

# BULL RUN OBSERVER™

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## Artist repaints distinctive Nokesville icon on Hawkins barn



After a break, muralist Sylvania Lindowitz climbs up a ladder to continue painting her mural of a dancing pig and cow on the side of the Hawkins' barn in Nokesville.

Bennie Scarton Jr. / Bull Run Observer

By **BENNIE SCARTON Jr.**  
 Observer staff

There is joy in the little community of Nokesville as its memorable icon is back.

Sylvia Lindowitz, the original artist of the dancing cow and pig and other farm animals on a mural on a barn at the town, has returned to recreate the painting that has been the talk of Nokesville for more than two decades.

For years the painting entertained motorists traveling VA Rte. 28/Nokesville Road, but eventually the mural faded away and disappeared when the barn was entirely restored.

Lindowitz, now living in Tucson, Ariz., flew in for a week to recreate the painting, a local symbol of barnyard pride.

She put up a scaffold on Oct. 5 and finished up on Oct. 10 at which time she welcomed old friends, neighbors and anyone else to stop by and view the finished icon.

"I entered a contest in 1992 sponsored by a now defunct alternative rock radio station. The radio station sent out vans and if they

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## Va. Scenic Byways designation in Antioch Rd., VA 55's future?

By **E. BRUCE DAVIS**  
 Observer staff

An enthusiastic crowd of Prince William Conservation Alliance members and other interested people from the Haymarket community signaled interest in the process to attain Virginia Scenic Byway designation for Antioch Road and VA 55 after hearing from environmental planner Lynn M. Crump at a meeting Sept. 29. The information session at the home of Elena Schlossberg-Kunkel, was organized by Kim Hosen, PWCA executive director

Crump, an environmental programs planner with the Virginia Department of Conservation and Recreation (DCR), traveled from

Richmond to explain the purpose, criteria and process of the Virginia Scenic Byways Designation.

This program is a cooperative effort between Virginia Department of Transportation (VDOT) and Virginia Department of Conservation and Recreation. Crump presented a 30-minute slide show and fielded many questions.

Crump explained, "A scenic byway is a road having relatively high aesthetic or cultural value, leading to or within areas of historical, natural or recreational significance."

Virginia byways are roads designated under the Virginia Byways Program, while scenic roads meet

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E. Bruce Davis / Bull Run Observer

Lynn Crump, Virginia Department Conservation and Recreation planner, speaks to members of the Prince William Conservation Alliance on Virginia Scenic Byways.



## Scenic Byway

continued from page 1

the byways criteria but have yet to be so designated by VDOT. Both DCR and VDOT review the submission and together determine to recommend or exclude it. The process also requires a resolution from the board of county supervisors.

The program's goal is "to emphasize the importance of the byway and its intrinsic qualities: scenic, historic, recreational, culture, natural and archeological."

The process has many steps and usually takes about 18 months. It calls for a review and provision of an historic listing from the Department of Historic Resources and local planning controls.

Charlie Grymes, PWCA chairman, said submitting Antioch Road

and neighboring VA 55 for the program had first been discussed two years ago.

More than 2,500 miles of roads are designated as Virginia Byways, many in Fauquier County but none in Prince William County. There is also a National Scenic Byways program that includes U.S. 15.

Before Crump's presentation, Hosen shared unique qualities of Prince William County, including that it is the country's northernmost area where southern plant species grow and the southernmost area where northern plant species grow. She said it is the only county in the Chesapeake Bay watershed that borders both mountains and a tidal wetland. Virginia Byways must be at least 10 miles long unless connected to another byway, which could include five-mile Antioch Road adjoining a Fauquier County byway.

Virginia Scenic Byways provides awareness of an area's unique qualities. It becomes a part of the Virginia Tourism promotional strategy to attract visitors and stimulate local economies. It also is included in the Virginia Map of Scenic Roads, the Virginia Scenic Roads website, the Virginia Outdoors Plan and the DCR Scenic Byways website. Virginia Outdoors Survey has ranked pleasure driving as high as the third most popular form of outdoor recreation.

According to Crump, a Virginia Scenic Byway designation has no affect on land usage, does not limit road improvements, and is still eligible for federal scenic byway funds. It requires a local government endorsement.

The criteria for inclusion in the program includes that the road have "important and unique scenic values, diverse landscape experience,

linkages and access, leisurely motoring experience, landscape control and management enhancements...."

Qualifications include the road be two lanes, have landscapes of variety, connect to other byways and are regionally significant. Non-qualifiers for the Virginia Scenic Byway program include roads that are divided, adjacent to "derelict properties," dirt or gravel roads and roads that are not unique. Other considerations include having no imposed land use controls. There are some outdoor signage limitations.

Those present realized the process to attain Virginia Scenic Byway designation for Antioch Road and VA 55 would be the responsibility of the community, led by PWCA, with the support of Peter Candland, Gainesville District supervisor. Candland was represented at the meeting by his aide, Diana Meiser.

Schlossberg-Kunkel said this is the way to show the community's respect for the area while wanting Virginia to do so, as well.

PWCA Board member, Nancy Vehrs, and others spoke after the presentation about the role of the PWCA, and its responsibility in winning approval.

"The Prince William Conservation Alliance is a nonprofit watershed organization working to preserve, protect and enhance natural resources through stewardship, recreation and education."

Valerie Neitzey said, "I am encouraged. I am optimistic about this."

Call Kim Hosen, PWCA executive director at 703-499-4954 or go to [pwconsrve.org](http://pwconsrve.org) or on Facebook. Call DCR environmental planner Lynn Crump at 804-786-5054 or email her at [Lynn.Crump@dcr.virginia.gov](mailto:Lynn.Crump@dcr.virginia.gov).

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