

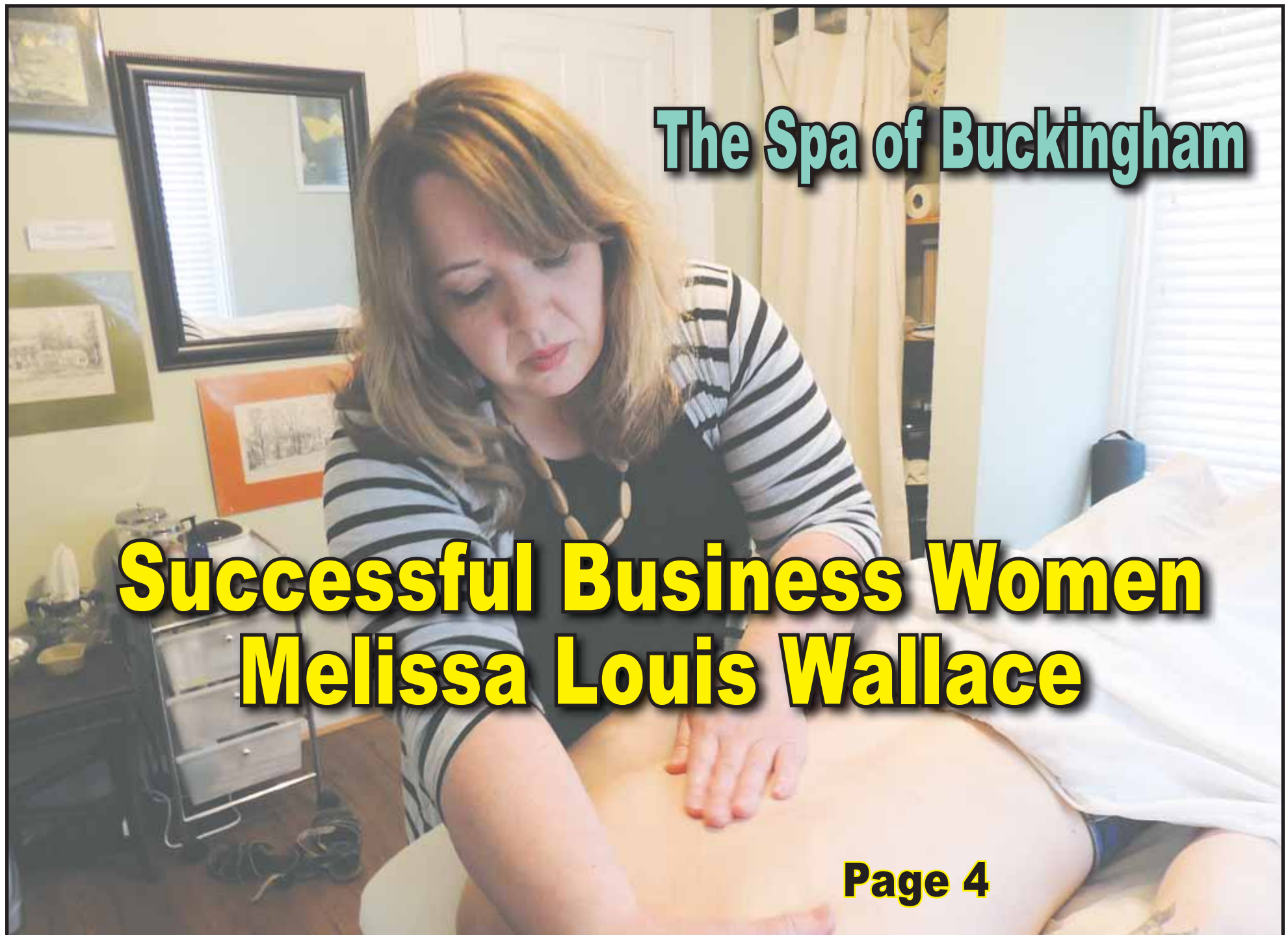
# Buckingham Beacon

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BUCKINGHAM COUNTY, VIRGINIA



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**Annual Graduation Issue Coming Next Month**



Melissa Louis, shown massaging a client, has been in business since 2007. Her business has grown and expanded as people discover the benefit of massage for aches and pains and stress relief.  
Photo by Sue A. Miles.

Cover designed by Marilyn Ellinger

## Buckingham Beacon

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## Book Review

# A Fascinating Look at Peter Field Jefferson

By Sue A. Miles  
Correspondent

There's always secrecy that emerges when reading about family history. Then when murder, inter-breeding, insanity, suicide, and "fake news" is part of the story, it becomes even more intriguing. We can thank Joanne L. Yeck for providing us with a fascinating look at a family history that has all of these things and more. Believe it or not, this family, very much a part of the history of Buckingham County, involves Thomas Jefferson. Yeck's new book, "Peter Field Jefferson: Dark Prince of Scottsville and Lost Jeffersons" (Slate River Press), provides readers the opportunity to learn more than they would ever imagine about our third president and his intriguing and very dysfunctional family.

Yeck is a true gift to the people of Buckingham as she has adopted our county as part of her quest to do historic research. And, man, does she do it well. Having already presented us with "At a Place Called Buckingham" (2011), which celebrated the county's 250th anniversary; then "At a Place Called Buckingham," Volume Two (2015), Yeck has, this time, produced a fascinating historic book on Jefferson's family. It starts with Thomas Jefferson's only brother, Randolph, while sharing absorbing and extremely well researched information on Randolph's children, grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

As Yeck notes in her preface, she attempts to "correct the persistent myth that Thomas Jefferson's only brother, Randolph, was an incompetent man, even a mentally handicapped one." However, as the book delves into Randolph's offspring, with the focus on Peter, the lives of the Jefferson's reflect turbulence and stories that might well be considered an American tragedy.

The beauty of the book for Buckingham and Scottsville citizens is the amazingly detailed information on the Snowden estate (located several miles south of Scottsville, in Buckingham County), as well as the establishment of Warren, mentions of Big George's Creek, Sharpe's Creek, challenged wills at Buckingham Court House, the Moons, Horsley's, Millbrook, Sharon Baptist Church, Diana Mills, and Sherman's raid on Scottsville.

Yeck's very detailed documentation gives the reader a true understanding of how the Virginia gentry lived during the 1800s and does an excellent job of describing the establishment of the town of Scottsville as well as the intriguing tales of contested wills, newspaper articles that have inaccurate information and complicated family dynamics, including a murder. She uses public records to show the other side of the esteemed Jefferson family who dealt with "cousin intermarriage, suffered from ongoing incidences of low intelligence, idiocy, alcoholism, and even insanity."

