Rappahannock Record

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Stables addresses new school facilities during NAPS meeting

by Reid Pierce Armstrong

HEATHSVILLE—Some 50 people attended the annual meeting of the Northumberland Association for Progressive Stewardship (NAPS) last Saturday at St. Stephen's Episcopal Church. School superintendent Clint Stables discussed the current efforts to improve the county's middle and high schools.

Hoping to eschew what can normally be years of design, the county has adopted a new proposal process through the Public-Private Education Facilities and Infrastructure Act. Stables outlined the process and answered questions from the public.

On February 15, the school board is expecting to receive an armload of proposals from professional school developers outlining both the design and cost for a new school. These companies are on the cutting edge of school design, Stables explained.

"These people are building four to five schools a year. We have built one since 1996," he said.

Their proposals will consider long term versus initial costs, possibly proposing a more expensive geothermal heating system that will save the county money over the life of the school.

They will consider other ways to create cost savings, such as sharing a kitchen (but not eating areas) between the high school and middle school

The process will be dynamic. The school board and county can negotiate the price and the design items they prefer.

If all goes well, the county could be breaking ground on new facilities as early as September.

NAPS members asked whether any of the contractors used on the project would be local. Stables replied that few local contractors are set up to take on large commercial projects like this one and that few have time in their schedules.

NAPS members also wanted to know if renovation is still a

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School superintendent Clint Stables discusses plans to build two new schools in Northumberland with members of the Northumberland Association for Progressive Stewardship.

Legislative committee to consider funding for birthing center

by Lisa Hinton-Valdrighi

RICHMOND—The Northern Neck's need for a birthing facility, an issue that drew national attention two years ago, is in the news again at the state level.

Virginia lawmakers this week are reviewing budget amendments which may help to finance a local birthing center under a pilot program approved by the 2005 General Assembly. A House bill on obstetric and pediatric care, which endorsed locating birthing centers in underserved areas of the state, was approved last April. The four current budget amendments, including two in the House and two in the Senate, would help to fund the project.

Locally, that means birthing services could return to the lower Northern Neck.

The area has been without an obstetric and delivery center since Rappahannock General Hospital in Kilmarnock suspended its services in February 2004 amidst public protest. Grassroots groups tried, through public forums, to persuade the hospital's board to delay the decision.

Unfortunately, the hospital and the local obstetrician group were dealing with a host of reimbursement, insurance and liability issues that forced the center to close its doors to expectant parents, who now drive nearly two hours to hospitals in Richmond, Newport News or Williamsburg to have their babies.

RGH has delivered some 4,000 babies in 27 years.

A great many of those were delivered by Dr. James Hamilton, who came to RGH in 1983.

Dr. Hamilton joined state lawmakers and members of the state board of health in Richmond Monday when budget amendments for funding the proposed birthing center were presented to a Health and Human Services subcommittee.

One amendment, for $496,000, would help fund the start-up and operation of the pilot project birthing center in the Northern Neck. Birthing centers were a recommendation of the Governor's Rural Obstetric Access Task Force, a group that was formed after several obstetric units in the state were forced to close in 2004.

A Virginia Health Department task force has developed policies and protocols for the center.

Local funding in the form of a capital campaign is expected to help get the project off the ground.

Another amendment, proposed by Del. Harvey Morgan of Middlesex, asks for $1,750,000 in start-up funds over a two-year period.

Two additional house and senate amendments would allow for funding of a project coordinator, who would at first oversee the start-up of a center in the Northern Neck and then later in Emporia, where OB services were also lost. That funding would be for $196,000 over a two-year period.

The birthing center would be slightly different from that originally backed by a group of local doctors and nurses, who in the summer of 2004 had hopes of building a full-service maternity center in Lancaster County. That facility would have offered six labor and delivery rooms, private testing rooms, a Level II nursery and obstetricians and pediatricians offices.

When backers learned the undertaking was more than they could handle, the group jumped on the state pilot program bandwagon.

The pilot program would be done on a much smaller scale, according to Dr. Hamilton. The facility would be between 3,500 and 4,000 square feet with three to four beds and would only serve low-risk outpatient (23-hour stay) deliveries.

Falling under the umbrella name Family Maternity Centers of Virginia, the facility would offer prenatal care to everyone and post-delivery breastfeeding and family counseling services.

"The bulk of the clinical work," said Dr. Hamilton, "would be done by [cer-

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Budget amendments seek state funding for local projects.....B1

Defending undefeated district run

Tiara Scott (30) of the Lancaster junior varsity girls basketball team takes a shot over the outstretched arms of Matisha Taylor (22) of Essex High. The JV Lady Devils last Tuesday beat the Essex JV Lady Trojans, 33-25, to remain unbeaten at the top of Northern Neck District standings. (see related story on page A9) Posting a 5-0 district record and a 9-1 overall mark, the JV Lady Devils host the Northumberland JV Lady Indians tonight (February 9) at 6 p.m. in the final game of the season. (photo by Lisa Hinton-Valdrighi)

White Stone mulls Wal-Mart impact

by Robb Hoff

WHITE STONE—How much will the opening of a Wal-Mart Supercenter in Kilmarnock impact the traffic in White Stone?

It's a question the White Stone Town Council would like to have answered.

Addressing White Stone officials last week, Kilmarnock town manager Lee Capps said a traffic impact study is among the requirements before Wal-Mart can submit a zoning permit application for administrative review.

The town has not been presented with a traffic impact study yet, said Capps. He suggested White Stone officials could be kept informed on the progress of the study through Wal-Mart's engineering firm, Vanasse Hangen Brustlin Inc., which is the same firm handling White Stone's $1.2-million Main Street enhancement project.

Councilman David Jones questioned whether White Stone would be included in the scope of the study.

Capps said he would expect the town to be included given the emphasis Gov. Tim Kaine has placed on transportation and land use. He recommended, however, that the town request the inclusion of White Stone in the study through the Virginia Department of Transportation.

Capps also invited the White Stone council to a presentation planned by Wal-Mart representatives on February 27. The time and location for the presentation remains to be determined, he said.

Mayor Lloyd B. Hubbard Jr. directed White Stone town manager Garey Conrad to contact VDOT regarding the study as well as the possibility of a bypass route around White Stone in anticipation of an increased traffic flow.

Hubbard noted that and average of 9,300 vehicles now pass through White Stone daily.

"This is something I think—from the the safety of our citizenry and the promotion of our downtown businesses —this is something we ought to look into," said Hubbard.

He said the idea of a White Stone bypass had surfaced years ago with the proposed route starting beyond the town limits on Route 3 past the Robert O. Norris Jr. Memorial Bridge and reconnecting with Route 3 near White Stone United Methodist Church.

"If we could get our boundary lines extended, it could all stay within the town," Hubbard said of the bypass.

Town resident and business owner Mac Davis suggested a

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Supervisors to tackle capital improvements

LANCASTER—The board of supervisors will hold a work session today (February 9) on a capital improvement plan budget.

The work session will begin at 1 p.m. in the Lancaster General District courtroom.

The $425,513 budget recommended by the county planning commission includes $175,000 toward the cost of a building at Lancaster High School to house an Air Force Reserve Officers Training Corps program or an athletic fieldhouse with public restrooms.

Another $61,344 is proposed for additional county office space.

County officials to hear reports, land use issues

HEATHSVILLE—The Northumberland board of supervisors will meet today (February 9) at 3:30 p.m. at the courthouse in Heathsville.

The board will hear regular reports from the Virginia Department of Transportation, the school system, the county auditor and the county administrator. Assistant county administrator Luttrell Tadlock will present an end-of-year building report for 2005.

At approximately 4:30 p.m., Greg Haugan will lead a discussion on Chapter 3 of the comprehensive plan.

The board will break for dinner shortly after 5 p.m and reconvene at the courts building at 7 p.m. for five public hearings.

Among items set for hearing, Watson Construction and Development Inc. seeks authorization to establish a cluster home development consisting of 12 dwellings in Reedville.

Joanne Nolan and Joanna Yohe seek authorization to construct a duplex on Lot 37 in Chesapeake Cove Subdivision near Edwardsville.

Double D. Development seeks authorization to construct 32 condominium units at 940 Fleeton Road near Reedville. The developer has sent a list of 26 proffers to the county.

Among the proffers, Double D Development LLC has offered to make donations of $500 to the Northumberland Rescue Squad and the Reedville Volunteer Fire Department and $200 to the Northumberland Public Library for each unit sold.

The developer also has promised to preserve roughly 75 percent of the 9-acre site as open space, to plant native trees and vegetation on the existing farmland, and to remove the existing house and structures located

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Say "I love you" with a potato

Wooing your love with a spud may be easier than you think. Seems there are some heart-shaped potatoes out there to give your sweetheart on Valentine's Day and Randall Conner of Kilmarnock stumbled upon one in his sack of Yukon Golds. He passed the odd-shaped potato on to his wife who surprised her choirmate Jean Ward of Irvington with it during practice last week. Ward (above) said her potato has a lot of miles on it. She's shown it off to friends at quilting parties and at investment meetings. "But I'm going to spare it until after Valentine's Day, then it's going in a stew," she said. Valentine's Day is Tuesday, February 14. (photo by Lisa Hinton-Valdrighi)

February

9 Thursday

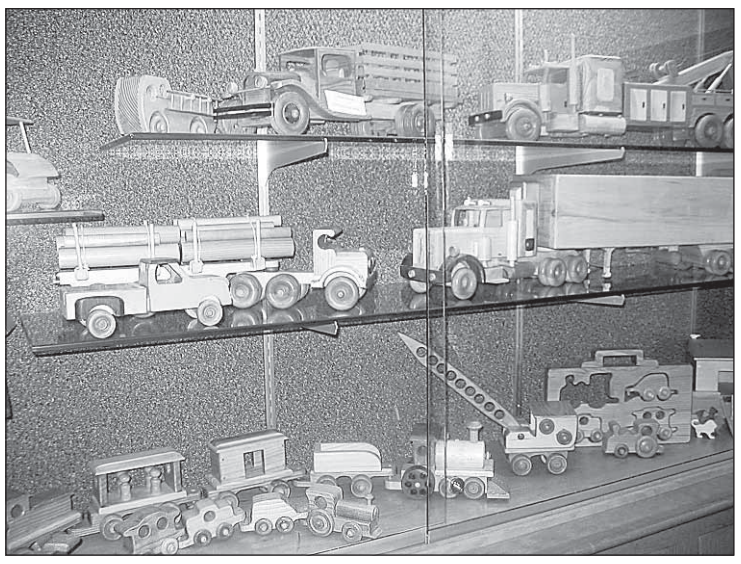
Bingo is played at the American Legion Post 86 on Waverly Avenue in Kilmarnock at 7 p.m.
The RFM Modelers meet at 10 a.m. at Reedville Fishermen's Museum. 453-6529.
Al-ANON meets at 8 p.m. at Palmer Hall in Kilmarnock.
The Wetlands Board for Lancaster County meets at 9:30 a.m. at the courthouse in Lancaster.
The Board Of Supervisors for Northumberland County meets at 3:30 p.m. at the courthouse in Heathsville. Public hearings begin at 7 p.m. in the courts building in Heathsville.
The Irvington Town Council meets at 7:30 p.m. at the town office.
The Interfaith Service Council meets at 7:30 p.m. at Wicomico Episcopal Church in Wicomico Church.
The Upper Lancaster Ruritan Club meets at 6:30 p.m. at the Ruritan Center in Lively.
American Legion Post 117 meets at 7:30 p.m. at the post home in Reedville.
The Rappahannock Amateur Radio Association meets at 7:30 p.m. at the Mid-County Volunteer Rescue Squad building in Heathsville.
Mind/Body is the topic for The Basics of Healthy Living Workshop at Northern Neck Family YMCA at 6 p.m. $20.
"You Must Remember This..." will be presented at The Playhouse in White Stone. Doors open at 6 p.m. Following dinner, the show begins at 8 p.m. $30. For reservations, call 435-3776.
The Board Of Supervisors for Lancaster County meets at 1 p.m. at the courthouse in Lancaster. A work session will be conducted on a five-year capital improvement budget.
The Republican Committee for Northumberland County meets at 7:30 p.m. at the Northumberland Public Library in Heathsville. Teri Syslo of Mathews will be the speaker.
Women And Finances will be the topic for a Mary Ball Washington Republican Women's Club luncheon at 1 p.m. at The Tavern in Heathsville. 580-4050.

10 Friday

Bingo is played at the Upper Lancaster Ruritan Center in Lively at 7:30 p.m.
"You Must Remember This..." will be presented at The Playhouse in White Stone. Doors open at 6 p.m. Following dinner, the show begins at 8 p.m. $30. For reservations, call 435-3776.
A Valentine's Dance/Match Made in Heaven Game will be held from 6 to 8 p.m. at Grace Episcopal Church. $40 per couple covers dinnner, drinks, music and the game. Register at the Northern Neck Family YMCA.

11 Saturday

Apple Seeds, a Mac users group, meets at 10:30 a.m. at Rappahannock Westminster-Canterbury near Irvington.
The Northern Neck Computer Users Group meets at 10 a.m. at the Lancaster Community Library in Kilmarnock.
A Medicare Part D Workshop begins at 2 p.m. at White Stone United Methodist Church. 435-3555.



Wooden toys on display

Trucks, airplanes and puzzles, all wooden toys built by Richard and Barbara Newlon of Irvington, will be featured in the display case at the Lancaster Community Library in Kilmarnock through February.

11 Saturday

The Middle Peninsula African-American Genealogical and Historical Society meets at 11 a.m. at the Essex County Library in Tappahannock. 321-1206.
Robin And Linda Williams And Their Fine Group will be featured "On Stage" at the Lancaster Middle School Theater in Kilmarnock at 7:30 p.m. For tickets, call the Rappahannock Foundation for the Arts box office at 435-0292.
A Pancake Supper will be served by the Fairfields Nelia Tingle Fellowship at Fairfields United Methodist Church at Burgess from 5 to 7 p.m. Donations accepted. Take-out meals available. A bake sale also will be held. 453-2631.
"You Must Remember This..." will be presented at The Playhouse in White Stone. Doors open at 6 p.m. Following dinner, the show begins at 8 p.m. $30. For reservations, call 435-3776.
A Yard Sale to benefit the Northern Neck Family YMCA afterschool program will be held from 7 a.m. to noon at the YMCA.

12 Sunday

The Widowed Persons Service for Lancaster and Northumberland counties holds its lunch brunch at the Great Fortune restaurant in Kilmarnock immediately following church services.

13 Monday

The Lancaster County School Board will meet at 6:30 p.m. at Lancaster Middle School in Kilmarnock.
The Northumberland School Board will meet at 5:30 p.m. at the school board office in Lottsburg.
The First-Place Weight-Loss Class meets at 6:45 p.m. at the White Stone Church of the Nazerene Family Life Center at 57 Whisk Drive. 435-5701.
Flotilla 33 meets at 7:30 p.m. at Grace House at Grace Episcopal Church in Kilmarnock.
A Bird Walk will be conducted by the Northern Neck Audubon Society at Fleeton Point. Meet at Lilian Lumber Home Center in Brugess at 8 a.m. For directions, call 580-9066.

