



PLAN YOUR WEEKEND

- » **Canvas Collective** to perform Saturday during The Dilla Day with Love Tribute Concert
- » Local Navy vet's song receives Grammy nod
- » 'Metatheatrical' play comes to Riverviews Sunday

IN THE BURG TODAY | D1

The News & Advance

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THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 7, 2019

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'He gave everything'

Locals mourn fallen state trooper at makeshift memorial in Amherst



PHOTOS BY TAYLOR IRBY/THE NEWS & ADVANCE

ABOVE: Amherst County Sheriff's Deputy Blake Hudson visits the memorial for Virginia State Trooper Lucas Dowell on Wednesday. Dowell was fatally shot Monday night at a home near Farmville. **BELOW:** Dozens of area residents left flowers on Dowell's patrol car on Tuesday and Wednesday.

By Richard Chumney
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The patrol car of a Virginia State Police trooper killed in the line of duty Monday has become a makeshift memorial to the officer.

Lucas Dowell, 28, was fatally shot as state police and a drug and gang task force attempted to serve a warrant Monday night at a home near Farmville.

Dowell was assigned to patrol Lynchburg and Amherst and Campbell counties and was based at the state police's office in the Town of Amherst. As word of Dowell's death spread across the



SEE **TROOPER** | A5

"It's just heart-wrenching when something like this happens for no reason."

— **Regina Rice**, Amherst County employee and daughter of a former state police trooper

JF flag incident prompts response

Images of Confederate flags shared on social media; school cites 'considerable criticism'

By Richard Chumney
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Bedford County Schools officials are investigating an incident shared on social media this week showing Jefferson Forest High School students displaying Confederate flags on campus.

In a statement emailed to parents Wednesday, Jefferson Forest High School administrators said the incident occurred Monday during the school's Spirit Week. Monday was "Country vs. Country Club" day at the school and students were allowed to dress accordingly.

The high school published the list of dress-up days which included "Bikers vs. Surfers, NFL vs. NBA and Marvel vs. DC" on the school's website this week. The schedule was published online as part of the daily morning announcements.

"During a class change, a few of our students quickly displayed some images, photographed themselves, and then posted those images on social media," administrators wrote in the unsigned statement Wednesday.

"Though our school and student population was and has not been disrupted by the posting, we have received considerable criticism of the post from parents and others in the community about the theme of the post and what they believe it implies about our school and community."

The photographs, which initially were shared on Snapchat before being uploaded to Facebook on Tuesday, show students displaying Confederate battle flags in different areas across campus. One photo shows a

SEE **FLAG** | A5

Herring admits to wearing blackface at college party

Attorney general's admission comes six days after a scandal involving Gov. Northam broke

By Patrick Wilson and Graham Moomaw
Richmond Times-Dispatch

RICHMOND — Four days after calling for Gov. Ralph Northam to resign in a scandal involving a blackface photo in Northam's medical school yearbook, Attorney General Mark Herring apologized Wednesday

for wearing blackface while portraying a rapper as an undergraduate at the University of Virginia in 1980.

Herring's statement rocked anew a state Capitol already staggered by the Northam scandal and a sexual assault allegation against Lt. Gov. Justin Fairfax, putting the three Democrats under extraordinary

scrutiny all at once. The Democrats' implosion deepened a crisis in state government as the General Assembly reached the procedural midpoint of its 46-day session.

"In 1980, when I was a 19-year-old undergraduate in college, some friends suggested we attend a party dressed like rappers we listened to at the time, like Kurtis Blow, and perform a song. It sounds ridiculous

SEE **HERRING** | A4



In a statement issued Wednesday, Attorney General Mark Herring said he wore brown makeup and a wig in 1980 to look like a black rapper during a party as an undergraduate at the University of Virginia.

RICHMOND TIMES-DISPATCH FILE



Partly sunny
Weather. C6

71°
56°

Abby.....B5	Crossword.....B6	Obituaries.....A4
Burg.....D1	Lottery.....A2	Opinion.....A6
Classifieds.....C4, 5	Markets.....C2	Scoreboard.....B2
Comics.....B5, 6	Nation/World.....C1	Sports.....B1

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BROOKVILLE RUNS PAST RUSTBURG

REGION PLAY HEATS UP ACROSS AREA

» SPORTS, B1

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FRIDAY, MAY 24, 2019

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Saltwater cowboys lead ponies into Assateague Channel for the 400-yard swim across to Chincoteague on July 28, 2004.

RICHMOND TIMES-DISPATCH

Farewell to a 'saltwater cowboy'

Bedford County's Eddie Reynolds Jr. made his life on a farm, but he was at home in the saddle

By Sarah Honosky
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Judy Reynolds sat on the front porch of the house that she and her husband, Ralph Edward "Eddie" Reynolds Jr., built in 1984. She shooed blackbirds away from the bird-feeder in the yard overlooking their 50 acres of farmland, a horse corral visible just over a grassy hill.

Even though their Bedford County farm is as far from the Wild West as you can get, Judy

Reynolds made one thing clear: Eddie Reynolds was a cowboy.

When Eddie Reynolds, 75, a farmer by trade, died last month after a tractor-trailer struck the tractor he was driving on U.S. 221, Judy Reynolds was determined to remember him doing what he loved.

Eddie Reynolds was a member of the famed "saltwater cowboys," who take part in



Eddie Reynolds

the annual Chincoteague Pony Swim, driving hundreds of ponies from Assateague to Chincoteague and back again for auction as a fundraiser for the Chincoteague Volunteer Fire Company.