The book begins with a focus on Peter Field Jefferson, the fifth of six children, born in 1785 to Randolph Jefferson and his wife, Anne Lewis. That focus gives the reader a fascinating picture of how life was in Buckingham County and also how the river town of Scottsville was established. Through exact documentation, Yeck demonstrates why Peter Field Jefferson could be considered the "founding father of

a bustling river town," as she takes us through the history of the town and Jefferson's economic investments.

Throughout the book, Peter's home place, Snowden, continually plays a role in Peter Jefferson's life, as well as with his other relatives.

Detailed information gleaned from the Library of Virginia, the National Achieves, various state libraries, as well as the Scottsville Museum and the Virginia Department of Historic resources, bring to life the Jefferson family, Scottsville, Buckingham County's history and the personal lives of the Jefferson family. Family wills of the Jefferson's demonstrate how wives had little power upon the death of their husband and how slave families would be torn apart by a deceased owner splitting up husband, wives, and children through wills. The beauty of the book is Yeck's ability to provide this historic information in a narrative form that is readable and intriguing, yet accurate and scholarly.

One of the most fascinating aspects of the book is how interbreeding was so common among the landed gentry during this time and the negative impact of such practice. Throughout the book the Jefferson family suffers from mental illness, alcoholism, and economic challenges as the result of their weak lineage. It is amazing to read about such an esteemed family who actually may have suffered from the result of genetics and other misfortunes.







Snowden estate (located several miles south of Scottsville, in Buckingham County).

After completing Peter Jefferson's story, Yeck provides a gallery of maps, etchings, and photos to bring the characters alive. In Part Two of her book, she provides research on each of Peter Jefferson's siblings as well as other offspring. She then debunks some of the Jefferson myths by examining each one; backing her conclusions with detailed documentation. Finally, Yeck ends with a genealogy chart of Randolph's family as well as copies of family wills.

Honestly, this is a must read if you have any interest in local history or of our third president; it gives readers more than they ever bargained for. For local Buckingham citizens it is almost a guarantee that, when reading this book, there will truly be a better understanding of the era and times. And, when you understand the past, the present and future make more sense.

Why does Yeck go to such effort to write such a well-researched book? "The history of the Horseshoe Bend, on both sides of the James River, fascinates me and is absolutely a microcosm of Virginia history and, perhaps, of the upper South," she said.

Many thanks to Yeck for giving us this book to read. It is a book that should be on every Virginian's bookshelf, especially if you're from Buckingham County or Scottsville. It's an excellent gift for history lovers. The book can be purchased at Baine's Scottsville, Baine's Books and Coffee in Appomattox Courthouse, the Scottsville Museum, the Housewright Museum in the Buckingham Court House village, and Nancy's Gifts, also in the Buckingham Court House village. It is also available on websites such as Amazon, Barnes & Noble, IndieBound, and Books-A-Million.

## BUCKINGHAM FOOD PANTRY CALENDAR

### BLUE RIDGE FOOD TRUCK

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

Blue Ridge Food Truck  
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## Cover Story

# In Good Hands at the Spa

By Sue A. Miles  
Correspondent



In order to accommodate a growing business, The Spa has several massage rooms as multiple therapists are available to serve the public.

"I don't have a great story as far as inspiration. I was a college dropout trying to find my place in the world." That statement begins our story about a successful business woman who is celebrating over ten years of running a business offering much to the residents of Buckingham County. Melissa Louis Wallace is the owner and proprietor of The Spa of Buckingham, located on Main Street in the town of Dillwyn. This well-respected business, which began in 2007, has grown into a reputable place to seek relief from aches and pains as well as stress relief.

"I immediately started working in my own practice after I graduated from massage school," said Melissa. "I attended the Virginia School of Massage in Charlottesville." Melissa spoke of the intense curriculum that took three semesters to complete. "First semester was a major focus on Swedish massage as well as learning the basics of the skeletal system. The second semester focused on deep tissue massage and the muscular system. This taught us how to help people with physical ailments." Melissa's third semester focused on myofascial release, which emphasized the tissue surrounding the muscles. "We had to learn and memorize all the systems of the body," she said.

Melissa noted that the setup of the massage school was very effective. "Usually in the morning we would have lecture and learn something about the body. Then in the afternoon we would have lab and work on the body. There was a lot of information crammed into 13 months. I really feel that a massage therapist should go to school for four years to get a degree as there's certainly plenty of information to be learned in this field."

"Over the years the understanding of the value of therapeutic massage has grown in the public's eye. When I was in massage school I truly started to realize all the benefits of massage," said Melissa, "and that it wasn't just for the wealthy. I felt like Buckingham needed this service." Melissa also realized that many Buckingham people were travelling far to get a massage. "If you've ever had a massage you know

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Along with massage and skin care services, Melissa works with local artists and artisans by offering their products to the public.

the last thing you want to do is get in your car afterwards and drive an hour to get home."

Melissa started her business by going to people's homes, eventually renting a room at the Maysville Manor. "I then expanded to the two-story apartment in the back of the Manor, before purchasing a house on Main Street in Dillwyn in 2009."

As Melissa's business became more successful she saw the need to expand. "Five years later I moved the spa to the house next door, which had become available," she said. "I would love to see The Spa continue to grow. I've gotten such wonderful support from the community."

Melissa admitted that starting her own business had its challenges. "Owning your own business can be brutal," she said. "There is so much to know and I've been learning as I go the whole time. I wish I had taken more business courses in school. I had no idea I would be owning a business, of course. I love it though. It's hard but rewarding. The clients make it all worth the effort." She admitted that the most difficult part of owning her own business is that "you're always working. You don't really get a day off."

See Spa Page 6

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In order to expand her services, Melissa has had to continue her education. “I went back to school and got my nail tech license so that I can offer pedicures and manicures. I also have hired a master esthetician to do skin care services such as facials, chemical peels, microdermabrasion, cellulite treatments and hair removal.” She acknowledged that she hopes to expand into a larger building so that she can offer more services and have more therapists working in order to accommodate Buckingham’s growing community.

Entering Melissa’s Spa is a treat. You automatically feel a sense of tranquility as the calming music and comfortable reception room draws you in. The main room displays local art for sale, including paintings, jewelry, books, ceramics and goat’s milk soap. There is even a nearby egg farm that makes deliveries once a week for pre-ordered clients.

