

Suffolk NEWS-HERALD



PUBLISHED WEDNESDAY AND SUNDAY • SUFFOLK EDITION

MARCH 13, 2022

WWW.SUFFOLKNEWSHERALD.COM

State Champs



Former players share in glory

BY JIMMY LAROU
STAFF WRITER

While King's Fork girls basketball coach Maurice Fofana was praising his current team for their efforts in wrapping up an epic season with a Class 4 state championship, he made sure to shout out his team that reached the 2017 title game but fell just short.

That group, which finished 24-6, lost by a single point to Monacan.

"All the young ladies that were sitting behind our bench that were pulling for us were some of the young ladies that sat here in '17 and did the same interview in a losing battle," Fofana said.

They were among the loudest people cheering the Bulldogs on in the Siegel Center in Richmond as King's Fork pulled out the 71-67 victory over Millbrook to cap their championship season at 23-3. It is the first time a Suffolk school has won a girls basketball state championship.

Fofana said all of his players wanted to win for him, even as he stressed that as he did as a boys player for Nansemond River's 1995 state championship team, they had to get one for themselves.

"They wanted to win it for me, just like the kid Camary Harris was one of the ones that, right at the end of the game in '17, missed a putback," Fofana said. "But when she won her first MEAC championship ring, she called me and said, 'Coach, this ring is for you.'"

Harris, a first-team, all-state player during her senior season at King's Fork that wrapped up with the title game loss, was named to the Mid-Eastern Athletic Conference all-rookie team in her freshman season, when her Bethune-Cookman team won the conference tournament and reached the NCAA tournament. She wrapped up her senior season in college on

See PLAYERS, 7

Lady Bulldogs hold on to bring home Class 4 title

BY JIMMY LAROU
STAFF WRITER

The first celebration was premature.

The second was oh so sweet.

Leading throughout most of the contest, King's Fork's girls basketball team held on to win the Class 4 state championship Thursday 71-67 over

Millbrook at the Siegel Center in Richmond. The Bulldogs are the first girls basketball team in Suffolk to bring home a state title.

"I think all of the games that we have played has prepared us for moments like this," said King's Fork coach

See CHAMPIONS, 7

Suffolk School Board approves bonuses

BY JIMMY LAROU
STAFF WRITER

The Suffolk School Board, by a 6-0 vote Thursday, approved bonuses for division staff ranging from \$500 to \$2,000.

Superintendent John B. Gordon III said in a memo outlining the

bonuses that the COVID-19 pandemic has put more work and stress on the division's employees working in schools and for the administration as it follows protocols and adapts to near-daily changes in those protocols while serving students in person and online, bringing them to and

from schools and sanitizing facilities and equipment.

"Our dedicated staff have all stepped up to the plate and have developed and provided all that we need to serve students of Suffolk no matter what the changes and circumstances," Gordon said in the memo.

The \$500 bonuses will go to part-time adult education teachers, English language learner tutors, algebra-readiness tutors, part-time safety monitors and part-time nurse assistants, while \$1,000 bonuses will go to priority substitutes and long-term substitutes who were employed and

working from Nov. 1 to March 31. The \$2,000 bonuses will go to full-time staff.

The bonus money will be paid on employees' April 8 payroll checks.

The estimated \$4.39 million

See BONUSSES, 12

www.suffolknewsheald.com

WEATHER
HIGH 46 LOW 24

One who deceives will always find those who allow themselves to be deceived.

Niccolo Machiavelli

2020 AWARD WINNING NEWSPAPER

Virginia PRESS Association

VISIT US ON FACEBOOK & TWITTER



Chorey & Associates Realty, Ltd.
SuffolkSpecialist.com
757.539.7451
330 W. CONSTANCE ROAD - SUFFOLK, VA 23434

Thank you for voting us the BEST!
Ready to make a move?
WE GET RESULTS.



