

Buckingham Beacon

May 22–June 25, 2020

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Buckingham's Front-Line Workers Take On COVID-19

Page 2



The Graduating Class of 2020 Featured Next Month



Photo submitted

Central Virginia Community Health Center

Central Virginia Community Health Center provides quality health services for the citizens of Buckingham. The center, which started in 1970 as a community based and patient-directed organization, focuses on providing care to people with limited access to health services and has proven to be a great resource during the COVID-19 crisis. The exceptional group of front-line workers, include the nurses: Rear left to right: Katie Bryant, Tammy Baird, Dee Woodson, Candy Clark, Kendra Gough, Laura Bryant, and Kandice Miller-Brock. Front: Tiffany Land and Heather Kelly.

Cover designed by Marilyn Ellinger

Buckingham Beacon

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

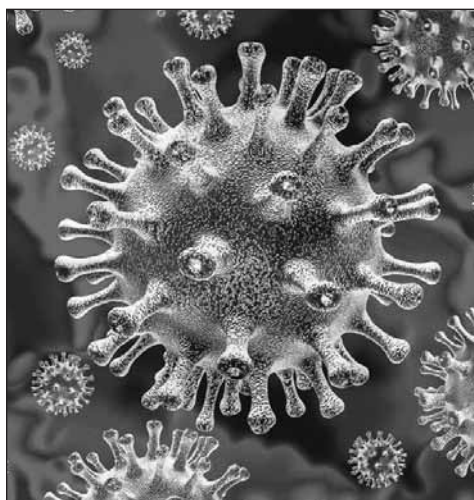
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Next advertising deadline: Wed., June 17, 2020

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Buckingham's Front-Line Workers Take On COVID-19

By Sue A. Miles
Correspondent



ways, risking their own lives in the process.

The *Beacon* would also like to acknowledge the members of the Class of 2020 who have had their final year in high school disrupted and basically disappear. The rituals of graduating are always memorable and very special. Not getting to experience them is not fair in a world that is currently not fair to us all. The June edition of the *Beacon* will feature graduating seniors - so make sure to pick up a copy at the end of that month

Ever since the coronavirus or COVID-19 has taken over our county and the world we have all had to basically change our lifestyles, our movements, and our interaction with people as we shelter in place. COVID-19 has changed the world and at this writing, there is not an end in sight as to what is next for everyone. Lost jobs, major unemployment, schools closing, masks, hand sanitizing, social distancing and social isolation, closed stores, and businesses going bankrupt - this is indeed a historic time. As we navigate through these troubling times the *Beacon* wishes to recognize those individuals and groups who are on the front line serving the county while, in many



Photo by Sue A. Miles

Buckingham County Rescue Squad

Always on the front-line, the county's rescue squad staff is even more vigilant as the issue of COVID-19 plays into each situation. Although all calls are obviously not COVID-19 related, if possible, dispatchers inform the EMT's whether a potential client is negative, positive, or potentially positive. Due to the COVID-19 crisis the responders are all paid staff as volunteers are not involved in calls. More than ever, the rescue squad staff is very aware of being in a confined space, in the back of the squad, and potential contamination as they do their job of helping those in need. Shown left to right: Sarah Lawhorne (EMT), Natalie Lundberg (EMT), Adam Cliborne (Medic), and Carl Potts (Advanced EMT).

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Photo by Sue A. Milles

Fire Department

The volunteers of the Buckingham County Rescue Squad, as always, are ever ready to respond to fires while also serving as back-up and auxiliary to traffic accidents. During this time of COVID-19, volunteers are even more aware of the possible dangers. Members make a special point of disinfecting all of the equipment and vehicles and, depending upon the type of calls, will don masks for their protection as well as those around them. These are just a few of the dedicated fire fighters who respond day and night to our needs: Shown left to right are Doug Hennessey, Drew Midkiff, Wallace Goode, Andy Oliver, Jeff Bailey, Jason Wharam and Hunter Wharam.



Photo by Sue A. Milles

UPS

As people are hunkering down and staying home online retail buying has increased exponentially. If you can't go to the store, Amazon and other online companies will be happy to ship it to you. Gary Cooper, who has been working for UPS for 33 years, can attest to the increase in online ordering. "We are basically packed like Christmas these days," says Cooper. Drivers are working 10 to 12 hour days to keep up with the surge in deliveries.