“When clients walk into The Spa, I want them first to realize that they are my top priority,” she said. “I want them to feel welcomed and comfortable. My goal is to cater to the client’s wishes. We offer a range of massage techniques: Swedish, deep tissue, acupressure, reflexology, all at the same price.” The Spa also offers pedicures, manicures, and skin treatment. “My staff consists of highly skilled estheticians who know all the latest skin care treatments.” Melissa also offers ear candling; a non-invasive method to remove excess wax from the ears.

When discussing the concept of massage therapy, Melissa shared her approach. “There are various stereotypes and myths that revolve around the spa/massage therapist world and I like to make sure that all those are erased. We are very professional and clean and we care about your well-being and overall health.” Melissa also shared that there are many who seek therapy for general back pain, others may have foot issues. “I also have a large selection of books at The Spa that the clients can borrow. I like to be able to share knowledge.”

New clients are asked to complete a health intake form so that Melissa can learn about specific issues. “Then I talk to them and explain everything that will happen so there’s no question about what’s to take place,” she said. “I also have tried to establish a good relationship with the local doctors, chiropractors and physical therapists so that they can refer their patients to me and so that I can refer to them. Massage therapy is defiantly becoming more and more recognized in the medical and insurance world.” She notes that although not all insurance companies cover massage treatment, she anticipates that this will change over time.

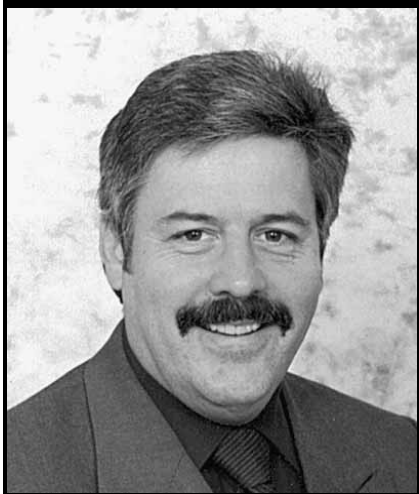
There are many reasons to experience The Spa; pain, pulled muscles, tenseness, arthritis, joint pain, or simply for the need to treat yourself to the joy of a massage. If you do so, you’ll definitely leave feeling better. In fact, you might even find that your feet aren’t touching the ground because of how great you feel. Here’s some advice to interested newcomers to the business – because The Spa is such a popular business you need to call and book ahead of time for a treatment. With Melissa’s focus on giving great service to her clients, you know you’re in good hands.

**For more information on The Spa visit the website at [www.spaofbuckingham.com](http://www.spaofbuckingham.com) or call 434-983-3002 or 434-944-8391.**



## School Retirees

Joyce Cameron, Special Education Teacher, Kathryn Stombeck, Reading Specialist, and Sue Miles, School Counselor, will certainly have much more time on their hands as they end the school year with their retirement. The Buckingham School Board joined the retirees’ friends and family to honor this dedicated staff with a retirement dinner. Not pictured, but also retiring are Thelma Llewellyn, Director of Student Services, and Carol Fair, Cafeteria Worker. Congratulations to all retirees.



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## Students Register to Vote

Buckingham County Registrar Margaret Thomas observes as seniors Hannah Shaw, Angel Martinez, and Brianna Valdiviezo register to vote. Thomas makes a point of visiting the high school every year to register new voters. The students, who will soon be graduating, will now have the opportunity to take advantage of their constitutional right and vote in local, state, and federal elections. Consider registering yourself for the upcoming November election. **Contact Thomas at 434-969-4304.**



# Peter Field Jefferson: Dark Prince of Scottsville



On writing Peter Field Jefferson: Dark Prince of Scottsville and Lost Jeffersons

## How did you become interested in the extended Jefferson family?

In 1995, I began to investigate my maternal grandmother's Virginia heritage. This research grew into a lasting interest in her native Buckingham County, Virginia, particularly 19th century plantation life. In the 1820's, a branch of my grandmother's Harris family purchased a farm called Snowden from the estate of Randolph Jefferson. As it turned out, few people knew anything about Randolph Jefferson and what they thought they knew wasn't particularly flattering. Unjustly, his life had been reduced to a handful of mythologized stories. So, in about 2008, I set out to discover the "real" Randolph Jefferson and was delighted by what I found. My study of Snowden's history turned into a biography of Thomas Jefferson's little brother, who was a thoroughly upstanding citizen of Buckingham County. Ten years later, the research begun for *The Jefferson Brothers* (Slate River Press, 2012) provided the foundation for my new volume which is actually two books in one: *Peter Field Jefferson: Dark Prince of Scottsville & Lost Jeffersons*—a monograph of Randolph Jefferson's son, Peter Field, and a collection of essays about the extended Jefferson family who, until now, were mostly lost to history.

## What inspired you to write a second book about Randolph Jefferson's family?

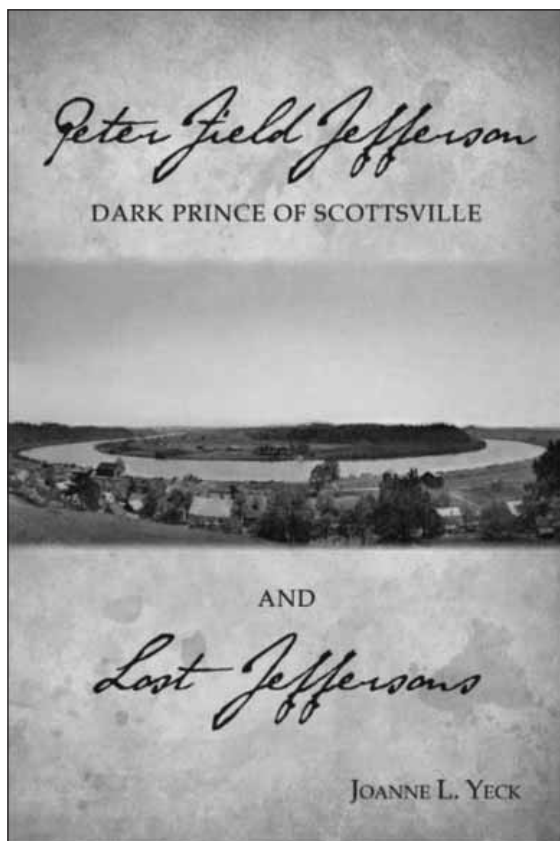
While researching the life of Randolph Jefferson, I discovered persistent myths persisted about the man, claiming that his intelligence was low and his capabilities for running a significant plantation were limited. The more I learned about him, I found the myths unsupportable. A powerful argument against Randolph Jefferson's incompetency was the successful lives of the majority of his children and grandchildren. It seemed doubtful that he could have produced such competent children if his capabilities were so limited. Along with his wife, Anne Lewis, he provided them with a solid start in life and most flourished. A few, however, I discovered led tragic lives. The more I investigated their stories, the clearer it became that their misfortune might be the result of genetic deficiencies caused by too many generations of cousin intermarriage. The loss of these Jeffersons as useful citizens (some of whom were very intelligent) was not because their parents had failed to nurture them, but because Nature had failed to provide them with a strong genetic foundation. They serve as a case study for one of Virginia's darkest "secrets." Over the course of the 19th century, the growing social burden of genetic "degenerates"—many of whom did not have the financial resources of the Jeffersons—helped fuel the American Eugenics Movement and, ultimately, in 1924, led to Virginia's Sterilization Act.

