Rappahannock Record

Thursday, February 16, 2006 • Kilmarnock, Virginia • Eighty-ninth Year • Number 19 • Three Sections • 50¢

Fleeton condo project is tabled

by Reid Pierce Armstrong

HEATHSVILLE—The Northumberland board of supervisors tabled indefinitely a proposed condominium development on Fleeton Road last Thursday after nearly 200 people turned out for the public hearing.

The anticipated crowd forced the supervisors to move the meeting from a county courtroom to the high school auditorium. Sheriff's deputies directed people to the new venue before the start of the hearing.

The proposal by James Dise and David Douglas of Double D Development included 32 condominiums on nine acres next to Barnes Store on Fleeton Road. The 2,200- to 2,800-square-foot units would sell for $450,000 to $700,000. Clustered in seven units, the development would also include walking trails, a swimming pool, a gazebo and a marina for residents.

The public's primary concerns revolved around the density of the project, the amount of impervious surface created by the asphalt driveways and parking lot, the architecture, exposure to the road and increased traffic.

A handful of people spoke in favor of

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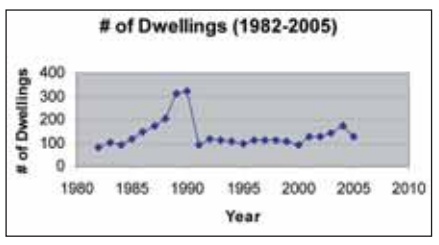


The Bay Act went into effect in 1990, causing a major spike in construction in the few years leading up to the more restrictive regulations. The Bay Act caused a second, less dramatic spike in 2004 when the buffer was pushed back to 100 feet. (Source: Northumberland County Department of Building and Zoning)

Residential construction burst fizzles

by Reid Pierce Armstrong

HEATHSVILLE—The building boom in Northumberland seems to be easing up, based on a 2005 year-end report presented last week by the county's office of building and zoning.

The estimated cost of construction dropped by 16 percent, or $12 million, last year compared with the previous year.

Construction spiked in 2004 for the first time since the early '90s just prior to the county's Chesapeake Bay Preservation Act becoming effective.

Bay Act changes pushing the resource protection area back to 100 feet in 2004 and low interest rates may have caused the short spike in construction last year, speculated assistant county administrator Luttrell Tadlock, who presented the report to the county board of supervisors.

Only 130 new single-family dwellings were built in the county last year compared with 172 in 2004, a decline of nearly 25 percent.

Construction of doublewides and mobile homes also decreased slightly.

Modular home construction held fairly steady, with 77 permits issued in 2005 compared to 78 in 2004.

The residential waterfront continued to see the largest portion of growth in 2005 with more than half of the total 231 new residences constructed along

(continued on page A11)

Smith Point Lighthouse to shine as family retreat

by Reid Pierce Armstrong

It was a piece of luck he stumbled across, said this man from Winona, Minnesota. He had never been to Virginia, nor seen the Chesapeake Bay, but he now owned a lighthouse there.

Unlike the storybook lighthouse spiraling up from a rocky shore, Smith Point Lighthouse hovers 20 feet above the water, 10 miles from land.

The lucky man, 54-year-old real estate developer Dave McNally, won the octagonal island in the bay through a government auction with a bid of $170,000.

He hopes to turn the old structure into a family retreat, "a cabin at sea."

McNally made his find while perusing property for sale on Ebay. During his search, he stumbled across a lighthouse for sale in New York.

If someone is selling a lighthouse on Ebay, he wondered, where else are they for sale? A quick internet search turned up four lighthouses in Virginia for sale.

