

# The Farmville Herald

*Honor for the past, help for the present, hope for the future*

Farmville, Virginia

Friday, February 17, 2023

Single Copy 75 Cents

## Will county issue mining ban?

BY BRIAN CARLTON  
*The Farmville Herald*

**BUCKINGHAM**

Buckingham County should ban all metallic mining. That was the recommendation handed down Monday, Feb. 13 from the county's gold mining committee. Representing the group, committee member Jordan Miles III presented the recommendation to his fellow supervisors, along with a motion to send the issue to the planning commission.

"The committee has recommended that the zoning ordinance in the county be amended to remove metal mining as an activity allowed in any district," Miles told the board.

As part of that request, the county's zoning ordinance would also have to be amended to define metals, so as to make clear what is and isn't allowed.

That's not something the board of supervisors can simply approve. Because

this would change the county's zoning ordinance, it first has to go to the planning commission. By a 6-1 vote, supervisors agreed to send this to the commission for their consideration.

"I feel and the majority of the committee felt this was a really happy compromise," Miles said. "This would prohibit any metal mining in the county, period."

### WHY WAS THE COMMITTEE NEEDED?

With just two meetings held, The Herald asked Miles why a committee was needed to review the gold mining issue, instead of just holding a hearing as a full board.

"Once the committee started its work, it was clear the direction it wanted to proceed," Miles said. "I have been hearing for numerous months now how our

See **MINING**, Page A3



Berklee Click hugs her new unicorn she received from the Fuqua School Valentine's Day Fundraiser.

## Lower School shares the love

BY RACHEL AUSTIN  
*The Farmville Herald*

**FUQUA**

Valentine's Day is an opportunity to show love to others. Even though the day is focused on romantic love, the day is also a chance to reach out to friends and family members and let them know they are appreciated.

For one of its annual fundraisers, Fuqua Lower School sold Valentine's Day presents to send to students. This was an easy opportunity for parents, guardians, grandparents or other important members in a student's life to send something extra special their way.

The fundraiser sold heart-shaped balloons, candies, cards and stuffed animals that were sent to the classroom. This provided a little something to send

to students as they celebrated Valentine's Day.

"This is more than a fundraiser, it's a heart thing," said Debbie Watson, secretary for the lower and middle school, who organizes the fundraiser each year. "We love the kids here and this helps the parents out by not having to go out to get something."

According to Watson, when putting the orders together, she loves to make them special as she adds ribbons and stickers. While organizing the orders, she makes sure that all students will receive something. If there is a student that did not receive a gift, she makes sure that they have a card or something to

See **LOVE**, Page A4

## Retail won't come without change, residents told

BY CONNOR THOMPSON AND BRIAN CARLTON  
*The Farmville Herald*

**FARMVILLE**

Farmville is not getting more retail, grocery stores or restaurants unless things change. That was spelled out pretty clearly on Monday, Feb. 13, during the community meeting held at the Moton Museum.

"We're not getting another grocery store, folks, unless we have more rooftops, more spending power in this area," said Farmville Town Manager Dr. Scott Davis.

He was responding to questions from residents, many of whom didn't want to see more apartments and townhouses spring up. But at the same time, they wanted more restaurants to eat at, more shopping options. Davis explained that you can't have one without the other. He said the town is working with a national company called Retail Strategies and the response they've received so far is a simple "no thanks".

"(The grocery store) Aldi will not

build here because we do not meet their requirements," Davis said, adding that Retail Strategies found similar responses from other big companies. "If we want to change all that, we need another method, another tool."

That's where the planned unit development (PUD) concept comes in. As it stands now, there's not much flexibility with Farmville's zoning ordinances. It's either build single family homes or apartments in specific places. Basically, if a PUD is allowed, a developer could come in and propose something outside of those rules that the planning commission and then the town council could look at.

"We're trying to get different generations of people to live here," Davis said. "Not everybody wants a single family home and wants a yard to maintain. They want other

See **RETAIL**, Page A5

## What is the Brown vs. Board of Education Scholarship Program?

BY RACHEL AUSTIN  
*The Farmville Herald*

**PRINCE EDWARD**

The Brown vs. Board of Education Scholarship Program has been around since the early 2000s and lately has not been properly utilized. Here is who the scholarship is for and the changes coming soon.

Brown vs. Board of Education Scholarship Program was started to help provide education to those denied it in Virginia public schools between 1954 and 1964 when certain schools closed to avoid

desegregation. One of these schools was famously Prince Edward County. The scholarship provides the opportunity for these folks to finish their high school diploma or GED or further their education through college or technical school.

"I've seen this be used by someone to help them get their Ph.D.," said Cainan Townsend. He serves as managing director at the Moton Museum.

There are certain criteria that need to be

See **PROGRAM**, Page A5

## What is Project Clementine?

BY JENNIFER HOLTON  
*The Farmville Herald*

Construction on a Prince Edward County project aimed at solving the lack of meat processing facilities in Southern Virginia is set to begin in a few months. Once it's completed, more than a thousand of the area's meat producers will have access to it.

Dubbed "Project Clementine," the Prince Edward County facility will be located in the county's Industrial Park. County Administrator Doug Stanley says it's not only a great opportunity for Prince Edward, but also the region.

"One of the big issues with farmers raising livestock is there's no local place that's USDA certified for slaughter," Stanley said. "This certification allows them to sell to restaurants and stores."

The Virginia Tobacco Commis-

sion provided a \$75,000 grant, and Vicki Humphreys, the Commission's Grants Director, said the project fit into their guidelines so they could fund about 25 percent of what the facility's equipment cost would be.

"There's just a real shortage for value-added meat processing facilities, and we're looking at creative ways to address that," Humphrey's said.

