

# Buckingham Beacon



November 2 - November 29, 2018 • One Copy FREE • Like Us on 

BUCKINGHAM COUNTY, VIRGINIA

**Dillwyn Christmas Parade**  
Coming December 16th  
3:00 pm



**Meet Dr. Daisy Hicks**

**Buckingham County Schools'  
New Superintendent**

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Dr. Daisy Hicks in her office.  
Photo courtesy of Sue A. Miles.

Cover designed by Marilyn Ellinger

## Buckingham Beacon

A monthly publication

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# Rosa Nell Blanton - 104 years old

By Sue A. Miles  
Correspondent



Rosa Nell Gary Blanton at 104. Photo by S. Miles.

Sadly, just as the *Beacon* was going to print, we were notified that Mrs. Blanton had peacefully passed away in her sleep. We extend our sympathy to the family for their loss.

**R**osa Nell Gary Blanton, born in Buckingham County September 29, 1914, recently celebrated her 104th birthday. Blanton, who says she raised "nine good children," also has 18 grandchildren, 32 great-grandchildren, and 15 great-great grandchildren. "My memory is not as good as it use to be," she said. "I can't go back in time like I use to." One of eleven children, Mrs. Blanton grew up on a farm and married Abraham Lincoln Blanton of Cumberland. When asked what she attributes to her longevity, she responds, "The secret of life is the Man upstairs." Blanton, who had all of her children at home, has only been in the hospital once in her life and only complains about a bit of arthritis. She loves to read and enjoys watching television. Happy Birthday, Mrs. Blanton!



Rosa is shown with her husband, Abraham, at their 50th anniversary celebration. Photo courtesy of Blanton family.





Eddie Slagle, Chamber President; Auten; and Sandra F. Moss, Chamber Treasurer and Newsletter Editor. Photo courtesy of Thomas Jordan Miles III

# Auten speaks to Buckingham Chamber

Dr. Bryan Auten, owner and operator of Slate River Veterinary Clinic, located on Twin Creek Road just east of Buckingham Court House, was the featured speaker during the October meeting of the Buckingham Chamber of Commerce. Auten's business is also the Chamber's featured Business of the Month for October.

During his talk, Auten discussed his growing business, the addition of new facilities, trends in large and small animal care, treatment and prevention of illness in animals, wellness for animals, the partnership his firm with the county regarding administering rabies vaccinations, and the importance of spaying and neutering pets.

Auten said Buckingham "is a great county to be in and work in." Learn more about Slate River Veterinary Clinic at <http://www.slaterivervet.com/>.

# Florist is October Community Pride Award Recipient

Special Touch Design Florist & Gifts, located at Sprouse's Corner in Dillwyn, is the October recipient of the Buckingham County Chamber of Commerce's Community Pride Award.

Owned and operated by Jonathan and Tracy Fitzgerald, Special Touch offers not only a flowers for any occasion and seasonal flowering plants, but a wide array of gifts, custom floral arrangements and other seasonal items.

"Special Touch is a locally owned and operated small business that is the go-to for so many Buckingham businesses and residents, and it's most appropriate they receive this award," said Chamber Community Pride Award Chairman Jordan Miles. "The appearance of their business is always clean, neat and welcoming to locals and visitors alike seeking a gift to brighten someone's day."



Pictured receiving and presenting the award are, from left, J.C. Fitzgerald standing in front of Jonathan Fitzgerald, Tracy Fitzgerald, Hank Hagenau, Faye Shumaker, Sita Rose, DuVal Shumaker, Barbara Wheeler, Krishna Jo Melendez, Jordan Miles and Janet Miller. Photo courtesy of Thomas Jordan Miles III.

## BUCKINGHAM FOOD PANTRY CALENDAR

### BLUE RIDGE FOOD TRUCK

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

Blue Ridge Food Truck will come only once in November on Friday Nov. 9th  
December: Dec. 7th and 21st.

**MOURNER'S VALLERY - RT 20  
1ST and 3rd Saturday of  
every month 10:00-11:00am**

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Dr. Daisy Hicks (right) is shown with Lisha Robinson, instructional and testing coordinator, greeting students at the middle school after a recent assembly.

## An interview with the new school superintendent



Dr. Hicks is shown visiting the Buckingham Middle School during lunch time where she had a chat with seventh grader D'Andrea Hurt (left) and sixth grader, Alexis Payne. All photos by Sue Miles.

**D**r. Daisy Hicks was recently appointed as Buckingham new School Superintendent. Dr. Hicks, who came to us from Nottoway sat down with the Beacon to tell the readers about herself.

**Beacon:** Thank you for allowing the Beacon to introduce you to the community as the new school superintendent. Could you tell us about your educational path that led up to this position?

**Hicks:** I obtained the following degrees: Association Degree in Arts and Science from Southside Virginia Community College (1999), Bachelor of Science in Organizational Management from Saint Paul's College (2001), Master's Degree in Instruction from Central Michigan University (2003), Certificate of Graduate Studies in Educational Leadership from Cambridge College (2007), and a Doctoral Degree in Educational Leadership from Virginia Commonwealth University (2014). Also, I received my high school diploma from Nottoway County Public Schools in 1985.

**Beacon:** Where have you taught and/or worked in the education system?

**Hicks:** Over the course of my career, I have served in many important educational roles: teacher's assistant, secretary, teacher, assistant principal, a principal at all levels, director of human resources, operations, testing, and superintendent's designee in rural public school divisions. In 2000, I began my first teaching experience at Prince Edward County Middle School. I

**See Dr. Hicks Page 6**

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Volunteer opportunities are available in Farmville and surrounding areas. Training is required to become a hospice volunteer and is typically done in two four-hour sessions or one seven-hour day on Saturday.

