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Henderson murder to be featured on TV program

CHARLES CONRAD
Times Virginian

On the night of April 5, 2018, Appomattox County resident Lisa Simone Henderson was brutally murdered in a wooded area of Concord at age 22, a victim of nine gunshot wounds in what Campbell County Commonwealth's Attorney Paul McAndrews called an "execution"

committed in "cold blood" with no motive given by her killer.

Henderson was slain by her boyfriend, Marquie Brandon Williams, who received a life sentence for his crime with no possibility of parole. Co-defendant Felix Jerome Jefferson III was sentenced to 40 years with 20 years suspended.

The case garnered widespread media coverage at

the time — and now, nearly four year later, will be featured on the national television series "Fatal Attraction" on TV One network.

The episode entitled "Devil In Disguise" will air Monday, Jan. 31, at 9 p.m. It can be found on Direct TV channel 328, Dish Network channel 678, internet broadcast website Philo, and the TV One app that can be downloaded

from Google Play.

The "Devil In Disguise" log line reads: "When a nursing student disappears, suspicion immediately falls on her boyfriend and the other woman in his life; police struggle to pinpoint a suspect until a guilty conscience leads them to her body — and her killer."

Henderson's mother, Sandra, as well as her two brothers and several fam-

ily members and friends, recorded filmed interviews for the episode over two days in July 2021 at the Homewood Suites by Hilton located on Wards Road in Lynchburg. As is the classical standard in documentary-style programming, interview clips will be mixed in with scenes from the story.



Lisa Henderson

See TV, Page 13

Among the best in nation!



Contributed

Members of the Appomattox Sr. FFA Chapter of Appomattox County High School receive an award from the National FFA Organization.

Local FFA Chapter in top 4% with 3 stars

The National FFA Organization recently selected, from a pool of more than 8,817 candidates, the Appomattox Sr. FFA Chapter of Appomattox County High School as a 3-star winner in the National FFA Chapter Award Program.

The chapter members were invited to attend the 94th National FFA Convention in Indianapolis, Indiana. They were rec-

ognized for this prestigious honor at the second general session.

The award program is sponsored by John Deere as a special project of the National FFA Foundation. The National FFA Chapter Award program recognizes FFA chapters for developing and

See FFA, Page 14

Masks in schools are now optional

CHARLES CONRAD
Times Virginian

Virginia Gov. Glenn Youngkin lifted the mask mandate for Virginia's schools shortly after taking office Jan. 15. The executive order went into effect Monday but has reportedly been met with opposition, including lawsuits filed, in a number of school districts.

However, Appomattox County Public Schools announced Friday that its school district will adhere to the Governor's Executive Order No. 2.

"On Monday, masks be-

came optional for students in our school buildings," said Appomattox County Public Schools Superintendent Dr. Annette Bennett. "Students are still required to wear masks on the school buses (Centers for Disease Control and Prevention order) and staff must wear masks as required by the Department of Labor and Industry."

At the Jan. 13 meeting of the Appomattox County School Board, a discussion was held regarding the shortened time period that school students need to quarantine after testing positive for the COVID-19

virus.

On Dec. 27, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) announced its updated guidelines, which make changes to quarantine standards.

Part of that updated reads as follows: "Given what we currently know about COVID-19 and the Omicron variant, CDC is shortening the recommended time for isolation for the public. People with COVID-19 should isolate for five days, and if they are asymptomatic or their symptoms are resolving

See MASKS, Page 7



Charles Conrad/Times Virginian

Members of the 2022 Appomattox County School Board, from left: Jason Wells (Wreck Island District), Vice-Chairman Wyatt Torrence (Appomattox River District), Roger Stough (Falling River District), Gregory Smith (Courthouse District) and Chairman Bobby Waddell (Piney Mountain District).

Contributed

From left are a variety of custom-made ribbons; Simply Southern clothing in stock; and one of jelly sold by Country Charm (far right).



Small Business Spotlight

Country Charm going strong for 30-plus years

COURTNEY MENDENHALL
Times Virginian

Country Charm is a well-known gift shop located on Main Street in Appomattox owned by Beth Turner and her mother Gerri Granato. The 30-plus-year business started under the name the "Ceramic Lady," which was owned by Granato before moving to Appomattox.

Turner, an Alaskan native, said

that she came up with the name for Country Charm from her mother, who also was a military wife.

