Football season ends for Salem, Glenvar in region playoffs - See sports



SALEM TIMES-REGISTER

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OurValley.org

Garst wraps up decade on Salem planning board

Steve Hemphill
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In comparison to how some of his past Salem Planning Commission meetings, the second Thursday in November was rather routine for Reid Garst.

There was an extended conversation about the upcoming legalization of cannabis sales in Virginia and how much say the City of Salem will have on the business. This hearing, along with the others conducted this month were brief and non-controversial.

The final item on the agenda was to check to see if there were any hearings planned for December. There were not, and as a result Garst's decade-long stint as a member of the commission.

So commission chair Dee King added one more item -- it was time to say thank you.

"Mr. Garst, thank you for your long contribution to this board," she said.

And then one last adjournment.

"I've been here for some pretty big things," Garst said. "Valleydale Apartments, HopeTree, Dorsey Farm -- Those were pretty complicated."

By the time he was added to the Planning Commission, Garst had put together the type of resume that city leaders are drawn to when they need help on important boards.

The VMI graduate spent more than decades as the owner and operator of Sterling Engineering Solutions. He sold that company in 2016, but stayed on for two years to help with the transition. It was during this time that the Planning Commission came calling.

"They needed somebody, and they asked," he said. "I

See **Garst**, page 3



PHOTO BY STEVE HEMPHILL

Reid Garst is stepping down from the Salem Planning Commission at the end of the year after spending a decade on the board.

Spartans' McCadden wraps season with record-breaking effort



PHOTO BY AMY CRAWLEY

Salem High School senior Jordan McCadden runs for some of his 117 yards in last Friday's Region 4D football playoff game in Danville. McCadden broke the school's record for rushing yards in a single season, finishing with 2,396 yards. Unfortunately the Spartans lost the game to host George Washington High School, ending their season end with a 10-2 record. See sports for details.

Turkey day gets higher

As families gather to celebrate Thanksgiving, a traditional 10-person holiday meal is expected to cost $60.68 in Virginia, compared to the national average of $58.63.

According to an informal survey conducted annually by the American Farm Bureau Federation, the average cost to prepare a traditional Thanksgiving meal with items sufficient to make 10 servings is $6.07 per person.

The survey's menu consists of turkey, stuffing, sweet potatoes, rolls, peas, cranberries, a veggie tray and pumpkin pie with whipped cream. The AFBF survey was first conducted in 1986, and the menu has remained unchanged since then to allow for consistent price comparisons.

In Virginia, a 16-pound turkey cost $27.58, pumpkin pie ingredients cost $7.91, and sweet potatoes cost $3.76.

"The centerpiece on most Thanksgiving tables — the turkey — saw the largest increase in price, which contributed to the overall cost increase," noted AFBF Deputy Chief Economist Faith Parum. "They've increased about 10% over last year's cost."

Another factor in the higher total is that prices reported by volunteer shoppers were collected during the first week of November — before major retailers began offering holiday discounts, promotional sales or coupons.

"Stores will offer deals on turkeys closer to the holidays," Parum said. "Retailers will discount the price of turkeys to get shoppers in the door to buy the rest of their

See **Turkey**, page 2

A brief introduction and then back to sharing your stories

Steve Hemphill
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For more than 20 years, I have lived "next door" to Salem.

And in the past month, I finally had a chance to get to know my neighbors a little better. So far, it has been a wonderful experience.

My name is Steve Hemphill and in October, I was named the editor of the Salem Times-Register. The job description also includes similar duties up the road at The New Castle Register, but we're talking about Salme right now.

I picked a busy time to get on board. We witnessed a very competitive city council election, Roanoke College formally opened its state-of-the-art science building and the city's landscape is experiencing many changes with new homes being built and new businesses opening.

So here's a little bit about me. My wife, Brenda, and I moved from Colorado to the Roanoke Valley in 2004 when I accepted an assistant sports editor's job with The Roanoke Times, which at the time boasted a Sunday circulation of over 100,000 and was just under six figures in daily deliveries.

Leaving the Rocky Mountains (and the Mountain Time Zone) was a tough thing to do, but I am not sure we could have had a better landing spot than Southwest Virginia. We haven't looked back. In 2012, we bought a house in the Woodbridge neighborhood (just a couple of houses outside of the Salem city limits), which gives us excellent access of the greenway and plenty of great views of the surrounding mountain ranges.

Several years after my arrival at the Times, I was promoted to sports editor, a job I held until 2020. Since then, I have worked for a handful of other outlets, including The Virginian-Pilot in Norfolk, USA Today and Cardinal News. I've had a few other stops, but I won't bore anyone with those details -- those who want to know can check out my LinkedIn page.

Yes, I do have an extensive amount of experience in sports, but that's not what I'm doing here. We have the great Brian Hoffman to take care of the sports section. He's a fan of Philly sports, but draws the line on booing Santa Claus. He also knows every coach at Salem High, Andrew Lewis Middle School and at Glenvar on a first-name basis, as well as dozens of their predecessors.

My responsibility is to make sure the pages that lead up to the sports section are also interesting.

This is what I hope to provide:

- A front page that each week shares a slice of life in Salem, Glenvar and Catawba, along with an article or two that may not be directly relevant to your communities, but would still be of interest (like what it costs for a Thanksgiving meal).
- News about the Salem and Roanoke County school districts. Both the Salem and Glenvar schools offer great education opportunities for their students, and I hope you have seen some of the stories I have already shared there. And when it comes to higher education, Roanoke College continues to



PHOTO BY STEVE HEMPHILL

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Briefly: Salem News In Brief



PHOTO COURTESY OF BRENDA HEMPHILL

Roman Isbell (Mr. Rogers), Hadley Hartman, Donald Fazler (General Mackenzie) and Claire (Dr. Armstrong) are on stage during Theatre Glenvar High's performance of the Agatha Christie mystery And Then There Were None. The troupe gave three performances earlier this month.

Lighting of the City Christmas Tree/Salem Christmas Parade

The annual lighting of the City of Salem Christmas Tree, sponsored by Renewal by Andersen, will be Friday, Dec. 4, at 6 p.m. at the Salem Public Library lawn. This tradition brings the community together on Main Street in downtown to see the decorations with family and friends as the Salem Christmas Parade begins at 6:30 p.m.

Gem and mineral show

The RVMGS Annual Gem and Mineral Show will be at the Salem Civic Center on Friday from 2-6 p.m., Saturday from 10 a.m.-6 p.m., and Sunday from 11 a.m.-4 p.m.. It features fossils and minerals from around the world, plus custom and unique jewelry, with gift shopping, education, mineral identification, and geode cutting. Admission is $5 for adults (good for all 3 days). Ages 14-under are free with a paying adult. Tickets are sold at the door. The RVMGS will also be collecting canned goods for the Salem/Roanoke County Food Bank.

Gingerbread Festival at Longwood Park

The Salem Parks and Recreation Department, Salem-Roanoke County Chamber of Commerce and Salem Museum present the Gingerbread Festival inside the Salem Museum at Longwood Park on Saturday, Dec. 5, from 10 a.m.-2 p.m. Check out culinary creations, children's activities, vendors, the holiday train and visit with Santa.

Fishwick House Tree Lighting

The annual Fishwick House Tree Lighting ceremony will be at 6 p.m. on Thursday, Dec. 3, on the Roanoke College campus. Students, staff, faculty and the rest of public are invited to celebrate the season. The evening's festive fun features photos with Santa, children's activities, snowflake cookies, hot cocoa, fire pits, and a special performance by the Roanoke College Choir.

For more information, call 540-375-2500

Salem Crafty Christmas

The Salem Farmers Market is hosting "Salem Crafty Christmas" on Saturday, Dec. 5, from 8 a.m.-2 p.m. at the Salem Farmers Market. Over 40 crafters and vendors will be selling handmade crafts, artisan items, greenery, baked goods, cheeses, eggs, and many more items available for holiday shopping.

Salem Holiday Market

The two-day mega craft and vendor show features unique crafters, artists, and "direct-sell" companies. Come check out homemade crafts and local delicacies from more than 70 regional sellers on Saturday, Dec. 12, from 9 a.m.-4 p.m. and Sunday, Dec. 13, from 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Admission is free, but shoppers are encouraged to bring nonperishable food items to contribute to donate to the Salem/Roanoke County Food Pantry like peanut butter, boxed pasta, canned vegetables and spaghetti sauce.

Catawba Holiday Market

The Catawba Valley Farmers Market Holiday Market on Saturday, Dec. 5, from 9 a.m.-2 p.m. The festive shopping event will be held at the Catawba Community Center, located at 4965 Catawba Creek Road. Perfect for your Christmas shopping needs, the market will feature local vendors and seasonal products for sale.

Wreaths across America

The Fort Lewis Chapter of the National Society Daughters of the American Revolution will host a Wreaths Across America ceremony at noon on Saturday, Dec. 19. Following the ceremony, community members are invited to help lay wreaths on graves in East Hill and East Hill North cemeteries.

Toys for Tots: The Salem Toys for Tots campaign is collecting new, unwrapped toys through December to distribute to less fortunate children at Christmas. Toy requests will be taken online at roanoke-va.toysfortots.org through Dec. 14. In Salem, dropoff sites include 1626 Apperson Dr.; Two Men and a Truck, 1123 E. Main St.; and the Salem Lowe's. For more information, call 540-510-2877.

Upcoming meetings

The Salem Audit-Finance Committee will have a special meeting for the purpose of reviewing applicable upcoming Salem City Council meeting agenda items at 10 a.m., on Nov 20 in the City Manger's Conference room.

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.