14 Tuesday Valentines Day

The Kilmarnock & District Pipe Band rehearses at 7:15 p.m. at Campbell Memorial Presbyterian Church in Weems. 462-7125.
Al-ANON meets at 8 p.m. at Kilmarnock United Methodist Church.
The Kilmarnock Planning Commission will meet at 7 p.m. at the town office.
Bridge will be played at 1 p.m. at Rappahannock Westminster-Canterbury.
The Kilmarnock Museum board of directors will meet at 2 p.m. at the museum on North Main Street.
The Rappahannock Pistol and Rifle Club will meet at 7 p.m. at the northside branch of the Bank of Lancaster in Kilmarnock. 435-2143.
"Boat Talk," an exchange of ideas on classic and wooden boats, will be held at 4 p.m. at the Reedville Fishermen's Museum. 462-9829.
The Lancaster Lions Club will meet at 7 p.m. at Lancaster Landing Restaurant in White Stone.
Robert Keyes will be featured on guitar at Rose's Crab House in Kilmarnock from 6 to 10 p.m.
A Blood Drive will be held at St. Stephens Episcopal Church in Heathsville from 12:30 to 6:30 p.m.
The Friends Of The Lancaster Community Library meet at 1 p.m. at the library in Kilmarnock.
A Parents Night Out will be held from 6 to 8 p.m. at the Northern Neck Family YMCA in Kilmarnock. Activities planned for ages 5 to 12 include dinner, games and a movie. The fee is $15 for members and $20 for others.

15 Wednesday

The Rotary Breakfast Club meets at 7:30 a.m. at Lee's Restaurant in Kilmarnock.
The Kiwanis Club meets at 7:30 a.m. at St. Andrews Presbyterian Church in Kilmarnock.
The Rotary Club for Kilmarnock, Irvington and White Stone meets at 12:30 p.m. at Rappahannock Westminster-Canterbury.
The Northern Neck Bay Tones meet at 3 p.m. at St. Andrews Presbyterian Church in Kilmarnock. 438-5127.

15 Wednesday

A Grief Support Group meets at 4 p.m. at White Stone United Methodist Church. 435-7585.
The RFM Quilters meet at 9:30 a.m. at Reedville Fishermen's Museum. 453-6529.
Sandwich Bridge will be played at the Woman's Club of Lancaster at noon. 462-0742.

16 Thursday

Bingo is played at the American Legion Post 86 on Waverly Avenue in Kilmarnock at 7 p.m.
The RFM Modelers meet at 10 a.m. at the Reedville Fishermen's Museum. 453-6529.
The RFM Photographers meet at 2 p.m. at Reedville Fishermen's Museum. 453-6529.
Al-ANON meets at 8 p.m. at Palmer Hall in Kilmarnock.
Duplicate Bridge will be played at 1 p.m. at the Woman's Club of White Stone. Men, women and newcomers, are invited. No reservations needed. 435-2755.
The Rappatomac Writers will meet from 2 to 4 p.m. in the Chinn House at Rappahannock Community College in Warsaw. Those working on the mystery, meet at 1 p.m.
The Planning Commission for Lancaster County will meet at 7 p.m. at the courthouse in Lancaster.
The Planning Commission for Northumberland County will meet at 7 p.m. at the courthouse in Heathsville.
The Northern Neck/Middle Peninsula Chapter of the Virginia Aeronautical Society meets at noon at the Pilot House Restaurant in Topping.
A Spaghetti Supper will be served by the men at Kilmarnock United Methodist Church from 5 to 8 p.m. $8 adults, $3.50 children. 435-1797.
"You Must Remember This..." will be presented at The Playhouse in White Stone. Doors open at 6 p.m. Following dinner, the show begins at 8 p.m. $30. For reservations, call 435-3776.
Robert Keyes will be featured on guitar at Ferebee's Restaurant in Tappahannock from 7 to 10 p.m
The Northern Neck Chapter of the Virginia Native Plant Society will meet at 12:15 p.m. at Wicomico Parish Church in Wicomico Church. B.J. Norris is the featured speaker. Bring a brown-bag lunch.

donk's
All Star Show
Sat., Feb. 18, 8:00 p.m.

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PAPERBACK WRITER: 367 Chesapeake Drive, White Stone 804-436-9339. Open 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. daily, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Sat. Closed Sundays. Fresh Arabica Coffees, espresso, cappuccino, fresh baked pastries and sweets, reading rooms, music, free WiFi for customers.

SANDPIPER RESTAURANT: Est. 1982. Casual relaxed dining with friendly service. Featuring nightly specials, charbroiled steaks and fresh seafood dishes. Full menu. (D) Route 3, White Stone. 435-6176.

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THE STEAMBOAT RESTAURANT: Enjoy casual dining while overlooking the beautiful Piankatank River Golf Club. We offer a traditional lunch menu, gourmet and traditional evening menus and Sunday Brunch selections. Open Tues.-Sat., 11:00 am - 2:30 pm, Thurs., Fri. & Sat. evenings 5:30 pm - 9:00 pm, and Sunday Brunch 10:30 am - 2:00 pm. Banquets, functions and group outings also available. Call 776-6589 (Reservations suggested). Located off Rt. 33 at 629, Hartfield, Va.

THE TAVERN RESTAURANT: In the heart of Heathsville, Va. Chef Branden Levine serves a pleasing Progressive American Cuisine. Enjoy steak, seafood, chicken, lamb, and gourmet desserts. Open for lunch: Wednesday - Saturday 11:30 - 2:30, Dinner: 5:30 - 9:00 and Sunday Brunch 10:30-2:00. Call 804-580-7900 for reservations.

WILLABY'S: Comfortable casual atmosphere. Featuring daily chef's specials, gourmet burgers & delectable desserts. Eat in or carry out available. Monday-Saturday 11-3. Items available for take home until 4:00. White Stone.

Valentine Dance
Corrotoman Civic Center
Sat., Feb. 18 • 9 p.m. - 1 a.m.
$25 per couple • $15 per person
Snacks and Set-ups included
Music by the
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BRKSCG (10/01) ED: 12/02

HILLSIDE CINEMA (804) 693-2770 (804) 693-7766
7321 J. Clayton Highway 14, Gloucester, Va.• Schedule for 02/10–02/16
Monday - Ladies Special $6.00
Admission, Medium Drink and Medium Popcorn are all for
THE PINK PANTHER(PG) 1 HR 39 MIN
Fri. (4:30), 6:15, 8:00
Sat.(1:00, 2:45, 4:30), 6:15, 8:00
Sun. (2:30, 4:30), 6:15
Mon. – Thurs. (5:15), 7:00
CURIOUS GEORGE(G) 1HR 25 MIN
Fri. (4:15), 6:00, 7:45
Sat. (12:45, 2:30, 4:15), 6:00, 7:45
Sun. (2:15, 4:15), 6:00
Mon. – Thurs. (5:00), 6:45
Students, Senior Citizen & Active Military $3.50 for all shows
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Sponsored by the
Kilmarnock United Methodist Men
THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 16
5 to 8 P.M.
Delicious Desserts on Sale By the Methodist Women
Carryout available
Adults: $8.00
Children (13/under) $3.50
Kilmarnock United Methodist Church
East Church Street

The Lancaster Players
present
"You Must Remember This..."
A Comic Entertainment
Dinner Theater
Musicals
Cabarets
Radio Theater
Concerts
Auditions
Dinner Theater
Feb. 9 - 11
Feb . 16 - 18
Feb . 23 - 25
804-435-3776
Directions: West at the light in White Stone, playhouse 1/2 block on right.

Donations
Accepted for yard sales held by the
Bethel/Emmanuel United Methodist Men
Items include: appliances, household items, tools, tv's, sporting goods, furniture, linen, books, autos and boats.
We'll accept most anything* except *clothing!
You can drop-off items at our building on Rt. 201 between Lively & 354 or arrange pickups by calling 462-5859, 462-5790 or 462-6103.
We can provide you with a tax exempt form for your donations.
WE PLAN OUR NEXT SALE ON MARCH 4TH.
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No one under 17 admitted to R Rated films without parent or adult accompaniment - ID's required
FRI. FEB. 10
CURIOUS GEORGE 5:00, 7:10, 9:10
FINAL DESTINATION 3 5:25, 7:35, 9:50
THE PINK PANTHER 5:15, 7:20, 9:25
SOMETHING NEW (PG13) 4:45, 7:25, 9:45
BIG MOMA'S HOUSE 2 (PG13) 5:20, 7:30, 9:40
SAT. FEB. 11
CURIOUS GEORGE 1:10, 3:00, 5:00, 7:10, 9:10
FINAL DESTINATION 3 1:25, 3:25, 5:25, 7:35, 9:50
THE PINK PANTHER 1:20, 3:20, 5:15, 7:20, 9:25
SOMETHING NEW (PG13) 1:30, 4:45, 7:25, 9:45
BIG MOMA'S HOUSE 2 (PG13) 1:00, 3:10, 5:20, 7:30, 9:40
SUN. FEB. 12
CURIOUS GEORGE 1:10, 3:00, 5:00, 7:10
FINAL DESTINATION 3 1:25, 3:25, 5:25, 7:35
THE PINK PANTHER 1:20, 3:20, 5:15, 7:20
SOMETHING NEW (PG13) 1:30, 4:45, 7:25
BIG MOMA'S HOUSE 2 (PG13) 1:00, 3:10, 5:20, 7:30
MON.-THURS. FEB. 13- FEB-16
CURIOUS GEORGE 7:15
FINAL DESTINATION 3 7:35
THE PINK PANTHER 7:20
SOMETHING NEW (PG13) 7:25
BIG MOMA'S HOUSE 2 (PG13) 7:30

Area Events

■ Auction planning

Plans for the 2006 auction at Chesapeake Academy on April 29 are under way. Proceeds will benefit and support future growth and development of the students.

To become an auction sponsor, to place an ad in the auction catalog, or to attend the event, call Carrie Ahlborn or Tim Saunders at 438-6490, or cahlborn@chesapeakeacademy.org. To make an item donation for the auction, call co-chairs Diana Neal (761-6372) or Jennifer Britt (435-2958).

■ Women and finances

Janice Hamilton, who operated her own certified public accounting firm for more than 20 years before her recent retirement, will speak on "Women and Finances" at a luncheon meeting of the Mary Ball Washington Republican Women's Club at 1 p.m. Thursday, February 9, at The Tavern in Heathsville.

Her topic will include information on dealing with financial problems women face, as well as personal and financial security and protection against identity theft. The club includes members from throughout the Northern Neck. For more information, contact Jeannie Kling at 580-4050, or kling@usa.net.

■ Speaking of computers

The Northern Neck Computer Users Group will meet Saturday, February 11, at 10 a.m. in the conference room of the Lancaster Community Library in Kilmarnock. All PC and Mac computer users are welcome.

■ Medicare workshop

Iris Treakle will lead a workshop on Medicare Part D prescription coverage at White Stone United Methodist Church February 11.

The workshop will begin at 2 p.m. For more information, call the church office at 435-3555.

Serving spaghetti

The men, women and youth of Kilmarnock United Methodist Church are preparing for their annual spaghetti supper Thursday, February 16. The men make and serve the meals, the youth serve tables and the women provide desserts. The supper begins at 5 p.m. in the church fellowship hall. Meals are $8 for adults and $3.50 for children.

■ Friends to meet

The Friends of the Lancaster Community Library will meet February 14 aat 1 p.m. at the library in Kilmarnock. Members will consider requests from the library director and board for funds. A new secretary will be elected.

■ Bluegrass show

The Dragon Run Band and the Honey Wind Bluegrass Boys will be featured February 18 at the Gwynn's Island Civic League building. The show starts at 7:30 p.m.

Donations benefit the Gwynn's Island Museum. The civic league will sell refreshments.

■ Dinner at seven

On February 18 at 4 p.m. Dinner at Seven, a group of local singles, age 50 and above, will meet with other singles from the Richmond and Williamsburg areas.

This late afternoon get-together will be held at a home on Crane's Creek. Contact Judi by email (jcaples@crosslink.net) or leave a message at 462-5430.

■ Relay needs help

A Piankatank Relay For Life Event will be held at Middlesex High School June 2 and 3. Organizers need team captains, subcommittee members, corporate sponsors and volunteers.

Planning sessions are held at Lebanon Worship Center in Saluda. Monthly meetings will be March 7, April 11 and May 16. Call Rev. Melody Latimore-Christian at 758-9777.

Comic revue opens

"You Must Remember This..." begins a three weekend run tonight (February 9) at The Playhouse in White Stone.

Performances continue February 10, 11, 16, 17, 18, 22, 23, 24 and 25.

The comic entertainment about memories, memory and loss of memory is a compilation of 16 skits, monologues, improvisations and one act plays. There are also nine surprise elements, nostalgic music and audience participation interwoven with the longer pieces.

Conceived and directed by Randal Tyler, the cast features ACT 4 in association with the Lancaster Players.

The dinner theater production will feature a meal catered by Carried Away Cuisine of Kilmarnock. The menu includes a spinach salad with pears, walnuts and gorgonzola, balsamic marinated chicken breast, two rice pilaf, green beans with hazelnuts, corn muffins and a pumpkin roll with cinnamon and whipped cream for dessert.

For reservations, call 435-3776. The price for dinner and show is $30. Spirits, wine and beer will be sold. The theater doors will open at 6 p.m. The performance will begin at 8 p.m.

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from Roxy and Luci

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Fiction or Fact

from Bob's Almanac

by Robert Mason Jr.

By now, you've probably heard Lancaster County made Progressive Farmer magazine's top 10 best places to live in rural America.

I saw it in a daily newspaper. At first, I felt a sense of pride.

But after reading the brief article a second time, I realized there must be a lot more to the story, which is the case with most everything I read in the daily paper about our neck of the bay. Such articles are generally full of inaccuracies, biased, sensational, steeped in embellishment, long on misinformation and short on fact.

So I went straight to the magazine's website and found their top 10 picks: Ontario County, N.Y.; Union County, S.D.; Oconee County, Ga.; Grafton County, N.H.; Kendall County, Texas; Grundy County, Ill.; Lancaster; Boone County, Ind.; Blaine County, Idaho, and Hood River County, Ore.

As for other Virginia counties in the top 200, Bath ranked number 12; Fauquier, 28; Albemarle, 48; Mathews, 63; Goochland, 93; Gloucester, 112; Botetourt, 131; Augusta, 144; King William, 158; Fluvana, 160; Middlesex, 166; and Orange, 175;

I also found an interesting account of how the magazine's executive editor was stopped by the sheriff's department when he visited the county to take photos for the spread.

Apparently folks found his actions following a school bus and shooting photos of the kids as they got dropped off ... suspicious.

Deputies stopped him and after a brief conversation determined he posed no harm to the community.

While this all makes for an interesting tale of a close-knit rural community, or nosey neighborhood, it's hardly criteria for picking a "best place to live."

Which begged the question: What does make Lancaster one of the magazine's top picks?

The website offers an explanation. They started with counties in rural areas that met their population and density criteria, but I didn't find those numbers.

Counties in their overall top 10 and regional top 20 lists were ranked according to cost of living (the ratio of average household income to average household spending). Then they created a formula taking into account crime rates, air quality, access to health care (the number of medical resources per thousand people), education (student/teacher ratios and college-bound percentages) and leisure opportunities like restaurants, museums, parks and golf courses. After crunching the numbers, their editorial board looked at intangibles such as quality of life and scenery and then they talked to some people.

I guess its a good thing they didn't talk to me.

Sure, Lancaster is nice enough on the surface. But, their criteria apparently didn't take into consideration things like unemployment, the number of households without indoor plumbing, the population living here below the poverty line, inflated prices on darn near everything, the lack of recreational activities for youth and the limited public access to the water, However, the magazine did mention high land prices.

While there's lots of pretty things here, lots of big homes, lots of fancy cars, lots of rich folks and lots of impressive scenery, it's far from ideal.

Progressive Farmer should stick to agricultural reporting and leave the fluff to the daily paper.

Meanwhile, back at their website, I played their game and rated their criteria on a scale of 1 to 5, with 1 being least important and 5 being most important, to determine my personal top 10.

