town's website (www.vintonva.gov). Citizens are encouraged to review the proposed Resolution, attend the public hearing, and present their views on the proposed Resolution. Citizens also may submit public comments in writing to the following email address: mklawless@vintonva.gov, by U.S. Mail to the Town Manager's Office, 311 South Pollard Street, Vinton, VA, 24179, or by hand-delivering comments to the Town Manager's Office. Comments will be distributed to members of Town Council and entered into the minutes as public records. Individuals requiring assistance to attend and participate in public hearings, or requiring additional information on the proposed Resolution, should contact the Town Manager's Office at (540) 983-0607 prior to the meeting. Megan Lawless
Town Clerk

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SERVICES

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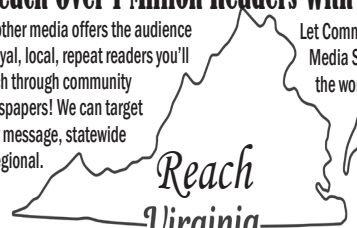
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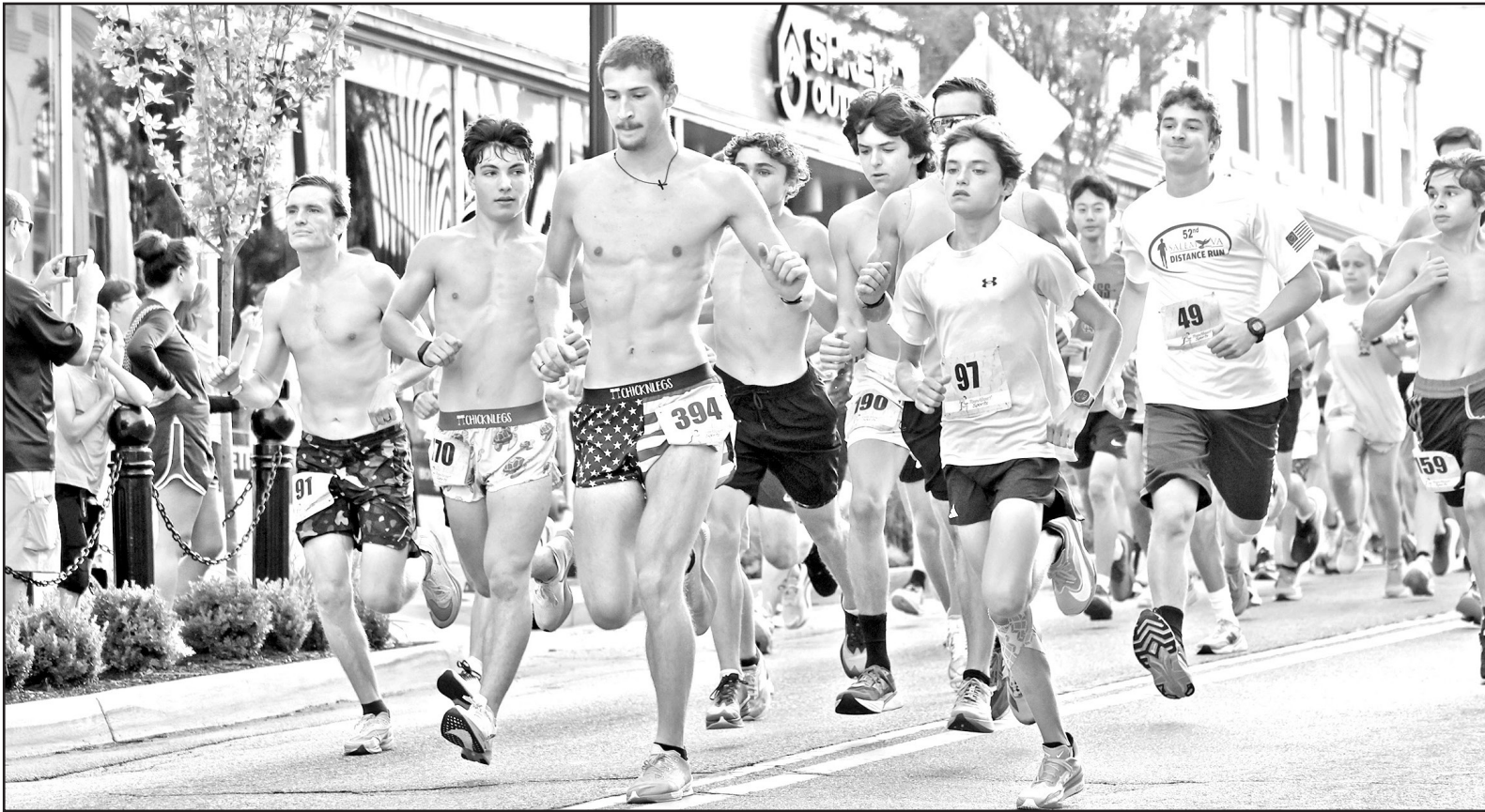
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SALEM DISTANCE RUN