The gift shop sells an abundance of local items including handmade wreaths and arrangements and unique handcrafted items. Other items include flags, kitchen and home décor, clothing, jewelry, jellies (jams), and the most popular:



See CHARM, Page 7



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Legals

NOTICE OF JUDICIAL SALE OF REAL PROPERTY APPOMATTOX COUNTY, VIRGINIA

On February 28, 2022, or as soon thereafter as papers can be prepared and filed, proceedings will be commenced by the County of Appomattox, Virginia, under the authority of Section 58.1-3965 et seq. of the Code of Virginia, to sell, at a date and time to be announced, the following parcels for payment of delinquent real estate taxes:

- ADDULKHAFID, Uthman 1.36 acres, Lot 11, Section 3, The Settlement; Tax Map ID No. 107-7-11
- GOFF, Timothy J. and GOFF, Michelle L. 3.07 acres, Improved, 200 Denali Lane; Tax Map ID No. 48-3-11
- RICE, Christopher L. and RICE, Stacey M. 1.13 acres, Lot 15, Piney Mountain Subdivision, Improved, 3673 Piney Mountain Road; Tax Map ID No. 40-7-15
- WELLS, Charlie Fonzi, Jr. 1.25 acres, Lot 12, Benjamin Estate Subdivision; Tax Map ID No. 61-10-12

The owner of any property listed above may redeem it at any time before the date of sale by paying all accumulated taxes, penalties, interest, and costs thereon, including reasonable attorney's fees set by the Court and the pro-rata costs of publication. The owner shall contact Sands Anderson PC at P.O. Box 907, Fredericksburg, Virginia 22404-0907, or at (800) 664-5699, for redemption amounts. Partial payment of delinquent taxes, penalties, interest, reasonable attorneys' fees, or costs shall not be sufficient to redeem the property, and shall not operate to suspend, invalidate or make moot any action for judicial sale.

NOTE: This Notice of Judicial Sale of Real Property is not an advertisement for a public auction. To receive notice of the public auction by mail or electronically, please send a written request to Sands Anderson PC at P.O. Box 907, Fredericksburg, VA 22404-0907.

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TV

Continued from Page 1

Sandra isn't sure who else may have met with the Fatal Attraction crew (about a half-dozen people whom she described as "very nice") and hasn't yet seen the final production. She said the camera lights were warm, but the crew was very helpful in applying makeup, serving refreshments and providing comfort.

Although the story is worth telling to a larger audience, the filming process for her was a bit nerve-wracking and emotional.

"They asked some questions about how I felt and, 'How do you think she felt?' and that kind of messed me up a little bit; I started crying ... They said some of the questions might be kind of hard, like, 'If you seen him today, what would you do?' There's some feelings that came back," she said.

Portraying Lisa is a young actress named Bre'Ana Nix, who according to her IMDB.com profile page has appeared in five prior film productions. Sandra has never met Nix personally, but said that her cousin knows a friend of Nix.

Although Sandra had seen Fatal Attraction episodes in the past when she lived in North Carolina, she initially thought the cell phone and email messages from show staff were spam until she was informed otherwise by an individual known to her boyfriend.

Now that the tragic story of her only daughter is about to be seen on television, Sandra feels understandably apprehensive about having to see a reenactment of the murder — in whatever form that might take on the show.

"I didn't think about it at first, but now as the day comes closer, and I just realized — I sat in my car during (work) break, and I realized that I'm gonna have to maybe watch my daughter get killed, see how she got killed, and I had never thought about that. I've only thought about it when I visualized it, her laying on the ground and stuff, but I'm actually gonna watch it, and I don't know if I can take it," she said.

Sandra went as far as taking the week off from her job to give herself time to work through any trauma she might experience. After all, Lisa's death still feels raw in her mind — and she still asks the question of "why" Lisa's then-boyfriend took her life.

"I'm still going through this; I still have my good days, and I still have my bad days," she said. "I'll just be driving, and all of a sudden I'll just be crying. I don't cry as much as I used to, but it still hurts, and I still wonder why, why? I've been saying this and saying that I feel like (Williams) could have done something else, could have walked away, could have done something. (He) didn't have to do that."

"I think I can get her story out there, and I think maybe it can bring me some closure because I'm not letting her go," Sandra added. "I can't let her go — just the way it happened, and she didn't deserve that; she didn't to deserve to die like that. If (Williams) hated her so much, he should have stayed away from her. What would put so much hate in his heart like that? And when he loved her — he said he loved her — that's why I say he wasn't nothing but a devil in disguise."

While Sandra still believes many people are good-hearted, the killing of her daughter has erased whatever naivety she might have otherwise held about humanity as a whole.

"I didn't think people were crazy, but now I really know," she said. "I always try to keep the best thought of people, try to look at the good in people, but people are crazy. It's the devil's world, too — I mean, they got 'em all out there."

As painful as it might be for her and her family and friends to view, Sandra hopes the episode featuring Lisa will serve as a warning to other girls who see bad signs in a relationship.