Given I'd like most to remain in the southeast, here's my list of top counties, according to the Progressive Farmer formula: Polk, N.C, Hardin, Ky, Transylvania, N.C., Pickens, Ga,, Flagler, Fla., Georgetown, S.C., Middlesex, Va., Augusta, Va., Morgan, Ga., and Baldwin, Ala.

Now I know the formula's flawed. I've lived in Middlesex, and we don't want to go there.

Besides, everybody knows the most desirable rural county in Virginia is Giles, and it ain't on either list.

Excerpts

by Henry Lane Hull

One of my most vivid memories of childhood comes back to me from a Saturday morning when my father headed out to get a billy goat. We had a nanny and two small kids, and he wanted to complete the family. A couple of gentlemen from the neighborhood came to help him, but when they pulled up the lane and got out, the billy bolted and tore off through the field. We never saw him again despite the rest of the weekend having been devoted to searching high and low.

Although I taught history for 20 years, I do not think that it necessarily repeats itself, but sometimes I wonder. Two weeks ago the B.E.s and I headed over to Charles County, Md., to get a pygmy billy goat which was excess in a herd friends of ours had acquired the previous week. Since he was a pygmy, we put our portable dog kennel in the back of the pickup and sailed forth.

When we arrived, our friends' 12-year-old daughter volunteered to catch the goat for us. The entire herd was confined in a small barn, and although the space was limited, it took her 15 minutes. He came out unhappy, and as he was without a collar, we had to hold on tightly.

We got him in the truck, chatted briefly and left for the long ride home. My good wife often has remarked that all the animals around the farm belong to someone else, namely the B.E.s or me, and that this was going to be "her" goat, although significantly the three of us were charged with transporting him home. She has named him "Jordan."

When we reached home, we removed the kennel with him still in it, put it on the ground, opened it, reached in to put a collar on him, and then removed him by lead to his nicely appointed pen. He did not like to walk on a leash, but immediately seemed at home in his new pen and little house. He also appreciated the fine cuisine.

The next day the elder B.E. took him for a walk which he enjoyed, and they began a twice-a-day jaunt. All went well until Monday when the B.E.s were at school, the good wife was away, and I came home in early afternoon to find Jordan missing. He was loose in the back yard and I began pursuit around the farm. When I headed him back towards his pen, he ran up the woodpile and catapulted himself over the fence onto the roof of his little house and then onto the ground. In his view, nothing could be simpler, but I feared he would see the pen as a sort of hotel which he could check into and out of at will.

Later that afternoon after the B.E.s arrived from school, we found him gone again. This time there was an initial message on our answering machine from our neighbor, Mary Margaret Clegg-Hughes, whom our family calls "M2," saying that she had seen a goat running down her lane, and thought it must be ours. In a later message she said that she had tried to capture the goat, but had been unsuccessful and he had gone farther into the woods. Things were not looking good.

At that point, the B.E.s and I were alone in our search. We drove all over, but found no trace of Jordan. When we pulled back into our lane, the Elder B.E. said he saw him over at H.C. Watson's, our neighbor's on the other side. We drove over and sure enough, there he was standing, staring at H.C.'s two dogs in their kennel. At this point, my good wife drove into H.C.'s drive and we began a four-person effort to catch him.

Jordan was having fun frustrating us, always turning after each bolt, from a safe distance, looking back at us as if to say, "Gotcha." On one of his trips in and out, my beloved spouse who claims him as "her" goat, nabbed his collar, and we leashed him to begin the unpleasant trip back across the field to his pen. He was not a happy camper, but once in his new home, he settled down, and the passing days thereafter have been uneventful. He enjoys his walks, and likes the newly fenced hill for grazing.

Fortunately, we succeeded where my father had failed all those many years ago. Our pygmy billy is at home awaiting the arrival of a suitable spouse and the beginning of a new stage of family life. Thus far I can only say, "Phew."

Delegate's Report

by Del. Robert J. Wittman

We have now been through four weeks at the General Assembly.

My legislation is progressing and my office is often filled with friendly faces from the 99th District.

At this point, I have had only one piece of legislation pass the House of Delegates. A fair number of my bills have been sent to committees for further examination. I introduced a bill that would require legal fees be rewarded to landowners if they have to sue to get fair market value for their land. This bill was sent to the Housing Commission with other bills regarding eminent domain issues to be investigated for the 2007 session.

Other legislation that will be studied over the course of 2006 for the 2007 General Assembly session involved water dependent properties and insurance coverage for a specific type of radiation therapy. The legislation involving water dependent properties would allow localities to offer land-use assessments to facilities that must be located on the water to function. This would make it so that a crab, oyster or fish house would not have to be assessed at the same rate as residential properties. In order to do this there must be a Constitutional Amendment. Constitutional Amendments must be voted on and passed in two consecutive sessions with a House of Delegates election separating those sessions. Since the next delegate election is in 2007 this piece of legislation was held over until next year.

The other piece of legislation was introduced on behalf of the Mid Rivers Cancer Center in Montross. This center uses a type radiation therapy called solid compensator IMRT, which reduces the amount of radiation exposure to healthy tissue. Recently they have been denied reimbursement for this treatment from insurance companies, while the procedure is covered in all of the states surrounding Virginia. I felt that this denial of coverage was unmerited, so I put forth a bill to require mandatory coverage. When bills of this nature are introduced, they are referred to the mandated health benefits committee for further examination, and will be brought back in the 2007 session.

I also introduced legislation that would have the Department of Human Resources do a comparative study on different types of law enforcement officials' salaries, which was tabled, and a bill that would hold telephone companies accountable for providing the correct information in their directories. This bill was carried over because there is a complaint concerning a company's telephone directories before the State Corporation Commission.

I chose to strike my bill regarding menhaden fisheries because of dissent among the various industries. I am now left with six pieces of legislation working their way through the House of Delegates.

All of our time here is not spent just on the House floor and in committee; we also spend a significant amount of time meeting with constituents and groups throughout Virginia. We were recently visited by a group of constituents on behalf of the Farm Bureau.

This week we were visited by students from the Chesapeake Bay Governor's School and the Rappahannock Community College nursing program. February 1 was Hokie day so we got to meet with Virginia Tech students from the past and the present. I also got to meet with a constituent about public schools advancing their career and technical training programs. The theme of education this week was topped off with receptions sponsored by the State Council of Higher Education for Virginia, VMI, and a breakfast in honor of the state PTAs. Education is a high priority to me and I really enjoyed getting the opportunity to meet with so many groups on behalf of such a worthwhile issue.

As always, do not hesitate to contact me with your viewpoints and concerns. The phone number to the General Assembly office is 698-1099. The email address is delrwittman@house.state.va.us.

You may also use the Constituent Viewpoint Hotline at 1-800-889-0229 to share your thoughts about legislation.

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Letters to the Editor

Boathouses pollute

To The Editor:

Northumberland County remains one of the most lovely areas in the Chesapeake Bay region, partly, because it has been less developed.

As other areas on the bay have become more developed, residents and government agencies have noted that boathouses on residential properties have become more numerous and contribute in many ways to the deterioration of the beauty and the health of the waterways. The result has been that boathouses have been banned from residential waterfronts in most areas of the Chesapeake Bay.

The main argument against banning boathouses is that this takes away rights from property owners. More important, I believe, is the fact that boathouses take from all of us the health and beauty of our waterways.

The chemicals that are now used as wood preservative for piers and boathouses, according to the manufacturer, "may migrate into soil and water." They are so toxic that users are advised to wear a dust mask, googles and gloves; to carefully clean up all sawdust and debris; to wash work clothes separately from other household clothing before reuse; and not to burn preserved wood.

More boathouses using these products will increase exposure of the environment to toxic chemicals. Piers are clearly necessary, private boathouses are not necessary and should be banned.

I have been told that fiberglass can tolerate almost unlimited exposure to sunlight. The only treatment recommended for protecting them is a can of wax, not a boathouse.

The authorities, whether local or state, should help prevent this growing menace to the waterfront in Northumberland County.

Eugene D. Brand M.D.
Wicomico Church

Iraq graft hurts U.S. youth

To The Editor:

The front page of last Friday's Richmond newspaper showed a picture of a grief-stricken wife and her little boy, gazing at the coffin of her dead husband, a Marine sergeant killed in Iraq. The grief and sadness she was enduring could only be understood by someone who shared her tragic experience.

Appearing on the same page was a report by Virginia Senator John Warner that graft and corruption were running amuck in Iraq, getting worse instead of better, with profits actually fueling the insurgency.

With thousands killed, thousands crippled for life, and hundreds of billions of dollars which we don't have and must borrow to sustain this war, how can one not question the leadership of the government that is allowing these abuses to occur? President Bush thinks everything is working so well, he now wants to stamp out tyranny wherever it exists.

The real tragedy with all the graft and corruption is that the ones getting hurt are the best of our American youth.

Bob Weber
Lancaster

Medicaid is a good thing

To The Editor:

Most people bite their tongues when the same few liberal malcontents spout their venom regarding anything that the current administration offers, beginning with the Iraq War and recently the prescription drug program.

It doesn't take much of a brain to realize that Medicaid prescriptions are a good thing if you can save from 50 to 75 percent of prescription drug costs if they are in the $1,000 category and up.

There are always some misguided souls who will protest anything Republican inspired or sponsored, even though they rave against the very things that make their affluent self-indulgent lifestyle possible.

Floyd L. Vanetten
Merry Point

Wal-Mart may be a bad neighbor

To The Editor:

I wasn't sure if Wal-Mart was a good thing for the community or not, so I spent a few hours on the internet researching. Here's what I discovered.

Better prices? A September 2005 Consumer Reports survey shows that mom-and-pop stores, typically known for service, also offer good prices and a better selection of appliances than most nationwide chains. The study shows that"none of the major retailers that were rated for large appliance purchases...out-priced the independents."

Wal-Mart: not a winner on price. "Compared with other small-appliance buyers, more than twice as many shoppers said they overpaid. Readers who shopped there ranked small appliances lower in quality than readers who bought elsewhere. Wal-Mart was also among the least satisfying for service and checkout. Crowded, poorly-marked displays were an added gripe."

More revenue for the town? Numerous studies, including a 10-year study by Kenneth E. Stone, "Impact of the Wal-Mart Phenomenon on Rural Communities" and a 2004 US Congressional Report by the Democratic Staff of the Committee on Education and the Workplace, "Everyday Low Wages, the Hidden Price We All Pay for Wal-Mart," say that local officials such as mayors, city administrators, city council members, county council members are a problem.

Stone says, "Quite often they look at the short-term benefits of more employment, and increased tax base. But in the long term, the situation often results in the loss of local businesses, which reduces employment and tax base."

Local businesses put their money in local banks and it is used in the community. Wal-Mart money goes to the corporation. Congress says the hidden costs greatly reduce local revenues. Examples given are lower taxes when other businesses close and/or reduce their workforces, costs of building/improving roads, increased public assistance because Wal-Mart average salaries are below the poverty level, and the possible cost of subsidies, tax credits and special deals with Wal-Mart (examples given include Missouri developer who received a tax incentive of almost $40 M for a Wal-Mart construction project).

A great place to work? These studies point out Wal-Mart pays associates about 25 percent less than other retail businesses. About 40 employee lawsuits have been filed against Wal-Mart. Reports on these suits and details in Wal-Mart's Securities and Exchange Commission 10K are extensive and include a $172 million judgment awarded in December 2005 to employees who were illegally denied 30-minute unpaid lunch breaks.

Wal-Mart also had to pay workers in Colorado and New Mexico for shortchanging them on wages and is facing a huge class-action suit by female workers alleging they were denied training and promotions. In a Texas class-action on behalf of 200,000 former and current employees, statisticians estimated that the company shortchanges its workers $150 million over four years.

The New York Times reported that some stores lock their doors at night so that no one can enter or leave, and some workers have been threatened that, if they ever use the fire exit to leave the building, they will be fired.

Wal-Mart's net income in 2005 was over $10B.

They sound like a bad neighbor to me.

Donna Doleman
Heathsville

Yesteryear in Lancaster

(A reprint from the February 9, 1906, issue of the Virginia Citizen.)

Some boat news

The new steamer, Dr. W. J. Newbill, on her trial trip in Baltimore, did not make the time she was supposed to make. She only made about six miles an hour. It was decided to put on another propeller and she is expected here the last of this week.

A large barge, Alma McIlwaine, with 700 tons of stone for the dyke at the mouth of Carters Creek, has arrived and has commenced to discharge the cargo. Capt. Wagner, the government overseer, has a large force of men unloading and placing the stone on the dyke. It will take two weeks to unload this cargo, which is the first of three barges to arrive. About fifteen hundred tons of stone in all will be required, and two months will be consumed in the work.

(Transcribed by volunteers of the Genealogy and Research Center of the Mary Ball Washington Museum and Library.)

Letters to the Editor

Wal-Mart will bring jobs and shoppers

To The Editor:

I've lived in Lancaster County all my life and I would really like to know what is wrong with the people here?

I think Wal-Mart coming here will probably be the best thing that has ever happened to this town. With the way gas prices are, who can afford to travel to Gloucester or Tappahannock all the time?

Sure it would probably hurt the small business, but what about bringing more jobs to this town?

A lot of people live in this county and there is just not enough jobs. If you are able to get a job, then the pay is not much or not enough hours.

I am a mother of four children and taking my children to Gloucester or Tappahannock to go to a Wal-Mart gets a bit hideous at times.

Also, it would bring more money to the town. More people would come in to shop and not just at Wal-Mart. People would go to the other businesses as well. Keep the money circulating.

At the moment, a lot of people are shopping out of town. This would bring the shoppers back to Kilmarnock to do their shopping instead of going somewhere else.

Is that what this county needs, for the money to circulate here?

If the town does not want to bring in a Wal-Mart, then how about lowering the gas prices because I got news for you, people will continue to go out of town to do their shopping.

Debbie Leigh
Kilmarnock

Thanks for your concern, we're doing just fine

To The Editor:

On behalf of my family that has lived on Tabbs Creek outside of White Stone for four generations, I thank some of my neighbors for their impersonal and unwarranted concerns regarding the cattle that live on my mother's farm.

These neighbors went to such lengths as to call and complain to the Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services, which in turn created an investigation among that department and the Northern Neck Soil and Water Conversation District.

The investigation was recently conducted and I have received a letter stating that sufficient evidence does not exist to prove that the operation is causing a water quality problem.

My neighbors never contacted me or my elderly mother, who suffers from Alzheimer's and has lived on this land since 1920, to discuss their concerns. We would have been more than glad to discuss any concerns they may have, as good neighbors should.

I suspect that these neighbors are probably some of the same individuals who shoot fireworks every July 4th so loud that it scares our livestock and terrifies my mother.

Perhaps they should look into their own backyard(s) and realize the damage that they may be causing our waterways with their construction, lawn fertilizers, dock constructions, boating sports, jet skis and dredging the channel at the mouth of Tabbs Creek, causing severe erosion; or perhaps they should look farther back into their upbringing and some of the lessons they hopefully learned in kindergarten and do unto others as they would have them do unto them.

I sincerely thank the gentlemen, Dwight Forrester and Glenn Martin, both representing the aforementioned government agencies, for their kindness and their professionalism. I thank them for their ideas and suggestions that I intend to implement so that this family farm can and will remain just that, no matter who moves in down the street.

Bill Goss
White Stone

Animal Tails

By Audrey Thomasson

Happiness is a warm puppy

The late Charles Schultz must have had a puppy like Flower in mind when he created the Peanuts comic strip about Charlie Brown, his dog, Snoopy, and their rag-tag gang of misfits. After a few minutes with the loving and spirited Flower, one can understand what Schultz meant when he wrote "Happiness is a warm puppy."