If you have an event that you would like included in our weekly calendar, email us at customerservice@ourvalley.org.

Reports of immigration activity lead to protests in Salem



PHOTO BY STEVE HEMPHILL

Demonstrators protest in front of an Immigration and Customs Enforcement office in Downtown Salem on Thursday after it was alleged that federal law enforcement had increased its immigration enforcement in the Roanoke Valley.

Steve Hemphill
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Concerns over an increase in immigration enforcement in the Roanoke Valley last week led to several days of demonstrations in front of an Immigration and Customs Enforcement office located just off of West Main Street in Downtown Salem.

And in the midst of the protests, a group that says its mission is to help those who may fear interactions with ICE and other legal authorities took advantage of the event to hold a successful food donations drive.

The group Los Ayudantes SWVA reported on its social media sites last week that the additional attention being given to the area by ICE authorities has led to a significant number of people being detained due to questions about their legal status.

Protesters then gathered at the corner of West Main and Academy streets, carrying signs critical of ICE.

On Thursday, there were also some pro-ICE supporters standing across the way from the protesters. As vehicles went through the busy intersection, some would honk their horns in approval of one group or the other.

According to City of Salem officials, the ICE facility in question only has offices, and they are not aware of any holding cells or other kinds of detention areas there.

While the protests were going on, Los Ayudantes SWVA took the opportunity to hold a food drive to support people who had concerns of going into the public and crossing paths with law enforcement.

By Saturday, the group, who according to its Facebook page is "an all-volunteer collective dedicated to mutual aid, rapid response and community care," reported that this drive was one of the most successful they had ever put on.

"There are a lot of people that are afraid to leave their homes," said one food drive volunteer who declined to share her name. "And there are a lot of kids who are afraid to go school. And it's going to get worse as the week continues.

"... So, we want to make sure that we can keep them as safe as possible in their homes."

The City of Roanoke issued a press release on Thursday that its police department is not participating in any increased immigration enforcement.

"Roanoke does not engage in or support fear-based law enforcement. Everyone should feel safe accessing City services," the statement read. "Neither the Roanoke City Sheriff's Office nor the Roanoke Police Department (RPD) participate in U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) task force initiatives."

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Turkey from page 1

Thanksgiving meal ingredients."

Turkey costs are high because of reduced flock sizes as well as increased production and transportation costs. The price of all food is influenced by more than what's happening at the grocery store. Transportation costs, labor expenses and production inputs all play a role.

Diesel prices have been especially high this fall, adding to transportation costs – especially items that are only grown in one area of the country, like cranberries, and have to be shipped from coast to coast.

Fresh and refrigerated products often require additional fuel for transportation and storage, making them especially sensitive to higher diesel prices. Farmers also are dealing with elevated costs for fuel, fertilizer, equipment, labor and other essential inputs.

At the same time, many farmers are earning less. While consumers see higher prices at the checkout line, farmers receive only 5.8 cents of every food dollar spent, with the remaining dollars covering processing, transportation, distribution, marketing and retail costs.

For the other ingredients in a traditional Thanksgiving meal in Virginia, the survey showed that the average cost of a gallon of whole milk was $3.64; frozen peas, $1.57; fresh carrots and celery, $1.19; whipping cream, $1.79; fresh cranberries, $2.05; cubed stuffing, $3.80; and a dozen dinner rolls, $3.42.

Virginia items that were less than the national average included milk, carrots and celery, dinner rolls, peas, cranberries, whipping cream, sweet potatoes and stuffing. Nationally, a quarter of the items decreased in price.

- *Virginia Farm Bureau*

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RECIPE OF THE WEEK

New ideas for Little Debbie Christmas Tree Cakes



Shelly Koon
Contributing Writer



Do you guys really love Little Debbie Christmas Tree Cakes, or do we just think they're amazing because they only come around once a year? Because let's be honest … if these were sitting on the shelves ALL year long, would we still be this excited to see them?

You know when Little Debbie Christmas Trees hit the shelves that we have officially entered the holiday season. I have to admit I love a homemade dessert but for some reason I love these store-bought treats. Picture a huge petit four. So good, moist and creamy. A nice crunch from the green sugar on top.

The Little Debbie website sells the cakes but also a tie, blanket, shirts, magnet, earrings, and

ornaments. I've seen LD Christmas Tree Cake creamer and ice cream at Walmart. There is an inflatable Little Debbie Christmas Tree cake. GNC sells a RYSE protein powder in Little Debbie Christmas Tree Cake flavor. Pair eyewear has a topper that matches this treat. I found wrapping paper with the Christmas Tree Cake. Betsy even has a shirt with Christmas Tree Cakes on it. I made Crocheted Christmas Tree Cake ornaments this year for everyone.

Available since 1985, Little Debbie Christmas Tree Cakes are a beloved seasonal treat for fans who cherish their festive design, creamy filling, and holiday nostalgia. They are a seasonal must have for many people. Some people insist that they are best eaten refrigerated or frozen.

Others like the chocolate version. Love them or hate them, after 41 years they are a part of the holiday season for many people.

There are a ton of recipes online for Little Debbie Christmas Tree Cakes. The Little Debbie website has many that use their products.

Christmas tree cake dip

Makes up to 8 Servings

Ingredients:

- 1 Carton Little Debbie Christmas Tree Cakes (5 cakes)
- 1 8-oz. Package Cream Cheese
- 1/3 Cup Milk
- 1 Teaspoon Vanilla Extract
- 1 8-oz. Tub Whipped Topping
- Red & Green Sprinkles, for garnish
- Cookies, Fruit, or Other dippables for Serving

Instructions:

Add cakes, cream cheese, milk and vanilla to a food processor and puree until smooth. Transfer mixture to a large bowl and fold in whipped topping. Place dip in serving bowl and refrigerate until serving. Just before serving, garnish with additional sprinkles. Serve with graham crackers, animal crackers, vanilla wafers, or fresh fruit for dipping.

Christmas Tree Cake Fudge

Ingredients:

- 48 oz. of White Chocolate Chips
- 4 tablespoons of Butter
- 4 containers of Canned Vanilla Frosting
- 4 Christmas Tree Cakes (crumbled)
- Green Sanding Sugar
- Red Cookie Icing

Instructions:

Start by adding half of your chocolate chips, half of your butter, and two containers of vanilla frosting to a large mixing bowl. Microwave, in one-minute intervals, stirring after each, until smooth, and well combined. Line a sheet pan with parchment paper and lightly grease your parchment paper. Pour your chocolate chip mixture into your sheet pan and smooth out evenly. Top with crumbled Christmas Tree Cakes. Repeat steps 1, 2, and 4. Place in the fridge for one hour until set. Remove from your sheet pan. I like to flip mine upside down for cutting. So I have a smooth top. Use your cookie cutter to cut out Christmas Trees. The thicker the cookie cutter the better. Metal is best. Slice any remaining fudge into squares. Sprinkle fudge with sanding sugar. Pipe lines onto each piece of fudge using your red cookie icing. Serve and enjoy! Store in a container with a lid.

Christmas Tree Cake Crack

Ingredients:

- 40 saltine crackers
- 1 cup butter
- 1 cup brown sugar
- 8 ounce cream cheese softened
- 2 cups powdered sugar
- 1 teaspoon vanilla extract
- 1/2 cup marshmallow fluff
- 24 ounces vanilla almond bark
- 1/2 cup red candy melts
- Green sprinkles

Instructions:

Make the Saltine Toffee

Preheat oven to 350°F.

Line 15x10x1-inch pan with foil. Spray foil with cooking spray.

Place crackers in single layer in pan.

In a medium saucepan, cook and stir butter and brown sugar over medium heat until butter is melted. Heat to boiling, stirring frequently. Let boil for 3-5 minutes, stirring frequently, until light brown in color. Remove from heat. Immediately pour mixture evenly over crackers in pan; spread to cover the crackers. Bake 5-8 minutes or until bubbly and brown. Remove from oven. Set aside to cool completely. Make the filling-Using a hand mixer combine the powdered sugar, vanilla and cream cheese. Next mix in the marshmallow fluff until everything is smooth and creamy. Spread the filling over the crackers in an even layer. Melt your almond bark over a double boiler or in a microwave safe bowl in 30 second intervals until melted. Pour the almond bark over the cracker mixture and spread out evenly. Sprinkle with the green sprinkles. Melt your red candy melts. Place the melted red candy melts in a ziploc bag with tip cut off or piping bag. Drizzle the red chocolate over the top. Set aside to cool completely for 1 hour or in fridge for 30 minutes. Break into pieces and serve.

Little Debbie

Christmas Tree Cake Ice Cream Sandwiches

Makes 5 Servings

Ingredients:

- 1 Carton Little Debbie Christmas Tree Cakes, chocolate or vanilla
- 1 Carton Peppermint Ice Cream, softened
- Peppermint Candies, crushed for garnish, optional

Instructions:

Unwrap each Christmas Tree Cakes and cut eat cake in half. Lay each half on the parchment paper. Begin adding a scoop of softened peppermint ice cream to one half of the cake. Using the other half, sandwich your ice cream in between each cake slice. Add additional peppermint candies for garnish. Place in the freezer for up to one hour or overnight before serving.



PHOTOS BY SHELLY KOON

Christmas Tree Cake Cheesecake

Ingredients:

- 1 Carton Little Debbie Christmas Tree Cakes
- 1 Pre-Made Frozen Plain Cheesecake
- 1 Tub Red Cookie Icing
- 1 Container Green Sprinkles

Instructions:

Unwrap each Christmas Tree Cake and gently cut into small bite-sized pieces. Set aside. Unwrap the cheesecake and add the cakes to the top. Using the cookie icing, swirl on top and over the sides. Finish with the green sprinkles. Refrigerate 30 minutes before serving. Enjoy!