"I feel like she had some signs — there were probably things going on she never told me about," she said. "I'm hoping some girl like that can see that. If (a man is) violent and you're halfway scared of him, you gotta leave him. You've got to tell somebody — get the authorities or get your parents — get somebody involved and just leave him. Put a restraining order out there on him — everything — you've got to do it. Once they show you their bad side, no, you can't be around them — you can't be around people like that."

County

Continued from Page 3

be discussed in the March meeting. The Budget Work Session calendar revealed conflicts with Tuesdays in February, March and April; therefore, the dates were changed to consecutive Wednesdays of those months on Feb. 9, March 9 and April 13.

The next Appomattox County Board of Supervisors meeting will be at 6:30 p.m. Tuesday, Feb. 22.

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Evans and wife plead guilty

In election fraud case

CHARLES CONRAD
Times Virginian

Alvin Russell "AR" Evans Jr., 40, and Brandy Michelle Evans, 42, pleaded guilty Thursday in Appomattox County Circuit Court to charges related to election misconduct in

2021 when Alvin Evans was running for the Courthouse District seat on the Appomattox County Board of Supervisors.

Alvin Evans pleaded guilty to two counts of forgery. Brandy Evans pleaded guilty to 12 counts of perjury: falsely swear-

ing an oath.

All charges are classified as felonies. However, Circuit Court Judge Andy Nelson deferred final ruling on the cases until Jan. 15, 2024. Both defendants must abide by certain court-ordered mandates for the duration of the 18-month

deferment period.

Those mandates include spending one weekend in jail, supervised probation, remaining on good behavior, and writing a letter of apology to each victim and submitting a copy of each letter to the court.

If the defendants abide by all terms, the charges will be reduced to misdemeanors. Brandy Evans' charges would be reduced

to disorderly conduct. Alvin Evans' charges would be reduced to maliciously affixing a signature of another to a writing. Both would be required to pay a \$200 fine for each conviction, leaving Brandy Evans with a \$2,400 fine and Alvin Evans with a \$400 fine.

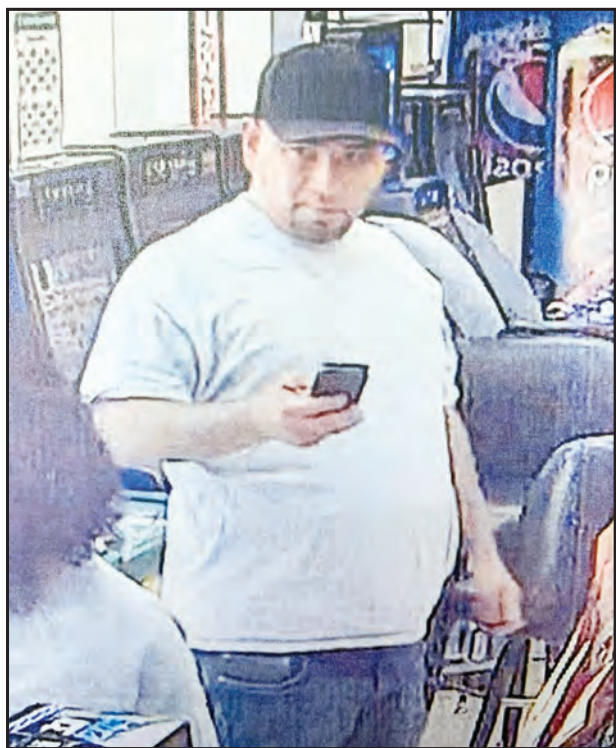
Henry County Commonwealth's Attorney Andrew

