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Volume 37 Issue 13

Serving the King William and King and Queen Communities since 1989

Wednesday, April 1, 2026

Supervisors Get Updates on Solar and Broadband Projects



Tom Innes with All Points Broadband

By Gene Campbell

At the March 23rd King William County Board of Supervisors Meeting, officials provided updates on two significant county projects that had garnered both attention and controversy since their inception. The Dominion Energy Sweet Sue Solar Project and All Points Broadband Project are moving towards completion in the near future.

The Dominion Sweet Sue Solar Project, spanning over 1,200 acres in the Manquin area of the county, began construction in 2022. Melanie Rapp and John Behreandt, representing Dominion Energy, told supervisors the 77-megawatt solar project is on track to be completed by the end of 2026.

Tom Innes of All Points Broadband gave an update on his company's progress in providing high-speed internet in the county. After some initial delays, groundbreaking took place in October 2023. Innes reported that its initial project has been completed, connecting 2,200 homes in the county. All Points is now working on a federal Broadband Equity, Access and Deployment (BEAD) project expanding high-speed internet to unserved and underserved areas of the county. This work will be completed by the end of December 2027, serving an additional 1,300 homes.

Please see BOS, continued on page 16.

Mangohick Volunteer Fire Department Easter Egg Hunt



Contributed by MVFD - Mangohick Volunteer Fire Department welcomed the arrival of the Easter Bunny March 29, 2026. Children and adults enjoyed hugs as they hunted for Easter eggs in the annual event. A good time was had by all.

Arlington Lodge is Hooked on Saltfish and Education



(left to right) Lodge members Mac Bradley, Jimmy Moran, Bill Perry, Carter Ball, and Bill Passagaluppi serving up the saltfish and fixens

By Gene Campbell

Saltfish breakfasts have long been a 'country' tradition in rural America. I attended many a one with my dad 'back in the day.' It serves as an opportunity for people of all ages to come together while sharing stories and laughter over a hearty meal. It has also been a good fundraising activity.

For the past nine years, Arlington #102 Masonic Lodge in Millers Tavern has held semi-annual saltfish breakfasts (one in the spring and one in the fall) to raise funds for scholarships awarded to local high school students.

Please see Arlington Lodge, continued on page 16.

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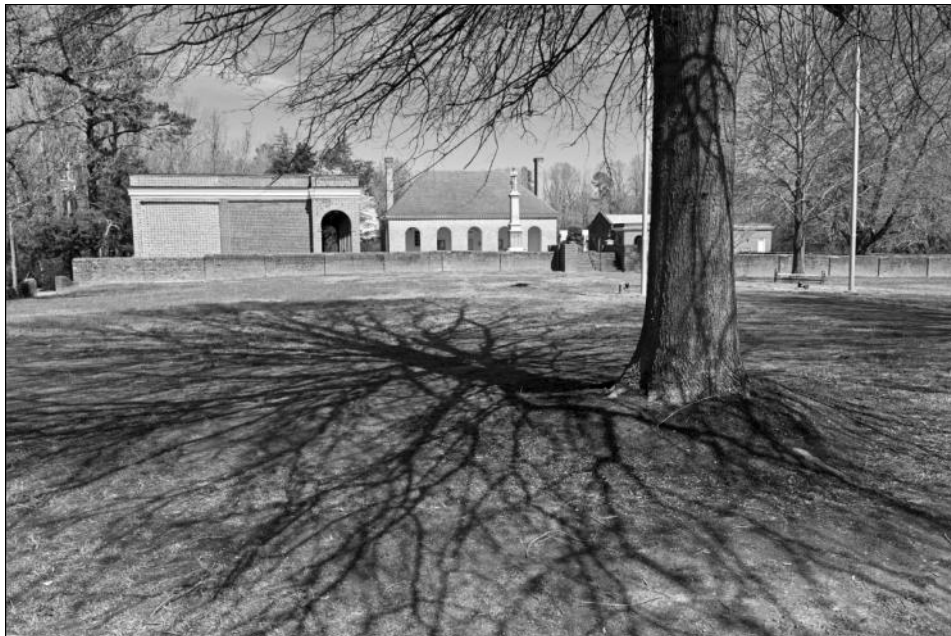


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King William County Gears Up for a Grand Celebration



King William County Courthouse is 'rooted in history.'

By Gene Campbell

Excitement is building in King William County as plans are being finalized for the highly anticipated King William Heritage Day on Saturday, April 11th, celebrating the founding of our great nation. This monumental event will commemorate not only the 250th anniversary of our great nation but also celebrate the rich history of King William County, a community that has played a significant role in Virginia's history.

The celebration promises to bring together residents, families, and visitors for a day filled with historical reenactors bringing the past to life, lively dancing, exhibits, and engaging activities that reflect the county's heritage. Local businesses and organizations will be on hand, as will food vendors offering a taste of local cuisine. There will be fun activities for all ages.

Please see page 16.

Publisher's Message



Finally, some real spring like weather. I just finished getting up what seemed to be endless leaves and limbs from the yard. The grass needed cutting, so that was next on the list. I am thankful I can still do these things. It's rewarding to take a moment and look at the day's work. So much to be thankful for each and every day.

Take care until next time.

Hanny Clark



The Country Courier welcomes letters from our readers, which will be published with the writer's signature and county of residence. We accept calendar items at no charge for 50 words or less. The Country Courier reserves the right to edit letters and calendar items and print when space is available.

Serving King William and King & Queen Counties Since 1989

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Hours: 10AM-2PM M-F
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Equine Talk Sponsored by: T-Town Tack

Racing Mules

By Allen Brintley and "Pip"

Horses and mules can be used for so many different things. Some can pull heavy loads, while others are made for riding. They range from draft horses to race horses. Did you know that they even have racing mules. I guess those are raised out of a thoroughbred mare and some kind of super fast donkey.

I remember a story about this old farmer that got a young mule out of North Carolina to raise and use on the farm. The young mule grew up to be long and lean and built for speed. She was not like one of the regular field mules, so he taught her to ride. Everyone around knew about this mule as she was one of the prettiest mules in the county. They also knew she had a big heart and a big motor and could cover a lot of ground pretty fast. One day the old farmer was out on the road riding his mule and his neighbor pulled up in a pickup truck and wanted to see how fast that mule was. So the farmer got in the truck and told his neighbor to drive and his mule would follow along behind. The truck got up to about 25mph and the mule was right on the rear bumper hawing and making noises. The neighbor asked "What does that mean?" The



farmer said "She wants to go faster." So the guy pushed the speed to 35 and that mule stayed right there. He looked in the rear view and said "She has her ears laid back. What does that mean?" The farmer said "She wants more speed." The guy then got up to 45mph and looked in the mirror and the mule was hanging in there but she was breathing hard. The neighbor told the farmer "That sure is a fast mule but I'm worried because her tongue is hanging out." The old farmer asked "Which way is it hanging?" The neighbor looked in the rearview and said "It's hanging to the left. What does that mean?" The farmer said "Stay in this lane. She's signaling that she's about to pass!"

You can email me at Allen@TwinRiversRealty.com or call 690-7870. I'll see you on the trails.

Keep Eyes Forward, and Stay Focused Behind the Wheel

From texts to touchscreens, everyday distractions remain a leading factor in vehicle crashes, where a brief glance away from the road can prove costly. April marks Distracted Driving Awareness Month, a nationwide effort urging motorists to reduce risky behaviors and commit to safer driving. Throughout the month, traffic safety officials are emphasizing that even a split second of inattention can have devastating and lasting consequences.

Distracted driving is any activity that diverts attention from driving, like texting, talking on the phone, eating, applying makeup, interacting with passengers, and using vehicles' navigation or infotainment systems.

"We'd like drivers to use this month as an opportunity to identify their bad driving habits and correct them," said Rich Jacobs, senior communications manager for Drive Smart Virginia, of which Virginia Farm Bureau Mutual Insurance Co. is a founding member.

Nationwide, 3,275 people were killed in motor vehicle crashes involving distracted drivers in 2023. In Virginia, the Department of Motor Vehicles reported 20,758 distracted driving crashes in 2024, including 11,256 injuries and 90 fatalities. The most common causes of distraction-related crashes in Virginia include taking eyes off the road, cellphones and texting, and "rubbernecking" or looking at roadside incidents.

While Virginia law prohibits holding a cellphone while driving, the problem persists. VDOT reported cellphone-related distractions increased 3% from 2023 to 2024—underscoring the prevalence of device use behind the wheel.

Safety advocates say common misconceptions also contribute to the problem.

"Multitasking is the biggest myth," Jacobs noted. "Driving requires your full attention."

Many believe they're adept at multitasking, but research shows that brains can't handle multiple attention-demanding tasks simultaneously. Instead, brains switch between one and the other, reducing focus and slowing reaction times.

And although smartphones and vehicles are equipped with hands-free technology, that carries risks too. Studies from the University of Utah found it can take drivers up to 27 seconds to fully refocus after using voice commands.

Another common belief is that distracted driving is primarily an issue among younger drivers. According to AAA, experienced and older drivers are more prone to distraction from vehicles' infotainment systems—taking longer to navigate and complete tasks, and responding slower to driving events.

Please see Distracted Driving, continued on page 16.

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Seagull Found His Home Thanks to Community Support

Contributed by Ashley Irby

Some readers of the Country Courier may remember Seagull, a hound from King William Regional Animal Shelter who had been waiting quite a while for his family.