In addition to the grant funds, Prince Edward also submitted a proposal grant program called Agriculture Forestry Industries Development Fund (AFID).

### A CASE OF SUPPLY AND DEMAND

In a region where the demand is high, the new 32' x 92' facility is expected to go a long way toward keeping family farmers

See **PROJECT**, Page A4



Volume 132 | Number 29  
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OBITUARIES  
OPINION

A3  
A4

CLASSIFIEDS  
PUZZLES

A7-8  
A7-8

LIFE  
THE WORD

B1  
B6

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# RETAIL: Three locations being considered for PUD

FROM PAGE ONE

opportunities. This is an option. It doesn't mean it'll happen tomorrow, it doesn't mean it'll happen five years from now."

The current plan details multiple places in town where planned unit developments could make sense. One is the area of South Main Street and Clark Street, down by the Sheetz gas station. Another is the Sunchase area, with a possible front on East Third Street but behind the hotels. A third involves Merriwood Farms Road, in the area around and behind Walmart.

### IF YOU'RE NOT GROWING, YOU'RE DYING

Prince Edward County Administrator Doug Stanley also attended the event, pointing out that current census figures don't see significant growth for Farmville or Prince Edward County through 2050. And that's a problem.

"If your community is not growing, it's dying," Stanley said. "You have to reinvent yourself and make changes for the future."

The residents who attended were divided on what kind of change, if any, they wanted. Some wanted to actually see fewer houses, complaining that as more homes were built, their property values would decline. Some wanted more space between structures, so there's access to fresh air and not as many buildings put together. Others wanted developers to do more for the community, like build a new highway in and out of Farmville. And yes, there were also requests, even after Davis spoke, for new stores and new places to eat.

"If we have developers who interested in investing money in the town of Farmville and they can get more rooftops, then perhaps the market can be a little bit more responsive (to what we want to see)," Farmville Director of Community Development Lee Pambid said. "It's really not up to us to bring a Wegman's or an Aldi to the town. That's really up to those companies. One of the first things they do is check population figures, to see if the population and the market is there to support whatever their business is. We are asking to be more flexible. Right now, we are required to tell developers they can develop a certain way. We're advocating for flexibility in government."

Other residents asked if Farmville and Prince Edward County had brought the colleges into the discussion. Residents used Montgomery County, where Virginia Tech University is, as an example. If we can coordinate with Longwood University and Hampden-Sydney College, residents said, then we should be able to better grow and develop.

Town and county officials said they're working with all community partners.

### WHAT HAPPENS NEXT?

Now the PUD ordinance had been sent to the Farmville planning commission in January. The group decided, since they had a full agenda for their Wednesday, Feb. 15 meeting, to postpone any further talk about PUDs until March. The commission will take this back up during their Wednesday, March 15 meeting.

# PROGRAM: Changes coming later this year

FROM PAGE ONE

met in order to apply. First, this is for current Virginia residents who went to public school in Prince Edward County, as well as Arlington, Charlottesville, Norfolk and Warren during this time. Due to the closure, these students were unable to finish high school, had to relocate, be unable to attend private school or be unable to pursue secondary education due to not being able to obtain a high school diploma or its equivalent. Applications are due March 25. To apply or learn

more about how to qualify, visit [brownscholarship.virginia.gov](http://brownscholarship.virginia.gov).

### A COMING CHANGE

A problem has arisen since this program started in the early 2000s. Due to nearly 20 years passing, many of the students who were in school from 1954 and 1964 to feel these effects are now at or near retirement age. According to Townsend, the program still has money being put into it but it's not getting used.

A recent vote passed an amendment unanimously for this scholarship in the

General Assembly. Soon, the scholarship will be opened up to the descendants of these students who faced these hardships, as long as they still live in Virginia. The bill is expected to be signed this summer by Gov. Glenn Youngkin.

"This is a pretty remarkable opportunity to open this scholarship up and show the generational impact of these school closures," said Townsend. "I know those impacted by the closures would love to see this opportunity passed down for their kids and grandchildren."

# NOTICE

## COUNTY OF PRINCE EDWARD

### JUDICIAL SALE OF REAL PROPERTY

On February 17, 2023 proceedings will be commenced under the authority of § 58.1-3965 et seq. of the Code of Virginia to sell the following parcels for payment of delinquent taxes:

