

TIMES - VIRGINIAN

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Debra Ferrell/Times-Virginian

From left, Whitney Napier, Appomattox Chamber of Commerce, Office Manager; Shirley Wheeler, Appomattox Chamber of Commerce, Treasurer; Susan Adams, County Administrator; Darryl Glass, Glass and Associates (Contractor); John Redding, Appomattox Chamber of Commerce, President; Paul Harvey, Mayor; Patrick Richardson, Bank of the James, SVP and Commercial Banker; Tom Cobb, Bank of the James, VP and Regional Manager, Appomattox; Bob Chapman, Bank of the James, President and CEO; Wanda Evans, Bank of the James, Financial Services Representative, Appomattox; Angie Williams, Bank of the James, AVP and Branch Manager, Appomattox.

Bank breaks ground at new location

Debra Ferrell
Times-Virginian
Editor

Beautiful skies abounded Friday morning (April 21) in Appomattox when Bank of the James broke ground for its new permanent banking facility at 1745 Confederate Boulevard.

Bright green hard hats and shiny new shovels were in the hands of officials as they set in motion a plan of work that will soon offer a new bank for the town.

During the special ceremony, Appomattox Chamber of Commerce President John Redding reminisced

about how the most physically demanding job he ever had as a young man was in construction of the Bank of the James facility in Lynchburg (that is now its general headquarters). He was certainly pleased to welcome Bank of the James to the town.

SVP and Commercial Banker Patrick Richardson praised Appomattox as the new location when he said, "This is a great day and we look forward to growing by building new relationships and partnerships. Working

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Local grad named as U. S. Acting Surgeon General

Charles Conrad/
Times-Virginian
Staff Writer

Rear Admiral Sylvia Trent-Adams, a 1983 graduate of Appomattox County High School and native of Concord, was named as the U.S. Acting Surgeon General on Friday.

The position of Surgeon General is one of the top health care positions in the United States and is the federal government's top advisor on public health issues.

Trent-Adams replaces outgoing Surgeon General Vivek H. Murthy, a President Obama appointee nominated in 2013 and approved by the Senate in 2014. Murthy was formally relieved of his duties by President Trump's administration on Friday, April 21, 2017.

For now, Trent-Adams will take over the duties of Surgeon General until a permanent replacement is approved. Prior to accepting the post, she was Deputy Surgeon General under the direction of Murthy.



Rear Admiral Sylvia
Trent-Adams

According to the biography of Trent-Adams on the official website of the U.S. Surgeon General, she brings an impressive resume to the position.

From November 2013 through May 2016 Trent-Adams was Chief Nurse Officer of the U.S. Public Health Service (USPHS) Commissioned Corps. In this role she acted as an advisor to the Office of Surgeon General and the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) in working with nurse professionals.

Trent-Adams has also served in administrative

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Kroger donates \$45,000 of clothes to Feeding America Southwest Virginia

Kroger has donated more than \$45,000 of clothing to Feeding America Southwest Virginia.

The clothes are from Kroger's Marketplace stores in the Richmond and Hampton Roads regions and primarily are unsold merchandise from fall and winter seasons.

"This is the third time

in 12 months that we have made a large donation of clothes to help those in need in southwest Virginia," said Allison McGee, spokesperson for Kroger's Mid-Atlantic Division. "The total comes to \$174,000 of clothing."

The clothing comes in various sizes for children and adults and includes

work and casual clothing, active wear, in both brand and private labels, she said. There are shoes and accessories.

Feeding America Southwest Virginia is primarily a food bank, but the agency has the means of distributing clothes so they will

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Fugitive in drug ring in custody now

Charles Conrad/
Times-Virginian
Staff Writer

The last remaining hold-out of the recent Appomattox County drug bust is now in custody. MacKenzie Marie Criswell, 30, of Lynchburg, turned herself in at Lynchburg last Thursday according to local authorities.

Out of the 14 people charged in the nearly year-

long drug distribution investigation conducted by the Appomattox County Sheriff's Office, Criswell was the last to be arraigned due to being at-large for several weeks.

Criswell appeared in Appomattox County Circuit Court on Monday before Judge S. Anderson Nelson. She was granted a court appointed attorney and is currently being held at the Blue Ridge Regional Jail

without bond.

Assistant Appomattox County Commonwealth Attorney Robert Carwile said that Criswell's attorney may schedule a bond hearing at a later date.

Criswell is charged with three counts of possession of methamphetamine with intent to distribute in Appomattox County. Judge Nelson set her trial date for June 15 at the Appomattox Courthouse.

Prayers shared for Appomattox County High School student killed last year

T.M. Gabrielson
Times-Virginian
Staff Writer

Many gathered at Appomattox County High School's memorial garden on Thursday, April 20, for the dedication of a paver in the garden for Joshua Judy, a student who would have graduated this spring. Judy was tragically killed in an automobile accident last November.

In 2010, a committee of staff and students at Appomattox County High School decided to create a memorial garden in concourse area inside the school grounds. This decision came after three students were killed in a shooting that took the lives of eight Appomattox County residents.

The decision was made, when designing the garden, to include and honor any student, faculty, or staff member of ACHS who died during their time at the school since 1974, when the school was erected. Each person has been



T.M. Gabrielson/Times-Virginian
Thomas Judy reads from his prepared speech during the paver dedication on April 20, for his son, Joshua, who was tragically killed last year in an automobile accident.

memorialized with their name engraved in a stone on the walking path that encircles a beautiful water fountain in the center of the

concourse. Joshua Judy's stone is the thirty-eighth stone placed in the garden.

Elizabeth Ranson, who is a Math and Special Edu-



T.M. Gabrielson/Times-Virginian
Joshua Judy's stone is the thirty-eighth paver to be engraved in ACHS's Memorial Garden.

cation teacher at ACHS, heads the committee for the memorial garden.

"Every time we have to place another name on a paver, I hope it's the last time. Each time is difficult," Ranson said. The garden is especially meaningful to Ranson, as she knows most of the people who have been memorialized there.

During the paver dedication service, Superintendent Dr. Dorinda Grasty spoke

of Joshua Judy and the type of example he led.

"He was an honor roll student. He was a bright young man in N.H.S., vivacious, and outgoing," she said.

Appomattox County School Board Chairman Bobby Waddell dedicated the paver. Thomas Judy reflected on his son, the community, and what the garden means to the Judy family.

"Your generosity, your prayers, and your comfort have sustained us," he said.

"I think that while Joshua would be pleased, I think that he might be embarrassed by the attention," he said of the ceremony and the garden paver. He explained that the garden will serve as a reminder of the impact of ACHS and the

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