Lynchburg News Inside

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Five arrested for burglarizing construction company storage area

PRESS RELEASE

On Tuesday, Oct. 17, investigators from the Appomattox County Sheriff's Office arrested the following individuals for felony breaking and entering and felony grand larceny.

- Harry William Hendricks III, age 20, of Lynchburg
- Tracy Gayle Hendricks, age 53, of Lynchburg
- James Daniel Hayes, age 47, of Appomattox
- Keane David Rioseco, age 38, of Evington

These individuals were caught burglarizing the storage area of a construction company located in the Town of Appomattox during the daylight hours Tuesday, Oct. 16.

More than $10,000 of stolen property was recovered pursuant to the arrest of these individuals.

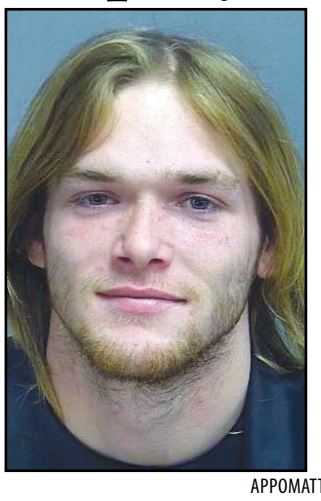
In addition to the individuals named above, Jamie Patria, age 33, of Appomattox, was arrested for conspiracy to commit burglary and conspiracy to commit grand larceny with the assistance of the Campbell County Sheriff's Office in relation to this case.

The above individuals are being held in the Blue Ridge Regional Jail awaiting trial.

Anyone with information regarding the criminal activity of these individuals in Appomattox County is encouraged to call 434-352-8241.

Note: The press release did not name the construction company affected by the crimes.

James Daniel Hayes



William Hendricks III

Tracy Gayle Hendricks

APPOMATTOX COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE/CONTRIBUTED

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ARRESTED

KEITH HARVEY IS NEW SITE DIRECTOR AT ACWM-APPOMATTOX

CHARLES CONRAD/TIMES VIRGINIAN

Keith Harvey, new site director of the American Civil War Museum in Appomattox, stands in front of the log cabin at the site.

By CHARLES CONRAD
STAFF REPORTER/TIMES VIRGINIAN

Keith Harvey's love of Civil War history dates back to his childhood, and his dream of working at a Civil War museum has come true as he was recently named site director of the American Civil War Museum (ACWM) in Appomattox.

Actually, Harvey's first experience working at a museum that includes Civil War history in its exhibits was the Lynchburg Museum, where he worked most recently as a Museum Experience Leader prior to getting the job in Appomattox. His first gig after graduating from Randolph College in 2022 was doing one season of Living History programs at the Appomattox Court House National Historical Park.

Harvey, who graduated from Rustburg High School in 2017, credits his family for planting the seeds of his career ambition.

"I've got family who worked in museums," he said. "My parents and grandparents were very interested in history, and my grandmother actually took me the (Appomattox Court House National Historical Park) here down the road multiple times a week when I was a kid. I fell in love with Civil War history from a very early age, and ultimately that translated into my adulthood, wanting to go to school for museum studies. I wanted to work in a museum, specifically a Civil War museum."

Harvey's two favorite Civil War characters also have a family connection — Confederate General Jubal Anderson Earley and Union General David Hunter, who led troops in the Lynchburg Campaign, and whom he described as "fascinating characters to study."

"As a historian, I've studied the Lynchburg Campaign primarily, which takes place in the summer of 1864," he said. "During this campaign, Union cavalry raiders actually rode past my family farm in the Rustburg area."

At Randolph College, Harvey majored in Museum and Heritage Studies and took part in several internships.

Harvey succeeds former ACWM-Appomattox Site Director Bob Sayer, who is now the director of retail for all three ACWM sites, one in Appomattox and two in Richmond (Historic Tredegar and the White House of the Confederacy).

Three primary things that Harvey enjoys about working at the Appomattox site are its historical significance, its collection of artifacts, and his co-workers.