NAME	DESCRIPTION	MAP #
<b>BUFFALO DISTRICT</b>		
BALDWIN THELMA M & WILEY E JR	PAMPLIN LOT	043 A 24
DAVIS PETER O & AMY B	BRYANT DAVIS	086 A 5A1
DUNGEE EDWARD & MARIE	JOHNS TR A	075 A 13
SCOTT ALFRED & GRACE L	WOMACK BAKER 1 AC DB 219/825	074 A 24A
WALKER ANTHONY T	HOLIDAY HILLS SUB-DIV LOT 36	045 5 36
<b>FARMVILLE DISTRICT</b>		
BRUMFIELD SOUTHARD S & PAMELIA W	WOLFE	022 9 1
BRUMFIELD SOUTHARD S & PAMELIA W	KELSEY TR B	022 9 B
BRUMFIELD SOUTHARD S & PAMELIA W	STAGECOACH RUN SUBDIVISION SECTION II LOT 7	038C 9 7
BRUMFIELD SOUTHARD S & PAMELIA W	STAGECOACH RUN SUBDIVISION SECTION II LOT 10	038C 9 10
BRUMFIELD SOUTHARD S & PAMELIA W	STAGECOACH RUN SUBDIVISION SECTION II LOT 11	038C 9 11
BRUMFIELD SOUTHARD S & PAMELIA W	PINESIDE FOUR LOT 2	038C 10 2
BRUMFIELD SOUTHARD S & PAMELIA W	PINESIDE FOUR LOT 3	038C 10 3
CRAIG LYNN W & BRENDA W BARIL	ADAMS	023 A 41
FARMVILLE AREA DEVELOPMENT CORP	INDUSTRIAL PARK LOT L & PT 4 SEE C DB 207	023B 1 L
IRVING CHARLES DANIEL	STOKES-IRVING DB 245/640	051 A 8A
JONES H DEMPSEY & MARIA V	LANCASTER 1.57 AC DB208/488	037 2 1
JONES H DEMPSEY & MARIA V	LOTS 2 & 3 MCDONALD	037 2 2
TERRY-RUNDSTROM VICKI W	BRISENTINE LOT A-1 (VICKI'S HOMES)	022 A 70D
<b>HAMPDEN DISTRICT</b>		
ALLEN ULYSSES S ESTATE OF	ALLEN	079 A 22E
AYERS LAWRENCE & BLANCHE	FELDEN	091 A 27
CAMPBELL BRIDGET	HINES	091 A 23B
CHERRY KEVIN & VIRGIL	PRIDE	112 A 27
COLBERT BOBBIE JR	CHAPPELL	112 A 36K
COLBERT BOBBIE SR	CHAPPELL	112 A 36J
DAVIS T H	BROWN	077 A 73
DAVIS T H	RUCKER	077 A 74
DAVIS WALTER C	MCCRAW	078 A 2
EQUITY ENDEAVORS LLC	JONES 10.25 AC	000 15
HINES NAOMI ET AL	PRICE	077 A 61A
MCCOY THOMAS WESLEY JR	NEAL PARCEL A	122 A 2
MCCOY THOMAS WESLEY JR ET AL	PARCEL 2 NEAL	121 1 2
MEHERRIN LLC	NEWCOMB LOT 1	112 1 1A
PRINCE EDWARD LLC	GALLER LOTS 2 & 3	122 1 2
PRINCE EDWARD LLC	WALL EST	122 A 6
PRINCE EDWARD LLC	FOWLKES PARCEL B	092 A 8B
SCOTT ROSA EST	OBER 23 ACS DB 220/133	079 A 60
STOKES WARREN R	COLLEGE	049 A 45
VENABLE SAMUEL L	REDD LOT 2	113 8 2
WILKERSON ROBERT DWIGHT	AARON JOHNSON SUBDIVISION	063 5 7
WILKERSON ROBERT DWIGHT	AARON JOHNSON SUBDIVISION-LOT 5	063 5 5
WILKERSON ROBERT DWIGHT	THE JOHNSON PLACE LOT 3	063 4 3
WILKERSON ROBERT DWIGHT	AARON JOHNSON SUBDIVISION-LOT 6 PB 5/320 DB 2	063 5 6
WILKERSON ROBERT DWIGHT	THE JOHNSON PLACE LOT 1	063 4 1
WOMACK SAMMIE N ET AL	SCOTT WB 34/334	050 A 104
<b>LEIGH DISTRICT</b>		
ALLEN GAYLE F	THE CEDEARS LOT 4	114 3 4
BAILEY JUNIUS & FRED JR & JAMES E	JONES	115 A 61
BARKSDALE HARRY	BARKSDALE	093 A 22A
DUKE WADE JAMES III & VALIDA V	HATTERS CREEK ESTATES SEC B LOT 7B	117 1 7B
FERRELL DAVID L	PT PALMER	107 A 5A
GEE EDITH H	MT LEIGH SCHOOL	081 A 13B
GOODE WILLIE L JR & BERNICE W	SPRADLEY	080 A 8
HAMLIN JAMES EDWARD	ANDERSON	082 A 21
MENTEER CHARLES J	HAMMOCK	115 A 41
MILLER RUTH M	MILLER 2 ACS DB 219/717	116 A 44A
PRINCE EDWARD LLC	PT LOT A MEHERRIN	114 6 A1
PRINCE EDWARD LLC	MEHERRIN LOT C LOTS 1 & 2	114 7 C