See EVANS, Page 7

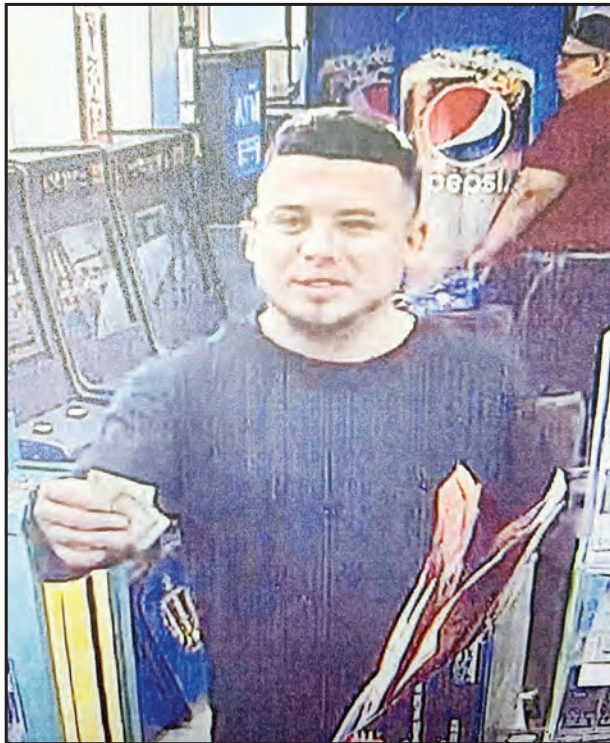
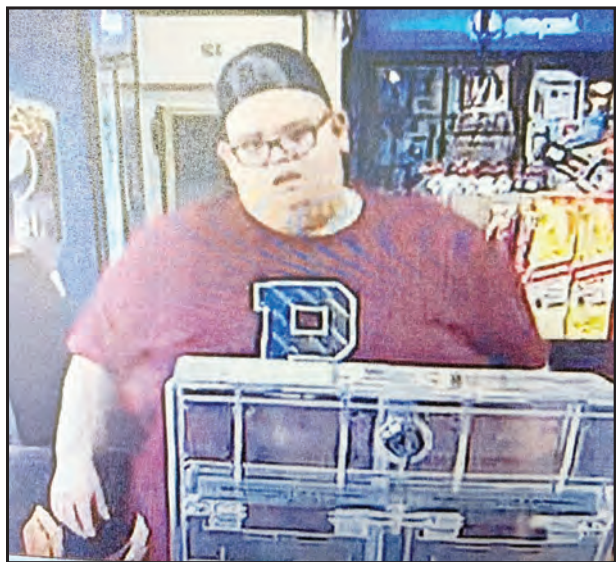


Alvin "AR" Evans Jr.

Have you seen these men?



Appomattox County Sheriff's Office/Contributed
Pictured are four males who are wanted for questioning in connection with larceny at the Express Lane on U.S. Route 460 West in Appomattox.



Ex-Pamplin mayor Horton pleads guilty to embezzlement

CHARLES CONRAD
Times Virginian

Thursday in Appomattox County Circuit Court, former Pamplin Mayor William R. Horton, 49, pleaded guilty to one felony count of embezzlement of public funds.

Horton was accused of using \$858.86 on the Town of Pamplin's credit card for personal purchases from July to December 2016.

Horton was given a five-year suspended sentence and must repay the amount that was embezzled.

The missing funds were discovered during the investigation of Paulie W. Johnson, former Pamplin treasurer, who in July 2021 pleaded guilty to four counts of embezzling public funds and was later sentenced to 20 years of suspended time and restitution of \$31,259.27.

The audit of Pamplin's town books was initiated in preparation for work



William R. Horton

that needed to be done in the town. According to evidence summarized in court, Horton had contacted Virginia State Police in regard to missing funds that led to Johnson's arrest.

While making a statement to the court, Horton offered an apology, saying, "I deeply regret what happened. I just want to take care of my responsibility and move on."

Horton must abide by five years good behavior and two years supervised probation.

Four men wanted in local theft of cash from gaming machines

CHARLES CONRAD
Times Virginian

The Appomattox County Sheriff's Office is asking for the public's assistance in identifying or providing information about four males who are wanted for questioning in regard to a larceny at a local convenience store.

On Saturday, Aug. 13, at approximately 9:30 p.m., an undisclosed amount of cash was stolen from gaming machines at the Express Lane on U.S. Route 460 West in Appomattox.

Appomattox County Sheriff Donald Simpson said the men opened the locks and stole cash while the attending clerk was busy working before

leaving the scene in a Chrysler minivan that had Florida license plates.

Similar activity has been reported at other locations in the Lynchburg and Roanoke areas, and the four men are suspects in those cases as well.

Anyone with information about this case may call the Appomattox County Sheriff's Office at 434-352-8241.

LED streetlights to be installed

CHARLES CONRAD
Times Virginian

Appomattox Town Council approved a project that will replace existing streetlights in the town with LED lighting. The total cost of the project is limited to not more than \$36,000.

Appomattox Town Manager R. Terry McGhee said 242 streetlights in a mix-

ture of private residential and public settings are included in the project, and the first 50 are set to be replaced as soon as they are ordered.

The switch to LED lighting should save the town around \$600 per month on its electric bill, according to McGhee.

See LED, Page 7

ACHS offers CTE courses for career/life skills

CHARLES CONRAD
Times Virginian

During a recent meeting of the Appomattox County School Board, the Appomattox County High School (ACHS) highlighted its Career and Technical Education (CTE) program with video to promote the various courses.

The video featured interviews with ACHS students who were enrolled in CTE courses during the 2021-22 school year, remarking on



Contributed

At left, Cayden Branham works on a vehicle in Auto Tech class. At right, Dameer Mosley is welding in an Agriculture Fabricating class.



See CTE, Page 11

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OBITUARIES

Earl Thomas Pickett

Earl Thomas Pickett, 86, of Pamplin, passed away on Friday, August 19, 2022, at Lynchburg General Hospital. He was the husband of the late Barbara Louise Pickett.