Suffolk NEWS-HERALD



PUBLISHED WEDNESDAY AND SUNDAY • SUFFOLK EDITION

SEPTEMBER 11, 2022

WWW.SUFFOLKNEWSHERALD.COM



Remembering Sept. 11

BY JIMMY LAROU
STAFF WRITER

Twenty-one-year-old memories can still be fresh. For Richard Lewis, his memories of the Sept. 11, 2001 attacks on the twin towers of the World Trade Center are still indelible, choking up when recalling specific memories of being at Ground Zero.

Lewis, a retired New York Police Department officer, who now resides in Suffolk, went there within about three hours to help in the initial search and rescue effort. The former detective returned, day after day, ministering to those involved in the recovery and clean-up efforts.

Living in the Jamaica, Queens area of New York City, Lewis learned of the attack in a phone call from his daughter.

"Daddy, she said, a plane ran into the World Trade Center," Lewis, 79, recalling what she said to him.

See 9/11, 7



JEN JAQUA/SUFFOLK NEWS-HERALD
Richard Lewis, shown holding a cross welded from steel recovered from ground zero, collects and displays many items connected to the attacks of Sept. 11, 2001. He has also written several books about his experiences at Ground Zero and as a NYPD officer.

Suspect of Saratoga St. homicide is a familiar face to law enforcement

FROM STAFF REPORTS
SUFFOLK NEWS-HERALD

Wednesday's arrest of Preston Davis IV in connection with a Sept. 4 homicide

in the city is far from his first brush with local law enforcement.

Davis, 29, of Suffolk, was taken into custody Wednesday, Sept. 7, after Suffolk Police

received a citizen report that a woman was being actively assaulted by a man inside a vehicle.

See SUSPECT, 12

Charges filed after gun found in first grader's possession

FROM STAFF REPORTS
SUFFOLK NEWS-HERALD

A Suffolk man faces three misdemeanor charges after

officials confiscated a handgun recovered from the backpack of a first grade student at Oakland Elementary School.

Keydran Leary, 27, was

served with multiple misdemeanor warrants Friday, Sept. 9 in connection to the

See WEAPON, 5

City Council notebook: Residents rally against Port 460

BY JIMMY LAROU
STAFF WRITER

Mayor Mike Duman teased in his most recent Facebook Live that City Council's meeting agenda Wednesday would largely be an uneventful one.

And it was. There were no public hearings and few things for members to vote on, and though there were a number of briefings during both the work session and regular meeting, those went expeditiously.

But residents had much to say during the non-agenda public comment period, especially about the proposed rezoning for the Port 460 Logistics Center, which would bring 10 warehouses and a smattering of retail to a 540-acre area off of U.S. Routes 460 and 58, and Pitchkettle, Kings Fork and Murphys Mill roads.

More than 20 people greeted council members as they arrived to their Sept. 7 meeting, and

See COUNCIL, 5

www.suffolknews herald.com

WEATHER HERE!
HIGH 82 LOW 69

Give me a lever long enough and a fulcrum on which to place it, and I shall move the world.

Archimedes

2021 AWARD WINNING NEWSPAPER

Virginia PRESS Association

VISIT US ON FACEBOOK & TWITTER



CHOREY & ASSOCIATES REALTY, LTD.
380 W. Constance Rd Suffolk, Va 23434 Licensed in Virginia

Just Listed!

4481 Deer Forest Rd
Suffolk, VA 23434

4 Bedrooms 3 Bathrooms 3,970 Square Feet
22 Acres

Leigh Anne Parks
Associate Broker

757-676-9790

leighanne@choreyrealty.net

www.suffolkspecialist.com



Suffolk NEWS-HERALD

NATIONAL PEARL HARBOR REMEMBRANCE DAY
DECEMBER 7

PUBLISHED WEDNESDAY AND SUNDAY • SUFFOLK EDITION

DECEMBER 7, 2022

WWW.SUFFOLKNEWSHERALD.COM



It's beginning to look a lot like Christmas...



JEN JAQUA/SUFFOLK NEWS-HERALD
At top, Maria Morse, Julia Winslow, Lincoln Crawford, and Jacob Hickok, fourth and fifth grade students from Southwestern Elementary talented art class paint a festive scene on the window at the Peanut store. Above left, Isabella Santos, from Booker T. Washington Elementary School paints the eyes on a snowman on the window of the Suffolk News-Herald. Above, Julia Ownby, a student from Southwestern Elementary talented art class, paints a tree on the Peanut store window.