"He lived a hugely full life, and Chincoteague was one of the highlights," Judy Reynolds said Monday. "He didn't let anything, really, get in the way of going to Chincoteague in July to round up the ponies."

SEE **COWBOY** | A5

"He lived a hugely full life, and Chincoteague was one of the highlights. He didn't let anything, really, get in the way of going to Chincoteague in July to round up the ponies." – Judy Reynolds

Gardner steps down from SML Chamber

By Karen Dillon
Smith Mountain Laker

After 17 years of leading the Smith Mountain Lake Regional Chamber of Commerce, Vicki Gardner is stepping away from her role as executive director in late August.

"For me it's not retirement," Gardner said Wednesday. "I'm still going to be working with the community, just in a different way."

Gardner, who grew up in the Finger Lakes region of New York, moved to the lake with her husband, Tim, in the mid-1980s after spending 10 years in Houston.

"Ending up at Smith Mountain Lake was no accident at all," Gardner said in an interview with Smith Mountain Laker magazine in 2011. After conducting extensive research, they purchased a lakefront home in Goodview in 1986, where they still live.

"It's just the most amazing place to live," Gardner said in 2011. "We could

SEE **GARDNER** | A4

AMHERST MARKET OPENS



EMILY ELCONIN/THE NEWS & ADVANCE

Second Street Farmer's Market kicked off its seventh season Thursday in Amherst with a new manager. Crystal Ungar, a local artisan, is overseeing the market at Second Stage Amherst, a nonprofit that operates at 194 2nd St. The market, which runs Thursdays through October, features locally raised meats and produce as well as baked goods, fresh flowers and items from local artisans. ABOVE: June Driscoll, of Amherst, looks through produce vendors were offering during opening day Thursday.

REGION 2000 SERVICES AUTHORITY

Group discusses Bedford garbage

Could lower costs, but shorten lifespan of the Livestock Road landfill

By Sarah Honosky
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The Region 2000 Services Authority discussed accepting out-of-service-area waste from Bedford County — a move that potentially would lower landfill costs, but shorten the lifespan of the Livestock Road Regional Landfill in Campbell County.

Though no decisions were made at the Wednesday meeting, it opened a conversation that could change the shape of the authority in the future.

SEE **GARBAGE** | A5



Mostly sunny
Weather, B10

89°
59°

Abby A7
Classifieds B7-9
Comics A7, 8
Crossword A8

Lottery A2
Markets B6
Nation/World A9
Obituaries A4

Opinion A6
Scoreboard B2
Sports B1
Sudoku A8



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SUNDAY, AUGUST 11, 2019

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LYNCHBURG ADULT DRUG COURT

‘We’re the GPS’ on journey of recovery

Program to grow out of two-year pilot model, seeks sustainable funding

By Rachel Mahoney
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Having graduated several participants after a two-year pilot, the Lynchburg Adult Drug Court docket will be growing, changing and seeking additional funding from the state.

Over the past two years, people have started the program by pleading guilty to a probation violation — typically the result of using drugs — in Lynchburg Circuit Court. Instead of serving additional jail time, they agree to a closely monitored, long-term regimen of check-ins and therapy facilitated by the court and other partners in the community.

In 2018, there were 37 adult drug treatment court dockets in Virginia. They seek to fight addiction by using the courts to encourage and facilitate recovery, rather than simply punish continued drug use. The Lynchburg docket started in March 2017, with attorneys, service providers, court officials and other criminal justice officials agreeing to make it work without funding for two years to see if the program would be worthwhile to continue.

It was the first drug court docket to set up in the 24th Judicial District — which consists of Lynchburg and the counties of Amherst, Appomattox, Bedford, Campbell and Nelson. Since then, Bedford County has started a family drug court docket and Nelson County officials have discussed a drug court docket.

SEE RECOVERY | A5

In touch with nature

VISITORS CAN FEED ABOUT 2,000 ANIMALS FROM AROUND THE WORLD AT VIRGINIA SAFARI PARK



EMILY ELCONIN/THE NEWS & ADVANCE

A llama looks through the car window during a drive through Virginia Safari Park in Natural Bridge. The park also has a 10-acre walk-through area that includes a petting zoo with pygmy goats and baby llamas; habitats housing African penguins, anteaters, Bengal tigers, wolves, kangaroos and a variety of snakes and lizards; and a free-flight aviary.

By Shannon Keith
skeith@newsadvance.com

NATURAL BRIDGE

Sarah Friedel said working with animals of more than 100 different species — including llamas and camels — has taught her one thing: Spit happens.

“This is a really fun place to work,” said Friedel, the assistant curator at Virginia Safari Park in Natural Bridge. “However, things can sometimes get sticky.”

Each year from March to November, thousands of visitors come to the 180-acre, drive-through zoo to get in touch with nature.



SHANNON KEITH/THE NEWS & ADVANCE

Keegan Condon, of Syracuse, New York, smiles as a budgie bird lands on his neck.

SEE SAFARI | A3

“What makes this park special is that people can interact with the animals as they go through the park. I don’t know of many places where you see this many animals in a natural environment.” — Sarah Friedel, assistant curator at Virginia Safari Park

Mostly sunny
Weather, A12

85°
63°

AbbyD5	LifestyleD1	Opinion..... A10
BooksD2	Local & State B1	Politics A7
Classifieds.....E1	Lottery.....A2	Scoreboard.....C2
Crossword.....D5	ObituariesB2	SportsC1

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