They're off and running on a hot Saturday morning in the annual Salem Distance Run through the streets of Salem. This year's run included 361 total runners, with 125 in the 10K race, 224 in the 5K and a dozen in the "Kids Run."

PHOTOS BY MIKE STEVENS



Sabrina Hall(above) won the women's 10K race while Bryce Austin finished first in the men's division.



SALEM DISTANCE RUN 10K RUN/WALK

Place	Bib	Name	Chip Time	Place	Bib	Name	Chip Time
1	424	Bryce Austin	37:25.88	51	393	Rachel Keller	1:01:05.68
2	394	Garrett Weaver	38:17.28	52	348	Elizabeth Reedy	1:01:42.21
3	400	Justus Horner	39:17.21	53	415	Trip Yager	1:01:59.39
4	392	Daniel Crosson	41:16.88	54	341	Rachael Taylor	1:02:29.14
5	343	Mark Tuggle	42:12.08	55	338	Jack Norton	1:02:34.06
6	342	Jackson Garst	42:48.98	56	349	Thomas Hrinya	1:02:48.49
7	350	Scot Harrison	43:16.88	57	421	Brittany Brown	1:03:31.56
8	354	Thomas Scharp	44:25.14	58	334	Teresa Connolly	1:03:36.49
9	356	Paul Duffy	45:40.01	59	411	Chris Shields	1:03:37.77
10	407	Adam Crigger	46:09.12	60	364	Heather Brown	1:04:17.71
11	325	Sabrina Hall	46:59.44	61	419	Adrien Monti	1:04:23.20
12	319	Robert Slease	47:03.51	62	311	Erin Weyen	1:04:25.74
13	326	Kevin Cales	47:15.67	63	381	Tim Miles	1:04:28.00
14	401	Christen King	47:30.33	64	333	Hailey McPhail	1:04:36.22
15	388	Cristina Agee	48:22.04	65	409	Stuart Rawlings	1:04:41.48
16	398	Trey Dawson	49:40.50	66	369	Chris Barksdale	1:04:42.16
17	397	Joshua Largen	50:01.30	67	321	Campbell Murphy	1:05:04.42
18	416	Sayge Herndon	50:04.81	68	322	Charlotte Holt	1:05:04.42
19	344	Chris Jackson	51:18.97	69	312	Kerry Renick	1:05:42.50
20	387	Daniel Combs	51:22.93	70	423	Gene Marrano	1:05:49.96
21	418	Fiona O'Neill	52:05.21	71	360	Eliza Strong	1:05:50.30
22	414	Kris Ward	52:54.15	72	382	Cassidy Gilmore	1:06:10.76
23	318	Elizabeth Slease	53:07.73	73	372	Rena Holliday	1:06:50.80
24	353	Zachary Fisher	53:09.94	74	368	Crystal Barksdale	1:07:12.29
25	417	Nathan Perkinson	53:33.87	75	405	Yasmin Ramadan	1:07:43.14
26	328	Jaime Bunker	54:44.68	76	406	Ethan Knoefel	1:07:43.85
27	355	Joseph Caruso	55:00.07	77	316	Brittany Pinto	1:08:09.17
28	339	Justin Martin	55:05.31	78	403	Zara Zahid	1:09:04.67
29	391	Nicole Ramsey	55:29.05	79	412	Steven Harris	1:10:04.99
30	329	David Lovegrove	55:41.65	80	336	Jami Salzberg	1:10:48.46
31	357	Matt Constantin	55:45.73	81	306	Anonymous Participant	1:10:52.76
32	323	Kevin Slusher	55:52.87	82	337	Randy Cooper	1:11:16.05
33	307	Damien Weddle	56:10.88	83	374	Liam Hogan	1:12:37.63
34	324	Paul Bratton	56:14.01	84	303	Denise Inman	1:13:26.99
35	317	Steven Peffer	56:46.37	85	367	David Smith	1:14:20.30
36	384	Joel Thomas	57:44.44	86	352	Scout Dillow	1:15:32.04
37	425	Michael Davis	57:53.44	87	395	Nathanael High	1:15:57.25
38	426	Robert Smith	58:14.02	88	314	Billy Scruggs	1:16:01.11
39	427	Jade Davis	58:19.23	89	309	Rachel Doudera	1:16:06.80
40	345	Jamie Malloy	58:26.58	90	371	Brandon Spinazzola	1:18:06.37
41	420	Holly Weddle	58:45.06	91	377	Isabella Mather	1:18:30.54
42	390	Christine Shell	58:53.50	92	359	Emily Dewire	1:18:36.20
43	370	Joe Hensley	59:11.46	93	366	KassidyCorker	1:18:57.15
44	365	Caroline Stanley	59:12.40	94	346	Jillian Morganelli	1:19:11.24
45	340	Rebecca Vogler	59:22.33	95	304	Anne Kohinke	1:19:56.49
46	396	Linda Staley	59:31.55	96	320	Stephanie May	1:19:59.39
47	327	Matthew Guynn	1:00:16.97	97	376	Lynn Punturi	1:21:09.91
48	373	Faith Bryan	1:00:27.05	98	413	Donna Meador	1:22:19.63
49	386	Sonny Combs	1:00:44.25	99	404	Cassie Tinder	1:22:20.87
50	302	Drew Inman	1:01:00.65	100	361	Debra Moore	1:22:30.29