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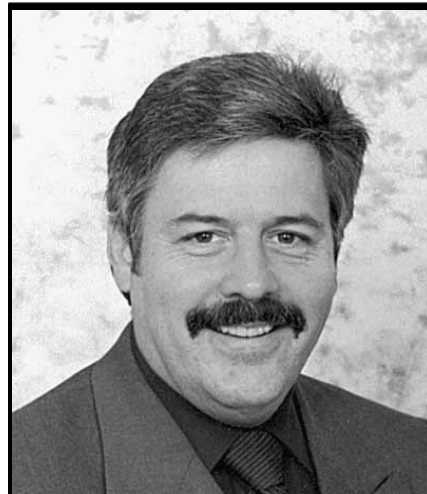
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Photo by Sue A. Milles

County Administration

Cody Davis, Buckingham County's emergency management coordinator, shown with County Administrator Rebecca Carter, is on the front lines of the COVID-19 pandemic for the county and its citizens. Davis, who is in constant communication with the Piedmont Health District and the Virginia Department of Health, is responsible for communicating to the public on COVID-19. He and Carter work with regional and state agencies to make sure that Buckingham citizens are not only informed but also safe. Go to www.buckinghamcountyva.org for updates.



Photo by Sue A. Milles

Piedmont Senior Resources

Piedmont Senior Resources is hard at work making sure homebound older adults are getting the nutrition they need during these difficult times. PSR currently serves Buckingham, Amelia, Nottoway, Prince Edward, Cumberland, Charlotte, and Lunenburg counties. Pictured is PSR driver Andrew Hill (right) is shown delivering Buckingham resident George Green (left) a week's supply of meals. For more information on PSR call **434-767-5588** or email [Nikki Dean at ndean@psraaa.org](mailto:ndean@psraaa.org).

Buckingham County Public Schools
KINDERGARTEN REGISTRATION
For the 2020 - 2021 school year

Buckingham County Primary School
If your child is currently enrolled in the BCPS Pre-K program you are not required to register for Kindergarten. If your child won't be attending BCPS, let us know what school they'll be attending or if you plan on homeschooling.

If you child was not registered at the Pre-K, Please mail a copy or hand in the follow documents to Buckingham Primary School:

1. Two proofs of residency (e.g. driver's license, utility bill, rental agreement)
2. Birth Certificate with a state seal.
3. Physical Examination Report (must be dated within 12 months of the first day of school)
4. Immunization Record (immunizations must be up-to-date)
5. Buckingham Primary registration form. This can be found on our district webpage. www.bcpschools.org or on our Facebook page **Buckingham County Primary School**.

ALL documents must be on file at BCPS by the first day of school in order for your child to begin school!

If you have any questions, contact Buckingham County Primary School at (434) 505-0001.
Our mailing address:
128 Frank Harris Rd.
Dillwyn, VA 23936

A secured drop box is located outside the primary office for paperwork dropped off after hours.

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#2741 - 2005 GMC Envoy

Leather, 3rd Row, Moonroof - This one has everything except processing fees!



Photo by Sue A. Milles

Food Lion

Customer Service Manager Bernanette Laury (left), Laura Wills and Donald Christensen are only a small sample of the dedicated workers at our local Food Lion who are working each day to make sure that we have access to groceries and other supplies. The staff has been dealing with various shortages including milk, meat, and of course, toilet paper, while also being short staffed. As the COVID-19 crisis has progressed, the store and its customers have had to adjust to changing habits and new guidelines such as limiting meat purchases to two packs per customer. Laury noted that Food Lion is now offering senior citizen hours (Monday and Wednesday, 7 a.m. - 8 a.m.) and shared a personal story of sacrifice. "We go home, and have to change clothes and shower before we can hug our kids and loved ones," she said.