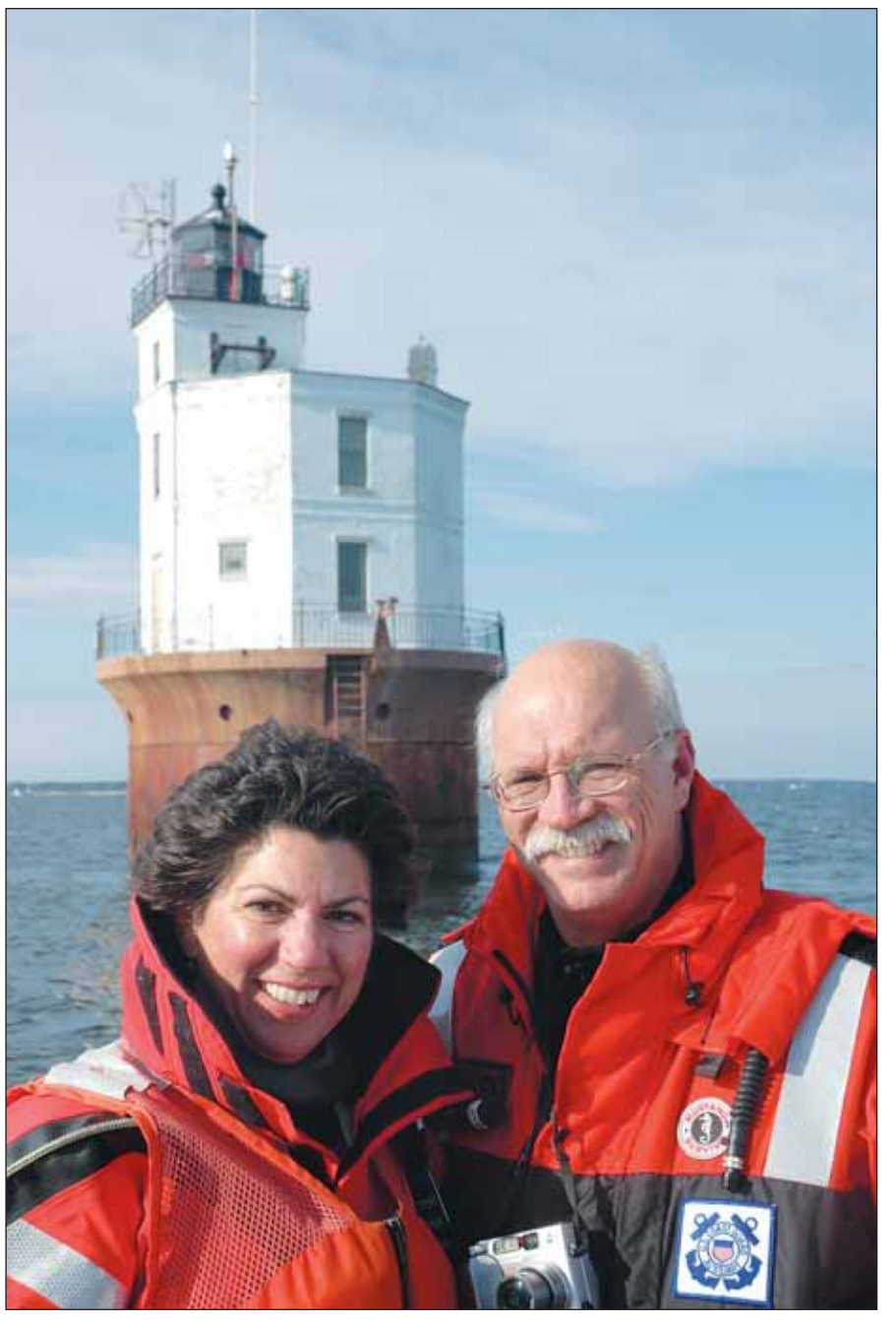
It was highly unusual that four lighthouses would be up for public auction at the same time. Typically, excess lighthouses are snatched up by organizations interested in preserving them and opening them to the public.

The U.S. Coast Guard had recently declared a huge inventory of old lighthouses "excess" property. Through a process outlined by the 2002 National Lighthouse Preservation Act, the four structures in the Chesapeake Bay were first offered to qualifying government agencies and non-profit groups.

But, because the four Chesapeake Bay lighthouses are all waterbound, they are difficult to access, challenging to maintain and without hope of having such amenities as public restrooms.

When no qualifying organization applied for the lighthouses, they were auctioned to the highest bidder through a division of the National Park Service.