Students paint downtown business windows

BY JAMES W. ROBINSON
STAFF WRITER

As part of tradition, elementary school students are again bringing joy to the Suffolk downtown with their art creations at local businesses.

Booker T. Washington Elementary School Art Teacher Evelyn Darrah and Suffolk Public Schools Coordinator of Fine and Performing Arts Dr. Joleen Neighbours both spoke about the project and what they hope the kids and the public will take away from it.

"This is a tradition that's been going on for maybe two decades," Neighbours said.

"We're having the Suffolk Public School students come and paint downtown business windows. It's a wonderful tradition, it highlights the partnership between the city, the business and the school system."

She said it's not only good exposure for the students, but it also spreads goodwill for the holidays.

"Who doesn't love a little kid painting snowflakes on their window?" Darrah said. "We have other elementary schools right now out painting and we're going to have the high schools in a couple days."

See WINDOWS, 6

Pastor embraces his calling as Baptist leader

BY JAMES W. ROBINSON
STAFF WRITER

The Rev. Dr. Wayne D. Faison has many things to celebrate in his work with God.

He's marking his eighth year as senior pastor of East End Baptist Church as well as celebrating the 134 anniversary of the church.

Faison also is celebrating being the first black elected executive director of the Baptist General Association of Virginia — the first in its 199 year history.

Alongside his new role and its significance, Faison talked about his upbringing, how God called him to become a pastor, and how his journey took him to Suffolk.

"At that moment when they voted to elect me, it was certainly a humbling moment at first, but also a celebrative moment," Faison said. "Especially with my wife and family being there and the teammates that I've been a part of, the church leaders, and people that I've learned have had relationships over the years where there to celebrate."

While his election is an historical moment, he said he knows it was something that God had planned all along, and it was just revealed to us at that moment.

"We certainly have to give all honor to him," he said.

Faison was born and raised in Ocala, Florida. After growing up and graduating high school, Faison attended the University of Florida in Gainesville where he participated in the sports network and gospel choir. Originally wanting to be an architect, Faison graduated with a degree in mathematics.

"Ended up with a math degree, graduated, actually went back to Ocala and ended up in the banking industry," Faison said.

See LEADER, 9

Care4Suffolk, city officials see promise in discussions

BY JAMES W. ROBINSON
STAFF WRITER

With the recent uptake in traffic, rezoning and agricultural issues in Suffolk, locals and city officials are having conversations and sharing ideas on helping the city move forward.

A Nov. 17 public forum organized by Care4Suffolk drew about 70 people, including city officials. Alongside learning

about the 2045 Comprehensive Plan, topics also ranged from school overcrowding, farm conservation and the importance of public participation in comprehensive plans.

Care4Suffolk board members Dr. Sherri Johnston and Bryan Harris, as well as both Deputy City Manager Kevin Hughes and Comprehensive Planning Manager Keith Cannady, spoke about the outcome of the town

hall meeting, the recent city issues, detailing the 2045 plan, and looking toward the future.

Town hall takeaway

Both board members and both city officials who attended the town hall spoke on their biggest takeaways.

Johnston spoke on how it good

See DISCUSSION, 7



www.suffolknewsherald.com



WEATHER HERE!
HIGH 64 LOW 57

Civilization began the first time an angry person cast a word instead of a rock.

Sigmund Freud

2021 AWARD WINNING NEWSPAPER

Virginia PRESS Association

VISIT US ON FACEBOOK & TWITTER



Lee & Harry Cross

Selling Homes and Managing Properties for over 60 years.

Excellent Internet Presence
Successful, Experienced & Award Winning Agents

CROSS REALTY
Your Trusted Hometown Professionals

1707 N. Main St., Suffolk, VA 23434
Office Phone: 757-539-2111

www.callcrossrealty.com - "We're always open...online"

