

# Buckingham Beacon

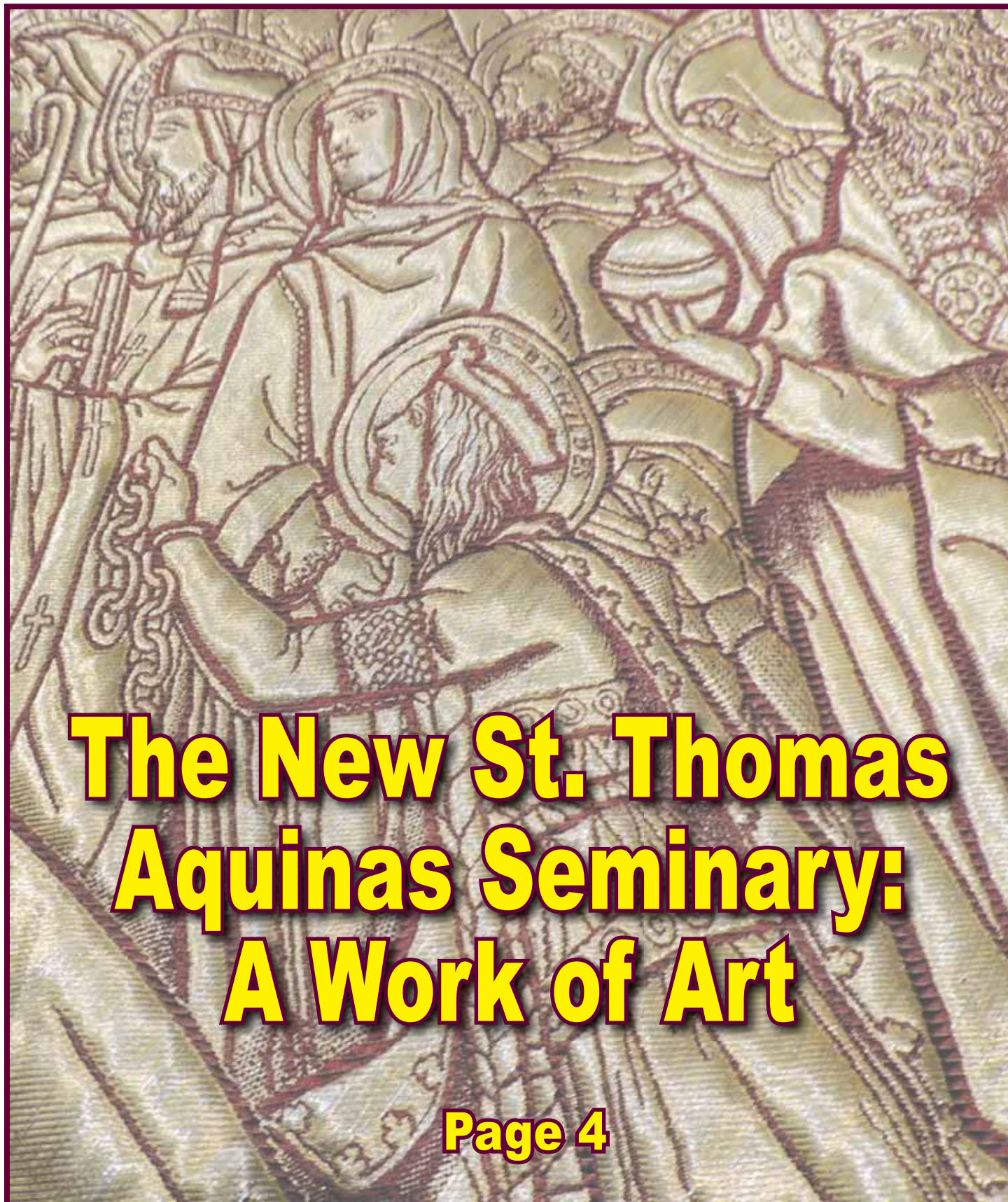
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BUCKINGHAM COUNTY, VIRGINIA

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Created in the 1900s, this liturgical vestment, also known as a cope, is made with gold thread and is intricate in its design and workmanship.

Photo by Sue A. Miles.

Cover designed by Marilyn Ellinger

## Buckingham Beacon

A monthly publication

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# Sakina Sawtelle's Unique Life Philosophy

By Sue A. Miles  
Correspondent

**A**s we begin a new year it's time to ponder the future and what drives us to move forward in life. Everyone has a story, unique and special to each of our positions and situations on the good Earth. That certainly applies to our feature story as we learn more about a very special lady who lives in the county. Her journey involves a somewhat unique philosophy that has guided her through her journey in life.

Geraldine DiSalvo Sawtelle was born in Erie, Pennsylvania to a very Italian family. "My grandparents came from Sicily, via Ellis Island," she said. Her father worked for Marx Toys and her mother was a housewife. Because her mother had always wanted to be a dancer, Sawtelle and her siblings were given the opportunity to take dance lessons early on. "I started taking tap and ballet at the age of two. I was born with my feet turned in at right angles. The doctor told my mother that dance would help."

It certainly helped Sawtelle in that 67 years later she is still living her mother's dream. That being said, she has taught and continues to teach dance for all ages. However, to expand that a bit, Sawtelle also teaches piano, violin, guitar and accordion. Quite the Renaissance lady, to say the least.

"I loved dance when I was a child," said Sawtelle. So much so, that at the age of 16 she and her mother opened a dance studio in Erie, called DiSalvo's. "I taught under my mother's business for about ten years and because I was still living at home, I technically wasn't getting paid. When I got married and moved into my own place, I asked to get paid and Mom refused. At that point my husband and I decided to move to Girard, PA, where I started my own studio."

Sawtelle continued her development as a dance teacher by taking classes with the Arthur Murray Dance Studio as well as Harris Studios in Cleveland. "I teach tap, ballet, belly dancing, modern and ballroom dancing," she said.

While teaching dance, Sawtelle continued with her general education. "While in high school, I earned a certification in drafting and engineering. I ended up working for an engineering company. When they got



Sakina Sawtelle is an important part to the art and music scene of Buckingham County. She offers music and dance lessons to both adults and children. Photo by Sue Miles

involved with a military contract, I quit because I am a pacifist." That decision lead Sawtelle to earn a degree in teaching as well as a dual certification in special education, which lead to a move to Virginia and eventually to Buckingham County.

"I taught in Pennsylvania but ended up getting a job in Blackstone. I would go home to Girard every month for about a year until my husband moved down here. I then got a job teaching special education for the Buckingham school system."

