

NOMINATE: Who's your favorite?

FROM PAGE ONE

www.FarmvilleHerald.com, click on the tab labeled Readers' Choice and scroll down the page to see the categories. Choose a category, make your nomination, and fill in your email address — it's that easy. Continue and complete the registration form. Note you must register in order to nominate. The nomination phase will close May 31 at 11:59

p.m. Once the nominations are tabulated the top 3-5 nominees (unless there is a tie) in each category will advance to the voting round set to start in July. Winners will be recognized in a special print and online section once the voting round has ended and the votes have been tallied and verified. Readers' Choice had over 72,000 votes in 2021. Spread the news and spread some love — tell your family and friends to nominate their favorites.



REPORT: 'Health is a combination of many factors'

FROM PAGE ONE

and the underlying factors that influence health. According to the report, Falls Church city ranks as the healthiest locality in Virginia and Petersburg city ranks as the least. The 2022 rankings added new measures to include the cost of living, cost of child care, COVID-19 deaths, and pay gaps in wages. "The 2022 County Health Rankings show that in half of our counties within the Piedmont district, there has been a decline in our health and well-being from 2019 to 2022," said Piedmont Health District Director Dr. Maria Almond. "What is most notable, though, is that across the district, some of the basic factors that contribute to poor health remain devastatingly unchanged. We continue to have some of the largest percentages of children living in poverty in the state and post some of the lowest birthweights in Virginia." According to Almond, four counties within the Piedmont showed a decline in ranking from 2019 to 2022, with notable decreases in rankings for Amelia (60 -->87) and Cumberland (73-->80). Other counties that saw a decrease in rankings were Charlotte and Lunenburg. "We are just beginning to gain

a fuller understanding of the impact that COVID-19 has had on our health and well-being due to isolation, economic hardship, delays in accessing care, or simply putting off necessary health screenings," Almond said. "These are on top of the grief and loss experienced for individuals and many families struck hard by COVID-19 in the past two years." The new COVID-19 health measure included in the report shows COVID-19 deaths in 2020. "The results of the study make it clear that health disparities and inequities occur, not only between regions of the Commonwealth but also within localities, even the wealthy ones," said State Health Commissioner Colin M. Greene, M.D., MPH. "While the change in health-influencing factors takes time, the Virginia Department of Health is committed to supporting its local health departments and focusing on improving the health and well-being of all people in Virginia." The reports showed Virginia's rate, 56 deaths per 100,000 people, is lower than the national rate of 85 per 100,000. Only 79% (103) of Virginia's localities were included in this measure; 26% of them exceeded the national average. According to a release from the Virginia Department of Health (VDH), an additional measure

that is important as Virginia recovers from the pandemic is the average number of "mentally unhealthy days" people reported in the past 30 days. At 4.2 days, Virginia is slightly better than the national average of 4.5 days. Virginia's counties ranged from 3.3 to 5.8 days. Mental health outcomes are an essential measure because untreated mental health disorders have a serious impact on physical health and are associated with the prevalence, progression, and outcome of some of today's most pressing chronic diseases. "What the COVID-19 pandemic continues to reveal is that our health is a combination of many factors — where we live, how we work and interact with each other, our resources, both economic and social," Almond said. "This is why it is not only the job of our health providers to keep us healthy. It takes an entire community working together in support of each other. We have seen how we can successfully do this in our district to bring greater health to our community. We have seen how vaccination efforts have been most effective when we all reach out. We have seen incredible tender, loving care for others. COVID will continue to be a challenge. But it is not the only one ahead of us."

WOODLAND: 'Keep costs down'

FROM PAGE ONE

community feel will remain, which is a big part of "The Woodland Way." According to a Facebook post from The Woodland, the executive team of Greg Cole, Sue Robinson, Jackie

Fish and David Whitus all enter new seasons in their lives. However, many of the employees will stay in their current positions. "It's been a wonderful 52 years of providing quality care to the residents and families of this area!" said The

Woodland's Facebook employees, who have gone above and beyond to make The Woodland what it is today."

ARRESTED:

An ongoing investigation

FROM PAGE ONE

sweatshirts with hoods and dark pants. One suspect was wearing orange gloves and there was an orange logo or patch on the upper right jacket arm and a white logo on the left front with a white or reflective zipper. The suspects fled the scene in what appeared to be a dark colored 4-door Chevrolet sedan, driven by an unknown third person. The suspect vehicle left the scene heading east on E. Third Street. During the update to Town Council Ellington noted that two arrests have been made in relation to the burglary and eight of the 36 handguns

stolen have been recovered. This is an ongoing investigation. Anyone with information regarding this incident is asked to call (434) 392-3332 or use the anonymous Tip411 application. Tip411 is available as a free download from both Google's Play store and the Apple App Store, simply search "Farmville PD Tip411." It is also available on the website at www.farmvilleva.com. You can also text a tip to 847411, but you must begin your message with the key word "FarmvillePD." The U.S. Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives is assisting with this investigation.

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