After 234 days in the shelter system, including 173 days in foster care, Seagull's story has finally reached its happy ending.

Like many dogs adjusting to shelter life, Seagull was overwhelmed and collapsing under the stress of a shelter environment. With time in foster care, patience, and a whole lot of love, he began to settle in and show the affectionate and loyal personality that had been there all along. His journey included an adoption that didn't work out, and he returned to foster care that same day to continue waiting for the right match.



That match ultimately turned out to be the family he was already living with — my family.

I have been fostering animals for the Regional Animal Shelter for less than two years and have had the privilege of fostering more than 20 pets during that time. Seagull was the foster who slowly worked his way into my heart without me ever realizing it.

However, his adoption would not have been possible without the support of Friends of King William Animal Shelter, a local nonprofit organization that works closely with the Regional Animal Shelter to support the animals in their care.

Friends frequently helps cover medical needs, supplies, and adoption fees for shelter animals. In Seagull's case, the organization sponsored the dental procedure he desperately needed.

Veterinary care like that can sometimes delay or even prevent an adoption. Thanks to Friends stepping in to help, that barrier was removed for Seagull — and for many other animals as well.

Because of Friends' support, Seagull was able to move forward with his adoption and begin the next chapter of his life.

Loved. Healthy. And already home.

Thank you, Friends of King William Animal Shelter — for Seagull, for my previous fosters, and for the many future pets to come. I wouldn't be able to foster as many animals without your dedication to our community and shelter.

Interested in Supporting More Happy Stories Like Seagull's?

Learn more about the work of Friends of King William Animal Shelter through their social media, website, and community events.

A lot of times people look at the negative side of what they feel they can't do. I always look on the positive side of what I can do.

Chuck Norris

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Cavaliers Swinging into Spring



Lady Cavs Jillian Smith smacks a three-run homer



Cavs pitcher Joseph Pasowicz showing his no-hitter form

By Gene Campbell

The King William High School Cavaliers are off and swinging into another thrilling baseball and softball season. The diamonds at the school came alive with the sounds of bats cracking, balls flying, and cheers from the stands on March 17th as the Varsity Boys lost a nail-biter to the Patriots of Patrick Henry 5-4. Kolton Jimmo went 1-for-3 at the plate and led the team with two runs batted in. Zai Shelton and Jimmo each collected one hit for the Cavaliers.

On March 19th the Cavaliers routed the Colonial Heights Colonials 10-0. Joseph Pasowicz earned the win with a no-hitter.

The sophomore pitcher surrendered zero hits and zero runs over five innings, striking out six and walking one in the process of the shutout. Zai Shelton led the Cavs offense with two hits in two at-bats from the leadoff position. Javon Lewis and Shelton each drove in two runs for King William. Stevie Walton added a double and an RBI for the offense, and Conner Coleman had a base hit that knocked in a King William run.

On March 23rd the Cavs lost to the Mechanicsville Mustangs 5-0. Henry Kite turned in a solid performance on the mound as the senior pitcher went five and

two-thirds innings, giving up only one earned run on three hits, striking out five, and walking two. Stevie Walton led the Cavaliers' offense with two hits in three at-bats.

In the most recent game, the Cavaliers came up short against the Deep Run Wildcats 10-5 on March 25th. Dallas Thompson led the Cavs offense with a double and two runs batted in. Thompson, Henry Kite, Zai Shelton, Chase Jukes, Stevie Walton, and Owen Normas each collected one hit for the Cavaliers.

The Varsity Boy Cavaliers' record is 1-3. The JV baseball team is 4-0 after wins over Lancaster, Colonial Heights, Mechanicsville, and Deep Run.

The Girls Varsity softball team defeated the Colonial Heights Colonials 10-0 on March 19th behind the no-hit pitching of Jillian Smith. Smith also contributed to the offense with a 3-run HR. Olivia Unser and

Addison Kirby also contributed with multi-hit games. The Lady Cavs continued their winning ways with a 3-0 shutout of the Mechanicsville Mustangs on March 23rd. Jillian Smith threw another shutout and struck out 6. Smith and Zoey Robinson each drove in one run for the Cavaliers. Robinson led the Cavs with two hits in three at-bats.

On March 25th the Lady Cavs fell short to the Deep Run Wildcats 4-3. Jillian Smith went six and one-third innings, striking out nine and walking one. Zoey Robinson launched a solo HR, and Hollyn Krukowski went 2-for-3 at the plate and led the team with two runs batted in for the Lady Cavs offense.

The Varsity Lady Cavs are currently 2-1, while the JV Lady Cavs are 1-0 with a big win over the Colonial Heights Colonials. GO CAVS!

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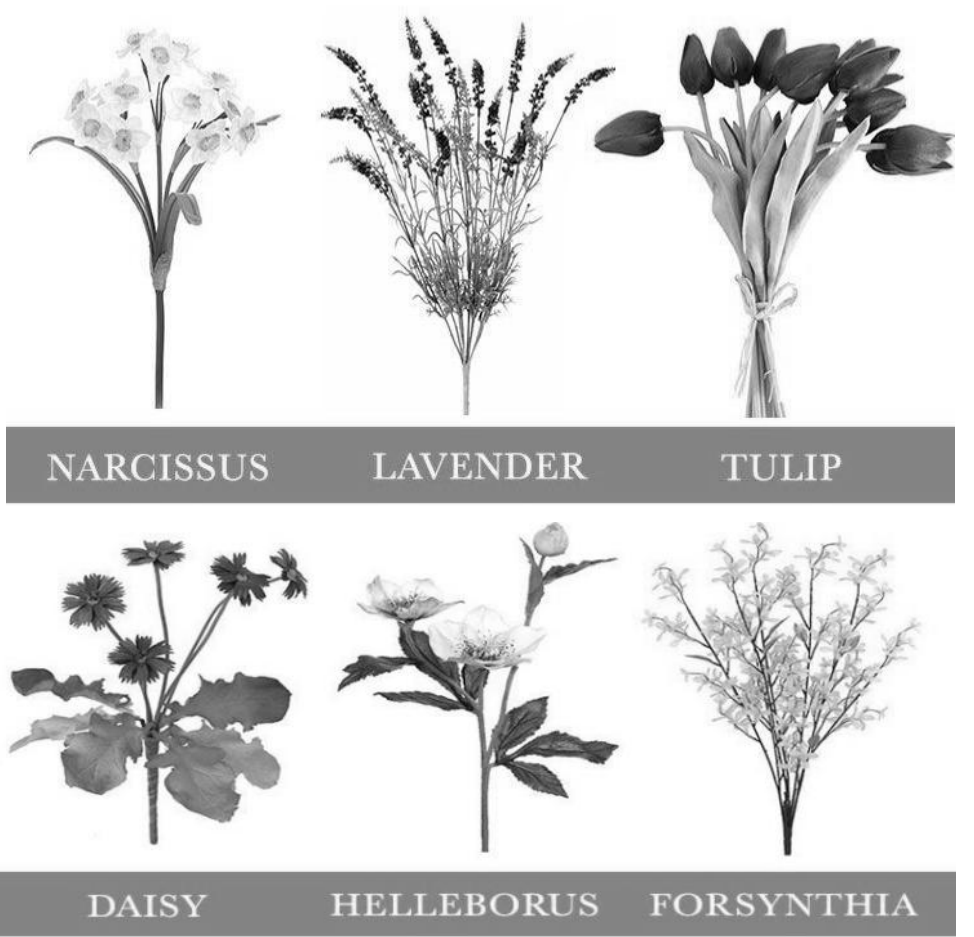
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Batter Up



Kyra Sayles throws the first pitch to catcher Gracie Sluder



Joe Jones throws the first pitch to catcher Levi Porch

By Gene Campbell

A wave of nostalgia swept over me as I entered the King William Recreation Park on the afternoon of Saturday, March 28th for the King William Little League opening day ceremonies. For over 65 years, I have been coming here, first as a kid swinging for the fences and now as a photographer shooting for the 'perfect shot.' On this cool, picture-perfect spring day, the atmosphere was filled with excitement, laughter, and the unmistakable sounds of baseballs cracking and parents cheering for their loved ones.

The festivities kicked off with an official opening ceremony that included team introductions and ceremonial first pitches. Generations of King William residents filled the bleachers, cheering on the young athletes as they proudly waved to moms, dads, grandparents, aunts, uncles, and

friends as they paraded onto the field. Joe Jones (catcher Levi Porch) and Kyra Sayles (catcher Gracie Sluder) were joined by King William Supervisor Brenton Bohannon in throwing the ceremonial first pitches. The ceremonies also honored the King William Little League's (aka the Future Cavaliers) own Virginia Little League Baseball District 15 Champions.

Once the ceremony concluded, the games kicked off, with teams taking to the diamonds in their uniforms, ready to showcase their skills and sportsmanship. Games will be held at the King William Recreation Park on weeknights and weekends until early June. Do yourself a favor and come out to the ballpark and cheer on these young athletes, and while you're there, take a moment to reminisce about your own days as a kid swinging for the fences!

It's That Time of Year!

Be on the lookout for Farm Equipment on the road!!



Proposed Constitutional Amendment

To be voted on at the April 21, 2026, Special Election

BALLOT QUESTION

Should the Constitution of Virginia be amended to allow the General Assembly to temporarily adopt new congressional districts to restore fairness in the upcoming elections, while ensuring Virginia's standard redistricting process resumes for all future redistricting after the 2030 census?

