

Buckingham

Beacon

January 17–February 13, 2020

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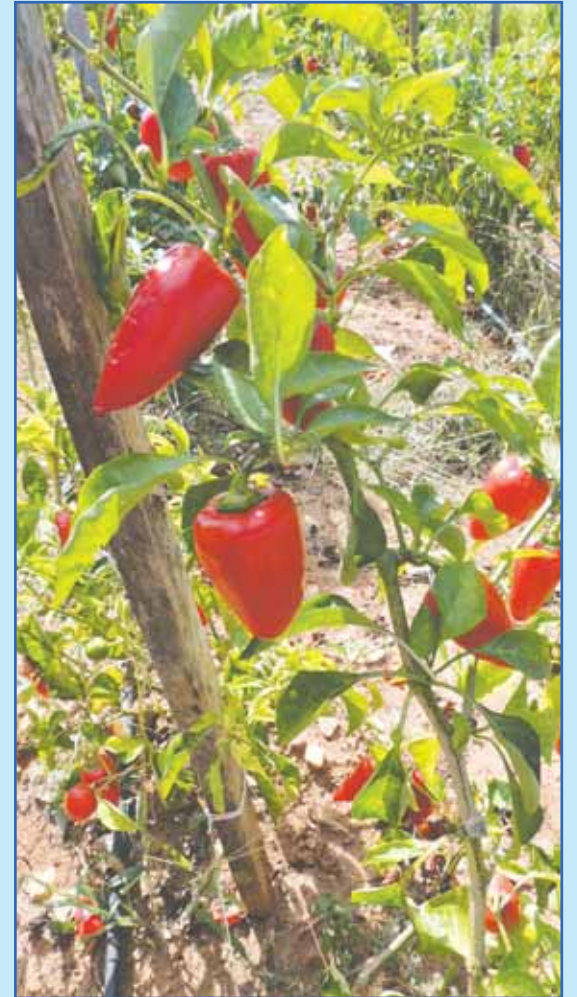
“WET” OR “DRY”



A look at the history of booze

Buckingham County Goes Dry!

Page...4



**Crumptown Farm
Offers Chemical
Free Produce
Page 12**



Honoring Our Veterans

Vietnam...Page 7



A poster illustrating the vote for and against Wet or Dry in the County of Buckingham

Courtesy of Joanne Yeck

Cover designed by Marilyn Ellinger

Buckingham Beacon

A monthly publication

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Submissions, tips, ideas, etc.: The *Buckingham Beacon* encourages submissions and tips on items of interest to Buckingham citizens. However we reserve the right to edit submissions as deemed necessary and cannot guarantee they will be published. The *Buckingham Beacon* will not be responsible for returning submitted materials, please include S.A.S.E. if you would like items returned. Please keep Calendar submissions to fifty words or less, Letters to the Editor to 300 words or less and feature stories to 500 words or less. Mail submissions to: *The Buckingham Beacon*, P.O. Box 59, Palmyra, VA 22963 to the attention of applicable section, (Letters to the Editor, Community Calendar, etc.), or Email valleyeditor1@gmail.com

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Next advertising deadline: Wed., February 5, 2020

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Keystone Lodge #188 - Donation to BP

By Sue A. Miles
Correspondent

Over the holiday season members of the Keystone Lodge #188 made a much appreciated donation to the children of Buckingham Primary School. The lodge members provided 193 pairs of winter gloves and hats to the school to distribute to those children who might have a need. The Keystone Lodge members seek to make

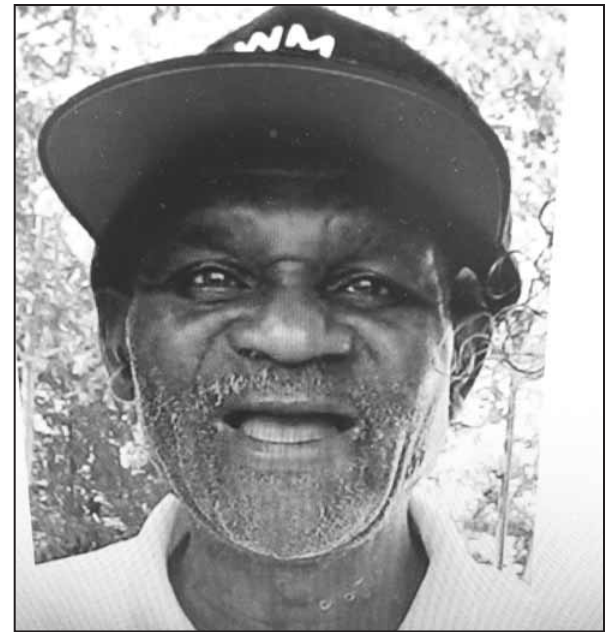
a difference in their community and this act of kindness did just that. Members who were part of the gift presentation are (left to right), Irvin Mosley, Abraham Kimbrough, Ronald Jackson, Clarence Lewis, Freddie Watson, Mark Holman, and Gary Anderson. Not pictured is Douglas Gregory. Submitted photo.