Flower is like a burst of sunshine. She romps through the yard of her foster home as though life is one big party. If a squirrel happens by, she thinks its play time and chases it across the yard in a round of tag that ends at the fence when the furry cousin-of-a-rat claws its way up and over the safety zone.

Then it's on to treasure hunting for the peanut-colored dog. Getting into her big-game hunting posture she listens intently for the sound of voles tunneling under her imaginary jungle. Adding to the excitement, the family dogs, Buster and Miss Ellie, come over to see what's up. But they know all the voles were run out long ago—about the time Flower hit town—so the older, wiser dogs quickly lose interest. Feeling sure she has rid the world of vermin, Flower is free to chew on ol' Buster's ear or chase her own tail in a high-octane circle.

But at the first sound of the back door being unlatched, Flower takes off like her idol, Snoopy, paws barely hitting the ground as she flies across the yard, through the door, sliding into the kitchen and chowing down dinner before you can say "Come and get it."

Flower

Flower's life wasn't always so sunny. When her litter was rescued by the Gloucester-Mathews Humane Society, she was one sick puppy. Her little heart could be felt rapidly vibrating and she would tire after a few minutes of play. A veterinary heart specialist determined a fetal heart duct that should have closed at birth when her lungs took over was still going strong, causing the puppy's heart to enlarge as it overworked to compensate. Without surgery to close the extra duct, her heart would fail within a month.

Thanks to the generous donations of the Humane Society's board of directors, many of their foster families and a special donor, doctors at North Carolina State Veterinary School in Raleigh, performed open heart surgery on the two-month old puppy, first, to tie off the duct at the aorta valve, and then six weeks later, to insert a coil to finish blocking the unwanted duct. Flower was given medication to slow down her heart rate so that her enlarged heart could begin to shrink down to normal size.

Flower is nearly 12 months old and expected to live a normal life. It was a big investment, but according to the pooch's extended family–everyone who is a part of saving her life and cheering her on—she is so worth it. Now Flower is anxious to find a forever home. If you are interested in adopting this very special heartthrob, contact the Humane Society at 693-5520, or glouhumane@inna.net.

While Snoopy may be a true Renaissance dog who does it all—from World War I Flying Ace to tennis champion and accomplished writer, Flower has a heart that's been touched by many loving hearts. This warm puppy is a true winner.

For a story on your animal companion, visit www.animaltails.org, or email animaltails@verizon.net.

For adoptions or donations in Lancaster, call the Animal Welfare League at 435-0822 or 462-0091, the Lancaster Animal Shelter at 462-7175, the Friends of the Shelter at 435-0737, or Animals First, at 462-5067.

In Northumberland, call the Friends of the Shelter at 435-2597 or A Place in the Sun at 580-6484 (cats only).

Lancaster Republicans plan annual Reagan Day Dinner

Del. L. Scott Lingamfelter and Del. Rob Wittman will be the featured speakers at the ninth annual Reagan Day Dinner, hosted by the Lancaster County Republican Committee, March 26 at Indian Creek Yacht and Country Club near Kilmarnock.

U.S. Rep. Jo Ann Davis will serve as master of ceremonies.

"By holding this event, we are honoring former President Ronald Reagan as one of our country's greatest presidents," said Joan Blackstone, chairman of the Lancaster County Republicans. "We want to strengthen Reagan's legacy by keeping his principles of effective and honest government in the public eye."

Presdient Reagan passed away in June 2004. February 6 would have been his 95th birthday.

"We are honored to have Congresswoman Davis again act as our master of ceremonies. We are also privileged to have two excellent Republican members of the House of Delegates as speakers," Blackstone said.

The dinner begins at 5:30 p.m. with a social hour and a silent auction of political memorabilia. The items are donated by local residents and prominent elected officials, Blackstone said. The proceeds will benefit the local party organization's treasury.

Blackstone asked that local residents consider donating any political memorabilia, books, campaign materials, or similar items to the silent auction. Blackstone can be reached at 435-6464 to accept auction items.

Rep. Davis, a former member of the Virginia House of Delegates, was elected to the U. S. House of Representatives in November 2000. Now in her third term, she serves on the House Armed Services committee, the International Relations committee and the Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence. She and her husband, Chuck, live in Gloucester. They have two grown children.

She is a candidate for re-election this fall.

Del. Lingamfelter of Woodbridge represents District 31 in the House of Delegates. He retired from the U.S. Army in 2001 with the rank of colonel after 28 years of active service.

Del. Lingamfelter is a graduate of the Virginia Military Institute, and of the University of Virginia with a master's in government and foreign affairs. He won election to the House of Delegates in 2001 and represents Prince William and Fauquier counties. He is a member of the House Finance committee, the Education committee and the Militia, Police and Public Safety committee. He is also a member of the Chesapeake Bay Commission and the Southern Regional Education Board. He is married to the former Shelley Glick and the couple has three children.

Del. L. Scott Lingamfelter

Rep. Jo Ann Davis

Del. Wittman represents District 99, which includes Lancaster, Northumberland, Richmond, Westmoreland and King George counties, and a portion of Caroline County. Del. Wittman is the former chairman of the board of supervisors in Westmoreland County and has spent the past 20 years devoted to public service.

Del. Wittman was elected in 2005, and is serving his first term in the House. He is a graduate of Virginia Tech, and has a master's in public health from the University of North Carolina, and a doctorate in public policy and administration from Virginia Commonwealth University. Del. Wittman and his wife, Kathryn, live in Montross and the couple has two children.

The 2006 Reagan Day dinner will begin with a 5:30 p.m. social hour followed by a buffet dinner at 6:30 p.m. Dress is business attire.

Admission to the dinner is $40 per person. To make reservations for the dinner, contact party treasurer Emerson Gravatt at 435-3350 or Blackstone at 435-6464.

Rep. Davis co-sponsors bills to withhold aid from Palestinian Authority

Rep. Jo Ann Davis is a co-sponsor of two pieces of legislation to withhold funding from, and implement tough measures against, the Palestinian Authority (PA), now under the control of the terrorist group Hamas.

"The Islamic Resistance Movement, known as Hamas, recently won majority control of the Palestinian Legislative Council. Hamas is a terrorist organization, and this election will allow them to control the Palestinian Authority," said Rep. Davis. "Therefore, I have co-sponsored legislation that would cut off all foreign aid to the Palestinian Authority as well as legislation that would withhold U.S. contributions to the United Nations that would be used for programs dealing with the PA, and calls for the PA to be designated a "terrorist sanctuary."

The United States does not support terrorist states, added Rep. Davis, who serves on the House Armed Services, Select Intelligence, and International Relations committees.

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Local News

Cheryl Rigert from Antioch, Il., Pamela White from Goode, Va., and Robert M. Bloxsom from Petal, Ms., spent last weekend with their parents, Captain and Mrs. Robert Bloxsom in White S tone.

Mrs. John Bangit of Williamsburg visited her mother, Mrs. Ashby Blackwell, in Remo last Sunday.

Wallace Carter has returned from Bridgewater after spending several days with his grandchildren, Sarah, Sam and Steve Carter, while the parents, Dr. and Mrs. Drew Carter, were away on business.

Mr. and Mrs. Jenith Peterson have moved from their home in Indian Creek and are now residents at Rappahannock Westminster-Canterbury.

Mr. and Mrs. Randall Marsh were in Gloucester one day last week to visit his brother, Mr. John Marsh, at the Gloucester Rehab Center.

Guests of Mr. and Mrs. Tom Spafford last weekend were his daughter and her son, Ms. Lora Merryman and Lee, who were here to celebrate Tom's birthday.

Mrs. Eleanor Trush and Mrs. Norma Drinnon have returned from Raleigh, N.C., after a nice visit with Mrs. Trush's son and daughter-in-law, Mr. and Mrs. John Trush.

Mr. and Mrs. Innis Wood spent Sunday with his son, Wesley, and Dee Wood, at their new home in Dahlgren.

Mrs. Peggy Jo Conner and daughter, Emily, of Montpelier and Mrs. Donna Slade of Wake Forest, N.C., were weekend guests of their mother, Mrs. Anna Jo Sanders, in Kilmarnock.

Mrs. Ellen Brent Boone of Morehead City, N.C., and Mrs. Jean Dize of Ditchley have returned to their home after a pleasant week with Mr. and Mrs. Dave Nystrom in Boca Raton, Fla.

Jeff Loudy of Alexandria was the weekend guest of his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Dean Loudy in Kilmarnock.

Guests of Mrs. Carroll Hurst for lunch at the Golden Eagle on Thursday were Jim and Shirley Churchill of Lottsburg and Bluff Point and Ms. Pamela Glockinieser of Little Town, Pa.

Mrs. Janet Treakle is recovering nicely at home following foot surgery at Rappahannock General Hospital.

Recent weekend guests of Mr. and Mrs. Tom Fletcher in Kilmarnock were Mrs. Helen Goodman of Richmond and daughter, Dr. Barbara Goodman of Chester. The Goodmans, one time residents of Kilmarnock, enjoyed seeing old friends while here.

Mr. and Mrs. Donovan Michael Grimwood

Grimwood, Lawyer wed

Jessica Philippa Lawyer of Lancaster and Donovan Michael Grimwood of Cookeville, Tenn., were united in marriage January 28, 2006, at Saint Ignatius of Antioch Catholic Church in Antioch, Tenn., with Father John C. Henrick officiating.

The bride's parents are Bruce and Margaret Lawyer of Lancaster. The groom's parents are Deborah and Elwin Hannah of Cookeville and Richard and Lynne Grimwood of Mesa, Ariz.

Also in attendance were the groom's grandparents, Zane and Cheryl Ardary; his brothers, Eric and Emory Hannah and Jason Grimwood; the bride's brothers, Gordon and Vincent Lawyer; her sister-in-law, Julia Lawyer; her niece, Sarah Lawyer; her aunt, Ellen Hall; and her uncle, Victor Lawyer.

Serving as matron of honor was Alice Viggiano of Atlanta. The best man was Darrell Kirby of Nashville, Tenn. The groom's brothers, Eric Hannah and Jason Grimwood, served as ushers. Readers for the ceremony were the groom's aunt, April Moore; his friend, Eric Paisley; the bride's father; and her brother, Vincent Lawyer.

Music was provided by the groom's uncle, Chip Moore, on piano. Following the ceremony, a reception was held at the Holiday Inn Express in Antioch.

The bride is a graduate of Lancaster High School and earned a registered nursing degree from Rappahannock Community College. She works as a home health nurse in Nashville.

The groom has a bachelor's in chemistry from Tennessee Technological University and is employed by the State of Tennessee as an environmental specialist. The couple resides in Antioch.

Mr. and Mrs. Ronald C. Hammer

Hammers celebrate 41 years

Mr. and Mrs. Ronald C. Hammer, formerly of White Stone, will celebrate their 41st wedding anniversary February 12, 2006.

Ronald Hammer and the former Frances Nease married at the Lutheran Church in Vienna. Mrs. Hammer is the daughter of the late Frank and Fern Nease of Parrotsville, Tenn. Mr. Hammer is the son of the late Clarence and Evelyn Hammer of Seminole, Fla.

Their family includes a son and his family, Ronald C. Hammer Jr., Phyllis Hammer, Ronald C. Hammer III and Lacey Danielle Hammer of Martin, Tenn.

The Hammers make their home in Knoxville.

Rep. Davis and Sen. Allen help set up grant workshop

Rep. Jo Ann Davis and Sen. George Allen last week announced that the Department of Homeland Security and the Virginia Department of Fire Programs will hold a fire grant work shop February 26 at 3 p.m. at Rappahannock Community College in Glenns.

The workshop will focus on ways for local emergency personnel to compete for available fire safety grants.

"I encourage all our emergency personnel to attend this important grant workshop and take advantage of the helpful information that will be shared," said Rep. Davis, who lives in Gloucester.

"Our Virginia emergency personnel should have every opportunity to compete for additional federal funding to support them in their important homeland security work. I would heartily encourage local fire departments, EMS, and their associated personnel to take advantage of this informative workshop," said Sen. Allen

The workshop will provide information on grants available for first responders, and how to apply for them.

For more information, call Joe Schumacher at 757-874-6687.

Wed 71 years

Family and friends helped Jim and Hannah Turner of Kilmarnock celebrate their 71st wedding anniversary February 4, 2006.

Sweetheart events set at gardens

The Lewis Ginter Botanical Garden in Richmond has several special events planned during February. The garden, at 1800 Lakeside Avenue, is open daily from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.

For directions, daily admission and special event times and fees, call 262-9887, or visit www.lewisginter.org.

Daily exhibits include "All Aboard! A Model Train Trip through Historic Richmond" February 11 through June 4, and "Double visionary: Floral Fantasies" through March 19.

Special events include "The Garden is for Lovers," February 10 through 25; "Valentine's Dinners and Brunch in the Tea House," February 12 and 14; "Love in Bloom Bridal Show at the Garden," February 19; and "Garden Design for the Future," February 25.

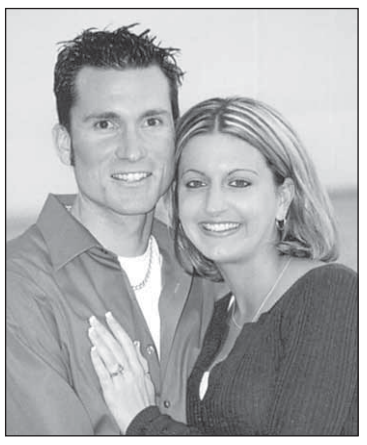
Engagements

Allen-Mussari

Mr. and Mrs. Garland Lee Winstead of Weems and Stephen D. Allen of White Stone announce the engagement of their daughter, Stephanie Joy Allen, to William J. Mussari, both of Kilmarnock.

Miss Allen is the granddaughter of Pearl R. Kyzer, the late Howard L. Kyzer Sr. and Mr. and Mrs. Ashby L. Allen Sr., all of White Stone. She is a 1999 graduate of Lancaster High School and is employed by the Bank of Lancaster.

The prospective groom is the son of Brenda Mussari of Cary, N.C., and William M. Mussari of Vandling, Pa. He is the grandson of Elaine Walczak of Buffalo, N.Y., the late Louis Volo, William A. Mussari of Vandling, and the late Ruth W. Mussari. He is a 1997 graduate of Forest City Regional High School and is the general manager of Pizza Hut in Kilmarnock.



William J. Mussari and Stephanie Joy Allen

The couple will wed June 3 at Grace Episcopal Church in Kilmarnock.

Births

Kylie Scarborough Philips and Kinzlie Bryan Philips

Twin girls, Kylie Scarborough Philips and Kinzlie Bryan Philips, were born November 4, 2005, to Bryan and Karlie Freeman Philips of Hatteras Island, N.C.

Mrs. Philips is a former resident of Lively and a graduate of Lancaster High School.

The twins' grandparents are Jean Philips of Canyon Lake, Texas, Rocky Freeman and Larry and Karen Adams, all of Chesapeake.

Jack Kendall Jones

Kendall and Leslie Jones of Ditchley announce the birth of their son, Jack Kendall Jones, born December 29, 2005, at Memorial Regional Hospital in Mechanicsville.

His maternal grandparents are Ben and Betty Greer of McLean. His paternal grandparents are Jim and Ann Jones of Kilmarnock.

The baby was welcomed home by his big brothers, Casey and Sean.

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Gathering yard sale items

The Northern Neck YMCA is having a gigantic yard sale to benefit its afterschool program. The sale will be held Saturday, February 11, from 7 a.m. to noon. Proceeds from the sale will help purchase supplies, equipment and field trips. The yard sale will be held at the YMCA and will feature furniture, toys, computer equipment and books. From left are youth and family services director Cynthia Wright with helpers Connor Donahue and Patrick Best.