"There's several things that I really love about this site," he said. "One is just the history of the location where the museum itself is built. It's actually here on this hilltop where the museum is positioned that Union troops deployed in line of battle on the morning of April 9, 1865, ultimately participating in the Battle of Appomattox Court House, which leads to (General) Lee's surrender here at Appomattox. So, the battle itself was literally fought on this ground where the museum sits."

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ACHS launches new unmanned drone pilot course and club

PRESS RELEASE

The next time you visit Appomattox County High School (ACHS), listen closely, and you might hear the buzzing sound of drones flying in the hallways and around campus. The Unmanned Aircraft Systems (drone) course at ACHS has officially launched for students.

For many, drone technology is used for entertainment and recreation. Over the last several years, recreational drones for kids and adults alike have increased in capability and availability. Many students at ACHS signed up for the drone course because of their interest in the recreational use of drones.

Junior Damonye Bradshaw shared why he decided to register for the course, stating, "I've always liked drones and want to get better with them. I've flown a lot of drones, and they would often crash or fly into a tree. I want to improve, and I aspire to fly high-quality drones."

Kelsey Hamby, the ACHS drone teacher, hopes that her students will learn to enjoy the recreational aspect of drones, but more importantly, understand how they can use drones in their future careers.

APPOMATTOX COUNTY HIGH SCHOOL/CONTRIBUTED

Appomattox County High School drone instructor Kelsey Hamby teaches a lesson on the basics of drone flight.

Currently, students are actively learning the FAA laws and regulations for drone operations in the United States. They are exploring careers that currently utilize drones and considering how future companies might employ drone technology to enhance their business operations.

Hamby explained how drones can be used for various purposes, including lighting the night sky with light shows (instead of fireworks) which creates a less stressful event for pets and people sensitive to noise, and assisting in emergency management. Electrical companies are using drone technology to locate damage to power systems, land surveyors are utilizing drone technology to map challenging terrains, and real estate agents are employing drones to capture images of land and properties for marketing and sales. The possibilities are endless.

Junior Noah Will plans to enlist in the Army after high school and emphasized the importance of drone technology for military use.

"Jobs that used to take days to complete can now be done in hours, and in many situations, using a drone is less risky to human life," Will said.

After completing the course, students will be eligible to sit for the FAA Part 107 Remote Pilot Certificate. Will hopes that this pilot license will enable him to become a drone pilot in the military.

Students don't merely sit and learn; they are actively flying drones, navigating obstacles, learning about the components of drones, re-

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Domestic violence candlelight vigil held in Appomattox

"You're not supposed to see your mom get hit…"

CHARLES CONRAD/TIMES VIRGINIAN

Pictured are some of the attendees and guests at the Oct. 17 domestic violence candlelight vigil outside the Historic Appomattox Courthouse.

By CHARLES CONRAD
STAFF REPORTER/TIMES VIRGINIAN

Victims of domestic violence were remembered at a public candlelight vigil outside of the Historic Appomattox Courthouse on Tuesday, Oct. 17. The annual event commemorates Domestic Violence Awareness Month and is held in partnership with the Appomattox Victim-Witness Program.

Lieutenant Brandon Clark of the Appomattox County Sheriff's Office opened the late afternoon vigil with prayer, followed with a song by Jordan Baptist Church Deacon Stanley Baker, speeches by guest speakers Amy McIvor and Justin Rothgeb, a moment of silence, and a ceremonial lighting of attendees' candles by Pam Self, the new YWCA Central Virginia community advocate for Appomattox.

Prior to singing a version of Bill and Gloria Gaither's "Someone To Care," Baker emphasized the presence of God for those who are experiencing domestic violence and abuse.

"I have daughters, I have granddaughters, and grandsons and sons, and I pray that there will never be abuse in their life," Baker said. "But if there is, I want them to know that there's a God that's looking down and if there's no one else to turn to, you can always call on Jesus."

McIvor, the domestic violence manager at YWCA Central Virginia, was introduced before Baker's song and explained the program's functions, which include a domestic violence safe house in Lynchburg, and one coming soon to Altavista, that are open 24 hours a day, seven days a week where life necessities are provided.

The YWCA Central Virginia domestic

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