

Rappahannock News

rappnews.com

146th Year • No. 27

THURSDAY, JULY 6, 2023

\$1



PHOTOS BY LUKE CHRISTOPHER

Rapp's American birthday bashes

At Tuesday's Rappahannock 4th of July Celebration at Ben Venue, Nico and Paisley of Front Royal pretend to be driving one of the nine tractors provided by Richard Compton.

Doreen Ketchens plays clarinet while John Bourgeois conducts at the American Festival Concert at Avon Hall on Saturday.

► Pages 14-15



Supervisors will not expand zoning board

By JULIA SHANAHAN
Rappahannock News staff

The Rappahannock County Board of Supervisors on Monday voted 3-2 against a proposal to expand the members on the Board of Zoning Appeals from five to seven after two stalemate votes last month.

The proposal was introduced by Piedmont Supervisor Christine Smith earlier this year after the BZA went against a recommendation from the Zoning Administrator that would have required a Sperryville dog trainer to operate with a special permit.

See **ZONING**, Page 6


Easements slow as landowners opt for less stringent ways to protect property

By RANDY RIELAND
For Foothills Forum

The county's Comprehensive Plan covers a lot of ground, but its top priority is unmistakable: Preserve Rappahannock's scenic beauty and protect its natural resources.

Time was when the option of choice in the community was to convert properties into conservation easements. That's a voluntary legal agreement

See **EASEMENTS**, Page 10




(540) 518-2001

appletoncampbell.com

FREE ESTIMATES

& 2ND OPINIONS ON NEW A/C SYSTEMS



APPLETON CAMPBELL

PLUMBING • HEATING

AIR CONDITIONING • ELECTRICAL

Built on Trust Since 1976

**SUPERVISORS OK FT. VALLEY
EVENT VENUE** ► Page 6

Finding 'wonder' at Nature Camp

► Page 10

Where to find it

COMMENT 17

COURTHOUSE ROW 18

MEETINGS & NOTICES 18

CROSSWORD 20

CLASSIFIEDS, LEGALS ... 21-23





RCPS 6th-grader Riley Colvin enjoys a ride on the mechanical bull at Tuesday's Rappahannock County 4th of July Celebration.

Tunes, check. Fun, check. Bombs bursting in air, check...

Photographs by
LUKE CHRISTOPHER

**Maestro to Presidents
Colonel John R. Bourgeois
and his American Festival
Concert band** with soprano
Sara Sheffield (at right in
the background) once again
delighted the audience at
Washington's Avon Hall on
Saturday evening.



**FOR MORE
PHOTOS**, go
to [rappnews.
com/
fourth2023](http://rappnews.com/fourth2023)



Renowned clarinetist Doreen Ketchens, an ambassador for New Orleans jazz at performances around the world, played for the crowd at Avon Hall.



Leah Childress and her son Ellis, enjoy the music at Avon Hall.



Richard Compton, left, provided nine tractors and two antique trucks for the Ben Venue festivities. **Joshua Horn**, above, of Fauquier County pretends to be driving one of the tractors.

The afternoon and evening celebration benefited the **Sperryville Volunteer Fire Department** and was made possible through the generosity of local business sponsors — and lots of folks' hard work.