PRINCE EDWARD LLC	LOT MEHERRIN CAPPS LOT D	114 7 D
PRINCE EDWARD LLC	MEHERRIN LOT E	114 7 E
PRINCE EDWARD LLC	MEHERRIN LOT	114 A 28
PRINCE EDWARD LLC	MEHERRIN	114 A 27
PRINCE EDWARD LLC	MEHERRIN LOT	114 A 34
RICHARDS RANSOME BRIAN	EVANS LOT 2	081 A 38C
SHAW FRANCES D	MEHERRIN LOT	000 55
<b>LOCKETT DISTRICT</b>		
BROWN JOSEPH H ET AL	SAUNDERS	039 6 7F
BURNS BERNICE EVERT JACKSON ET AL	AUBREY JACKSON ESTATE PARCEL 9	082 2 9
CALVINO ROBERT W	VERNON	055 A 9
HICKS CHARLES WINSTON ET AL	CLARK/WEAVER LOT 3	069 11 3
HURT JAMES EDWARD JR	FLIPPEN	053 A 31B
JOHNSON DELOIS A ET ALS	PINEY GROVE ADD LOT 4 DB 286/006	056A 1 4
JOHNSON DELOIS A ET ALS	PINEY GROVE ADD LOT 5 DB 296/154	056A 1 5
KRETOWICZ JOHN R	BATES	042 A 12
KRETOWICZ JOHN R	BATES	042 A 13
KRETOWICZ JOHN R	BATES	042 A 17
NASH ROSALIND	BRADSHAW PARCEL A	055 A 14
PARRAN PENNY M HICKS	E T MILLER	083 A 31
REDD MOSES A	BRADSHAW	042 A 6
SAUNDERS WILBERT	SAUNDERS	056 4 A1
SIMS STACEY O	HINES	056 A 51
SIMS STACEY O & SHARMANE B	C B ROAD LOT #1	056 3 1
SMITH SHARON R ET AL	BRADSHAW	042 A 6B
SMITH SHARON R ET AL	BRADSHAW	042 A 6F
TROGDON DEBORAH A ET AL	VAUGHAN	056 A 18
WHEELER JENNIFER LEA ET AL	BATES	042 A 14
WHEELER JENNIFER LEA ET AL	BATES	042 A 15
<b>PROSPECT DISTRICT</b>		
BAKER DAVID M & LINDA	ATKINS LOT E	022 4 E
BAKER THOMAS	WATSON 6 AC	044 A 47
BAKER TOM	WOMACK 7.67 AC DB 213/733	044 A 42
BROWN EDDIE JUNIOR & CYNTHIA C	BROWN	020 3 C1
DONALDSON SHARI L	PINEVIEW ACRES SUBD LOT 4	047A 1 4
FOSTER RUTH W	LEWIS	034 A 38
FOSTER WILLIS B & ELOISE R	GILLIAM LOT B	008 4 B
FOSTER WILLIS B & ELOISE R	GILLIAM LOT C	019 5 C
GRAY CATHERINE & WILLIAM A COLES JR	COLEMAN	044 A 54
JACKSON JESSIE & ADELINE H	GREEN SUB DIV LOT 3	020 5 3
JONES JEREMIAH	CARTER	044 A 14
LEGIN IRENE MITCHELL ET AL	BROWN	046 A 70
LEGON IRENE MITCHELL	FIVE FORKS	046 A 47
MURPHY ENIWA & EVORA	ALLEN'S SUBDIVISION SECT 1 LOT 3	031 7 3
NASIR ABDUL	WILTSE	020 A 78
OKRAH EDWARD	JONES LOT	033 A 123A
OKRAH EDWARD K	SCOTT LOT #3	033 A 123C
RILEY CHARLES T & DOROTHY W	EPPERSON 1 AC	000 88
ROGERS JERYL & PATRICIA A	HARDTIMES PLANTATION SUBDIVISION LOT 23	035 4 23
STEWART KYLE D & LESLIE G ET AL	FAMILY DIVISION OF JOHN JASPER WALKER LOT	021 10 4
TERRY-RUNDSTROM VICKI W	TUGGLE	010 A 20
TERRY-RUNDSTROM VICKI W	LYLE	021 A 88
TERRY-RUNDSTROM VICKI W	HURT LOT 1R	022 11 1
TERRY-RUNDSTROM VICKI W	TUGGLE	021 A 87
<b>FARMVILLE CORPORATION DISTRICT</b>		
COX C J ET AL	FARMVILLE AIRPORT 2.54 AC	023 A 11
DUCK ANNA WOMACK ET AL	TOPP LOT SEE H	023A8 A 22
EARLY REBECCA LEWIS	LOT 16 B-14 EMV TM 281406	023A81414 6
GRACE HOMES FOR CHILDREN	GIBBS	022 A 114
MISHRA RISHI	CARSON (TOWN MOTEL)	023A2 A 3
SIMS RICKY L & LORRAINE	LOT H-S ROAD	023A8 A 34

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**PRIDE:** Group looks back on years of love **B1**

# The Farmville Herald

*Honor for the past, help for the present, hope for the future*

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Friday, April 21, 2023

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## Kinex project keeps moving forward

BY RACHEL AUSTIN  
*The Farmville Herald*

Even though it's still a long road ahead, the Kinex project is moving right along.

The Kinex project is working to bring broadband to Cumberland, Lunenburg and Prince Edward counties over the course of three years. According to Kinex president Jim Garrett, the project officially began in July 2022 with contractors finally in place by October 2022.

According to Garrett, after only six months of work, Kinex is ready to complete its 200th mile of buried fiber. In Prince Edward County, Kinex has finished the bulk of the Northwest quadrant with 140 or so miles of fiber and are headed south to Lunenburg. There, Lunenburg has almost 50 miles of fiber in the center and north portion of the county and is expected to have about 125 miles finished by the fall. In Cumberland, there are about a dozen miles but will start north of the Courthouse in the fall and run fiber down

the eastern portion of the county and down into Farmville and further south.

"Our plan is based on passings because the federal side requires us to pass so many unserved homes each year, while we do our best to try and serve the whole area right now we cannot run more than six or so crews because the locators cannot keep up," said Garrett.

### BURYING THE CABLES

This process is taking longer due to Kinex choosing to bury the cables underground. Garrett noted that aerial projects are easier due to the cables not being in the ground but burying helps protect the cables from storms and harsh weather conditions.

One of the issues right now slowing down the process is waiting for Brightspeed and Verizon's locating companies to mark ahead of the construction. These companies hire locators to go

See **KINEX**, Page A6



## Town weighs options with airport

BY BRIAN CARLTON  
*The Farmville Herald*

**FARMVILLE**

The Farmville town council wants to see if there's any interest in the local airport. As part of their strategic plan approved in the Wednesday, April 12 meeting, the group authorized Town Manager Dr. Scott Davis to "contact the aeronautical programs at Liberty and Averett universities to determine if there is any interest in owning, managing or in some other way partnering with the Town on airport operations."

Speaking with *The Herald*, Davis said the council just wants to look at options.

"How do we take it from being wholly funded and operated by the town and how do we look at having partners, potentially?" Davis said. "Do we look at creating some kind of authority? An airport commission? Are there other counties, cities or entities willing to partner with us?"