Although Sawtelle loved teaching she found that the rise of computers in the classroom had a negative effect on her. "I found I had a problem using them," she said. "I would get nose bleeds and headaches when I used computers. I don't know for sure, but it might have something to do with the electro-magnetic field that computers put out. When I go to any large store that has automatic doors, they don't open for me. I usually have to have someone go in ahead of me. I stopped teaching in 2000."

Just around that time, Sawtelle received a letter from the University of Sedona (in Arizona) offering her a full scholarship to their ministerial program in meta-physics. "I had inquired about their program a number of years before but was unable to afford it," said Sawtelle.

Meta-physics. What, might you ask, is that? Sawtelle offers a simple explanation for what, for some, might be a complex concept. "In a nutshell, meta-physics is seeing beyond what appears to be. It is beyond the physical." She continues, "It is a spiritual path with no man-made doctrine. Meta-physics is having you take full responsibility for what you do. There are no rules, regulations, doctrines, Bible or sacred books."

Raised in a Catholic Church, Sawtelle became dissatisfied with it as a young child. "I felt called to become a minister but not for an organized religion. I said, 'ok, God, how do I minister to people without being a traditional minister?'. I was in a bookstore and saw a newspaper that offered courses in meta-physics and it started me on my journey."

Sawtelle shared that pray and meditation are important in meta-physics. "People





Aubrey Holman, age six, is shown taking her weekly piano lesson with Sawtelle. Aubrey's grandmother brings her from Charlottesville every Saturday morning for lessons. Photo by Sue Miles



Brooks Ballard, who has been taking guitar lessons from Sawtelle for the past year and a half at the Buckingham Arts Center, begins tuning up to get ready for her weekly lesson. Photo by Sue Miles

who follow meta-physics see prayer and meditation as a way to still the body in order to send energy to either within yourself or to others. Jesus is seen as using this type of energy to heal others, for miracles and to enlighten. I see Jesus as one of the first meta-physics."

After receiving a masters and doctorate in meta-physics through Sedona University, Sawtelle was moved to establish a meta-physics center in Buckingham. "Because we're in a rural area, I realized that I needed to take a different approach. I basically use my calling one on one with people. I also believe that I also need to lead by example."

Sawtelle shared a story about personal healing and meta-physics. "I had Meniere's (a vertigo disorder that has no known cure) 45 years ago. I prayed to God to be healed. I saw handprints in my shag carpet and put my hands in the prints and asked God to heal me. I felt Jesus' word, 'physician, heal thyself.' The Meniere's left me."

Another current story is about a woman, with cerebral palsy, who comes to Sawtelle once a month. "She comes for energy work and massage. She was being medicated by doctors for intestinal issues. After working with me, she no longer takes meds and appears to not need them. I'm laying my hands on her and doing massage. I see her the way God sees her as perfect, complete and whole. God is doing the work." Along with therapeutic massage, Sawtelle uses manipulation (or the laying on of hands), reconnection, reflexology, panic healing (working with energy centers of the body) and light therapy.

"My basic focus, whether it be dance, music, talking, or meta-physics is not believing in God but AS God believes," she said. "Because God sees our potential and then gives us the desire. God opens the doors for us to do what we want to do.

Who puts the desires that we have in our brain? If you go back to the course, it's God. When we open our eyes in the morning, who put that thought there? God. God is at the essence and source of everything."

Although born Geraldine, and known as Gerri for many years, Sawtelle has taken on the name, Sakina, which means 'calm in the face of adversity'. "I attended a Sufi workshop in Erie years ago and received that name," she said. "If you study Sufism it follows my philosophy of finding religion within yourself."

Sawtelle has been offering dance and music classes through her Sawtelle School of Performing Arts & Awareness in Buckingham for many years. She conducts classes at the Arts Council but has been known to come to students' home, under certain situations. Her dance classes are offered from ages three to adults and are scheduled to accommodate work schedules. "My adult classes incorporate movement, ballet, belly dancing and exercise with the goal of staying physically fit. My main goal with the music classes is to teach people how to read music, no matter what instrument they play."

It would appear that the practice of meta-physics offers Sawtelle direction in her life. "I have experienced a closer walk with God," she said. "I'm not worried about the different trappings of religions. In the very beginning of my life I was told that God created everything. That's how I've lived my life. I believe that in essence we don't have to go through others to reach God. If we see God within each individual then we know not to hurt others, to respect the environment and that we should treat others how we want to be treated."

**For more information on Sawtelle's School of Performing Arts & Awareness contact Dr. Sakina G. Sawtelle, Msc. D., PsyThD. at 969-2951 or 434-390-2671.**

## BUCKINGHAM FOOD PANTRY CALENDAR

### BLUE RIDGE FOOD TRUCK

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Most likely the best way to see the true elegance of the seminary and its layout is overhead. This aerial view shows the building, the cemetery, and part of the vista that can be seen from the top of the hill. One of only five in the world, the seminary is a work of art inside and out. The smaller building to the right is still under construction and will hold administrative offices. Photo provided by St. Thomas Aquinas.



Everywhere you walk in the seminary displays of craftsmanship reflect an attention to detail and woodworking wonders. This is the ceiling in the middle of the library. Photo by Sue A. Miles

## A Look at the St. Thomas Aquinas Seminary

By Sue A. Miles  
Correspondent

Completed in 2017, the St. Thomas Aquinas Seminary sits on a high and majestic hill in the middle of dense woods in the western part of Buckingham County. The driveway, off Ranson Road, meanders through a tall pine forest, leading up to a panoramic view of beautiful mountain ranges. And, to a building unique and resplendent: the seminary.

There are many layers to the story of the seminary, including literally thousands of years of history up to the current logistics of its present purpose and structure. The Beacon's focus in this article is on the building itself as well as the day to day routine of its residents, especially the seminary students.

In a given year, the seminary has about 80 students living on the grounds, who after seven years of studies, hope to be ordained as Catholic priests. As the seminary's website states, "the formation that the seminarians receive is traditional in every aspect: doctrine, liturgy, retreats, daily schedule, etc. The core of the seminarians' study is the philosophy and theology of St. Thomas Aquinas, while moderate proficiency in Latin is required before ordination. A typical day in the life of the seminarian contains three hours of prayer, three hours of classes, four hours of study,

and an hour and a half of recreation." The remoteness of the Seminary especially supports two of its goals of silence and individual prayer for its students.