FROM THE ARCHIVES

Plans revealed for new park in west county

By Ron Miller, Managing Editor

From the August 15, 1985 edition of The Salem Times-Register

Everything is tentative, including the name, but plans were unveiled Monday night for Green Hill Park, a 150-acre recreational facility proposed for construction in west Roanoke County.

If plans are realized, the park would be the county's largest and would include six football fields, three of them lighted, two football and three soccer fields, practice fields, a playground, picnic areas along the Roanoke River, a cross country trail, seven tennis courts, half a dozen basketball courts, a community center and locker room, Olympic size swimming pool, a volleyball court, a fishing pond, a bicycle trail and an amphitheater.

Roanoke County purchased about 200 acres off of West Main Street between Diuguids Lane and Route 639 last year after deciding to sell off Shamrock Park and part of McVitty Park because of their value as real estate. When local youth boosters protested the sale of their parks, supervisors resolved to make available equal or better facilities before the two small parks were sold.

Three Virginia Tech landscape architecture students interning in the county's planning department this summer came up with the design for the district park, premiering it to members of the Glenvar Youth Boosters, a club active in west county little league sports, Monday night.

Darrell Shell, director of parks and recreation in the county, said that the park will probably be completed in three phases, which could take one and a half to two years to complete, depending on funding. Shell believes the first phase of park construction will be the easiest to get past the board of supervisors, because that phase would have to meet the equal or better standards set by the board when it voted to sell Shamrock and McVitty.

Though it could begin sooner, construction on the park will probably begin within three years, Shell told residents.

Superintendent of Public Facilities John Hubbard said the plan will be presented to special interest groups and will be available for public viewing for about the next month so that citizens may comment on the park's design. Hubbard said local businesses in close proximity to the park will also be asked for their evaluation of the design.

Any additions or changes resulting from meetings with citizens will be incorporated into the plan, Hubbard said. Then the finished plan will be presented for approval by the board of supervisors. The supervisors will also have to decide how to divide the project into phases.

Some funding for the park could come from the proposed bond issue if it passes in November, Shell said. About $2 million has currently been set aside for parks in the bond, but that $2 million would have to be distributed to parks across the county, with only a portion going to Green Hill, Shell said.

Whatever money the county appropriates for the park, there is a good chance of a 50/50 match of federal money which comes through the Virginia Staes Parks Division, Shell said.

Interns said that most aspects of the park exceed needs projected for 1988 by the county's comprehensive plan. The park is planned for maximum rather than minimum use, they said.

There had been concern among neighboring residents that the remaining 50 acres of the 200-acre tract purchased by the county not designated for park use would be used for industrial development.

County officials have assured residents that if the property is used for development, the development would be residential. The park is planned so that residential development would be screened from lighted fields and other playing areas. It was also designed so that all playing fields face north-south so that the position of the sun would not inhibit scheduling.

The name for the park was suggested by members of the Green Hill neighborhood, but it too is open for discussion.

There would be one road snaking its way through the park with entrances on both Diuguids Lane and Route 39. Planners don't believe there will be a traffic problem at the railroad crossing at River Road.

-Prepared by Shelly Koon



FROM THE TIMES-REGISTER ARCHIVES

Garst from page 1

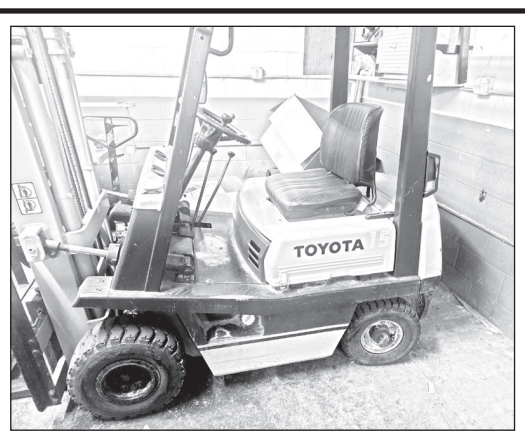
said yes."

While helping the city out, Garst saw his professional life evolve. He helped his wife, Kim, open the Dilly Dally convenience store on Eddy Avenue, which they ran for a couple of years. After that, he was hired by the Salem City Schools as a business and personal finance teacher, which he continues to do now.

"I enjoy teaching," he said. "I'm going to keep doing it for a while. I don't know how long -- maybe a year or two. It's worked out pretty well for me."

So did the Planning Commission, but he said he's ready to retire from that task.

"It's time for somebody else to step in and have the fun."



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OPINION

Notes from the 6th: Ready to serve new committee chairmanship assignment



Ben Cline

Congressman

I am grateful for the support of my colleagues and the opportunity to serve as Chairman of the Republican Study Committee.

I do not take this responsibility lightly, and I remain committed to advancing the principles that make our Nation strong and preserve the American Dream for generations to come. The RSC has been shaped by the dedication and leadership of those who came before, and I am proud to build upon that legacy. I want to thank Chairman August Pfluger for his outstanding leadership over the past two years and for the lasting impact he has made on this caucus and our nation.

As Chairman of the Republican Study Committee, I will continue championing meaningful legislation that reflects our conservative values and delivers real results for the American people. As we look forward to the 120th Congress, the RSC's mission is more important than ever as we continue to defend the principles of limited government, individual liberty, and economic opportunity that serve as the foundation for our shared conservative values. Together, we will uphold and maintain the promise we made to the American people.

Backing small businesses

Small businesses are the backbone of our economy. They create jobs, support local communities, and keep our economy moving forward. I am proud to have championed legislation in the 119th Congress to help small businesses and deliver for the hardworking business owners, families, and communities across Virginia's Sixth District and our Nation.

Last week, my Bankruptcy Threshold Adjustment Act was signed into law, delivering an important victory for small businesses and American families.

This bipartisan legislation raises the debt eligibility limit for small businesses filing under Subchapter V of Chapter 11 from $3.4 million to $7.5 million, giving more small businesses access to a streamlined path to reorganize their debt and keep their doors open.

It also strengthens access to Chapter 13 bankruptcy by establishing a single secured and unsecured debt limit of less than $2.75 million, allowing more qualifying individuals and families to pursue financial stability.

Strengthening Support and Benefits for America's Veterans

Last week, the House passed the Take Care of America's Veterans Act, marking an important step forward in strengthening the support and resources available to our Nation's Veterans.

This comprehensive legislation amends Titles 10 and 38 of the U.S. Code to expand Veterans' benefits, improve VA administration, and strengthen support for service members, survivors, caregivers, and their families.

Our Veterans have sacrificed tremendously to defend the freedoms we enjoy today. They deserve a government that honors that sacrifice not only in words, but through meaningful action. I remain committed to advancing policies that protect our Veterans, ensure they receive the benefits and support they have earned, and uphold the principles that make our Nation strong.

Recognizing Our Nation's Veterans

It was a privilege to recognize our Nation's Veterans this past Veterans Day in our Nation's capital. These brave men and women have dedicated so much in service to our country, and we have a responsibility to ensure their sacrifices are never forgotten and that we continue to deliver on the promises we have made to them.

I am grateful for the opportunity to honor these heroes and recognize the continued efforts being made to support our Veterans, their families, and all those who have sacrificed for our freedom.

Capitol Tours and Flag Requests

Have you ever wanted to tour the U.S. Capitol or request a flag flown over the Capitol in honor of a special occasion? My office is here to help make that possible. Whether you are planning a visit to Washington, D.C., interested in learning more about the history of our Nation's Capitol, or hoping to commemorate a meaningful event with a flag flown over the Capitol, our office can help guide you through the process.

We are proud to help constituents take advantage of these opportunities and experience the history and traditions of our Nation's capital. Please reach out to my office at (202) 225-5431 for assistance with scheduling a tour, submitting a flag request, or answering any questions you may have.

Books young readers will love to find under the tree

Modern shoppers have lots of options at their disposal when the time comes to find holiday gifts for their loved ones. While the latest gadgets may be shiny and new, many a shopper still looks to an old favorite when shopping for holiday gifts.

According to a recent survey conducted by Talker Research, 51 percent of respondents indicated their plan to give a book as a holiday gift in 2025. Books provide hours of entertainment at a fraction of the cost of the latest gadgets or even experiential gifts like tickets to a show or sporting event. That makes books an appealing gift for loved ones of all ages, including children. Kids have much to gain from reading as youngsters. Indeed, research has shown that reading helps kids develop their critical thinking and language skills and can foster a sense of wonder about the world. Shoppers looking for books to give youngsters this holiday season can consider these titles that are among the many recommended by the Association For Library Service to Children.

- Night Walk, by Jason Cockroft. This is an intergenerational story about loss and remembrance that also showcases the wonders of the natural world. The story focuses on a sleepy boy and his grandfather as they follow the favorite path the boy's late grandmother liked to walk through nearby woods.
- Papilio, by Ben Clanton. This is the story of Papilio Polyxenes, a caterpillar going through the stages of metamorphosis. Papilio experiences the ups and downs of growth as she learns to fly, fall, and feed during her transformation from caterpillar to butterfly.
- Safe Crossing, by Kari Percival. Another book likely to inspire or strengthen a love of the natural world, this is the story of the efforts of a community to protect amphibians as they migrate from wooded uplands to a nearby pond.
- The Adventures of Cipollino, by Gianni Rodari. A translation of an Italian classic, this is the story of a young onion (most characters in the book are an animal, a vegetable or a fruit) who leaves his home in an effort to free his wrongfully imprisoned father. Cipollino encounters a colorful cast of characters along the way in this entertaining work that's written for readers nine and up.
- Busted, by Dan Gemeinhart. Oscar Aberdeen is the main character in this tale about an unusual 12-year-old boy who lives in a retirement home. A humorous story unfolds when Oscar and his grandfather are served with an eviction notice from their home at Sunny Days. Desperate to remain in the only home he's ever known, Oscar accepts the help of a fellow resident with a not-so-stellar reputation.
- Rebellion 1776, by Laurie Halse Anderson. A book taking young readers between the ages of 10 and 14 back to 1776 may be ideal as Americans commemorate 250 years of nationhood. In this tale, 13-year-old Elsbeth Culpepper awakes in the spring of 1776 during the Siege of Boston, which turns the city into a war zone. Elsbeth is subsequently forced to confront those conditions as well as a suddenly missing father and an outbreak of smallpox.