## How do you research Virginia's local history when you live in Ohio?

Southern Ohio is home to many excellent libraries and interlibrary loan services which enable me to view microfilm of original documents—vital records, deeds, wills, etc.—and even rare books, without leaving home.

More and more primary source material steadily pours onto the Internet. For example, ten years ago, I could not view, much less search, wills from Albemarle County or Virginia death records on the Internet. Today, these documents and much more are available online. For *Peter Field Jefferson: Dark Prince of Scottsville & Lost Jeffersons* searchable databases of historic newspapers were particularly valuable. Even the vast volunteer project Find A Grave helped trace lost Jeffersons.

For this book, my primary setting was Scottsville and the Horseshoe Bend of the James River, a tri-county area including Albemarle, Buckingham, and Fluvanna counties. Help from local historical societies, particularly Historic Buckingham and



The authors book . Photo by Andy Snow.



Author Joanne Yeck.

Scottsville Museum, was invaluable. Useful tidbits of local history turn up in unusual places and, since the establishment of my blog *Slate River Ramblings* ([slateriverramblings.com](http://slateriverramblings.com)), I am in contact with an ever-expanding group of people who are devoted to the local history of central Virginia.

Importantly, in 2010, a month-long, residential fellowship at the International Center for Jefferson Studies supported my research and offered numerous opportunities to investigate the places where these Jeffersons lived in Albemarle, Buckingham, Fluvanna, and Nelson counties.

## What are you working on next?

There is much more to tell about the history of Snowden and the Harris family who purchased it from the Jeffersons. While I continue that research, I'm writing a history set in Jazz Age Chicago. Full of gangsters and urban night life, it is a very long way from the life of 19th century Virginia planters. How did I get there from Buckingham County, Virginia? By following the

life of my grandmother's brother, who turned out to be a very interesting fellow!

## ABOUT THE BOOK

*Peter Field Jefferson: Dark Prince of Scottsville* follows the rise and fall of Randolph Jefferson's most successful son. Nephew to President Thomas Jefferson, his life parallels the changing cultural landscape of the James River's Horseshoe Bend across seven decades. Jefferson's success as a self-made man is tainted with great personal loss, making his story a distinctively American tragedy.

*Lost Jeffersons* is a collection of essays which follows descendants of Randolph Jefferson and their kinfolk. A microcosm of Virginia's gentry, multiple generations of cousin intermarriage resulted in a concentration of undesirable traits—including alcoholism, idiocy, and insanity—compromising individuals who might otherwise have led productive and useful lives.

## ABOUT THE AUTHOR

In 2010, Joanne Yeck was awarded a Jefferson Fellowship at the International Center for Jefferson Studies. She is the author of three volumes of Virginia history, published by Slate River Press—"At a Place Called Buckingham" (2011), *The Jefferson Brothers* (2012), and "At a Place Called Buckingham," Volume Two (2015). She is also the author of numerous articles concerning Classic Hollywood and American Popular Culture, as well as the coauthor of *Movie Westerns* (Lerner) and *Our Movie Heritage* (Rutgers University Press).

Joanne Yeck is the author of three volumes of Virginia history published by Slate River Press—"At a Place Called Buckingham" (2011), *The Jefferson Brothers* (2012), and "At a Place Called Buckingham," Volume Two (2015). She is also the author of numerous articles concerning Classic Hollywood and American Popular Culture, as well as the coauthor of *Movie Westerns* (Lerner) and *Our Movie Heritage* (Rutgers University Press).

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Author Photo: By Andy Snow





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## UPCOMING EVENTS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

### Prom Queen & King



#### Congratulations to Rebecca Branzelle and Daniel Brickhill

Congratulations to Rebecca Branzelle and Daniel Brickhill for being selected as Prom Queen and King at Buckingham High School's April 2018 junior/senior prom. As students came to the prom in their finery they were showered with a beautiful and magical mid April snow storm. The students celebrated the late snow fall as they danced the night away in one of their final end of the year gatherings.

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# Mayfest

## Sat. May 12th, 2018

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**Events coming up in April :**

- "Primitive Technology Day" April 7, 11:00-4:00 at Historic Village, tomahawks, atlatla demo, flintlock rifle demo, flint knapping, trapping demo, longhunter camp, blacksmithing, long bow shooting, and MORE!

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# UPCOMING EVENTS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS



## BUCKINGHAM MIDDLE SCHOOL DRAMA CLUB PRESENTS:

### *Peter Pan*

Come and join the fun when the Buckingham Middle School Drama Club presents the famous story of the boy who never wanted to grow up. Bring all the family to see the production of James Matthew Barrie's "Peter Pan" on Thursday, May 17th, 7pm on the middle school stage. Admission is \$5.00. Doors will open for seating at 6:30. Pictured: L to R back row: Sam Trimble, Maggie Rumsey, Abby Burgess; middle row: Justice Steger, Kaitlyn Hucks, Haylie Hucks; front: Alexia Barton.

## Wise Wins Grand Champion with Market Lamb Pair

Tanner Wise, of Poplar View Farm LLC and an 8th grader at Buckingham County Middle School, competed at the Piedmont Area Jr. Livestock Show on Saturday, April 28, at the Blackstone Livestock Market showing two Market Lambs, and a Ewe Lamb. Tanner won 1st place & Grand Champion with his Market Lamb Pair, 1st and 3rd place Market Lambs (115-125 lb. class as individuals), 2nd place Ewe Lamb (90-99 lb. class), 2nd place in Showmanship in the Intermediate Class, and Reserve Champion in Showmanship in the Intermediate Class. Tanner is a member of the Buckingham 4-H Livestock Club where he has been showing livestock for six years. Pictured here is Tanner with his Grand Champion Market Lamb Pair. Tanner is the son of David and Sherri Wise of the Willis Mountain area of Buckingham County.