More than a dozen private interests bid on Smith Point last fall. McNally walked away with the key after winning the most competitive bidding of all four lighthouses. He paid $100,000 more than any of the three other winning bidders.



Built in 1897, Smith Point Lighthouse was recently sold for $170,000. Owner Dave McNally is a real estate developer in Winona, Minn. His wife, Teri, volunteers as a career counselor at the Winona high school. They have three children, Molly, 23, a senior at the University of Madison; Sam, 19, a freshman at Stout University; and Caitlin, 16, who just got her driver's license. They plan to turn the lighthouse into a family retreat. (Photos compliments of U.S. Coast Guard Lt. Cmdr. Richard Condit)

The Coast Guard was selling just the buildings, not the lights and foghorns. Those will continue to run, the bright lights on a steady swivel, the deafening horns blowing every 15 seconds. The Coast Guard will visit the lighthouses to maintain them several times a year.

McNally's lighthouse, like the others on the Chesapeake, is built on a cast iron caisson. The caisson is a large iron tube buried deep in the bay bottom and filled with concrete. Developed to withstand the crushing force of the frozen bay, these lighthouses were built in 1897 after ice flows washed away the previous wood screw piling models.

The stairwell is indicative of the intricate woodwork found throughout the structure

Local lore tells of a lighthouse keeper's wife, Magnolia, who kept a young lover while her husband was away. When the lighthouse collapsed, the two keepers barely made it back to shore. Magnolia soon found her husband home permanently without a job.

"That devil has come home to stay," she wrote before she and the young lover conspired to murder her husband. Both managed to be found innocent, despite the damning note, and Magnolia moved to Tangier Island where she married a waterman. The keeper's murder remains a mystery.

Smith Point Lighthouse marks a shoal where the Potomac River makes its entrance into the Chesapeake Bay. The Coast Guard considers it one of the two most important aids to navigation on the bay, directing not just boaters, but tankers and military vessels as well.

Keepers inhabited Smith Point Lighthouse full time until 1971, when the light and horn were automated.

The McNallys first visited their new retreat in December with members of the Coast Guard. The trip by boat from Milford Haven took about an hour and 20 minutes. It was a clear blue day, winter temperatures a gentle 55, winds and seas calm.

About eight miles out, McNally said he saw a blink of light.

"That's it!" he called out. Skeptics aboard the boat reasoned that they were too far out yet to see the light. But McNally had read that the light could be seen for 10 miles. He kept watching the same spot and, sure enough, a lighthouse began to grow on the horizon. As did the sound of the fog horn.

With time, McNally said he expects he will be able to tune out the constant sound of the fog horn, but acknowledges that his wife, Teri, may have a problem with it.

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The living room, like the other rooms in the building, will require a lot of restoration.

Two rezoning issues appear on Lancaster hearing docket

LANCASTER—The planning commission for Lancaster County will hold two public hearings tonight (February 16) at 7 p.m. in the Lancaster General District courtroom.

One hearing is on a request by George Ralph Pickeral to rezone 15 acres on Old Salem Road near Ring Farm Road. Pickeral intends to rezone the tract from agricultural use to commercial use for a self-storage business with 1,000 units at full build-out.

A separate hearing is on a request by Knull Properties LLC to amend proffers on a previous rezoning of Yankee Point Sailboat Marina property to operate a snack bar at the marina.

Commission to consider boathouse ban

HEATHSVILLE—The planning commission for Northumberland County will hold a public hearing at 7 p.m. tonight (February 16) on proposed amendments to the zoning ordinance that would ban new private boathouses.

The commission will meet in the courthouse at 72 Monument Place in Heathsville.

As proposed, the amendments would delete any language permitting private, non-commercial boathouses of any size in agricultural and residential waterfront zoning districts.

An amendment would be added, however, specifically allowing covered boat slips and boathouses at commercial marinas and boatyards.

The commission will weigh the public comments before making a recommendation to the board of supervisors.