**Registration:**

To register for volunteer training, contact Malinda Miller at 434.315.5052 or email [malinda.miller@centrahealth.com](mailto:malinda.miller@centrahealth.com).

**CLASS DATES**

**DATES:**  
 Tuesday and Wednesday,  
 November 6 and 7  
 10 am to 2 pm

*Lunch provided.*

**LOCATION:**  
 Centra Hospice Farmville,  
 1705 E. Third Street,  
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taught at J. S. Russell Jr. High School, now known as J. S. Russell Middle School, for Brunswick County Public Schools. I began my administrative career in 2005 as an Assistant Principal at Cumberland County Middle School. After leaving Cumberland in 2007, I served as an Elementary Principal here in Buckingham County at the former Gold Hill Elementary School. In 2009, I began my duties as Principal at Nottoway Intermediate School and then in 2015 as Principal at Nottoway High School for Nottoway County Public Schools. Before beginning my duties in Buckingham as Superintendent, I served as Director of Human Resources, Operations, Testing and Superintendent's Designee. In addition to my work experience as an educator, I have been afforded the opportunity to teach graduate level courses for Longwood University and Averett College as an Adjunct Instructor in their Educational Leadership Program. Also, I worked for Saint Paul's College in Lawrenceville, Virginia as the Director of Continuing Studies.

**Beacon:** You've obviously held many different positions in the field of education in your career. How do you believe such experiences will help you in your new role as superintendent?

**Hicks:** I can truly understand and relate to my staff, faculty, and administrators because I have walked in those shoes. These positions have provided me the real-life work experiences that will help me to better serve my team.

**Beacon:** What specifically brought you back to Buckingham County versus a different area?

**Hicks:** When I served as principal at Gold Hill Elementary, I loved the community and was impressed with the level of family and community support. I enjoyed working with the students, teachers, staff, administrators, and parents. Therefore, it is such an honor to be back in Buckingham serving as the Superintendent for such a great school division.

**Beacon:** What specific goals do you have for Buckingham schools?

**Hicks:** The mission of Buckingham County Public Schools is to create a safe, positive learning environment where students can adapt, create, collaborate, think critically and meet the challenges of an ever-changing global community. Therefore, it is important to ensure our schools are accredited, as well as to ensure all our students in Buckingham are afforded the same opportunities as students around the world.

**Beacon:** How can we encourage parents and the community as a whole to be stakeholders in the education of our children?

**Hicks:** It is important for us to have school activities where parents and the community can attend and see the great things that our children are doing. It is our responsibility to keep parents and the community informed of ways in which they can support our children. Many parents work and may not be able to come to all the events or to visit their children's school,

therefore it is important that we communicate with them via multiple forms of communication: email, phone calls, or even home visits for example. Principals create monthly newsletters to send home to parents to keep them abreast of the latest school news. It is essential for us to work together because "it does take a village to raise a child."

**Beacon:** How do you think we can create a community and district wide culture of making education a high priority?

**Hicks:** It is vital that we all understand education is the key to ensuring our community and country can thrive. We must be advocates for all children, and provide opportunities for all students to receive the skills needed to be productive citizens.

**Beacon:** It has been noted that we are starting to see a shortage of teachers throughout the country. As our experienced teachers begin to retire in Buckingham what do you believe the district can do to attract new teachers?

**Hicks:** There is a nationwide teacher shortage. It is important that we keep our teacher salaries and benefits competitive, implement supports for new teachers such as mentoring programs and provide quality professional development. We must continue to celebrate our teachers, let them know they are valued and appreciated, as well as provide a safe environment for successful education of our children.

**Beacon:** Having noted that – is there anything specific that you believe Region 8 or the Buckingham division can do to encourage students to consider a career in education or to bring in teachers to the county?

**Hicks:** I really believe in growing your own. Every opportunity that we can show students the important work we do will hopefully encourage them to be an educator because it is so rewarding. Also, as a small rural area school division we must showcase the great things that we are doing for children and network with local colleges and universities to attract teachers.

**Beacon:** Your appointment is a first for Buckingham in many ways, being the county's first female and first African-American superintendent. How do you put into context each of these advances for being opportunities and challenges in your position?

**Hicks:** Being a superintendent has challenges no matter your gender, or ethnicity. It is my hope, everyone will acknowledge me as the Superintendent of Buckingham County Public Schools, a role I am much honored to hold. I always strive to be a positive role model for others and to encourage others to be the best they can be.

**Beacon:** What one person has influenced you the most in your life?

**Hicks:** First, I acknowledge God for providing me with supporting parents as well as placing influential individuals in my life at appropriate times. I firmly believe as I stated earlier, "it takes a village to raise a child."

**Beacon:** Would you elaborate on who those influential individuals were and how they inspired you?

**Hicks:** My parents, my son, and other family and friends were very supportive and encouraged me. I will always be appreciative for those who hired me in those positions because they provided me the opportunity to learn and grow to become who I am today. I do not want to list names because there were so many. I have been blessed with having these people in my life.

