

### In this issue >>>

- >A Mentor Among Maps
- >VRS Scam Alert
- >Around the Square
- >Employee Years of Service
- >Final Thoughts



COUNTY

# Infocus

*Learning, living, and leading...together.*



## CAMPBELL COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS AND CAMPBELL COUNTY SCHOOL BOARD PROCEED WITH RUSTBURG MIDDLE SCHOOL REPLACEMENT PROJECT



The Campbell County Board of Supervisors and the Campbell County School Board are

pleased to announce that initial steps to replace the Rustburg Middle School are now underway. Following months of collaborative planning, the two Boards have worked in tandem to secure the needed credit rating for financing the project and authorized staff to seek professional planning and development proposals to move the project forward.

Replacement of Rustburg Middle School, (as the original structure is 101 years old) was slated as a top priority in recent years by both Boards and addressed in joint capital improvement planning due to its age and many needed repairs.

At the May 5 Board of Supervisors meeting, members voted

*continued page 2 >>>*

## A Mentor Among Maps

Theresa Phillips Accepts Position to Serve on VAAO Board of Directors

On an average day, you'll find Theresa Phillips in her office on the second floor of the Citizen Services building, poring over real estate maps, and helping the public with their questions regarding their property appraisals or assessments.

No stranger to customer service, Theresa began her career in Campbell County 25 years ago last October as a switchboard operator, directing citizens

and routing calls to specific departments.

In 1999, the Reassessment Office was created, and Theresa recognized her strengths and talents were needed in a different way.

"Helping people is something I take pride in," Theresa notes. "I

know what it is like to be on the other end of the line, so I like to be able to guide citizens towards finding the answers they need. If I can't help them, I want to be able to learn with them."

Although the majority of her day is filled with processing deeds and wills to complete ownership of property, she is also responsible for making changes to property boundary lines once a plat has been recorded as well as ensuring real estate values are correct for the current tax year.

"In my profession, I've learned you have to always be open to learning," laughed Theresa.

*continued page 5 >>>*



## vrs warns of potential coronavirus scams >>>



**VIST VARETIRE.ORG FOR  
MORE INFORMATION**

Even in times of crisis, the unscrupulous find opportunities for exploitation. Already, there have been reports of scammers using calls, emails and texts to sell bogus COVID-19 tests and vaccines, solicit donations for non-existent charities and to pry personal information from people waiting for CARES Act relief checks.

Not long after the Social Security Administration announced office closures in response to the pandemic, scammers sent letters to beneficiaries threatening suspension of their Social Security benefits unless they called a phone number to provide money or personal information.

From time to time, VRS receives reports from members and employers that various companies or groups have contacted them via email or phone to offer retirement counseling services or insurance products. With passage of the CARES Act, which allows coronavirus-related distributions from certain retirement plans, unsolicited calls to members may increase.

Please be aware:

- VRS does not use unsolicited calls to contact members to offer services.
- VRS does not sell services; all benefit counseling is free to members and retirees.
- Correspondence from VRS will arrive by U.S. mail on official letterhead.
- Emails from VRS will be sent from a "varetire.org" address and include the VRS logo and copyright.
- VRS staff do not come to members' homes to discuss benefits.

For more information, visit the VRS Security Center at [www.varetire.org](http://www.varetire.org).

*continued from page 1 >>>* unanimously to apply the Public-Private Educational Facilities and Infrastructure Act (PPEA) to move more quickly and seamlessly into the multi-faceted process of procuring design, construction, and financing for the project. The School System will play the key role of ensuring design plans are conducive for academic achievement, while the County will take the lead in finance planning and project management. In the weeks ahead, the School/County Joint Committee and leadership staff will collectively review proposals for the overall project, with construction tentatively slated for Spring 2021.

"This is a tremendous step forward, and I am pleased with the vision and cooperation the School Board and Board of Supervisors have demonstrated to make this school improvement project a reality," said Dr. Robert Johnson, Campbell County Superintendent of Schools. "We are excited to see this progress and will keep everyone informed in the days ahead as more details become available."

"We are proud to make this shared commitment to our local education system and our community. We look forward to continuing our work with the Schools as many crucial planning pieces will still be coming together in the months ahead," said Frank Rogers, County Administrator. "I commend our Board of Supervisors, our School Board and staff for their spirit of collaboration in the best interest of our current students and future generations."

### **NATIONWIDE RETIREMENT SOLUTIONS REPRESENTATIVE AVAILABLE FOR VIRTUAL APPOINTMENTS**

More than 30 percent of the thousands of participants in a recent Charles Schwab assessment said they don't have a written financial plan because they think it's too complicated or they don't have enough time to work on one.

