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## Supervisor denies support of Oath Keepers group in Capitol breach

Name appeared in leaked membership list

CHARLES CONRAD  
Times Virginian

According to reports from multiple media outlets, the name of Appomattox County Board of Supervisors member John F. Hinkle, who represents the Falling River District, appeared on a leaked membership list of the Oath Keep-

ers group that has garnered attention for its alleged role in the Jan. 6, 2021, breach of the U.S. Capitol Building in Washington, D.C.

In an email statement to the Times Virginian, Hinkle said he has no active involvement with the Oath Keepers group, founded by Stewart Rhodes, that is being associated with the Jan. 6 events.

Hinkle said that he once made a small donation in 2016 and received a lifetime membership card but has had no further communication with them.

As was reported in a Times Virginian article in February 2020, Hinkle and several other people were interested in starting an Appomattox chapter of the Virginia

Oath Keepers. However, a group of county citizens instead decided to form their own local militia.

The Times Virginian article described Virginia Oath Keepers as "a civic organization that seeks to provide education related to constitutional rights, provide training in how to grapple with man-made or natural disasters, and encourage nonpartisan political action."



John F. Hinkle

See HINKLE, Page 11

## Arrest made in murder of a local man

JEFFREY WESTBROOK  
Womack Publishing News Service

The Campbell County Sheriff's Office (CCSO) has announced the arrest of a suspect in the homicide of an Appomattox man that took place Monday, Sept. 5, along Leesville Road in Campbell County.

The victim has been identified as Jason Marcus, 40, of Appomattox.

Deshawn LaAnthony Hamlett, 23, of Lynch Station, was charged with second-degree murder, as well as the use of a firearm in the commission of a felony.

When law enforcement officials attempted to apprehend Hamlett, he led



Deshawn L. Hamlett

them in a high-speed chase through the Town of Altavista, ending up in the 5500 block of Wards Road.

"The Campbell County Sheriff's Office would like to thank members of our community that assisted in this investigation as well as

See ARREST, Page 7

## Appomattox honors 9/11 terrorist attacks victims

CHARLES CONRAD  
Times Virginian

On Sunday morning at 9 a.m., the local American Legion Post 104 and Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 9855 honored the 2,996 victims of the Sept. 11, 2001, terrorist attacks on the Twin Towers in New York City, the Pentagon in Washington, D.C., and

the United Airlines Flight 93 airplane that crashed in Shanksville, Pennsylvania.

The memorial ceremony was held indoors at the American Legion Post 104 headquarters building on Oakleigh Avenue. It was originally planned for the Wall of Honor location in front of the Appomattox

See 9/11, Page 10



Charles Conrad/Times Virginian  
Members of the American Legion Post 104 Honor Guard retrieve the American flag at the conclusion of Sunday's 9-11 memorial ceremony.



Charles Conrad/Times Virginian  
Maj. Gen. Scott G. West, U.S. Army (retired) gives the keynote address during Sunday's 9-11 memorial ceremony at the American Legion Post 104 headquarters building in Appomattox.

## Jeep and Jam Music Festival held to benefit fire department

SHARON WALKER  
Times Virginian

There was music for everyone at the Appomattox Jeep and Jam Music Festival on Saturday, Sept. 10, with music playing from 2 to 11 p.m.

Southland Band was the highlight, with opening bands such as Rare Form, Starlett & Big John, Steel Young and Dunn, and New Standard playing traditional country music, classic rock and bluegrass.

Nevermind the rain — by the time Southland Band took the stage at

See MUSIC, Page 10



Sharon Walker/Times Virginian  
Roni Crowe (left) from Roanoke, Virginia, with her jeep Pale Ryder, and Lexi Haaland, from Stuart's Draft, Virginia, and pup Luna with her jeep Fluffy, are off-road jeep drivers. "It's so much fun," said Crowe. Haaland trains dogs to assist humans with disabilities.



Contributed

Shown is the final design settled on for the new Town of Appomattox logo.

## Council OKs logo

SHARON WALKER  
Times Virginian

The Town of Appomattox has a new logo, which was approved Monday at the Appomattox Town Council meeting.

Council members discussed the Town of Appomattox logo, which was presented in four versions, each slightly different. There was a lively discussion in an effort to select the best representative for the Town of Appomattox.