A Tribute to a Dillwyn Icon Root Beer Booker

By Sue A. Miles
Correspondent

Though you may not know his given name (William Moses Booker), you surely will recognize him as “Root Beer,” an icon of the Town of Dillwyn. Root Beer, who was born in 1947, lived his entire life in Buckingham County. He was a handyman for many years, doing yard work for many of the town residents. In his later years he would often be seen walking through town picking up trash, sweeping the sidewalk or sitting under the portico at the old Imperial station, waving at passersby. If you didn’t wave back he might just call you out. Root Beer was content to live in his tiny house, keep his grass cut, listen to the radio and wave at everyone whether he knew you or not. If you asked him who he was, he might answer “the Mayor of Dillwyn.” His second home was Dunkum Funeral Home, where he helped out with various chores and assisted the late Edward LeSueur as well as the Dunkums. Perhaps the best testimony of Root Beer’s impact is a statement by one of his many admirers:

Go rest High on that Mountain, Root Beer. I am sure Brother Ervin and Edward were standing at the gate to shake your hand and say “welcome home Brother.” The streets of Dillwyn will never be the same again! Submitted photo



Christmas Baskets

By Sue A. Miles, Correspondent

There was much giving and good will throughout Buckingham County during the holiday season as churches, groups, and individuals reached out to those in need. That giving spirit was well demonstrated by this group of Buckingham County High School students who assisted Piedmont Senior Resources Area Agency on Aging (PSR) pack 500 holiday baskets. The baskets were distributed to qualifying seniors in Amelia, Buckingham, Charlotte, Cumberland, Lunenburg, Nottoway and Prince Edward counties. The student volunteers were part of school’s ECMC Foundation and Rise Up Team programs. Rear; Libbie Ranson (counselor), Morgan Randolph, Maura Myles, Abreanna Smith, Dalyn Ayres, Tavion Bartee, Kentayveus Morris, and Will Stanley. First row: Malaysia Johnson, Destinee’ Baker, Jazmine Turner, Taliyah Turner, Allison Bagby, Alivia Newton, Ziyae Warner, Jade Cyr, Dawn Hinds (teacher and ECMC advisor) and Thomas Jordan Miles III, Director of Nutrition and Transportation for PSR. Photo submitted

BUCKINGHAM FOOD PANTRY CALENDAR

BLUE RIDGE FOOD TRUCK

The truck will be at Crystal Cathedral on the following days:

Blue Ridge Food Truck will
For January: Fri. Jan 24th
February: Fri. Feb. 7th & 21st
Weather permitting

(2nd and 4th Friday’s)

MOURNER’S VALLERY - RT 20
1ST and 3rd Saturday of
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Buckingham County Goes Dry!

By Joanne L. Yeck
Correspondent

This month marks the 100th anniversary of the enforcement of the Volstead Act, which prohibited the production and sale of alcohol across the United States. Long before the nation went dry, Buckingham County led the way, outlawing the sale of liquor within its borders.

On April 11, 1903, Maysville District, which included Buckingham's courthouse and the town of Maysville, held a vote to decide whether or not liquor would be sold there after the current licenses held by the saloon-keepers expired. Richmond's *The Times-Dispatch* covered the story, saying: "The whiskey men say they will make a fight if the temperance people do." The newspaper punctuated the notice, commenting: "More clear money has been made in the [whiskey] business here than most any other, and they are loath to give it up." Three days later, the newspaper reported the outcome of the vote: "One hundred and seventy votes were cast, and the dries won by a vote of two to one."

Meanwhile, in Marshall District, which included Arvonion and New Canton, friction between the wets and the dries mounted and, following Maysville's decision, Richmond's *Times-Dispatch* announced the coming conflict:

ARVONIA, VA. April 20 – A fierce war is raging in Arvonion between the dries and the wets. The former, under the direction of Mr. A. L. Pitts, are busy with their petition seeking the signatures of the voters of Marshall District to enable them to fight for the cause of temperance, while the latter, under the leadership of Messrs. L. B. Lesueur, White and Trent, saloon-keepers in this section, are busy canvassing in opposition to the dries' petition.

In Marshall District, wets won by a majority of just one vote. Judge Moss, who apparently anticipated considerable celebrating in Arvonion, appointed Mr. Lesueur a "special policeman" over his own barroom.

The contest did not end there. In July, Marshall District faced another vote to determine whether or not licenses to sell liquor would be renewed and the "dries" began a big push to convince the public that temperance was the way of the future. On June 5, *The Times-Dispatch* reported:

There are two flourishing bars in the district, one in this town (Arvonion) and the other in New Canton, three miles north of here. . . . Most of the businessmen and quarry operators of this town are active in behalf of prohibition on the grounds that the bars are

detrimental to their business interests. So far, the issue is in doubt, both sides claiming that they will win. If the district goes dry there will remain only one wet district in Buckingham county and that one has only one small saloon.

Slate River District was the holdout.

In mid-June of 1903, a series of anti-liquor programs was launched in Marshall District by Professor S. C. Mitchell, the president of Virginia's Anti-Saloon League, who delivered "a fine address to an enthusiastic audience" in Arvonion's Williams' Hall. Mitchell was introduced by Rev. Plummer Jones of Arvon Presbyterian Church.

On July 3, 1903, *The Times-Dispatch* noted that "Mr. J. W. West, field secretary of the Anti-Saloon League of Virginia, has been in the [Marshall] district a week, speaking in churches, halls and on roadsides to large audiences of people, and has so enthused the temperance element that they claim certain victory on July 11th, when the election takes place."