EXPLANATION FOR VOTERS (Approved by House and Senate Privileges and Elections Committees on February 20, 2026)

Present Law

Virginia's eleven congressional districts are drawn once every ten years by the Virginia Redistricting Commission, a legislative body made up of eight legislators and eight citizens, with an equal number of Republicans and Democrats. Virginia's congressional districts were last redrawn in 2021 and will next be redrawn in 2031.

Proposed Amendment

The proposed amendment would give the General Assembly the authority to redraw one or more of Virginia's congressional districts before 2031 in limited circumstances. In the event that another state redraws its own congressional districts before 2031, without being ordered by a court to do so, the General Assembly would then be able to redraw Virginia's congressional districts. The General Assembly's power to do so would continue until October 31, 2030, and the Virginia Redistricting Commission would reassume the responsibility of drawing the congressional districts in 2031.

The proposed district map has been approved by the General Assembly and would take effect only if the constitutional amendment is approved by the voters.

A "yes" vote would allow the General Assembly to redraw Virginia's congressional districts, since other states have done so, in addition to giving effect to the proposed district map in time for the 2026 Congressional elections, and return the responsibility of drawing the congressional districts in 2031 to the Virginia Redistricting Commission.

A "no" vote would leave the authority to draw congressional districts with the Virginia Redistricting Commission once a decade and Virginia's current districts would remain in place.

FULL TEXT OF AMENDMENT

[Proposed new language is underlined. Deleted old language is ~~stricken~~.]

ARTICLE II.

Franchise and Officers

Section 6. Apportionment.

Members of the House of Representatives of the United States and members of the Senate and of the House of Delegates of the General Assembly shall be elected from electoral districts established pursuant to this section and Section 6-A of this Constitution. Every electoral district shall be composed of contiguous and compact territory and shall be so constituted as to give, as nearly as is practicable, representation in proportion to the population of the district. Every electoral district shall be drawn in accordance with the requirements of federal and state laws that address racial and ethnic fairness, including the Equal Protection Clause of the Fourteenth Amendment to the Constitution of the United States and provisions of the Voting Rights Act of 1965, as amended, and judicial decisions interpreting such laws. Districts shall provide, where practicable, opportunities for racial and ethnic communities to elect candidates of their choice.

The Commonwealth shall be reapportioned into electoral districts in accordance with this section and Section 6-A in the year 2021 and every ten years thereafter, except that the General Assembly shall be authorized to modify one or more congressional districts at any point following the adoption of a decennial reapportionment law, but prior to the next decennial census, in the event that any State of the United States of America conducts a redistricting of such state's congressional districts at any point following that state's adoption of a decennial reapportionment law for any purpose other than (i) the completion of the state's decennial redistricting in response to a federal census and reapportionment mandated by the Constitution of the United States and established in federal law or (ii) as ordered by any state or federal court to remedy an unlawful or unconstitutional district map.

Any such decennial reapportionment law, or reapportionment law modifying one or more congressional districts, shall take effect immediately and not be subject to the limitations contained in Article IV, Section 13, of this Constitution.

The districts delineated in ~~the decennial~~ any reapportionment law shall be implemented for the November general election for the United States House of Representatives, Senate, or House of Delegates, respectively, that is held immediately prior to the expiration of the term being served in the year that the reapportionment law is ~~required to be~~ enacted. A member in office at the time that a ~~decennial~~ redistricting law is enacted shall complete his term of office and shall continue to represent the district from which he was elected for the duration of such term of office so long as he does not move his residence from the district from which he was elected. Any vacancy occurring during such term shall be filled from the same district that elected the member whose vacancy is being filled.

SCHEDULE

Section 6. Application and duration of certain redistricting amendments.

The authorization in Article II, Section 6 authorizing the General Assembly to modify one or more congressional districts at any point following adoption of a decennial reapportionment law in the event that any State of the United States of America conducts a redistricting of such state's congressional districts at any point following that state's adoption of a decennial reapportionment law shall be limited to making such modifications between January 1, 2025, and October 31, 2030, in response to actions taken by another state between January 1, 2025, and October 31, 2030

NOTICE OF DELINQUENT TAXES AND SALE OF REAL PROPERTY COUNTY OF KING WILLIAM, VIRGINIA

Pursuant to Virginia Code §58.1-3975, the following real property will be auctioned for sale to the highest bidder at a simulcast (with online and in person bidding) public auction to be held at **King William County Boardroom, 180 Horse Landing Road, King William, Virginia 23086, on April 15, 2026 at 11:00am.**

The sale of such property is subject to the terms and conditions below, and any terms or conditions which may be posted or announced by For Sale At Auction (“Auctioneer”) and Taxing Authority Consulting Services, PC (“TACS”). Subsequent announcements take precedence over any prior written or verbal terms of sale.

	Property Owner(s)	Tax Map No.	TACS No.	Property Description
N1	Annie Carlton Fary	69-A2-88-1248	706954	West Point; Unimproved lot; H St Lots 1248 1249 1250; unk acreage

GENERAL TERMS OF SALE: The Treasurer has the right to reject any bids determined to be unreasonable in relation to the estimated value of the Property. Any unsold property will be offered for sale again at the next auction, whenever that may be.

Properties are conveyed by Special Warranty Deed, subject to any easements, covenants, agreements, restrictions, reservations, and any and all rights of record which may affect the property. Properties are offered for sale as-is, where-is, and if-is, with all faults and without any warranty, either expressed or implied and the buyer assumes the risk of loss from the date of the sale. Persons are encouraged to make a visual inspection of the property within the limits of the law and to obtain an independent title search, at their own expense, prior to bidding on any of the properties to determine the suitability of the property for their purposes. It is not guaranteed that the property has a right-of-way or that it is not landlocked. Property is sold in gross and not by the acre. There is no warranty as to the accuracy of the GIS system, nor is the information contained therein a legal representation of any of the features of the property which it depicts. We do not provide and do not assist with obtaining title insurance or title to personal property.

The sale of property to the highest bidder is not contingent upon obtaining financing. Financing, if needed, is the sole responsibility of the high bidder. By bidding, parties are entering into a legally binding contract, waive all rescission rights, and understand that their bid is immediately binding, irrevocable, and enforceable. Additionally, by bidding, parties are representing that they have read, and agree to be bound by, all terms and conditions for this sale. Failure to complete the property purchase will result in forfeiture of all funds paid as liquidated damages to cover attorney’s fees of \$750 and auctioneer fees of \$250, with any remaining amount go to the locality to cover additional costs of resale. Failure to make a timely or sufficient deposit also makes the high bidder liable for these fees, plus resale costs and deficiencies.

PAYMENT TERMS: The highest bidder shall pay the high bid in full, along with the buyer’s premium and deed recording costs, following the close of the auction. **There will be a 10% buyer’s premium , subject to a minimum of \$150, added to the winning bid.**

Terms applicable to In-Person Bidders ONLY: The highest bidder shall make payment in full at the close of the auction. All payments must be made in the form of personal check, traveler’s check, cashier’s check, or money order. **No cash will be accepted.**

Terms applicable to Online Bidders ONLY: All interested parties must register and be approved by the Auctioneer. Registration and bidding are free of charge and are done through the Auctioneer’s website **ForSaleAtAuction.Biz**. If any interested bidders are unable to attend for in-person bidding and wish to bid on property, but do not have access to the internet, please contact For Sale At Auction , at (540) 899-1776 for assistance.

The highest bidder will receive their purchase contract and balance due via email following the close of the auction. The contract shall immediately be executed and returned to TACS. **The full balance due must be received within seven (7) days following the auction closing (no later than April 22, 2026).** All payments must be made in the form of certified funds, cashier’s check, money order or wire transfer. Cashier’s checks and money orders shall be made payable to County of King William and forwarded to TACS, at the address shown below. Cash and personal checks will not be accepted. Wire transfer instructions will be provided to the highest bidder upon request.

GENERAL TERMS: To qualify as a purchaser at this auction you may not owe delinquent taxes to County of King William. Questions concerning the registration and bidding process should be directed to the Auctioneer online at ForSaleAtAuction.Biz, by email to inquiry@forsaleatauction.biz or by phone to Jerry Bertram at (540) 899-1776. Questions concerning the property subject to sale should be directed to TACS online at www.taxva.com, by email to taxsales@taxva.com, by phone to 804-548-4424, or by writing to the address below.

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NOTICE OF PUBLIC AUCTION

SPECIAL COMMISSIONER'S SALE OF REAL ESTATE

COUNTY OF KING WILLIAM, VIRGINIA

Pursuant to the terms of those certain Decrees of Sale entered in the Circuit Court of County of King William, the undersigned Special Commissioner will offer for sale at a simulcast (with online and in person bidding) public auction the following described real estate at King William County Boardroom, 180 Horse Landing Road, King William Virginia 23086, on April 15, 2026 at 11:00am.

The sale of such property is subject to the terms and conditions below, and any term or conditions which may be subsequently posted or announced by For Sale At Auction ("Auctioneer") and Taxing Authority Consulting Services, PC ("TACS"). Subsequent announcements take precedence over any prior written or verbal terms of sale.