That being said, with the blessings of Reverend Father Yves le Roux, head of the seminary, seminarian students, Joseph Skees and Rev. Albert Bumb, gave the Beacon a walking tour of the building and grounds.

It took over five years to build the 120,000 sq. foot seminary, with literally hundreds of tradespeople involved, many coming from all parts of the world. Every part of the building is unique in that all almost of the woodwork is handcrafted. In fact, every aspect of the seminary was designed for beauty and permanence. There are only five such seminaries in the world, Buckingham's being one.

The St. Thomas Aquinas Seminary hopes to have an open house in the spring or summer for those interested in touring the building and grounds. In the meantime, come along with the Beacon on a special tour of this beautiful and majestic building. Thanks again to Reverend Father la Raux, Joseph and Albert.

**For more information on St. Thomas Aquinas Seminary go to <https://www.stas.org>.**



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Brother Joseph is shown opening up a handmade mahogany cabinet which holds vestments to be used by visiting bishops as well as priests. Along with daily Mass there are many holy days and events that bring in Catholics from all over the world to the seminary. Photo by Sue A. Miles



Although the students are responsible for many jobs in the seminary, nuns are responsible for laundering the students' clothing. Most important is the care of the vestments and altar linens, cloths, corporals, palls and hand towels used in Mass and other ceremonies. The nuns, who belong to the Sisters of the Society of St. Pius X, have a house on the seminary property. Photo by Sue A. Miles

See Seminary Photos Page 6

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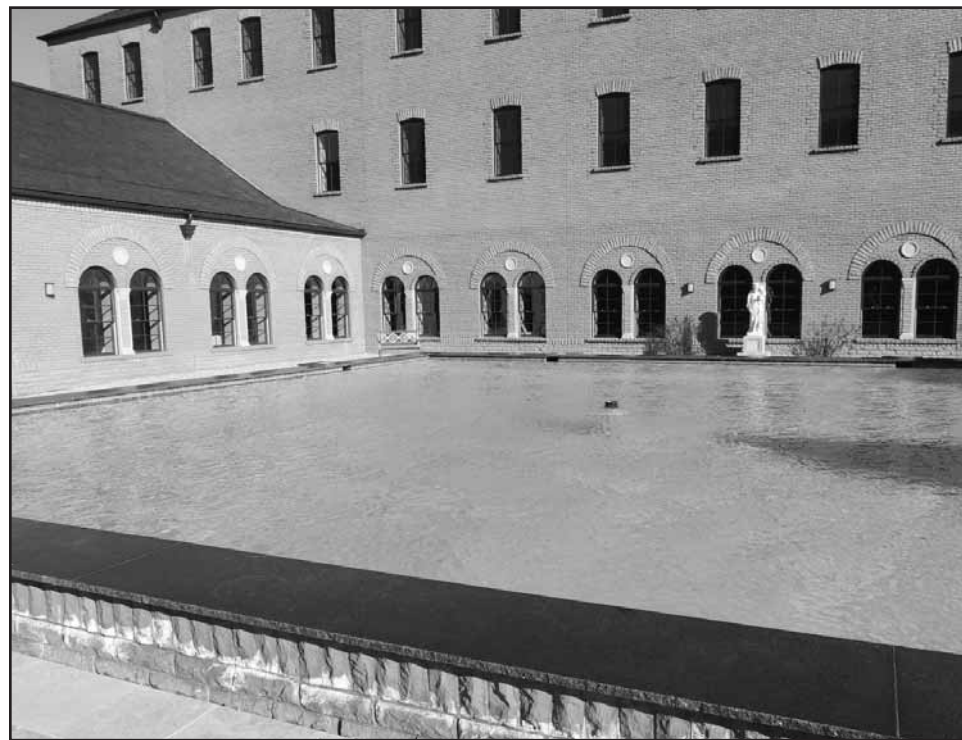




Two seminary students are shown in front of the sanctuary altar. Mass, which is conducted in Latin, is held every day at 7:15 a.m. and on Sundays at 10 a.m. The public is welcome to attend.  
All photos by Sue A. Miles



Chef Matt Lillis reviews the menu for the upcoming meal. Lillis cooks, with the help of assigned students, two meals a day for over 120 people. Brother Ignatius-Marie is shown in the background.



Along with being aesthetically pleasing the pool in the courtyard is used for the seminary's fire system. The courtyard is also utilized by the students for reading, fresh air, and contemplation.

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As priests are required to baptize babies, part of their curriculum is learning how to handle small infants who are likely wiggling and wailing. This baby doll, awaiting the next baptism lesson, gives the students the opportunity to practice before they tackle the real thing.



# Virginia's Spring Wildfire Season and 4 PM Law Begins

Contributed by Michelle Stoll

Virginia's 75-day spring wildfire season began at 4 p.m. on Friday, February 15. The law prohibits burning before 4 p.m. each day until April 30, if the fire is in, or within 300 feet of woodland, brushland or fields containing dry grass or other flammable materials. Burning is allowed between 4 p.m. and midnight under the state law, but counties and cities may have additional restrictions and you should check with your local officials before burning.

According to Virginia Department of Forestry (VDOP) records, 95 percent of all wildfires in Virginia are human-caused and more than half are caused by people burning trash and yard debris. Therefore, citizens must stay on high alert especially from now through April 30.

"The 4 p.m. law is one of the most effective tools we have in the prevention of wildfires," said State Forester Rob Farrell. "By adhering to the law and not burning before 4 p.m., people are less likely to start a fire that threatens them, their property and the forests of Virginia."

The Virginia 4 p.m. law has existed since 1950 and has proven to be of great value in reducing the risk of wildfires. This is due to the fact that wind speeds tend to decrease after 4 p.m. while humidity levels typically increase; therefore, the chance of fire escaping someone's control is radically reduced.

Not only is starting a fire before 4 p.m. dangerous during the 75-day spring wildfire season, but it's also a Class 3 misdemeanor. Individuals can receive up to a \$500 fine, and the person responsible for the fire's escape is financially liable for the cost of suppressing the fire, as well as the damage caused to another's property.

According to VDOP Director of Emergency Response John Miller, "We are in good shape for the beginning of the fire season, thanks to the record-breaking rains last year and the rain and snow we have already received this year." However Spring winds, lower humidity and warming temperatures can change conditions very quickly. "One snowstorm or soaking rain can make people forget that the vegetation is dormant and dry this time of year and can become hazardous with only a few days of dry windy weather," stressed Miller.