SALEM DISTANCE RUN 5K RUN/WALK

Place	Bib	Name	Chip Time	Place	Bib	Name	Chip Time
1	62	John Stovall	19:45.74	51	111	Isaac Wilson	26:40.07
2	170	Colm Gleiner	20:17.11	52	30	Jennifer Pastrana	26:46.44
3	91	Aaron Waters	20:19.14	53	184	Matt Tucker	26:50.88
4	97	Jude Hypes	20:30.21	54	126	Caroline Huff	27:06.94
5	183	Carson Tucker	20:40.95	55	132	Haley Morales	27:17.26
6	113	Jeremy Weaver	20:48.61	56	67	Jordan Bowers	27:18.22
7	121	Canaan Williams	20:55.85	57	209	Shane Richardson	27:19.28
8	158	Anthony Brady	21:02.02	58	363	Terry Brown	27:33.23
9	202	Brian Kastner	21:03.30	59	219	W. Tiffany	27:34.45
10	42	Paul Beers	21:14.43	60	36	Sarah Garst	27:41.20
11	203	Dylan De Meyts	21:19.73	61	218	Jeb Tiffany	27:43.53
12	63	Caden Barksdale	21:22.07	62	75	Grace Grider	27:48.34
13	205	Brent Carter	21:23.61	63	145	KJ Snyder	27:55.03
14	190	Oliver Busch	21:29.18	64	192	S. Lance	27:55.91
15	160	Edward Dickenson	21:32.58	65	196	Aaron McGuffin	28:07.62
16	150	Luke Blankenship	21:45.01	66	146	Ethan Cunningham	28:40.67
17	118	Ruby Bills	21:48.16	67	123	Lauren Horner	28:41.43
18	22	Caleb Mailhot	21:48.83	68	61	Robert Orr	28:44.25
19	34	Charlie Slaughter	21:57.68	69	201	S. Hammer	28:45.16
20	88	Mathis Seal	22:05.28	70	1	Brian Shelor	28:56.51
21	17	Maggie Evans	22:17.82	71	16	Josh Mason	29:36.48
22	98	Ran Landes	22:39.66	72	221	Stephen Smigielski	29:53.63
23	159	Angelo Brady	22:46.19	73	122	AnonymousParticipant	29:54.42
24	166	Raleigh Light	22:46.48	74	147	C. Hailey	29:55.81
25	64	Owen Barksdale	22:59.55	75	149	M. Hailey	29:56.44
26	148	Graham Hailey	23:02.57	76	106	Michael Combs	30:03.85
27	128	Olivia Huff	23:04.90	77	144	Ruth Waddell	30:17.06
28	101	Bennett Devine	23:07.74	78	199	Mark Hammer	30:19.34
29	115	Tyler Howitt	23:09.36	79	54	David Radford	30:20.80
30	38	Jason Carwile	23:33.65	80	49	Max Ponzo	30:25.52
31	181	Aiden Bai	23:42.14	81	35	Robert (Bob) Brugh	30:41.09
32	99	Olivia Hypes	23:47.84	82	48	Anonymous Participant	31:01.89
33	109	Wyatt McCamey	24:59.49	83	178	Robin Bradley	31:08.17
34	167	Averi Schmaeman	25:03.91	84	210	O.Ramos Evo	31:56.96
35	157	Jordon Roach	25:15.71	85	133	L. Morales	31:57.06
36	134	Ethan Twardy	25:17.26	86	131	Joshua Morales	31:57.93
37	161	Gabe Dickenson	25:23.00	87	76	David Anglin	32:07.12
38	211	CarolineMoore	25:44.35	88	78	Presley Combs	32:08.08
39	172	Jason Margolis	25:52.30	89	179	Brad Graham	32:18.60
40	195	Joseph Griffin	25:53.75	90	143	Katie Caldwell	32:21.61
41	180	Sam Bullington	25:55.44	91	53	Teresa Hill	32:25.78
42	130	Harry Hudson	25:57.12	92	399	AJ LaBarbera	32:52.33
43	114	Crystal Weaver	25:57.39	93	108	Lauren Jackson	33:00.28
44	110	Lisa Nielsen	26:04.39	94	220	Annie Jackson	33:25.24
45	124	Andrew Sisinni	26:05.18	95	208	Annette Cano	33:39.82
46	24	Bruce Laffoon	26:10.24	96	100	Craig Hatmaker	33:42.43
47	169	Matthew Henderson	26:12.60	97	188	Mallory White	33:42.95
48	193	Lewis Armistead	26:13.60	98	84	Jeff Kane	33:47.25
49	182	Elisabeth Reckley	26:19.63	99	165	Robert Light	33:52.27
50	156	Thomas Light	26:28.59	100	107	Nancy Radford Keating	34:00.78