	Property Owner(s)	Tax Map No.	TACS No.	Property Description
J1	Harry Brown and Elsie Brown	54-30B1	706932	Sweet Hall District; Mt Olive-Cohoke Rd; Unimproved lot; ADJ Cohoke PT Lot 4; 1.17 acres, more or less
J2	Mary Carter	45-2	879577	Unmapped; Unimproved lot
J3	Norma G. Hill	6-43C	879575	Mangohick District; near Mitchells Mill Rd; Unimproved lot; ADJ Hill Plat 138/604; 3.07 acres, more or less
J4	Robert W. Hill	25-17	946264	Mangohick District; Nelsons Bridge Rd; Unimproved lot; ADJ Ogallala; 10.0 acres, more or less
J5	William Washington	44-48	803542	Courthouse District; 1472 Mt Olive-Cohoke Rd; ADJ Langbourne; 17.0 acres, more or less
J6	M.W. Taylor	19-55A	706984	Mangohick District; Near Endfield Rd; Unimproved lot; 8.7 acres, more or less
J7	John William Davis	7-31C	707097	Mangohick District; 144 Peyton Ln; ADJ Berry; unk acreage
J8	John Janosky Est	63A3-5-315	707103	West Point; Taylor Ave; Unimproved lot; Lots 315 316 Subd B E H; unk acreage
J9	Fay W. Carter	69A2-95-1458	707149	West Point; near Glass Island Rd; 15th St Lots 1458 1459 & 1462; unk acreage
J10	Penny Champ	31-16C	707163	Courthouse District; 268 Woodbury Rd; Unimproved lot; ADJ Enfield or Woodbury Lot 11; 1.0 acre, more or less
J11	Herman H. Schutt III	22-C-2-A-18	809964	Aylett District; 403 Walnut Ln; Unimproved lot; Lot 18 Blk A Section 2 Black Walnut Estates; unk acreage
J12	Harry W. Reed, III	20-22D	707113	Mangohick District; 170 Upshaw Rd; Lot 1 Reed's Retreat; 5.18 acres, more or less
J13	Lucille S Young & Laura Smith	69-A1-62-868A	707154	West Point; Kirby St; Unimproved lot; C St Lot 868A North Half Of Old Lot 868; unk acreage
J14	William Wilkinson	18-1-5	879570	Mangohick District; 1572 Nelsons Bridge Rd; Deer Run Lot 5; 5.04 acres, more or less

GENERAL TERMS OF SALE: All sales are subject to confirmation by the Circuit Court. The Special Commissioner has the right to reject any bids determined to be unreasonable in relation to the estimated value of the Property. Any unsold property will be offered for sale again at the next auction, whenever that may be.

Properties are conveyed by Special Warranty Deed, subject to any easements, covenants, agreements, restrictions, reservations, and any and all rights of record which may affect the property. Properties are offered for sale as-is, where-is, and if-is, with all faults and without any warranty, either expressed or implied and the buyer assumes the risk of loss from the date of the sale. Persons are encouraged to make a visual inspection of the property within the limits of the law and to obtain an independent title search, at their own expense, prior to bidding on any of the properties to determine the suitability of the property for their purposes. It is not guaranteed that the property has a right-of-way or that it is not landlocked. Property is sold in gross and not by the acre. There is no warranty as to the accuracy of any information contained in the GIS system, nor is the information contained therein a legal representation of any of the features of the property which it depicts. We do not provide and do not assist with obtaining title insurance or title to personal property.

The sale of property to the highest bidder is not contingent upon obtaining financing. Financing, if needed, is the sole responsibility of the high bidder. By bidding, parties are entering into a legally binding contract, waive all rescission rights, and understand that their bid is immediately binding, irrevocable, and enforceable. Additionally, by bidding, parties are representing that they have read, and agree to be bound by, all terms and conditions for this sale. Failure to complete the property purchase will result in forfeiture of all funds paid as liquidated damages to cover attorney's fees of \$2,500 and auctioneer fees of \$1,000, with any remaining amount go to the locality to cover additional costs of resale. Failure to make a timely or sufficient deposit also makes the high bidder liable for these fees, plus resale costs and deficiencies.

PAYMENT TERMS: The highest bidder shall make a deposit in the amount of twenty-five percent (25%) or One Thousand Dollars (\$1,000.00), whichever is higher, **along with a 10% buyer's premium, subject to a minimum of \$150, added to the final bid.** Bids which are less than One Thousand Dollars (\$1,000.00) shall be paid in full at the time of the auction. Deposits shall not exceed Twenty Thousand Dollars (\$20,000) per parcel. Such sum shall be held by the Special Commissioner and credited towards the purchase price following confirmation of the sale. Subsequent taxes will be prorated from the auction date, and the highest bidder will be responsible for taxes from that date forward.

The balance of the purchase price and recording costs for deed recordation shall be deposited by the highest bidder with the Special Commissioner within fifteen (15) days of confirmation of the sale by the Court.

Terms applicable to In-Person Bidders ONLY: The deposit and buyer's premium are due at the close of the auction. All payments must be made in the form of personal check, cashier's check or money order. **No cash will be accepted.**

Terms applicable to Online Bidders ONLY: All interested parties must register and be approved by the Auctioneer. Registration and bidding are free of charge and are done through the Auctioneer's website ForSaleAtAuction.Biz. If any interested bidders are unable to attend for in-person bidding and wish to bid on property, but do not have access to the internet, please contact [For Sale At Auction](http://ForSaleAtAuction), at (540) 899-1776 for assistance.

The highest bidder will receive their purchase contract and balance due via email following the close of the auction. The contract shall immediately be executed and returned to TACS. **The deposit and buyer's premium must be received in full within seven (7) days following the auction closing (no later than April 22, 2026).** All payments must be made in the form of certified funds, cashier's check, money order or wire transfer. Cashier's checks and money orders shall be made payable to County of King William and forwarded to TACS, at the address shown below. Cash and personal checks will not be accepted. Wire transfer instructions will be provided to the highest bidder upon request.

GENERAL TERMS: To qualify as a purchaser at this auction, you may not owe delinquent taxes to County of King William and you may not be a Defendant in any pending delinquent tax matter. Questions concerning the registration and bidding process should be directed to the Auctioneer online at ForSaleAtAuction.Biz, by email to inquiry@forsaleatauction.biz or by phone to Jerry Bertram, at (540) 899-1776. Questions concerning the property subject to sale should be directed to TACS online at www.taxva.com, by email to taxsales@taxva.com, by phone to (804) 548-4424, or by writing to the address below.

Taxing Authority Consulting Services, PC

Attn: Tax Sales

P.O. Box 31800

Henrico, Virginia 23294-1800

Obituary



FOGG -law, Debbie Davis (Gordon); brothers-in-law, Kenny Fogg (Debby) and Roger Fogg, 73, of Manquin, passed away Friday, March 20, 2026. She was preceded in death by her husband of 47 years, Dennis Fogg and parents, Evelyn and William Walker. Sandra is survived by her daughter, Shannon Fogg-Griffith (Jerry); grandchildren, Jamison, Julius, Dexter, Haven, Kamren, and J. J.; sister-in-

law, Debbie Davis (Gordon); brothers-in-law, Kenny Fogg (Debby) and Roger Fogg (Rita); as well as many nieces and nephews. She enjoyed books, cooking, and long phone conversations with family and friends. She will be greatly missed by all that knew her.

A memorial service was held on Thursday, March 26, 2026, at the Aylett Chapel of B. W. White Funeral Home, 7837 Rich-Tapp Hwy (360). Interment was private. The family requests that in lieu of flowers, memorial contributions be made to the American Heart Association, 4217 Park Place Ct, Glen Allen, VA 23060 or online at: heart.org.

Recognizing the Heart of Our Community



Ocean Bard, Erica Goodman, Ebony Cox, Ann Porter, Jessica Gaines

Contributed by Rick Waugh, Director, King William DSS
March is Family Services Staff Appreciation Month
 Every day, behind the scenes in our community, there is a group of professionals doing some of the most challenging and important work imaginable—the Family Services team at King William Department of Social Services.
 Their work is not easy. It is filled with detailed documentation, complex forms, and ever-changing requirements. It requires stepping into situations where no two days are the same, and often, no one truly knows what they will face when they walk through the door. Yet, despite these challenges, they continue to show up—prepared, committed, and ready to serve. Family Services staff meet individuals and families in some of their most difficult moments. They bring not only knowledge and skill, but compassion, resilience, and a possess a deep sense of responsibility to the people served. Their work often goes unseen by the broader public, but its impact is felt throughout our entire community. It is because of their dedication to protect children and vulnerable adults, families are supported, and lives are changed for the better. They are the steady presence in times of uncertainty, the voice of guidance in moments of confusion, and the helping hand when it is needed most.
 As Director, I have the privilege of seeing firsthand the level of professionalism, heart, and perseverance that our new Family Services team brings every single day. I am proud of the work they do, and even more proud of the people they are. To our Family Services staff—thank you. Your work matters. Your impact is real. And our community is stronger because of you.