To learn more about the 4 p.m. Burn Law, alternatives to burning debris, and the spring wildfire season, visit <http://www.dof.virginia.gov/fire/faqs-burning.htm>

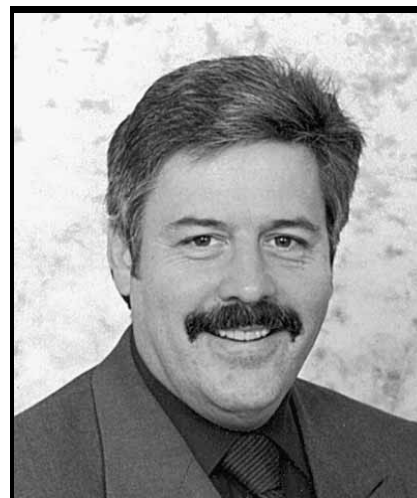
## 4-H Participants Learn to Make Duck Decoys at Holiday Lake

The Holiday Lake 4-H Educational Center, located in Appomattox County, hosted the Natural Resource Education Weekend event on February 2-3, 2019. At one of the event's night time activities, kids and adults learned to create a unique duck decoy from wood and a crabpot buoy.

Thirty kids and five adults sanded, assembled and painted Goldeneye, Redhead and Bluebill duck decoys to use for waterfowl hunting or as folk art for their home. The activity was tutored by Todd Cocker and William Bruce of the Virginia Waterfowlers' Association and the Rappahannock Carvers Guild.



The budding decoy makers are eligible to enter their decoys in the decoy contest held in conjunction with the Rappahannock River Waterfowl Show in Whitestone, Virginia. The waterfowl show is a two day event, held March 16-17, 2019, at the Whitestone Firehouse. However, the decoy contest is a one day event held only on March 16, 2019 at the Whitestone Women's Club.



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# UPCOMING EVENTS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

## Wine and Cheese with Silent Auction Benefit for Buckingham Library

On Saturday, March 23, 2019, a Wine and Cheese with Silent Auction benefit will be held to raise funds for the furnishings, fixtures and equipment for the new library in Buckingham County. The benefit will be held at the Buckingham VFW Hall located at 14405 W. James Anderson Highway.

The event begins at 6 PM and will continue until 8:00 PM. Ticket price includes wine, non-alcoholic beverages, and hors d'oeuvres. Items for the silent auction will be open for bids until 7:30. Tickets are \$15 each. Buy at the door, from a member of the Fundraising Committee or at the Buckingham County Public Library, 1140 Main St.,



Dillwyn. For further information email: bclfr@gmail.com or phone Pat Howe at 434-969-4886.

The Buckingham Friends of the Library are accepting new, quality items or gift vouchers for the silent auction. If you have items, please contact Pat Howe at bclfr@gmail.com or 434-969-4886. The Friends will be accepting items until March 15th which can also be delivered to the library to the attention of Amy White, Branch Manager.

Join us for an enjoyable evening and support a worthy cause! All proceeds go towards the funding of furnishings, fixtures and equipment for the new Buckingham County Public Library.

**There will also be a silent auction - any one wanting to donate an item or service to the auction is asked to bring it by the library prior to March 22nd.**

## Peter Francisco Day is March 15th

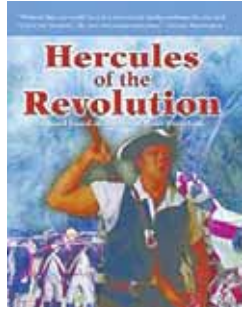
Peter's connection to Buckingham is that Judge Anthony Winston took him as a young boy out of a workhouse in Hopewell to live with his family near New Store. Peter was an unusually large boy which made him stand out among all the other boys in the workhouse. He was tutored at the home of Judge Winston and apprenticed as a blacksmith. At the age of 16, Peter joined the 10th Virginia Regiment in 1776, and soon gained notoriety for his size and strength.

He was known as Giant of the Revolution, He married 3 times and produced 6 children. He lived at Locust



Grove which is now a private home in Buckingham County. He was Sergeant-At-Arms in the Virginia legislature for the last 3 years of his life. He died at 71 years old from acute appendicitis. He was buried in Shockoe Hill Cemetery with full military honors. The state legislature adjourned for the day and many attended his funeral.

note: Travis Bowman, a descendant of Peter Francisco, has produced several books about Peter's life - "Hercules of the Revolution" (which is sold by HBI) Travis is also working on a movie about Peter.



**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"

**March 2nd - Brunswick Stew** will be available at Dillwyn Fire Dept. Dillwyn Fire Dept Brunswick stew available at noon March 2.

**March 9th - 6:00pm Miss Buckingham Pageant** to be held at BCHS,

**March 9- 4:30pm Holiday Lake 4-H Educational Center Annual raffle, BBQ dinner & silent auction** to raise funds for those who don't have funds to attend camp. Tickets are \$75 (admits 2 people) Call (434)248-5444 for more info.

**March 15- "Drawing Date" for the Breast Cancer Fundraiser for Shawn Leighty Morris.**

Tickets are only \$10 - Prizes are: 1st- \$1000 2nd- \$500 3rd- \$250

Tickets available at Faye's Beauty Shop, The Spa, Kyanite, Scotty Edwards, Rene Carwile, Lisa Moss Lann, Ellen Jenkins Neterer.

**March 16- 10:00am Central Va Gold Prospectors meeting VFW Hall.**

**April 6 beginning at 10am- Auction and Yard Sale behind Chestnut Grove Baptist Church** on Francisco Road. Proceeds go to the CGBC Scholarship Fund.

## Buckingham Preschool Registration

Help give your child a jumpstart to success in Kindergarten!

Applicants must reside in Buckingham County and be four years old by September 30, 2019.

**Registration Location:** Buckingham Preschool

**Dates:** Friday, March 1, 2019 ~ 9:00-2:30 & 4:00-6:00 p.m.

Friday, March 8, 2019 ~ 9:00-2:30

### Bring the following to registration:

- **CHILD**- we need child present for registration as there will be a 15 minute screening during registration
- Birth certificate
- Two (2) proofs of residency (ex: utility bill, driver's license, etc.) -with matching addresses -must be physical address (No P.O. Boxes)
- Legal guardianship paperwork (if applicable)
- Proof of income (W2 or IRS form 1040)
- Physical Examination Report -Must be dated within 12 months of the first day of school
- Immunization Records -Immunizations must be up-to-date -Same immunization requirements as for Kindergarten



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# UPCOMING EVENTS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS



## Buckingham County High School's Drama Club to Present its First True Drama: Arthur Miller's *The Crucible*!

Secret meetings in the forest, an adulterous affair, vengeful accusations, and false confessions fuel the fear and guilt behind the Salem Witch Trials in Arthur Miller's, *The Crucible*. This famous play takes place in Salem, Massachusetts in the year 1692. The Puritans formed a close-knit community that quickly deteriorated into chaos when a group of young girls began to become mysteriously ill after meeting in the forest to cast spells and conjure spirits.

