Opinion

The schools tell the tale

Dear Editor,

Much has been written lately about the desire for new businesses and growth in Prince Edward County. But aren’t we ignoring the “deplorable” in this county? What about the personal stresses that would move their family, business, employees, or family to a town with such an underprivileged public education system? Not so long ago, the thinking in Prince Edward County regarding public education was not to fund it at all. Not at all. The damage to this county and its residents cannot be overstated, and it continues. A question now is, has Prince Edward County changed? When we look at the schools that are offered to its citizens, what do we see? Are they a reflection of a county with potential, resources, and two colleges? Or are they a reflection that continues to show a pitiful lack of effort for all the children of Prince Edward County? I am a strong believer in better efforts. Parents, school personnel, county supervisors, churches, college students, faculty and businesses could be an unbeatable team to improve Prince Edward schools. Maybe this is the county to try environment, desegregation schools? Collaborate with private schools and colleges in the area. Hiring and rewarding the best staff available, upholding high standards for behavior and school performance in all areas are just two necessary steps. These cannot happen without a real investment in the schools.

Suzanne Creane
Prince Edward

What happens in Buckingham affects everyone

Dear Editor,

We have yet to get protections in Virginia from the blooms of raw mun- der industrial gold mining. Your voice was heard at a scaled-down County Supervisors to adopt available safeguards. We are attempting to have a resolution to this industry, with this draft soon to arrive on the ground floor, would be devastating for any community.

Buckingham supervisors have created a committee to review the state-based study on the impacts of gold mining on Virginia and explore local solutions. Supervisors Byram’s sensitivity to the impact on Buckingham’s water and air quality and his commitment to the safety of his constituents is exemplary.

Debby Shirun Bertland
Buckingham

Should a government body block public comment?

Dear Editor,

I stand behind my letter to the editor published in the Farmville Herald on Jan. 26, in my belief that the rules of the Board of Supervisors were not followed during the Jan. 17 Board meeting. The meeting was not well run, and the outcome was not what was expected. The supervisor that I support, Debby Shirun, asked for a recess and was told to stay on-topic. I am not saying the Board was perfect, but I do believe that the procedures used were wrong. I attended the Jan. 17 Board meeting. The room was packed. No one was dissipat- ing. They were upset, but they did not get out of control. People were upset because the two-minute time limit for public comment had been violated. The Board tried to allow speakers to make accusations of fraud in the November election. However, at the Jan. 17 meeting, many comments came across as attempts to redress these allegations. Public comment was not on the agenda. When a motion was made to return to the agenda to include public com- ment, the motion was voted down by a unanimous vote. And let me be very clear: I can assure you that public comment at an Electoral Board meeting is not guaranteed. But again, no one got out of hand. A sheriff’s deputy was present, but he never entered the room.

I believe the Board was trying too hard to do things, and I think that they missed the mark. I think that the Board was not doing their job. I think that the Board was not doing the job of the Board.

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Maggie Stoudt
Buckingham

The citizens need to speak up

Dear Editor,

I am writing to the Buckingham county electoral board to let them know that there is a problem. The citizenry of Buckingham is so desperate to have their say in the election process. The citizenry of Buckingham is so desperate to have their say in the election process. The citizenry of Buckingham is so desperate to have their say in the election process. The citizenry of Buckingham is so desperate to have their say in the election process. The citizenry of Buckingham is so desperate to have their say in the election process.

We can be passionate but not dis- respectful in our comments. If you do not want to preserve a fair and honest-

Maggie Stoudt
Buckingham

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The Farmville Herald
Monmouth Virginia Press Association

Published Every Wednesday and Friday
Farmsville, Virginia 23909
(804) 565-3173

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Opinion Page Guidelines

Nothing mentioned in the opinion page is unique to the observer or the observer on the page. The opinion page is for all readers, not just those who support the Farmersville Herald. Letters to the editor are welcome and may be submitted online at FarmvilleHerald.com. All letters must include a name and a telephone number for verification.