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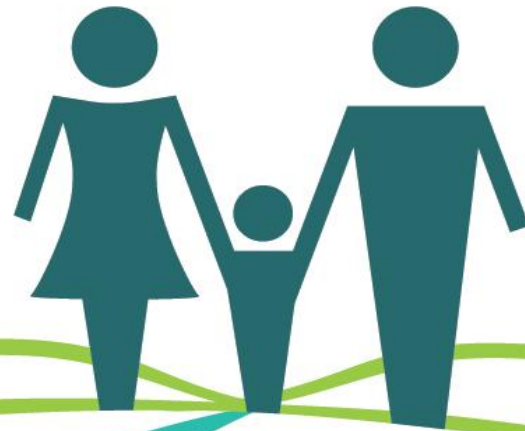
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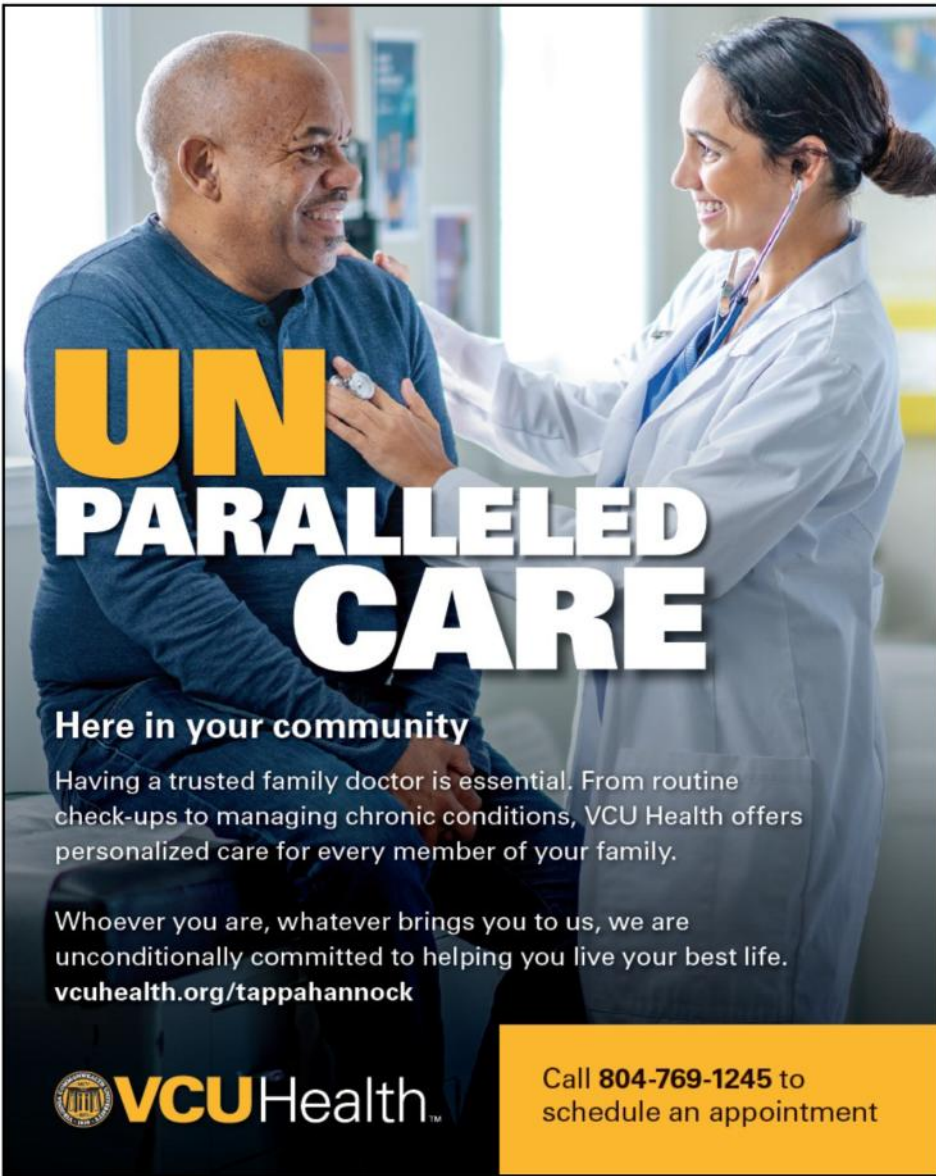
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March Senior of the Month



Central all proud of. *High School* Mrs. Walsh, English as a Second (CHS) Language teacher, has been his teacher for several years and she states, "Juan is a true *March Senior of the Month, Juan Gonzalez.* always willing to see things from a different perspective. Whether others understand his ideas right away or not, Juan continues to move forward and succeed in his own unique way."

Contributed by Carol Carter. *Juan Gonzalez* received the Senior of the Month award for his dedication to academics, service, and personal growth. Juan is an active member of the National Honor Society (NHS) and is always willing to serve his school and community whenever needed. He also attends Bridging Communities, where he is developing valuable skills in computer coding.

Mrs. Sershen, English teacher says, "Juan is always respectful even when he is dealing with the latest "issue" from a hungry McDonalds customer! His ready smile helps to get my day started in the right direction. I enjoy his intense conversations about a variety of topics. I am always excited to hear what he is learning about in flight school."

Mrs. Curle, English teacher, taught Juan in the 11th grade and she is his NHS sponsor has to say some awesome things about him. She states, "Beyond the classroom, Juan continually challenges himself in unique ways. He is currently working toward earning his pilot's license - an impressive accomplishment for a high school student. His wide range of interests reflects a true Renaissance spirit; he enjoys playing classical guitar, studying the Russian language, and exploring new ideas and skills."

In the classroom, Juan is attentive, completes his work consistently, and actively contributes to discussions with thoughtful insights. His curiosity, positive attitude, and engaging personality makes him a joy to be around. Juan's commitment to learning and his willingness to embrace new challenges make him a CHS Royal Tiger that we are

Mrs. Powell, Government teacher, states, "Juan is an absolute pleasure to teach. He comes to class every day with a smile on his face and a sincere desire to learn. Above all else, he is genuine in everything that he does. From his passion for aviation, to his frustration with global affairs, to his classroom leadership, Juan delivers himself with confidence and respect. Behind his mature composure, sits a king, family-oriented, faith-centered young man. There is no doubt that Juan is going to succeed in all that life puts before him. Regardless of the situation, he will continue to approach any challenge with a sharp mind and strong sense of purpose -- and not to mention a strong hat game!"

Juan looks for opportunities that many students his age might not notice, and he isn't afraid to dream big. Even more impressive, he works hard to turn those dreams into reality, putting in the effort and determination needed to reach his goals. Juan also shows great respect for the people who guide him. Whether you were his teacher ten years ago or you teach him today, he remembers the impact you made and always takes the time to say hello. He values the mentors in his life and lessons they share with him. In addition to his strong character and ambition, Juan is incredibly talented. He takes pride in his culture and expresses it through music, skillfully playing a 12-string guitar. His creativity, respect, dedication, and talent make him a wonderful choice for Senior of the Month. Congratulations, Juan!



Garden Club of the Middle Peninsula

Featured Properties and Activities on the K&Q Bruington Tour. This is the first of two articles highlighting the history and unique properties that will be open on Friday April 24, 2026, for King and Queen County's Bruington Historic District tour hosted by the Garden Club of the Middle Peninsula. The tour will feature four historic homes and two churches. Profiles of three houses, The Vineyard, Erin, and Cloverly are included here. In addition to the beautiful homes and historic churches that may be visited, special activities are planned throughout the day at the historic Marriott School (King and Queen Library), Bruington Church, and Bethlehem Baptist Church, also described below.



brick architecture in this area. Built circa 1857, its tall form with English basement commands attention. Local lore says the house was angled to favor neither Norwood Road nor the Trail, as the owner's wife couldn't decide between them. From

1880 to the 1960s, Erin served as Bruington Baptist Church's parsonage. Today, Greek Revival details and side-passage plan provide the foundation, while interiors reflect the owners' aesthetic-balancing history with playful sensibility. Original built-ins line the hall, and a charming Versailles-inspired "Hall of Mirrors" stairwell adds whimsy.

CLOVERLY (5328 The Trail, Bruington) Cloverly is the last large antebellum home built in the area, with construction beginning before the Civil War. The war halted completion, leaving clues like primed but unpainted doors and a flat roof that remained for 120 years. Built by Dr. Thomas Henley, it originally included his dental office. Later, a judge moved a nearby schoolhouse onto the property for his office. Today, Cloverly stands beautifully reimagined with a side-gable roof and additions that blend with its historic form. Inside, a dramatic 30-foot transverse hallway leads to inviting rooms—including a cozy den, restored dining room with fireplace, and stylish mudroom.

THE VINEYARD (4193 The Trail, Bruington) The oldest home on the tour, The Vineyard is a beautifully preserved Federal-style home circa 1816. This elegant two-story dwelling exudes early 19th-century Tidewater grace with its classic center-passage plan, three-bay façade, and gable roof. Framed by mature boxwoods and gardens originally planted by the owner's mother, it offers a timeless glimpse into post-Revolutionary life. Family heirlooms occupy spacious, light-filled rooms. Thoughtful updates honor heritage while adding comfort.

ERIN (156 Norwood Rd., Bruington) Erin is a rare example of mid-19th century

1880 to the 1960s, Erin served as Bruington Baptist Church's parsonage. Today, Greek Revival details and side-passage plan provide the foundation, while interiors reflect the owners' aesthetic-balancing history with playful sensibility. Original built-ins line the hall, and a charming Versailles-inspired "Hall of Mirrors" stairwell adds whimsy.

Please see Garden Tour, continued on page 22.

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Arlington Lodge, continued from front page

Because of its popularity over the years, the lodge can now award a \$2,000 scholarship to a graduating student at Essex, King & Queen Central, and King William High Schools. These scholarships have made a meaningful impact on the lives of these students, helping them pursue their educational dreams. "Our mission is to give back to the community that has supported us for so long," said lodge member Glenn Ransone.

Founded in 1869 in Walkerton, Arlington Lodge #102 has long been a cornerstone of community engagement and philanthropy, deeply rooted in tradition and dedicated to giving back. Over the years, this organization has made

significant contributions to the local area, supporting various initiatives and providing essential resources for those in need.

