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Raiders Rule Region 2C!



Charles Conrad/Times Virginian

The Appomattox Raiders indoor track and field team won both the boys and girls Region 2C Championships held Friday at Roanoke College. Top row, from left: Quamea Gray, Savion Vaughan, Micah Johnson, DiTavion Mosley, Mannix Wilhoit, Vori Copeland, Collin Slagle, Matt Epperson, Marissa Perry, Head Coach Tim Crossin, Assistant Coach Paul Napier and Assistant Coach Brittany Pennix. Middle row, from left: Amyah Bolar, Kelsey Hackett, Aubrey Fulcher and Nadiyah Abdussalaam. First row, from left: Assistant Coach Jamie Martin, Madison Martin, Dezyre Christian, Ella Dudley and Morgan Flamm. Not available was Blake Fulcher. See article on Page 5.

Man granted \$25K bond in abduction, assault case

CHARLES CONRAD
Times Virginian

David Lawson Hamlett, of Pamplin, was granted a \$25,000 secured bond on Thursday, Feb. 17, in Appomattox County Circuit Court. Hamlett has been charged with four felonies: two counts of abduction by force, one protective order violation (third or subsequent offense), and one count of assault on a family member (third or subsequent offense).

Online court records show the alleged offense as occurring on Dec. 26, 2021. According to initial

evidence summarized in court, Hamlett was allegedly involved in an altercation with a female whose eye was injured and swollen shut. Hamlett and the female went to a Lynchburg MedExpress for treatment when another altercation allegedly ensued.

Defense attorney Mark

See **HAMLETT**, Page 9



Hamlett

Children's library expands to Pamplin area

COURTNEY MENDENHALL
Times Virginian

The Pamplin Area Legacy Supporters (PALS) organization is now an affiliate of the internationally recognized Dolly Parton Imagination Library.

There are 28 affiliates in the state of Virginia. PALS became an affiliate since there wasn't one within 25 miles. Since Pamplin lost its neighborhood library years ago, the new library is looking to give back to children in the community and give them access to free books.

"It is an amazing organization to work with," said Anne Jacobs, a member of the local Dolly Parton Imagination Library affiliate. "Our passion is to help kids learn to read and help them be passionate about reading."

The 2021 annual report

states that a Google translation option was added to the library website to "enhance accessibility for Spanish bilingual families." Jacobs added their additional goal was to "get books in the hands of children who won't be able to have access to them."

Anyone who lives in the 23958-area code — which covers Pamplin and areas toward Prospect, parts of Appomattox County, Charlotte County and Darlington Heights — qualifies for this program and must submit an official registration form by an authorized adult. Books are received within eight to 10 weeks after registration. Books are then continuously mailed to the child's home until he/she reaches the age of five. More than 1.8 million books are mailed each month to registered children.

"People can go online

to see if its available for their zip code and easily register," said Dolly Parton Imagination Library Affiliate Coordinator Libby Dorris, who describing it as very "user-friendly."

Last year, "The Library That Dolly Built" documentary began streaming online with Apple TV, Amazon Prime, Google Pay and Cable on Demand. The impact of the program has been widely researched, and results suggest positive increases in key early childhood literacy metrics.

In a brief amount of time, the nonprofit organization has expanded into Kentucky, Kansas, Tennessee, Colorado and West Virginia (these states have county-wide coverage). There has been growth of participation with more than 160 million free books given to children in

See **LIBRARY**, Page 9



Courtney Mendenhall/Times Virginian

Shown from left are Dolly Parton Imagination Library Affiliate Coordinator Libby Dorris, Pamplin Area Legacy Supporters member Mary Cush, and Dolly Parton Imagination Library committee member Anne Jacobs.

Small Business Spotlight

20-year-old opening Branded Boutique store in Appomattox

COURTNEY MENDENHALL
Times Virginian

Despite being one of the Appomattox's youngest business owners, 20-year-old Hannah Dalton is optimistic that her emerging store "Branded Boutique" will be successful at its Main Street location.

She will have an open house for the new location March 5 and a grand opening March 7.

The Appomattox native said she created the name for her business because she is inspired by the culture of Western-style clothing. She graduated from high school in 2020 and said she never got to finish her senior year in person

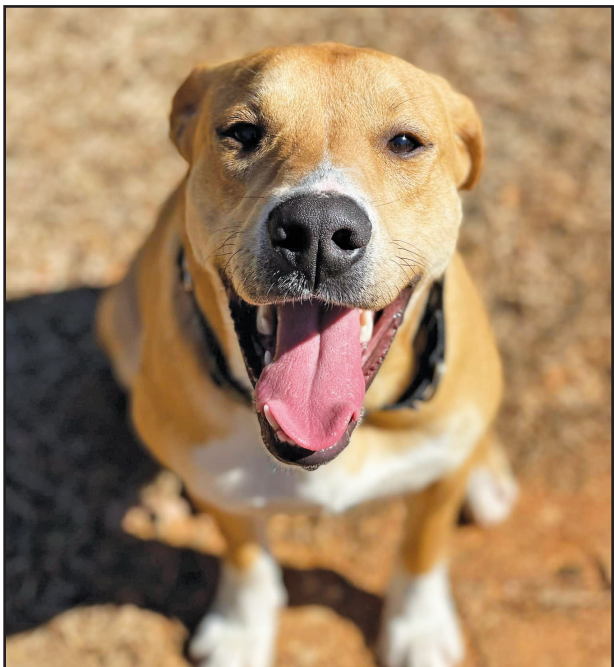
due to the pandemic. As a student, she didn't picture being a business owner even though she worked at a boutique in Appomattox. She was previously interested in becoming a dental hygienist but later realized it wasn't her calling.

She started with T-shirts in April 2021 after realizing that boutiques are not common in the area, and it "snowballed" "into a thing that she never imagined. She was working full-time elsewhere at the time but took a "leap of faith" to begin her business full-time.

"I prayed about it and asked God to send me a sign, and he sent a big one," she replied with relief.

See **STORE**, Page 9

Animal shelter full



Appomattox County Animal Shelter/Contributed

The Appomattox County Animal Shelter at 3074 Morning Star Road recently announced that the shelter is full after just reopening at the beginning of this year. Shown is Yeti, who loves chasing after tennis balls in the play yard or just sitting next to someone, soaking up all the rubs. He needs a patient home that's going to work with him on his socialization and manners. He would be best in a home without other dogs. Their fast movements make him nervous. See article on Page 3.

Contributed

Hannah Dalton, 20, will have a grand opening of Branded Boutique at Main Street in Appomattox on March 7.



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