These are just a few of the many titles that would make great gifts for young readers this holiday season. A lengthier list of titles can be found at https://www.ala.org/alsc/awardsgrants/notalists/ncb. GG26A162

SOCIAL MEDIA TEXT: Shoppers looking for books to give youngsters this holiday season can consider these titles.

Salem Times~Register

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

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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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Introduction

from page 1

evolve and strive to be one of the great liberal arts institutions in Virginia.

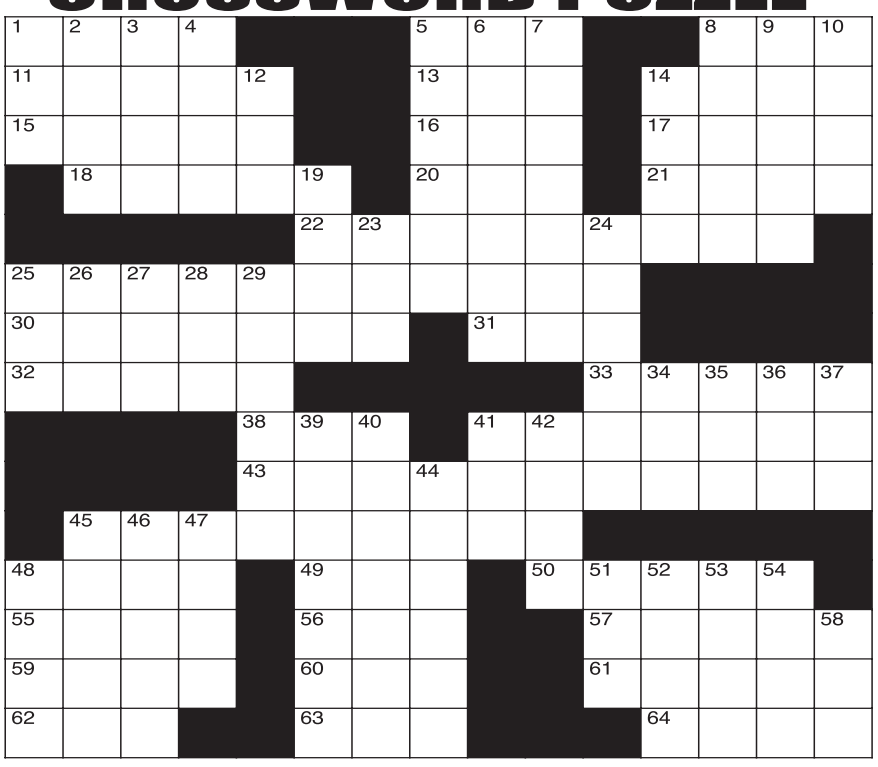
- Updates from the politicians who represent the area, as well as the county supervisors, town council, law enforcement leaders and government officials. And I encourage the readers who like a vibrant opinion page to consider contributing as well. Is there an issue in the community that needs to be addressed or someone who deserves praise? Send us a letter, and as long as it pertains to the newspaper's coverage area, does not rehash an old beef and is written in a civil manner, we'll publish it.
- Stories on local businesses, with an emphasis on celebrating what is going well, but there is a story about friction between public and private entities, I hope to provide that angle as well.

In the past month, I have already benefited from a few news tips and story ideas that have either led to articles that have been published or are part of my ever-growing to-do list.

I am keeping an eye on community calendars and follow a number of community social media pages, but I am always open to new suggestions. Whether it is a fundraiser, dedication, community-wide event or a hot news tip, if you let me know about it, I'll do my best to report on it.

Have a happy Thanksgiving, and thanks for subscribing!

CROSSWORD PUZZLE



CLUES ACROSS
1. Insect feeler
5. Central processing unit
8. Part of (abbr.)
11. Typical
13. Tall, rounded vase
14. __ Alto, California city
15. Lustrous, velvet-like fabric
16. "Fresh Prince of __ Air"
17. Hebrew calendar month
18. British surgeon who discovered bone disease
20. Agreement between debtor and creditor (abbr.)
21. Elongated part of anatomical structure
22. Acts slowly on
25. Keeps a little too safe
30. Greek seaport
31. "Baba O'Riley" rockers
32. Vision
33. Potassium nitrate in mineral form
38. Midway between northeast and east
41. Not a pro
43. Give a new look
45. Sensational
48. Nobel Prize-winning physicist
49. Annoy constantly
50. Vaccine developer
55. Lying down
56. Type of language (abbr.)
57. Flat-bottomed boat
59. Smallest or slightest
60. Bind
61. Speeds
62. The products of human creativity
63. Consume food
64. Ancient Greek sophist

CLUES DOWN
1. A young canine
2. As fast as can be done
3. Soviet moon probes
4. Sharp spasm of pain
5. One who adheres to a specific art movement
6. Show parts of
7. Unfasten
8. San Diego ballplayer
9. Santa
10. Rocky peaks
12. "Matt Houston" actor Horsley
14. A written agreement between two sides
19. Beginning to end (abbr.)
23. Greek goddess of the dawn
24. Not written in any key
25. Organized missions
26. Seven
27. Work unit
28. Bravo! Bravo! Bravo!
29. Broadway legend Bernadette
34. Belonging to a thing
35. Vietnamese offensive
36. Bitterly regret
37. Make a mistake
39. Newborn child
40. A combined landmass
41. Satisfaction
42. Hilly peninsulas in Denmark
44. Young swine
45. Type of sword
46. Siskel's partner
47. Brood of pheasants
48. Hindu model of ideal man
51. Suitable in the circumstances
52. La __ tar pits
53. Unstressed-stressed metrical foot
54. California wine country
58. Badly

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Tips for taming holiday weekend traffic

Extended holiday weekends tend to fall on national holidays throughout the year, giving workers and students an opportunity to enjoy an extra day off from work and school The open road beckons millions of people on three-day weekends, which serve as a great chance to get away.

According to AAA, holiday weekends see record-breaking traffic volume, with nearly 40 million drivers hitting the road. Those who are hitting the open road on a holiday weekend can take heed of these tips to avoid heavy traffic.

- Change your travel time. Late mornings and early evenings tend to be especially busy on the roads. Instead, leave very early or very late to get to your destination, departing before 6 a.m. or after 8 p.m.
- Change your day. Think about leaving a day earlier for a smooth drive. On a three-day holiday weekend, that would mean arriving on Thursday afternoon. When returning home, try to travel on a Tuesday or early Wednesday if you can manage the extra time off.
- Pack a cooler. Motorists will be feeling hunger pangs at various times throughout the day, and there likely will be long wait times at rest stops and fast food establishments. Skip the crowds by packing food to minimize stops.
- Take back roads. Make the drive part of the trip by sticking to back roads and scenic byways. This may add some time to the drive, but you'll avoid much of the gridlock of highways and interstates.
- Consider public transportation. Public transportation can alleviate travel-related stress on a holiday weekend. Someone else, be it a train conductor or a bus driver, will navigate their way through traffic while you relax with a good book or stream a movie on a tablet.
- Bring along entertainment. AAA suggests audiobooks, podcasts and games for passengers to help pass the time on the road.
- Reduce stress as much as possible. Being a courteous driver and giving others a wide berth can minimize your own stress. By leaving ample time to get to your destination, you will feel less pressured to weave in and out of traffic or tailgate.
- Stay local. Of course, the easiest way to beat holiday weekend traffic is to stay close to home. Build fun at home, and choose less popular travel weekends for your getaways.



COURTESY PHOTO

Holiday weekend traffic often is no joke. But there are ways to minimize the hassle of traveling to enjoy the extra time away. TF268039

SOCIAL MEDIA TEXT: Those who are hitting the open road on a holiday weekend can take heed of these tips to avoid heavy traffic.

VDOT ROADWATCH

The Virginia Department of Transportation is suspending many highway work zones and lifting most lane closures on interstates and other major roads from noon Wednesday, Nov. 25, through noon Monday, Nov. 30.

While lane closures will be lifted in most locations, motorists may encounter semi-permanent work zones that remain in place during this time. Check VDOT's Travel Advisories for the latest travel alerts in your area and around the state.

Updates on other projects:

Interstate 81 bridge rehabilitation over Route 670 in Botetourt County

A bridge rehabilitation project is underway on I-81 at the bridge over Route 670 (Trinity Road). Drivers can expect periodic nighttime lane closures on northbound and southbound I-81 on the bridge. Work will also be performed under the bridge on Trinity Road which may also require lane and road closures with flagging operations. Expected completion is summer 2027.

- Trinity Road: Drivers should expect the Trinity Road to be reduced to one lane with flagging operations in place during nighttime hours.

