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Expressing appreciation to Veterans Brunswick County Government and the Brunswick County Committee of the Virginia World War I and World War II Commission held a Veterans Day Ceremony on November 8. Approximately 125 people attended the program at which all county Veterans were honored. All living Brunswick County Vietnam Veterans were given Vietnam War Service pins (Bobby Conner photo)

Veterans Day honors those who serve

By Sylvia Allen
Editor

LAWRENCEVILLE – There was a special feeling in the air at the Veterans Day Ceremony held Friday, Nov. 8, 2019 – a feeling of camaraderie among the Veterans honored. Brunswick County and the Brunswick County Committee of the Virginia WWI and WWII Commission

sponsored the event held at the Brunswick County Conference Center. This year Vietnam Veterans were honored.

The TRADOC Brass Quintet from Fort Eustis provided the music.

The Brunswick High School JROTC posted the colors.

Dr. Charlette T. Woolridge, County Administrator, offered a word of welcome and introduced the speakers. She said this was an excellent opportunity to thank the

brave men and women who defend our country.

Geraldine Woodley led the audience in singing the National Anthem. With emotion in her voice she said this Veterans Day was especially meaningful because she lost her brother-in-law recently who battled Agent Orange. Before beginning the song she personally thanked the Veterans, especially recognizing the Vietnam Veterans.

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Vote tabled on rezoning request

Residents oppose Dollar General coming to Ebony

By Sylvia Allen
Editor

LAWRENCEVILLE – The battle lines are drawn between those in favor of a Dollar General being built on Ebony Road in Ebony and residents who oppose the project.

The Brunswick County Planning Commission held a public hearing a request submitted by Par 5 Development Group, LLC to rezone 8.36 acres owned by Jerry Michael and Susan Royster Jones from Agricultural (A-1) to Business (B-1). Approximately 2.04 acres of the parcel will be developed for the project. The Commission deferred voting on the request until the December meeting in order to get information from the Virginia Department of Transportation regarding sight distance requirements. In a letter dated Nov. 7, 2019 C. Todd Cage, Land Development Engineer, Southern Regional Land Development, Richmond District, said,

“The subject commercial site and entrance will be required to meet Access Management Regulations due to Rte. 903, Ebony Road being classified as a rural major collector. The commercial entrance will be required to have 335 feet of intersection spacing and 500 feet of sight distance in both directions. We highly recommend the applicant make sure he can meet these regulations before proceeding.”

The meeting will be held Tuesday, Dec. 10 at 7:30 p.m. at the Brunswick County Government Building, 228 North Main Street.

The members of the Brunswick County Planning Commission are: Supervisor Frederick Harrison, Sr., Michael Grimm, Alonzo Seward, George Smith, Vernon Jones, C. B. Waller, Jay Warfel – Chair, Earl Jarrell – Vice Chair, Lloyd Penn and Josie Seward.

According to information provided by Director of Planning George E. Morrison, III, the subject property is located on the east sides of Ebony Road (State Route 903), across from the intersection of Hendricks Mill Road (State Route 903) and Robinson Ferry Road (State Route 644) in the Meherrin Election and Magisterial Districts.

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Giving false ID charge filed

By Sylvia Allen
Editor

LAWRENCEVILLE – Dionte Ivy Bassett-Scott, 19, from Jamaica is charged with giving false identification to a law enforcement officer on Nov. 9.

According to information provided by Lieutenant Brad Evans with the Brunswick County Sheriff’s Office, Sergeant D. O. Jarrett was operating stationary radar on Interstate 85 at the 35-mile marker and saw a vehicle traveling at a high rate of speed, checked at 86 mph in a 70 mph zone. He initiated a traffic stop. The vehicle took Exit 34 and pulled into the parking lot of the Food Barn at Warfield. The driver stated he had lost his wallet but provided Jarrett with his name and date of birth. The driver identified himself as Jashiah Bruce, date of birth June 3, 1997, licensed in the state of New York. The subject came back as suspended in

See GIVING, page 5

MEC Awarded \$3.8 million for broadband expansion

Mecklenburg Electric Cooperative is intent on addressing the digital divide in Southside Virginia, and its effort to do so received a boost from the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) recently. The cooperative is the recipient of a nearly \$3.8 million investment from the USDA for its fiber-to-the-home project. This funding will help to bring high-speed internet access to more than 1,250 households in Brunswick County through MEC’s wholly owned subsidiary, EMPOWER Broadband. The loan comes from the USDA ReConnect program, which provides support to expand access to broadband in partnership with co-ops, the private sector and rural communities. Donald “DJ” LaVoy, deputy under secre-

tary of rural development, made the award announcement at a Nov. 4 ceremony at the Triplet Volunteer Fire Department (VFD) near Lawrenceville, part of Mecklenburg Electric’s service territory. “Our core mission at USDA is to increase rural prosperity, and this mission cannot be achieved without addressing the digital divide our rural communities face due to a lack of high-speed broadband internet connection,” LaVoy told a group of federal, state and local dignitaries and community leaders.

“Our cooperative is very proud of the significant role we have played in improving the quality of life for those living here

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Congressman Denver Riggleman, left, looks on as Deputy Under Secretary of Rural Development DJ LaVoy announces USDA’s investment of nearly \$3.8 million toward high-speed broadband infrastructure to be deployed by Mecklenburg Electric Cooperative.



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