**Beacon:** Is there a special quote or principle that you go by for direction and inspiration?

**Hicks:** "I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me" Philippians 4:13

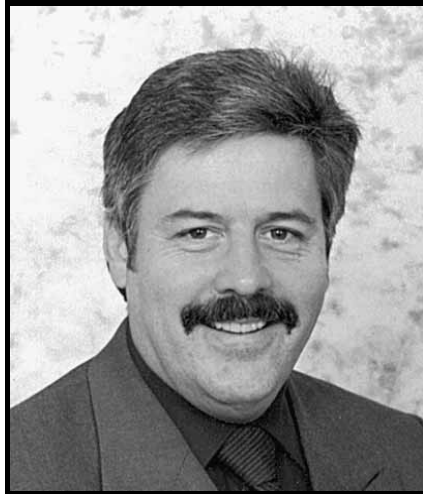
**Beacon:** What are your interests outside of your career? What hobbies or things do you do to relax? I enjoy spending time with family and friends, watching movies and I love to travel.

**Beacon:** What book are you reading now and tell us why you've chosen it.

**Hicks:** I am currently reading Drive, by Daniel H. Pink. Over the summer, an administrator from another division and I were discussing books that would be great to read for a book study. Drive was on this list; therefore, I selected to read it because as a leader it is important to understand what actually motivates people. Daniel Pink discusses what motivates people based on the research conducted over four decades. Many think it is money, but is it?

**Beacon:** Looking back at your life journey can you tell the readers a defining moment or experience that has impacted your life and why it has meaning for you?

**Hicks:** If someone had told me when I was in high school that I would be a superintendent, I would not have believed it. I was the girl that dreamed of getting married, having children (4), a dog and living happily ever after. Well, when that plan fell apart, I chose to go to college and pursue a career as an educator. When I first realized I wanted to be a superintendent, I was serving as the Superintendent's Secretary. Being a single parent was my driving force to fulfilling this dream. My son was two years old when I started taking college courses. I worked full time and took courses at night. My goal was to complete my degree and be a teacher by the time my son started school. I reached this goal shortly after he started school; he was in the first grade. I continued my education and received a Master's Degree and Advanced Graduate Studies Degree. When my son graduated from high school, this encouraged me to pursue a doctoral degree. I knew I needed something positive to do to fill the empty nest syndrome since he was leaving for college. We encouraged each other to do our best and participated in healthy competitions. I want everyone who reads this article to understand that if I can do this so can you. Set goals, establish a plan for reaching those goals, and when life gives you lemons make lemonade.



## Giving thanks.

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# Makerspace BMS

By Sue A. Miles  
Correspondent

Buckingham Middle School Media Specialist, Melissa Hanes, was recently awarded a \$10,000 grant to create a Makerspace for the school's students. Makerspace is essentially that - a space to make things. Tying in with the school's technology curriculum, the program supports the STEAM movement (science, technology, engineering, art, and math). Students are given the opportunity to create and develop projects and activities aligning with their classroom's topics while using the highest level of Bloom's taxonomy to apply what they know and create from that knowledge. The school's English classes recently created public service announcements using the green screen and related technology. In social studies classes, students can take virtual field trips with the Google Virtual Reality headsets to visit places they otherwise would not be able to see. In math classes, students are building objects to determine volume and surface area. Students also have access to a 3D printer, sewing machines, a Cricut tools, robots, and more.



Middle school principal, Zane Harshman (left from left) joined Hanes and students to celebrate the awarding of the grant. Shown left to right are: Taniya Gough, Harshman, Hanes, and Parker Knight. Photo by Sue A. Miles.



Martha Louis President of HBI, Angela Loving Lightfoot and Easton Loving.

## Historic Buckingham Hosted Annual Membership Meeting

By Martha Louis  
Correspondent

Historic Buckingham hosted its annual membership meeting on a lovely evening in September, and served up some delicious Brunswick stew dinners to over 70 members and prospective members. After the business meeting and committee reports, the HBI calendar was brought out and the dedication was read. "The 30th edition 2019 calendar was dedicated to the late Ruby Apperson Loving who was so passionate and knowledgeable about Buckingham County, especially her end of the county. HBI called on Ruby on many occasions to help identify a photograph or to remember a story about the New Canton community. At Christmas we could always count on Ruby and her family staff to make the Housewright Museum look especially beautiful with all the period decorations of fresh fruit and greenery. Contributions from special folks like Ruby are what make HBI such a strong and growing organization." On behalf of Ruby's family were her 2 children, Angela Loving Lightfoot and Easton Loving who accepted the dedication award.

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## Thanksgiving Dinner

Available November 22, 2018  
11:00 a.m. - 7:00 p.m.

### Salad

Fresh Garden Salad

### Dinner Selections

Oven Roasted Turkey Breast

Slow Roasted Turkey Breast Basted in its own Natural Au Jus and Lightly Seasoned with Salt & Pepper & Pineapple Glazed Ham Steak

Center cut, bone-in ham steak glazed with pineapple house pickled ginger sauce.

### Accompaniments

Candied Yams	Deviled Eggs
Stuffing	Potato Salad
Hot Fresh Rolls	Cranberry Salsa
Mashed Potatoes & Gravy	Southern Green Beans

Only \$21.95

### Desserts:

Pumpkin Pie \$4.95 Pecan Pie \$4.95

Consuming raw or undercooked seafood, chicken, pork, beef or eggs may increase your risk of food-borne illnesses, especially if you have certain medical conditions. To our guests with food sensitivities or allergies: Tavern on the James cannot ensure that menu items do not contain ingredients that might cause an allergic reaction. Please consider this when ordering.

# UPCOMING EVENTS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS



### Dillwyn Christmas Parade

Sunday Dec. 16 3:00pm

Entry forms available at Dillwyn Town Hall or call (434)983-2076.

