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Gov. Youngkin visits area

He bans 'Carolina Squat' vehicle mods

CHARLES CONRAD
Times Virginian

In a move that will likely generate some interest in Appomattox County, Gov. Glenn Youngkin in Lynchburg signed into a law a bill that bans the popular "Carolina Squat" modification of vehicles on public highways in the state of Virginia. Youngkin was at the Lynchburg Sheriff's Office on Monday when he signed the bill.

The "Carolina Squat" significantly elevates the front end of a vehicle while

lowering the back end, and is most often seen on pickup trucks.

North Carolina banned the practice in 2021.

Appomattox County Sheriff Donald Simpson attended the signing ceremony.

The bill, SB 777, was introduced March 1 to the Virginia Senate by State Sen. Mark Peake (R-Lynchburg), who represents the 22nd District, which includes Appomattox County.

See **SQUAT**, Page 10



Commonwealth of Virginia Office of Governor Glenn Youngkin/Contributed
Virginia Gov. Glenn Youngkin (center) is pictured Monday at the Lynchburg Sheriff's Office after signing a bill that bans the "Carolina Squat" modification of vehicles on public highways. Pictured with Youngkin are family members of the late Jody "BJ" Upton, Jr., whose death inspired the bill, Sen. Mark Peake (left of Youngkin), Lynchburg Commonwealth's Attorney Bethany Harrison (second from right), and several others.

157th anniversary events planned



Appomattox Court House National Historical Park/Contributed

Shown is a scene from the 2018 153rd Anniversary of the Surrender at Appomattox Court House National Historical Park.

Park releases schedule for Surrender, Freedom Day

Appomattox Court House National Historical Park will commemorate the 157th anniversary of General Robert E. Lee's surrender to Lt. General Ulysses S. Grant and Freedom Day (April 9) with special anniversary programs and activities from April 7-12.

The commemoration will

include guided walks and talks, pop up experiences, living history programs and demonstrations, plein air painting, and a commemorative one-act play followed by a gospel performance celebrating emancipation in Appomattox. A full list of programs is available on the

park's Special Events page at www.nps.gov/apco/planyourvisit/special-events.htm. (Also, see Page 3 for schedule.)

Program highlights include a one-act play presented by Thomas Jesse and Curt Fields as Lee and Grant, titled "Appomattox: The Last 48 Hours"

at 4 p.m. on Saturday, April 9, followed immediately by a performance from New Beginning Gospel Singers.

"Appomattox: The Last 48 Hours" will explore the events and correspondence between Lee and Grant in the

See **PARK**, Page 11

Board reduces vehicle tax rate

CHARLES CONRAD
Times Virginian

On Monday, the Appomattox County Board of Supervisors, in an attempt to give the citizens of the county a bit of relief in the current financial climate, unanimously approved a personal property tax rate reduction on vehicles for fiscal 2023.

The rate is reduced by 35 cents per 100 dollars assessed value, from the current \$3.35 per hundred to \$3 per hundred. The reduction applies to vehicles such as cars, trucks and motorcycles as well as one-ton trucks (T1 classification), two-ton trucks (T2 classification) and road tractors (RT classification). The rate does not apply to other vehicular properties such as boats or utility trailers.

The rate is in effect for this year's billing, of which half is due in June and the other half in December. Appomattox County sends out tax bills twice per year.

Board of Supervisors Chairman Sam Carter proposed the reduction to \$3 during Monday's meeting.

"Due to the state of the economy — the gas prices as high as they are, food as high as it is, and other amenities, and it looks like (inflation) continues to grow — I don't see or (haven't) heard of any

See **TAX**, Page 10

Local rescued after crash down 75-ft. embankment

JEFFREY WESTBROOK
Womack Publishing
Company News Service

The Concord and Rustburg Volunteer Fire Departments report that they responded to a vehicular accident at 1:45 a.m. Friday, March 18, and rescued a trapped Appomattox woman.

A single vehicle had crashed at the bottom of a steep embankment off Route 460 (Richmond Highway) near Pleasant Valley Road.

According to Virginia State Police Public Relations Director Corinne Geller: "A 2001 Pontiac

sedan was traveling east on Route 460. Just before crossing the bridge, the sedan ran off the left side of the highway and went down an embankment approximately 75 feet before coming to rest."

"The driver, Sherika L. Napier, 35, of Appomattox, was transported to a nearby hospital for treatment of minor injuries. She was wearing a seatbelt," Geller added.

The fire department crews reported that the single occupant was entrapped in the vehicle. They "were able to pop the door on the

See **CRASH**, Page 10



Concord
Volunteer Fire
Department/
Contributed
The Concord and
Rustburg
Volunteer Fire
Departments
responded
to a vehicular
accident
at 1:45 a.m.
Friday and
rescued a
trapped
Appomattox
woman.

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