Ruby Bills(above) was the first woman across the line in the 5K race and John Stovall was the men's winner.





PHOTOS BY BRIAN HOFFMAN

Spartans practice on the fields behind the high school. Salem is at Fork Union for a scrimmage Friday.



Salem, Glenvar have football scrimmages this week

Andrew Lewis, GMS open middle school seasons tonight

The Salem and Glenvar football teams will have their first scrimmages of the season this weekend with opening day games just two weeks away. The middle school season opens today for both Andrew Lewis and Glenvar football teams.

Salem High will have a scrimmage on Friday against Maury High, a Class 5 school from Norfolk. It

will be held at Fork Union Military Academy’s field off James Madison Highway in Fork Union, VA. The scrimmage is set for 11 am.

Glenvar will be home this Friday to scrimmage William Byrd. Jefferson Forest will also be coming and scrimmage Byrd at 5 pm, followed by Glenvar against Byrd. Fans are welcome and there is no admission charge.

After the Glenvar-Byrd scrimmage fans are welcome to stay around for the ribbon cutting of Glenvar’s renovated locker room. The work on the facility was

done by G&H Contracting of Salem.

Middle School football begins today for both Lewis and Glenvar. The Wolverines will host Patrick Henry for a doubleheader at Salem Stadium, with the seventh grade team playing at 5 pm and the eighth graders to follow at 6:30 pm. Brian Hooker returns as head coach of the Wolverines.

Glenvar’s middle school team will open today at 6:30 pm at Highlander Stadium against Cave Spring. The Highlanders have a new head coach in Raysean Priest.

Brian Hoffman Column

continued from page 11

WILKES WILL RUN FOR UVA

Carly Wilkes, a 2022 graduate of Glenvar High School, will be running for the University of Virginia this fall. Carly recently graduated from Furman University in Greenville, SC summa cum laude with a Bachelor’s of Science degree in Health Sciences.

Wilkes was an all-state runner at Glenvar and continued to shine with the Paladins. She broke the 10K school record her junior year and was named Southern Conference cross country Runner of the Year in 2024. Carly was named to the All-SoCon first team her junior year after winning the league’s individual title with a 5K PR of 16:09.7, leading the Paladins to their 12th-straight SoCon Championship. She qualified for the NCAA East Preliminaries in the 5,000 and 10,000 in track in 2025.

