

Court dedicated in honor of Hall of Fame coach

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Shown with Virginia High School League Hall of Fame basketball coach George Lancaster (center) at the ribbon cutting for Chase City's newly dedicated basketball court is Chase City Mayor Alden Fahringer on the far left, Council members BJ Mull, Marshall "Tommy" Whittaker, Brenda Hatcher and James Bohanan, Chamber of Commerce Director Tina Wood, SVCC off-site campus coordinator LaTrisha McCargo and Chase City Town Manager Charles "Dusty" Forbes (far right)

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The newly restored public basketball court on Fifth Street in Chase City has been renamed in honor of native son George Lancaster.

Now known as Lancaster Court, the outdoor facility has been resurfaced, relined, and had new backstops and nets installed. A retaining wall with built-in seating has been added to one side of the court and it is enclosed by new fencing to keep wayward shots and passes from escaping to the nearby field or the road in front of the court.

Lancaster called the rededication, which took place Tuesday, Oct. 26, a surprise and an honor.

Lancaster is the varsity basketball coach for Bluestone High School. Before returning to Chase City, he spent 44 years coaching boys basketball in the Richmond area, at Richmond's Huguenot High School from 1972 to 1978 and Highland Springs High School in Henrico County from 1979 to 2016.

When he retired from Highland Springs High School, Lancaster had the fourth most boys basketball wins as a head coach — 704 — in Virginia High School League history. Since taking over the varsity boys team at Bluestone High School in 2018, Lancaster racked up 22 more wins. In his first season as coach, he took the Barons to the Region 2A semifinals where they fell to Greensville County to end their season.

The 2020-21 season was cancelled due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Lancaster is one of the most decorated coaches in state history. He is a member of the halls of fame of the Virginia High School League, Virginia State University and the Virginia Interscholastic Association.