'On Stage' to host Robin and Linda Williams and Their Fine Group concert

For three decades, Robin and Linda Williams of Middlebrook have made it their mission to perform the music that they love, "a robust blend of bluegrass, folk, old-time and acoustic country that combines wryly observant lyrics with a wide-ranging melodicism."

Some call it "Americana," but these two revered music masters were living and breathing this elixir 20 years before that label was turned into a radio format.

Whatever it's called, Robin and Linda and Their Fine Group will return to the Lancaster Middle School Theater in Kilmarnock Saturday, February 11. The "On Stage" concert sponsored by the Rappahannock Foundation for the Arts will begin at 7:30 p.m.

Their stirring concerts have earned them a huge body of fans over the years. But as gifted songwriters, Robin and Linda Williams have earned an even rarer honor, the devotion and deep respect of their musical peers. The list of artists who have covered their original songs include some of the greats of country music, musicians like Emmylou Harris, Tom T. Hall, George Hamilton IV, Tim and Mollie O'Brien, Mary Chapin Carpenter, Kathy Mattea and The Seldom Scene.

They are heard regularly on "A Prairie Home Companion" and have also appeared on "The American Radio Company," "Austin City Limits," "Mountain Stage," "Music City Tonight" and "The Grand Old Opry."

They tour constantly with Their Fine Group. Band members include Jim Watson on bass, vocals and mandolin, and Jimmy Gaudreau, on mandolin and mandola.

Neal and Nickel Wealth Management of Wachovia Securities in Kilmarnock and the Virginia Commission for the Arts are providing financial assistance for the On Stage concert.

For ticket information, call the box office at 435-0292.

Author and researcher to speak at library

Phyllis McClure, a writer and researcher of contemporary and historical race and education issues will speak at Sundays At Two on February 12 at the Lancaster Community Library in Kilmarnock. Her topic is "Rosenwald Schools in the Northern Neck."

Between 1911 and 1932, more than 5,000 schools for rural, southern Negro children were built throughout the South. The impetus and partial funding for them came from the Julius Rosenwald Fund. Rosenwald was the president of Sears & Robuck Co. at the time. Some 22 of these schools were in the Northern Neck and five are extant.

Drawing his inspiration primarily from Booker T. Washington, Rosenwald made a donation to Tuskegee Institute Rural School Building Program as part of his 50th birthday celebration. The funds were to be used to build schools for black children where none had previously existed. Strict standards for the schools were set that had to be met for the school to receive its grant. There was a broad curriculum of vocational and classical subjects.

Phyllis McClure

In 1916, the Commonwealth of Virginia received $11,000 to build 50 or 60 "new colored school buildings." The A. T. Wright School, built in 1916 in White Stone, was one of these. Although the Rural School Building Program ended in 1932 with the Great Depression, the schools continued to exist until the 1950s. County resident J. Allen Ball was principal at Merry Point.

Although the schools became known as the Rosenwald Schools, nationally only about 15 percent of the total cost came from the fund. Nearly half of the cost was raised and contributed privately by the black citizens of the community where the school would be built. Public funds made up the balance.

The Virginia Magazine of History and Biography, Vol. 113. No.2, 2005, carried an article by McClure entitled, "Rosenwald Schools in the Northern Neck." She has published a number of articles on the No Child Left Behind Act, Title I, Title IV, and other federal programs. She was a regional director for the NAACP Legal Defense and Education Fund Inc. She worked for the U.S. Commission on Civil Rights. She was a teacher and Peace Corps volunteer in Nigeria.

McClure is a graduate of the University of Connecticut and has masters' from the University of California in Berkeley and the John F. Kennedy School of Government at Harvard University

The Sundays At Two programs are free and open to the public. The presentation is followed by coffee and refreshments with an opportunity to talk with the speaker.

Remaining programs include "Bill Gurley and Friends: Bluegrass Fiddling, Rhythm & Roots" February 19 and Margaret Devinney "Mythology: How the Ancients Explained the World" March 5.

Birder to address native plant chapter

The Virginia Native Plant Society's Northern Neck chapter will feature B.J. Norris on Thursday, February 16. Norris will speak on "Winter Birds of the Northern Neck."

The meeting will be held at Wicomico Parish Church in Wicomico Church at 12:15 p.m. Attendees are urged to bring a brown-bag lunch. The hospitality committee will furnish beverages and light refreshments.

Norris has been the bird walk leader for Northern Neck Audubon on several occasions, and served as president one year. She has no professional background in ornithology, but birders respect one another for their skills, not their academics.

Over the past 25 years, Norris has developed many skills. She got her start in New Jersey, where New Jersey Audubon sponsored training courses and programs, and she took at least a dozen of the courses. She was fortunate to live near a large, mostly native, wooded lot and walked there almost every day, thus training her skills independently.

Early in her training, she realized that good birders used their ears as much as their eyes, and she started using tapes to learn bird songs as she drove around in the car. Her ears are her greatest strength as a birder. She lives on Mosquito Point outside of White Stone on the Rappahannock River and the majority of her birding is done walking around in her own neighborhood, down to Mosquito Point and around to Mosquito Creek. She goes to Hickory Hollow, Dameron Marsh and Hughlett Point, especially during the spring and fall migrations; and also observes the birds in the winter.

Norris has been on escorted birding tours to the Texas Coast, Texas Hill Country, Big Bend, Ariz., Montana and West Virginia. She also has birded extensively in the maritime provinces of Canada, where one can see warblers on their breeding ground.

She and her husband, Tom, try to go to Cape May or West Virginia during the warbler migration in mid-May to observe the flights.

Rep. Davis to hold Medicare meeting

Rep. Jo Ann Davis will hold a town hall meeting to discuss the new Medicare Part D program February 21 at 7 p.m. in Mathews County. Rep. Davis will be joined by Medicare trained specialists as well as representatives from the Social Security Administration to explain the new program and answer any questions.

"The new Medicare Part D Program is now enrolling, and I know that many folks in the district have questions and comments regarding the plan," said Rep. Davis. "I encourage everyone who has questions or comments regarding the plan to come out to this town hall meeting. I will have specialists there to answer any questions, and I would really like to hear what people have to say about the plan."

The meeting will be held at the Piankatank Ruritan Club at 7138 Buckley Hall Road in Cobbs Creek.

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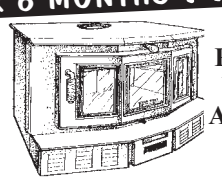
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School to present musical

Christchurch School will present "Grease" in Marston Hall February 23, 24 and 25 at 8 p.m. Admission is free, but reservations are necessary. For reservations, call 758-2300 ext. 144 between 3:30 and 5:30 p.m., or e-mail boxoffice@christchurch.org. From left are Jess Crabill and Patrick Lynch, both of Irvington, who will play Sandy and Danny.

Museum announces upcoming programs

The DeWitt Wallace Decorative Arts Museum at Colonial Williamsburg has announced its programs for February and March.

The programs focus on period music, new historical books and even the color purple, all programs pleasing to the eyes and ears.

Programs are included in museum admission unless otherwise noted. Programs will be held in the museum's Hennage Auditorium.

On Saturday, February 11, The Roots and Branches of American Music will begin at 3 p.m. Folk musician Bob Zentz will explore the origins of American songs and instruments in a concert that is fun for the whole family. The program requires a free reservation available at any Colonial Williamsburg ticket location.

On Sunday, February 12, Irish Music for a Winter's Day will begin at 3 p .m. Dan and Stuart Jackson, a father-and-son duo, with Graham DeZarn will perform traditional Irish music. The program requires a free reservation available at any Colonial Williamsburg ticket location.

On Saturday, February 25, Purple Reign will begin at 3 p.m. in the Hennage Auditoriom. Deborah Kraak, a freelance historian who specializes in textiles, costumes and period interiors, will review the history of the color purple on the 150th anniversary of William Perkin's creation of mauvine, the first synthetic dye.

On Friday, March 3, Jamestown and the Birth of America will begin at 5 p.m. James Horn, Abby and George O'Neil, director of the John D. Rockefeller Jr. Library, will discuss his new book, *A Land as God Made it,* which examines the founding of Jamestown, the first English settlement in the New World.

On Sunday, March 5, Ben Franklin Book for Recipes will begin at 3 p.m. The program will include a discussion of Hilaire Dubourcq's book *Ben Franklin Book of Recipes,* which examines the life of Franklin and 18th-century cooking.

The DeWitt Wallace Decorative Arts Museum, Abby Aldrich Folk Art Museum and Public Hospital will be closed from March 6 through mid-May/early June 2006 for maintenance work. As soon as the work is completed, a portion of the museum will reopen and feature masterworks from the decorative art collections. Much of the museum's programming, especially that geared toward younger guests, will continue but may be relocated to other sites around the Foundation.

Colonial Williamsburg's goal is to have these museum facilities fully operational around the beginning of 2007. The latest information about the re-opening dates and museum programming can be found at www.colonialwilliamsburg.org/history/museums.

The museum, supported by the DeWitt Wallace Endowment Fund, displays the Colonial Williamsburg Foundation's collection of British and American decorative arts.

Entered through the reconstructed Public Hospital of 1773, the museum is on Francis Street near Merchants Square and is open daily from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Admission is included in any multi-day Colonial Williamsburg admission ticket or separate museums ticket. For program information, call 757-220-7724.

Annual antiques forum opens Feb. 26

Nationally recognized and award-winning museum experts will participate in the 58th annual Colonial Williamsburg Antiques Forum, "In Search of the Past: Restoring and Furnishing America's Historic Sites," February 26 through March 2 at the DeWitt Wallace Decorative Arts Museum.

Scheduled speakers include Nancy Campbell, chair emeritus of the National Trust for Historic Preservation. She will present "America's Historic Sites: Custodians as Best We Can in Our Time."

Campbell has served in numerous positions with a range of preservation organizations including chair of the Preservation League of New York State, commissioner of the Connecticut Historical Commission and chair of the Connecticut Trust for Historic Preservation.

Peter Kenny, curator of American decorative arts and administrator of the American Wing, of the Metropolitan Museum of Art in New York, will present "Mansion House, Tenant House: A Tale of Two 18th-century Interiors from Van Rensselaer Manor at the Metropolitan Museum of Art."

Kenny received the 1999 Robert Smith Award from the Decorative Arts Society.

Page Talbott, associate director and chief curator of the Benjamin Franklin Tercentenary in Philadelphia will present "Benjamin Franklin at Home."

Dr. Talbott was co-editor and contributor to Philadelphia's "Cultural Landscape: The Sartain Family Legacy," winner of the Ewall Newman Award from the American Historical Print Collectors Association and the Philadelphia Book Guild Award.

Lynne Dakin Hastings, curator and chief of the Hampton National Historic Site in Baltimore will present "Richly adorned...and Then Some: Interpreting Three Centuries of Tales at Hampton."

Hastings is a two-time Albright Fellow and Attingham Fellow. She teaches seminars for the Winterthur Graduate Program in Early American Culture, George Washington University and other museum studies graduate programs.

Colonial Williamsburg experts, collectors and scholars will present a series of illustrated lectures and video-assisted workshops on 18th-century furniture, maps, ceramics, textiles, paintings, metals and a number of important historic buildings.

Forum guests may register for optional workshops and tours of private historic homes in the region. Optional workshops will include Case Studies: Curtains and Covers for the Historic House; American Neoclassical Furniture; Archaeological Evidence of Domestic Assemblages; A Closer Look at English Earthenware; and From Hearth to Table Preparing and Serving an 18th-Century Meal.

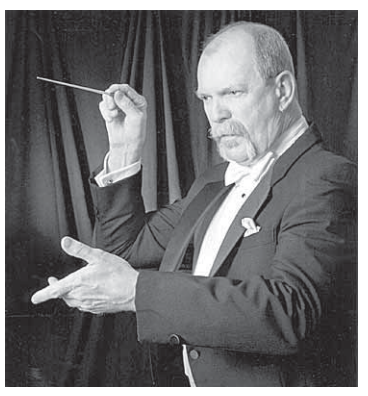
Optional bus day trips will visit Fredericksburg, one of 18th-century Virginia's major urban and artistic centers; the 1791 Cape Henry Lighthouse, the first Federal lighthouse in the United States; and Virginia's Thoroughgood and Lynnhaven Houses, both circa 1725.

The conference registration fee includes an opening reception, all presentations, continental breakfasts, coffee breaks and afternoon refreshments, a closing reception and dinner, and a Colonial Williamsburg admission ticket valid for the duration of the conference.

Conference registration must be made in advance and accompanied by a $530 registration fee per person along with full payment of all optional program fees ($85 per person per bus trip and $60 per person for workshops).

Register at www.ColonialWilliamsburg.org/conted. For additional registration information, contact the conference registrar at dchapman@cwf.org or fax 757-565-8921.

For information on room rates and to make room and dining reservations, call 800-261-9530, Monday through Friday from 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m.



Guy Hayden

Hayden returns

Guy Hayden of Newport News will conduct the Northern Neck Orchestra March 4 at 8 p.m. at the Lancaster Middle School Theatre.

This will be his third appearance with the orchestra.

The concert, "Bolero," includes music by Mozart, Ravel and Tschaikovsky.

Tickets are $12 for adults and $6 for children. They can be purchased at Twice Told Tales in Kilmarnock and at the Kilmarnock Antique Gallery, or by calling 436-9027.

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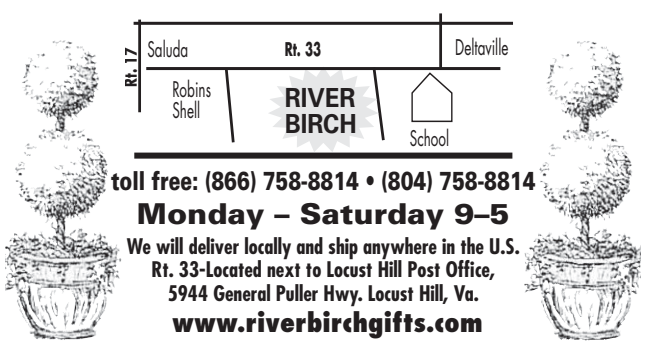

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Devils and Indians to clash in Heathsville

by Lisa Hinton-Valdrighi

As far as the big games go, it's been a relatively quiet Northern Neck District season.

But tomorrow night (February 10) in Heathsville, expect some noise. The big game will follow a junior varsity contest, beginning at 6 p.m.

The varsity regular season title is on the line when the Devils meet the Indians. Both teams have one loss in district play, with Lancaster's coming to Northumberland. The Indians were upended early in the season by Essex.

The Devils had to get by Rappahannock and the Indians by Washington & Lee earlier this week to go into tomorrow night's game in a first-place tie. Barring any major upsets, that should happen.

Lancaster (5-1, 9-7) defeated W&L, 62-52, last Friday when Andre Henderson paced three double-digit scorers with 16 points.

A. Henderson scored 14 points in the first half when Lancaster took a 12-point lead. The Devils actually trailed by four at the end of the first quarter, then went on a 22-6 run in the second period.

A. Henderson visited the line for 10 foul shots in the first half. He hit eight, and sank 10 of 15 on the night. Currently, he leads the district's shooters, averaging 16 points per outing.

Trevor Henderson added 14 points for the Devils, scoring 12 from three-point land. Montel Mitchell added 12.

Chavis Gordon of Washington & Lee led all scorers with 20 points.

W&L..... 18 6 14 14 - 52
Lancaster .. 14 22 17 9 - 62

W&L — B. Johnson 0, Turner 5, Laws 2, Weldon 8, Hamilton 0, Plummer 0, Thompson, B.L. Johnson 0, Gordon 20, Kinard 4, Crawley 8, Ball 5. Three-point goals: Turner, Crawley.