Council members Nathan Simpson and Claudia Puck-

ette were the most outspoken about the logo. Simpson argued that in most use cases, the logo would not be in color but in black and white. Puckette said she opted for a balance and using the rule of threes would be more pleasing to the eye. Councilman Timothy Garrett motioned that the group select the fourth version of the logo with no changes. The motion was seconded by Councilwoman Mary Lou Spiggle, and it passed unanimously.

See LOGO, Page 10



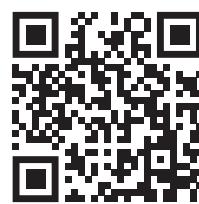
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# Hinkle

Continued from Page 1

Hinkle was quoted in the Times Virginian article as explaining that “peaceful methods are employed by Oath Keepers to speak up for constitutional rights.” Media outlets reporting the Oath Keepers membership leak include WRIC-TV in Richmond, The Virginian-Pilot, Axios Media, the Associated Press and more. Some outlets mention Hinkle specifically, while others do not. Hinkle is reported to be one of 25 names from Virginia on the list — which included members of law enforcement, the military, first responders and elected officials — that was leaked by a group named Distrib-

uted Denial of Secrets on Sept. 27, 2021. Hinkle is said to be the only elected official from the state on that list. On its website, Distributed Denial of Secrets claims to be a non-profit transparency group that engages in “data gathering, research, journalism, activism and technology.” A subsequent report regarding the leaks was published last week by the Anti-Defamation League (ADL), which describes itself on its website as an “anti-hate” organization founded in 1913 whose stated purpose is to combat “antisemitism, countering extremism and battling bigotry wherever and whenever it happens” and to protect “democracy and ensure a just and inclusive society

for all.” The ADL points out in its report that an individual’s name appearing on the Oath Keepers membership database does not suggest any direct involvement on their part. “An individual’s inclusion in the Oath Keeper database is not proof that they were or are still an Oath Keeper, that they hold or held all or some of Oath Keeper ideology or viewpoints, or that they ever actively participated in Oath Keeper activities,” the ADL states. Hinkle vehemently denies actively supporting the Stewart Rhodes Oath Keepers group or any of the alleged events that took place on Jan. 6, and maintains his vow to support the U.S. Constitution and

serve the best interests of the citizens of Appomattox County. Hinkle’s full statement to the Times Virginian is as follows: “I have sworn an oath to uphold the Constitution of the United States of America several times during my life — as a law enforcement officer, when recruited into the Michigan Army National Guard, when appointed as a Warrant Officer and when elected to Appomattox County Government. I take this oath seriously and have committed my life to following it. “In January of 2016, I became aware of Stewart Rhodes Oath Keeper organization, and they made sense at the time, so I sent them I think twenty bucks at the time to find out. I re-

ceived a membership card and decals along with a letter. That was the last I heard from the organization. I have never reached out to them since January 2016. “Sometime in 2019, I became aware of the Virginia Oath Keepers (VAOK) organization and their work as a civic organization. They have never been associated with the Stewart Rhodes Oath Keepers and are true supporters of the Constitution and believe in upholding it. On Feb. 8, the Virginia Oath Keepers leadership came to Appomattox to a town hall meeting and spoke in detail with residents about forming a chapter in Appomattox and Prince Edward Counties. The Bedford County chapter was the nearest chapter to us. The Times Virginian

reported the event in the Feb. 22, 2020, issue. Appomattox County citizens preferred to start their own county militia rather than start an VAOK chapter. Since then, I have not participated in any VAOK activities or promoted them. Reporter Dean Mirshahi of WRIC 8News Richmond verified that VAOK has no affiliation with Stewart Rhodes or his Oath Keeper group. “I never have and never will in any way dishonor my oath to the Constitution or be involved in any action to destroy our government! I will continue to fight against any government overreach at state or federal level that restricts the rights of the Appomattox County citizens I represent.”

# Library

Continued from Page 4

Tifini and her faithful book bus, Spot, will return to the library starting on Wednesday, Sept. 14, just in time for both Story & Craft Times. Spot will be parked outside the library from 10:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. so that kids can borrow a book before the programs. Join the library in welcoming back Tifini and Spot, both love to encourage reading! Spot is sponsored by Appomattox Literacy Intervention Project (A.L.I.P.) a non-profit charitable organization that began in 1996 in order to promote literacy throughout Appomattox County. A.L.I.P.’s focus and most important project over the years has been their book buses.