Davis said Liberty and

See **AIRPORT**, Page A5

## Supervisors grant Olympia Moore's request

BY BRIAN CARLTON  
*The Farmville Herald*

**BUCKINGHAM**

Olympia Moore first filed her request with Buckingham County on Sept. 27, 2022. Now, after seven months and four planning commission hearings, county supervisors have stepped in and approved it. By a 5-2 vote, with Danny Allen and Don Matthews Jr. in opposition, supervisors agreed to change the zoning of Moore's property.

One of the things that makes the case unique is that this is the first time that many can remember the supervisors stepping in when the planning commission didn't recommend a project. In February, after multiple hearings beginning last fall, the commission took a vote and deadlocked in a 4-4 tie, unable to find a majority to either reject or endorse her desire for a zoning change.

But in Buckingham County, there's another option. In such cases, residents can then take their request directly to the board of supervisors. And that's what happened.

Olympia Moore owns a 13.77 acre parcel of land at 29661 N. James Madison Highway in New Canton, in one of Buckingham's designated growth areas. Moore inherited the property. The issue is it's currently zoned A-1 (that is, zoned for agriculture). Moore wants the county to change the zoning to B-1, in hopes of attracting some businesses to buy or lease it. Some residents of the New Canton and Arvonias areas have come out to meetings in support of the idea, arguing that

See **MOORE**, Page A3

## No change in fire coverage

BY BRIAN CARLTON  
*The Farmville Herald*

The 1700 block of Sawmill Road in Buckingham County is six miles or 9 minutes away from the Farmville Volunteer Fire Department. And yet it's Dillwyn Volunteer Fire Department, 18 minutes away, that gets sent first if something catches on fire there, because Buckingham departments get called out first to deal with issues in their own county. The reason, said Dr. Brian Bates, is because at least one truck needs to be on the road as soon as possible.

"We want them closing the gap," Bates said. "Buckingham Dispatch does not know if Farmville is fighting a fire at Longwood. So if you delay and dispatch (outside departments first) only to find they can't respond, now you haven't got anybody closing the gap to get to the scene."

Bates serves as chief for the Toga Volunteer Fire Department in Buckingham. He explained to county supervisors on Monday, April 17 that through mutual aid agreements, other departments are asked to assist on a regular basis. But to get trucks moving as fast as possible toward an incident, outside agencies aren't called first.

"Our dispatch knows what's going on in our county,"

See **COVERAGE**, Page A4

## Midkiff will run for re-election

Justin D. Midkiff will run for another term as the Circuit Court Clerk for Buckingham County. "Having performed my official duties with unwavering integrity and fearless determination these past four years, I would be honored to continue this journey as a public servant for the citizens of Buckingham," Midkiff said in a statement issued by his campaign.

Midkiff's 2018 campaign embarked on a "New Frontier", which he said will continue to support his mission and vision for the Buckingham Circuit Court and Clerk's Office to assist the judges in providing



Justin D. Midkiff

**BUCKINGHAM**

what he says is "an independent, accessible, and responsive

forum for the just resolution of disputes and to provide an effective, efficient, and productive management system to guarantee high court performance and quality public services for all individuals."

Looking back over his time as clerk, Midkiff detailed several changes he implemented, including:

Obtaining \$102,234.00 in grant funds from the Circuit Court Records Preservation Program through the Library of Virginia to preserve Buckingham's oldest records including land

See **MIDKIFF**, Page A6



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Volume 132 | Number 47  
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OBITUARIES  
OPINION

A3  
A4

CLASSIFIEDS  
PUZZLES

A7-9  
A7-8

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# Moton goes live on Saturday

## FARMVILLE

In the third edition of an event that has raised more than \$90,000 over the past two years, the Robert Russa Moton Museum will host Moton Live 2023 on Saturday, April 22. The event will be held at the museum's campus in Farmville.

Moton Live 2023 will include programming and panel discussions from American civil rights historians and members of the lockout generation, as well as anniversary content detailing the summer of 1963 in Farmville and a 10-year retrospective of Moton Museum's transformative self-guid-

ed exhibit, The Moton School Story: Children of Courage.

Launched in 2021, Moton Live's purpose is twofold: to raise funds that support the museum's outreach and education efforts in Virginia and beyond, and to share the Moton story through both historical and modern perspectives. The first two Moton Live events raised more than \$40,000 each, which has funded the creation and distribution of educational materials to schools; hosting museum visits for local youth

and professional organizations; community programming for Prince Edward County and the surrounding area; and many more initiatives to better the community.

"In the year since Moton Live 2022, Moton Museum has begun to shine more prominently on the national stage and invite an even brighter spotlight on the impact of the Moton story in Prince Edward County and our country as a whole," said Moton Museum Managing Director Cainan Townsend.

"That Moton's legacy continues to grow more than 70 years after the

student-led walkout is proof that the Moton story remains relevant today," he added. "The tremendous fundraising success we have experienced through Moton Live has directly contributed to our ability to share that story with audiences in communities both local and national. We are looking forward to another successful campaign that will fund our educational programs and outreach for years into the future."

### RECEIVING NATIONAL RECOGNITION

The third edition of Moton Live on April 22 will follow on the

heels of the museum's recognition as a *Brown v. Board of Education* National Historic Park by the National Park Service. In May 2022, President Joe Biden and the National Park Service honored Moton Museum for its role in the landmark *Brown v. Board of Education* United States Supreme Court case alongside other NPS Affiliated Areas in Delaware, Kansas, South Carolina, Virginia and the District of Columbia. The Moton Museum is one of seven institutions involved in the *Brown v. Board* case to receive the recognition, which aligns the communities who worked toward fighting segregation in education.

Additionally, Barbara Rose Johns – who at just 16 years old organized and led her fellow Moton students to stage the 1951 walkout in protest of unsafe and inequitable school conditions in Prince Edward County – received additional recognition with a new portrait displayed in the Office of the Attorney General in Richmond. Johns will also be memorialized at the United States Capitol later this year with a statue that will replace one of General Robert E. Lee, which was removed in 2020.