West's last speech at Mt. Zion Baptist Church, near New Canton, was attended by a large audience and he was followed by Rev. James E. Cook, of Richmond, who preached each night for a week at Arvon Presbyterian Church.

The women of Buckingham County did not yet have the power of the vote, however, they were not without influence. *The Times-Dispatch* noted:

On election day the young ladies of Arvonion, belonging principally to the Presbyterian and Baptist churches, will go to New Canton, the voting precinct, in a body, floating a banner and wearing streamer anti-saloon badges. They have secured a house and ground on the principal street in New Canton, and will there serve refreshments, such as ice cream, fruits, coffee, etc. to the friends of the temperance movement. It is understood that the ladies at Gold Hill, the other voting precinct, will proceed along similar lines.

The day following the election, *The Times-Dispatch* ran the Buckingham County news on its front page:

WHISKEY WINS IN BUCKINGHAM

**The Wets Carry Marshall District by Three Majority.
A Great Surprise.**

Buckingham County citizens may have been shocked and, on July 17, the newspaper updated the story, printing: "The whiskey men carried the election in New Canton District (sic), but the election is being contested on the grounds that some voted who had not right to do so." Four days later, *The Times-Dispatch* expanded on the story:

... The election, instead of allaying, only intensified the excitement in the district, and especially in the towns of Arvon and New Canton. The fight against liquor is the sole topic of conversation upon the streets, the highways and the farms, and it is certain that on August 10th, when the case comes before the County Court, there will be present one of the largest crowds that ever went from this section of the county.

Both sides have employed able counsel and both sides are strengthening their lines. The dries claim that there were many illegal votes cast for the wets, and that there was much irregularity and the fact that all of the judges at the New Canton Precinct were "wet" men seems to strengthen their cause.

The church people and the leading business people – such as the quarry operators, merchants and physicians – are will nigh unanimously working for local option. On election day the town of Arvon cast only 6 or 8 wet votes, the quarry people being almost unanimous against the sale of liquor here. The negro vote was cast, with a few sporadic exceptions, in favor of liquor.

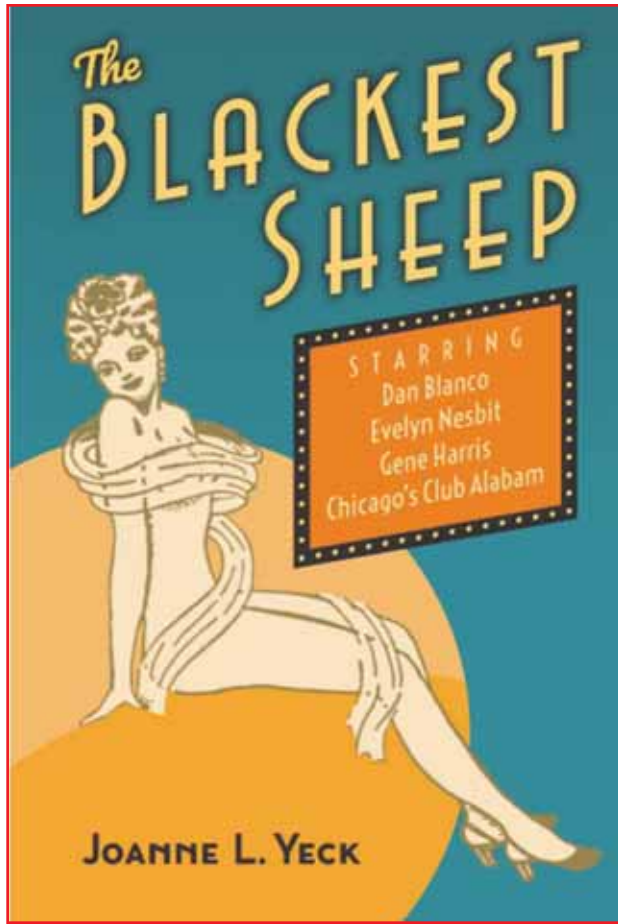
Last week, when the question of contest was being agitated, the excitement became intense and Saturday at New Canton two or three dangerous rows were narrowly averted. At present the result of the fight cannot be seen, but the advocates of local option insist that the fight will never be given up until every bar in the county is closed.

The immediate outcome of this hearing is unknown, however, before 1909, Marshall and Slate River districts dried up and Virginia was completely dry by November 1, 1916 long before the national Prohibition went into effect on January 17, 1920.

In Buckingham County, it would be a long fight among the whiskey men, outlaws, scofflaws, and the revenuers until 1933, when national prohibition was repealed.

SIDEBAR

In her newest book, *The Blackest Sheep: Dan Blanco, Evelyn Nesbit, Gene Harris & Chicago's Club Alabam*, Joanne Yeck recounts how Prohibition affected one of Chicago's most popular nightspots, Club Alabam, owned by her great uncle, Gene Harris, whose family roots in Buckingham County ran deep. *The Blackest Sheep* is available locally at Baine's Books & Coffee and at many online bookstores.



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Trevor Agee - National FFA

By Sue A. Miles
Correspondent



Trevor Agee, a recent graduate of Buckingham County High School, was named as a National Finalist for his Proficiency Application, at the 92nd National FFA Convention, held in Indianapolis, IN. This award is based around Agee's Supervised Agricultural Experience in the area of Agricultural Mechanics Repair and Maintenance - Placement. His S.A.E. was at Dillwyn Repair Service in Dillwyn. Trevor was one of four finalists who completed a final interview at the National Convention. In June, Trevor was announced as the State Winner of his area for Virginia which qualified him to advance to the national level.