Don’t forget that you can return your borrowed books from Spot to the library. If you have books that are no long being read that are from preschool through high school age-appropriate, you can donate at the library, and staff will make sure that they are given to Tifini, for placement on Spot. Don’t forget to join us for the Jamerson Family Movie Night on Thursday, Sept. 15, starting at 6 p.m., we will feature a PG-13 rated film. The Earth is once again dominated by prehistoric predators, and two generations

of heroes must unite for a globe-spanning adventure to shape the destiny of humans and dinosaurs. Free refreshments will be served. Our next Jamerson Family Movie Night will be on Thursday, Oct. 20, starting at 6 p.m. On Thursday, Sept. 22, starting at 3:30 p.m., we will host a kid-friendly Disney classic for our Jamerson Movie Matinee. A wooden puppet and his cricket friend embark on fantastic adventures that test his bravery, loyalty and honesty in his quest to become a real boy. Free refreshments will be served at the start of the show. If you have any questions or concerns about this article or other library-related topics please feel free to call us during normal business hours at 434-352-5340.

The library receives a steady supply of new and donated items, we would like to highlight the following titles:

- DVDs**
- Vivo
- Jurassic World Dominion
- The Bad Guys
- Just For Kicks.
- ParaNorman
- Kubo and the Two Strings
- Coraline
- The BoxTrolls
- BLU Rays**
- Vivo
- The Bad Guys

# Fariss

Continued from Page 4

For more information please visit the Virginia Energy Plan website. <https://energy.virginia.gov/energy-efficiency/VEP-Landing-Page.shtml>. Attorney General Jason Miyares (me-YAR-ez) today announced the creation of the Election Integrity Unit at the Office of the Attorney General. This unit will provide legal advice to the Department of Elections, investigate and prosecute violations of Virginia election law, work with the election community throughout the year to ensure uniformity and legality in application of election laws, and work with law enforcement to ensure legality and purity in elections. The purpose of the unit is to provide advice, support, and resources to ensure that Virginia election law continues to be applied in a uniform manner and increase confidence in our state elections. “I pledged during the 2021 campaign to work to increase transparency and strengthen confidence in our state elections. It should be easy to vote, and hard to cheat. The Election Integrity Unit will work to help to restore confidence in our democratic process in the Commonwealth,” said Miyares. Virginia has a system of elections that divides authority among 133 lo-

cal electoral boards and general registrars and the bi-partisan State Board of Elections. The new Election Integrity Unit will work with the State Board, the Department of Elections, and the dedicated, hard-working local election officials in the upcoming election and beyond. The unit is made up of more than 20 existing attorneys, investigators, and paralegals from across the various divisions in Office of the Attorney General. No additional or new funds are required for this unit. Under Virginia law, the Attorney General has broad original jurisdiction around elections. Specifically, the law states that the Attorney General shall have full authority to do whatever is necessary or appropriate to enforce the election laws or prosecute violations thereof. The Attorney General shall exercise the authority granted by this section to investigate, prosecute a violation [and] assure the enforcement of the election’s laws. It is an honor to represent you and the 59th District of Virginia. I encourage you to sign up to receive emails from my office and follow my Facebook page as I am frequently updating both with resources and links to important information. As always, if you should need any assistance, please do not hesitate to call either office at 434-821-5929 or email me at [DelMFariss@house.virginia.gov](mailto:DelMFariss@house.virginia.gov).

# Appomattox girls can join Girl Scouts for free this fall

Thanks to a generous gift, all girls who join Girl Scouts of Virginia Skyline by Sept. 30 will receive a free membership for the upcoming membership year (Oct. 1, 2022 to Sept. 30, 2023). Co-leaders can join for free with a new troop of eight or more girls. Learn more at [www.gsvsc.org/join](http://www.gsvsc.org/join).

Girl Scouts is open to girls in grades K-12. Fun, friendship and new adventures are what Girl Scouts is all about. Girls make new friends, challenge themselves, write their own stories, and take action to change the world for the better. Find troops at: [www.gsvsc.org/join](http://www.gsvsc.org/join). Join local Girl Scouts for regular meetups and adventures. Search by location

(zip code or city/town) to find troop opportunities. If there are not any nearby troops, expand the zip code radius. Still no luck in finding a troop to join? Then it may be time to start a new troop and let the fun and friends begin. Go back to the main page and select “VOLUNTEER” and start a Girl Scout journey to create a troop.

Find events at: [www.facebook.com/GSVSC/events](http://www.facebook.com/GSVSC/events). Expand a girl’s world with “fun, inspiring events for the whole family.” Learn and experience Girl Scouting in the local community by attending a free local “Discover Girl Scouts” or “Starter Troop” event. For questions, send email to [info@gsvsc.org](mailto:info@gsvsc.org) or call 540-777-5100.