**The Buckingham Triad meets second Thursday of every month at 1:30pm at the Buckingham VFW building off of Route 60.** "Triad is based upon the partnership between the Office of the Attorney General, police chiefs, sheriffs, older Virginians, and senior service providers. Triad provides a forum to exchange information and forge community solutions that combat crime through education and prevention. " In a nutshell, "reducing crime against the elderly"



### Open House & Community Tea at Yogaville

Satchidananda Ashram-Yogaville Open House & Community Tea, Sunday, May 20, 2018, 108 Yogaville Way, Buckingham. 2 pm - 5 pm. Refreshments, tour, yoga demonstrations, Solar, Sustainable Solutions, and more. All are welcome! Come Join Us!!

### AA and Al Anon

Every Tuesday at 7:30 pm - Scottsville United Methodist Church. AA meets in the Fellowship Hall and Al Anon (for families of problem drinkers) meets in the Sunday School Room.

**AA meeting on Wednesdays 6pm Emmanuel Episcopal Church Howardsville Rd. Glenmore in Buckingham**

**Buckingham County Public Library  
Tuesday "Lunch and Learn" - New Adult Program at Public Library**

Every Tues at noon bring your lunch and hear one of our many speakers - afterwards we will eat lunch and have discussion. Library will provide the topics, water and coffee.

Some of the topics will be Nutrition, Health issues, Library facts, and more.

**Mayfest 2018** (Buckingham County Day) is right around the corner. Mayfest will be held on **May 12th** 10:00am-2:00pm at The Historic Village.

### Springfield Baptist Church Mother's Day Program

Springfield Baptist Church at 1042 Zion Road in Gordonsville, will have a Mother's Day Program on **Sunday, May 13th at 11 am**. Guest Speaker will be Minister Natalie White of Union Run Baptist Church.

### Jan Smith Director of The College Place,

is shown receiving a resolution for the Educational Credit Management Corporation (ECMC) from Dr. Cecil Snead, Superintendent of Buckingham County Public School, at the April School Board meeting. The School Board and high school staff and students presented this resolution to acknowledge the 15 year relationship that they have with ECMC. Over those 15 years, ECMC has pledged over \$900,000.00 to Buckingham students in the form of scholarships, while helping the school provide resources that has helped to produce a college going culture in the student body. ECMC has also sponsored Buckingham's annual College Night while providing a tremendous amount of college access material to not only Buckingham students but also throughout the Commonwealth of Virginia. The College Place, located on the campus of Virginia Commonwealth University, is also funded by ECMC.



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# Connie Hom Named Master Entrepreneur of the Year

**B**uckingham Greenery, Inc., announced today that CEO Connie Hom has been named the 2018 winner of the Master Entrepreneur of the Year Award by the Metropolitan Business League (MBL).

The Master Entrepreneur of the Year Award recognizes the achievements of a business owner who has distinguished themselves through perseverance in the face of obstacles, calculated risk-taking, pioneering a new approach or technology, and building a stable, successful company. The nominee must provide an outstanding product or service and demonstrate an increase in sales and annual revenue.

Nominees were chosen by MBL Executive Director Floyd E. Miller, Operations Manager Allison Hunter, and Board Chair Sam Young from a list of current MBL members.

"Connie gives her personal time and commitment to always serving others and being an advocate for small businesses throughout the metropolitan area," said Miller. "She continues to be a role model for women-owned and minority businesses in Virginia. Her distinguished leadership, personal integrity and professional traits are consistently evident in every endeavor."

Hom was honored at the MBL Awards ceremony on Friday, March 2, at The John Marshall Ballrooms in downtown Richmond.

"What a surprise to be honored at the Metropolitan Business League Annual Awards dinner," said Hom. "It's awesome to be recognized by other entrepreneurs. My purpose from the very beginning has been to provide a healthier interior environment for the workforce, and that's still my purpose today."

I owe my success to all of my clients, who, over the past 35 years, have come to appreciate the beneficial value of interior plants. I also owe a debt of gratitude



Photo by Digital Image House. Pictured: Eric Philips — NBC 12 Morning News Anchor, Tracey G. Wiley — Director of Small Business and Supplier Diversity at Commonwealth of Virginia, Connie Hom — CEO of Buckingham Greenery, and Ralph Northam — Governor Commonwealth of Virginia.

to my team at Buckingham Greenery, who are passionate about the green industry."

Buckingham Greenery was started in 1982 in Buckingham, Virginia, and for the past 35 years, the

company has brightened the interiors of some of Richmond's and Central Virginia's most prominent commercial and hospital spaces, small business offices, universities, and mall courtyards.

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## Health Center's Laboratory Recognized for Quality Laboratory Services

Central Virginia Community Health Center (CVCHC) is pleased to announce that its in-house laboratory has met all criteria for Laboratory Accreditation by COLA, a national healthcare accreditation organization. Accreditation is given only to laboratories that apply rigid standards of quality in day-to-day operations, demonstrate continued accuracy in the performance of proficiency testing, and pass a rigorous on-site laboratory survey. CVCHC's lab has earned COLA accreditation as a result of a long-term commitment to provide quality service to its patients.

COLA is a nonprofit, physician-directed organization promoting quality and excellence in medicine and patient care through programs of voluntary education, achievement, and accreditation. It is approved by the federal government and sponsored by the American Academy of Family Physicians, the American Medical Association, and the American College of Physicians- American Society of Internal Medicine.

CVCHC is part of Central Virginia Health Services (CVHS), a nonprofit community health center - Virginia's first community health center. CVCHC currently offers family medical, dental, behavioral health, and pharmacy services. Community health centers like CVCHC are community-based and patient-directed organizations that serve populations with limited access to health care because of geography, lack of insurance, poverty, or other factors. Along with other health care safety net providers, the health center plays a key role in the community's health. CVCHC takes most insurance plans and offers an income-based discount for services for low-income families.

To make an appointment to see any of the providers at CVCHC, please call the office at 434-581-3271. For additional information, please feel free to contact Amanda Morgan, Director of Marketing and Government Affairs, 434-581-4073 x.10732 or 434-960-8315.







Joanne Yeck has been fascinated with Buckingham County for over twenty years. Since late 2012, she has shared her collection of Buckingham facts and photos on her blog, "Slate River Ramblings" (slateriverramblings.com). Her newest history, *Peter Field Jefferson: Dark Prince of Scottsville & Lost Jeffersons*, is now available locally and online (braugherbooks.com).



Photo by Boyce Loving. Courtesy The Daily Progress and University of Virginia.