Trevor has worked at Dillwyn Repair Service "officially" since 7th grade, however, his time started before then working and hanging out with his father, Keith Agee and grandfather, the late Pete Agee. Trevor started out doing simple jobs and now is able to do almost any job at the business. Trevor's job is more than just repairing engines, however it is also communicating with customers and marketing the shop and its products. Trevor received his Greenhand Degree in 2016, Chapter FFA Degree in 2017, and State FFA Degree in 2018.

The National Chapter Award program recognizes outstanding FFA chapters that actively implement the mission and strategies of the organization. The award is based on the chapter's use of the National Quality FFA Chapter Standards and a Program of Activities that emphasizes growing leaders, building communities, and strengthening agriculture.

The National FFA Organization provides leadership, personal growth, and career success training through agricultural education to more than 700,000 student members who belong to one of the more than 8,600 local FFA chapters throughout the U.S., Puerto Rico and the U.S. Virgin Islands. The organization is also supported by more than eight million alumni and supporters throughout the United States.

FFA Visits Heritage Hall

By Sherry M. Dorrier, Contributor
Agricultural Education Instructor/FFA Advisor

The Buckingham Middle School FFA stuffed and delivered mini stockings for the residents of Heritage Hall nursing home for the holiday season. The students collected toiletry items and prepared handwritten cards. Some of the students participated in the face to face delivery of the stockings which was a very meaningful experience. They were provided with the opportunity to visit, talk, and sing with the residents and spread a little holiday cheer.

Picture L to R:

Seated: Andrew Dorrier, Jacob Carter
1st Row: Jazlin Companion, Shakiyah Eubanks, Sidney Brewster, Caroline Browning, Hannah Savage
2nd Row: Jenna Oliver, Quinn Gardner, Emily Long, Wyatt Oliver, Lauren Webb, Madison Pleasant, Adelynn Baugher
3rd Row: Sadie Mullins, Liberty Johnson, Caitlyn Terry, Elizabeth Stevens, Hannah Johnston, Tyler Land, Gabrielle Gunter
4th Row: Sydney Oliver, Olivia Cummings, Lilly Shumaker, Elly Abruzzo, James Ritchie




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HONORING OUR VETERANS : VIETNAM

By Sue A. Miles
Correspondent

In our effort to complete our recognition of Buckingham's veterans who served in either the Korean or Vietnam wars, we would like to add this newly discovered veteran.

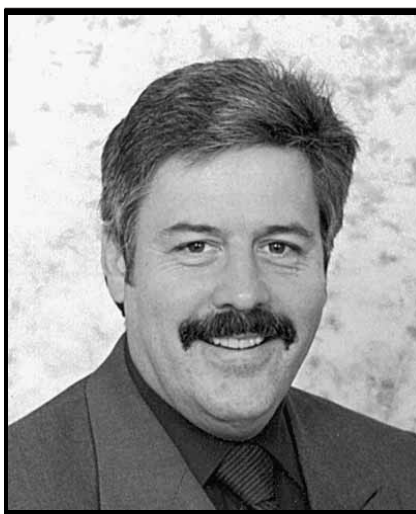
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Thomas Jordan Miles III - Historic Swearing In

By Sue A. Miles
Correspondent

In a very historic event, Thomas Jordan Miles III, who, at the age of 32, is recognized as the youngest ever elected county supervisor in Buckingham County, was recently sworn in by Clerk of the Circuit Court, Justin Midkiff, who, at the age of 27, is currently the youngest Clerk in the Commonwealth of Virginia. Miles, who will represent the Maysville District of Buckingham County, is shown with Midkiff, his father, Thomas Jordan "Tom" Miles II, while his mother, Elizabeth Myles-Watson, holds the family Bible. The event took place in front of the county's historic courthouse, which was designed by Thomas Jefferson. Miles is standing to the right of his mother. Photo by Sue A. Miles



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UPCOMING EVENTS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Buckingham Chamber Annual Awards Banquet



On Tuesday, January 21st at 6:30pm, the Buckingham Chamber of Commerce will celebrate some people and businesses who have gone above and beyond in 2019. The event will be held at the VFW Hall on Rt 60 this year. Seating will be limited to 75 attendees and parking will be LIMITED so carpooling is encouraged. Awards will be given to :

- Volunteer of the Year
- Lifetime Achiever
- Youth Achiever
- Business of the Year

\$15 advance tickets will be sold at Moss Motor or attendees may RSVP to (434)983-2372 and pay at the door.

Donations Still Needed

With the unfortunate accident involving an Amish buggy on December 20th, Buckingham County folks and beyond are still welcome to make donations to help the Yoder family out through the month of January, at Wise Ridge Country Store located on US 15S. Please bring cash or make



checks out to John Yoder and leave at Wise Ridge.

Most importantly, continue to pray for the Yoder family and the Lee family .

or mail checks to :
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34 Wise Ridge Road

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THIRD THURSDAY

at The Lodge at Old Trail

Doors open at 1:45 pm.
Program begins at 2:00 pm*.

OPEN TO THE PUBLIC!

