

FOOTBALL: Hampden-Sydney set for kickoff **A8**

The Farmville Herald

Honor for the past, help for the present, hope for the future

Farmville, Virginia

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The first phase of repair work has been finished for Prince Edward Elementary. The next step begins within a few weeks.

Repairs partially complete at elementary school

BY RACHEL AUSTIN
The Farmville Herald

At the beginning of the school year students have new clothes, new shoes and new supplies. Luckily for Prince Edward County Elementary School students, this year they also have new repairs to their roof.

At the August Prince Edward County Board of Supervisors meeting, Superintendent Dr. Barbara Johnson gave an update on the status of current repairs on the school. According to Johnson, repairs were needed in all of the buildings. A through G, that make up the elementary school.

The repairs for Building G

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there is no longer mold in the building. "These classrooms are fine," said Johnson. "The two classrooms, however, the ones that we had closed are still closed, and that is because we have not put ceiling tiles or floor tiles back into that room because we still have leaks. That work has not been finished in Building E, so the thought is why put the new floor tile and ceiling tile in there when all of that work has not been done."

There is still smaller work to be done in the remaining buildings that is taking place now. Because of this, the elementary school currently has

there is no longer mold in the building.

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Why doesn't the state step in?

BY BRIAN CARLTON
The Farmville Herald

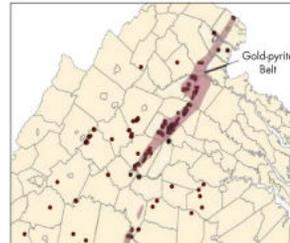
BUCKINGHAM

How do you effectively monitor a gold mining operation without the necessary resources or staff? It's a question yet to be answered in Buckingham County, as well as several other areas of the Commonwealth. The problem is that while state agencies handle the regulation and enforcement falls to local governments, regardless of their size.

There are 427 active mineral mines across Virginia, according to the U.S. Geological Survey. Some are just prospect mines, where a company isn't sure what they'll find. Others are occurrence mines, where you'll only find a small bit of gold or iron in one isolated drill hole. And then

there are the industrialized mines, the big operations. It's up to local governments to design and enforce ordinances in each case. That means managing the mine's impact on local traffic, mitigating noise levels, deciding hours of operation and land use zoning. But most of these Virginia mines are in small communities. Places like Buckingham County don't have the manpower to do the job or the tax dollars to add more staff. "We're talking about a major operation and many counties that have small staffing in terms of local government, they just don't have the bandwidth to understand these things and make sure (the rules) are

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The gold-pyrite belt identified by Aston Bay Holdings is one of several deposits found throughout the state. Here's a look at the gold found in this region.

New Moton project brings students together

BY RACHEL AUSTIN
The Farmville Herald

When the students at Prince Edward County High School and Fuqua School come together, it's usually to compete in sports or academics. Now, the Moton Museum is providing a chance for these students to make a difference in their county.

Bridge Builders is a community of young scholars

who want to come together to encourage unity and create a better future for the schools, community and country. This program will help the students involved create stronger relationships, assist the Moton Museum, create a legacy project and earn a \$1,000 college scholarship.

HOW BRIDGE BUILDERS STARTED
Nine students from Prince Edward County High School

and Fuqua School started this program earlier this month with officials from the Moton Museum. This project allows students from the two schools to come together in a noncompetitive setting as they work together to make their shared community better.

"We are thrilled to be partners in this groundbreaking initiative with Prince Ed-

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Pilot program could help solve housing problem

BY BRIAN CARLTON
The Farmville Herald

You may have already seen the sites being cleared off of Andrews Drive in Farmville. The homes are going up, both in Prince Edward and two other nearby counties. The goal here isn't just new construction. This project, a joint partnership organized by the Commonwealth Regional Council, is designed to help with the problem of affordable housing.

It's an issue we see both here locally and across the state. Based on a Dec.

2021 report by Virginia's Joint Legislative and Audit Review Commission, 29% of households in the state struggle with housing costs. Nearly half of those spent more than 50% of their income on housing, both rental and owned. And as mentioned, it's a problem here locally. The study found 67% of households struggling with housing costs either lived in this region or in Northern Virginia.

So what's causing this problem? Housing prices

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Occupancy tax helps fund tourism council

BY RACHEL AUSTIN
The Farmville Herald

As Prince Edward County continues to draw visitors, a new council will help make decisions on how to keep tourists coming back for more.

In response to the adoption of the transient occupancy tax in June of 2021, the Tour-

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ism Council will help promote the county in a beneficial way. In the June 2021 meeting, the Prince Edward County Board of Supervisors voted to amend and approve Ordinance 70-221 through 70.231 for the transient occupancy tax. The tax became effective in July 2021 to create a tax of

7% of the total amount paid for lodging for hotels, motels, campgrounds and other facilities offering lodging in Prince Edward County, but not the Town of Farmville as it has its own occupancy tax. This tax is reported to the Commissioner of Revenue before the last day of each month.

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