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Man involved in Rose murder case granted \$25K secured bond

CHARLES CONRAD
Times Virginian

A man who is one of five people accused of allegedly having involvement in the Oct. 20, 2020, death of 45-year-old Bedford County resident Carlos L. Rose appeared via V-TEL video for a bond hearing Thursday in Appomattox County Circuit Court.

Montel Shaquille Croner, 25, of Concord, was granted a \$25,000 secured bond by Appomattox County Circuit Court Judge Andy Nelson. He

has been held at the Blue Ridge Regional Jail in Amherst.

Croner is charged with five felonies, which include accessory after a homicide, two counts of arson of personal property and two counts of concealing a dead body.

As Croner's attorney Kevin Bailey noted, his client's case differs from



Croner

those of the other four suspects because he is not charged with murder.

The four co-defendants facing murder charges are Artenna Kainna Horsley-Robey, 30, of Lynchburg; Enrico Andre Moss, 30, of Appomattox; Keyanta Ke'shaun Robinson, 21, of Lynchburg; and Mik'Tavis Elonta Naeshu Green, 20, of Prospect.

Allegedly, Croner delivered gasoline to other suspects at the crime scene before Rose's charred remains

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Murder case

Abbitt Jr. waives his hearing

CHARLES CONRAD
Times Virginian

On Thursday afternoon in Appomattox County General District Court, a man charged with second-degree murder waived his preliminary hearing. The case will now go directly to the grand jury.

Charles Roosevelt Abbitt Jr., 36, of Spout Spring, is accused in the July 21 murder of 34-year-old Carlos Rican Roman Jr., who died of a shotgun wound at Spring Grove Road in Spout Spring.

According to Abbitt Jr.'s attorney, Khalil Latif of Farmville, Abbitt's case is scheduled to go to the grand jury on Nov. 4.

Abbitt Jr. is being held without bond at the Blue Ridge Regional Jail facility in Amherst.



Abbitt Jr.

Concealed handgun permit fee will lower

JEFFREY WESTBROOK
Times Virginian

The Appomattox County Board of Supervisors voted in their regular monthly meeting Monday (Sept. 20) in favor of a resolution reducing the cost of a concealed handgun permit from \$50 to \$15.

Falling River District Supervisor John Hinkle brought the resolution to the board with the request to review and consider adopting it. He explained the background of the resolution to the board and the audience in attendance at the meeting.

The Code of Virginia limits the maximum fee for a concealed handgun permit to \$50, with a maximum of \$35 of that fee going to local law enforcement for the cost of fingerprinting applicants. Now, though, the General Assembly has removed the fingerprinting requirement on the application, "as fingerprinting was determined to be a labor-intensive process for local law enforcement."

According to the resolution, 48 law enforcement agencies across the commonwealth have already dropped their permit fee to \$15, reflecting the discontinuation of the cost of fingerprinting.

"In 2019 the legislature decided fingerprinting would no longer be required," Hinkle explained. "There was a groundswell of people who went to their localities and pointed out (that the fee for fingerprinting was no longer necessary)."

"This board has a history of not overcharging its residents," he added.

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Jeffrey Westbrook/Times Virginian

Shown above and below is Appomattox High School graduate Tyler Gage's Audacity Brass Band performing.

ACHS graduate finds career paths in music

JEFFREY WESTBROOK
Times Virginian

In his free time, Tyler Gage is a motorcycle enthusiast and enjoys wine tasting at wineries and at fine dining establishments with his wife, Kat. But given the amount of work this musician has going on, it's a wonder that he has any free time.

Gage, who was born in Southern California but relocated to Appomattox when he was in middle school, graduated from Appomattox County High School in 2012. He now lives in Richmond and wears three different hats as a professional musician.

During his time as a music performance major (specializing in

the trumpet) at Longwood University's School of Music, Gage started working with the bands at Fuqua School in Farmville. He stayed on there and became the director of bands in 2018. As a band director, he can play all the wind and percussion instruments.

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Pamplin Council votes for firearms ordinance

JEFFREY WESTBROOK
Times Virginian

For the past four months, the Pamplin City Town Council has been considering a new ordinance regulating the discharge of firearms within the town limits. In its meeting Sept. 14, the council voted to approve the new ordinance.

An ordinance is already in the town, but that ordinance — dating back to

1929 — is written in a way that is unenforceable, the Appomattox County Sheriff's Office had informed the town.

The need for the ordinance arose because of the problem of residents engaging in target practice, firing their weapons toward adjacent properties where small children live and play. When the sheriff's office had been called to deal with the matter,

See **PAMPLIN**, Page A5



Jeffrey Westbrook/
Times Virginian

The long-planned demolition of a partially collapsed building on Main Street in Pamplin is currently underway. The town plans to sell the land and the building to the left. This photo from Sept. 14 shows the current progress on the work.

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