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## Horizon discusses drug problem



Charles Conrad/  
Times Virginian

Horizon Behavioral Health CEO Melissa Lucy speaks to the Appomattox Town Council during Monday night's meeting.

CHARLES CONRAD  
Times Virginian

Horizon Behavioral Health CEO Melissa Lucy spoke to the Appomattox Town Council during Monday night's meeting to discuss the current drug problem in Appomattox County, namely fentanyl, and how Horizon has been attempting to tackle that and mental health issues locally.

Two fatal fentanyl overdoses were reported in Appomattox County in 2020, and one in 2021, which Lucy said is "significant" for an area of this size.

Since 2019, there have been six fatal prescription overdoses, excluding fentanyl, reported to the Virginia Department of Health, and eight fatal overdoses from any drug reported since 2020. In 2020 alone, five in the county died from suicide.

Lucy also reported that in Horizon's service area (which

includes the counties of Appomattox, Campbell, Amherst and Bedford, and the City of Lynchburg), the percentage of people who have reported that their mental health is not good has tripled since 2018.

Lucy attributes much of the increase in drug usage and mental health issues to easy accessibility of drugs, increased stress from world circumstances, and social isolation.

"We are coming out of COVID, but a lot of people are not coming out of isolation," Lucy said.

In Appomattox County, Horizon has provided clinical services to 236 children and 449 adults, for a total of 687 people. In Horizon's service area, they have assisted 11,705 individuals, of which 3,328 are children.

To combat these issues in Appomattox County, Horizon is providing in-school services at all four of the public schools

in the district. Available services include treatment, case management, outpatient treatment, therapy and referrals and follow-up to additional outside services if needed. Lucy explained that the school must refer the student to Horizon for treatment, and oftentimes the parents or children themselves willingly speak to a guidance counselor for the purpose of seeking help.

"It's really good to see that you're in our school system because we don't want the drugs in the school system," Town Council member Claudia Puckett said to Lucy during Monday's meeting.

In addition to assisting the public school system in Appomattox, Horizon has a full-service office for people of all ages located at 226 Union Boulevard, next to Elite Fitness 247.

See DRUGS, Page 7

## Local election results listed

C.E. ADAMS  
Times Virginian

Appomattox County's incumbents during the election this year were uncontested. The following are unofficial results from the Virginia Department of Elections with all but one precinct reporting.

Richard C. Conner was reelected as mayor of Appomattox with 95.61 percent of the votes with

457 votes. There were 21 write-in votes, which accounted for 4.39 percent. The results are as of 4:12 p.m. Monday with all four precincts reporting.

For mayor of Pamplin, Sarah Hamlett Blackwell was reelected with 90 percent of the vote with 36 votes cast for her. There were four write-in votes, which accounted for 10

See ELECTION, Page 8

## Pamplin talks on High Bridge Trail, LOVE sign, marriages

SHARON WALKER  
Times Virginian

The Town of Pamplin City Council met Thursday, Nov. 10, and discussed various topics, such as a High Bridge Trail parking lot, LOVE sign, marriages, events and finances.

The meeting was originally scheduled for Nov. 8 but was moved to Thursday. There was no meeting in October since there were only three council members present, so a quorum could not be reached.



Mayor Sarah Blackwell

at length. "We got one estimate for \$50,000," Mayor Sarah Blackwell said. "Unfortunately, it's about \$50,000 more than what we've got."

See PAMPLIN, Page 12

Contributed

Brenda Jarrett is shown with her son Dylan and husband Trospy Jarrett in this archived photo. Brenda Jarrett discovered she had cancer while she was pregnant with her son, and underwent cancer treatments in 2014.



## Faith, family, friends integral to cancer survivor's journey

SHARON WALKER  
Times Virginian

Brenda and Trospy Jarrett had been told by doctors they could not have children of their own; the married couple came to accept this as fact.

They had busy lives and were interested in many things: "We are lifelong learners," Brenda Jarrett said, always researching and asking questions, and, well — learning.

There was a natural sadness over being childless, but the two were busy and happily engaged with friends and family, she said.

So, they were both delighted to find they were to become parents in 2014.

"I was pregnant with my first and only child at 39," she said.

At about four months pregnant, she noticed a mole on her chest that



Contributed

In this Christmas 2014 photo, Brenda and Trospy Jarrett with Dylan, celebrate Dylan's first Christmas. Brenda said she is wearing a comfort shawl, made and sent to her in the mail with a prayer for healing from a complete stranger in her parents' church in Oregon.

had grown as her pregnancy progressed.