Born in Carroll County, Maryland, on February 17, 1936, he was the son of the late Dillon Eyer Pickett and Francis Irene Tucker Pickett. He was a member of Pamplin United Methodist Church. Earl graduated from the University of Maryland. He retired from the City of Lynchburg where he worked as a Horticulturist.

He is survived by a son, Todd D. Pickett and wife, Diann of Pamplin; a daughter-in-law, Beth B. Pickett of Farmville; four grandchildren, Danielle

L. Jennings and husband, Joshua, Kate P. Irving and husband, Josh, Taylor P. Emerson and husband, Matthew, and Gabrielle Pickett; eight great-grandchildren, Jack, Madelyn, Addie, Michael, Matthew, Mason, Theo, and Lizzie; brother, Dillon Pickett and wife, Bonnie; and a sister-in-law, Joyce Hartley all of Baltimore, Maryland.

He was preceded in death by a son, Jonathan Lee Pickett.

A graveside service was held at 2 p.m. Tuesday, August 23, 2022, at Evergreen Cemetery with Rev. Michael Day officiating.

The family will receive friends at the home of his son and daughter-in-law, Todd and Diann Pickett.

In lieu of flowers please consider making donations



Earl Thomas Pickett

to Pamplin Volunteer Fire Department, PO Box 1099, Pamplin, Va. 23958, or St. Jude Children's Research Hospital, 501 St. Jude Place, Memphis, Tenn. 38105.

Robinson Funeral Home and Crematory is serving the family. An online condolence may be sent by visiting www.robinsfuneral.com.

Summer Danae Batton Selz

Summer Danae Batton Selz, 36, of Spout Spring, passed away on August 18, 2022, at Lynchburg General Hospital. She was the wife of Neil Adrian Selz.

Born in Blacksburg, on January 23, 1986, she was the daughter of Harold "Chip" Batton and Rebecca Tyler Batton.

In addition to her husband and parents, she is survived by two brothers, Brad Batton and wife, Rebecca of Richmond, and Race Batton and wife, Maddie of Greensboro, NC; one sister, Kendall Batton of Greensboro, NC; and nieces and nephews.

A graveside service will

be held at 10 a.m. Thursday, August 25, 2022, at Evergreen Cemetery with Dr. Rev. Chris King officiating.

Robinson Funeral Home and Cremation Service is serving the family. An online condolence may be sent by visiting www.robinsfuneral.com.

LED

Continued from Page 1

The existing lights are gas-filled, consisting of either High Pressure Sodium (HPS) or Mercury Vapor (MV), similar to fluorescent. Most of the lights to be replaced are located on the north side of town, as McGhee stated to the Times Virginian.

An advantage of the LED lights is that they are directional, which will make life a little easier for affected residents.

"The ability that we have, when you order them, is to order basically (specific to

the area ... the lights that we have now are referred to as area lights, and the only way for you not to see those lights shining in your windows is to close the blinds or for them to put deflectors on it. These lights have five lighting patterns; we can match them very closely to what the particular need is," McGhee told the council.

The lights will be installed and leveled by Dominion Energy, which will install 50 lights at a time. McGhee said the first areas to receive LED lighting will be decided per communication with Dominion Energy within the next few weeks, and the project is estimated to take around six months to complete.

For information about placing an obituary, contact the Times Virginian at: accounts@timesvirginian.com.

4-H

Continued from Page 4

a great time in the kitchen.

Youth who participated previously gained the confidence to even prepare the recipe again at home on their own.

These youth learn a valuable life skill that will benefit them (and others) the rest of their lives.

A commonality today is that both parents are working, and there is little time to prepare a nice home-cooked meal.

Cooking is becoming a lost art. So, if you would like your child to build fond memories, create fun dishes and make friends, this club is for them!

Please give the Extension Office a call at 434-352-8244 to sign them up.



Contributed

Participants in the 4-H Fun with Foods after-school cooking class work on preparing their Homemade Cinnamon Rolls.

School

Continued from Page 3

determine when the word had been written. In an abundance of caution, the building was cleared, and Virginia State Police came with K-9 dogs pronouncing the situation safe. Children had been evacuated to the

athletic field and fed lunch outside.

- Extreme temperatures caused some problems, and school maintenance personnel worked overtime at the middle school to repair and update the HVAC system.

- The cell phone policy response has been well-accepted by parents and students alike. There were

no problems with cell phone use at the middle school, and there were 15 cell phones taken in four days at the high school. All but two parents were helpful and came to pick up the phones.

- There were some minor transportation issues on the first day of school, but no serious problems. One

of the very few benefits of the COVID-19 pandemic is what Bennett described as a COVID-keeper: To cut down on chaos at the beginning and end of each school day, administrators set students up to arrive and leave alphabetically, so there were not large crowds of students trying to figure out what bus to take and when.