FEBRUARY 20

9th Annual Definitive Downsizing Workshop



Back by popular demand is the Definitive Downsizing Workshop, which has proven to be one of the most popular Third Thursday's of the year. Join us for this informative and enlightening event as presenters share important



information and advice on how to organize a downsizing and how to achieve all your downsizing goals in the process. You'll hear from the experts about understanding the spring real estate market, how to prepare your home for sale, how to downsize and dispose of unwanted items, how to work with an auction house and much much more. This is one event you can't afford to miss. **PRESENTERS:**

DENISE RAMEY, Long and Foster
LIZ BLANKENSHIP & JESSICA HUMPHRIES, Staging Specialists
STEVEN LANDIS & BRANDON LLOYD, Moving Specialists
KEN FARMER, Auctioneer

*Note new time at 2:00 PM

Make your reservation early.
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Celebrate Nurses

All year 2020, celebrate nurses and what they do for community health centers and our communities!



First Snow of 2020

Buckingham County experienced the first snow storm of the winter season on Tuesday, January 7, 2020. Photo by Martha Louis



Thomas Retires and New Registrar

By Sue A. Miles
Correspondent

Margaret Thomas, who recently retired as Buckingham County's Director of Elections/General Registrar, is shown being recognized by the county for her 28 years of service. At her retirement (December 31, 2019), Thomas was the 7th longest service Director of Elections/General Registrar in Virginia. Thomas is shown with Rebecca Carter, County Administrator, and Don Matthews, Supervisor of District 3 (Curdsville and New Store) at a reception given in her honor. Lindsey Taylor, the county's new Registrar is shown on the right. Photo by Sue Miles

Fluvanna County Arts Council



Presents the 2019-2020 Season
at Carysbrook Performing Arts Center

Odyssey of Soul

Gospel of Soul: Race & Religion: A Circle Broken
Saturday, February 8 at 7:30pm



Back by popular demand, musician and educator Horace Scruggs and his band bring their layered harmonies and soulful delivery for another unique "learning and listening" concert. Following up on his past programs tracing the evolution of soul, gospel and music of the civil rights era, Scruggs explores through commentary and live performance the ways in which music, race, and religion influence and inform one another.

Next Performance:



Big Ray and the Kool Kats

Friday, March 6th
at 7:30pm

From their very first note, you will know that this group is going to knock your socks off!! We welcome back with great anticipation the Big Band sounds of Big Ray and the Kool Kats with Sinatra-crooning guest soloist, Danny Barrale. This exciting and professional group plays everything from Sinatra to Bruno Mars and has performed at the last four Presidential Inaugural Balls as well as at the Bellagio in Las Vegas and the Kennedy Center in DC. Their music is guaranteed to chase away any leftover winter blues! Don't be surprised to see some dancing in the aisles!!

Unless otherwise specified, Admission is: \$12 Advance, \$15 Day of Performance, \$10 Student/Military/Veterans, Family Package \$5/person (2 Adults max, + 3 or more children) • To purchase online: <http://www.Carysbrook.org> Please note: No reserved seating.

Carysbrook Performing Arts Center • 8880 James Madison Highway (Hwy 15) • Fork Union, VA 23055

Buckingham Beacon

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We wish everyone a Happy and Prosperous New Year in 2020

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FFA Tractor Operators Contest

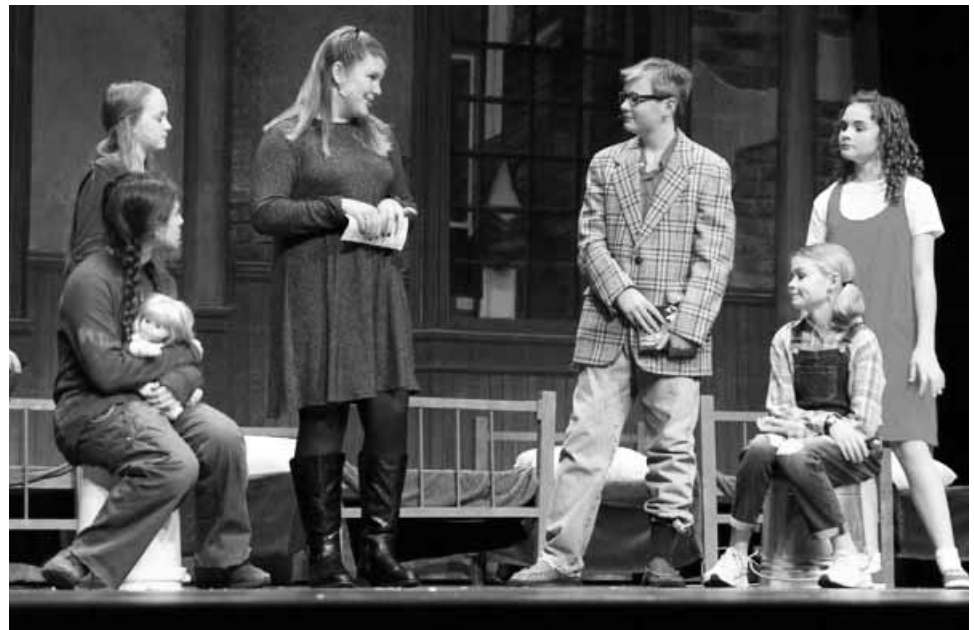
On November 14th, 2019 Ethan Martin, a Buckingham Middle School eighth grade FFA member, competed in the Southeast Area FFA Tractor Operator's Contest held at Appomattox County High School. The contest consisted of a written test, safety walk-around, a two-wheeled wagon obstacle course, and a four wheeled wagon backing event. Ethan placed 1st in the junior level event.