"It was perfectly round. It wasn't unusual, but it grew fast, it was

ugly and annoying, so, I said, 'Can we take this off?'"

See CANCER, Page 12

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# FOOTBALL CONTEST

# FOOTBALL PICKS

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# OBITUARIES

## James Burks Sr.

James Alexander Burks, Sr., 81, of Appomattox passed away on Monday, November 14, 2022, at Runk and Pratt Nursing Home at Forest. He was the husband of the late Cecil Faye Robertson Burks.

Born in Buckingham County on December 14, 1940, he was the son of the late Albert C. Burks and Elsie Bryant Burks. He retired as a superintendent at Whitehurst Paving after 48 years of service. James loved hunting and fishing at his family home place and enjoyed family gatherings.

He is survived by two grandsons, J.B. Burks and wife, Megan, and Matt Burks and Aquita Hancock; daughter-in-law, Alice Faye Franklin Burks; four great-grandchildren, Alexi Emerson Burks, Hailey Nicole Burks, Kaylee Marie Burks, and Destiny C. Lawson; sisters, Gertrude B. Eagle, and Linda B. Totty all of Appomattox; brother, Bernard Burks of Gladstone; brother-in-law, Randall "Joe" Robertson;

and numerous nieces and nephews.

He was preceded in death by his son, James A. Burks, Jr.; three sisters, Gloria McCormick, Hazel Tyree, and Betty McCready; and two brothers, Melvin Burks, and Al Burks.

A funeral service will be held 2 p.m., Sunday, November 20, 2022, at New Hope Baptist Church with Pastor Jerry Childress officiating. Burial will follow in the church Cemetery.

The family will receive friends one hour prior to the service at the church and other times at Alice Faye's house, 6395 Old Courthouse Rd, Appomattox, VA 24522.

Those wishing to make memorials please consider donating to Appomattox Volunteer Fire Department, PO Box 894, Appomattox, VA 24522.

The family would like to give a special thank you to the staff of Runk and Pratt and hospice nurse Alice for their care of James.

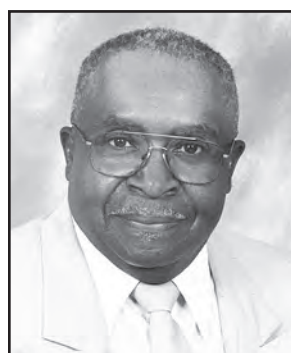
## Anthony L. Haskins

Mr. Anthony Leon Haskins, age 79 of Pamplin, passed away on November 11, 2022, in Lynchburg. He was the son of the late Alice Muriel Haskins Copeland.

He was preceded in death by his son, Anthony Haskins, Jr; sister, Mary Haskins; brother, Reginald Copeland; and cousin/brother, Wyatt Venable.

He is survived by his daughter, Jacqueline "Motor" Haskins of Pamplin; grandsons, JaQuan and Trevon Haskins; great grandchildren, Cayden and Honey; sister, Kamaria (Joseph) of Northern Virginia; brother, Daniel Copeland of Roanoke, Virginia; and a host of nieces, nephews, other relatives and friends.

Funeral services will be held on Sunday, November 20, 2022, at 2:00 p.m. at Jeffress Funeral Home Chapel in Brookneal with in-



Anthony Leon Haskins

terment in White Oak Grove Church Cemetery in Phenix. The repast will be held at Pamplin Depot, 115 Main Street, Pamplin, Virginia immediately following the burial. Public viewing will begin on Saturday, November 19, 2022, from 1:00 p.m. until 7:00 p.m. at the funeral home.

Condolences may be expressed at [www.Jeffress-FuneralHome.com](http://www.Jeffress-FuneralHome.com). Arrangements are by Jeffress Funeral Home and Cremation Service of Brookneal.

To place an obituary, email [accounts@timesvirginian.com](mailto:accounts@timesvirginian.com)

## Zigmas Mazulaitis

Zigmas "Ziggy" Mazulaitis, 91, formerly of Watertown, passed away, Monday, October 24, 2022, in Appomattox, Va. He was the husband of Dorothy "Dot" (Belanger) Mazulaitis.

Ziggy was born in Lithuania, March 15, 1931, son of the late Pranas and Ursule Mazulaitis. A longtime resident of Watertown, he retired to Appomattox. He was a member of the All Palomino Sheriff's Posse in Watertown. He took great enjoyment in the outdoors, raised cattle, always had horses to train, and loved to ride.