As I stepped through the lodge door on the morning of Saturday, March 21st, along with 250 other hungry patrons, I was greeted by the aroma of salt fish, scrambled eggs, crispy bacon, sausage, baked apples, and biscuits. Even more inviting were the smiling faces of old friends, eager to share a story or a joke. It was a true celebration of country living at its finest!

The next saltfish breakfast is in October. Make your plans now to be part of a beloved country tradition!

Distracted Driving, continued from page 4

Officials recommend taking simple steps to reduce distracted driving, such as using smartphones' Do Not Disturb feature, setting navigation and music before driving, and only responding to calls or messages after safely pulling over—not at a stoplight.

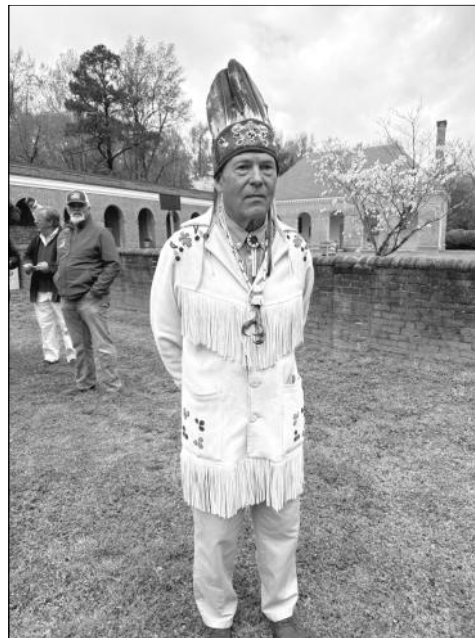
Parents and adults also should model good driving habits for younger drivers, who often mirror what they see.

"Put the phone away and wear your seatbelt," Jacobs added. "A seatbelt is

your best defense against a distracted driver."



Celebration, continued from page 2



Pamunkey Chief Kevin Brown picture by Danny Clark

The day's festivities will kick off at 10 am and continue till 3 pm. A program will commence at 11 am, featuring the King William Community Band, a history of King William County, historical reenactors, a musket exhibit, dancing, and remarks by the Chiefs of the local Upper Mattaponi and Pamunkey Native American tribes.

As the nation commemorates its 250th anniversary, King William County stands proud, recognizing the unique stories and contributions of our own community to our country's journey. Mark the date of Saturday, April 11th on your calendar and plan to spend the day on the grounds of the oldest courthouse still in continuous use in the United States.

BOS, continued from front page

Stacey McBride, Finance Director, reported that the FY2025 audit is underway and should be completed by the end of June. She presented a draft of the FY2026 budget through February 2026, with revenues at 67%, slightly lower than anticipated, while expenditures were at 54%. She also reported that FY2027 budget workshop sessions are ongoing.

During the public comment period, a group of teachers and paraprofessional staff from the school system spoke in favor of the school system's draft budget request to transition paraprofessionals to KWCPs employees. Currently, these paraprofessionals (provided through an outside vendor) work alongside teachers but do not receive the benefits they would as county employees and therefore feel

like second-class workers. In other matters, Supervisors (1) unanimously approved Resolution 26-21, appointing an agent in the planning department to take certain actions on subdivision plats and development plans, and (2) unanimously approved Resolution 26-22, the Historic Preservation Architectural Review Board (HARB) submission of grant funding for the Mattaponi Indian Tribe and Reservation as an eligible historic district for the National Register of Historic Places.

The next meeting of the King William Board of Supervisors is scheduled for Monday, April 13th, beginning at 6:30 pm at the administrative building in the courthouse complex. Stay INVOLVED, it is YOUR county.

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USDA Launches Campaign to Promote Strengthened 'Product of USA' Label



Farm Bureau

U.S. Secretary of Agriculture Brooke Rollins announced a national campaign to promote the updated "Product of USA" voluntary labeling standard for meat, poultry and egg products. The standard, which took effect Jan. 1, requires that animals be born, raised, harvested and processed in the United States for a product to carry the label.

Rollins said the change is designed to provide transparency for consumers and ensure that farmers committed to a fully domestic supply chain can compete fairly. Administration officials noted that the update comes as the U.S. continues to lose family farms and faces a 75-year-low national cattle herd, even as consumer demand for beef has grown. The updated definition ends the previous practice of allowing imported meat to qualify as domestic after minimal processing. Companies choosing to use the label must meet the fully U.S.-sourced requirement. Virginia agriculture leaders say the shift aligns closely with state efforts to strengthen local beef production. The

Virginia Verified Meat program, launched in 2025, certifies beef born, raised and processed within the commonwealth. Created through 2024 legislation, the program aims to support local producers, ensure truth in labeling, and increase consumer trust in Virginia-sourced meat. It also complements recent state legislation requiring lab grown or cell-cultivated proteins to be clearly labeled to prevent misleading marketing.

Jake Tabor, Virginia Farm Bureau legislative specialist for livestock issues, said the federal and state standards work hand in hand.

"Virginia's livestock producers take pride in raising a high-quality product from start to finish, and both the 'Product of USA' and Virginia Verified Meat standards help ensure that commitment is recognized," Tabor said. "Clear labeling gives Virginia farmers the fairness they deserve and gives consumers confidence that choosing local truly supports our communities."

The announcement is part of USDA's broader effort to strengthen domestic processing capacity and support American farmers.

Edible Flowers



Photo Joshua Maclin, Virginia State University Marketing and Communications

A recent Virginia State University workshop explored ongoing research into edible flowers' untapped powers—from emerging culinary uses to whole health benefits.

"Flowers are food for the soul and tummy," emphasized Theresa Nartea, VSU professor and Virginia Cooperative Extension small farm marketing & agribusiness specialist, during a Feb. 27 workshop at VSU Randolph Farm. Young farmers from across Virginia learned about innovative research about edible flowers as part of the 2026 Virginia Farm Bureau Federation Young Farmers Winter

Expo. Nartea, while handing out dried organic lavender bouquets, encouraged workshop participants to crush the buds in their hands and savor the soothing aroma.

"I carry a few stems of dried lavender with me in my pocket so I can keep going, because if you crush just one bud between your fingers, the fragrance becomes even more beautiful," she noted cheerily. "Life's trials are like this—you feel a crushing, but the beauty comes from those hard times in our life."

Please see page 19.

Agricultural Administrative Assistant

The Three Rivers Soil and Water Conservation District is currently seeking applications for a part-time Agricultural Administrative Assistant to work 24 hours per week, with a schedule of 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Tuesday through Thursday. This role is essential in supporting the technical team with the administration of the Agricultural Best Management Practice Cost Share Program for local growers. Primary responsibilities include maintaining accurate files, reviewing program applications, performing data entry across various databases, and drafting professional correspondence. Additionally, the assistant will provide front-line service by assisting callers and walk-in clients, requiring routine use of both oral and written communication skills alongside proficient computer abilities.

Candidates must possess a high school diploma, exceptional organizational skills, and a high level of attention to detail. Interested applicants can find the full job description and application form at www.trswcd.org.

To apply, please submit a cover letter, resume, and completed application to Three Rivers SWCD, Attn: Michelle Carter, at P.O. Box 832, Tappahannock, VA 22560, or by email to michelle.carter@trswcd.org. All application packets must be received by the close of business on April 15, 2026.

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Church Calendar

Attention: This space is Contributed.

*Under 60 Words please. Thank you.

CHRISTIAN

Christ Community Church Meeting Sunday morning Beulah Church - 1539 Lewis B Puller Memorial Hwy. east, (SR 33E, Saluda 23149) (804) 370-5035 Service starts at 0930. All invited to join.

Christian Fellowship Ministries Join us at 304 W. Chinquapin Rd., King William on Sundays at 11 am in the sanctuary and Bible Study 7pm Wednesdays on Zoom. Annual 40-day Fast on February 18-March 29. Revival will be held every Wednesday-Friday throughout the Fast at 7 p.m. on Zoom - ID: 890 008 8851 Password: 61ayfH.

Jerusalem Christian Church We invite you to worship with us, in person service. Adult Sunday School at 10:00 am. Sunday Service & Children's Service at 11:00. Minister Joshua Lewis, 1902 Powhatan Trail, King William. Jerusalemcc.com

One Hope Community Church Sundays 10:15am worship in a welcoming, kid-friendly environment. Coffee, light breakfast. Wednesdays - 6:30pm Awana (ages 4-12) and Teens (13+) 6:45pm Adult small groups. Like us on Facebook. 186 Walnut Spring Rd, St Stephens Church 23148 PO Box 9, Aylett 23009 Email onehopeva@gmail.com Pastor Joshua Brassard 804.840.4461

Smyrna Christian Church Bruington 3655 Powcan Rd., Bruington 23023 All Welcome! Worship Sunday mornings 10AM. Adult Sunday School 9AM. Children's church during service. Pastor Bill Ford (770) 687-6621/ www.Smyrna.org

West Point Christian Church 290 West Euclid Blvd. West Point. Pastor Tom Wilburn P.O. Box 800 804-843-3185 westpointchristian.com

BAPTIST

Bethlehem Baptist Church Route 14, 4389 The Trail Bruington, 23023 Pastor James T. Hill, Sr. Come worship with us every Sunday morning at 11:00 AM. For directions or questions, call 804.769.7033 or email us at n1871bbc@gmail.com. Like us on Facebook: facebook.com/ourBBC1. All Are Welcome!