Moton Live 2023 is free to attend and stream. More information is available at [www.MotonMuseum.org/Live](http://www.MotonMuseum.org/Live).

## AIRPORT: Farmville wants to see if groups would partner

FROM PAGE ONE

Averett were specifically referenced because of their connections to the airport. Liberty University, for example, uses Farmville Regional Airport for their pilot training programs. Davis wondered if there were ways to expand the school's use into a partnership. As for Averett, Davis wondered if the university would be interested in an opportunity where students could work on airplanes at the Farmville facility.

### A QUESTION OF REVENUE

Before we keep going on the revenue side, some readers may be surprised to learn Farmville has a regional airport. It's located at 130 Wedgewood Drive, just five miles northwest of town. During its time in operation, the airport has housed July 4th fire-

works and other public events, law enforcement training, agricultural spraying and search and rescue training operations. While it's for private airplanes, it's similar in many ways to the airports you'll find in Charlottesville, Richmond and Roanoke, just a bit smaller.

One concern for the town council and staff is that Farmville remains the main funding source for the airport, other than grant projects. Yes, the airport received \$1.445 million in state and federal grants so far this fiscal year, but those are one-time gifts, given for specific repair work and projects. A portion of that, for example, is designated to help pay for paving work up to where the hangars are.

On the operating side, the Farmville Regional Airport generated \$159,415.01 in expenses

this fiscal year, as of April 18, according to documents *The Herald* requested from the town. It brought in revenue of \$100,844.22, meaning that as of now, it's showing an operational loss of \$58,570.79.

"How do we generate more revenue, that's what we're looking at," Davis said. "Can we share costs for the airport with a partner? Can we enhance the airport and bring in more traffic?"

### SELLING JET FUEL AND RENTING HANGERS

Currently, the main revenue for the airport comes from selling jet fuel, which has brought in \$32,830.76 this fiscal year and selling aviation gasoline, at \$52,077.57 this year. Aviation gasoline is what's used in most piston-engine planes. AV gas as it's called still contains lead,

as more than 200,000 registered piston-engine planes still use it.

Beyond that, the town also made \$5,836.05 as people paid to rent hangar space for their planes. Even combined, Davis said, that's not a lot of revenue.

"We've got to look at other ways of making it," he added. "We're really just looking at options for how we make this better."

The three biggest expenses for the operation may sound similar to the revenue. It cost the town \$39,379.25 to buy aviation gas so far this year, with another \$21,561 spent on jet fuel. Salaries for the airport staff come out to \$29,587.05.

Davis said he hopes by the end of this year to have started conversations about a partnership or other proposals.

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# The Farmville Herald

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Farmville, Virginia

Friday, March 24, 2023

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## Supervisors' plan won't work, mining experts say

BY BRIAN CARLTON  
The Farmville Herald

**BUCKINGHAM**

A metallic mining ban won't solve Buckingham County's concerns, mining experts say. In fact, they argue, it might damage or shut down existing mineral mining operations in the area, as state and federal regulators see no difference between the two.

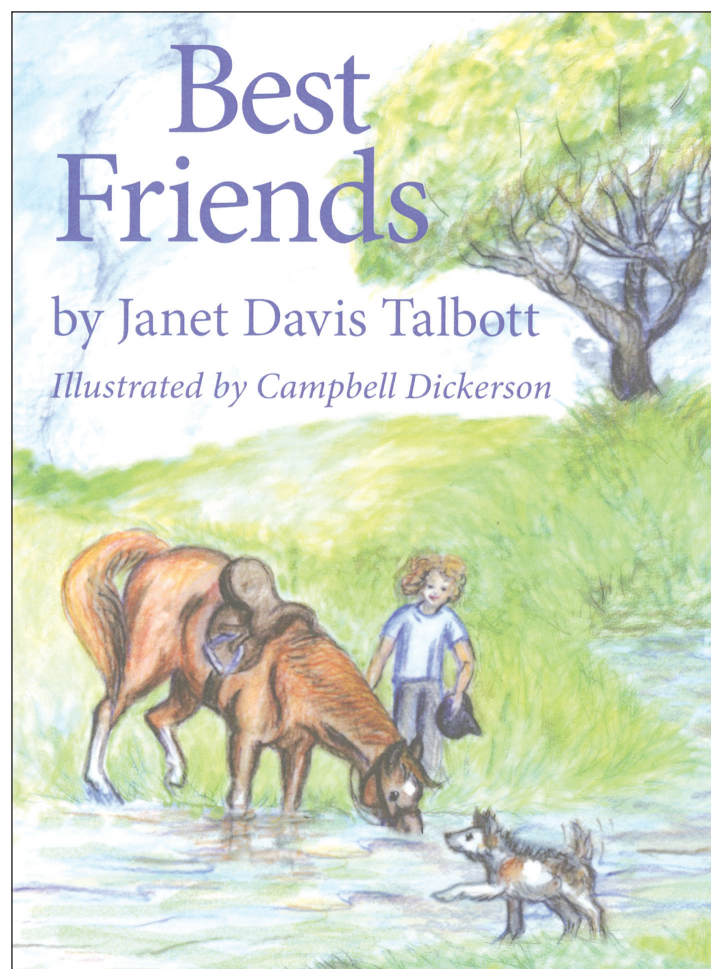
Earlier this year, the Buckingham County Board of Supervisors voted to explore a metallic mining ban. However, that's not something the board of supervisors can simply approve. Because this would change the county's zoning ordinance, it first has to go to the planning commission. And during a Monday, March 20 work session, planning commission members learned about the challenges such a ban would bring.