Besides his wife of 59 years, he leaves two daughters, Lisa Warner and her husband Ted, of Northfield, and Anne DeCarlo and her husband Mark, of Thomaston; a sister, Anele Dzekorius of Troy, N.Y.; four grandchildren, Colleen Warner, Eric Warner, Jake DeCarlo, and Nadean (Warner) Armour and her husband Jeff; two great grandchildren, Emerson and Hudson; and several nieces and nephews.

In addition to his parents,



Zigmas Mazulaitis

Ziggy was predeceased by his brother, Joseph Mazulaitis.

A Mass of Christian Burial was celebrated at 10 a.m., Saturday, Nov. 5, at St. Mary Magdalen Church, 16 Buckingham Street, Oakville, CT. Burial followed in Evergreen Cemetery, North Street, Watertown, CT. Arrangements have been entrusted to the Hickcox Funeral Home, 195 Main St., Watertown.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to the Alzheimer's Association. For additional information or to leave an online message of condolence, please visit [www.hickcoxfuneral-home.com](http://www.hickcoxfuneral-home.com).

## Drugs

Continued from Page 1

Lucy pointed out that Horizon offers a variety of services for substance use, mental health and intellectual disabilities, including treatment and prevention, early intervention, crisis intervention, emergency services, intensive home care, onsite pharmacies, treatment programs, case management, same-day assessments, women's recovery, forensics, Telehealth services and more.

Horizon also involves local communities, training individuals how to deal with drug and mental health situations when social workers or emergency personnel are not immediately present.

"We know cannot be at all places for all people, so we want to make sure that we arm the community and we arm others to be able to help as well and assist because that is very important," Lucy said.

During the year, Horizon holds a large number of public engagements to

combat drug addiction and mental illness such as public awareness campaigns, ongoing training, special events, programs and other initiatives at schools and in the community.

Horizon, which partners with local law enforcement agencies, is currently searching for a location to provide a crisis receiving center for emergency assessments, residential crisis stabilization, 23-hour observation and detoxification, with a grant-funded police officer position, as Lucy explained. Town Council member Mary Lou Spiggle, who is a member of Horizon's board, remarked that the search for a location is underway and that Sheriff Donald Simpson had previously addressed the issue to the council.

Thanks to a permanent supportive housing grant, Horizon is opening a place for homeless people with diagnosed serious mental illness to reside, beginning Dec. 1.

When asked by Puckett where the fentanyl is coming from, Lucy replied,

"From everywhere."

"The reality is a lot of people have realized how much money they can make on it," Lucy said. "It's very inexpensive to make; it's easy to get. So, it's coming from everywhere. When we have people come in and they tell us where they get it, it can be from somebody right down the street, it can be somebody at their school, it can be somebody at their job, quite frankly."

"The more you start using, the more you need to take to get that same high, to try to chase that high," she added. "And so that impacts people using more and more and not realizing that it can kill them, that they're gonna overdose on it. One time they're gonna take too much."

According to Lucy, Horizon has noticed that the largest increase of fentanyl usage has been seen in Bedford County, and it has spread outward through the area. She emphasized, however, that fentanyl is an issue throughout the nation and the state as well, with 76.4 percent of fatal drug overdoses in Virginia in

2021 connected to fentanyl.

The National Institute on Drug Abuse website defines fentanyl as a powerful synthetic opioid analgesic that is similar to morphine but is 50 to 100 times more potent. It is a Schedule II prescription drug, and it is typically used to treat patients with severe pain or to manage pain after surgery. It is also sometimes used to treat patients with chronic pain who are physically tolerant to other opioids.

Lucy said that many times, people get addicted by using the drug over long periods of time, although the addiction process looks different for everyone depending on their genetics and personality. In other words, some people are more easily prone to addiction than others.

Lucy advised that in cases where opioids are a prescribed treatment, it is best to get off the drug as soon as possible.

For more information on Horizon Behavioral Health, visit [www.horizonbh.org](http://www.horizonbh.org). To contact the Horizon office in Appomattox, call 434-352-8239.



It's been a year since you passed away, the way we miss you is different now, we hope you know how much you meant to us, we still think about you everyday, we just love and miss you in our own special way.