**Village Christmas Market**  
December 8th 11:00am-4:00pm  
with lunch available  
December 9th 1:00pm-4:00pm  
no admission charge

Lots of vendors and handmade items, Foxfire wreaths, Lunch available, Live holiday music, and more!!!



### Exciting Buckingham County Library Activities

Nov. 2 - "Library Late Night" - The Library will reopen at 6pm for special yarn crafts.

Families can create a variety of things from mini monsters to Popsicle stick Critters!

Nov 10- "Game Day" - celebrate international Game Week with puzzles, board games, card games and more!

Dec. 8- Come create a special homemade gift item.

Dec. 15- "Polar Express" there will be activities during the day. The main event will be by reservation only. Stop by the Library for details.

### Library Ongoing Activities:

Mondays 5:00-7:00pm Special

Teen Activities Tuesdays 10:30am

Preschool Storytime

Thursdays 3:30-5:00pm

Afterschool Activities (ages 6-12)

Fridays 12:00 noon Family

movies

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# Village Christmas Market

Saturday, Dec. 8th • 11:00 am- 4:00 pm- Lunch available

Sunday, Dec. 9th • 1:00 pm-4:00 pm

Arts, crafts, jewelry, ornaments, Amish baked goods, Christmas cookies, gift ideas & Foxfire Wreaths. No admission charge- Lunch available- period decorations- period live music



## Housewright Museum & Adams Museum

### Christmas Open House

Dec 7th-after tree lighting

Dec 8th and 9th • 1:00-4:00 pm

(Located across from Buckingham Courthouse)

Call for more information:

(434)547-2296

Historic Buckingham, Inc. (501 C3 organization)

## Support the UVA Children's Hospital by attending the 1<sup>st</sup> Annual Girl Scouts Field Day!



New toys or small equipment for kids to age 12 are needed for their **Indoor Playground.**

Saturday, November 10, 2018

from 1:00-4:00 at the

Pleasant Grove Pole Barn in Palmyra

**Cost:** A donation of one **new** toy

(Due to health reasons, used items cannot be accepted, cash donations are welcome)

**Come join the fun!** There will be games (such as *Throw a Pie in a Girl Scout's Face*), bouncy house, activities, snacks, drinks, and items for sale.

**All proceeds will benefit the UVA Children's Hospital**

**So come help us bring the outside in to them!**





## 1951 Graduating Class Reunion

The Buckingham County High School of 1951 Graduating Class met September 20th at Theresa' Restaurant, Sprouses Corner for lunch. It was their 67th reunion.

Those that attended were: front row: Gladys J. Absher, Ruby H. Bryant, Rae A. Wootton, Aileen P. Reynolds, Marie F. Garrett. Back row: Jackie Dowdy, Charles Wooten, Louise R. Dunkum, Shirley T. Wooten, Jeanett O. Lann, Roy Shores, roy's invited guest, and Earnet (Slim) Christian. Submitted by Shirley T. Wooten.



The court is (left to right, rear): Kiara Eldridge, Mollie Smith, Jayda Chambers, RhaNeisha Holman, Kaitlyn Smith and Nina Broussard. Front row: Max Ragland, Eli Caldwell, Hunter Dispanet, Melvin Anderson, Zach Snoddy and Jesiah Jones.

Photo by Sue A. Miles

## Buckingham High Homecoming Court 2018

By Sue A. Miles, Correspondent

The Buckingham County High School Homecoming court gathered in October at the school to celebrate the football season and to enjoy the annual Homecoming Dance. The royal court is pictured in all their glory. Jayda Chambers, Senior Homecoming Queen is a member of the National Beta Club, Ecology and Yearbook Club. Jayda is a 1st team All-District cross country, and a basketball and softball athlete who is continuing her academics and basketball career at a Virginia college/University. Senior Homecoming King, Melvin Anderson has been a member of the Medford Basketball team for four years and a member of the Raising Awareness Gaining Understanding (RAGU) Club for 4 years as well. Melvin has assisted with many service organizations in his school career.



Tanner Wise pictured with his award-winning sheep at the Five County Fair. Photo courtesy of David Wise.

## Tanner Wise Wins

Tanner Wise of Buckingham participated in the Five County Fair Youth Sheep show on September 24. Tanner placed second in senior showmanship sheep class. He also won 1st place and Grand Champion in the hair sheep meat class with his December 2017 born Katahdin ewe lamb that was born and raised on Poplar View Farm. Tanner is a member of Buckingham County 4-H Livestock Club and Buckingham County High School FFA and is in the 9th grade. He is the son of David and Sherri Wise of Buckingham.



The Winners are: Chad Jones (4th Place), William "A. J." Roach (5th Place) and Thomas Test (6th place.)

## CTE welding class at the Virginia State Fair

In October, four students in the Buckingham CTE welding class traveled to the Virginia State Fair to compete in the SkillsUSA Day Welding Competition against other technical centers from around the Commonwealth. Along with networking with other welding students from the Commonwealth, the Buckingham students were able to meet with representatives from the welding industry while putting their welding skills and knowledge to practical use.



# BCMS FFA Competes at the State Fair of VA

Contributed by Sherry Dorrier

**B**uckingham County Middle School FFA was very excited to have 65 students attend the State Fair of Virginia. The Educational Exposition at the fair is designed to educate youth about all the Commonwealth has to offer in a setting unlike any other. "Virginia's Largest Outdoor Classroom" provides students an opportunity to experience agriculture, history, technology, and natural resources first-hand.

