



Former CHS coach fondly remembered

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Local youth spends summer helping rescued animals

B7

Benefit dinner for Ladysmith Fire Chief on Saturday

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photo by Mark Svane

Chairman of the Board of Supervisors Wayne Acors swears in Caroline's first Fire-EMS Chief David Layman while his family looks on.

Layman newest member of County's Executive Team

BOWLING GREEN - Caroline's new Fire-EMS Chief David Layman is the latest member of the county's executive team hired said Caroline County Administrator Percy C. Ashcraft in a statement on the county's web site.

Layman was sworn in to his office on August 12 by County Supervisor Wayne Acors and assumed his responsibilities as the county's first Fire-EMS Chief this past Monday.

Ashcraft commented on the experience of the executive team saying, "This particular group of professionals is the best Caroline County has had since I have had the privilege of serving as County Administrator." Ashcraft has served nearly a decade as the county's chief executive officer.

"We have a combination of experience and talent that is well suited to move our County forward. I am excited to be working with these men and women. I truly believe we have as much

talent assembled here as anywhere in the Commonwealth," Ashcraft said.

According to the web site release, each department head and the Assistant County Administrator Alan Partin are part of the Administrative Executive Committee, which is responsible for implementation of the goals and policies established by the Board of Supervisors.

The makeup of the executive team that is chaired by Ashcraft includes:

Alan Partin, Assistant County Administrator; Donnell Howard, Director of Parks and Recreation; Mike Pinchum, Director of Planning and Community Development; Gary Wilson, Director of Economic Development and Tourism; Pam Hatcher, Director of Finance; John Boryschuk, Director of Public Utilities; and David Layman, Fire-EMS Chief.

"We realize there is much expected of us and we accept the challenge," Ashcraft said.



Photo by Dawn Pitt

Tuesday, Lt. Governor Bill Bolling greets Bowling Green businessman Todd Tinder during his morning roundtable with citizens, which was part of his "Jobs for Virginians" tour. Bolling's visit to Bowling Green was one of nine stops he made in the Northern Neck and Middle Peninsula on August 17 and 18.

Lieutenant Governor Bill Bolling stops in Caroline to talk jobs and the economy

by Toni Stinson
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Lt. Governor Bill Bolling met with local Caroline business owners on Tuesday on Bolling's "Jobs for Virginians Tour."

Bolling said he was taking this opportunity to find out what is happening economically to people at the local level. "As you know, people are hurting," Bolling said.

Sitting in the Café on Main Street, Bolling grasped hands with all and sat down to a serious discussion of the plight of local businesses, the state's looming deficit and what it's going to take to turn it all around.

Local builder Bill Beach spoke up first saying that prior to the downturn in the housing industry, his small company was building about 100 homes per year—this year Beach has only built nine. Beach said that while the foreclosure market has greatly impacted new home construction, compounding the problems builders are facing are the ways that banks are now handling lines of credit, which is necessary for businesses like his to thrive.

After discussing rising unemployment and stimulus package spending, Bolling focused on the need for the public education system to diversify its goals and programs for students with more vocational

and technical offerings. Bolling said a "one size fits all" educational system was no longer what Virginians need or want.

Caroline Schools Superintendent Dr. Gregory Killough shared with Bolling Caroline's continuing efforts for dual enrollment and increasing technical education. Some residents argued that the additional programs needed to become a reality sooner than later.

Bolling departed for the Northern Neck after about an hour with residents. Bolling will continue his visits with community business owners throughout the state in the coming weeks each Monday and Tuesday.

Caroline Weather Forecast For August 20 - 26, 2009

Thu 20	Fri 21	Sat 22	Sun 23	Mon 24	Tue 25	Wed 26
H: 94 L: 72	H: 91 L: 72	H: 85 L: 72	H: 83 L: 64	H: 86 L: 60	H: 86 L: 64	H: 83 L: 66
30%	40%	40%	20%	20%	20%	30%
Normal High: 85 - Normal Low: 64 - Normal August Rainfall: 4.18"						
Weather By E-mail - jwheeler@carolineweathercenter.com						
Caroline Weather Center - www.carolineweathercenter.com						

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Caroline teacher treks to aid homeless vets

By Ed Simmons, Jr.
cprreporter@lcs.net

Vigorous and sturdy at age 62, cheerful, religious and newly hired at Camel Christian Academy where he will teach horticulture and coach baseball, Jimmy Harris strode through Caroline last weekend marching up Route 1 from Richmond to Washington to raise awareness of the increasing numbers of homeless veterans.

"I was graced by God with a wonderful family. If it wasn't for them, I'd have been out on the street too," he said. Covering 15 miles a day, he was due to arrive on Thursday at the Washington office of the National Coalition for Homeless Veterans and interview with "Street Smart," a newspaper for the homeless.

Growing up in Beaverdam where his folks ran Harris' Grocery, he left home to become a 19-year-old veteran of the hellish battles of the Mekong Delta. His best friend killed, he served out his tour to become a military

palbearer back in the States, serving at 50 firefights, an increasingly distressing ordeal.

He received the Army Commendation Medal but no treatment for his devastating post-traumatic stress disorder. Raging untreated, it would later incapacitate him with depression. Only the intervention of his sister Judy Childs and her husband Bobby would save him from homelessness.

Today he lives on Moore's Mill Road in southern Caroline. For the past five years he's worked at Ashland Berry Farm specializing in providing enthusiastic, informative tours of the key pond. A tour last October for students from Camel Christian Academy, who enjoyed his teaching and admired the way he spoke about God, led to a friendship with school director Jan Cameal and his hiring.

While Harris has recovered to lead a rewarding life, many others, however, continue to suffer.

Homeless veterans are in-

creasing

According to the National Coalition of Homeless Veterans, "Although accurate numbers are impossible to come by - no one keeps national records on homeless veterans - the VA estimates that 131,000 veterans are homeless on any given night. And approximately twice that many experience homelessness over the course of a year.

"Conservatively, one out of every three homeless men who is sleeping in a doorway, alley or box in our cities and rural communities has put on a uniform and served this country."

Why are veterans homeless?

Again according to the NCHV, "In addition to the complex set

of HOMELESS VETS page A8



Jimmy Harris, 62, stopped at Mt. Olympus Berry Farm Saturday on his 100-mile march to Washington.



THE CAROLINE Progress

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