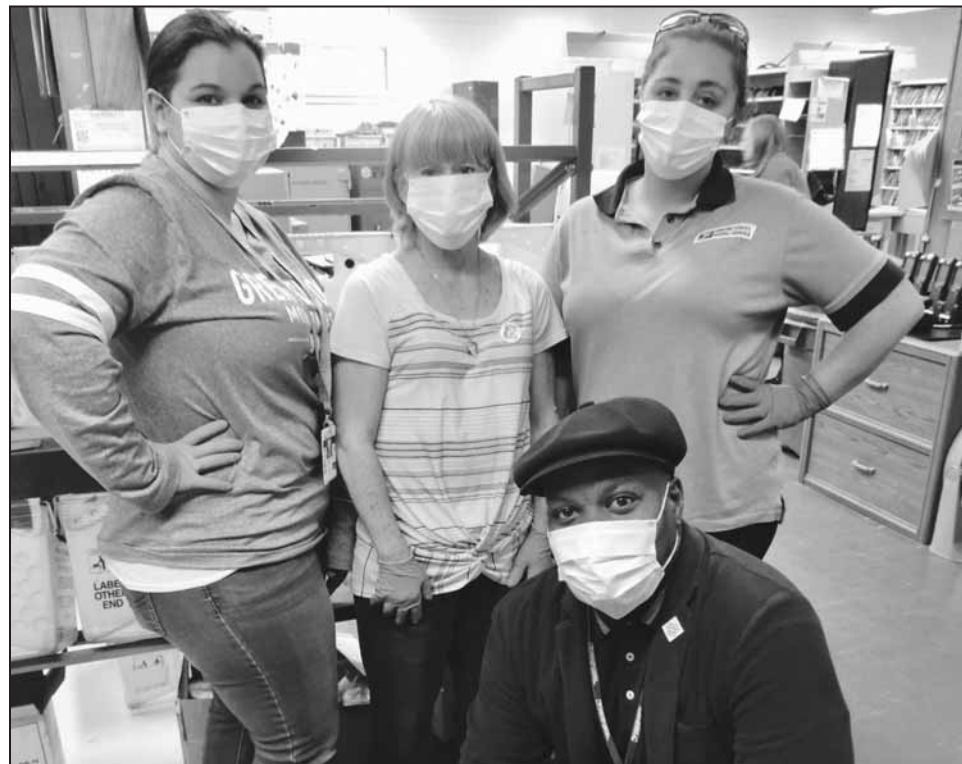


Photo by Sue A. Milles

Post Office

Post office workers continue to report every day to serve the public and keep mail and deliveries going. The Dillwyn office now has two layers of protection to protect not only the public but also its staff. Dillwyn also is the post office for all incoming and outgoing mail from the two prisons. Postmaster Jermaine Battle (front) is responsible for handling all prison mail. The facility conducts a daily cleaning and the staff shared that they strip down and wash their clothing every day when they get home. Shown in rear (left to right) are Jessica Lester, Susan Companion, Danielle Rowan. Christy Shumaker is in the far back.



Photo by Sue A. Milles

Truckers

Everyone should know that truck drivers are the backbone of our nation. They are responsible for hauling almost every purchasable item in the country; food, gas, raw materials, and finished goods; items necessary to live and function in daily life. And the COVID-19 crisis hasn't stopped them. Willie "Lil Bill" Harris is a perfect example of that dedication. A truck driver for over 36 years, Harris is currently employed by C. F. Marion Trucking and hauls chips and wood on a daily basis.

Prisons

Buckingham is home to two state prisons (Buckingham and Dillwyn) which employ a large number of citizens in and outside of the county. During the pandemic, state prisons are on modified lockdown and both of the county's prisons have noted a large number of COVID-19 cases, including two deaths (at this writing). Offenders are normally hired to work with the corrections staff to prepare three meals a day in the facilities. But these are not ordinary times. Along with their regular duties, officers and other staff are now filling in to be sure that the job gets done. Buckingham Correctional Center Corrections Officers Donn Cook and Phylicia Canada are shown in the process of delivering food to offenders. They are among the many dedicated staff that are playing critical roles as well, especially our medical professionals.



Photo submitted by VDOC



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- needs to be comfortable with telephone and written sales efforts as well as with face-to-face presentations.

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Judi Price, Advertising Director
 Judi.valleypublishing@gmail.com



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RENTALS

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WILMINGTON CLUBHOUSE: Looking for a venue to host your party or event? Wilmington Clubhouse is available for rent at 1083 Wilmington Road, Palmyra VA 22963. For more information email: WilmingtonClub@gmail.com or phone (434) 373-0985, or text.

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SPECIAL NOTICES

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BLUE RIDGE FOOD TRUCK
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Blue Ridge Food Truck will deliver in June: Friday June 12th
Friday, June 26th

Weather permitting
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Luis Siliezar, MD, pediatric endocrinologist, completed medical school at the University of El Salvador and residency training in pediatrics in Nassau University Medical Center, after which he served a fellowship in pediatric endocrinology. Dr. Siliezar performed his pediatric endocrinology training at NYU Winthrop Hospital.

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