The current crisis is especially stressful, as families are stretched thin. Financial stress impacts emotional and physical well-being. Nationwide would like to offer an opportunity to help everyone get on the right track to their own financial wellness, through investing for the future.

Feel free to contact your Nationwide Retirement Specialist, **Lynn Robinette** at 434-534-5673 or schedule a virtual appointment at: <http://nationwide457.MyRetirementAppt.com>.

>>>**Congratulations** to Mary Morris (Social Services) on the birth of her granddaughter, Everleigh. Little Everleigh decided to make her debut on April 11 at 3:45 a.m..

Born almost two months premature, she tipped the scales at 3 pounds 11 ounces—but no worries—as Shakespeare said, though she be but little, she is fierce! Everleigh and Mom, Ellen, are doing well, and the little whipper-snapper is already telling the NiCU how things are going to be! Your Campbell family continue to send their best wishes!

>>>**Hats off** to Ashley Keesee (Management Services) on her recent completion of her B.S. in Finance from Liberty University! Ashley submitted her final assignment just yesterday, with plans to receive her diploma in the formal graduation ceremony scheduled for September 11, 2020.

This isn't the end, though - Ashley just announced she's been accepted into Longwood University's MBA program! What a rock star! Nice job, Ashley!

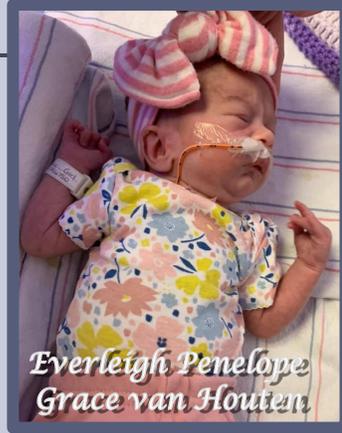
>>>**Congratulations** to Baylee Worth, daughter of Beth Worth (Public and Employee Relations) on being awarded the Pete Warren Graduate Student Fellowship at the University of Lynchburg. The fellowship is a competitive, statewide opportunity, named in honor of former professor, Pete Warren.

Baylee is currently working towards her Master's degree in clinical mental health counseling, and is employed at Centra, Sweet Briar College, and the Campbell County Public Library System. Way to go, Baylee! Keep shining!

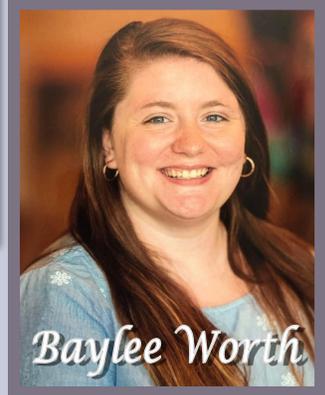
>>>**Best wishes** to Alexis McGuire Penwell, daughter of Heather McGuire (Management Services) on her recent nuptials to her high school sweetheart, Chase Penwell.

The two married in a private ceremony—Pandemic Style—on May 1, 2020. A virus can't stop love!

Alexis is employed as a hostess at The Colonial while completing her BS in Finance at the University of Lynchburg, and Chase is employed at Abbott Labs, while also serving our country in the Marine reserves. Congratulations to the beautiful couple!



Everleigh Penelope  
Grace van Houten



Baylee Worth



Ashley Keesee



The McGuire Family



Where flowers bloom,

so does hope.

-Lady Bird Johnson

Please send submissions to  
Beth Worth by  
Thursday, May 28, 2020.



## it's official >>>



The Campbell County family has grown by 9,504 feet (1.8 miles)!

Our employee adoption of the section of Village Highway from Rustburg High School to the 24/501 junction has been finalized, and our signs have been installed.

Many, many thanks to those of you who have worked tirelessly to help keep our highway clean!

## what's cooking Campbell? >>>

### Easy Pasta Salad

So easy you'll want to make it, and take it EVERYWHERE!



### INGREDIENTS

#### FOR THE PASTA

- 16 oz. fusilli pasta, cooked
- 8 oz. mozzarella balls, halved
- 4 oz. salami, quartered
- 2 c. baby spinach
- 1 c. cherry tomatoes, halved
- 1 c. artichoke hearts, chopped
- 1/2 c. pitted black olives, sliced

#### FOR THE DRESSING

- 1/3 c. olive oil
- 2 tbsp. red wine vinegar
- 1 garlic clove, minced
- 2 tsp. Italian seasoning
- 1 tbsp. parsley
- Pinch red pepper flakes
- Kosher salt
- Freshly ground black pepper

#### PREPARATION

1. In a large bowl, toss together pasta, mozzarella, salami, spinach, tomatoes, artichokes, and olives.
2. To make the dressing, add olive oil, vinegar, garlic, Italian seasoning, parsley, and red pepper flakes to a jar and secure with a lid then shake to combine. Season with salt and pepper to taste.
3. Dress pasta with dressing and serve.