Buckingham Notables: Lucy Scruggs

In December of 1958, reporter Boyce Loving paid tribute to "Aunt" Lucy Scruggs in Charlottesville's The Daily Progress. Her life was, indeed, extraordinary. The article began, "This is one of the last stories of its kind that will ever be written from a real, live interview. Other persons will pass the century milestone, but they will not have been born in slavery in this country. Aunt Lucy Scruggs, who will be 104 Christmas Day, was."

At the time of the interview, Lucy Scruggs was living on her own in a small tarpaper house near Arvonias in Buckingham County. Her eyesight was excellent; she did her own cooking and housework. When Loving conducted the interview, Lucy was visiting friends across the road from her house, her white neighbors, Mr. and Mrs. Clyde Beazeley.

Not a Buckingham County native, she was born in Roanoke, Virginia, in 1853, on Christmas morning. Her parents were Jim and Lou Reese, owned by a family named Hazeby. Born into slavery, Lucy Scruggs originally came to Buckingham County with a white family whose name she no longer remembered. She was about fifteen years old at the time. When she was about eighteen or twenty, she married Lee Scruggs, of Buckingham. Lee, who had worked in the slate quarries at Arvonias and lived as a sharecropper, was over ninety years old when he died in 1943 and Lucy had been a widow for about fifteen years. She had also outlived all but three of her ten children—Benny, Oscar and William, who sometimes lived with her. Many of her numerous grandchildren and great-grandchildren also lived nearby.

With a keen sense of humor and a hearty laugh, Lucy Scruggs enjoyed telling stories of her life. Loving wrote, ". . . soon after her husband's death another man named Scruggs came to her and said, 'You married one man named Scruggs and mine is the same.' She took this as a proposal and said she told the man, 'If you was up a tree of gold, I wouldn't shake you down.' She added that living with one man about 70 years was enough for her."

She had known hard times, before and after Emancipation, and attributed her longevity to her outlook on life. Opinionated, a devout Christian, and a teetotaler, she even eschewed a corn cob pipe. Interestingly, she was against integrated schools and told Loving, "It's all a lot of folly and is goin' to cause lots of hard feelings. We was separated before the War (Civil) and let us stay separated. If I had any chilluns, I wouldn't let 'em go to school with white chilluns."

She did not care for modern times. Automobiles were "all right," however, she

showed no great enthusiasm for riding in them. She enjoyed church services and listening to hymns on the radio, though, regular radio programming was of no interest to her. She had never gone to a motion picture theater and had no plans to do so.

She looked back on her innocent youth, recalling a time she saw a rainbow and was determined to find a pot of gold. She laughed as she told Loving, "I run till they had to come and hunt for me . . . fit to kill."

Lucy openly acknowledged the kindness extended to her by her white friends and neighbors, mentioning Mrs. Mildred Beazeley, who hosted the interview, and Mrs. Mamie Childress of Bremono Bluff. They gave her food, brought her wood, and sewed for her, among other acts of friendship and charity

Boyce Loving concluded his article, writing: "Aunt Lucy has the gentility and good breeding of another age and is 'quality.' It was a pleasant experience to chat with her and to hear her give a first-hand narration of conditions and incidents about one ordinarily only can read. . . . She is a credit to her race (or any race, for that matter) and her community will suffer a real loss when 'she joins the saints,' as she hopes to do."

After the story appeared in Charlottesville's The Daily Progress, Lucy Scruggs enjoyed several more birthdays and Christmas mornings, living to the incredible age of 110. She died in Prince Edward County, on March 4, 1964. Prior to her death, she was taken from her home in Buckingham to Southside Hospital in Farmville, where she had a fatal heart attack. The doctor noted that she had first-degree burns on both legs, the cause was unknown. On her death record, her parents were given as Lou and Jim Reese and her deceased husband was Lee Scruggs. Her son, Oscar, provided the details and she was buried in Highway Mission Holiness Church cemetery in Buckingham County. A long and thoughtful life was laid to rest. How fortunate that Boyce Loving and the The Daily Progress preserved her story for us to discover nearly sixty years later.

Crossword

by Margie E. Burke

ACROSS

1 Freshwater fish

5 Jeer

10 St. John's \_\_\_\_\_ (herbal remedy)

14 Part of a pot

15 Christmas \_\_\_\_\_

16 Kind of code

17 Standing still

19 Mr. Potato Head piece

20 Hobby shop buy

21 Orange container

22 Frozen rain

23 Whisk, for one

25 "Peggy Sue" singer

26 Mighty mount

28 Boot tip

30 Bread for gyros

31 Yogi's nemesis

32 Tree trickling

35 Fabricated

37 One who owes

39 Sandwich bread

40 Military greeting

44 Diane of "Paris Can Wait"

45 Muslim leader

46 Golf score

47 Repair, as software

50 Pained expression

52 Make giddy

53 Gunpowder ingredient

54 Prefix with born or found

57 Tab

58 Tomato's family

60 Just lying around

61 Survey choice

62 Kuwaiti ruler

63 Lab procedure

64 Fashionably dated

65 Distribute

DOWN

1 Soak up the sun

2 The "A" of ABM

3 Oscar, for one

4 Filming site

5 Disdain

6 Rummy relative

7 Formal address

8 Fido's front limb

9 Bothersome bug

10 Clobber

11 Built-out window

12 Gross out

13 Mouth-watering

18 Like some drinks

22 Wall Street purchase

24 Eye drop?

26 Boot attachment

27 Elton John's "\_\_\_\_\_ Dancer"

29 Turn over

31 Bona fide

32 Demi Moore, e.g.

33 Top-notch

34 Flies, to spiders

36 Linguist's concern

38 Political coalition

41 Low-grade coal

42 Type of piano

43 In that direction

45 Serving of veal

46 Watering holes

47 Ledger entry

48 Say "y'all," say

49 Poolroom supply

51 Subway in Paris

55 Make revisions to

56 "The Way We \_\_\_\_\_"

58 Swe. neighbor

59 \_\_\_\_\_ and haw

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Crossword Answers page 15

May 11–June 14, 2018 • BUCKINGHAM BEACON • 11





# Participants in Girl and Boy State Government

Patsy Miessler (left) of the Buckingham County Woman's Club and Frank Knott of the Buckingham Lion's Club are shown with, Sarah Brown, the 2018 Buckingham County High School Girls State representative. Sarah, who is a current junior, will spend a week on the campus of Longwood University. Junior Diante Lee, who will attend the Boys State program on the campus of Radford University, is shown with Wilbert Dean (left), Craig McPherson, and Charles Leftwich (right). Both students will participate in activities that teach the formation and operation of city, county and state government entities. Participants vote and carry out elected and appointed positions in the Girls and Boys State government. The program gives participants the experience of living together as self governing citizens with the privileges, rights and responsibilities of American citizenship. The Woman's Club and Lions help sponsor Buckingham's Girls State student. Dean and Leftwich are representing the Buckingham American Legion, who along with the Buckingham Ruritan Club, represented by McPherson, are sponsoring the Boys State representative.