The drama students are working long hours to capture the true nature of the complex characters Arthur Miller created. The play is historical fiction, so many of the characters were real people who suffered terribly through the horrific events that unfolded. Unlike the plays that the students have presented over the past three years,

*The Crucible* is a true drama. Its protagonist, John Proctor, played by senior Joey Steger, is a classic tragic hero. The story centers around Proctor's one indiscretion. The ramifications of his actions spiral out of his, and the community's, control.

**Come out to support the students as they present their rendition of *The Crucible*. Performances will be Friday, March 15 and Saturday, March 16 at 7:00pm. Tickets can be purchased at the door the night of each performance for \$6.00.**

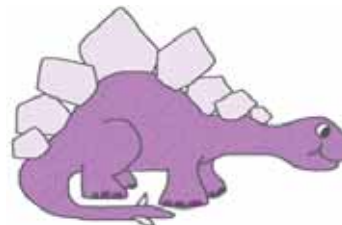
## Buckingham County Library Schedule and Special Events

Tuesdays 10:30am STORYTIME  
Wednesdays 11:00am COMPUTER CLASSES  
Fridays noon FAMILY MOVIES

### Special Events:

#### •LATE NIGHT MINI GOLF 6pm Friday, March 8

Enjoy a round of mini golf through the library with family and friends. Keep score or just play for fun to shake off the winter chill. The Library will reopen at 6:00pm just for the mini golf game.



#### •DINO DAY 2pm Saturday, March 30

Come learn about dinosaurs with a story, craft, and even a dino excavation! For children 12 and under.

### 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**

### Church Spring Flea Market Announcement and Vendor Invitation

**When: Saturday, March 16; 8:00 a.m.–2:00 p.m.**

Where: Scottsville United Methodist Church fellowship hall (158 Main St. Scottsville)

Vendor space: \$20

**More info:**

**Call (434) 286-4736 or email [shainsworth@sumc-va.org](mailto:shainsworth@sumc-va.org).**

Scottsville United Methodist Church is accepting commercial and private vendors for its Church Spring Flea Market and Pancake Breakfast. A special fundraising pancake breakfast will be served throughout the day. Vendor spaces are only \$20 each, with all funds raised from rentals and breakfast to be used for church local missions and education. All merchandise sale proceeds will be kept by the vendors.

# Slate Creek

# BANDS

# BREW

---

## Saturday

# 3/16

### 12-5 PM

*Alvis Farms at Slate Creek*

3186 Bridgeport Rd.  
Scottsville, VA

2018-2019 Season at Carysbrook Performing Arts Center

## IONA

### Saturday, March 2 at 7:30 pm

An audience favorite, IONA is an award-winning, traditional pan Celtic band founded in 1986. The band weaves Celtic knots with songs in their original languages, traditional instrumentation, percussion (including footwork), and anecdotes. The haunting songs, toe-tapping dances and the humor of the Celtic peoples from Scotland to Brittany provide a wonderful evening of entertainment

**TICKETS:** •\$12 Advance • \$15 day of performance • \$10 Students/Military/Veterans  
•Family Package Available \$5 per person (2 adults & 3 or more children)

---

**Next Performance:**  
**April 6, 7, 12, 13, 14**  
**Friday and Saturday at 7:30 & Sunday at 3:00 pm**

Novelist Peter Knight is struggling with writer's block. For inspiration, he retreats to an eerie old mansion where another writer was murdered years ago. When a strange electrical storm strikes and Peter's characters start showing up in person, he has to wonder---has he lost his mind? Or has he just lost control of his story? And what exactly are his characters up to ---could it be that something sinister is afoot?

**TICKETS:** •\$12 Advance • \$15 day of performance • \$10 Students/Military/Veterans  
•Family Package Available \$5 per person (2 adults & 3 or more children)

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

**NO RESERVE SEATS!**  
Purchase your tickets online:  
[www.Carysbrook.org](http://www.Carysbrook.org) or call 434-842-1333





With seeds in hand, VCE Master Gardeners Kelly Love-Schwarz (left) and Jackie Fairbarns (right) are planning to get spring planting off to a good start.



With all the resources of the internet and dozens of books and Extension Service publications, Master Gardener Kelly Love-Schwarz works on making an informative presentation. Photos courtesy of Jackie Fairbarns

# Gardening Program for Buckingham Gardeners Gearing Up for New Growing Season

Contributed by Jackie Fairbarns

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**T**he Virginia Cooperative Extension Service and the Heart of Virginia Master Gardeners are planning a second season of the popular Gardening Tips and Topics programs presented the second Saturday of each month, March through October, at the Extension Office in Buckingham. The presentations help experienced gardeners to get better and beginning gardeners to gain confidence for a good start at growing their own food and flowers.

"Basically, we start at the bottom with building better soil and then go on from there to address specific plants and techniques particularly suited to gardening in Buckingham," says VCE Master Gardener Jackie Fairbarns. "Whether you garden in a flower pot or have a couple of acres, these sessions will help you to get the best results from your gardening efforts," added VCE Master Gardener Kelly Love-Schwarz.



Master Gardener Jackie Fairbarns works on the soil blocking technique for successful seed starting.

**On Saturday, March 9,** session will focus on planning what and when to plant in the vegetable garden and hands-on practice at sowing seeds indoors to get a jump start on the growing season. The presentation begins at 10 a.m. and lasts for one hour. HOVMG Master Gardeners are on hand from 9:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. to answer specific questions. The sessions are free and open to all.

Virginia Cooperative Extension programs and employment are open to all, regardless of age, color, disability, gender, gender identity, gender expression, national origin, political affiliation, race, religion, sexual orientation, genetic information, veteran status, or any other basis protected by law. An equal opportunity/affirmative action employer. Issued in furtherance of Cooperative Extension work, Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University, Virginia State University, and the U.S. Department of Agriculture cooperating. Edwin J. Jones, Director, Virginia Cooperative Extension, Virginia Tech, Blacksburg; M. Ray McKinnie, Interim Administrator, 1890 Extension Program, Virginia State University, Petersburg.