Evans

Continued from Page 1

Nester was appointed as the prosecutor for this case by the Appomattox Circuit Court.

Nester did not read the prosecution's case report aloud in court but handed it to Judge Nelson to read silently. However, Nester provided information to the Times Virginian upon request.

According to details written in the report, Appomattox County Commonwealth's Attorney Les Fleet was informed by 14 county residents that their names were signed fraudulently to election petitions. Fleet, an elected public official, asked Nester to handle the case in order to maintain the case's integrity.

An ensuing investigation by Virginia State Police revealed that 18 petitions were filed for Alvin Evans Jr. at the Appomattox County Registrar's Office — Brandy Evans circulated 15 and Alvin Evans circulated three.

Upon further investigation, however, it was discovered that 17 signatures had been forged on eight of the 15 petitions, and that those witnesses were able to attest they had never signed their names to a petition to support Evan's candidacy.

Likewise, as the report states, four witnesses on three of the 15 petitions signed a petition, but the

signatures obtained from the registrar were forged.

"These witnesses stated they signed the petition towards the end of June, likely after the originals were filed," the report states.

Two individuals refused to sign a petition when Brandy Evans came to their home in late June 2021. Alvin Evans had already turned in the petitions and other necessary documents to the registrar's office on the November ballot signature deadline of June 8, 2021.

Eleven witnesses on five of the 15 petitions said their signatures are valid but Brandy Evans was not present when the petitions were signed.

Several forgery victims did not know Alvin Evans, and one attested to not being home on the date her name was signed. One of the victims was incarcerated when his name was forged. Several victim's names were spelled incorrectly. One address was misstated. Several others were signed by someone other than themselves in the household. Others said they had refused to sign a petition.

The report says that many signatures on various petitions appeared to be written in similar handwriting.

Three consecutive petition signers from two different residences on the same street had misspelled the name of the street.

One witness said Alvin

Evans had left a residence knowing that only one person signed names for themselves and two other residents at the same address. This led to the two charges against Alvin Evans.

The report explains the charges against Brandy Evans: "On June 7, 2021, Brandy Evans presented 12 of the 15 petitions endorsed by her to Christian P. Raymond to sign as a notary. The following day, Mrs. Evans presented the remaining three petitions to Mr. Raymond for notarization. On each of the respective days, Mr. Raymond signed that Mrs. Evans swore to the attestation clause that, among other affirmation, that she personally witnessed the signatures of the people that signed the form. Because she clearly did not do this and swore saying she did, this gives rise to the 12 charges of perjury against Mrs. Evans."

Raymond is chairman of the Appomattox County Republican Committee, and claims, according to the report, that he suggested potential attorneys for Alvin and Brandy Evans but did not give them specific legal counsel. However, the report states that Rick Boyer, the attorney for Alvin Evans, said that Raymond contacted him and was asked to represent Evans.

Nester said that Raymond is not currently facing any charges.

"Mr. Boyer stated no retainer fee had been paid and

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Girl who saved family from fire given National Youth Hero Award

CHARLES CONRAD
Times Virginian

Appomattox County resident Alaysia Canada, 12, was honored by the American Legion Auxiliary with the National Youth Hero Award at the American Legion Post 16 in Lynchburg on Thursday night, Dec. 15.

Canada helped to save three members of her family, including her mother Chantae and three sisters, by alerting them of a fire in their home on Stonewall Road in the early morning of Oct. 17.

Since that time, Canada

has been honored by the Appomattox Volunteer Fire Department and traveled to Los Angeles to appear on a television episode of the nationally broadcast The Jennifer Hudson Show. The family has received community support and donations through sources such as the Appomattox Community and Disaster Relief Organization.

Bonnie Burley Crews, former president of the American Legion Auxiliary in Virginia, presented Canada with her award and said it had been "a while" since Post 16 has been able to participate in this par-

ticular ceremony.

"We want to thank you for your efforts and making a difference in your community," Crews said. "This award was created in 2012 by one of the American Legion Auxiliary committees — the National Children and Youth Committee. The committee created the award to recognize young girls and boys like yourself who demonstrate a kind, caring act of selflessness. We use these opportunities and awards to show your deed as an example to your friends, classmates and

See **AWARD**, Page 6



Charles Conrad / Times Virginian
Appomattox County resident Alaysia Canada received the National Youth Hero Award, a medal and Walmart gift card from Bonnie Burley Crews, former president of the American Legion Auxiliary of Virginia on Thursday night at the American Legion Post 16 in Lynchburg.

Concord man dies from gunshot on Christmas Eve

A man died from a gunshot wound on Christmas Eve in the Concord area of Appomattox County, according to the Appomattox County Sheriff's Office.