Interstate 81 lane widening construction project exit 137 to exit 141

All three lanes through this section are now open to traffic in both directions and work on the project is nearing completion

Work is being performed along a five-mile section of both northbound and southbound Interstate 81 in Roanoke County and the City of Salem. A barrier wall may be in place along the shoulders. Periodic lane closures scheduled during nighttime hours or outside of peak travel times on northbound and southbound I-81 as needed as the project progresses in its final stages of construction. Expected completion in fall 2026.

Expect the following:

- 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.

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, and following may occur.

- Park and Ride at Tinker Mountain on Route 220 spaces blocked: The front corner area parking spaces (first 2-3 spaces) may be blocked off 24 hours a day during the week for signal installation work.
- Ramp closures and narrowing ramps: Various closures and narrowing of ramps will be in place, northbound and southbound, at exit 150, 146 and 143. Drivers may need to use alternate exits and watch message boards for the most updated information.
- Truck entrances on I-81: Openings for trucks to enter into the work zone for deliveries are possible where barrier walls and signage indicating construction entrance only 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 closures with 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.
- Daytime flagging operation on Belle Haven Road .
- 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 Ironto segment North widening from mile marker 133.8 to exit 137

The I-81 widening project from mile marker 133.8 to exit 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.

COMMUNITY SERVICES DIRECTORY



JAMES T. JORDAN, PLCC
Attorney at Law



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Tips to find unique gifts this holiday season

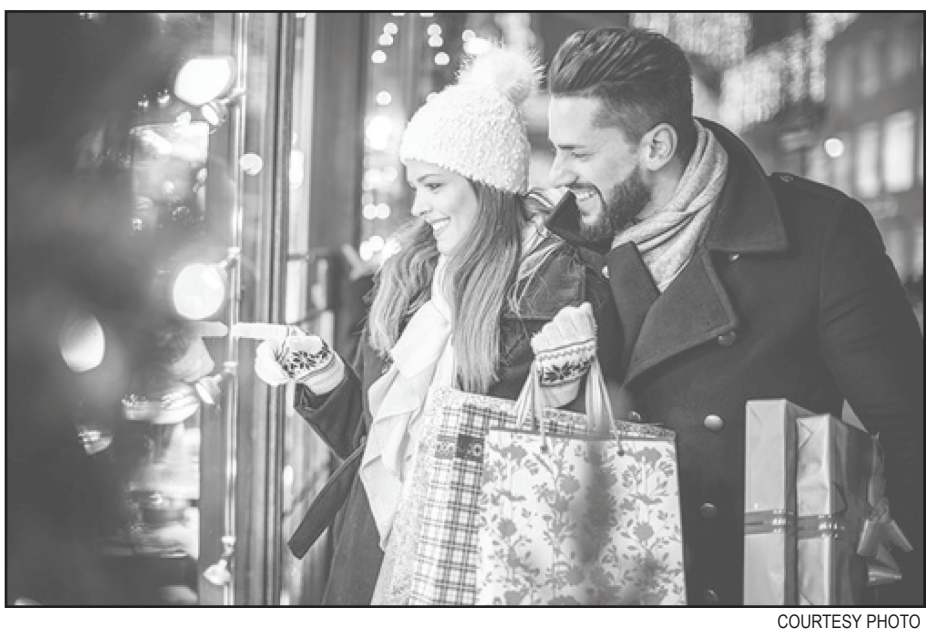
Shopping is a holiday season tradition. Come December, shoppers flock to stores and visit an array of websites in the hopes of finding the perfect gifts for the special people in their lives.

Though shoppers now have more gift options than ever before, that accessibility has not necessarily made holiday shopping any easier. In fact, a 2025 survey from Statista found that 24 percent of shoppers had already started their holiday shopping when surveyed in August of that year. Just 6 percent of shoppers indicated they planned to wait until December to start shopping for the holiday season. While early shoppers might be driven by a desire to stretch out their spending over the course of several months, others undoubtedly start so far in advance of the holiday season because they know finding a unique gift can take some time. As shoppers ramp up their holiday shopping, they can look to these tips to find unique gifts for their friends and family members.

- Give gifts some serious thought. Even if you don't plan to shop early, you can still start brainstorming gift ideas well in advance of December. Keep a holiday gift ideas list open in a notes application on your smartphone so you can quickly and easily jot down potential gifts for anyone on your list. When the time comes to start shopping, simply open the list. This approach increases the chances you find something unique as opposed to settling on items like the newest gadgets or smartphone iterations that are promoted come the holiday season.
- Shop off the beaten path. It's less likely that shoppers will find unique gifts at big box retailers or popular retail websites. And those that do might only find success after traversing large and crowded stores or spending hours scrolling through endless pages of results. Local boutique shops and independent retailers are a great place to go when looking for truly unique gifts. A handcrafted item created by a local artisan will stand out from the mass produced goods found at big box stores and online retailers. And shoppers can take solace knowing they're helping to support local economies by directing their shopping focus on independently owned local retailers.
- Avoid limiting yourself to items. While it's customary to give items to loved ones come the holiday season, shoppers looking for unique gifts can look to experiential gifts. According to a 2025 survey from Tinggly, 82 percent of respondents indicated they would rather receive an experience than a physical gift. Experiential gifts can be anything from concert tickets to nature-based adventures like a kayaking trip to airboat rides. When looking for a gift recipients will remember for years to come, shoppers are urged to give strong consideration to experiential gifts.
- Make it a team effort. Gathering resources and giving a gift from a group of people as opposed to a single individual is a great way to expand the budget, which could open doors to truly unique gifts. When gifting collectively, holiday shoppers might be able to pay for gifts like an airline ticket to a favored destination or a more expensive experience like a bi-plane ride.

Unique gifts may be harder to find, but they also stand out for all the right reasons come the holiday season. GG26A151

SOCIAL MEDIA TEXT: As shoppers ramp up their holiday shopping, they can look to these tips to find unique gifts for their friends and family members.



COURTESY PHOTO

CROSSWORD ANSWERS

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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 Worship11:00 a.m., Sunday Evening Service 6:30 p.m.,Wednesday Night Prayer Service, 6:30 p.m.

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

TEMPLE BAPTIST CHURCH - 4339 Daugherty Road, Salem, Greg Irby, Pastor, Church: 380-3567;Home: 389-7240, Sunday School 10:00 AM, WorshipServices 11:00AM & 6:00PM, Mid-week PrayerMeeting 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.rwbcva.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: Saturday, August 1st, 2026 - Special singing from Joe Overfelt at 6pm.

FELLOWSHIP COMMUNITY CHURCH - Salem Campus: 1226 Red Lane Extension (Salem). North Campus: 7640 Alpine Road (Roanoke). Español Campus: 1226 Red Lane Extension (Salem). Worship Times: 9:00 AM and 10:45 AM for Salem and North; 10:30 AM for Español. For more information, visit: www.fcclife.org

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, 7:000 PM.

CHURCH OF GOD/ANDERSON

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

CHURCH OF GOD/CLEVELAND

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

DISCIPLES OF CHRIST

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

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

ECKANKAR

Eckankar, The Path of Spiritual Freedom, is a simple teaching that focuses on the Light and Sound of God to help people find more love in their life. We offer a Spiritual Event on the 2nd. Sunday of each month. The program may be a Light and Sound Service, a Spiritual video and discussion, or other topics and techniques to help Raise Your Spiritual IQ. The Roanoke ECK Center is located at 1420 3rd. St. SW, Roanoke, VA 24016. For more information visit www.eck-va.org or call 540- 353-5365. People of all faiths are welcome.

EPISCOPAL

ST. PAUL'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH - 42 East Main Street, Salem, 389-9307. Rev. J. Edward Morris, Minister. Sundays at 7:30am and 10am. Holy Communion in church and live-streamed on YouTube@StPaulSalemVa.

EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN

COLLEGE EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH - 210 S. College Avenue, Salem VA 24153. Please visit our website www.collegelutheran.org for information on services.

NATIONAL BAPTIST CONVENTION, U.S.A., INC.

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH - 226 South BroadStreet, Salem. Rev. Melton Johnson, 389-9648. SundaySchool 9:30 AM, Sunday Morning Worship Service11:00 AM, Wednesday Bible Study and PrayerMeeting 7:00 PM.

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

PENTECOSTAL HOLINESS

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

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH (USA)

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

UNITED METHODIST

FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH - 125 W. Main St, Salem, VA. 540-389-5459. Rev. Craig Newman, 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.

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Legals - Montgomery County

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN,

By the Board of Supervisors of the County of Montgomery, Virginia that the Board of Supervisors hereby schedules a public hearing for Monday, December 14, 2026 at 7:15 pm or as soon thereafter, at the Montgomery County Government Center, 755 Roanoke Street, Christiansburg, Virginia, in order to receive citizen comments on the Board of Supervisors intent to adopt a resolution amending the FY 2026-2027 budget by more than one percent of the total expenditures shown in the currently adopted budget by appropriating $4,482,508 to the Montgomery County Public Schools Operating Budget and $1,331,120 to the School Capital Fund and any additional county general appropriations, as needed, not to exceed $1,000,000.

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

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, December 14, 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 Loy/Mary Burch II LLC, Property Owner, and Ronald Frank III, Applicant, to allow for a club or lodge in the General Business (B-3) zoning district located within the tenant space addressed as 3147 and 3139 North Franklin Street identified as Tax Parcel 406 - ((4)) – 23 (a portion of Parcel ID 000440) and Tax Parcel 406 – ((4)) - 24 (a portion of Parcel ID 000439), and consisting of approximately of 0.148 acres. The property is designated as Business/Commercial on the Future Land Use Map of the 2026 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, Planning CommissionZoning 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.