In addition to all the exhibits at the fair, students in Career and Technical Education (CTE) classes also had the chance to showcase what they have learned by competing with other schools through the SkillsUSA program. SkillsUSA is a partnership of students, teachers and industry representatives working together to ensure America has a skilled workforce. Nine BCMS students were a part of the competition at the recent State Fair. These agriculture students competed in Forestry Field Day. The team events included two-man crosscut saw, water accuracy, pulpwood log toss, log rolling, and cutting a log with a bow saw. The team placed seventh overall. Team members included Holden Tyson, Eli Bryant, Cameron Newton, Hunter Branch, Ethan Martin, Jake Carter, Jordan Dorrier, Camden Allen, & Nathan Shippee.

BCMS also participated in the Junior Foresters event held at the fair. The Junior Foresters team included members Jordan Dorrier, Emma Staton, Camden Allen, Daniel Farrish, Gwyneth Mitchell, Hunter Branch, Jake Carter and Jacob Palmore. The event, run by the Virginia Department of Forestry, tests students' knowledge and skills in a variety of activities. Participants had to identify trees from leaf samples, identify disease and insect problems, and identify tools used in the forest industry, as well as measuring trees to determine lumber volume and estimating land area.

Courtney Agee and Justice Steger also participated in the Agricultural Demonstration competition on the junior level. Contestants performed demonstration topics that dealt with agriculture within any of the following areas: Plant and



Pictured L to R: Front Row: Jacob Palmore, Jacob Carter, Emma Staton, Holden Tyson, Hunter Branch, Jordan Dorrier, Justice Steger, Ethan Martin. Back Row: Nathan Shippee, Daniel Farrish, Camden Allen, Eli Bryant, Cameron Newton, Courtney Agee, Gwyneth Mitchell.

Soil Science, Animal Science, Agricultural Marketing & Agricultural Business, Natural Resources Management & Environmental Science, and Agricultural Engineering. Following the demonstrations contestants answered questions about their topics. Courtney and Justice performed a demonstration on how to assemble a pet first aid kit. They placed 5th overall in the junior division.

## Buckingham FFA Attends Training Conference



Members who attended are back row (L to R): Gwyneth Mitchell, J'Miyah Holman, Jordan Dorrier, Rachel Reeves O'Front row (L to R): Haylie Hucks, Camden Allen, & Emma Staton.

Local FFA chapters, including Buckingham Middle's and High's, attended the Southeast Area Chapter Officer Leadership Training Conference hosted at Dinwiddie High School on September 27th. These members received training on their office duties, improved their team building skills, and socialized with other FFA members. The workshops were taught by the current Virginia FFA state officer team. The students enjoyed meeting new people, and are excited about what they were able to bring back to their chapters.



Shown left to right are William Davis, Mike Toney (rear), Chris Toney, Austin Linthicum, and Buddy Terry. Photo by Sue A. Miles.

## Thor's Hammer

By Sue A. Miles  
Correspondent

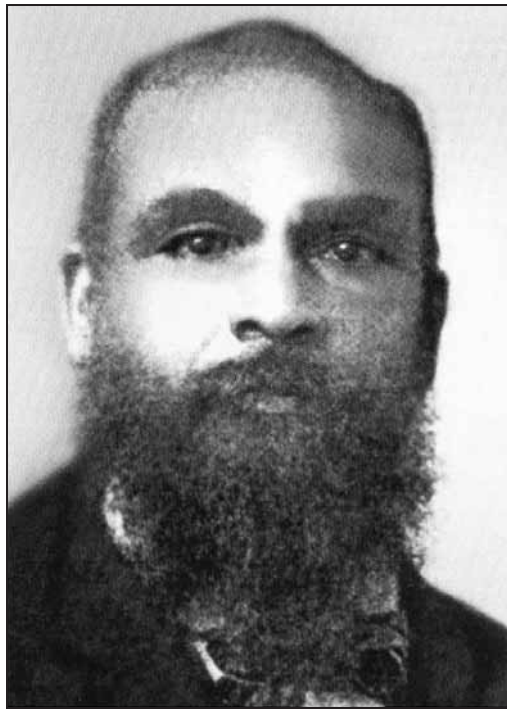
Members of the Arvon Volunteer Fire Department wait for their opportunity to complete in the second annual Thor's Hammer event which recently took place at the Buckingham Agriculture Resource Network (The BARN). Competitions between Arvon, Dillwyn, Glenmore, and Toga included Extrication Jenga (using extrication tools from the department to arrange life-sized Jenga pieces), and firehose and water bucket relays. This year's winning department, Toga, took home the coveted 40-inch trophy. The event, which also included a chili cook-off, live music, and games for children, was held to honor the life and service of Thor Stish, who started volunteering for the fire department at the age of 15 and whose life was lost in an automobile accident at the age of 19. George and Cassandra Stish, parents of Thor, along with friends and family, were instrumental in organizing the event.





On The Move With Joanne Yeck

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 (braughlerbooks.com).



Caesar Perkins. Courtesy E. Renée Ingram and Charles W. White, Sr.

In 1870, Caesar (a.k.a. Cesar) Perkins, "Mulatto," lived in Buckingham County's Maysville Township. Thirty years old, he was probably the youngest African American included on a list created by Lt. Col. Jordan in which he suggested men suited for post-war positions in the county government. Perkins was an informed choice and, ultimately, his influence extended across the state, earning him a lengthy entry in *Encyclopedia Virginia*.