## thank you >>> years of service recognition

As you may be aware, the following employees were recognized during our Open Employee Meeting for reaching milestones in their respective public service careers. Please join us in celebrating their years of service, and congratulate them for their dedication to our collective organization and the people we so passionately serve.

### 25 YEARS

Linda Sue Calloway  
 Carroll Younger  
 Rhonda Mason  
 Susan Bryant  
 Theresa Phillips  
 Jennifer Moon  
 Valerie Younger  
 William "Bill" Elliott

### 15 YEARS

Brian Stokes  
 Chris Towler  
 Sam Green, III  
 John Wingfield, IV  
 Ryan Bierowski  
 Nathan Funderburk  
 Vincent Keller  
 John "JB" Tannehill

### 10 YEARS

Kristi Burks  
 Joshua Layne  
 Andrew Turner  
 Kyle Toler

### 20 YEARS

Devon Tweedy  
 Tom Fairchild  
 Robert Hutcherson  
 Michael Garrett  
 Russ Glass  
 Paul Harvey  
 Cathy Monroe  
 Mark Schmitt  
 June Fisher

Thank You



## LEARN WITH YOUR LIBRARY

With our work routines shifting, this may be a good time to take advantage of some great trainings available to you, free of charge.

Many self-development and continuing education materials and courses are provided online through our Library System's learning platform and through the REACH/EAP portal.

To enjoy the Library's educational offerings, all you need is a library card. If you do not have a library card - no problem. Email [per@campbellcountyva.gov](mailto:per@campbellcountyva.gov) or Library Director Jordan Wellborn at [ljwelborn@co.campbell.va.us](mailto:ljwelborn@co.campbell.va.us) and our offices will work together to get you one as soon as possible.

Which is one reason, she is such a great fit for her new appointment with the Virginia Association of Assessing Officers (VAAO).

In January of this past year, Theresa was asked to serve on the VAAO Board of Directors, which oversee the state's educational programs for government real estate professionals, offer guidance for the hosting of regional seminars and courses, and oversee scholarship opportunities for the organization. She is the first—ever—in the Campbell County organization to be appointed to such a position with the VAAO, and her term will last for three years.

"Throughout my public service career, the continuing education opportunities I've received as a result of the VAAO have truly helped shape my proficiency, and how localities set standards," she said. "Networking within this organization has been a great way to develop my skills, so it is exciting to be able to shape the future of real estate by serving on this board."

When she's not nose deep in maps, or mentoring the next generation, you can find Theresa cheering on the Panthers, or when the weather cooperates, riding her Harley Davidson with her loving husband, Mike. She also enjoys decorating her home, and being sweet-talked into giving belly rubs to her mischievous beagle, Lucy.



We applaud you, Theresa!

Thank you for serving not only our locality, but mentoring countless other professionals—employees like you make a difference, not just a living!

## Final thoughts

By some estimates, work-related stress drains the US economy of nearly 300 billion dollars a year -- and it can hurt your productivity and personal health too, says wellness advocate Rob Cooke. He shares some strategies to help put your mental, physical and emotional well-being back at the forefront.



**Please click on the photo above; make sure your speakers are on.**



**continuing education >>>**

### REACH/EAP Modules

**Webinars available through MyLifeExpert App**

Please be aware that REACH/EAP has shifted their online services to their new site: <https://mylifeexpert.com/>.

Our employer code for REACH/EAP is: **campbellco**, and users will have to complete their own user IDs in order to access the site, which will also allow access to the mobile app.

### thank you >>>

Beth Worth, Public and Employee Relations, would like to take a moment to thank those of you who reached out privately, or sent notes of condolences on the recent passing of her grandmother, Betty Lou Hamlett.

Beth shares: I could not be more appreciative of our Department of Public Safety, E-911 Dispatchers, and EMT's, Matt Crouch and Leland Bell, for the care and concern they showed our family during such a heart-wrenching time. Also, Deputy Cordes with the Campbell County Sheriff's Office was most compassionate. We are grateful for their words, their offers of comfort, and the outpouring of support I received from my Campbell County family. We are blessed to have such wonderful people in our lives.