

Hi, just a reminder that you're receiving this email because you have expressed an interest in Bedford County Office of Economic Development. Don't forget to add tblido@bedfordcountyva.gov to your address book so we'll be sure to land in your inbox!

You may [unsubscribe](#) if you no longer wish to receive our emails.



Bedford Business First

News from Bedford County Office of Economic Development - November 2018

Bedford County by the numbers

Population: 77,724

Labor Force	38,820
Employed	37,654
Unemployment rate	3.0%
Advertised jobs	588

Source: VirginiaLMI.com
August 2018 report

About our office

The Office of Economic Development is responsible for planning, developing, and directing business and economic development programs and services in Bedford County, Virginia.



Traci Blido

Director

540-587-5670 ext. 1371

[email](#)

Business Roundtable

We want to hear from you! Join us for an end of the year Business Roundtable on Wednesday, December 12 from 8:30 - 10:00 a.m. at CVCC - Bedford Campus. We will provide an update of important events in the County and you will have the chance to share information about your company. Please RSVP to [Pam Bailey](#) by Friday, December 7.



Bedford ONE Kicks Off Tours



BCPS students tour CommScope in Forest.

Bedford ONE (Offering New Experiences) started the 2018-19 school year with tours in Forest and Bedford. Students from Jefferson Forest High School who are enrolled in an engineering technology class had the chance to tour two manufacturing companies in Forest on Tuesday, September 11. At CommScope, the group of 30 students learned about connectors for cellular towers that allow for more calls and data usage to



Pam Bailey
 Marketing & Business
 Development
 540-587-5670 ext. 1375
[email](#)

Like what you see here?

We post regularly to keep you up to date on projects taking place in the community, continuing education opportunities, and more!



["Like" us on Facebook](#)



["Follow" us on Twitter](#)

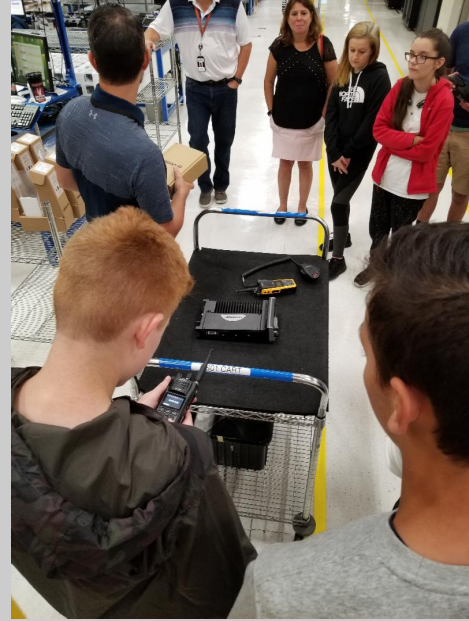


["Follow" us on Instagram](#)

Visit our website [here](#).

go through on a wireless network-particularly in stadiums where there are higher concentrations of people using a cellular tower.

Following the CommScope visit, the students headed to the Harris Corporation facility on 460W in Forest. The students learned about the public safety two-way radio and land mobile radio equipment that Harris makes for police and fire departments across the world.



BCPS students tour the Harris manufacturing facility in Forest.



Sam Moore Furniture Plant Manager, Scott Bloyd, speaks to students.

student group toured Sam Moore Furniture, as well as the Bedford Solar Farm. At Sam Moore, students watched as artisans crafted upholstery pieces- from inspection of the frame, to hand-painting and distressing finishes, to sewing button-tufted

backs.

Following the tour at Sam Moore, the students visited the Solar Farm in Bedford. The Solar, Farm is operated by O2 EMC, out of Charlotte, NC, provide energy to the Bedford.. The students really enjoyed this tour and learned about solar energy and all of the career pathways in this industry, from finance to business development, and legal to engineering.



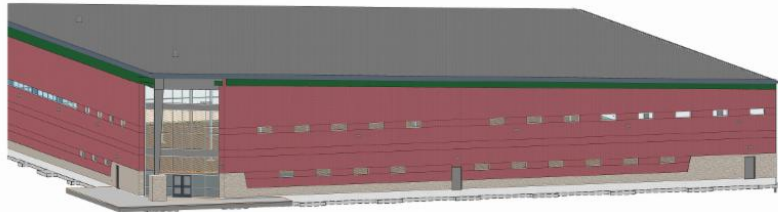
BCPS students learned about solar energy at the Bedford Solar Farm.

Upcoming tours include Sodexo at Liberty University, Custom Truck One Source, Sentry Equipment, Public Safety/Dispatch, US

Tours are open to all high school students enrolled in Bedford County Public Schools. If your company would like to host a tour for up to 30 BCPS students, please contact [Pam Bailey](#).

40,000 sq. ft. Shell Building to be built in New London Business & Technology Center

NEW LONDON BUSINESS AND TECHNOLOGY PARK
LOT 7 EDA SHELL BUILDING
IFB 2019-09-19 EDA1
BEDFORD COUNTY ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY
BEDFORD COUNTY, VIRGINIA



Due to increasing interest from prospective companies and site selectors, the Bedford County Economic Development Authority (EDA) is moving forward with plans to build and sell a 40,000 square foot shell building on Lot 7, thanks to a \$1.3 million grant from the Tobacco Commission and matching funds from the Bedford County Board of Supervisors, and the Bedford County EDA. Groundbreaking is expected in early 2019 and the building should be completed by the end of the year.

Price Buildings, Inc. of Rocky Mount, VA has been awarded the contract to construct the building in the New London Business & Technology Center park in Forest.

Ag Board tours Liberty Middle School STEM/Ag classrooms



New Agriculture classes are now in session at Liberty Middle School. These are the first courses of their kind in Bedford County and 120 students are enrolled in these classes that teach foundations in agriculture subjects such as horticulture, animal systems, food processing and construction, mechanics, and even welding!

Ag Board members as well as BCPS administrators tour the new Ag classrooms at Liberty Middle School.

Exploring Career & Technical Education with the Bedford Area Chamber of Commerce

On October 24, we had the chance to talk to 800 7th graders from Bedford County Public Schools as they took a field trip to the Bedford Science & Technology Center as part of Chamber's annual Career and Technical Expo.



Joy Powers speaks to students about Agriculture careers.

The Economic Development booth promoted a wide-range of careers from robotics to veterinarians, and chemists to botanists, and how they are all possible career pathways for the Agriculture industry.

Thank you to Joy Powers of Powers Tractor, and Scott Baker from the Bedford County Extension Office for helping educate the students throughout the day.

Expanding? We've got pad-ready sites!

Our premier New London Business and Technology Center park has freshly graded and cleared several lots ranging in size from 4 acres to 15+ acres. Additional larger lots are also available. Call the Office of Economic Development to learn how we can help your business grow.

540-587-5670



One of the recently graded lots is Lot 4, located at the end of the cul-de-sac on East London Drive. It is 24+ acres with 10 acres graded.

Bedford County Office of Economic Development

Traci Blido, Director

540-587-5670