Utility rate discussion continues

KILMARNOCK—The town council will hold a work session on the capital improvement budget at 5:30 p.m. Tuesday, February 21, in the town office at 514 North Main Street.

Council also will discuss water and sewer rates. Based on recent projections, utility rates could more than double to cover estimated improvement costs.

Town planners set meeting on comp plan, zoning district

KILMARNOCK—The planning commission for Kilmarnock will hold two public hearings Tuesday, February 21, at 7 p.m. at the town office.

The first hearing concerns proposed revisions to the town's comprehensive plan. The amended plan is available for review at the town office and the Lancaster Community Library in Kilmarnock.

A separate hearing will be held on a proposed zoning district for downtown Kilmarnock, Steptoe's District. As proposed, the district would allow mixed business uses including outdoor cafes, sidewalk usage and off-street parking.

Lancaster supervisors schedule two hearings

LANCASTER—The county board of supervisors will hold two public hearings Thursday, February 23, at 7 p.m. in the Lancaster General District courtroom.

A hearing will be held on an after-the-fact special exception for Michael B. Callis to operate a professional office at 8676 Mary Ball Road.

A separate hearing will be held on a special exception request from Kaballero.Com to place data antennae at the Upper Lancaster Volunteer Rescue Squad building and at Tabbs Creek Incorporated property at Little Bay and Old Point roads.

Inside

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Brief snow, man! B1

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Hearing expected on retirement community's discharge permit

by Robb Hoff

IRVINGTON—Irvington Mayor Alexander Fleet announced last week that the town's request for a public hearing on a proposed wastewater discharge permit at Rappahannock Westminster-Canterbury has been addressed by the Virginia Department of Environmental Quality.

"As I understand it, the DEQ said there would be a public hearing, but nobody has given us a date," said Fleet.

The town requested a public hearing on RW-C's proposal to discharge up to 80,000 gallons per day of treated sewage wastewater into the headwaters of Old Mill Cove, which flows into Carters Creek.

Town tags

In other business during last week's meeting, the town council authorized the purchase of town vehicle tags from a different source than the state agency that has provided the tags in years past.

Town clerk Jackie Burrell said the change will postpone the sale of town tags, which normally starts on February 15. Burrell said the sale will be announced when the tags are available.

Emergency generator

Fleet directed councilmen Rannie Ransone and Richard Pittman to contact county resident J. Rawleigh Simmons about the availability of a 45-kilowatt generator with transfer switch that

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February

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.
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.

17 Friday

Bingo is played at the Upper Lancaster Ruritan Center in Lively at 7:30 p.m.
The 2006 Great Backyard Bird Count begins. It continues through February 20. 435-7484.
Robert Keyes will be featured on guitar at Rose's Crab House in Kilmarnock from 6 to 10 p.m
A Sweetheart Dinner and Dance will be held at Fairfields United Methodist Church. $26.50 per couple in advance. Call 453-5900, or 580-6928.
"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.

18 Saturday

A Bluegrass Show to benefit the Gwynn's Island Museum begins at 7:30 p.m. at the Gwynn's Island Civic League building on Route 223 in Gwynn's Island. Donations are accepted. 725-3495.
Dinner at Seven meets at 4 p.m. at a Crane's Creek residence. To attend, email jcaples@crosslink.net, or call 462-5430.
The 2006 Great Backyard Bird Count continues. 435-7484.
An All Star Opry Show will be featured at Donk's Theater on Route 198 in Hudgins at 8 p.m.
Joey and the Jammers will be featured at a Valentine's Dance at the Corrotoman Civic Center from 9 p.m. to 1 a.m. $25 per couple, or $15 per person. Snacks and set-ups included.
Robert Keyes will be featured on guitar at Rose's Crab House in Kilmarnock from 6 to 10 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.
"George Washington's Sense Of Place" will be presented by Marion Nelson Winship at 2 p.m. at the George Washington Birthplace National Monument.

Concert tuning

Northern Neck Orchestra concertmaster Midgie Speight tunes the orchestra prior to a rehearsal for "Bolero," to be performed March 4 at Lancaster Middle School Theater at 8 p.m. Tickets are $12 for adults and $6 for students and can be purchased at Twice Told Tales and Kilmarnock Antique Gallery, or by calling 436-9027.

