



BEDFORD BUSINESS FIRST

News from Bedford County Office of Economic Development

March 2024

Take the 2024 Community Health Needs Assessment



To provide a deeper understanding of our communities' health needs and how to address them, every three years Centra conducts Community Health Needs Assessments (CHNA) through area-specific surveys. They are updating these assessments in 2024, and we would like to hear from you! Tell them what you need to live a healthier life!

If you live in the town or county of Bedford, [take the survey here.](#)

CVCC Business Summit - March 20

Calling all local businesses! Join CVCC on March 20 at 11:30 a.m. to learn about the Career & FastForward programs and about partnership opportunities. Lunch will be provided.

Featured panelists at this event include:

- Greg Graham, Southern Air
- Heather Ramsey, Framatome
- Nat Marshall, BWXT
- Justin Hensley, CloudFit
- Kristin King, Centra

To learn more or to register for the event, follow this link:

<https://forms.office.com/r/Mce1W4bGx5>



Wednesday, March 20th

CVCC Merritt Hall
Muriel Mickles Multipurpose Room

REGISTER NOW FOR THE MARCH 28TH CLASS!

LEAN 102

CLASS WITH SIMULATION

MASTER THE MECHANICS OF MANUFACTURING

Instructor
Jeff Shook

GENEDGE Engagement Manager

Register for the Lean 102 with GenEdge

EMPLOYERS: Join GENEDGE for an exciting and interactive half-day event where you'll learn all about Lean principles and practices!

This in-person event will take place **Thursday, March 28** from 8 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. at the Lynchburg Regional Business Alliance. Whether you're new to Lean or looking to deepen your understanding, this overview with simulation is perfect for you.

Get hands-on experience with Lean tools and techniques, and discover how they can drive efficiency and improve processes

in any industry. Benefits include: cycle time reduction, WIP reduction, reduction of floor space, increase in throughput, and increase in profit. Light Breakfast will be served. [Register now!](#)

Bedford ONE Program hosts "All

Things Government" tour for AP Government students

In February nearly 60 Advanced Placement (AP) Government students, from all three public high schools, were treated to a very special Bedford ONE Tour. This tour was strategically designed to highlight some of the local government services the county is responsible for providing its citizens.



The day began with an official welcome from County administrator Robert Hiss, who shared demographic information about the county, some of his main responsibilities, and explained a little about the county budget and how that is calculated based on the tax rate.

Students were broken up into several groups and rotated between three designated areas, as different departments presented information about their respective roles. They met and heard from Constitutional Officers including the Commissioner of the Revenue, the Treasurer, and the Clerk of Court. [Read the full story here.](#)

Virginia Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services' Spring AFID Infrastructure Grant Round opens March 25

The Governor's Agriculture and Forestry Industries Development Fund (AFID) Infrastructure Grant Program is focused on awarding reimbursable grants primarily for capital projects at new and existing food hubs, farmers' markets, commercial kitchens, and other value-added facilities such as those used for processing and packaging meats, dairy products, produce, or other Virginia-grown products.



Applications must be made by a political subdivision of the Commonwealth, typically Counties and Cities, but also Towns, Industrial and Economic Development Authorities, or Planning District Commissions. Eligible groups must submit applications for grants of *up to* \$50,000 by **5 p.m. on May 6, 2024.**

More information including a flyer, guidelines, and project budget form, as well as the application can also be found on the VDACA website:

<https://www.vdacs.virginia.gov/agriculture-afid-infrastructure-grants.shtml>

Tuck Farms recognized as Best of Beef Industry

ORLANDO, Fla. (Feb. 2, 2024) – Producers, students and advocates were recognized as the best of the beef industry through a variety of scholarship and award programs during CattleCon24, held Jan. 31-Feb. 2, in Orlando.

2023 Environmental Stewardship Award Program Regional Winners The Environmental Stewardship Award Program (ESAP), which annually recognizes outstanding stewardship practices and conservation achievements of cattle producers, honored regional winners, including:

Region I: Tuck Farms, Moneta, Virginia

Region II: JB Ranch, Immokalee, Florida

Region IV: G Bar C Ranch, Rosston, Texas

Region V: Tower Rock Ranch, LLC, Mansfield, Washington

Region VI: Hart Ranch, Montague, California

Region VII: Bartholomay Kattle Kompany, Sheldon, North Dakota

[Read the full release here.](#)





Bedford County Fair returns for 2024

The Bedford County Fair, a hallmark community event, is thrilled to announce its eagerly awaited return August 23-25, 2024. Located on Falling Creek Rd at the County Gym and adjacent property, this year's fair promises an exciting array of activities to celebrate the best of Bedford.

This free-gate admission fair ensures that all families can take part in the festivities without financial constraint. Shuttle service will be provided from various locations in town.

Stay informed and engaged with weekly updates on the upcoming fair. Visit BedfordVAFair.com for the latest details on attractions, schedules, and special features that will enhance your fair experience.



2024 PDGA Professional Disc Golf World Championships seeks volunteers

Destination Bedford is honored to be the site of the 2024 PDGA World Championships this August. The professional disc golfers will play at both Ivy Hill and New London Business & Technology Center. They need volunteers to help with the following:

- Spotting
- Live scorekeeping
- Parking
- Crowd control

Volunteers will receive swag and discs courtesy of event sponsors. All will receive meals and a staff shirt. Volunteers who work 4 full days or more will receive a limited edition item. Volunteers who work 5 full days or more will receive two limited edition items. If you are interested in volunteering for this event, [please Sign Up via this link.](#)



Your small business matters!

If you need some first-rate coaching on how to get started or grow, check out the training offered at the **Small Business Development Center - Lynchburg Region.**

[Visit their website to see the classes offered.](#)

Visit the SBDC website to learn more about their program offerings including:

- [Small Town & Merchant Program \(STAMP\)](#)
- [International Business Development Program](#)
- [Innovation Commercialization Assistance Program \(ICAP\)](#)
- [Craft Beverage Assistance Program \(CNA\)](#)
- [Veterans Assistance](#)

Expanding? We have Business Ready Sites for you.

Our premier **New London Business and Technology Center** park in Forest features pad-ready and cleared lots for



sale ranging from 7.5 to 50+ acres to accommodate 10,000 - 500,000 sq. ft. buildings. [Download the flier here.](#)

The **Bedford Center for Business** has land ready for development, including a 9.5 acre graded site, and it lies within the Town's Enterprise Zone and Virginia's Opportunity Zone. [Download the flier here.](#)



In **Montvale Center for Commerce**, two lots are available with nearly 20 combined acres ready for grading and will accommodate a building up to 200,000 sf. ft.

Conveniently located on 460W and close to I-81. [Download the flier here.](#)

Call the Office of Economic Development to learn how we can help your business grow in Bedford County. **540-587-5670** BedfordEconomicDevelopment.com

Did you know we have other commercial listings available on our website? [Check them out here.](#)



Pam Bailey Economic Development Director 540-587-5670 x 1375 [email](#)

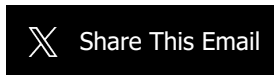
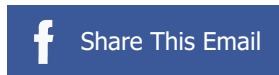


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