SCIENCE AT THE LIBRARY — Children react excitedly as a bright-blue bulb is lit by a "squishy circuit" made by the children during a program at the Warrenton Scenic Regional Library, led by children's programmer Katharine Renshaw, left. Adam Rollins photo.

FCS Financial offering grants to 4-H, FFA groups

Developing a thriving rural Missouri is important to FCS Financial. The Shaping Rural Missouri grant program offers Missouri 4-H and FFA organizations $500 grants to implement projects that will benefit their rural communities and youth development.

"Providing opportunities for rural community development is important to FCS Financial because our employees and customers live in these same areas," said Scott Gardner, Vice President, Sales & Marketing. "These grants not only strengthen our rural communities but allow youth to work as a team to accomplish a goal."

Funds are awarded to assist club or chapter members in bringing positive change by establishing projects that make their local communities better places to live. FCS Financial encourages applicants to collaborate with other community organizations to develop and complete their improvement project.

Last year, FCS Financial funded 44 projects across Missouri. Youth built picnic tables, planted trees and landscaped school grounds to improve their local communities.

Since the grant's inception in 2012, more than $140,000 has been distributed across Missouri. Applications are online and due April 1, 2020. Applications must be submitted by April 1, 2020. Applications may be found online at www.myfesfinancial.com. Click on the About Us tab and then select Community Giving.

St. Charles County changes name of airport

The St. Charles County Council voted Jan. 27 to rename the County's airport to reflect the continued growth and economic development in the region. Formerly known as St. Charles County - Smartt Field Airport, the airport is now Smartt Field Airport - St. Charles Regional Airport. The airport "owns and maintains" the airport "community," including charter and introductory flights, AvGas fuel, aircraft maintenance and flight instruction. Organizations and businesses that operate at St. Charles County Regional Airport are able to charge for services for the flying community, which includes the charters and introductory flights.