

## I YOUR VIEWS |

# Knock, Knock! Who's there? 'An existing problem'

## To the Editor:

I have had the pleasure of consulting with the Farmville Town Council and others about the continuous flooding of the Appomattox River, Buffalo Creek and Prince Edward Creek in Farmville. This flooding places a hardship on passenger cars, trucking industries and the receipt of goods and services. Why? It is because there is only one bridge into and out of Cumberland (from Farmville) in the event of a flood. Businesses must flourish in a proper manner to allow the success of their suppliers and their own survival. Detours to avoid the bridge are extensive and expensive — leading to late work, late produce, late cargo of lumber, etc. Why should we endure this — we pay taxes!

Please indulge me for a moment: if there is a fire or an impending birth, emergency services would be in distress. These hypothetical situations call for serious

action just across the bridge from Farmville but the bridge is flooded. What are they to do?

There are businesses that exist who see a hard time from the flooding. They exist only by determination — looking for betterment. Some have even existed for over 25 years and have weathered the storm; this is an important factor in the existence of Farmville.

Much of Farmville was built on a flood plain, so now water cannot soak into the earth due to pavement, concrete and unacceptable drainage. There is far more rain in this area than droughts; flooding has increased by 20%. This can be proven from data and extreme single-day rain events.

A proposal was made by Ralph Northam and passed by the legislature in 2021 for funds to be allocated toward waterways. The American Relief Plans have allocated a large amount of money toward waterways.

The State of Virginia has allocated a sum of funds for the same projects. Even the Army Corps of Engineers has personally requested that note be made that they have a "Silver Jacket" fund to assist such situations. [Michelle.bhanor@USace.Army.mil]. What's the problem?

Recent talk with citizens gave me insight on a previous "flood gate" which went to waste on the Appomattox near Farmville. This is something! There were hopes for insertion of a dredge system which would give better water flow. So much, but so little from our representatives. I'm knocking at the door, will you let me in?

Sincerely,

L. Tallb Dhn  
Farmville

## To the Editor:

When foreign corporations promise that industrialized gold mining will bring Buckingham County jobs... don't fall for it! The truth? Many of those positions require specialized workers from elsewhere.

Don't fall for it when they say that industrialized gold mining will bring the County tax revenue either. When they're done with the mine, these companies routinely declare bankruptcy. Who gets stuck with the clean up bill? Buckingham taxpayers!

This isn't about good folk panning for gold in some creek or chipping away in an old-timey gold mine.

## Myths about industrial gold mining

We're talking huge deep pits that go down hundreds of feet, way past the water table. This is about the deadly chemicals used to extract the gold particles from the soil... cyanide, mercury and arsenic. This is about the toxic waste (stored in possible 600 acre lakes) that always leaks into the aquifers. Disaster happens when the earthen dams break that hold back the waste. On that day, we can say goodbye to the James River and the Chesapeake Bay.

And don't think we'll be able to ask the federal government for help especially when funding for the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) continues to

get cut. When budgets are tight, you think Buckingham will be high on their list?

Get real. The EPA says metallic mining industry is the No. 1 polluter. In these uncertain times, it would be foolish to allow big industrial corporations from Canada to enrich themselves at Buckingham's expense. Let's save our water for future generations.

Sign this local petition to protect against toxic trespass: [bit.ly/bhanord](http://bit.ly/bhanord)

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