Beulah Baptist Church Sunday School, all ages 9:45AM, Worship Service 11AM. View sermons, via YouTube/Facebook at beulahbaptistva.org. Follow, like YouTube/Facebook, be notified of upcoming livestream. 4805 West River Road Aylett, 23009. PO Box 846 Aylett, 23009 804.539.2191 kwbeulahbaptistchurch@gmail.com beulahbaptistva.org

Broadus Church Hebron Campus Sunday worship at 9:30am Bible Study for all ages at 10:45am. Mid-week Bible Studies Tues. evening. Youth 6pm, ladies and men group at 6:15pm. Food Distribution 2nd Monday each month from 6-8pm. Free firewood or used furniture call 804-779-2700 ask for Pastor Jeff. Come SEE what GOD is doing!

Bruington Baptist Church

4784 The Trail, Bruington, King and Queen. Easter Services: Sunrise Service at 6:30am in cemetery followed by breakfast in the Fellowship Hall, Bible Study and Sunday School 9am, Worship Service 10am. Community Clothes Cupboard open first Saturdays from 10am. until noon. Rev. Brian Harfst, pastor. Contact us at 804-769-3246.

Colosse Baptist Church Come worship with us this Sunday! Contemporary service 8:30 AM Sunday School 9:45 AM Traditional service 11 AM.

Indian View Baptist Church 13349 King William Road, King William Come worship with us on Sundays at 11:00 AM All Are Welcome!

Kingdom of God Living Water Ministry We invite you to worship with us, Sunday School 10:30, Tuesday night Party 7:00, Thursday night Bible Study 7:00, Morning Service 12:30. All Welcome. Pastor Leo Reed 1438 Manfield Road, Manquin 23106. Sunday's at 12:15 PM.

Lower K&O Baptist Church 204 Timber Branch Rd., Mascot, 23108 Pastor Terry Morrison. Directions or questions, call or text (804) 925-5699. 10am Sunday School for all ages, 11am Worship Service. All welcome, come as you are.

Mattaponi Baptist Church Sundays 11a.m. Children's Church during service. In-depth Bible study 2nd & 4th Wed. during Daylight Saving Time. Services live Zoom at: <http://bit.ly/MBCLIVE> (Meeting ID: 871 964 216) & FBLive. Visit Facebook for news/schedule changes: @MattaponiBaptistChurchVa. 13466 The Trail, King & Queen C.H. 23085. Pastor Stephen Rountree: 804-514-5715.

Mattaponi Friends Meeting 942 Buena Vista RD. Shacklefords 23156. Join us in-person and Zoom for Quaker Worship in silent meeting at 10A.M. and worship sharing/discussion at 11. First Sunday business meeting at 11. Third Sunday potluck lunch at 12noon. For more info 804-785-9401.

New Hope Memorial Baptist Church Rev. Dan Grantham 14173 New Hope Road Shacklefords, Va 23156 Worship service at 10am

Olivet Baptist Church Join us for traditional worship services 10am Sunday School Bible Studies for children and adults of all ages. 11am Worship Service each Sunday morning. A place to be with God!

Poroporone Baptist Church Sunday School - 9:30am Worship Service - 10:30am Wednesday Night Bible Study - 6:30pm www.facebook.com/PoroporoneBaptistChurch.

Revival Baptist Church Are you looking for something different? Revival Baptist Church is a new Independent Baptist Church! Come join us on Sunday mornings at the King William High School Cafeteria! Sunday School at 9:00am, and Morning Service at 10:00am. Learn more at visitrevival.org.

Second Mt. Olive Baptist Church 3156 Devils Three Jump Rd. Rt. 614. Little Plymouth. Understanding Medicare

Changes meeting April 4 at 11am.

Sharon Baptist Church 901 Sharon Rd, King William, 23086 804-769-2320, Office hours Tuesday through Friday 9am to 2pm Pastor Chad Brannan, Sunday School 9 am, Worship 10:15am Tuesday Morning Bible Study- 10am Wednesday Youth Group - 6pm Awanas - 6:30pm. Wednesday Night Prayer Group - 6:45pm

The Forge Ministry Join us for our church service at 10:30 on Sunday morning. Spark City Kids is available for 5th grade and under. Find more information at theforgeministry.churchcenter.com.

Third Union Baptist Church located at 452 Walkerton Road in King William County, as we celebrate our Pastor, Rev. Dr. Wilbert D. Talley on his 54th Pastoral Anniversary on Sunday, April 19, 2026 at 11:00 AM. The theme is "Leading With Faith and Love: The Assignment is Worth the Labor" - 1 Corinthians 15:58. The Guest Preacher will be Bishop Larry Branch. All are welcome! Please come help us celebrate this special day. We look forward to having you worship with us. If you have any questions, please call the church office at 804-769-3123 or visit us at www.thirdunionbaptistchurch.com

Union Hope Baptist Church 571 Union Hope Road, King William: Sunday Morning Worship 10:30 AM (In-person & Teleconference) Teleconference: (774) 220-4000, PIN 57187 Follow us on Facebook: Union Hope Baptist Church, King William, The Food Bank Ministry Hours of Operation (Monthly from 1pm-3pm) Every Tuesday, 1st Friday and 3rd Saturday. Apr 6 -8: Spring Revival: Pastor Dr. Harold Stanley- Grace Christian Fellowship, TX: Teleconference only at 7:30PM. Apr 19: Pastor & People 3rd Anniversary at 3PM: Pastor Kevin Childs- Beth'el Baptist Church, VA (Please see FB for more details)

Upper King and Queen Baptist Church invites you to worship with us at 11:00 A.M. Sunday with Sunday School at 10:00 A.M. Pastor Dr. David Pepler Visit us on Facebook.com/upperkingandqueenbaptist

Wayland Baptist Church of Stevensville, Va, is celebrating the 12th Pastoral Anniversary of our Pastor, Rev. Marcus Hickman on April 26, at 1:00pm. The celebration will take place at Wayland Baptist Church. Dinner provided.

Zion Baptist Church King and Queen Courthouse, 615 Zion Church Road, King and Queen Courthouse, 23085. Mailing Address: P. O. Box 82. Worship Service (in-house), Each Sunday at 9:30 a.m. Rev. Virginia "BeeBee" Harvey Young, Pastor.

CATHOLIC

Our Lady of the Blessed Sacrament Catholic Church 3570 King William Ave. W.P. 23181. 8048433125. worship 5pm Sat. 9am Sunday, 10:15am Sunday- Bible Study & Sunday school.

METHODIST

Epworth Methodist Church 11 Epworth Road, Aylett. Phone 804-769-1949. Sunday Worship 9AM, Fellowship 10AM, Sunday School 10:30AM. Facebook Page & Website. Wesleyan Class Meetings Sunday 5PM and Thursday 10AM. Member Global Methodist Church, Pastor Tera Ertz.

McKendree Methodist Church 4347 Manfield Rd., Manquin, 23106. Sunday worship 9:30AM in person and Facebook Live, followed by fellowship and Sunday School. Pastor Corey McConnville. mckendree23106.org mckendree23106@gmail.com. CARE will not meet January through March.

Mizpah United Methodist Church 6062 Canterbury Rd. Walkerton. 23177 Service every Sunday at 11:00 with Pastor Steve Hundley All Welcome

EPISCOPAL

Immanuel Episcopal Church 190 Allen's Circle King & Queen Court House. For information on a particular Sunday call 804-514-5952.

St. John's Episcopal Church 916 Main Street, PO Box 629, West Point. 804-843-4594. Sunday Service at 10 am, followed by refreshments, conversation and Bible study. In person or via Zoom. 2nd & 4th Wednesday Holy Eucharist with healing prayers in Church Library at Noon. stjohnswp.org; info@stjohnswp.org

St. David's Episcopal Church Aylett "To Know Christ Jesus and to Make Christ Known" 11291 West River Road, Aylett VA (Beside the Public Boat Landing) Vicar Rev. T. Gustavo Mansella All Are Welcome! All Sundays - 11 AM Eucharist Service

St. Paul's Millers Tavern 7924 Richmond Highway. The Rev. Haywood Spangler, Sunday service 10 AM. Nursery and Sunday School during the service. Refreshments and Bible study following the service. Choir directed by Kristi Reynolds. stpaulsmillerstavern.org

PRESBYTERIAN

Brett-Reed Memorial Presbyterian Church 29680 King William Road West Point, 23181. Pastor Karen V. Stanley. Sunday School 10. Worship Service 11.

St. James Presbyterian Church (The church next to K.W. Courthouse) 411 Courthouse Lane. Rev. Dr. John Turner

NON DENOMINATION

Rehoboth Bible Church 5904 Acquinton Church Road, KW, Sunday Worship service at 10:30am. We are a church that still walks the old paths while shining the light of truth in today's world. Monthly Blue Grass Gospel Jam held the 3rd Tuesday of each month from March to October from 6:30 to 9:00. (804)769-8400.

Women in the Word Community Bible Study! 396 Newtown Road, St. Stephens Church Email Melissa Rice at mrsmelissarice@aol.com.

Community Calendar

King and Queen Library

OPEN CRAFT TIME | WED APR 1 | 1PM - 3PM Supplies provided.

Drop in and get creative!

IRS TAX AIDE | APR 3, 4, 10 & 11 | 10AM - 2PM

Make an appointment at the library

SPRING FLOWER ARRANGING | THU APR 16 | 6PM

Registration is required.