19 Sunday

The Widowed Persons Service for Lancaster and Northumberland counties holds its lunch brunch at T&T's in Burgess immediately following church services.
The 2006 Great Backyard Bird Count continues. 435-7484.
Bill Gurley And Friends will present "Bluegrass Fiddling, Rhythm and Roots" at Sundays at Two at the Lancaster Community Library in Kilmarnock at 2 p.m.

20 Monday Presidents' Day

Party Bridge is featured at 11:30 a.m. at the Northumberland Woman's Club in Lottsburg. Bring a sandwich. Side dishes, dessert and beverages provided. $5. For reservations, call 580-8205.
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 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.
The 2006 Great Backyard Bird Count continues. 435-7484.
Flotilla 3-10 meets at 7:30 p.m. at the Callao firehouse. 472-4387.
The Historical Society for Lancaster County will meet at 7 p.m. at the G.C. Dawson administrative office in Kilmarnock. 435-6232.
The Northumberland Homemakers will meet at 11 a.m. at St. Stephens Episcopal Church in Heathsville. 580-8613.
The Local Chapter of The National Alliance for the Mentally Ill will meet at 7 p.m. at Urbanna Baptist Church in Urbanna. 435-3463.
Donald G. Shomette will speak on pirates on the Chesapeake Bay at the Reedville Fishermen's Museum Family Lecture Series at 7 p.m. at Festival Halle in Reedville. $5.
The Rappahannock Music Study Club will host The Forty Fingers, a quartet of four women on two pianos, presenting "From Bach to Broadway and Beyond," at 11 a.m. at Rappahannock Westminster-Canterbury near Irvington.

21 Tuesday

The Kilmarnock & District Pipe Band rehearses at 7:15 p.m. at Campbell Memorial Presbyterian Church in Weems. 462-7125.
Duplicate Bridge will be played at the Woman's Club of Lancaster at 1 p.m. 462-0742.
Al-ANON meets at 8 p.m. at Kilmarnock United Methodist Church.
The Kilmarnock Town Council will hold a work session on the capital improvement budget, including a water and sewer rate discussion, at 5:30 p.m. at the town office 514 North Min Street in Kilmarnock.
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 Middle Peninsula-Northern Neck Community Services Board will meet at 4:30 p.m. at the Lancaster Community Library in Kilmarnock.
The Economic Development Commission for Northumberland County will meet at 7:30 p.m. at the Northumberland County courthouse in Heathsville.
Rep. Jo Ann Davis will hold a town hall meeting to discuss the new Medicare Part D program February 21 at 7 p.m. at the Piankatank Ruritan Club at 7138 Buckley Hall Road in Cobbs Creek.
The Corrotoman Senior Citizens meet at 10 a.m. at the Ruritan Center near Lively. Bring a friend and a prize.
Adams Post 86 of the American Legion and the legion auxiliary will meet at 7 p.m. at the post home on Waverly Avenue in Kilmarnock. 435-1588.
The Republican Committee for Lancaster County meets at 7:30 p.m. at Chesapeake Bank Training Center on School Street in Kilmarnock.

22 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 meets at 3 p.m. at St. Andrews Presbyterian Church in Kil-marnock. 438-5127.
A Grief Support Group meets at 4 p.m. at White Stone United Methodist Church. 435-7585.
The Lancaster Middle School Science Fair will be held from 8 a.m. to 7 p.m. at the school in Kilmarnock.
The RFM Quilters meets at 9:30 a.m. at Reedville Fishermen's Museum. 453-6529.

22 Wednesday

"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.