The issue is that, in the eyes of the state and

federal governments, there's no distinction between metal mining and mineral mining. Kyanite Mining Corporation, which mines and sells kyanite ore in Buckingham, pulls out iron as part of its mineral mining process. If metallic mining is banned, does that mean Kyanite's Buckingham operation would have to find a new way of processing what they find? Would they still be able to sell the iron?

"There's no difference in how the regulators deal with those operations," said Rob Lanham. He serves as program manager for the Virginia Transportation Construction Alliance. They handle more than 92% of all metals and minerals mined in Virginia. "If (Kyanite) is selling the iron out of (their) plant, does that now make

See **MINING**, Page A2



## Author shares experiences in first book

BY RACHEL AUSTIN  
The Farmville Herald



Janet Davis Talbott

**PRINCE EDWARD**

After over a decade of work, a local author has published her first book.

At age 75, Janet Davis Talbott of Prince Edward County fulfilled a lifelong dream of publishing her own book. It started out as something to do when she found herself with some extra downtime and now after 11 years of perfecting the story, her book is available for the world to read.

"Best Friends" is a story about how even after tragedy there can be good things in life. The story follows 10-year-old Sarah as she learns this lesson with the

help of her family and her best friends, Trudy the pony and Hopalong the dog. "Been a lifelong dream,"

See **BOOK**, Page A2

## VDOT announces intersection study findings

BY RACHEL AUSTIN  
The Farmville Herald

**CUMBERLAND**

Route 45 needs some work. So does the area of Route 616 and Route 684 that intersect with it. During their Tuesday, March 14 meeting, members of the Cumberland County Board of Supervisors heard concepts and considered ideas about how to fix the problem.

During the Virginia Department of Transportation update, the discussion focused on the Route 45/616/684 intersection. A safety study was done again after one previously in 2017.

Keith Rider, a traffic engineer from Lynchburg and his assistant Matt Connor presented the findings of this study. Fortunately, there has

been a reduction in crashes and a decrease in the severity of crashes since the 2017 study but the intersection is still a problem.

An engineering firm took a look at the intersection from an outside perspective for this study. The firm looked at peak-hour traffic, looking at what is already in place, crash data and operational analysis.

"This is a very unique intersection," said Rider. "The through movement is on 45, which is the primary route, but based on the peak traffic count data, Cartersville Road has more traffic. So, it makes it a very unique situation."

Rider and Hunter announced the recommended actions from this consultant

which boiled down to not creating a four-way stop yet but adding more markings and signage. They proposed to install a pavement message on Route 45 southbound and northbound approach with a curved arrow and a "slow" message to let drivers know they are coming to a turn. The markings were suggested for Route 45 as the study showed it had more traffic than the others.

Other changes include changing the first chevron sign in the series to a one-way sign, installing a skip line on the edge line, taking out the route shield and removing some of the embankments to improve the sightline.

Chairman Brian Stanley

See **STUDY**, Page A3

## County contributes to latest revitalization project

BY BRIAN CARLTON  
The Farmville Herald

**PAMPLIN**

Some residents of Pamplin remember when it was a booming railroad town. Thanks to traffic changes on Highway 460 and the decline of the tobacco industry, that once bustling town is now the smallest in the area. Residents hope to rebuild it, however, and part of that process involves the High Bridge Trail.

During their Tuesday,

March 14 meeting, the Prince Edward County Board of Supervisors heard a bit about High Bridge and the plan Pamplin residents have to bring in tourists. They want to direct the High Bridge Trail into the downtown area. The goal is to tailor the downtown, to attract tourists walking on the trail to stop in and look around.

Currently, High Bridge

Trail ends at Heights School Road. A land purchase by the Virginia Department of Conservation and Recreation from Norfolk Southern will enable the trail to extend another mile into the Town of Pamplin. The town's responsibility is to build the western terminus parking lot. Originally, the cost of the parking lot was estimated at \$50,000. As Pamplin resides part in

See **CONTRIBUTES**, Page A3

## State holds history hearing at Moton

BY BRIAN CARLTON AND CONNOR THOMPSON  
The Farmville Herald

There's too much work involved and not enough time in the classroom. There are multiple mistakes, such as labeling an area's indigenous people as immigrants. And despite the length of the document, it doesn't mention things like the 2008 financial crisis, the creation of Medicare or the Great Society. Those are some of the complaints leveled against the proposed third draft of Virginia's Standards of Learning for History and Social Science. As the Virginia Board of Education debates if they should adopt the new standards, Farmville played host on Tuesday, March 21 to the final town hall meeting on the subject.

"There's a staggering increase in content," said Dr. Robin Smith. The former Hampden-Sydney College professor, whose three grandchildren attend local public schools, pointed out that nobody's given teachers more time to tackle the additional work. In total, there are 132 new standards

See **HEARING**, Page A4



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OBITUARIES A3  
OPINION A4

CLASSIFIEDS A5-7  
PUZZLES A5-6

LIFE B1  
THE WORD B6

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# STUDY: Supervisors consider how to deal with Cartersville Road

FROM PAGE ONE

expressed concern that they are only doing signage and marking and not changing traffic.

"An informational sign is not going to do anything to get traffic under control," said Stanley. "Trimming the bank is very needed, especially during summer when the grass is three feet high so I applaud you for that. Everything else is cosmetic."

According to Rider, the next step after the signage would be to investigate the four-way stop option. Stanley suggested skipping the signage as it's mainly locals who know the traffic pattern and look into the four-way stop.

Derek Stamey, the county administrator, asked about the possibility of adding rumble strips as they do for roundabouts to keep people alert and slow them down.

Supervisor Ronald Tavernier added that the signage is a "shot in the dark" agreeing with Stanley that the locals know that road and don't need more signs to tell them it's dangerous.

"Why not do the right thing the first time around?" he

asked.