According to the 1900 census, Caesar Perkins was born in March of 1839. In 1870, his mother, Clarisse (a. k. a. "Clarissy"), age forty-seven, and Joseph Moseley (a. k. a. Mosley), age seventy, lived together in Buckingham County's James River Township; their relationship is not stated on the census. Several sources identify them as husband and wife, despite their age difference. It has been suggested that Perkins adopted the surname of his "last," former owner, William H. Perkins, who was a member of the Virginia House of Delegates during the 1853-1854 session.

Caesar Perkins married a woman named Susan (a. k. a. Susannah). Her maiden name may have been Eldridge. In 1880, her sister, Lavinia Eldridge, was living with the Perkins family. Together, Caesar and Susan had two daughters, Mary A. (born abt. 1862) and Mildred (born abt. 1868).

In an election on July 6, 1869, Caesar Perkins and a man named James H. Noble defeated candidates of the Conservative Party, winning by about 225 votes, earning two seats in Virginia's House of Delegates. They would be among the men to ratify the Fourteenth and Fifteenth amendments to the U.S. Constitution. In the fall of 1869, Caesar Perkins attended a convention of Radical Republicans. The goal was to reorganize and strengthen the party against the Conservatives who had been victorious in recent elections.

During 1870-1871, Perkins was on the Committee of Claims in the General Assembly. Significantly, in January of 1873, Perkins was named by the Governor of Virginia as one of the curators to oversee the educational fund for Hampton Normal and Agricultural Institute (later Hampton University). Simultaneously, Perkins continued his work with the Republican Party and, in 1884, he was named as an alternate delegate to the Republican national convention in Chicago. In 1887, he served a second term in the Virginia House of Delegates, representing Buckingham and Cumberland counties.

In 1900, Perkins and his second wife, the widow Lucy J. Claiborne, were enumerated twice on the Federal Census, in Clifton Forge, Virginia (where he helped establish the Second Baptist Church) and in Buckingham County. In November of 1904, in Buckingham, he helped found a chapter of the Colored Knights of Pythias, a fraternal and benevolent association, eventually becoming the District Deputy Grand Chancellor for the county and organized additional lodges. According to the *Encyclopedia Virginia*, "He donated a house and lot to the Maysville school district in August 1910." He died on September 22, 1910, in Richmond, Virginia, following a long illness. He is buried on his property near Dillwyn in Buckingham County.

On September 30, 1910, *The Farmville Herald* ran a lengthy obituary for Caesar Perkins, which reflected the tone of the times and its still divisive politics. In 1910, many Virginians continued to dwell on the "dark days" of Reconstruction. It is not known who provided the details of Rev. Perkins' life, though, surely it was someone who knew him well, including details of his original training as a brick mason. His obituary did not stand alone in the newspaper but was included with news from Buckingham County on page seven. It read as follows:

*The body of Caesar Perkins was buried at his old home place here on the twenty-fourth. Perkins at one time was one of the most prominent negroes in the State, and he was for a time a potent factor in shaping affairs in Buckingham. In the dark days of Virginia's history, when the Republicans ruled and when the negroes held the balance of power, Caesar Perkins had a great influence with his race, and he was not slow to claim his share of the loaves and fishes from his white fellow Republicans, and he usually had the claims allowed too. However, Perkins was more conservative in his views than many who ruled at that time, and with all he was intelligent to a degree. He was a member of the legislature of Virginia and also served as a member of the Board of Supervisors of this county. By trade Perkins was a brick mason and a very good workman. As a public speaker he ranked far above any negro of this county and in the days*

*of Republican ascendancy, he was listened to by the whites as well as the negroes. There were not many Republicans, white or colored, that could get the best of him in debate. As a slave Perkins was owned by Mr. Wm. H. Perkins, of this county, and he often spoke of Mr. Perkins as "my master," and he seemed to have the highest regard for the people whom he had served as a slave.*

While the unknown author of this obituary focused on Rev. Perkins' political contribution to Buckingham County, he completely overlooked his state-wide dedication to African-American churches and schools. In any case, it is good to know that Rev. Perkins was a forceful public speaker and debater.

Digital copies of *The Farmville Herald* can be found online at the Library of Virginia's collection of historic newspapers, Virginia Chronicle. For much more about African American politicians, educators, and religious leaders in Buckingham County, Virginia, consult *Buckingham County* by E. Renée Ingram and Charles W. White, Sr.

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### Crossword

by Margie E. Burke

#### ACROSS

- 1 Make an impression?
- 5 Diamond Head's home
- 9 Dog who played Eddie on "Frasier"
- 14 White as a ghost
- 15 Privy to
- 16 Garment worn by Flo and Alice
- 17 Like some tea
- 18 Talk like Daffy
- 19 Argue against
- 20 Wales pooch
- 22 Fix, at the vet's
- 24 Greet the day
- 25 Lady's man
- 27 Thirst quencher
- 29 \_\_\_ Day
- 31 Solidly built
- 33 Cold War competition
- 35 Full of back talk
- 39 Written law
- 40 Nutrition label unit
- 42 Church council
- 43 Wearing black, maybe
- 44 Trustworthy
- 47 Relax, slangily
- 48 Kind of wheel
- 51 Spreadsheet filler
- 53 Orchard fruit
- 54 Leaves home?
- 56 "Same here!"
- 59 Fort Knox bar
- 61 Edit menu option
- 63 Like Jack Sprat's diet
- 64 Do a salon job
- 65 Ruckus