Wilkes has one year of running eligibility remaining that she will use this season competing for UVA and earning her M.Ed in Kinesiology with a concentration in exercise physiology.

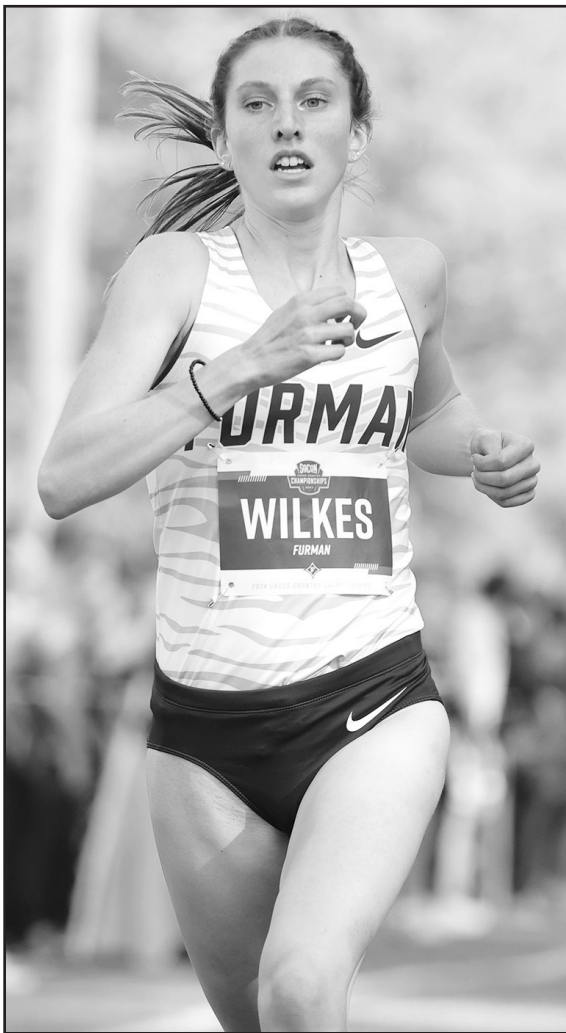


PHOTO COURTESY FURMAN UNIVERSITY

Carly Wilkes will be running at the University of Virginia this fall after graduating from Furman University.

Eller has track records at E&H

Delaney Eller, a graduate of Glenvar High School, recently completed a college career running track and cross country for Emory & Henry University and Radford University.

Delaney graduated from Emory and Henry University in 2025 where she participated on the Wasps’ track and distance teams. She graduated Magna Cum Laude with a 3.89 GPA, finishing in three years with a B.S. in Accounting and a minor in Mathematics.

Eller finished at E&H as the current school record holder in the cross country 6k, indoor 800, mile, 3k and 5k, and outdoor 1,500, 3k and 5k. She was nominated for E&H Women’s Athlete of the Year twice, Freshman of the Year and Player of the Year.

This past May Delaney graduated with a Master’s degree in Business Administration with a graduate certificate in Business Analytics from



Glenvar grad Delaney Eller ran for E&H and Radford.

Radford University, completing her requirements in one year. She was one of five Division 1 student-athletes graduating in May at the graduate level.

At Radford Delaney was named the Big South Women’s Cross Country Newcomer of the Year and was a nominee for Radford Women’s Newcomer of the Year while being named to the Division 1 All-Academic Team. She finished 15th in

the Big South Cross Country Championships and sixth in the Big South Indoor Track Championships in the 5K. She ran a time of 17:46, the ninth best all-time for the Highlanders.

Delaney missed half the 2025 cross country season with a broken foot, then broke her hip running the 5K in the indoor track championships preventing her from competing in the 2026 outdoor season.

RIDGEYAKS

continued from page 12

On the mound, Leighton Finley turned in five strong innings to earn his sixth win of the season. Finley allowed two runs on seven hits while striking out five and walking none across 82 pitches.

The Salem bullpen took over from there. Caden Vire worked 1.1 scoreless innings before Nicolas De La Cruz struck out two and retired all five batters he faced, allowing no hits or runs. Harry Blum then closed out the victory with a scoreless ninth inning.

The RidgeYaks also made an impact on the basepaths, stealing four bases in the victory. Andujar, Opata, Godbout and Nunez each swiped a bag.

With the victory, Salem moved to 22-19 in the second half and takes first place with the win. The final game of the homestand was rained out on Sunday, and Salem will head to Delmarva for a six game series with the Shorebirds this week.



