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COVID-19 UPDATES

Mar 19, 2020



Health officials confirm 94 coronavirus cases in Virginia, and two deaths

Across Virginia, which has 94 confirmed cases of the virus and two deaths, according to the health department, residents continued to adjust to a new normal. Much of the state's workforce has been encouraged to work from home, and schools were closed. Many districts continued distributing meals to families who depend on free school breakfasts and lunches, including Fairfax County — one of the nation's largest school divisions — which added deliveries by school bus Thursday. Read more

Mar 19, 2020



Mercer County COVID-19 patient 'alive,' is in isolation





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School levy vote passes

By GREG JORDAN
Bluefield Daily Telegraph

PRINCETON — After early votes, absentee votes and votes cast during a special election were counted, the new Mercer County Schools five-year excess levy was approved, according to unofficial vote totals released Saturday evening.
 The special election was held to let the county's

voters decide whether to approve a new five-year excess levy for the Mercer County Schools system. After 10 days of early voting, 2,036 votes were counted, according to County Clerk Verlin Moye. Paper ballots were used instead of electronic voting machines because the special election had only one question about whether to approve or disapprove a new excess

levy. The current five-year excess levy expires on June 30, 2020. Polls opened at 6:30 a.m. After the polls closed at 7:30 p.m., each precinct counted its votes and brought them to the Mercer County

Courthouse for the final count, Moye said. When all 47 precincts had reported their unofficial results, there were 3,161 votes for the excess levy and 1,648 against it. Moye stated the election

itself in a procedural way went well, but not that many people appeared at the polls Saturday. "The turnout, I'm going to use the term mediocre," he said. The school system's overall budget is about \$130 million, and the about \$13 million the levy represents is 10 percent of it. Services depending on excess levy funding

includes support personnel, coaches' supplements, textbooks, extracurricular activities, maintenance and upkeep of schools and operational costs, Superintendent Dr. Deborah Akers said previously. "We're very thankful that we'll have the funding for another five years," Akers said after the vote was

Levy, A-5



Veterans honored at annual stand down event

By GREG JORDAN
Bluefield Daily Telegraph

PRINCETON — They proudly wore ball caps and jackets bearing words like World War II, Korea, Vietnam, Desert

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