Email photos, tips and press releases to [news@timesvirginian.com](mailto:news@timesvirginian.com)



## Home Improvement Guide

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## Steps for hanging holiday lights outdoors

It begins to look a lot like Christmas when twinkling lights brighten up homes inside and out. Few things liven up the season more than holiday decorations, particularly clear and colored lights.

Prior to taking out the lights, ladder and thermos of coffee to get you through the job, it's important to note that there are right and wrong ways to hang holiday lights.

- Sketch out your plan. Start by taking a few photos of your home from various vantage points. Print out the photos on regular paper so that you can draw your lighting arrangement and decoration placement right on the photos to see how things will look.
- Measure the area. Use a measuring tape to roughly measure the width and height of eaves or other areas of the home where you plan to hang light strands. Calculate how much overall footage you will need so you can purchase all of the lights in one shopping trip.
- Test the lights first. Plug in the lights to be sure all strands are operational.
- Begin where the lights will be plugged

in. Start where the lights will be plugged in and then work your way around the house.

- Add to shrubs and trees. Lights also can adorn shrubs and trees. Lowes Home Improvement says a good rule of thumb is 100 lights for every 112-foot of tree or shrub to cover. A 6-foot evergreen needs at least 400 lights for a basic level of lighting.
- Exercise extreme caution. Accidents can happen when stringing lights. While many professionals use harnesses, homeowners are not always so cautious. Utilize a spotter to hold the ladder and make sure things are safe. Never set foot on a wet or icy roof. Do not attempt to string lights in inclement weather.
- Know the wattage. Each outlet can generally hold about 17 amps or 1,870 watts if the lights are not sharing a circuit with another outlet, says Parrish. Plan accordingly to ensure you have enough power to handle your lights.
- Use plastic clips. Plastic light clips hang strands along eaves and gables. They're specially designed for hanging lights over the gutters. Some slip under the edges of roof shingles. Lights can



be hung without staples or nails, which can damage exterior surfaces. Plastic zip-ties or deck clips also can attach lights along a handrail.

- Use only outdoor extension cords. Be sure the extension cords you use are designed specifically for outdoor use.
- Use a timer. Timers can make sure the lights turn on and off even if homeowners forget.

Once lights have been safely strung, sit back and enjoy the splendor of a well-decorated house.



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Charles Conrad/Times Virginian  
Abaitababiri, Uganda, Vice-Mayor Daniel Kuteesa speaks to Appomattox Town Council on Nov. 14.

## Vice-mayor from Uganda speaks with town council Seeks American partnerships

CHARLES CONRAD  
Times Virginian

Appomattox Town Council members received a guest from across the Atlantic Ocean at their Nov. 14 meeting as Daniel W.I. Kuteesa, vice-mayor of Abaitababiri, Uganda, spoke for the purpose of establishing partnerships with local governments in the

United States through exchanged visits.

Kuteesa is not a stranger to Appomattox. He has an "adopted" family of sorts in the area, whom he met during a previous missionary trip to the United States. The family resided in another city before moving to Appomattox, and they act as a local host family to Kuteesa.

According to Appomattox Town Manager Terry McGhee, he and Mayor Richard Conner held a meeting with Kuteesa in early October. Kuteesa's goal is to bring upgrades and modernization to Abaitababiri in areas such as sanitation, clean water and education.

See **UGANDA**, Page 12

## Veterans Day ceremony held



Jeffrey Westbrook/Times Virginian

From left, Gen. Scott West, Post 104 1st Vice Cmrd. Bud Allen, Maj. Gen. Daniel York, Post 104 Public Relations Officer Howard Gregory, and Del. John McGuire take a moment for a photo following the Veterans Day Ceremony in Appomattox.

## Gen. York gives speech

JEFFREY WESTBROOK  
Times Virginian

American Legion Post 104 headquarters on Oakleigh Avenue served as the venue for this year's Veterans Day ceremony. While the heavy rains drove the ceremony indoors, it did nothing to diminish the quality and patriotism of the program. The Post and Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 9855, both of Appomattox, co-hosted the event.

This year's keynote speaker was Maj. Gen. Daniel L. York, U.S. Army Reserve (retired). Many of the other events on the program were the familiar but meaningful annual traditions to honor the nation's veterans.



Jeffrey Westbrook/Times Virginian

Gen. York and Donna McCain display the Quilt of Valor that she made for him, following the Veterans Day Ceremony.

See **VETERANS**, Page 7



Contributed

Shown is Appomattox County High School boys varsity basketball coach Trumaine Raschad Kelso Sr.