HISTORIC GARDEN WEEK | FRI APR 24 | ALL DAY

RURAL READERS BOOK CLUB | 2ND THU | 6PM

Meets the 2nd Thursday of each month. Check with the library to see what we're reading!

CHAIR YOGA | EVERY MON & THU | 2:00 PM

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STITCH SQUAD | 3RD WED | 6:00 PM

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OPEN PICKLEBALL | WED | 1PM

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STORY TIME | TUE | 11:00 AM

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King William County Library System

West Point Branch "Library Popup

@DonPedro's-6:00-8:00pm 4/1 Family

Storytime-10:30am Fridays Walk Club-

12:00pm Wednesdays "A Bug's Life"-4/9

5:30pm Toddler Playtime-4/13

11:00am Coloring & Coffee-4/14

Chess&Board Games-4/16 5:00pm Adult

Craft*-4/18 11:00am Teen Advisory Council-4/20 6:00pm Lego Playtime 4/25 11:00am Playdoh-11:00am 4/27 *Call to register** "

The CornerStone Community Development Center, Aylett.

MOBILE PANTRY - APRIL 22 at Noon Saturday food distribution, 9.30 a.m. - 11.30 a.m. April 4, 11,18,25.

The Lily Field Clothing Shed – Saturdays, 9.30 a.m. - 11.30 a.m.

Free Health Clinic – By appointment only Email theccdc@gmail.com

DCSE Service Point Assistance

DCSE Contact Information: 1-800-468-8894

Good Homes Needed For Good Pets

Regional Animal Shelter, 20201 King William Road, King William 804-769-4983. www.petfinder.com email: animalshelter@kingwilliamcounty.us

Lower King & Queen Fire-EMS

Fish Fry Sat. April 11. 2026, 4-7pm.

Advance ticket only. Purchase tickets at Nicks or call 804-832-8199. 4764 York River Rd. Shacklefords.

Letter to the Editor

Dear Editor,

While every issue of *Country Courier* informs, enlightens, amuses, and much more, I am particularly impressed by the prominent coverage given in the March 18th paper to a truly extraordinary event recently held at Central High School in King and Queen County.

Yes, we certainly expect to read about sports, honors, events and such at our local schools, but the spectacular **Aerial Drone Competition** held on February 28th by the host school's Junior ROTC (Reserve Officer Training Corps) program was something literally above and beyond the ordinary.

Who would have thought our small rural community would be the epicenter of a contest built around the many critical skills needed by teams of young cadets to program, launch, fly, and recover these remarkable drone platforms that have become absolutely essential to both

civilian and military operations worldwide?

Recent news reports from conflicts near and far highlight the rapidly growing use of unmanned aerial and ground vehicles, giving urgency to the need for legions of operators with the "right stuff."

Up against tough competition from several Virginia ROTC teams and one traveling here from North Carolina, Central's stalwart cadets took the lion's share of honors. BRAVO !

Congratulations to retired US Army Sergeant Major Ronald Howard and other officials of K&Q Schools for not only putting together an exciting, colorful competition, but also enabling and sustaining the confidence and character building JROTC program.

Robert "Sarge" Bruce Aylett

Letters to the Editor

We welcome signed letters to the editor. Each letter must carry the writers signature, full valid address, and daytime phone number. We reserve the right to edit for accuracy, brevity, clarity, legality, and taste. We do not guarantee that every letter received will be published. Letters reflect the opinions and positions of the writers and not *The Country Courier*.

Edible Flowers, continued

Nartea highlighted emerging studies on noted.

the impacts of lavender supplementation in reducing anxiety, depression and even cigarette cravings; and growing scientific evidence of edible flowers' healing properties.

Citing a 2021 study by University of Pisa researchers, she highlighted a variety of scientifically proven nutraceuticals, including the anti-cancer properties of Indian chrysanthemums, anti-obesity properties of nasturtiums, visual health benefits of Aztec marigolds, anti-Alzheimer uses for roselles, and antioxidants found in almost all edible flowers. "There are little things we can do every day to help in our healing process," Nartea remarked.

Through her Nourishing Blooms Program at Randolph Farm, Nartea explores edible flowers, herbs and value-added products like therapeutic tea blends that promote wellness, mental health and community well-being.

Since launching the program's demonstration garden in 2024, Nartea has studied myriad culinary possibilities of plants suited for Virginia growers, including the hibiscus' sour leaves long cherished in Jamaican cuisine; the kale-like leaves of the cut-leaf coneflower, a Cherokee superfood; and traditional uses for African blue basil flowers.

"You don't have to ignore a whole plant—there are things yet to be studied that indigenous cultures have been using for over millennia to feed themselves," she

To explore the market potential of edible flowers, Nartea has hosted Extension field days inviting the community to pick their own flower bouquets on her half-acre demonstration field. Around 2,550 bouquets valued at \$38,250 were picked in 2025.

"There is definitely money to be had in this," she emphasized. "People stayed even though we were done with the demonstration, because they found so much joy in cutting their own flowers."

Nartea helped several field day attendees add value to their farming operations with seeds for growing hibiscus, butterfly pea and other therapeutic tea blends.

She cautioned against using pesticides if growing herbs and flowers for edible uses, and encouraged growers to use companion plantings and other alternative control methods.

"That means some things won't be as beautiful, you'll have to pick things off and do things that are tedious," Nartea continued. "But if it's your passion, you make time for it."

She plans to further explore value-added uses for butterfly peas and sunflowers with VSU collaborators.

See Nartea's edible flowers and herbs in an October 2024 "From the Ground Up" segment of Real Virginia, Virginia Farm Bureau's weekly television show.



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Garden Tour, continued from page 15

Tour the Learning Garden and Other Special Activities

Visitors are invited to attend a choice of activities that are planned throughout the day. The Learning Garden, which is located on the grounds of the King and Queen Library (the historic Marriott School at 396 Newtown Rd., St. Stephens Church), will host a talk by Executive Director Jay Grebe of Just Harvest, at 11 a.m. and 1 p.m., "A Learning Garden Enriches." The learning garden was established in 2025 through a generous grant from the Garden Club of the Middle Peninsula, which includes the counties of King and Queen, Essex, King William, and Middlesex. The garden was designed by community partners at Just Harvest, a non-profit organization from Tappahannock, VA, with the mission to give patrons space to learn and practice self-sufficiency skills such as gardening, canning and preserving. Bartlett Trees will also be present on the Learning Garden grounds to share horticulture information and pass out free trees.

The Rev. Cora Harvey Armstrong, one of Virginia's most sought after Gospel artists and King & Queen County's own Gospel recording artist, will sing gospel songs twice on tour day,

11 a.m. and 1 p.m., at Bethlehem Baptist Church (4389 The Trail, Bruington). At 2:00 PM Dr. A. W. Lewis will share his multi-year experience about gaining recognition for the Bruington Historic District, at Bruington Baptist Church (4784 The Trail, Bruington). Guests with tour tickets are invited to attend any of these activities.

Tickets and Box Lunches Tickets (\$45) are available for advance purchase by visiting <https://gcvirginia.org/historic-garden-week/>. Delicious homemade box lunches may be pre-ordered until April 18, \$20 prepaid at www.gardenclubofthemiddlepeninsula.com or by mailing a check to New Mt. Zion Baptist Church, 944 Pea Ridge Rd., Bruington, VA 23023. (Pick up at the King and Queen Public Library between 11:00 AM to 2:00 PM). Parking is available at each site. Tour details and a brochure may be downloaded by visiting <https://gcvirginia.org/historic-garden-week/>. Proceeds from Historic Garden Week fund the restoration and preservation of Virginia's historic public gardens and provide graduate level research fellowships.

Once you replace negative thoughts with positive ones, you'll start having positive results.

Willie Nelson



NOW ACCEPTING NOMINATIONS FOR REC'S BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Three (3) positions on the Rappahannock Electric Cooperative (REC) Board of Directors will be elected at the Cooperative's Annual Meeting on Aug. 5, 2026. To obtain the candidate nomination packet, visit myrec.coop/directorelections, email directorelections@myrec.coop or call 540-891-5889. Interested member-owners should complete the nomination packet by the deadline of **April 24 at 5 p.m.**

REC's Bylaws require that any member-owner who seeks election to the Board of Directors submit a nomination petition signed by at least 25 REC member-owners.

Nomination petitions will be distributed by Director — Governance and Executive Administration, Whitney Watts, electronically or by scheduling an appointment to pick up the petition in person. To request the nomination petition, email directorelections@myrec.coop or call 540-891-5889.

Nominations will not be accepted at the Annual Meeting in August.

The completed nomination materials and petition must be returned to the office of REC's president by 5 p.m. on April 24, 2026.

All member-owners will have the option to participate in the proxy designation process beginning July 1 or vote during the Annual Meeting on Aug. 5 to elect one director from each of the following three regions:

REGION IV
The counties of Culpeper and Orange

REGION V
Spotsylvania County

REGION IX
The counties of Essex, King and Queen, and King William



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Heritage Day Festival

Please join us Saturday April 11, 2026 as the King William VA250 celebrates Heritage Day Festival at the Old Court House Complex. Enjoy Historical activities, Presentations, and Speeches. Learn more about Carter Braxton, signer of the Declaration of Independence. See where the Gregory Tavern stood that George Washington stayed and an exhibit of what a Tavern in the day would look like.

Saturday April 11, 2026 10AM - 3PM 227 Horse Landing Rd. King William 23086



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