Lynchburg News Inside

TIMES VIRGINIAN

Award Winning Newspaper

TimesVirginian.com

Lynchburg News

© Womack Publishing Company 2023

Vol. 132, No. 18 | Appomattox, Virginia | Wednesday, May 3, 2023 | $2.50

Raiders Expand Art Club holds its first-ever art show at AMS

CHARLES CONRAD
Staff Writer

The Raiders Expand Art Club, an after-school club at Appomattox Middle School (AMS), held its first-ever public art show on Tuesday, April 25, from 5 to 7 p.m. The art gallery was filled with visitors who were there to see the collections of art that were created by the club's members.

Many forms of art were shown among the approximately 120 pieces on display, such as paintings, drawings, abstract art, happy themes, nature themes, dark themes, realistic art, anime, and more.

Third-year AMS art teacher Kelli Seagle, who founded the art club and coordinated the event, was pleased with the public turnout, which surpassed her expectations. She wanted to reward her art club students by showing the results of their hard work to the community.

"I have been pretty much into art my whole life and I've always been part of different, various art gallery shows," she said. "And the students have really deserved something like this; they've worked hard all year and I just wanted to put on something that they could really show off what they've done."

"I am excited. They have really, really shown off this year. It's some of the best work that I've seen and I'm just really excited about what they've produced," she added.

Seagle believes in allowing art students a large degree of free expression that will hopefully benefit them emotionally as well as artistically.

"They need an outlet," she said. "Kids in this age are experiencing all sorts of things. The world is not an easy place to be in right now and they need an outlet to be able to express those things, and this definitely gives them that outlet."

The art club members love their hobby, as Seagle explained when

See **ART**, page A10

Charles Conrad/Times Virginian
A large crowd showed up at Appomattox Middle School to observe works of art created by the Raiders Expand Art Club. See more photos on Page 14.

Appomattox DSS aims to increase child abuse awareness

Citizens are urged to report cases

CHARLES CONRAD
Staff Writer

Perhaps the worst form of evil on this earth is the abuse of children. Every day, news reports from around the nation and around the world tell the gut-wrenching stories of innocent, defenseless children who suffer as victims in horrible situations where they are mistreated, sometimes fatally, by those who are supposed to love and care for them.

In Appomattox County, one of the organizations attempting to intervene and assist children who are abused and neglected is the Appomattox County Department of Social Services (DSS), which held a public event on April 25 to raise awareness about the issue locally. April is designated as Child Abuse Prevention Month.

The Appomattox Child Abuse Prevention Month event was held at Courtland Festival Park from 5 to 7 p.m. It was attended by a number community members and their children. Also in attendance

See **ABUSE**, page A10

Charles Conrad/Times Virginian
The Appomattox County Department of Social Services booth at the Appomattox Child Abuse Prevention Month event held at Courtland Festival Park. On the table are gift baskets that were raffled off, along with free items given out to show support of abused and neglected children.

Spring fever for plants sends Appomattox into 'Plant Frenzy'

WILLIAM MASSELLI
Staff Writer

Some organizations in Appomattox come up with very creative ways of interacting with the community during the springtime.

In fact, the Master Gardeners Association hosted an event that sent the Appomattox community into a "Plant Frenzy," so to speak.

"The Plant Frenzy, in particular, is a great time to engage face to face with members of our community and to help them learn about a variety of plants while earning funds to buy materials for our various community activities," said Senior Extension Agent for Agriculture and Natural Resources and Advisor to the Master Gardeners Appomattox Association of Appomattox County Bruce Jones.

On Saturday, the Master Gardeners Association hosted its annual Plant Frenzy that raised money, furthered community education, and taught the community more about the organization's quality work ethic.

See **SPRING**, page A3

Master Gardeners Association of Appomattox County/Contributed
Shown is the Master Gardeners Association's Annual Plant Frenzy Event and plants that the organization displayed on Saturday, April 29.

Jamerson Library director resigns after successful tenure

Accepts position in Lynchburg

Contributed
Diana Harvey, former director of the J. Robert Jamerson Memorial Library in Appomattox, accepted a position with the Lynchburg Public Library System.

CHARLES CONRAD
Staff Writer

After a little more than three years as the director of the J. Robert Jamerson Memorial Library in Appomattox, Diana Harvey recently resigned to take a new position as assistant director of the Lynchburg Public Library System.

"This is a new position for the Lynchburg library, and for the time being I am looking forward to serving the City of Lynchburg," Harvey said of the career move.

Making the choice to leave the library in Appomattox wasn't an easy one but Harvey believes it to be a positive personal career move.

"The decision to leave the Appomattox library was incredibly hard," she said. "However, a position became available at the Lynchburg Public Library that presented opportunities for career growth that I did not have access to in Appomattox."

Harvey had given her eight-week notice to the Jamerson Library in late January. Jameron Library Public Services Specialist

See **RESIGNS**, page A5

Emergency crews assist with two-vehicle wreck

CONTRIBUTED

At 5:14 p.m. on April 24, Concord Volunteer Fire Department Company 13, Concord Rescue Squad and Appomattox County Rescue Squad were dispatched to a two vehicle MVC with fluids leaking and airbags deployed at U.S. 460 eastbound and Ruritan Lane.

Rescue 13 responded with two vehicles. Upon arrival, the left eastbound lane was shut down. Command

See **WRECK**, page A3

Concord Volunteer Fire Dept./Contributed
A pickup truck sustained heavy front-end damage in an April 24 two-vehicle crash on U.S. 460.

Subscribe to the Times Virginian online, in person or over the phone: 434-352-8215.

8 50888 00104 6