Pictured L to R: Jacob Carter, Hunter Branch, Andrew Dorrier, Ethan Martin, Gabriela Mondragon.

BCMS Competes in FFA Forestry CDE

Buckingham Middle School FFA members competed in the Southeast Area career development event held Wednesday, November 13th, 2019 at Appomattox Community Park, Appomattox, VA. The team consisted of Hunter Branch, Gabriela Mondragon, Andrew Dorrier, Jacob Carter and Ethan Martin. They were coached by Sherry Dorrier, Casey Davis and Henry Paris. These FFA members spent the afternoon determining the diameter of trees; deciding the number of saw logs a tree can produce; identifying forestry equipment and common trees of Virginia; calculating the value of standing timber; and proving their knowledge of topographical maps. The Buckingham team placed 2nd overall in this event with Andrew placing 3rd, and Ethan placing 4th as individuals. The team will move on to compete in the state contest in April of 2020.



Pictured (Left to right): Charlotte Espinoza, Payden Murdock, Megan Wright, Owen Itrausquin, Emma Ranson, and Olivia Canipe. Submitted photo.

The Central Va. Christian School Presented

A Home for Christmas

By Sue A. Miles
Correspondent

Central Virginia Christian School presented "A Home for Christmas" to a sold out Jarman Auditorium crowd on December 19. One hundred and sixty students in grades Pre-K through 8 were featured throughout the program which began when Mr. Big Bucks, played by Gavin Yoder, announced he was closing the Bethlehem Orphanage. The orphans remained positive and prayed for a miracle. In the end, Mr. Big Bucks becomes part of God's family, and he adopts all of the orphans who go to live with him in his mansion.

Group Classes at the Beulah M Wiley Fitness Center

Located at CVHS – Buckingham
(formally known as Central Virginia Community Health Center)

Mondays and Wednesdays - Yoga @ 6:00 PM
Tuesdays - Weight Watchers Meetings @ 4:30PM (Join anytime!)
Tuesdays – Kickboxing @ 6:00PM
Wednesdays – FREE GYM USE DAY!
Thursdays – Free Diabetic Education Classes @ 12:00 PM
Thursdays – Tai Chi @ 9:30 AM
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The Buckingham Library Schedule:

Weekly -
On-going - Toddler Story time 10:30 Tues
Computer classes Wed 11 am to noon

Thu Feb. 6 - Homeschool Hour - James River State Park presents Seasonal Changes

Fri. Feb 7 - Late Night Library - DIY Soapmaking

Sat Feb. 8- Doll Tea Party - bring your favorite doll, stuffed animal, or action figure for an afternoon of snacks, games, and fun!

Tue. Feb 11 - Valentine Craft - 2-3 pm

Fri. Feb. 28 - 4-5 pm Youth Book Club - pick up a free copy of the book *The Hero Two Doors Down* ahead of time to discuss together





Slate River Ramblings

Joanne Yeck has been fascinated with Buckingham County for over twenty years and shares her collection of Buckingham facts and photos on her blog, "Slate River Ramblings" (slateriverramblings.com).



Chellow, Buckingham County, Virginia (1999).
Courtesy Virginia Department of Historic Resources.

For Sale: Chellow

In 1847, the Bolling-owned plantation called Chellow, was offered for sale. Located in Buckingham County, east of Willis' Mountain, Chellow was conveniently situated five miles from Ca Ira (Cumberland County), five miles from Curdsville (Buckingham County), and eleven miles east of Buckingham Courthouse. The towns offered "merchant mills" and markets, particularly for the selling of tobacco.

The terms of the sale were typical, asking for one fourth cash in the balance to be paid in three annual installments. P. A. Bolling resided at Chellow and Robert Bolling, who placed the advertisement, asked that communications be addressed to his brother at Ca Ira, Cumberland County or to himself, at Virginia Mills, Buckingham County. If the property was not sold privately, it would be offered at public auction on Thursday, September 23, 1847.

The advertisement which ran in the Richmond newspapers described the plantation as well as its mills. It read as follows:

CHELLOW FOR SALE.

The subscriber offers this valuable Estate, and beautiful country residence, for sale. Situated in a healthy region of country, and in a wealthy and refined neighborhood, it presents an opportunity for investment rarely to be met with. The improvements are very excellent, consisting of a large and handsome dwelling house, and all necessary yard and farm buildings.

Chellow contains 1,780 acres of land; about 150 acres of bottomland, well adapted to grain and grass, 7 or 800 acres of timber land, in original growth, mostly oak and hickory. The land is well adapted to planting and farming, with a large body of good tobacco land to clear.

CHELLOW MILLS FOR SALE.

The subscriber, also, offers the Chellow Mills for sale which is now being thoroughly repaired. The wheat mill has all necessary convenient fixtures for manufacturing flour and a corn mill, with a large custom. The mills are well situated in a wealthy neighborhood, and afford a capital stand for a country store. The subscriber will sell the whole together, or the plantation and mills separate, to suit purchasers.—If mills are sold separately, 50 acres of land will be sold with them.