Lancaster — T. Henderson 14, Mitchell 12, Veney 6, George 0, C. Henderson 0, Segar 4, Saunders 3, A. Henderson 16, Rice 3, Laws 1, Wilson 0. Three-point goals: T. Henderson 4, Rice.

Lancaster 82, West Point 30

Just about everybody got into the act last Wednesday when 11 of 12 Red Devils scored against West Point.

A. Henderson scored 11 points and T. Henderson 10 to lead Lancaster in an 82-30 rout of the Pointers.

The Devils put the game away early, outscoring their hosts 24-5 in the first quarter and putting up 20 unanswered in the second period for a 39-point lead at the break.

A. Henderson scored all of his 11 in the first half and Jamie Veney scored all of his eight points in the first quarter.

Lancaster..... 24 27 13 18 - 82
West Point ... 5 7 8 10 - 30

Lancaster — T. Henderson 10, Mitchell 6, Veney 8, George 2, C. Henderson 8, Taylor 6, Segar 8, Saunders 6, A. Henderson 11, Rice 6, Laws 0, Wilson 6. Three-point goals: T. Henderson 2.

West Point — Wise 13, Williams 5, Parker 7, Fudella 2, McCloud 3. Three-point goals: Wise 4, Williams, Fudella.

Marbles are up for grabs tomorrow in JV basketball

by Lisa Hinton-Valdrighi

All the marbles are on the line tomorrow night (February 10) when Lancaster and Northumberland meet in the JV boys basketball season finale, and the pile could roll either way.

Right now, the Red Devils are in first place in the Northern Neck District with an unbeaten 6-0 mark. The Indians trail by a game, with their only loss of the season coming to Lancaster.

The Devils lost a third regional game of the season last week to West Point, but picked up a pair of district wins over Washington & Lee and Essex to maintain their undefeated district status.

The Devils are 11-3 overall.

Tomorrow's game in Heathsville caps regular season play for both teams.

Lancaster was scheduled to host Rappahannock earlier this week.

"I'm not trying to overlook [Rappahannock], but I think it's going to come down to Friday night," said LHS coach Collin Rice. "West Point beating us was a wake-up call. It's given us some motivation. Our chances [against Northumberland] are really good. We're playing a little mad now, with a little more fire and a little more wind beneath our sails.

"I've told them though," added Rice, "that it's hard to beat a team two times and they'll be prepared for us."

The Devils beat both Essex and Washington & Lee the second time around, downing the Trojans, 53-33, last Tuesday and beating the Eagles, 41-27, last Friday. In between, the Pointers upset Lancaster, 50-46.

Eleven different shooters scored against Essex with Quenton Henderson scoring 15 points to lead Lancaster. Nick Gibson and Seth Christman chipped in eight apiece. Gibson did all of his scoring in the first quarter when Henderson added five and Travis Baker scored all four of his points to lead the Devils on a 17-6 run.

Lancaster put up another rally in the third quarter, outscoring the Trojans 14-4 to open the second half and expand a 23-19 halftime lead.

The Devils went up 43-23 at the end of three and rode the 20-point lead to the win.

James Carey and Jeremy Sales hit a trey each for all of Essex's scoring in the first quarter and the two combined again with a basket each for all of their teams' scoring in the third.

Sales matched Henderson's scoring effort with 15 points to lead the Trojans.

Lancaster ..17 12 14 10 - 53
Essex .....6 13 4 10 - 33

Lancaster—Gibson 8, Carter 2, Christman 8, Betts 2, Moore 4, Tiggle 4, Thomas 4, Henderson 15, Baker 4, Kuykendall 0, Somers 2, Lee 2. Three-point goals: Henderson 3, Gibson 2.

Essex—Ashlock 2, Carey 5, D. Gaines 0, Sales 15, Gladding 9, Garner 0, Holmes 0, Coble 0, Campbell 0, Bundy 0, W. Gaines 0. Three-point goals: Sales 3, Carey.

Lancaster 41, Westmoreland 27

Lancaster got serious in the fourth quarter Friday night, breaking three quarters of back-and-forth shooting and lead changes to stun the Eagles with a 19-4 run and beat W&L, 41-27.

The Eagles took an opening 10-7 lead before Lancaster answered with a 13-7 run in the second quarter to go up by three, 20-17, at the half.

An offensive stale-mate in the third created just eight total points, with W&L outscoring Lancaster, 6-2, to go up 23-22. Henderson scored the only field goal for LHS in the period.

The Devils blew the game open and finally put the lead out of the Eagles' reach with 15 unanswered points in the fourth quarter. Lancaster got eight points from Lee Kuykendall and four from Jonathan Somers in the run.

Kuykendall led the Devils with 11 points and Henderson added 10.

W&L ..... 10 7 6 4 - 27
Lancaster .... 7 13 2 19 - 41

Westmoreland—Smith 10, Ball 0, Brooks 3, Tate 1, Wilson 2, Johnson 11.

Lancaster—Gibson 7, Christman 2, Betts 3, Moore 0, Henderson 10, Baker 2, Kuykendall 11, Somers 6, Lee 0. Three-point goals: Henderson 2, Gibson.

West Point 50, Lancaster 46

West Point opened and ended strong last Wednesday, outscoring Lancaster in the first and fourth quarters for a 50-46 upset.

The Pointers opened with an 11-5 run, but allowed Lancaster to put up 18 points in the second quarter to tie the game 23-23 at the half.

The Devils led by two, 36-34, after three periods, but West Point then put up six unanswered points to win.

Nick Gibson led the visiting Devils and all scorers with 19 points.

Lancaster..... 5 18 13 10 - 46
West Point ... 11 12 11 16 - 50

Lancaster—Gibson 19, Christman 0, Betts 5, tiggle 0, Henderson 2, Baker 7, Kuykendall 7, Somers 6, Lee 0. Three-point goals: Gibson 5, Baker.

West Point—Doyal 14, Wilson 2, Roane 23, Miches 0, Briggs, Holmes 0, Acree 6.Three-point goals: Doyal 2.

Kimberly Crockett (13) of Lancaster chases down Essex High's Megan Wind on a fast break during a varsity game last Tuesday.

Lancaster ladies win at W&L

by Lisa Hinton-Valdrighi

The varsity Lady Devils got by Washington & Lee, 39-34, last Friday to pick up their second Northern Neck District win.

The victory comes just a week before the district playoffs begin.

After losing to Essex last Tuesday, Lancaster now has a 2-4 district record and 3-8 overall mark near the bottom of the Northern Neck pack.

The Devils wind up regular season play tonight (February 9) at Northumberland.

Tyesha Harvey and Miesha Wiggins scored 13 points each to lead Lancaster against W&L. Both contributed big late-game efforts as Lancaster overcame a deficit in the fourth quarter.

The Lady Devils were only down by five at the half, then allowed the host Eagles a 15-8 run in the third to trail by 12 going into the final quarter. Lancaster made up ground at the foul line, hitting seven of 10 free shots in the period to outpace the Eagles, 17-2.

The defense held W&L to a single field goal by Adrienne Lockett in the final period.

Lancaster's Miesha Higgins and Katisha Crippen (14) double team Quanda Holmes of Essex.

Lockett led the Eagles with 11 points and teammate Kelisha Johnson added 10.

Lancaster .....4 8 8 17 - 39
W&L .....5 17 15 2 - 34

Lancaster-Crockett 0, Jones 2, Crippen 0, Harvey 13, Wiggins 13, Smith 7, Randle 4, Jones 0.

W&L-Farmer 2, Jackson 0, Brown 2, Day 2, Johnson 10, B. Hackett 2, Veney 2, J. Hackett 3, Lockett 11.

Essex 53, Lancaster 25

Lancaster wasn't just slow to warm up last Tuesday, it was like cold molasses.

The Lady Devils never really got going in their 53-25 loss to Essex. They scored only seven points in the first half and gave up 38 to the Trojans in the second half.

The Devils were still scoreless nearly six minutes into the game and got a single field goal from Kimberly Crockett for all of their scoring in the first quarter.

Amber Smith scored all five points in the second quarter for Lancaster, which trailed 16-7 at the half.

The Trojans widened their lead in the third with a 14-9 run, then totally put the contest out of reach with a 24-9 fourth quarter.

Essex High's Arlice Baker almost equalled Lancaster's total scoring effort with 20 points.

Smith scored eight points to lead Lancaster.

Essex.....10 6 14 24 - 53
Lancaster.....2 5 9 9 - 25

Essex-Wind 8, Robinson 0, Baker 20, L. Rich 8, S. Rich 6, Green 4, Holmes 6.

Lancaster-Jones 5, Crockett 2, Harvey 5, Wiggins 1, M. Smith 2, A. Smith 8, Randle 2. A. Smith 2.

Andrea White of Lancaster tries to maintain control while three Essex defenders swoop in for the ball.

JV Lady Devils (5-0) add another district win

The JV Lady Devils held on to their unbeaten status last Tuesday, defeating Essex, 33-25, to stay in first place in Northern Neck District girls basketball.

Andrea White led all scorers with 12 points and helped Lancaster improve to 5-0 in the league and 9-1 overall.

Lancaster led by 11 after a 14-8 run in the third quarter, then managed only two points in the final period. Jazmine Moody scored six of the Devils' 14 points in the third period.

Lancaster held a 17-12 advantage at the half after holding Essex to a pair of field goals by Agner Johnson and Matisha Taylor in the second period.

Sarah Boone led the Trojans with 11 points.

Jackie Dawson contributed nine and Moody eight for the Devils, who wrap up the season tonight (February 9) at home against Northumberland.

Essex ..... 8 4 8 5 - 25
Lancaster ..... 9 8 14 2 - 33

Essex — Boone 11, Johnson 2, Taylor 4, Braxton 2, Pollard 4, Veney 2.

Lancaster — White 12, Beane 2, Moody 8, Yerby 2, Dawson 9.

Softball clinic is Saturday

Chip Bailey will lead a fastpitch softball clinic at Lancaster High School Saturday, February 11.

Bailey is a renowned pitching and hitting instructor in the Richmond area. He will hold a clinic for players ages 7 to 11 from 9 a.m. to noon and for players ages 12 to 18 from 1 p.m. to 4 p.m.

The fee is $30 per session.

Participants should arrive 15 minutes early, wear tennis shoes and bring a bat, glove and helmet.

On-site registration will be accepted if the session is not filled.

To register, call LHS softball coach Dave Zeiler at 435-1931 evenings before 9 p.m. or during the day at 435-3196.

Sports Shorts

■ Little League

Registration for the 2006 Lancaster County Little League season opens Saturday, February 11, at Dream Fields near Kilmarnock, from 9 a.m. All children ages 5 to 18 whose parents live in the Lancaster County Little League boundaries are urged to register. The fee is $35.

New players are asked to bring their original birth certificate; all players must bring proof of residence, such as a current phone or electric bill, tax bill, photo ID with physical address, or any official document which includes the physical address.

Scoreboard

Varsity boys basketball
Lancaster 62, W&L 52
Northumberland 62, Essex 47
Lancaster 82, West Point 30
Rappahannock 61,
West Point 36
Middlesex 72, King William 54

JV boys basketball
Lancaster 41,
Washington & Lee 27
Lancaster 53, Essex 33
West Point 50, Lancaster 46

Varsity girls basketball
Lancaster 39,
Washington & Lee 34
Essex 53, Lancaster 25
JV girls basketball
Lancaster 33, Essex 25

Wrestling
Lancaster def. Essex and Northumberland
Lancaster def. Bruton, St. Christopher and Christchurch

Upcoming Games

Boys basketball
(JV 6 p.m.; varsity 7:30 p.m.)
February 10:
Lancaster at Northumberland
February 15:
Northern Neck District tournament semifinals at Northumberland (6 p.m. and 8 p.m.)
February 17:
Northern Neck District tournament final at Northumberland (8 p.m.)

Girls basketball
(JV 6 p.m.; varsity 7:30 p.m.)
February 9:
Northumberland at Lancaster
February 14:
Northern Neck District tournament semifinals at Northumberland (6 p.m. and 8 p.m.)
February 17:
Northern Neck District tournament final at Northumberland (6 p.m.)

Wrestling
(Lancaster High's home matches held at LMS)
February 10:
Northumberland, Arcadia and York at Lancaster Quandrangular

From left are Artazia Palmer, Endesha Haynes, Cameron Kenner, Keandra Owens and Javonte Davis.

Free throw winners advance to district contest

Nine boys and girls from the Northern Neck, ages 10 to 14, were named local champions of the 2006 Knights of Columbus Free Throw Championship and have earned the right to compete at the district level.

Council 11667 of Kilmarnock sponsored the local competition at the Northern Neck Family YMCA in Kilmarnock.

Anesha White was the 10-year-old girls' champion and Keandra Owens was winner of the 10-year-old boys' division. In the 11-year-old bracket, Artazia Palmer was the girls' champion and Cameron Kenner was the boys' champion. The 12-year-old winners in the girls' and boys' divisions were Endesha Haynes and Javonte Davis. The 13-year-old boys' division was won by Trey Henry. The 14-year-old champions were Cyarra Turner in the girls' bracket and Shaq Dillon in the boys'.

Each contestant attempted 15 free throws in the contest. Ties were settled by successive rounds of five free throws per contestant until a winner emerged.

Each of the winners will compete in the district competition to be held February 12 at Botetourt Elementary School in Gloucester with an eye toward moving on to the state level.

LHS wrestlers are doing 'their best at the best time,' according to coach

by Lisa Hinton-Valdrighi

The Red Devils don't really need the validation, but they'll get it anyway. Lancaster is wrestling like one of the best teams in the region.

The Devils come off a 5-0 week to improve to 18-2 overall and stay unbeaten in the Northern Neck District.

They're wrestling their best at the best time, according to coach Craig Oren.

"This is where we want to be with the sub-region coming up," he said.

Mathews, a regional wrestling powerhouse in recent years, will host the sub-region tournament next Saturday, February 18. Before then, Lancaster will host its final home regular season quadrangular against York, Arcadia and Northumberland tomorrow night (February 10).

The Devils beat two district teams, Northumberland and Essex, last Tuesday night and defeated Bruton, St. Christopher and Christchurch in a quad last Saturday.

In individual matches, the Devils lost just six.

Ross Kellum (112), Sam Frere (119), Thomas Frere (140), Robert Lally (152), Gary Wardlaw (170) and Justin Culpeper (HW) all went undefeated at 5-0, while Renan Beltram was also undefeated at 4-0.

"Justin also wrestled two exhibition matches at the quad to finish with three pins," said Oren. "He's greatly improved and is peaking at the right time."

Oren also added that S. Frere's match against his St. Christopher opponent "was Sam's most technically sound match of the year."

Sven-Eric Woelhk also wrestled his best match of the year against Christchurch, according to Oren. Woelhk went 4-1 on the week in the 130 weight class.

Ibraheem Bullock (135), Louis Santangelo (189), Daniel Robertson (160) and Patrick Oliver (125) also went 4-1 each.

Robertson won by decision over Jordan Gates of Northumberland. It was Robertson's first career win over Gates, who's beaten the Lancaster senior three times.

"Daniel asked me for one last chance at him," said Oren, "and wrestled the best he has all season to win."

Oliver, who recorded his 100th career win two weeks ago, lost by decision in the final two seconds of his match against Indian Anthony Collins.

"With the sub-region and region tournaments coming up, this match-up is going to be the one to watch," said Oren.

Corbin Marchand, who has recently rejoined the team, went 2-1 at 140 pounds in his first week.

Graham Winnstanley (152) was 1-1 in the matches.

Seahorse girls place third for the season

With two wins against Fuqua School last week, the Christchurch School girls basketball team finished third in Virginia Commonwealth Conference season standings, assuring a first-round home game in the league tournament.