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
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53				54			55	56			57	58
59				60		61		62		63		
64						65				66		
67						68				69		

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- 66 Fender flaw
- 67 Public figure?
- 68 Can't stand
- 69 Conclusion starter
- 10 Game with a character named "Cavity Sam"
- 11 Elliptical path
- 12 Lush
- 13 Stage direction
- 21 Unwelcome visitor
- 23 Welcome word at a proposal
- 26 "\_\_\_ does it!"
- 28 Educated
- 29 Physics calculation
- 30 Pretentious, perhaps
- 32 Cooler contents
- 34 Supplies' place
- 36 Armed ship of old
- 37 Lodgepole, for one
- 38 Burglar
- 40 Corn holder
- 41 New Year's word
- 43 Ink cartridge color
- 45 Beyond tipsy
- 46 Arrival en masse
- 48 Nutmeg, e.g.
- 49 Mortise's mate
- 50 Colonel's insignia
- 52 Diacritic mark
- 55 Cut and paste
- 57 Zingy taste
- 58 Not duped by
- 60 Take a stab at
- 62 Kind of deposit

#### DOWN

- 1 Kind of proportions
- 2 Mexican fare
- 3 Religious leader
- 4 Beat around the bush
- 5 Painter's medium
- 6 Spanish cordial
- 7 Home for the sick
- 8 Post-vacation task
- 9 Damage



# Fire House Nears Completion



Standing in front of the new fire house, under construction, are Glenmore Fire Department members, left to right, L. L. Miles, Odell Ragland and Harold Snoddy.



Glenmore Fire Department today. All photos courtesy of Jordan Miles.

## Glenmore Volunteer Fire Department to Celebrate 50th Anniversary

*Sen. Mark Peake will be keynote speaker, awards & recognitions planned*

**T**he Glenmore Volunteer Fire Department will celebrate its 50th anniversary on Sunday, Nov. 4 at 2 p.m. at the firehouse, located at 179 Firehouse Road, in Buckingham County.

The event, which is free and open to the public, will include food, awards, recognitions, giveaways, showcases of the fire department and fire trucks and equipment, and State Sen. Mark Peake as the keynote speaker. The occasion seeks to honor and celebrate the founding, accomplishments and history of the fire department.

"This is event will celebrate what the fire department has done over the last 50 years in terms of giving back to this community, working for the greater good of all of our neighbors and uniting us for a common cause — supporting our volunteers and looking out for each other," said Fire Department President Tommy Joe Steger.

The department was formed and founded in 1967 on land donated by L.L. "Dick" and Hazel Ragland Miles along Route 740, now Firehouse Road. A 40 ft. by 60 ft. cinder block fire house was constructed in 1968.

The department has expanded over the years, adding more vehicles, equipment and constructing an additional building to house equipment. Thirty-five charter members initially met in the sanctuary of the Glenmore United Methodist Church, setting up their siren at Palmore's Garage — a stone's throw away from where the fire house now stands. Initiating their chicken barbecues, the group began the process of raising the necessary funds to build a firehouse.

Their first fire truck was a used one, donated by the Dillwyn Volunteer Fire Department.

The Sunday, Nov. 4 event will include recognition and awards for founding members, families of founding members, existing volunteer fire department members, and others who have supported the department throughout the years. The event will also highlight the history of the department and the improvements and changes it has made over the last 50 years.

The department is supported mainly through its fundraisers, such as its ever-popular chicken barbecues, though it receives much support from the Buckingham County Board of Supervisors, other events such as Thor's Hammer, and private donations.

A Ladies' Auxiliary was formed to support the fire department in 1972. The auxiliary thrives today, just as the department does in its mission to support the department through fundraising.

"We're so thankful for what our community has done to support this department," said longtime Department Chief Pete Agee. "We're proud to serve the residents of Glenmore and beyond, thankful for what our volunteers — both firemen and members of the ladies auxiliary — do for us and for the support the residents of this county and others who embrace our mission continue to do to help us help our neighbors."

For more information on the event, contact **Jordan Miles at 434-390-7023 or email [thomas.jordan.miles@gmail.com](mailto:thomas.jordan.miles@gmail.com).**

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# LOVE is in the air !



On Saturday, Oct 13th, Buckingham Branch unveiled Dillwyn's LOVE sign. There was a nice crowd to witness this wonderful addition to the Town of Dillwyn which is right beside the depot. There were lots of vendors and of course pictures with the new Virginia is for Lovers sign. Carrie Brown, HR person with Buckingham Branch, invites everyone to stop by and get a picture made. Photo courtesy of Martha Louis.

## Roadtrip Nation PBS

By Sue A. Miles  
Correspondent



During a recent school day in October, Buckingham students were introduced to the Roadtrip Nation concept when the big green bus and its staff arrived, made an informational presentation, and invited students to come on the bus for resource information on careers and higher education - all thanks to ECMC Foundation and PBS (Public Broadcasting Service). What made this event more special was that Buckingham was the only high school in Virginia that the bus visited. That's pretty amazing when you consider that the bus crew is driving across country to visit high schools with their message. That message is how focusing on community college can be a launch pad into higher education, specialized skills and rewarding careers and lives. The Roadtrip Nation program helps students explore their interests and find a way to combine them to create or find a job or career that aligns with their interests. Through a public television series, online resources, and an educational curriculum, Roadtrip Nation helps career-seekers connect to real-world professionals and discover pathways aligned with their interests.