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## BCBS FBLA Members Attend the Virginia FBLA State Leadership Conference

Eight members of the Buckingham County High School Chapter of the Future Business Leaders of America (FBLA) attended the Virginia FBLA State Leadership Conference (SLC) in Reston in April. Members competed in various real-world business knowledge and skills events and participated in workshops geared towards increasing leadership skills and business knowledge. Almost 2,000 members from across the state that attended the SLC and competed in 81 events. BCBS members competed in activities such as Advertising, Broadcast Journalism, Global Business, and Introduction to Public Speaking, Community Service Project, and Local Chapter Annual Business Report. Tajmir Gough placed first in Advertising at the regional level and represented BCBS at the state level. The team of Sydney Mullins and Christyn Amos, placing first at the regional level in Broadcast Journalism and third at the state level. Emily Gormus and Macie Crofts, placing first at the regional level in Global Business made it to the top ten at state. Emily Gormus then continued to the sequestered event, placing fourth at the state level. Morgan Small, placed second in Public Speaking at the regional level, placed third at the state level. The team of Amil Bolden, Nina Broussard, and Howell "Buddy" Terry, Jr. competed in the Community Service Project Event. This team placed in the top 10 of Virginia. The BCBS FBLA Chapter was awarded the status of a Virginia FBLA Honor Chapter, the highest state recognition, and a Gold Seal Chapter, the highest national recognition. Only two percent of all chapters in the U.S. are awarded Honor Chapter Status. Shown left to right are: Howell "Buddy" Terry, Jr., Nina Broussard, Emily Gormus, Sydney Mullins, Tajmir Gough, Christyn Amos, Amil Bolden (FBLA President), and Morgan Small. Mullins, Amos, Small, and Gormus will continue to the National Conference in Baltimore in June.

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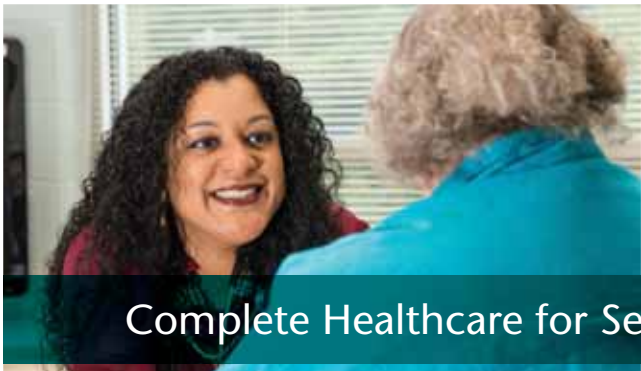
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# New Museum Has Grand Opening !

By Martha Louis  
Correspondent

Over 100 people gathered on a beautiful Sunday afternoon in April to witness the opening of Buckingham's newest museum, the Adams Museum. The Adams Museum, located behind the Housewright Museum, is one of three venues that are run by Historic Buckingham Inc. The Housewright Museum, displaying the history of Buckingham County, remains the HBI headquarters and The Historic Village at Lee Wayside is the location of 7 major events from April thru December.

The Adams Museum is a gift from H. Spencer Adams and his wife, the late Winnie Adams to Historic Buckingham and the people of Buckingham County and beyond. Spencer and Winnie collected lots of things in their travels all over the United States. Winnie was partial to baskets, dolls, tea sets, candy dishes, and Spencer collected Native American artifacts.

The Adams Museum contains antique cases full of Native American tools, weapons, masks, pottery, baskets, and maps. There is also a wonderful collection of face jugs. One corner of the museum houses a lovely antique doll collection complete with beds and carriages.

Historic Buckingham moved their Research Library from the Housewright Museum to the new museum so that it could be handicapped accessible.

Thanks to the high school Vocational Education Department under the direction of Morgan Smith, for building the bookcases and frames for the museum.

Both the Housewright Museum and the Adams Museum are open Wednesdays and Saturdays 1:00-4:00pm. There is no admission fee. Donations are always appreciated. Historic Buckingham is a 501C3 organization.



Phil Bailey, Martha Louis, Spencer Adams, Margaret Thomas and Pattie Bailey. A Bowie knife was used to cut ribbon.  
Photo by Gabe Larew.

## Local Students Attend State Leadership and Recognition Conference in Virginia Beach



Katelynn Leonard (left) is shown with fellow students Joshua Reynolds, Bryan Biggers, and Devin Corral. The top students will travel to Georgia for the national conference in June.

Students from the Buckingham Career and Technical Education (BCTE) chapter of Family, Career and Community Leaders of America (FCCLA) recently participated in a weekend leadership training conference held April 13-15 in Virginia Beach, Virginia. Attendees participated workshops and sessions that challenged, informed, and motivated members and their advisers to learn more about leadership through FCCLA. Along with over 1,000 other advisers and members, BCTE's FCCLA chapter advisers, Mrs. Mary Wise and Chef Sandra Hawk accompanied seven BCTE FCCLA members to the meeting.

Buckingham FCCLA chapter members participated in the following events: Culinary Arts: Team members Bryan Biggers, Joshua Reynolds, and Devin Corral placed 1st and will represent Virginia at the National Leadership Conference, Culinary Knife Skills competitor Nathan Price placed 4th, Entrepreneurship competitor Katelynn Leonard placed 1st and will represent Virginia at the National Leadership Conference and Chapter Display competitor Jessica Oliver placed 6th. Member Emily Edwards served as a STAR event room attendant. The culinary team and culinary knife skills competitor were sponsored by several local businesses including Buckingham Slate, Kyanite, Buckingham Berkshires, Atkinson's Trucking LLC, Vaughn Improvements, B&T Builders, and Pino's Italian Grille. Other sponsors include US Foods Roanoke Division, SoHoVa.org, Richmond, Va., and Graves' Mtn. Lodge, Syria, Va.

FCCLA is a dynamic and effective national student organization that helps young men and women become leaders and address important family, career, and community issues through Family and Consumer Sciences education. The organization has more than 164,000 members in over 5,300 chapters, including the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico, and the Virgin Islands. Since the organization's founding in 1945, FCCLA has involved more than 10 million youth.