Avinson Pinto is greeted at home after clearing the bases with a grand slam home run in last week’s series with Fayetteville.

PHOTO BY JOHN WACHER

SALEM RIDGEYAKS VS WILSON WARBIRDS

AUGUST 18th 6:35 PM

2-for 1 Tuesday

AUGUST 19th 6:35 PM

AUGUST 20th 6:35 PM

Hockey Night

AUGUST 21st 6:35 PM

Racing Night

AUGUST 22nd 6:35 PM

Military Appreciation Night

AUGUST 23rd 4:05 PM

Spartan golfers open season with three rounds

The Salem golf team had a busy week of action to open the season, playing in three matches in seven days. The Spartans were in the Botetourt Metro Tournament in Troutville on August 4, the Woodford Invitational in Wytheville on August 6 and their River Ridge District opener at the Roanoke Country Club on Monday of this week.

Salem finished 10th out of 18 teams in the field of 90 golfers at the Metro Invitational. Salem was without senior Ashnoor Kaur and junior Mike Bateman, two of their top three golfers, but still posted a team score of 320.

“I’m proud of our team’s effort,” said coach Blaine Hancock. “We had a few breaks that didn’t go our way, but our players still managed to put together respectable scores.”

The Spartans saw three new faces in the lineup along with two returnees from last year’s team. Sophomore JD Williamson moved to Salem this year from Glenvar and led the team with a 76 to tie for 18th place overall.

“JD was solid from the start,” said Hancock. “He even had a bad break on 17 where someone had taken his ball. He had to go back and hit three off the tee. He kept his head and managed a huge bogey save.”

Also making a debut for the Spartans was freshman Chloe Collins. After a stellar season as an 8th grader on the JV team last year Chloe shot a 77 to tie for 26th.

“Every time she had a tough hole, she bounced right back and put together a quality round,” said Hancock.

Rounding out the scoring for Salem were returners McKenzie Eversole and Croix Bowen. McKenzie picked up where she left off last season and fired an 81 while Croix started his third season in the varsity lineup with an 86. Salem finished 10th as a team with a score of 320 as Auburn won the tournament with a 289 and Cave Spring was second at 303.

“Coming off the course our team wasn’t necessarily thrilled,” said Hancock. “I know this is a special group as they were already planning on what we need to work to get ready for the next tournament.”

The next tournament was last Thursday in Wytheville as Salem competed in the 17 team Woodford Invitational. The Spartans finished sixth with a team score of 303 with Cave Spring again going low, winning the tournament at 281. Auburn and Pulaski County tied for second 15 strokes back at 296.

“It was a beautiful day at Wytheville with perfect conditions for low scores and the players didn’t disappoint,” said Hancock.



Salem's JD Williamson hits out of the sand in Monday's match at the Roanoke Country Club. JD knocked this one into the hole for a birdie to start his round.

PHOTO BY SCOTT GARDNER

Salem was still without Kaur and Bateman but that didn't slow the Spartans down. All five players in the lineup posted scores in the 70s, led by Eversole with a three-over par 73, good for ninth place. Williamson was next at 75, Collins shot a 76, including an eagle on the 12th hole, and Eli Wells and Will Creger both came in at 79.

“This was a strong showing from our group,” said Hancock. “We showed what our depth is capable of doing this year.”

On Monday the Roanoke Country Club was the site of the first River Ridge District match of the season and it was a dogfight. Blacksburg and Pulaski County tied for low team score at 297 followed by Cave Spring at 305, Salem at 309, Patrick Henry at 310, Hidden Valley at 312 and Christiansburg brought up the rear at 339.

The day belonged to Blacksburg senior Jack Skinner who torched the course with a seven under

par 64. Among the six teams 25 players shot 80 or better in a tight race for the top spots.

The Spartans were led by Kaur, who returned to post a 72 to tie for third place. Also scoring for the Spartans were Williamson and Eversole, both carding 78 to tie for 13th on the day. JD opened with a hole out birdie from the bunker on his first hole and rounding out the scoring was Bowen, who posted an 81. Collins posted an 84 and Bateman shot an 87.

“It’s going to be a tight competition this year in the district,” said Hancock. “Each match will only have a few shots separating teams. We put in a good effort and I’m excited to see where we can improve for the next one.”