Shown in front of the big green bus are: Ariel Vierra (Roadtrip staff), Nickolus Eldridge, Raquel Natalicchio (Roadtrip staff), Kofi Bonsu (Roadtrip staff), Tamiyah Gough, Mia Garrett, Isis Grammer, and (front) Mayra Huevo. Dayman Long (Roadtrip staff) is on top the bus.

## My Truth Bomb

By Sue A. Miles, Correspondent



Rear row: Abigail Dowdy, Tavion Bartee, Kamari Hill, Huddleston, McIntosh, Madison Bryant, and Tamara Gough.  
Front row: Christine Wingert (school counselor), Catherine Selfridge, ShDiamond Watkins, Leia Barron, and Austyn Allen.

Jenny McIntosh (back row, fourth from left) is shown with Buckingham Middle School's Truth Team. These students, along with a team from the high school, were trained over the summer to serve as leaders and motivators within their schools with the My Truth Bomb program. McIntosh and her motivational team works with the Truth Teams to help school-age children learn how to reject labels and lies. Her team helps children learn how to erase the victim mentality, establish values and kindness while shifting from the negative to the positive. McIntosh's daughter, Savannah Huddleston (third from left), who is part of the My Truth Bomb program, shared her story of being bullied in school due to a physical deformity and how she overcame the negative. Ahmad Rudd (front row, end) a recent Hampden-Sydney graduate is a leader with My Truth Bomb as well as Chi Alpha Campus Ministries at Longwood and Hampden-Sydney.



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  - No mandatory retirement age.
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### EVENT

**SPAGHETTI DINNER TO FUND SCHOLARSHIPS:** Come to Fluvanna Co. High School (Rte 53), Palmyra, on Wednesday, November 14 from 5 to 7 p.m. to enjoy homemade sauce prepared and served by FCHS Culinary Class. Proceeds provide funding for 2 scholarships and activities by local charities. Adults are \$10, Kids 6-12 are \$5, children under 6 FREE. Max Family charge \$30. Vegetarian and takeout options available. Sponsored by United Methodist Men of Palmyra and Salem.

**HOLIDAY BAZAAR:** Cunningham United Methodist Women are sponsoring our annual FALL Holiday Bazaar at the church, on Saturday, November 10, 3389 Thomas Jefferson Parkway, from 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. Featured will be handcrafted items: home baked pies, cakes, cookies, breads; Jams and pickles; Grandma's Attic Treasures; Raffle drawing for handmade queen quilt. Breakfast and lunch for purchase. Come join us!

**CHRISTMAS BAZAAR:** Bybee's

Road Baptist Church holding Christmas Bazaar featuring large collection of Snow Babies and Nutcrackers. Many other Christmas decorations plus BAKED goods for sale. Come to 4989 Bybee's Church Road on Saturday, November 10, from 9 a.m. to NOON.

**BINGO:** at Lake Monticello Fire & Rescue, 10 Slice Road, Palmyra (off of Rte 600, turn at traffic light). Every Thursday! Doors open at 5:30 p.m. Early Bird 6:45 p.m. \$1000 Jackpot (with 80 or more players). Progressive Games! Food menu available. Questions? Call (434) 591-1018.

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gates, animal care and handling. 20 hours per week. Must be able to lift 50 pounds. Will Train! Palmyra, VA. Call (434) 589-2488.

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Answers to the Crossword Puzzle from page 11

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

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- |  |   |
|--|---|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Courthouse Cafe (Arts Center)</li> <li>The Spa 794 Main St.</li> <li>Farmers Bank</li> <li>Luckys Texaco</li> <li>Depot Diner</li> <li>BB&amp;T Bank</li> <li>Pino's Restaurant</li> <li>Vance RE/Hair Corral</li> <li>New Images Hair Design</li> <li>Teresa's Place</li> <li>Wise Ridge Country Store</li> <li>Sheppards Exxon</li> <li>Bates Market</li> <li>Buckingham Co. High School</li> <li>EXXON</li> <li>Buckingham Co. Admin. Bldg.</li> <li>Herbert Maxey's Office</li> <li>Nancy's Gifts</li> <li>Ducks Corner</li> <li>Route 20 Market</li> <li>Midway Market</li> <li>Glenmore Store</li> <li>Howardsville Store</li> <li>Faulkner's Country Store</li> <li>Spanglers</li> <li>P&amp;S Market</li> <li>Review Office</li> <li>New Canton Post Office</li> <li>Byrants Grocery</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Jeffery Oil/The Shed, Rt. 15</li> <li>Ella's Salon</li> <li>Jax Mini Mart (inside rack)</li> <li>Jax Mini Mart (outside box)</li> <li>Jax Restaurant</li> <li>Arvonnia Post Office</li> <li>Arvonnia Chiropractic</li> <li>Cental Va Health</li> <li>Ellington Gas</li> <li>Bank of America, Dillwyn</li> <li>Jenkins Exxon</li> <li>Buckingham Library</li> <li>Dillwyn Pharmacy</li> <li>Real Estate III (inside)</li> <li>Real Estate III (outside)</li> <li>Cheryl's Barber Shop/Beauty Salon</li> <li>Robert Snoddy Attorney Office</li> <li>State Farm Office</li> <li>Acie Allen Attorney office</li> <li>Dillwyn Laundry</li> <li>Farmers Foods (inside rack)</li> <li>Farmers Foods (outside box)</li> <li>Heritage Hall</li> <li>Martha Jefferson Clinic</li> <li>Fast Mart Valero</li> <li>Fast Mart Auto</li> <li>Food Lion</li> <li>China Restaurant</li> </ul> |
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