At approximately 10:45 a.m. Saturday, Dec. 24, deputies from the Appomattox County Sheriff's Office responded to a report of an indi-

vidual being shot at a private residence on Moore Drive in the Concord area of Appomattox County.

Upon arrival, deputies and rescue personnel found Jimmy Edwards Adams Jr., 47, suffering from a gunshot wound. Despite the best efforts of first responders, Adams succumbed to his wounds

at the scene.

Upon investigation, deputies arrested Dylan J. Mansell, 22, for voluntary manslaughter and unlawful discharge of a firearm in an occupied dwelling.

Both Adams and Moore lived at this residence.

See **SHOT**, Page 5



Mansell

Emergency crews busy on holiday weekend

STAFF REPORT

Local emergency crews were kept busy over the Christmas weekend and the surrounding days as high winds and single-digit temperatures struck Appomattox County, in addition to several fires, motor vehicle accidents and other incidents.

The Appomattox Volunteer Fire Department (AVFD) stated that units provided light resources for Dominion Energy crews while they worked to restore electrical power outages on Christmas Eve.

The Concord Volunteer Fire Department (CVFD)

stated that on Dec. 23, Company 13 ran a total of seven calls due to the wind. Six of these calls were for trees and/or power lines down. Crews either removed the trees or set up cones to keep traffic out until the power company could arrive. The seventh call was for a fire alarm activation caused by a power going out. Units arrived on scene and found no fire or smoke in the residence before clearing.

In other incidents, CVFD responded at 4:24 p.m. Christmas Day to a gas leak at Concord Elementary School. Engines 13-1

See **BUSY**, Page 6



Above by CVFD; below by AVFD/Contributed
Above, Concord Volunteer Fire Department responds to a Christmas Day motor vehicle accident on Oxford Furnace Road. Below, Appomattox Volunteer Fire Department provides light for Dominion Energy crews restoring power outages on Christmas Eve.



More than one winner!



Maria Masselli/Contributed

Appomattox Community turns out in large numbers to help raise money for a good cause and support beloved wrestlers.

Bruiser for Wrestling held to support Relay for Life

WILLIAM MASSELLI
Times Virginian

The Bruiser Wrestling Federation's (BWF) Bruiser for Wrestling event had more than one winner, as Appomattox Relay for Life, a nonprofit organization that funds cancer research, benefited greatly from the event's proceeds.

"We are trying to bring the community together and provide something fun to do on a Saturday night while raising money for a wonderful cause," stated BWF Front of House Manager Hayley Moiczek.

On Saturday, Dec. 17, Relay for Life and BWF worked together to host this event at the Appomattox Moose Lodge to raise money for cancer, provide entertainment to the people of Appomattox, and help BWF fulfill its overall mission.

BWF, a family run business, tries to raise as much money as possible for Relay for Life, an organization that donates to the American Cancer Society, because Relay for Life's mission is important to everyone at BWF.

See **WRESTLING**, Page 6



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Award

Continued from Page 1

family to do selfless acts for others every day.” Before handing Canada her National Youth Hero Award certificate, a medal, and a Walmart gift card, Crews discussed the heroic and harrowing night with Canada during Post 16’s annual Christmas dinner, which was well-attended. Canada explained that on the night of the fire, she smelled an odor and thought hot dogs were cooking in the kitchen — but that was not the case. “It was just dark in there; there was no power,” Canada said. “So, I walked into the living room, then I looked out the window. There was only orange flames. So, when I looked out and I saw the entire shed and garage was on fire — so I tried to turn the

lights on and none of them turned on. So, when I noticed that it was coming through Angela’s and Tiana’s bedroom windows and the top of the ceiling where Tiana would normally sleep because her bed is really high up — so, I started screaming so they could get up and Tiana could get out of that bed. But then I noticed she was actually sleeping on the couch that night. So, I slung open the door, threw her outside and waited for the next direction.” Canada handed her sister Olivia to Angela so she could continue helping, but she could not get back inside because the roof collapsed. The family lost much of their personal possessions, and the home was a total loss, but everyone escaped safely. The family’s first instinct was to call their grandmother, who lives nearby

and is an Army veteran. “When we were going down the road, we actually called granny first. We thought she was gonna bring a bucket and put this fire out,” Canada said lightheartedly while attendees laughed. They weren’t able to reach their grandmother, however, so they called 9-1-1. The fire department showed up within minutes. According to reports, it is believed the fire began outside or in the shed. After receiving her recognition and gifts, Canada stated, “I just wanted to say, (to) everybody who brought all these delicious meals, I just wanna say ‘thank you’ because that was really, really good.” Canada and her family are currently residing with her grandmother in the Stonewall area while they search for permanent housing.