The Seahorses hold a 9-4 record and a 10th-place ranking in state polls.

In a 62-27 win over Fuqua, Ann-Gordon Bennett of Locust Hill grabbed 11 rebounds, while Madeleine Przybyl of Christchurch pulled down 10. Sarah Jones of White Stone had six.

Maddy Ahlborn of Irvington scored 10 points for Christchurch, while Przybyl had a career-high 32. Przybyl also added five steals for the night.

In a 50-32 win over Fuqua, Przybyl tallied 28 points and Ahlborn added 14.

Sophomore Madeleine Przybyl is breaking school scoring records.

Przybyl broke the 600-point mark for her career, breaking a school record for career-high girls basketball scoring. Posting an average of 21.5 points per game, she leads the league in scoring average.

Gallery to hold boat building workshop

The Mathews Art Gallery will sponsor a scratch model boat building class March 13 through March 17 from 5:30 to 8 p.m.

Warren Robinson will conduct the class at his shop in Mobjack. Robinson is a nationally known builder of ship and workboat models and a graduate of many schools including the Wooden Boat School in Brooklin, Maine.

His models are exhibited and sold in the Mathews Art Gallery and the Historic Annapolis Foundation Museum Store. The course is for first-time and intermediate students.

Robinson will take the participants through the hands-on steps of building their own Chesapeake Bay rowing skiff including the opportunity to learn techniques for building many other workboats found on the bay.

The fee is $80 and includes all materials the modeler will need. The registration deadline is March 3. The class is limited to eight participants. Directions and a list of tools recommended for the course will be supplied at registration.

To register, call the gallery at 725-3326 or Robinson at 725-5396 between 10 a.m. and 4 p.m.

Galo to outline Alaskan adventure

The speaker for the Thursday, February 16, Virginia Aeronautical Historical Society Northern Neck/Middle Peninsula Chapter meeting will take guests and members on a trip to Alaska in a Cessna T206H, beginning and ending from Hummel Field in Topping.

George Galo has been aviation minded since he was a young boy. He started flying lessons while a student at Old Dominion University, then joined the U.S. Army and earned his wings as a fixed wing, and helicopter pilot.

Galo served in Vietnam, flying Boeing CH 47 Chinook cargo helicopters with the 205th Assault Support Helicopter Co. at Phu Loi. After flying 1,400 combat hours in Vietnam, he was stationed at Ft. Eustis as a flight instructor and VIP pilot. He retired from the Army and became a primary flight instructor at Geneseo Airport in New York. After spending two frigid winters there, he returned to Virginia, joined the Virginia State Police as a trooper, flying both airplanes and helicopters for six years.

He then became a civilian pilot and instructor for the U.S. Army Reserve for nine years. His next position was with the Federal Aviation Administration's Washington Flight Standards District Office at Dulles as an aviation safety inspector. He retired as manager.

Galo has an airline transport pilot rating for multi-engine landplanes–Lear Jets, Cessna CE 500 Jets, and deHavilland DHC-7s (4-engine planes). He has commercial pilot ratings for single-engine land planes, helicopters and gliders; instrument ratings for airplanes and helicopters; flight instructor ratings for single- and multi-engine land aircraft, and helicopters; and instrument rating for airplanes and glider-aero tow.

Galo continues to be an active pilot. He flies out of Hummel Field and Hampton Roads Executive Airport in Chesapeake. He has accumulated over 11,000 hours of flying time.

He and his wife, Shirley, live in Lancaster, and have grown children. She went to Alaska too, last year, but flew commercial, since the Cessna was too crowded with George and a fellow pilot, as well as camping equipment for traveling landwise in Alaska.

The luncheon meeting will be held at noon at the Pilot House Restaurant. The meeting is open to anyone interested in flying and might want to join the chapter.

Seminar to highlight engine, electrical systems

A seminar to prepare for spring boat outfitting of engine and electrical systems will be held March 4 from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the Rappahannock River Yacht Club in Irvington. The seminar is open to the public and free of charge.

"This is an opportunity to review and organize the many chores necessary to spring commissioning. While we will focus on topics as they relate to sailboats, powerboat owners new to these systems will certainly find the material helpful," said seminar organizer Dick Muller.

"Annual attention to these critical, and often expensive, boat systems can make the difference between reliable season-long service and unexpected difficulties," said Muller.

A graduate mechanical engineer with 50 years of off-shore and Chesapeake Bay cruising experience, Muller will lead the engine session beginning at 9 a.m. Topics include engine operation, fuel systems, ratings, comparison of gas versus diesel, troubleshooting and driveline/propeller fundamentals.

The afternoon session on electrical systems beginning at 1 p.m. will be given by Mosby West, graduate electrical engineer, and a sailor on the Rappahannock River and Chesapeake Bay his entire life. His topics include electrical fundamentals, batteries, chargers, alternators and regulators, use of multimeters in troubleshooting and wiring standards.

Participants may attend either the morning session, or the afternoon session, or both. Lunch is available for $5 with advance notice, or participants are welcome to bring a brown bag lunch.

Advance reservations are requested; call 438-6650, leave name, telephone number and if you wish lunch orders.

The Rappahannock River Yacht Club is at 100 Rappahannock Road in Irvington.

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Tour de Love: Romance and fitness to meet in Valentines

Picture yourself cycling down a tree-lined country lane with your beloved. Waiting to welcome you are a cadre of new friends and a picnic of bread and cheese. Your destination: Valentines—both the spirit and the place.

Yes, Valentines, Virginia, is a real town, complete with requisite romantic scenery. This year, it takes on a new significance as a special stop on the Tour de Love. This five-day cycling journey is an annual state event organized by BikeWalk Virginia, an advocacy group promoting active living.

With a different theme each year, the tour takes cyclists through the picturesque farmlands, quaint towns, and old plantations of Virginia. This year, the tour will dip into North Carolina as well.

The traditional partnership of love and marriage also will be realized as a wedding takes place on the Tour de Love, uniting a couple who met while cycling. If they could scale the tough hills together, they could do anything, they figured. Some 2,000 Tour de Love cyclists will share in the festivities, including the four-tiered wedding cake.

Matchmakers have taken notice of the event, too. Along with more traditional supporters, an agency that links up potential lovers, It Takes 2, is a sponsor of the Tour de Love.

People of all ages generally take part in Bike Virginia, by themselves or in couples or even families with children. On average, the cyclists tend to be in their 30s and beyond. Because of the natural camaraderie generated during the ride, it is an attractive vacation for active singles who enjoy the outdoors.

Cyclists are given options for longer or shorter rides, depending on their personal skill, endurance and preferences. Therefore, mileage will vary among individuals and can range between 250 and 400 miles over the five days. The Tour de Love takes place from June 23 to 28, and begins and ends in South Hill.

For more information, see www.bikevirginia.org, or call BikeWalk Virginia at 757-229-0507.

Flight ready

Cadet Basic Nick Fensterman gets set for his first orientation flight with the Hummel Field Squadron of the Civil Air Patrol. The Cadet Orientation Flight Program introduces cadets to general aviation through hands-on flights in single-engine aircraft and gliders. The pilot is senior member 1st Lt. Don Johnson.

YMCA News

The following programs are planned by the Northern Neck Family YMCA at the Harris Family Center on William B. Graham Court in Kilmarnock. Financial assistance may be available. Call 435-0223.

Movies

A family movie night featuring "The Sword in the Stone" will be held February 25 at 6 p.m. The fee is $2 for members and $3 for others.

Valentine's Dance

A Valentine's Dance and Match Made in Heaven Game will be held Friday, February 10, from 6 to 8 p.m. at Grace Episcopal Church. $40 per couple covers dinnner, drinks, music and the game. Register at the YMCA.

Yard Sale

A yard sale to benefit the afterschool program will be held Saturday, February 11, from 7 a.m. to noon.

Computer skills

A basic computer skills course on Saturdays starts Saturday, February 1, at 10 a.m. The fee is $50 for members and $60 for others. Required test is extra.

Parents night out

A Valentine's Day parents night out will be held Tuesday, February 14, from 6 to 8 p.m. Activities planned for ages 5 to 12 include dinner, games and a movie. The fee is $15 for members and $20 for others.

Health and fitness

Free health and fitness assessments will be offered February 18 from 8:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. for ages 18 and older. Call for an appointment.

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White Stone/Grey's Point Tides, Sun, & Moon – February, 2006

Fri	**2/10**	Moonset	5:51	Low	3:33	0.0′
		Sunrise	7:01	High	9:54	1.4′
		Moonrise	**3:13**	Low	**4:30**	0.1′
		Sunset	**5:39**	High	**10:05**	1.2′
Sat	**2/11**	Moonset	6:28	Low	4:21	0.0′
		Sunrise	7:00	High	10:36	1.5′
		Moonrise	**4:15**	Low	**5:10**	0.0′
		Sunset	**5:40**	High	**10:47**	1.2′
Sun	**2/12**	Moonset	6:59	Low	5:05	0.0′
		Sunrise	6:59	High	11:14	1.5′
		Moonrise	**5:16**	Low	**5:46**	0.0′
Full - **11:43**		Sunset	**5:42**	High	**11:25**	1.3′
Mon	**2/13**	Sunrise	6:58	Low	5:45	-0.1′
		Moonset	7:25	High	11:49	1.5′
		Sunset	**5:43**	Low	**6:19**	0.0′
		Moonrise	**6:16**			
Tue	**2/14**	Sunrise	6:56	High	12:01	1.3′
		Moonset	7:48	Low	6:24	0.0′
		Sunset	**5:44**	High	**12:21**	1.4′
		Moonrise	**7:14**	Low	**6:51**	0.0′
Wed	**2/15**	Sunrise	6:55	High	12:36	1.4′
		Moonset	8:09	Low	7:01	0.0′
		Sunset	**5:45**	High	**12:53**	1.4′
		Moonrise	**8:12**	Low	**7:22**	0.0′
Thu	**2/16**	Sunrise	6:54	High	1:09	1.4′
		Moonset	8:30	Low	7:37	0.0′
		Sunset	**5:46**	High	**1:24**	1.3′
		Moonrise	**9:10**	Low	**7:53**	0.0′
Fri	**2/17**	Sunrise	6:53	High	1:43	1.4′
		Moonset	8:51	Low	8:14	0.1′
		Sunset	**5:47**	High	**1:56**	1.3′
		Moonrise	**10:09**	Low	**8:24**	0.0′

Corrections	High	Low	Height
Piankatank River, Cherry Pt.	-1:42	-1:44	86%
Great Wicomico River Light	0:30	0:20	76%
Smith Point Light	1:01	0:44	86%

PM times are in **boldface type**.
Unusually high & low tides are also in **boldface**.
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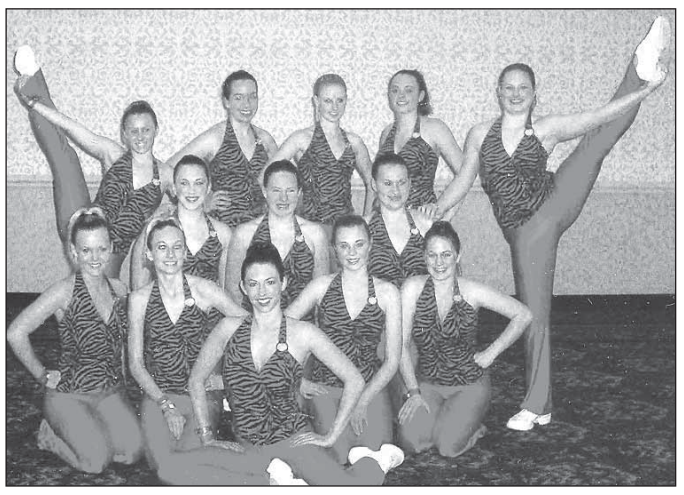

Local dancers perform at Sugar Bowl

The Dancing Divas of Linda's School of Dance and students of the Lancaster YMCA under the direction of Shona Pacheco and Linda Coffield recently performed at the halftime show at the Nokia Sugar Bowl game. From left are (front row) Pacheco; (next row) Jessica Hinson, Melissa Haydon, Jewell Beatley and Maria Crittenden; (next row) McClain Powell, Sarah Jones and Megan Hudnall; (next row) Katie Thompson, Becky Baltrusaitis, Heather Davis, Tabitha Rinehart and Stephanie Montgomery.

Bowling Results

Ladies League

R.P. Waller won three games against Northern Neck Surgical Services when Marsha Nash bowled a 356 set with games of 118, 121 and 117. Ola Nash rolled a 131 game and Dee Atkins had a 335 set.

For Northern Neck Surgical, Terry Stillman bowled a 343 set with games of 128 and 123. Beverly Benson rolled a 309 set with a 122 game. Elsie Rose had a game of 110.

Yeatman's Forklift won three games against Young Country when Pat Harris bowled a 361 set with games of 113, 113 and 135. Alma George rolled a set of 320 with a 135 game and Heather Hundley had a 120 game.

For Young Country, Theresa Davis rolled a 327 set with a 119 game. Betty Steffey bowled a 309 set with a 122 game. Cathy Savalina had a game of 115.

Callis Seafood won three games against Abby. Mary Savalina bowled a 351 set with a 130 game and Donna Thomas rolled a 321 set with a game of 130.

Lively Oaks won three games against T.C.H. Oil when Nancy Carter bowled a 345 set with games of 130 and 124. Jean Reynolds rolled a 308 set with a 109 game. Debbie Dodson had a game of 105.

For T.C.H. Oil, Vicki White rolled a 298 set with games of 109 and 100. Greta Walker and Marie Piccard each had a game of 104. Sandra Evans bowled a game of 112.

High game: Nancy Carter, 159; Alma George, 158; Elsie Rose and Ola Nash, 155.

High set: Betty Steffey, 405; Alma George, 401; Marie Piccard, 387.

High team game: T.C.H. Oil, 670; Young Country, 612.

High team set: T.C.H. Oil, 1,770; Young Country, 1,698; Yeatman's Forklift, 1,603; Lively Oaks, 1,601.

High average: Betty Steffey, 114; Nancy Carter, Sandra Evans, and Terry Stillman 108.

Standings	W	L
R.P. Waller	6	0
Callis Seafood	5	1
Yeatman's	4	2
Lively Oaks	4	2
Young Country	2	4
T.C.H. Oil	2	4
N.N. Surgical	1	5
Abby	0	6

Men's League

Cap'n John's won two games and lost one against Evans Bowling Center when Herbert Hammock bowled a 403 set with games of 159, 125 and 119. Ryan Dawson rolled games of 122 and 131. Joe Hinson had a game of 147.

For Evans, Wilson Evans bowled a set of 379 with games of 114, 123 and 142. John Forrester rolled games of 123 and 128. Richard Savalina had a 124 game and Bunks Mitchell rolled a 120 game.

H&S Printing won three games against D&L Marine Construction when Gary Hodge rolled a 343 set with a 135 game. George Lee bowled a game of 112 and Bill Hayden had a game of 94.

For D&L, Doug Hundley bowled a 330 set with a game of 116. Mark Obsharsky also rolled a game of 116 and Steve Hinson had a 105 game.

Sal's Pizza won two games and lost one against J&J Construction when Wayne Candrey bowled a 366 set with a 153 game. Justin George rolled games of 135 and 153. Bob Huff had a 130 game.

For J&J Construction, Roland Lewis bowled a 372 set with games of 127 and 133. Curly Lewis rolled a 128 game. Frank Perkins had a 127 game and Steve Edwards rolled a 125 game.

High game: Curley Lewis, 179; Ernie George, 170; Herbert Hammock, 167; Bob Huff, 166; Ryan Dawson, 165.