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#### EVENTS

**ANNUAL GOLF OUTING & AWARDS DINNER:** Sts. Peter & Paul Church fund raiser at the Lake Monticello Golf Course on Sunday, June 3. Sign-in at 1 p.m. Fee: \$65 = golf, cart, prizes and \*Awards Dinner at Lake Monticello Volunteer Fire/Rescue Bldg., at 6:30 p.m. Golfer's dinner guests are \$5. \*Dinner/Golf registration needed by May 30. Forms at LM Golf Pro Shop, Sts. Peter & Paul church. Call office (m-F) 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Hole Signage Sponsorship available: \$50 or \$25. Questions? Jim Cullinan (434) 589-4551 or (434) 989-4375.

**ESTATE SALE:** Saturday, May 26 and Sunday, May 27 from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. both days, at 27 Chatham Lane, inside Lake Monticello, Palmyra. Furniture pieces, household items, Jewelry, loose gems, books, Frames, tools, bicycles, and much more! Bring ad to LMOA Main Gate for admittance.

#### FOR SALE

**DRIVEWAY STONE:** Slate: 9 – Ton Crush Run for \$150., 9 – Ton #57 for \$235., 14 – Ton #57 for \$320., 14 – Ton Crush for \$200. GRANITE also available. Pricing includes delivery and \*tailgate spread. Call (434) 420-2002.

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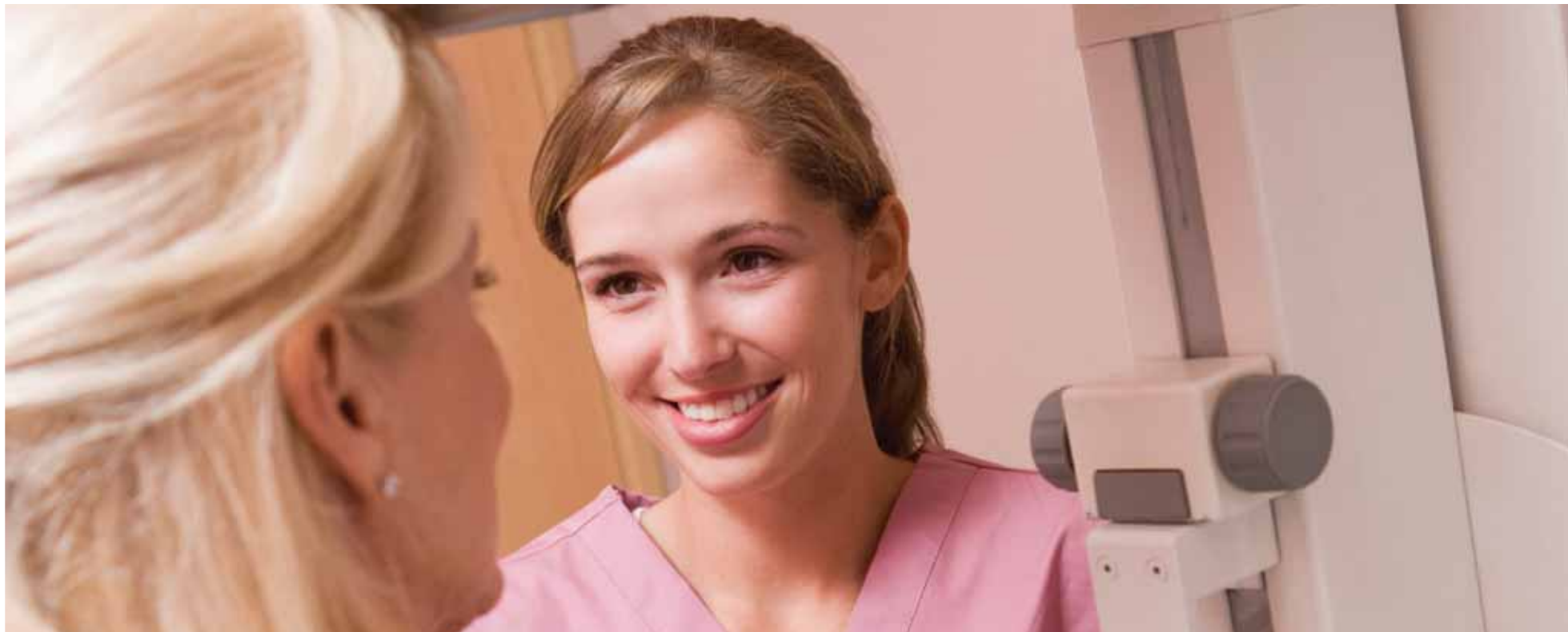
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Answers to the Crossword Puzzle  
from page 11

B	A	S	S		S	C	O	F	F		W	O	R	T
A	N	T	E		C	A	R	O	L		A	R	E	A
S	T	A	T	I	O	N	A	R	Y		L	I	P	S
K	I	T		C	R	A	T	E		S	L	E	E	T
	U	T	E	N	S	I	L			H	O	L	L	Y
S	T	E	E	D		T	O	E	C	A	P			
P	I	T	A		R	A	N	G	E	R		S	A	P
U	N	T	R	U	E				D	E	B	T	O	R
R	Y	E		S	A	L	U	T	E		L	A	N	E
			C	A	L	I	P	H		B	O	G	E	Y
D	E	B	U	G		G	R	I	M	A	C	E		
E	L	A	T	E		N	I	T	E	R		N	E	W
B	I	L	L		N	I	G	H	T		S	H	A	D
I	D	L	E		O	T	H	E	R		E	M	I	R
T	E	S	T		R	E	T	R	O		M	E	T	E





# Free mammography screenings

## About the event:

The Centra Foundation and M.A.A.M. (Mammograms Annually A Must) are partnering to provide a free day of mammography screenings. Mammograms are the best option for identifying cancer at its earliest, most treatable stages.

Free screening mammograms will be offered to women 40 years of age or older who do not have health insurance or are underinsured and have not had a mammogram in the last year.

## Registration:

To make an appointment, call 434.200.4048.

Space is limited for this one day event.



C E N T R A  
Foundation

## SPECIAL EVENT

**DATE:** Tuesday, August 7

**TIME:** By appointment

### LOCATIONS:

The Mammography Center,  
20293 Timberlake Road, Lynchburg

The Mammography Center, Suite 15,  
1900 Tate Springs Road, Lynchburg

Centra Bedford Memorial Hospital,  
1613 Oakwood Street, Bedford

Centra Southside Community Hospital,  
800 Oak Street, Farmville

Centra Gretna Medical Center,  
291 McBride Lane, Gretna

Centra Danville Medical Center,  
414 Park Avenue, Danville