Busy

Continued from Page 1

left the scene of a motor vehicle crash to respond to the school, and Engine 13-2 responded from the station. Both engines arrived on scene at the same time and advised that there was a confirmed propane leak. Crews gained access to the propane tanks and shut off the leak. Once the leak was contained and all other tanks were checked, the propane tanks were re-secured before clearing the scene. Engine 13 had left the scene of a single-vehicle crash on Oxford Furnace Road. The vehicle rolled multiple times before landing upright in the roadway. Both occupants were able to get out of the vehicle on their own. One patient was transported with non-life threatening injuries. Res-

cue 13 and Engine 13-1 responded and shut down the road on each side of the vehicle. Company 13, Squad 4, and Medic 8-6 responded. On Friday, Dec. 23, CVFD was dispatched for a chimney fire at 12:38 p.m. Engine 13-2 responded with Engine 5 and threw a ladder to the top of the chimney upon arrival. Crews used chimney bombs and an extinguisher to put out the fire in the chimney. There was no extension beyond the chimney. Also on Friday, at 3:50 p.m., CVFD, Altavista Volunteer Fire Department (Company 10), Brookneal Volunteer Fire Department (Company 11), EMS 8-6 and Medic 8-2 were dispatched for reports of two people who fell into the Staunton River in Altavista and on the shore. Company 10 disregarded 11 and 13

when they had members with both men safe and out of the water. On Thursday, Dec. 22, AVFD crews arrived on the scene of a motor vehicle crash on Pumping Station Road in the area of Spring Drive. The road was closed to thru traffic due to downed power lines. Also on Thursday, at 12:59 p.m., CVFD, Rustburg Volunteer Fire Department (Company 16), Squad 4 and Medic 8-4 were dispatched to a single vehicle that overturned with entrapment on U.S. Route 460 at Oxford Furnace Road. Medic 8-4 arrived on scene and found one vehicle on its side in the woods with both occupants out of the vehicle with no injuries. With no entrapment, Company 16 was disregarded. Rescue 13 arrived and set up a buffer zone behind the medic unit and began to control traffic.

Wrestling

Continued from Page 1

“We have lost a lot of family members to cancer, so supporting the American Cancer Society is very near and dear to us,” Moiczek said. BWF puts on this annual show to demonstrate the organization’s dedication to fundraising for cancer research. The event provided entertainment for the large Appomattox crowd. “What I do know is that we had a great turnout, even needing to add more seats to the venue before the show began,” stated Brandon Moiczek, Hayley Moiczek’s husband. The event featured a high level of involvement from the crowd, especially the kids. “Our performers try to keep the atmosphere very high energy and fun for folks of all ages to watch,” said Hayley Moiczek. BWF’s event featured big named wrestlers from dif-

ferent cities and states. “To me, this is all about giving everyone an evening worth their money and hopefully sending people home waiting to see the next BWF event,” stated BWF Heavy Weight Champion Bill Bain. BWF’s event experienced a change in atmosphere as the night went on. The crowd cheered heavily for fan favorites and booed the favorites’ competitor. One thing remained the same all night, which was the crowd’s high level of engagement in the event. “This show in particular always has an engaged crowd, which we both commend and appreciate greatly,” Brandon Moiczek said. Brandon Moiczek enjoyed participating in this event because he realized he was making a difference by entertaining the community. “These events are also a great way to support local communities by presenting an entertaining outlet and past-time,” said Brandon Moiczek.

BWF’s event gave Appomattox wrestlers and wrestlers from outside the area a chance to pursue and live their dream. “As a wrestler that is living his dream, I look forward to any events that BWF has whether in Appomattox, Pamplin, Farmville or anywhere in the area,” Bain said. These wrestlers put a lot of hard work into making this event a reality for the Appomattox Community. “We grew up as fans of the sport, and we want to show others what makes it so special to us,” Brandon Moiczek said. BWF and its wrestlers love bringing support and awareness to nonprofit organizations in the Appomattox community. “We benefit nonprofit organizations such as Relay for Life, bringing awareness and support to those that need it,” Brandon Moiczek added. If interested in learning more about BWF, contact Hayley Moiczek at hayley-no@gmail.com.



Maria Masselli/Contributed
Appomattox Community turns out in large numbers to help raise money for a good cause and support beloved wrestlers.

Board

Continued from Page 3

said she planned to arrange a meeting between school board officials and board of supervisors for January. An organizational meet-

ing of the board of supervisors was set for Tuesday, Jan. 3, at 6 p.m. The only business to be conducted during this meeting will be the election of the chair, vice chair and board clerk; adoption of the bylaws and rules of procedure; and setting of

meeting dates, times and locations. During the Nov. 21 meeting, the revised tax and fees ordinance, including the new farm placard legislation, was discussed. A public hearing on this will be held Tuesday, Jan. 17, at 6 p.m.

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