Call the Buckingham Extension office for more information: 434-969-4261.

## Did You Know...

You can view the entire Buckingham Beacon online by going to

**[fluvannareview.com](http://fluvannareview.com)**





**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](http://slateriverramblings.com)). Her newest history, *Peter Field Jefferson: Dark Prince of Scottsville & Lost Jeffersons*, is now available locally and online ([braugherbooks.com](http://braugherbooks.com)).



**Arvon Presbyterian Church Sketch by Margaret Pennington. Courtesy Historic Buckingham.**

Arvon, as well as its inhabitants, is one of the favorite topics at Slate River Ramblings. In 1959, Mrs. R. J. Wojnicki wrote a lengthy article for Charlottesville's Daily Progress about the founding of Arvon Presbyterian Church entitled, "Welch Quarrymen Organized Church In Buckingham." She began by describing the church's setting, its architecture, and appointments:

In a setting of stately oaks this church, with its old world atmosphere, has been tended to with loving care throughout the years and stands as an enduring memorial to the Welsh pioneers.

The double-doored entrance to the church is reached by a terrace of slate. The doors open into an eight-foot vestibule extending the full width of the building which measures about 40 by 50 feet.

At the front, on a two-step dais, is the original pulpit of mellowed pine, together with five 17th-century fruitwood chairs which came from a castle in Austria. These chairs are upholstered in deep blue plush. At the right of the pulpit is the organ and choir chairs arranged at an angle in back of a curved railing. An arched pattern of wood frames the background of the rostrum.

At the rear of the church, running its full width, is a balcony. The balcony, with its original rail, is matched by the chair rail. High walls are of a light, soft green, with carpeting in a deeper shade of green. There are 11 windows in the church and from the ceiling hang two chandeliers.

Mrs. Wojnicki went on to note that the village of Arvon was founded in 1867, at the suggestion of slate manufacturer John R. Williams, and was named in honor of Caernarvon, Wales. Before the church was constructed, meetings were held at the home of Michael E. Jones. Known as "The Old Castle," the building was razed in 1958. Initially, services were conducted in Welsh to accommodate the immigrant population. As more villagers spoke English, both languages were used. In the early days, Sunday School meetings were held at boarding houses. John W. Edwards erected a "Brush Arbor" at his home, used for summer gatherings.

According to Mrs. Wojnicki, "About 1880 a community house was built on land given to the village by William Pierce. In this building, religious services were held. The Rev. William S. Thompson, pastor of Trinity Presbyterian Church, preached once a month." She added, "Arvon Presbyterian Church was constructed on land donated by the Slate Corporation of Edwards and Roberts. Much of the material used in its construction was given by the people of the community." [Slate River Ramblings reader Bob Jeffery corrected Mrs. Wojnicki, stating that the land for the initial community house was given by his ancestor, Elizabeth Saes Pierce, wife of William Pierce.]

Following Rev. Thompson, Rev. M. B. Lambkin took over as pastor of Trinity and headed a committee assisted by Elders W. W. Holman and John W. Risson, who were sent to Arvon to organize the new church. This was accomplished on September 26, 1885 and the first Elders were W. G. Edwards (Clerk), William Pierce, John McLave, and Thomas R. Jeffrey. Mrs. Wojnicki went on to list the church's charter members, including many familiar Arvon surnames such as Pitts, Jones, Morgan, and Pierce.

The first pastor, Rev. W. H. Wilson, arrived in 1890 and the new church was dedicated on November 23, 1890 by Rev. W. W. Moore, D. D. of the Union Theological Seminary. A series of ministers followed and, in 1904, Rev. Plummer F. Jones became the regular pastor. He also held the charming office of "official weather

observer." In fact, his death record, dated February 23, 1968, gave his occupation not as a minister but as a "weather observer."

Many church records from the early years survive and, as with other churches at that time, members were suspended for infractions such as drunkenness or profanity. Those accused who failed to explain their misconduct were dismissed from the congregation.



Courtesy Arvon Presbyterian Church

On January 15, 2009, the Sanctuary of Arvon Presbyterian Church was destroyed by fire. The attached annex was spared major damage. Fortunately, it has been rebuilt as closely as possible to the original design. On Palm Sunday, April 1, 2012, services resumed, once again scheduled for the first and third Sundays of each month. Visit Arvon Presbyterian Church's wonderful website to learn more: <http://www.christparish.org/Arvon.htm>. A stunning gallery documenting the fire is also posted: <http://www.christparish.org/ArvonFire/>.

**Crossword**

by Margie E. Burke

**ACROSS**

- 1 Pageant title
- 5 Gothenburg native
- 10 Party thrower
- 14 Workout woe
- 15 Like candles or crayons
- 16 Quite fond of
- 17 Work against
- 19 Den denizen
- 20 Call for
- 21 It may be arranged
- 23 Baby powder ingredient
- 25 Baker's need
- 26 Luxury Chrysler until 1993
- 30 Bivouac
- 33 Scand. land
- 34 Void, as a marriage
- 36 Homework helper?

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14				15					16			
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54	55					56		57		58	59	60
61					62		63					
64					65					66		
67					68					69		

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- 37 Divisible by 2
- 39 Doomed one
- 41 iPhone assistant
- 42 Send to a specialist
- 44 Belly button
- 46 Restroom sign
- 47 Bone-boring tool
- 49 Replant timber
- 51 Befitting a king
- 53 Courtroom request
- 54 Out of control
- 57 Drink of the gods
- 61 Musical based on "La boheme"
- 62 Like some tumors
- 64 Unit of measure
- 65 More eccentric
- 66 Bratty talk
- 67 Genealogy diagram
- 68 Repulsive
- 69 Pony's gait
- 7 Final, e.g.
- 8 Tooth trouble
- 9 Salad follower
- 10 Flower used in herbal teas
- 11 "Wait your turn!"
- 12 Guys-only party
- 13 Pulled apart
- 18 Coronet
- 22 Carry on
- 24 Big name in cameras
- 26 Lifeless
- 27 Bekins worker
- 28 First choice
- 29 Like some calendars
- 31 Societal norms
- 32 Out of \_\_\_\_
- 35 Pivoting bar
- 38 Ancient drug for grief
- 40 Petroleum plant
- 43 Temper tantrum
- 45 Successful dieter
- 48 UN member
- 50 Get a new actor for
- 52 Lavin or Blair
- 54 Worry
- 55 Derriere
- 56 New England fishes
- 58 Ski lift
- 59 Moreover
- 60 Staff symbol
- 63 Parrot or puppy



# Community heaps praise on exceptional employee

By Madeline Otten  
Correspondent

**L**ocated right off Route 15 in Fork Union is a Family Dollar managed by 70-year-old Shirley Logan. While most Family Dollars are the same, offering discounted everyday household items and food products, this store is different from the rest.