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Legals - Montgomery County

NOTICE OF TRUSTEE'S SALE 1424 Walton Road, Christiansburg, Virginia 24073 Tax Map/Parcel Identification No. 076-A110-113/002883 MONTGOMERY COUNTY, VA

In execution of a Deed of Trust dated July 10, 2018 (the "Deed of Trust"), recorded in the Clerk's Office of the Circuit Court of Montgomery County, Virginia, as Instrument No. 2018004971 the undersigned substitute Trustees, any or all of whom may act, will offer for sale in front of the Montgomery County Courthouse, 55 East Main Street, Christiansburg, Virginia 24073, on December 2, 2026, at 12:00 p.m., property located at or near 1424 Walton Road, Christiansburg, Virginia 24073, which property is more particularly described as follows:

Being all of that New Lot A containing 15.04 acres as shown and described on a plat of survey entitled, "PLAT OF MINOR SUBDIVISION FOR JOSEPH CASTLE, JR. HEATHER CASTLE LOCATED ON WALTON RD SITUATED IN THE RINER MAGISTERIAL DISTRICT OF MONTGOMERY COUNTY, VIRGINIA", prepared by Lowell Thomas Bowman, III dated June 29,2018, designated as Job No.01431, which plat is of record in the Clerk's Office of the Circuit Court of Montgomery County, Virginia recorded herewith. TOGETHER WITH AND SUBJECT TO a forty-foot (40') easement for ingress and egress across the remaining property of the Grantor to Walton Road (State Route 663), as shown on aforesaid plat of survey. SAVE AND EXCEPT the right of way for ingress and egress over the existing gravel and soil drive to and from Walton Road (State Route 663), as shown on the aforesaid plat of survey, being fifty foot (50') wide easement, crossing the property of Dennis J.Mullins and Gloria E. Mullins, reserved in that deed recorded in the Circuit Court Clerk's Office in Deed Book 1101 Page 666, and continuing over a portion across herein described property said right of way conveyed to Ronald L. and Thresa L. Jones, by deed of record as Image 2004014910 .

This sale is subject to all liens, easements, restrictions, conditions, and reservations of record affecting the title to the property hereinabove described, to the extent any of them have priority over the lien of the Deed of Trust.

TERMS OF SALE : A bidder's deposit of up to ten percent (10%) of the successful bid in certified funds required (certified or cashier's check made payable to Spilman, Thomas & Battle, PLLC). Settlement within thirty (30) days of sale with balance of purchase price paid in cash. Additional terms may be announced at the time of sale. The successful bidder will be required to execute a Memorandum of Trustee's Sale outlining additional terms of sale and settlement that will be available for review prior to the announcement of sale.

Bryson J. Hunter and Timothy J. Lovett, Substitute Trustees
For Information Contact:
Bryson J. Hunter
bhunter@spilmanlaw.com
Spilman Thomas & Battle, PLLC
P.O. Box 90
Roanoke, Virginia 24002
540-512-1800 Telephone

Legals - Montgomery County

Public Auction

To enforce our owner's lien(s) by Craft Self Storage, 540-260-9563, 100 Roger St. Christiansburg VA, per 55-416 Code of Virginia, Virginia Self Storage Act; the following units will be sold by absolute auction unless payment in full is made to Craft Self Storage prior to auction beginning: Unit H-58.
Auction date December 1 2026, at 10:00 A.M. Only registered bidders will be allowed into facility.
Register at main office beginning at 9:30 am. No Parking in Pharmacy or B&K lots allowed. Call for makeup date in case of bad weather.

Legals - City of Salem

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PUBLIC HEARING

The City of Salem School Board will hold a public hearing for comment on the FY 2027-28 budget on Tuesday, December 8, 2026. The hearing will begin at 7:00 PM at the School Administrative Office, 510 South College Avenue, Salem.

Any citizen of Salem who wishes to address the Board should contact Nicole Whitlow, Clerk of the Board, at 540-389-0130 by Friday, December 4, in order to be placed on the agenda. Individuals who plan to address the Board are requested to bring a copy of their remarks for the record. In accordance with Board Policy KD, Public Participation in Board Meetings, individuals who plan to address the Board are requested to:

• provide their name and address,
• address their remarks to the Board,
• be brief,
• provide a copy of their remarks for the record, and
• be prepared to answer questions from the Board.
• In unusual cases or cases of emergency, the Board, by consensus, may allow an individual or organization to speak if not on the agenda.

Legals - Town of Vinton

ABC NOTICE

OLD GLORY'S TAVERN LLC, trading as Old Glory's Tavern, 1919 East Washington Ave, Vinton, Roanoke Co., VA 24179

The above establishment is applying to the VIRGINIA ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGE CONTROL (ABC) AUTHORITY for a Restaurant Wine and Beer On and Off Premise license to sell or manufacture alcoholic beverages.

David Carr, Owner
Tamara Carr, 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.

Legals - Town of Vinton

ABC NOTICE

The Perk & Pit LLC trading as The Perk & Pit LLC., 4344 Electric RD, Roanoke County, Roanoke VA 24018

The above establishment is applying to the VIRGINIA ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGE CONTROL (ABC) AUTHORITY for a Retail Restaurant or Caterer Application- Restaurant, Wine, Beer, Mixed Beverages, Consumed On and Off Premises.

Crystal Bowles
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.

Legals - Craig County

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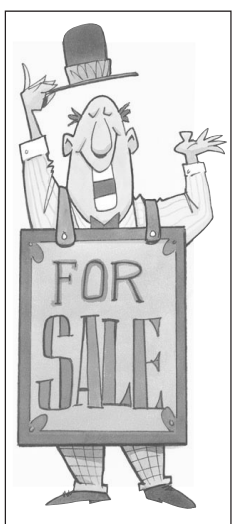

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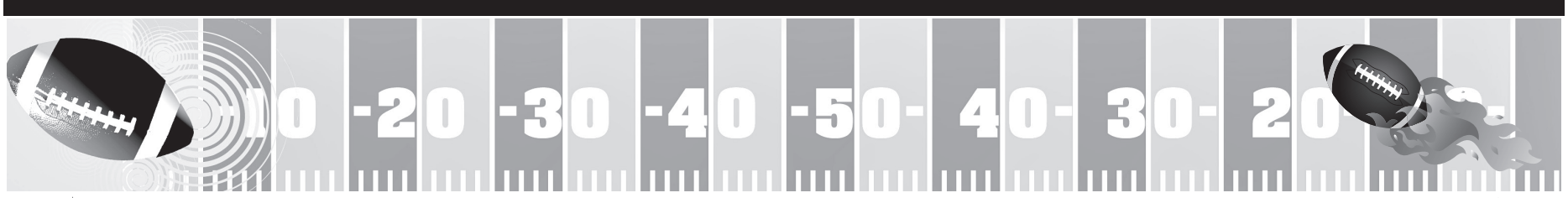
WEEKLY FOOTBALL CONTEST





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CONTEST RULES:

-All entries must be on an official Salem Times-Register entry blank. No duplicates please. No limit on the number of entries as long as the current blank is used.
-Each advertisement on this page includes one football game to be played this week. Find the game in the ad and print your predicted winner on the line corresponding to the advertiser in the list included on this page.
-First prize will be awarded to the person who picks the most games correctly.
-Be sure to include your name, address, and high point total for the week. High point total is decided by the most points scored by ANY ONE TEAM in the games listed for the week. High point total is used to break ties only, and all decisions will be final.
-Clip and mail THE ENTRY PART ONLY to Salem Times-Register, Football Contest, P.O. Box 1125, Salem, VA 24153. Entry must be postmarked by 5 p.m. on the Friday immediately following the date of the paper, or bring your entry by the Salem Times-Register office at 1633 West Main Street in Salem. Your entry must be in the box by 5 p.m. Friday.
-All entries not conforming to the rules may be declared null and void. Decisions are final. For questions call Brian Hoffman @ 389-9355. Winners will be announced in the contest story the following week.

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I think _____ will be the most points scored

The 19th Hole (see story)

VHSL winter sports open next week

Virginia High School League winter sports officially begin next week as Salem and Glenvar teams finish up preseason practices and scrimmages prior to Thanksgiving break.

The first games of the season are on Tuesday, December 1, as Glenvar teams play Hidden Valley. The boys will be home for the head coaching debut of Tyler Crockett while the girls open at Hidden Valley.

On Wednesday, December 2nd, the Glenvar wrestlers are at Patrick County for the head coaching debut of Jeb Wright. On Thursday, December 2nd, the Glenvar girls have their home opener against Cave Spring.

The Salem High basketball teams will have their openers on Friday, December 4. New Salem boys' coach Adam Rutledge will have his Spartans at Northside High while the Salem girls play the Vikings at home. Also next Friday the Salem wrestlers begin the two day Titan Toughman Tournament at Hidden Valley while the Glenvar boys' basketball team is at Magna Vista and the Highland swimmers are in Wytheville for their first meet.

On Saturday, December 5th, the first week of high school action concludes with the Glenvar wrestlers at Staunton River for a tournament and the Salem High track team heading to Liberty University and Roanoke College for season opening indoor meets.





Left, Salem High's Oliver Gilliam works the post in last week's scrimmage with William Byrd. Right, Audrey Moles of Glenvar lines up a shot in the Highlanders' home scrimmage with Northside. PHOTOS BY BRIAN HOFFMAN

15th ranked Maroon men are 5-0 in hoops

The 15th ranked Roanoke College men's basketball team will head into Thanksgiving break with a 5-0 record. The Maroons won two games in Salisbury, MD last weekend in impressive fashion at the Governor's Challenge.

Roanoke opened the two-day event last Friday with an 83-51 win over Notre Dame of Maryland University. The Maroons opened a large early lead, using a 14-0 run to take control of the game and never trailed thereafter.