Salem was scheduled to play at Draper Valley in a Match Play event on Wednesday of this week. Next Monday, August 17, the Spartans will be back at Draper Valley for a district match.

Highlanders shoot three strokes better than last year at Metro

The Glenvar golfers opened the 2026 season with an appearance in the annual Botetourt Metro Tournament last week. The Highlanders finished 13th among 18 teams with a team score of 324, with just six strokes separating teams in ninth through 15th place.

“We were able to shoot three shots better than last year,” said GHS coach Shawn Duff.

Glenvar had strong play from John Deel and Mason Young, who shot 74 and 77. Easton Quesenberry came home with a workman-like 86, and

Jack Osburn rounded out the scoring with an 87.

“We have a lot to work on and grow, but overall a very solid start and proud of the teams’ efforts,” said Duff.

James River’s Landon Bolling and the Auburn High School team were the big winners in the Metro. Bolling was the individual medalist and Auburn was the team champion in the annual event that traditionally tees off the high school golf season.

Bolling, a senior, shot a four under par 67 for the tournament, beating Gaston Wimmer by one stroke and Liam Smith by two. Wimmer and Smith both play for Auburn, who won the team championship with a score of 289, just five strokes over par for their combined four scoring players. Auburn won the big trophy after finishing second behind Floyd County last summer.

Second place went to Cave Spring, 14 strokes behind the Eagles at 303. Then it gets close as Blacksburg and E.C. Glass tied for third at 306 and James River was just one stroke behind

them at 307 for fifth place.

The Highlanders had their first Three Rivers District match last Thursday at the Forest Park course in Martinsville. Floyd won the round with a 317 followed by Radford at 320 and James River at 324. James River’s Mason Gilliland was medalist with a 73, edging Hunter Crist of Radford by one stroke.

Glenvar was fifth on the day with a 339, led by Deel with a 77. Young and Maddox Burbage were next at 87 and Jackson Jones rounded out the scoring with an 88.

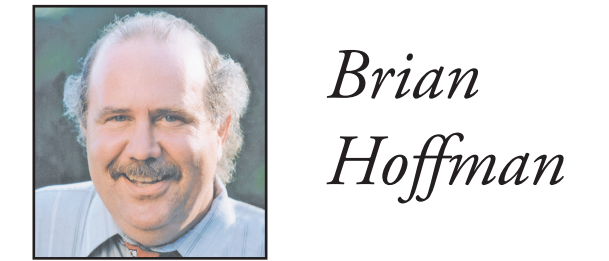
“Last year the team shot a 345 and improved to 339 this year,” said Duff. “We have lots of ways we can improve. We appreciate the guys’ efforts and look forward to seeing improvement over the course of the year and watching them grow in the game.”

Glenvar’s next scheduled match is Thursday, August 27, when the Highlanders host the Three Rivers District for a match at the Hanging Rock Golf Club.



PHOTO COURTESY GLENVAR GOLF

Glenvar golfers at last week's Metro Tournament are, left to right; Maddox Burbage, Jack Osburn, Easton Quesenberry, John Deel and Mason Young.



Brian Hoffman

SALEMITES

Salem High graduate in the recent VSGA and golf alum Kathryn Women’s Amateur Ha was the runnerup Championship held at



PHOTO BY SCOTT GARDNER

KATHRYN HA

the Roanoke Country Club. Elsie MacCleery beat hometown favorite Ha, 3 and 2, in a thrilling final match in July.

Both players survived stern semifinal tests to get to the final match. Ha defeated fellow RCC member Alisa Davidova 2-up with a conceded par putt on 18. Moments later, MacCleery drained about a 20-foot birdie putt on 18 to claim a 2-up win over Madison Lehr in the other semifinal.

For Ha, a member of the Vanderbilt University golf team, the week remained a success. She rolled through stroke-play qualifying as medalist by five strokes and beat a strong string of competitors in Virginia Tech’s Emerson Dever, past U.S. Women’s Amateur champion Lauren Greenleaf, and rising star Davidova before running into MacCleery. She has plenty of positives to take from the week.

“It was super special,” Ha said. “There were a lot of members that were out here, and my family, and some of my local friends that were here. It all felt really familiar. It meant so much to have their support all week.”