High set: Louis Coates, 457; Ernie George, 415; Wayne Candrey, 413; Curly Lewis, 409; Bob Huff, 404; Herbert Hammock, 403.

High team game: Cap'n John's, 560; Sal's, 523; J&J, 513; D&L, 508; H&S, 506; Evans, 502.

High team set: Sal's, 1,471; Cap'n John's, 1,446; H&S, 1,438; D&L, 1,429; Evans, 1,427; J&J, 1,419.

High average: Louis Coates, 138; Wayne Candrey, 120; Curly Lewis and Bill Hendershot, 119; Wilson Evans and Herbert Hammock, 118.

Standings	W	L
Evans	9	3
H&S Printing	8	4
Cap'n John's	7	5
J&J Const.	5	7
Sal's Pizza	4	8
D&L Marine	3	9

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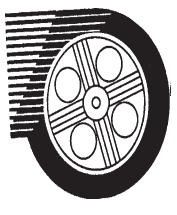

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Bridge Results

Six tables of bridge were in play February 1 at Rappahannock Westminster-Canterbury.

Winners north/south were first, Arden Durham and Dianne Monroe; second, Ilva Doggett and Joy Straughan; and third, Jane Hughes and Tot Winstead.

Winners east/west were first, Babs Murphy and Margaret Livesay; second, Virginia Adair and Judy Peifer; and third, Terry Carter and Liz Hargett.

The next bridge for this group is March 1 at 1 p.m.

Five tables of bridge were in play February 2 at Indian Creek Yacht and Country Club.

Winners north/south were first, Arden Durham and Dianne Monroe; and second, Cynthia Birdsall and Babs Murphy.

Winners east/west were first, Marilyn Reed and Meredith Townes; and second, Margaret Livesay and Helen Hopton.

The next bridge for this group is February 23.

Five tables of bridge were in play January 31 at the White Stone Woman's Club.

Winners north/south were first, Arden Durham and Babs Murphy; and second, Ilva Doggett and Kay Williams.

Winners east/west were first, Tot Winstead and Liz Hargett; and second, Rebecca Harger and Carolyn Reed

The next bridge for this group is February 16 at 1 p.m.

Audubon to walk at Fleeton Point

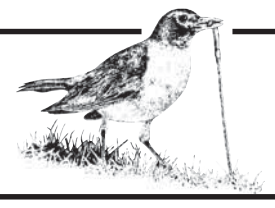
On Monday, February 13, the Northern Neck Audubon Society will conduct a bird walk around the Fleeton Point area near Reedville.

Participants are asked to meet at 8 a.m. in the parking lot of the Lilian Lumber Home Center on Route 360 in Burgess for carpooling to the site.

The walk will begin on the property of Fred and Carole Cole on Fleeton Point Circle and continue into the neighboring environs. Located at the mouth of the Great Wicomico River, the area provides a diversity of wildlife habitats, including a scrub thicket, a freshwater pond, a tidal marsh and a narrow beach on the Chesapeake Bay. Walkers are likely to sight a variety of land and water birds.

To reach Lilian Lumber from Kilmarnock, take Route 200 north to Burgess, then turn right on Route 360. The store is on the left past Northern Neck State Bank.

Binoculars and water-resistant footwear are recommended. For additional information, call Rick Skelton at 580-9066.



Window On Wildlife

by Joyce Fitchett Russell

The Virginia Wildlife Calendar reminds us that it's time to clean out our bird houses, then to sift one teaspoon of sulphur inside to kill mites.

Now watch birds carrying nesting materials to build their homes. Be careful of enemies.

The grey cat nobody claims is crouching in our back yard. She hopes to pounce on a mouse in the tunnel, but she misses. She tries again, but misses again. Now she eases over another spot that looks as if a mouse is moving. The cat suddenly stretches up and races over to my neighbor's yard.

I hope she has better luck this time.

Cat

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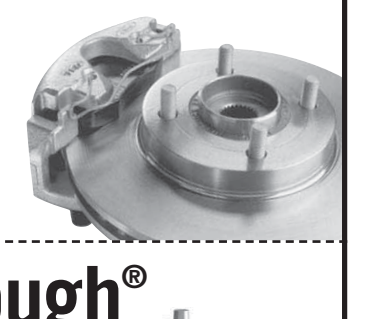

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Leanne Nguyen's first-place art work

Jonathan Seal's first-place art work

LPS student art work is on display in Kilmarnock

More than 100 pieces of children's art from Lancaster Primary School were selected for a show at the Studio Gallery in Kilmarnock. They will be displayed through February 17.

The show is sponsored by the Woman's Club of Lancaster and features the work of Mary Grafton Yagel's kindergarten through grade three students.

"The children's art is a feast for the eyes and will make you smile," said Virginia Adair of the women's club, who selected the art. "All of the artists are winners and will be presented ribbons, but we have also given blue, red and yellow ribbons to recognize some particularly well done or creative pieces."

Rappahannock Art League members Judy Peifer, Don Kennedy and Julie Schuszler acted as judges.

Kindergartens students whose are is on display are Michael Bea, Keyasia Diggs, Leanne Nguyen, Cherish Davenport, Karen Beltran, Robert Stickler, Giovanni Davenport, Glendon Allen, LaNaysha Savoy, Roman Smith, Calvin Henderson, Jacob Hudnall, Skylar Vanlandingham, Kayme Elbourn, Faith Heiron, Terrance Drake, Desiree Saunders, Cassie Kohlhepp, Jerquist Morris and Emilie Webster.

First-grade students are Trevor Smith, Mary Frere, Vilesha Waller, Saperia Cockrell, Skykelia Brown, Brandon Smith, DeShaun Gaskins, Diamond Taylor, Darius Veney, Leah West, Bailey Elbourn, Felicity Baker, Anna West, Nia Curry, Brytayana Carter, Jayquon Dillon, Eddie Kellum, Jackson O'Connor, Elijah Haynes, Stephanie Armstrong, Kevilyn Harcum, Wyatt McCranie, Lindsay Brockelbank and Deshay Smith.

Second-grade students are Tanner Steensma, Samantha Woodcock, Jamie Coates, Summer Owens, Kayleigh Webster, Shyheim Noel, Mary Kathryn Haydon, Ariana Marsh, John Richardson, Lane Brockelbank, Ashlyn Goode, Cole Schomer, Matthew Pittman, Ellie Hyde, Devon Kelley, Tyler Martin, Abby Nelson, London Cain, Drew Smith, Sam Bouis, Allison Chism, Samiya Reed, Desmond Coleman, Zyhkeia Bullock, Keondra Jenkins, Tyler Barksdale and Tess Thomas.

Third-grade students are Amaya Henderson, Tyler Reed, Joel Spiers, Precious Boyd, July Traylor, Christina Bagnall, Kelli Tignor, Mattelyn Slater, Tyrell Henderson, Taylor Honaker, Allashia Muschette, Krystal Kellum, Courtney Campbell, Brandon Self, William Ross, Joey Sanford, Shane Barnhardt, Jonathan Seal, Rodesha Veney, Jonah Bruening, Brandon Benza, Vince Charnick, Carter Robbins, Libby Friday, Brandon Selph, Emily Lux, Taylor Woolard, Justin Hudnall, Sadacia Ball and Noah Hook.

The gallery is open Tuesday through Saturday from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

▼ *Stables addresses NAPS . . . .*

(continued from page A1)

possibility. Stables said that the request for proposals left that issue wide open. The board of supervisors and school board didn't want to impose their preconceived notions on the project, instead allowing the applicants to come up with innovative solutions that will get the project for the best possible cost without interrupting the school day.

In one example of preconceived notions, Stables noted that the request for proposals suggested the project be done in two phases, the middle school being completed first and the high school being completed second. But, when applicants began responding, they noted that a two-phased project could add $3 to $4 million to the total cost of the project. Bringing subcontractors back to the area twice to do electrical, plumbing and roofing will only add cost. Stables later amended the RFP to remove the requirement that the project be completed in phases.

NAPS members asked about the possibility of building a pool. Stables noted that a pool is like a boat. You want a really good friend to have one, but you don't necessarily want to have to take care of one yourself. He said he is rooting for the YMCA to build a pool on county-owned land near the schools that the students can use.

"I don't want to go into the pool maintenance business," he said.

Members also wondered what will happen to the current high school if a new one is built. Stables said the gymnasium is in great shape and that the county will likely want to avoid the exorbitant cost of building a new stadium-seating gym for games. The new school would have small practice gyms. Likewise, they will keep the playing fields in back and parking for games.

Other portions of the building, such as the auditorium, may become available for community uses.

The main building may become county offices or school board offices. Stables noted that it's a 20-mile round trip from the Lottsburg office to the schools and he hopes to move the offices closer to Heathsville under any circumstances.

Several NAPS members were concerned about the schools' ability to keep the middle school and high school kids completely separated. Stables noted that these kids are siblings, neighbors and they ride the buses to school together every day as it is. The school will make every effort to separate their lunchrooms, locker rooms and classrooms, but interaction between the age groups does and will occur, he said.

Most people in the room just wanted to know the bottom line: "What is this going to cost and how are we going to pay for it?"

Stables and county administrator Kenneth D. Eades worked together to answer this question.

Stables noted that when the county first started talking about replacing the middle school in 1996 it would have cost $6 million.

Replacing the middle and high schools today is likely to cost the county about $40 million.

"We are going to have to borrow money," Eades said. "I can't say how it's going to affect the tax rate."

The final price won't have been negotiated by the time the budget has to be set, he added, but the county should have a pretty good idea by that time.

Stables noted that the average property tax rate in Virginia is $1 per $100.

"If Northumberland County could set a rate that is half what the average Virginian is paying, we could afford this project," he said.

Property rates in Northumberland County increased by an average of 120 percent in the recent assessment. Northumberland citizens now pay 60 cents per $100 on property taxes. Typically with a reassessment, the county drops the tax rate to zero out any increase brought on by the reassessment, and then raises it as necessary to cover the budget.

Anticipating a decrease in the Northumberland tax rate, Stables argued that even Richmond County citizens pay 54 cents per $100, although he didn't note how their property assessments compare to Northumberland's.

"How do I explain to my kids that Northumberland citizens are not willing to pay what Richmond County citizens pay so that they can have a better school?" he asked.

The issue is not likely to go up for a referendum, Stables noted. This is something the county has to do for its students. A new school could attract better educators, encourage the students to perform better and attract young families to the county.

The public will be able to comment on the final one or two proposals later this year.

▼ *Supervisors . . . .*

(continued from page A1)

within the 100-foot resource protection area and replace it with vegetation.

Marvin R. Chattin seeks authorization to use 10 cargo containers for personal storage near Burgess.

The Westmoreland Players Inc. seeks an exemption from property taxes at 16217 Richmond Road near Callao.

Following the hearings, the board will allow discussion on permitting the use of slugs for hunting in Northumberland County as well as general public comments.

▼ *White Stone . . . .*

(continued from page A1)

petition procedure to pursue the bypass should begin as soon as possible.

However, Jones said the town would first have to have the data from a traffic impact study.

"It really doesn't do us any good to go to anybody until we have that study," said Jones.

On behalf of the White Stone Business Association, business owner Barry Mandell asked that the group be kept informed of any initiative to pursue a bypass. He said a decrease in traffic downtown could be negative for business owners there.

Other action

The town unanimously authorized town attorney Matson C. Terry II to draft an ordinance restricting the disposal of household garbage in town-owned trash receptacles due to the overuse of the containers for that purpose.

"We are going to pursue this," said Hubbard. "We're not going to have our little town trashed."

Council also authorized Conrad to contact the Lancaster County registrar about changing the polling place for the upcoming election of town officials on May 2. Council would like to hold elections in the new town office at 433 Rappahannock Drive.

Mayor Hubbard's seat and the council seats held by Jack Boles, Rose Pittman and Randy Reeves

Many taxpayers may qualify for Free File

The Internal Revenue Service and its private-sector partners recently announced the opening of Free File, the free tax preparation and free electronic filing initiative. More than 70 percent of Virginia's taxpayers—more than 2.4 million—qualify for Free File.

"A new agreement between the IRS and the Free File Alliance, the consortium of tax preparation software companies, means enhanced services and more information for taxpayers who use the free services," IRS spokeswoman Gloria Wajciechowski said. "Taxpayers must access Free File through IRS.gov."

"This private-public partnership provides free tax software and free electronic filing. It's targeted to middle- and low-income taxpayers who can most benefit from this program," said IRS Commissioner Mark W. Everson. "Free File is another example of the IRS' effort to bring new and innovative services to taxpayers. Taxpayers should review the numerous Free File offerings and see which one works best for them."

Free File Alliance executive director Tim Hugo said, "In addition to providing free federal tax preparation services to millions of low- and moderate-income Americans, the Free File alliance is proving to be the model for public-private partnerships in the United States."

Among the services and improvements this year:

• The three million taxpayers who used to file their income tax return through TeleFile, an option no longer available, automatically qualify for Free File this year.

• 70 percent of the nation's taxpayers—those with an adjusted gross income of $50,000 or less—will be eligible, but each company sets its own criteria.

• alliance members who offer refund anticipation loans (RALs) must disclose fees and interest rates upfront and must make clear that RALs are loans, not tax refunds. Taxpayers also must consent to receive additional information about ancillary financial products.

• alliance members will provide additional tax forms such as Form 4868 that allows for automatic extensions of time to file.

• alliance member websites will display whether state online tax preparation and filing services are available and associated fees.

For 2006, taxpayers may check on IRS.gov to determine if they will qualify for Free File. Taxpayers do not have to purchase any product in order to qualify for the free services.

▼ *Birthing . . . .*

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tified nurse] midwives. Local nurses would also be employed and local physicians would be consultants."

Obviously, the facility would not serve high-risk pregnancies, he said.

"But it would be a great way of bringing this service back to the area," said Dr. Hamilton.

A further obstacle would be the issue of insurance and liability. A cooperative relationship would also have to be formed with RGH.

"Right now, this is a wait and see time," said Dr. Hamilton.

A committee vote on the budget amendments is expected Thursday, February 16.

Late Obituaries

Martha Howard

NORFOLK—Martha Howard, 71, of Norfolk, formerly of Burgess, died February 7, 2006. For further details call Jones-Ash Funeral Home, at 580-3222.

Gary E. Mapes

KILMARNOCK—Gary Edwin Mapes, 52, of Kilmarnock died February 8, 2006.

Graveside services will be held at 2 p.m. Friday, February 10, at Christ Church in Irvington.

In lieu of flowers, memorials may be made to Kilmarnock/Lancaster Rescue Squad, P.O. Box 333, Kilmarnock, VA 22482.

Currie Funeral Home handled arrangements.

Douglas W. Montgomery

WEEMS—Douglas William Montgomery, 47, of Weems, died February 6, 2006.

Funeral services will be held at 2 p.m. Sunday, February 12, at Currie Funeral Home in Kilmarnock. Interment will be at White Marsh Cemetery in Lancaster. Friends may call from 6 to 8 p.m. Saturday, February 11, at the funeral home.

Charles W. Paul

LANCASTER—Charles Winfield Paul, 57, of Lancaster died February 6, 2006.

He was senior vice president and trust officer with Bay Trust Company, an affiliate of Bank of Lancaster.

Funeral services will be held at 6 p.m. Thursday, February 9, at Irvington Baptist Church. Graveside services will be at 3 p.m. Friday, February 10, at Oakdale Cemetery in Washington, N.C.

Friends may call from 4 to 6 p.m. Thursday at the church.

Memorials may be made to Rivers Counties Community Foundation Endowment Fund, P.O. Box 222, Kilmarnock, VA 22482.

Currie Funeral Home in Kilmarnock handled arrangements.

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