Logan's store has a four-star rating on Google, while the corporate office is only rated a 1.2.

"I've been going to this Family Dollar for about three years, since we moved from Northern Virginia," said Ruth Cummings, a Dillwyn resident. "I'll take the extra 15 minutes to travel to see Shirley because it is so clean, it is safe, and she cares a lot. The employees do too."

Logan started off at Family Dollar as assistant manager. Once promoted to manager, she helped put the store together.

When describing her proudest accomplishment, Logan explained that another Family Dollar had closed and some of the remaining stock was placed in her stock room. The district manager told Logan he would be back to check on her. When he returned two weeks later, the stock room was clean and empty.

"He jokingly asked me if we threw the stock away or out back and I told him I would show him where we put it. It was on the shelves," said Logan.

Logan's hard work has not gone unnoticed within the community. To help get Logan some recognition, Cummings created a Facebook post Dec. 30, 2018, that contained pictures of Logan's store to try and draw attention from Family Dollar upper management. The post included clean aisles, neatly stocked shelves, and more photos highlighting the store.

"I contacted Family Dollar before about Shirley, but they never got back to me," said Cummings. "I



Shirley Logan.

thought, 'I'll try this way,' meaning I'll post on social media hoping it would go viral."

Cummings' post earned 496 engagements or likes, as well as 54 positive comments praising Logan for her dedication to the store.

Logan described herself as someone who is constantly working and moving. Every morning she wakes up around 4 a.m., and then goes to the store at 8 a.m. Getting to the store early allows her to get everything ready before it opens at 9 a.m.

Currently, Logan has two other employees operating in the store. She regularly pulls 12-hour shifts, sometimes five days week. Even though the hours are challenging, getting to know her customers is rewarding.

"At first, I did not know Ruth was driving an extra 15 minutes to come and see me," said Logan. "I have customers coming all the way from Scottsville, Louisa, Dillwyn, and some from Richmond. My customers have a high respect for me."

Logan has lived her entire life in Buckingham. She grew up in the area and began her first job as a restaurant cook at the age of 12 to help her family with finances. She credited her cooking skills to both her mother and grandmother.

In her free time, Logan enjoys a quiet weekend, but occasionally spends it with family. She has two sisters who live in New Canton, two sons who live in Buckingham, and four brothers: one who lives in Louisa, and the other three in the Washington D.C. area.

"Family is very important to her," said Pamela Logan, Logan's niece. "And often just like she does at work, she goes above and beyond to help her family."

Spending time with family usually means Logan cooks, but she enjoys it – especially when she prepares her homemade dishes of macaroni and cheese, pork chops, and chicken.



Alex Avery (1st Place winner), Ariel Foster (2nd Place winner) Hunter Hanes (3rd Place Winner).

Photo by Judy Grigg

## Cub Scouts Hold Pinewood Derby

The 2019 Cub Scout Pinewood Derby was held on February 16th at Bethlehem Baptist Church (who was also the sponsor). The pack has 8 scouts participating in the Hugenot Trail District Pinewood Derby on February 23rd.



## Dominion Energy - EnergyShare Event

Dominion Energy and STEPS have expanded their partnership in providing Buckingham County residents EnergyShare assistance.

**A case manager will be at Ellis Acres on the second Wednesday and fourth Friday of each month, beginning March 13th from 9am to 3 pm to offer bill assistance to those in need.**

Citizens in need of energy assistance must have a Disconnection Notice from their utility provider or be in danger of losing their energy source. -whether it is wood, oil, kerosene, gas or electricity. Senior, age 60 and older, are not required to have a disconnection notice and may apply at any time if help is needed.

Ellis Acres is located 245 Camden St., Dillwyn, Va  
You **MUST** have an appointment to be seen.

Contact - to schedule an appointment, please call:  
**Michele Childress, STEPS EnergyShare Case Manager (434)390-8838**

Eligibility will be determined during the initial telephone call.  
Assistance will be determined during intake appointment with the case manager.



# Ed's R.C. Shack Opens

By Martha Louis  
Correspondent

There is a new business in town unlike any others! Shoppers of all ages have been coming in to check out the inventory. According to the owner, Ed Hamilton Jr., the Dillwyn/Buckingham communities have been very supportive and friendly.

Ed will buy, sell and trade radio controlled cars, trucks, boats, semi trucks, helicopters, and more. He can also repairs all of them when needed.

The R.C. Shack also carries some pretty exciting drones with names like Redcat and DJI. Ed is now working on getting a radio control track opened near the store to test your skills. This track will hopefully be open around March 15th.

School children who are interested in the radio control items are encouraged to bring in their good report cards which have to be current to get a 10% discount on any item.

**Stop by and see all the fun items Ed has. Call (434)439-0632 for more information**



Ed Hamilton Jr, owner of R.C. Shack. Photo by Martha Louis



## ALL YOU CAN EAT

BEGINNING AT 4:30 PM



Crab Legs



Prime Rib



Steamed Spiced Shrimp



Fried Oysters

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www.TavernOnTheJames.com

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#### EVENT

**BINGO:** at Lake Monticello Fire & Rescue, 10 Slice Road, Palmyra (off of Rte 600, turn at CVC 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.

#### FOR SALE

**DRIVEWAY STONE:** Slate: 10 -Ton Crush Run @ \$160., 10 -Ton #57 @ \$265. Other stone/rock also available. Pricing includes local delivery and \*Tailgate spread. Call (434) 420-2002.

#### FOR SALE

**CEMETERY SITES:** Holly Memorial Gardens and Monticello Memory Gardens. Significant savings! Call (434) 295-1750.

**BOOKS** make great gifts. Give Linda Salisbury's 'Bailey Fish Adventure' series for kids, and humor for grown-ups. Can be found at many local gift outlets, online (plus Kindle and Nook), or from [tabbyhouse@gmail.com](mailto:tabbyhouse@gmail.com), (540-895-9093), or [www.lindasalisburyauthor.com](http://www.lindasalisburyauthor.com).