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Salem city councilman Hunter Holliday(#6 center) is flanked by Richard Browder(left #104) and Darr Graham(right in black shirt) prior to last Saturday's Salem Distance Run. Browder and Graham received "Salem Salutes" recognition from the City of Salem for their long time dedication to distance running. The trio is surrounded by runners who trained under Browder when he coached at Andrew Lewis High, Salem High and Roanoke College, and others who Graham mentored when he was employed at the Virginia Baptist Home in Salem. Browder and Graham were instrumental in starting the Salem Distance Run in the '70s and Holliday, who ran for Browder in high school, has worked to keep it alive as an annual event. See page 9 for this year's winners and results. PHOTO BY MIKE STEVENS

Salem Salutes

Cromer stepping down as baseball coach at Glenvar

Jerry Cromer, who played or coached baseball for Glenvar High School for 23 seasons, has taken off the green and gold uniform for the last time. Cromer announced he was stepping down as head baseball coach at last week's Highlander baseball banquet.

"It was the hardest decision I've ever had in my life," said Cromer. "I've been doing a lot of thinking and a lot of praying and I decided it was time."

Cromer has a son, Alston, who will be playing for Glenvar Middle School next year and that played a part in the decision. Alston has been a bat boy for the Highlanders and Jeremy has coached his travel team. He didn't want to be at practice with the high school team while Alston was playing on a different diamond.

"I've only ever missed one of his games," he said. "I was playing slow-pitch softball and he wanted to know where I was. My wife and son have had my back for eight years, and now it's time for me to be in the stands and watch him play."

Cromer has been the head coach at Glenvar for eight years, but he was an assistant prior to that and a standout lefthanded pitcher as a student at Glenvar. A 2000 graduate, he bleeds green and gold.

"I come from a military family and we moved around a lot when I was growing up," said Cromer. "We moved here from Atlanta when I was in the eighth grade and this was the first place I could actually call home."

Cromer is proud of the job he's done during his time as head coach. This past season Glenvar finished 16-6-1 and was one win away from a berth in the state tournament, losing an extra inning game to Patrick County in the Region 2C semifinal.

"We've had a ringer of a schedule the past few years but we held our own," he said. "When I took



PHOTO BY BRIAN HOFFMAN

Jeremy Cromer(standing, center) talks to the Highlanders after a win at Glenvar's Larry Wood Field this season.

this job the program was a little down and I was determined to build it back up to where it used to be, and I think we've done that. The person coming in is going to have a strong core coming back."

Jeremy isn't leaving town, he's just taking off

the uniform.

"I'll still be watching, just not in the dugout," he said. "It might be from up at the softball field. This was a very tough decision, but I feel at peace. Certainly I'm going to miss it."

RidgeYaks take four of five from 'Peckers to move into first place

The Salem RidgeYaks took care of business last Saturday night, defeating the Fayetteville Woodpeckers, 6-2, at Salem Memorial Ballpark to move into first place in the second half standings of the Carolina League's North Division. Salem took four of the five games in the series with one rainout.

The Yaks jumped on the scoreboard in the third inning and never looked back, scoring six runs across the second through fourth innings. The RidgeYaks collected eight hits and received a dominant effort from the pitching staff, which limited Fayetteville to two runs on nine hits while striking out eight.

Fayetteville struck first in the top of the second, but Salem quickly answered in the bottom half. After Louis Andujar singled and advanced to third on a wild pitch, Andruw Musett brought him home with a single to center field. The Yaks later scored a second run off a balk to take a 2-1 lead.

The RidgeYaks broke the game open in the third. Franklin Primera and Adonys Guzman opened the inning with consecutive walks before Andujar delivered again, lining a RBI double to left field to give Salem a 3-1 lead. Andrews Opat then followed with a two-run single, scoring Andujar and Guzman to push the advantage to 5-1.

Salem added another run in the fourth. Henry Godbout was hit by a pitch and moved to second on a single from Starlyn Nunez. With two outs, Godbout stole third and Nunez stole second before a throwing error by the catcher Arturo Flores allowed both runners to advance, giving the RidgeYaks a 6-1 advantage.

Fayetteville added their final run off a German Ramirez RBI single in the fifth.

Andujar led the Salem offense with a three-hit night, going 3-for-4 with a double, two runs scored and an RBI. Opat added a hit and drove in two, while Musett collected a hit and an RBI.

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Jane Johnson of RM Johnson & Sons Jewelers presents Skylar King with a watch as the RidgeYaks Player-of-the-Month for August. PHOTO BY JOHN WACHER