Buckingham Notable: Rev. William H. Taylor

Rev. William Taylor, who preached at Buckingham Baptist Church and Mount Zion Baptist Church for over forty years, is one of Buckingham County's best known ministers. One church history notes:

Rev. L. R. Thornhill delivered the address October 25, 1889 on the occasion of the burial of Rev. Taylor. At the time of his death, there were only 2 members still living that were there when he first came to Mt. Zion. A slate marker enclosed by an iron fence was erected at his grave [on church property at Mt. Zion] and his picture continues to hang



Rev. William Harris Taylor
(4 August 1811–24 October 1889).
Courtesy George Cauble.

in the church sanctuary. Despite Rev. Taylor's prominence, his parents and lineage remain a mystery, one his descendants would like to solve.

Rev. Taylor was born in Buckingham and genealogist Harry S. Holman believes that Taylor's parents were also from Buckingham County. In 1860, Tabby Taylor, eighty, was living with Rev. Taylor and his wife, Mary W. (Ferguson). She is likely Rev. Taylor's mother.

Census data reveals that Tabby Taylor was a widow by 1840, indicating that Rev. Taylor's father died before that date, probably in Buckingham.

Notably, Rev. Taylor officiated at many weddings, including ceremonies for at least three of his daughters: Elizabeth Ann (Taylor) Putney in 1848, Mary F. (Taylor) Smith in 1862, and Pattie W. (Taylor) Gardner in 1866.

Crossword

by Margie E. Burke

ACROSS

- 1 Targeted, with "in on"
- 6 Tub toy
- 10 Gold medalist Lipinski
- 14 Immature egg
- 15 Heavy drinker
- 16 Desktop feature
- 17 Merchandise movers
- 19 Reunion attendee
- 20 Mournful
- 21 Actresses Ralston and Rolle
- 23 Guggenheim display
- 24 Not moving
- 25 Like Steve Austin of WCW
- 29 Lookout point
- 33 Sword handle
- 34 Hole-making tool
- 35 Mall attraction
- 36 Well-worn
- 37 Kristen or Patrick
- 39 Something to check
- 40 Loathsome
- 42 Indignation
- 43 Massive
- 44 H.S. students
- 45 Harvard or Columbia, for Obama
- 47 Move like a top
- 49 Cookie container
- 50 Salad ingredient
- 53 Street surface
- 57 Wrapped up
- 58 Emphasize
- 60 Gardener's spring purchase

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- 61 Deck feature
- 62 Skin disease
- 63 Aardvark fare
- 64 Spot
- 65 Intense feeling
- 9 This one and this one
- 10 Use a torque wrench
- 11 One to grow on?
- 12 Engine sound
- 13 "No ifs, ___ ..."
- 18 Tycoons, slangily
- 22 Blue eyes or baldness, e.g.
- 24 Bitter feeling
- 25 Photo session
- 26 Diacritical mark
- 27 Any Platters platter
- 28 "I ___ you one"
- 30 Contradict
- 31 Likeness
- 32 Raring to go
- 35 Brahma, in Hinduism
- 37 Raw fish dish
- 38 Hand holder?
- 41 Moving ahead
- 43 Trackman's transit
- 45 Combat zones
- 46 Bad atmosphere
- 48 Condition
- 50 Civil Rights figure Parks
- 51 Chef's need
- 52 Get together
- 53 Trust, with "on"
- 54 007
- 55 Hence
- 56 Bucks and does
- 59 Party bowlful



On any given day, you'll find both Brad and Lyndsey in their commercial garden. The farm produces vegetables and fruits for three seasons. The Constables then spend the winter months preparing for spring. All photos by Sue A. Miles

Crumptown Farm offers chemical free produce

By Sue A. Miles
Correspondent

With the mass production of produce in our country, consumers often forget that each vegetable and fruit grown has a unique name and flavor. Stuarts Zee okra, Odell's watermelon, Vates' collards, Eva Purple Ball tomatoes - there are literally hundreds of varieties of vegetables and fruits available for consumption. Sadly, these distinctive and very tasty vegetables are hard to find in a traditional grocery store and even more sadly, we as consumers often times feel like we don't have any other choice when it comes to buying produce. Especially produce that is free from pesticides and herbicides.

Buckingham citizens have a solution right in their backyard: Crumptown Farm. Located in the southern part of the county, Crumptown Farm produces an abun-



One key to growing vegetables is starting off the seeds in healthy soil rich in organic matter. Lyndsey is shown mixing up soil for starting the seeds which become the tasty vegetables that Crumptown Farms is known for.

dance of organic and tasty fruits and vegetables while establishing a name for themselves as reputable growers of chemical free produce that is also delicious in taste and flavor.

The owners of Crumptown Farm, Lyndsey and Brad Constable, moved to the county in 2006 from Charleston, South Carolina, to work as farm managers of the Yogaville community. Although neither had a history of farming in their background, their incentive was to establish a healthy lifestyle out in the country while offering some of the best produce around.