## CUMBERLAND COUNTY PUBLIC LIBRARY

Meanwhile, as Library Director Lisa Davis passed away on Tuesday, Feb. 21, Glenn Mozingo gave an update as the chairman of the Board of Trustees for the library.

"The community, and certainly the library, will miss her enthusiasm, her creativity and her hard work," he said. "Having dug into what she was doing for the last three weeks I don't know how she did what she did, but she was everywhere all the time advocating for the library in the community."

During this time, the Library has only had to close one day due to the committed members, employees and members who have pitched in to help fill the gap after Davis' passing.

Moving forward, the priority is to find a new director. This could be challenging as many areas surrounding Cumberland are also looking for library directors. Fortunately, the Board of Trustees has met with the Library of Virginia who has offered to help with the search.

Going forward, the Cum-

berland County Public Library will continue to provide services provided historically. However, there won't be certain programs as Davis personally did a lot of the programs herself.

## EMS AND FIRE

Fire Chief Andy Aigner gave an update on February's numbers and how the department is saving money on new equipment.

Aigner met with an EMS equipment supplier to help save some money on new gear by buying through other contracts across the commonwealth. The supplier showed two types of gear and that could save the department between \$250 to \$1,500 a set. They also gave the option of another style of gear for non-entry folks for \$800 instead of \$3,000.

"We're constantly trying to evaluate ways to help [the volunteer stations] save money," said Aigner.

For the call data update, Aigner reported an average of 78 calls with an average response time of 14 mins and 4 seconds across the board. The average on-scene time was 22 minutes which is good since

the goal is 20 or under which shows the stations are meeting the requirement. Hospital times increased a bit lately with an average call time of 1 hour 47 minutes and they transported 74% of their calls.

The fire data the board requested at the last meeting reported 23 calls in Cumberland and 11 in Randolph for the month of February. For the year, there were 40 calls for Cumberland and 21 for Randolph.

The hours shown for volunteers when they were available added up to 1,116 total hours of availability for last month, which did not include their on-call times.

## CUMBERLAND COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Superintendent Dr. Chip Jones gave an update on the achievements of the students of Cumberland County Public Schools.

The Future Farmers of America competed in Southeast Area Rally in several areas. Students placed first and second and now moving on to the state level. Students also went to Blacksburg for the 2023 Virginia Tech Block and Bridle Livestock Contest and the

high school finished 15th overall in the junior division and 22nd in the senior division.

The high school indoor track team participated in the state competition with one student placing in the 1A/2A 55-meter-hurdle as the runner-up and also earned medals for the 55-meter and 300-meter dash.

"That makes me tired to even think about that," joked Jones.

The Cumberland County High School Wrestling Teams also competed at the state level. Two of the Lady Dukes participated in the first-ever girls' wrestling state tournament in Virginia. The boys' team also competed at the state level with two placing third and one placing sixth.

The Lady Dukes High School Basketball Team also competed at the Region 1B Tournament and finished their season with an impressive 20-2 record.

Jones also thanked the community and local businesses and organizations that participated in the Cumberland County Public Schools Foundation's 5K. This year had over 100 participants at High Bridge State Park.

# CONTRIBUTES: High Bridge Trail will now eventually connect with the town

FROM PAGE ONE

Prince Edward County and part in Appomattox County, Appomattox supervisors gave them the full \$50,000 originally needed. Already, \$14,000 of that has been spent by the town on clearing brush and debris, surveying property lines and acquiring site plans. But then inflation hit hard this past year and now the town needs some help.

"However, this past year has seen unprecedented escalations in the cost of materials and labor," Pamplin Mayor Sarah Hamlett Blackwell wrote in a letter to supervisors. "New estimates have averaged about \$125,000 for the remainder of the project."

Fortunately, the town received a

grant to cover most of the cost. Now to get it done, they just need \$25,000 from each county.

Prince Edward supervisors agreed by a unanimous vote to take \$25,000 from the American Rescue Plan Act funds, to help cover the cost.

## WHAT ABOUT HIGH BRIDGE?

As for High Bridge itself, Park Manager Daniel Jordan said the operation is doing quite well. In 2021, the last year with data available, 140,000 visitors dropped by, generating a \$6 million economic impact to Prince Edward and Cumberland counties. A total of 98 jobs were created, with 89 of those being full-time.

As for work right now, it's time to start focusing on the visitors center,

Jordan said.

"It was a wet winter so it took a while to get off the ground," Jordan added, promising that construction will begin soon.

The trail center will be situated at the eastern end of the actual High Bridge from which the park receives its namesake and is the most popular section of the trail. The building will be located about 0.3 miles from High Bridge and there will be an ADA-accessible path to the trail. The trail center will serve as the new centerpiece of the park highlighting the recreational, cultural and historical significance of

the trail and resources in the surrounding area.

This building will look a little different from the typical visitor center found at most state parks as it will be linear and will resemble a train station that would have been built for Norfolk and Western Railroad in the early 1900s. The design was based on the 1914 Standard Combination Passenger and Freight Station in the Norfolk & Western Railway Company Standard Plans. The trail center's unique design will enhance the history of the area as well as bring more modern features to the park.

## DEATHS

**Edith Virginia Swann Tyree**, 85 of Dillwyn, passed away March 18. Funeral service will be held on Sunday, March 26, 2 p.m., at the Chapel of Reid's Funeral Home. Interment will be in the Zion Baptist Church cemetery. Reid's Funeral Home of Dillwyn is serving the family.

**Sevester W. Wright**, 69 of Midlothian, formerly of Prince Edward County, passed away March 17. Memorial service will be held on Saturday, April 1, 11 a.m., at the Chapel of Bland-Reid Funeral Home. Bland-Reid Funeral Home of Farmville is serving the family.

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