#### HELP WANTED

**EVELYN'S CONFECTIONS:** Now Hiring! All Shifts, Customer Service/Counter Sales, located at 264 Turkeysag Trail, Unite D (next to Sub Way) Palmyra, VA. Call/Text (434) 282-4675 or email: [evelynsconfections@gmail.com](mailto:evelynsconfections@gmail.com)

**OPTOMETRIC OFFICE OPTICAL SALES/OPTICIAN F/T or P/T:** Energetic team player for busy Optometric Office. Strong computer experience needed. EHR and eyecare and Optical experience preferred, but will train right person. Preference given to qualified applicants who live in Fluvanna or near Lake Monticello. EOE. Fax resume (434) 591-0111, email: [reception@weisseyes.com](mailto:reception@weisseyes.com).

#### RENTALS

**MONTICELLO PROPERTIES:** For current Housing Rentals: Call Genevieve (434) 589-7653 or email: [monticellopropertiesmgt@gmail.com](mailto:monticellopropertiesmgt@gmail.com). Equal Housing Opportunity.

#### SERVICES

**FULL SERVICE SELF STORAGE:** Fluvanna Self Storage on Lake Monticello Rd., (Rte 618, Burns Plaza) offers 2 convenient locations with both Climate Controlled and Regular month-to-month rentals (24/7 availability), also locks, moving supplies, U-Haul Trucks, and ON-SITE manager. Call (434) 589-2222, email: [manager@storefss.com](mailto:manager@storefss.com), or visit: [storefss.com](http://storefss.com), today!

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#### SPECIAL NOTICES

**ATTENTION VETERANS & DEPENDENTS:** Do you know your Veterans Benefits? We do! Virginia Department of Veterans Services, <https://www.dvs.virginia.gov>. or (434) 295-2782. Need Help? Call 1(800) 827-1000, M-F from 8 a.m. to 9 p.m. for Veterans Affairs Benefits and Services.

**LAND TESTING:** Have your land ready to sell. I will do perk test, well permits, feasibility studies, and will provide all legal documented paper work for you. Call 434-249-0298.

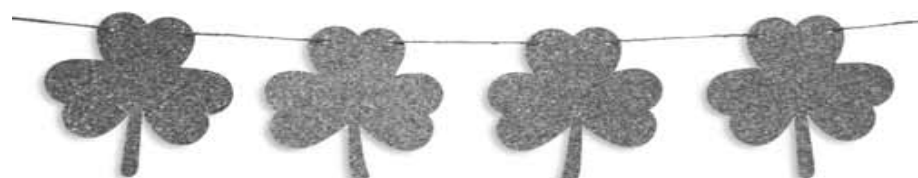
#### WANTED

**OLD COINS: I BUY OLD COINS.** (434) 466-7968

## Where can I pick up my Buckingham Beacon?

The Spa  
Frida's Restaurant  
Ali 's Place  
Central Va Community Health Center  
First Bank  
Dillwyn Food Mart  
Reid Super Save Market  
Buckingham Family Medicine  
Fas Mart Valero  
Farmers Bank  
Luckys Texaco  
BB&T Bank  
Pino's Restaurant  
Vance RE/Hair Corral  
New Images Hair Design  
Teresa's Place  
Wise Ridge Country Store  
Sheppards Exxon  
Bates Market  
Buckingham Co. High School  
EXXON  
Buckingham Co. Admin. Bldg.  
Herbert Maxey's Office  
Nancy's Gifts  
Ducks Corner

Route 20 Market  
Midway Market  
Glenmore Store  
Howardsville Store  
Spanglers  
New Canton Post Office  
Byrants Grocery  
Jeffery Oil/The Shed, Rt. 15  
Ella's Salon  
Jax Mini Mart (inside rack)  
Jax Mini Mart (outside box)  
Arvonnia Post Office  
Arvonnia Chiropractic  
Cental Va Health  
Ellington Gas  
Buckingham Library  
Dillwyn Pharmacy  
Cheryl's Barber Shop/Beauty Salon  
Robert Snoddy Attorney Office  
State Farm Office  
Acie Allen Attorney office  
Dillwyn Laundry  
Heritage Hall  
Buckingham Family Medicine  
Fas Mart Valero  
Food Lion  
China Restaurant







**Brunswick Stew  
Church Fundraiser**  
**When: Saturday, March 9:**  
**9:00 a.m.–12:00 p.m. at the**  
**Scottsville Farmers Market**  
 10:00 a.m.–4:00 p.m.; in  
 front of Lucky's (305 Valley St.),  
 at Rivertown Antiques  
 (Scottsville Shopping Center),  
 and at the church's Fellowship  
 Hall OR  
 Place advance orders at  
**shainsworth@sumc-va.org or**  
**(434)286-4736**

The Scottsville United Methodist Men (SUMM) will be holding their spring Brunswick Stew Fundraiser, featuring beef sirloin, chicken and bacon slow-simmered with a variety of garden vegetables.  
 Where: Scottsville United Methodist Church fellowship hall  
 (158 Main St, Scottsville)  
 Cost: SUMM Brunswick Stew: \$8 per quart (2 quarts for \$15)  
 Benefit: Net proceeds go to Methodist Men local charity missions  
**More info: Call (434) 286-4736**

### Watching Your Weight

Yes it's true. The loss is happening on the scales at a Weight Watchers meeting every Thursday afternoon which takes place at the beautiful Wiley Fitness Center in The Central Va Community Health Center. The group lost 226 pounds in 12 weeks!! The meetings are on Thursdays with weigh in beginning at 2:30pm and meeting at 2:45-3:15pm.

Contact alex.butterfield@weight-watchers.com for more information.

Answers to the Crossword Puzzle  
from page 11

M	I	S	S	S	W	E	D	E	H	O	S	T	
A	C	H	E	W	A	X	E	N	I	N	T	O	
C	O	U	N	T	E	R	A	C	T	B	E	A	R
E	N	T	A	I	L	M	A	R	R	I	A	G	E
T	A	L	C	Y	E	A	S	T					
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# The Mom's Group



CENTRA

Southside Community Hospital

## About the event:

New moms and new moms-to-be are invited to join us every Thursday for breastfeeding, infant care, and early parenthood support and education.

There will be snacks and door prizes. Children are welcome.

## Information:

For more information, call Fran Hill at 434.547.9637. Check the Centra Southside Community Hospital Facebook page for cancellations.

## SPECIAL EVENT

**DATE:** Thursdays

**TIME:** 10 am to noon

**LOCATION:** Support Building, Centra Southside Community Hospital, 800 Oak Street, Farmville, Virginia

[CentraSouthside.com](http://CentraSouthside.com)



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