Tyler Barnes was efficient in his 15 minutes, shooting seven-for-eight from the floor for 16 points to go with three rebounds and three steals. Rylan Parkins shot six-of-seven for 12 points and Caleb Franze scored 10 points to go with four assists.

On Saturday Roanoke defeated SUNY-Oneonta, 74-48, in a battle of previously unbeaten teams. The loss was the first of the season for the Red Dragons, who fell to 4-1.

RC led 10-9 early and extended the advantage to 22-14 with 6:35 left in the half. The Maroons scored the last six points of the first half to lead at intermission, 32-20. Roanoke then slowly pulled away in the second half, forging a 20-point lead at the 11:37 mark and cruising to victory.

Senior Jackson Bell compiled 15 points, seven rebounds and three steals in the win. Grant Hamilton had 13 points while Ryan Truitt had a dozen and Parkins scored eight points and pulled down a game-high 13 rebounds.

The Maroons are now off until Wednesday, December 2nd, when they open Old Dominion Athletic Conference play against Washington & Lee in Lexington.



Tyler Barnes led the Maroons with 16 points against Notre Dame of Maryland. PHOTO BY BRIAN HOFFMAN

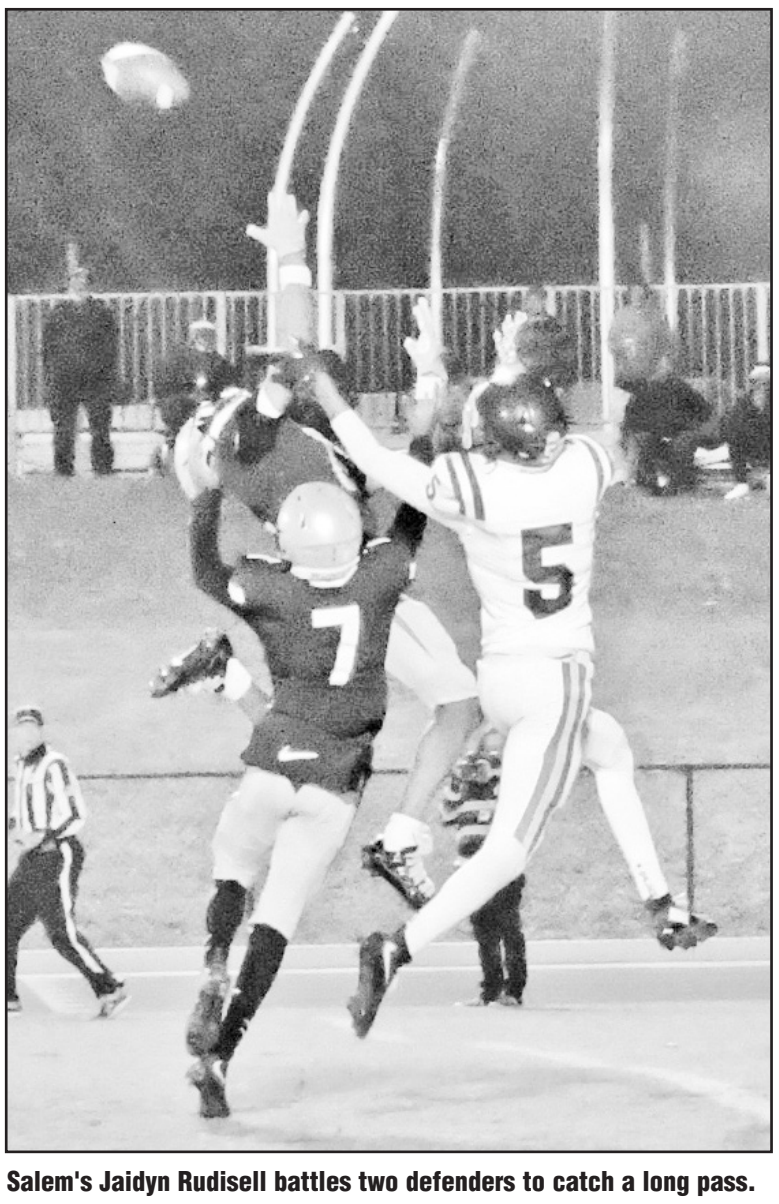
RC women fall to Bishops

The Roanoke College women's basketball team fell to 2-3 on the season with a loss to North Carolina Wesleyan Saturday. The Battling Bishops topped the Maroons, 62-52, in Rocky Mount.

The Bishops grabbed an early lead and were able to build on it. The game only saw two lead chances, both coming early in the first quarter. Wesleyan then was able to control the game the rest of the way.

Freshman Emme Custer led the Maroons in scoring with 11 points and nine rebounds. Alicea Farmer and Nadia Snesarev each added 10 points and Farmer also grabbed seven rebounds.

The next game for the Maroons will be Wednesday, December 2nd, when they travel to Greensboro, NC for their ODAC opener against Guilford.



Salem's Jaidyn Rudisell battles two defenders to catch a long pass. PHOTO BY AMY CRAWLEY

SALEM FOOTBALL

continued from page 12

scored 32 rushing touchdowns. He also caught one touchdown pass for 198 total points scored on the season.

Baxley rushed for 105 yards against GW and Gabe Johnson had 35 yards with two scores. Pearce Oliver was eight for 18 passing for 142 yards and a touchdown pass, his 12th of the season since taking over as the starter after senior Tanner Overstreet had a season-ending knee injury in the third game. It was a tough season for Tanner, who missed time his junior and senior seasons.

"It was heart-breaking to see Tanner go down in the third game," said Holter. "He was one of the best quarterbacks we've had who hardly got to play here, but he helped Pearce and was selfless in his love for the program and the community. Pearce was mentored by one of the best."

Salem finished the season at 10-2 with losses to Class 5 Patrick Henry and undefeated GW-Danville. It was an excellent year for the Spartans after going 5-5 in 2025.

"A lot of folks would love to be 10-2," said Holter. "You're always disappointed to see the season come to an end but we had a lot of great things happen as our young men grew, and we have a lot of juniors on the team.

"And we washed last season from our souls."



68 is great for Contest

I couldn't find any turkey on Mac & Bob's menu but there's lots of chicken stuff and that's close enough. We'll give the bird to Joe Whelby, who is the winner of our football contest that's being announced this Thanksgiving week.

This is the second time this month Joe has won the contest. It was a tough week, as he tied several others with five misses but hit the high point total right on the nose. For the second straight week 68 was the high total, and for the second straight week it was the Salem game. However, this week it wasn't the Salem team as GW-Danville rang up 68 points on the Spartans in last Friday's VHSL high school semifinal round of games. That was good for Joe, who picked 68 but didn't think it would be in the Salem game as he predicted GW to win 28-27.

That Salem game was the object of our 19th Hole question last week and no one was really close to the actual score of 68-39 Eagles. However, Gail Smith of Salem was the closest, picking the Eagles to top the Spartans 45-38. She'll get a free day of golf at the Salem Municipal Course on Academy Street.

For this week's 19th hole question give me your prediction for the annual Virginia-Virginia Tech game. This year the game is on Saturday in Blacksburg and there will be plenty of turkey on hand. As you know, Virginia Tech is one of the few schools that puts the legs of its mascot on the grill and sells them to eat.

Does Oregon offer roast duck to fans?

--Brian Hoffman

Maroons run in national XC meet

Roanoke College had two competitors compete in the NCAA DIII Cross Country Championships last Saturday when Parker Blosser and Nathaniel Orban became the first Maroons to compete in the national championships since 2015. The duo, both sophomores, took on a field of 294 runners at the Bill Huyck Championship Cross Country Course in Northfield, Minnesota.

Orban led the way, finishing 71st overall with a time of 24:48.0 in the 8k race. In his first-ever NCAA appearance Orban recorded the fifth-highest finish by a Roanoke runner at the championships. His time also moved him to second all-time in program history in the biggest race of his career.

Blosser was able to cross the finish line with a time of 25:40.8 to place 216th. Blosser was able to take his biggest jump from the 3.1k to 5k split, jumping up 13 places.

"Really proud of these two young men and the season they had," said RC head coach Derek Workman. "It is already an extremely hard accomplishment to make an NCAA championship, but for them to do it as sophomores is even more impressive."

John Hopkins took the team championship with a score of 63, followed by Wartburg with 163 and Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute rounded out the top three with 176 points.



Isiac Paluino was 3-0 Saturday. PHOTO BY BRIAN HOFFMAN

RC wrestlers sweep the Military Duals

The Roanoke College wrestling team went 3-0 last Saturday at the Military Duals in Salem. Roanoke hosted the event at the Cregger Center on the RC campus.

Roanoke defeated Vermont State University-Castleton, 38-3, Stevens University, 30-12, and ninth ranked Johnson & Wales of North Carolina, 20-12.

Isiac Paulino won all three of his matches at 125 pounds, with two by major decision. He had wins over the third and fifth-ranked grapplers in the nation while Isiac's brother, Jonah Paulino, also won all three of his matches at 141, including two by technical fall.

Hunter Moore was 3-0 on the day, including a victory over the number 15 ranked wrestler in the nation from Stevens. Lorenzo Pellot-Vázquez was also 3-0 at 285 with two major decisions and Taylor Smith was 2-0 at 157.

The Maroons are now 6-0 in dual matches. They're off until December 3rd when they host Division II member Davis & Elkins at 7 pm at the Cregger Center in Salem.

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Spartans don't keep up in shootout with GW

McCadden breaks rushing record in region loss

Did anyone think there'd be a time when two Salem High playoff football games would produce 210 total points? That was the case in this year's playoffs as Salem followed a 68-35 win in the opening round with a 68-39 loss to George Washington of Danville in the Region 4D semifinals last Friday.