That incentive eventually led them, eight years ago, to purchase 16 acres in the Crumptown area of Buckingham with the goal of growing organic food for retail. Currently they farm four acres of the property. The farm also houses a number of greenhouses, which allows them to start their own seeds early in the winter. "We purchase most of our seeds from Johnny's Selected Seeds, Southern Exposure Seed Exchange, and Baker's Creek Heirloom Seeds," said Lyndsey. "They tend to cost more but we want our produce to be delicious, nutritious, and not just pretty to look at. This begins with the quality of the seeds used." That also means the seeds used are not chemically treated which allows the Constables to support companies that insure biodiversity of our planet for future generations.

"In the end you don't make a lot of money with this type of business but you have a nice lifestyle," said Lyndsey. "We get to spend time together, to be outside, and to eat the most amazing food." The Constables also have the goal of reducing their carbon footprint on the earth by using soil enrichment techniques that encourages microbial life, planting cover crops, and remineralizing. "We also try to use the 'no till' method," said Lyndsey, "depending upon what we're putting in next." The work is all for the purpose of producing the best taste and nutritionally rich produce.

It turns out that Buckingham's soil is low in calcium and boron. "Because our farm is small, we are financially able to enhance our soil with additives that perhaps a big farmer might not be able to do," said Lyndsey. "We also follow the federal government's approved organic standards. We use chemical free methods to grow our crops."

Crumptown Farm has two main methods of distributing its produce; The Saturday Farmer's Market at St. Stephen's in Richmond and through their CSA (community supported agriculture) program. They also supply produce to Richmond's Ellwood Thompson's Local Market.

A CSA is a subscription program consisting of a weekly delivery of produce to a regional pick-up point. That delivery, which runs from early May to mid-October, contains a box brimming full of produce that comes directly from Crumptown farm. On any given week, subscribers will receive a variety of veggies; bok choy, turnips, garlic scapes, squash, potatoes and melons. The list goes on and on. All the produce is fresh and flavorful, organically grown, and local. Subscribers can opt for a mini, small, or large share quantity. Shares can also be split among friends. And, if you're interested in canning or freezing tasty, organic produce, bulk purchases can be arranged during the growing season. Currently the weekly CSA drop off locations

See Farm page 15



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DRIVEWAY STONE: Slate: 10 -Ton Crush Run @ \$200., 10 -Ton #57 @ \$230. Other stone/rock also available. Pricing includes local delivery and *Tailgate spread. Call (434) 420-2002.

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During the spring and up to mid-summer, Crumpton Farms greenhouses are brimming full of fruit and vegetable starts which end up in their large commercial garden. The Constables buy from companies that feature heritage seeds that are known for their flavor and nutrition value.

are the Farmville/Prince Edward YMCA and St. Stephen's in Richmond. Walking through the long rows of produce on the farm (in this case during late fall) is an amazing sight. Lettuces, spinach, kale, and other greens stand strong and proud. The pepper area is ablaze with colors of vibrant reds and glowing yellows. Sweet potatoes, garlic, and onions are also part of the fall harvest. The rows of vegetables and the variety of what is offered seems to be never ending.

No commercial fertilizer is used on the farm. "The best fertilizer in existence is air, sunlight, and water," said Lyndsey. "Naturally healthy, biologically active soil will follow. And, adding cover crops and compost tea and practicing crop rotation and OMRI (Organic Materials Review Institute) approved fertilizers gives us outstanding results." The farm is 100% chemical free with organically approved pesticides kept to a minimum.

The Constable's have also avoided plastic mulch. "We have concerns about the amount of waste it produces and toxins that possibly leach into the soil," said Lyndsey.

Even though the Constable's water their gardens, this past summer was a bit challenging for the farm due to the extensive drought. Having built up such a healthy soil over the years helped counterbalance that issue. And, then there's the Buckingham soil. "We have a clay loam soil here, which is high in magnesium," said Lyndsey. "For whatever reason, our soil produces especially great tasting greens."

And, like any farmer knows, even after the official growing season is over, there is much to do. "October is most likely our busiest season," said Lyndsey. "We're digging sweet potatoes and processing garlic and there is usually an abundance of cold weather greens to harvest." Winter products include making wreaths, making repairs, and starting seedlings.

The Constable's are also growing commercial hemp which allows them to offer a commercial balm (made with hemp, olive oil, organic beeswax, vitamin E, water, aloe, peppermint oil, and lemongrass oil), called Crumpton Farm Hemp Flower Balm. They sell to several retail businesses.

If you'd like to learn more about Crumpton Farm check out their website (<http://www.crumptonfarm.com>) or consider taking a ride to the area to view the area of vegetables growing in stately rows. It's a beautiful sight and also one that promotes the concept of supporting the effort of eating tasty produce that is good for you and also good for Mother Earth.

Classifieds from page 14

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For Events & Announcements: valleyeditor1@gmail.com

Answers to the Crossword Puzzle from page 11

H	O	M	E	D		B	O	A	T		T	A	R	A
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About the event:

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- Blood pressure screening
- BMI (Body Mass Index) evaluation
- Glucose screening

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* Please fast 10-12 hours for cholesterol screen.

Information:

No registration required. For more information, call 434.315.2831.

Sponsored by Centra Southside Community Hospital, Centra Medical Group Stroobants Cardiovascular Center, and Cardiopulmonary Rehabilitation.

SPECIAL EVENT

DATE: Friday, February 14

TIME: 7:30 to 10:30 am

LOCATION:

**First floor conference room,
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Hospital, 800 Oak Street,
Farmville, Virginia**