## Kelso hired as coach for boys basketball

CHARLES CONRAD  
Times Virginian

When Trumaine Raschad Kelso Sr. was a student-athlete at Appomattox County High School (ACHS), he was best known for his achievements in track and field competition. Now, the 2006 graduate of ACHS has returned as the head coach of the boys varsity basketball program.

Kelso replaces Travis

Cottrell, who is still employed at ACHS but resigned from the varsity coaching position following the 2021-22 season.

Kelso currently works in Lynchburg as a health and physical education teacher and the athletic director at Sandusky Middle School. His basketball coaching experience involves six years as the junior varsity head coach at Heritage,

See **COACH**, Page 7

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# Concord VFD attends to wrecks in Appomattox County



Concord Volunteer Fire Department/Contributed

At 5:36 p.m. Sunday, Nov. 13, the Concord Volunteer Fire Department (Company 13) and Concord Rescue Squad were dispatched to a motor vehicle crash on Stonewall Road. Rescue 13 responded with a crew of four. Upon arrival, Rescue 13 found two vehicles that had rear-ended and were blocking one lane of traffic. There were fluids leaking from both vehicles. Multiple patients were checked out and transported to Lynchburg General Hospital with minor and nonlife-threatening injuries. Engine 13-1 and Command 13 responded to control traffic while on scene. Units on scene were Rescue 13, Engine 13-1, Command 13, Squad 4A2, Appomattox County Rescue Squad, Appomattox County Sheriff's Office and Virginia State Police.



Concord Volunteer Fire Department/Contributed

At 12:21 a.m. Wednesday, Nov. 16, the Concord Volunteer Fire Department (Company 13) was dispatched to a motor vehicle crash in the eastbound lanes of Route 460 in Appomattox County. On arrival, 13-36 advised that one vehicle was off the roadway into the woods and all occupants were out of the vehicle. Rescue 13 arrived and set up to block for traffic and light the scene up. There were only minor injuries, and crews cleared after a wrecker got the vehicle. Units on scene were Rescue 13, Engine 13-1, Virginia State Police, Appomattox County Rescue Squad and Appomattox County Sheriff's Office.

## Uganda

Continued from Page 1

Kuteesa said Abaitababiri consists of around 110,000 people, five parishes and 114 villages. Its town council has five members and 33 counselors. The process of development is in the primary stages as poverty is high and meeting basic needs is a challenge. "Economically, most of our people are poor, and I'm talking about 75 percent," Kuteesa said. "So, you have a lot of people who are jobless, who have to depend on what they can

do on a daily (basis) to earn a living."

Kuteesa told the Appomattox Town Council that Abaitababiri, which is located near an international airport, has no garbage truck or modern ways of managing garbage, most homes don't have clean water, and that he wants schools to provide proper education and increase attendance.

Kuteesa is hoping to link up with other cities and municipalities in the United States as well, beginning in 2023, which would benefit both Abaitababiri and the cooperating lo-

cal governments in an exchange of ideas and plans.

"I believe that exchanged visits would enhance a lot of things that Abaitababiri can't move on with at the moment ... to identify areas where we can partner," he said.

"We understand that all of this can begin with a twinning," he added. "If we can twin, and then you visit, we visit ... see how best we can make things happen ... You know today the world is a global village — you need me, I need you. But in some cases, I would be needing you more than you need me.

But again, still, we need a partnership in this case."

Kuteesa's current visit to the United States met a hurdle due to mid-term elections, but he was able to stay with his Appomattox host family and schedule a speaking engagement at the town council meeting.

"As I was coming to this great country this time around ... I happened to have been appointed by the (Abaitababiri) mayor to be his executive and to deputize him. So, he gave me a letter that I was supposed to take into different offices of this nature," he said. "But because you're

busy in the mid-term elections, by the grace of God because I stay with my adopted parents around here, I was able to find the kind adaptation of the mayor and the town manager, and so they gave me this time to be here with you this evening, which I greatly appreciate."

Kuteesa also expressed appreciation for the meeting's opening prayer by James Boyce.

"That is a very good thing to learn that this team here today salutes God and honors God," he said. "I think that it is very important for us to know that

around the world there are some situations where God is out of the equation."

McGhee said the partnership between the Town of Appomattox and Abaitababiri would be a step-by-step process.

Mayor Conner offered a statement of hope to Kuteesa as far as Appomattox is concerned.

"We hope that we can work out the logistics for making any strategic partnership with your town and get you more connections within the states. I think that would be a great benefit to your community and ours," he said.

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