Count 'em up, 210 total points! That's not the way Spartan coach Don Holter likes to play football.

"We did not play well on defense and you can print that," said Holter after Friday's loss in Danville. "That's not to take anything away from GW-Danville, they're well coached and they have good players, and they have a lot of them. But we couldn't afford to get in a shootout with them."

That's exactly what it was for a half, and at that point the Spartans were outshooting their host. Salem shot first with a long touchdown pass from Pearce Oliver to Jaidyn Rudisell for a 6-0 lead with a failed extra point. The Eagles took their first lead at 7-6 before Nick Baxley scored for Salem to regain the lead at 13-7. Danville then scored again and led 14-13 after one quarter.

Gabe Johnson scored next for the Spartans and a two-point conversion made it 21-14, only to have GW tie it again. Salem scored again on a run by Jordan McCadden but again the Eagles tied it at 28-28 as neither team could stop the other. The first eight series went for touchdowns before Liam Munoz kicked a 22 yard field goal to give Salem a 31-28 lead at intermission.

The third quarter was a disaster for the Spartans, as GW scored 26 unanswered points fueled by two Salem fumbles. Ironically, not fumbling was one of Salem's finer points all season.

"We only lost one fumble all season prior to that, and that was our fourth string tailback against Hidden Valley," said Holter. "You can't afford to have turnovers when you're in a shootout."

Salem went from 31-28 ahead to 54-31 behind in the wink of an eye. However, when Salem scored on a Gabe Johnson run early in the fourth quarter it was 54-39 and the Spartans were only 15 points, or two scores, behind with 10 minutes still to play. The way this game was going anything was possible.

However, the way this game was going was Salem not being able to stop the Eagles. Danville scored again to make it 61-39, then added a meaningless touchdown late in the game for the final tally. The 68 points by GW was the most Salem has ever given up in a playoff game, topping the 55 Amherst scored in a 55-19 Lancer win in 1994.

"Our offense scored enough to win the game, we just couldn't get stops," said Holter. "Some of it was us, some of it was excellent execution by a talented group of athletes on the other side."

Salem's offense was led by McCadden, who rushed for 117 yards on 31 carries to set a new Salem High season rushing record. Jordan finished the season with 2,396 yards rushing on 243 carries, an average of 9.86 yards per carry for the season. That breaks the previous record of 2,322 set by DeAngelo Ramsey in 2017. Ramsey's total was accomplished in 15 games that year while McCadden broke the record in 12 games and

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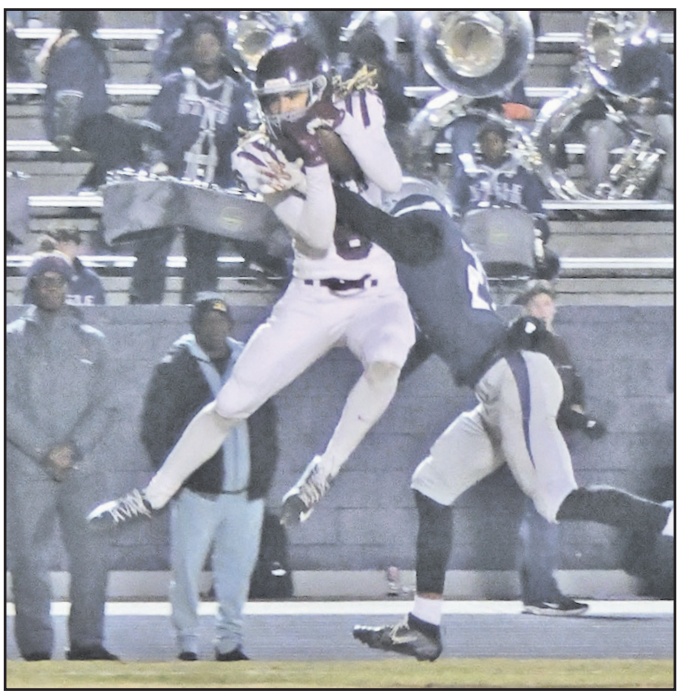


Above, Salem's Braylan Smith (#11) and Tristan Noel (#18) combine on the tackle in last Friday's game in Danville. Left, DaVon Jones goes high to catch a pass against the Eagles.

PHOTOS BY AMY CRAWLEY

Highlanders lose on last second field goal

The Glenvar football team let a 14-6 lead slip away in the final nine minutes of play as the Highlanders saw their season come to an end last Friday. Floyd County kicked a 39 yard field goal as time expired to upset Glenvar, 17-14, at Highlander Stadium.

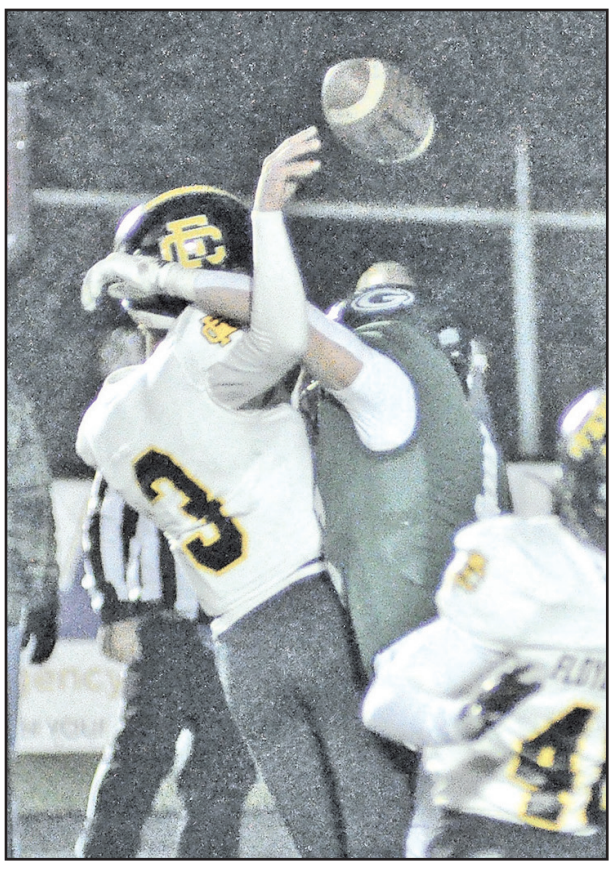
"That one was hard to swallow," said Glenvar coach Kevin Clifford. "We had played really clean football for the previous three weeks but in this game we had seven penalties and two interceptions, and it's hard to win when you do that against a good team. This was one of the tougher losses we've had."

This game was a Region 2C semifinal and Floyd, the number three seed, had lost at Glenvar in the final game of the regular season, 24-7. The Highlanders were coming off a shutout of James River in the first round of the region tournament and got to play Floyd at home again as the number two seed.



Above, Glenvar defenders are distraught after Floyd's game winning field goal. Below left, Ranger Swanson battles for extra yards and, below right, Garrison Burris hits the Buffalo quarterback. PHOTOS BY BRIAN HOFFMAN





This one was a nail-biter all the way. Floyd received the opening kickoff and drove into the red zone before settling for a 32 yard Gavin Jackson field goal, and that was the only score of the first period. In the second quarter the Buffaloes got inside the GHS 10 but again the Glenvar defense stiffened and Jackson kicked a 24 yard field goal to make it 6-0.

Glenvar finally got on the board late in the first half. Quarterback Kiptyn Jones found Haden Henderson on the right sideline on fourth and five and Henderson was ruled out on the one, where Ranger Swanson took it in for a score. Tyler Shannon's extra point gave Glenvar a 7-6 lead at the 2:19 mark and that's how it stood at the half.

The third quarter was scoreless. Swanson had a long run to put Glenvar in business but Floyd's Landon Quesenberry picked off a pass at the goal line to kill the drive.

In the fourth period Glenvar was on the move again. A nice drive concluded when Swanson burst through the middle for a 15 yard TD run and Shannon's kick made it 14-6 with 8:45 to go.

Glenvar's defense held the Buffaloes on the ensuing possession and the Highlanders had a chance to put it away with time running out. However, a personal foul penalty and two false starts put the Highlanders way behind the chains at second and 28 and they were forced to punt on fourth down.

Floyd then put together their best drive of the game, scoring on a 22 yard pass from quarterback Jason Huff to Quesenberry with 2:03 on the clock. The Buffaloes tied it, 14-14, on a two-point conversion run by Huff.

Glenvar still had plenty of time to win the game with Shannon and his big leg hoping to get a chance to kick a late field goal. However, Jones' pass in front of the Glenvar bench was picked off with 53 seconds to go. After one running play Floyd let the clock run down to 1.2 seconds and called timeout. Clifford then tried to freeze Jackson with a timeout on the other side, but it wasn't to be as the Floyd kicker blasted one through the uprights from 39 yards out, winning the game for the visitors.

"We had a chance to put it away but we had 25 yards in penalties to kill one drive, then the interception," said Clifford. "That's the kind of stuff we haven't done all year."

Swanson finished with 201 yards rushing on 30 carries in his last high school game. Garrison Burris had 54 yards on 11 carries and Jones ran three times for 33 yards. Jones was three of six passing for 35 yards.

On defense Swanson had 12 tackles while Burris and Brian Mateo had 11 each. Jake Franklin had eight tackles with two drive killing sacks.

With the loss Class 2 Glenvar finished the season at 7-5, with three of the losses coming to Class 3 teams. It was a good season after losing a large group of seniors from last year's state runner-up team.

"It was a tough way to end the season but I loved coaching this team," said Clifford. "They worked hard, gave us their best and got steadily better all season long."