23 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.
Al-ANON meets at 8 p.m. at Palmer Hall in Kilmarnock.
The Board of Supervisors for Lancaster County will meet at 7 p.m. at the courthouse in Lancaster.
Robert Keyes will be featured on guitar at Ferebee's Restaurant in Tappahannock from 7 to 10 p.m
Mahjong will be played at 10:30 a.m. at the Woman's Club of White Stone. Bring a sandwich. Drinks and dessert provided. Tables of three or more. $2 per person. 438-4152.
"Grease" will be presented by the Christchurch School drama department at 8 p.m. at Marston Hall. Free. Reservations required; call 758-2300, ext. 144, between 3:30 and 5:30 p.m.
The Hon. John O. Marsh will present a lecture to the Rappahannock Community College government classes at 8 a.m. The lecture will be presented at the Waraw and Glenns campuses through the college's electronic classroom.
A Reluctant Rebel by Dr. John Harding will be reviewed by the Hon. John O. Marsh at 9:15 a.m. at the Rappahannock Community College Library in Warsaw.
"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 Democratic Committee for Northumberland County meets at 7 p.m. at the Northumberland Public Library in Heathsville.

(Submit calendar items to Robert Mason Jr., editor)

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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.

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Sun. (2:30, 4:30), 6:15
Mon. – Thurs. (5:15), 7:00

EIGHT BELOW(G) 1HR 25 MIN
Fri. (4:00), 6:15, 8:30
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Sun. (2:00, 4:15), 6:30
Mon. – Thurs. (5:00), 7:15

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FRI. FEB. 17
FREEDOMLAND (R) 4:45, 7:15, 9:35
DATE MOVIE (PG13) 5:30, 7:30, 9:40
CURIOUS GEORGE (G) 5:10, 7:10, 9:15
FINAL DESTINATION 3 (R) 5:20, 7:20, 9:45
THE PINK PANTHER (PG13) 5:25, 7:25, 9:25

SAT. FEB. 18
FREEDOMLAND (R) 2:15, 4:45, 7:15, 9:35
DATE MOVIE (PG13) 1:30, 3:30, 5:30, 7:30, 9:40
CURIOUS GEORGE (G) 1:15, 3:10, 5:10, 7:10, 9:15
FINAL DESTINATION 3 (R) 1:20, 3:20, 5:20, 7:20, 9:45
THE PINK PANTHER (PG13) 1:25, 3:25, 5:25, 7:25, 9:25

SUN. FEB. 19 & MON. FEB 20
FREEDOMLAND (R) 2:15, 4:45, 7:15
DATE MOVIE (PG13) 1:30, 3:30, 5:30, 7:30
CURIOUS GEORGE (G) 1:15, 3:10, 5:10, 7:10
FINAL DESTINATION 3 (R) 1:20, 3:20, 5:20, 7:20
THE PINK PANTHER (PG13) 1:25, 3:25, 5:25, 7:25

TUES.-THURS. FEB. 21- FEB-23
FREEDOMLAND (R) 7:20
DATE MOVIE (PG13) 7:35
CURIOUS GEORGE (G) 7:15
FINAL DESTINATION 3 (R) 7:25
THE PINK PANTHER (PG13) 7:30

Area Events

■ NAACP program

The Northumberland County Branch of the NAACP Black History Month Program will be held February 26 at Shiloh Baptist Church in Reedville.

The guest speaker will be Rev. Dr. Rayfield Vines Jr. of Hungary Baptist Church in Richmond. An offering will be taken to support the scholarship fund.

■ Dragon Run meeting

Rappahannock Community College health and physical education professor Jerry Horner will speak at Friends of Dragon Run meeting February 24. The meeting will begin at 7 p.m. at First Presbyterian Church on Main Street in Gloucester.

Horner also has made numerous canoe trips along the Dragon Run and will share stories about his most memorable trips and experiences.

■ Revue continues

"You Must Remember This..." continues at The Playhouse in White Stone February 17, 18, 22, 23, 24 and 25. The dinner theater production features a comic revue of skits, monologues improvisations and one-act plays dealing with memories, memory and loss of memory.

The revue is staged by ACT 4 in association with the Lancaster Players and a meal catered by Carried Away Cuisine of Kilmarnock. Admission is $30. The Playhouse bar will sell spirits, wine and beer. Doors will open at 6 p.m. The show will start at 8 p.m. For reservations, call The Playhouse at 435-3776.

■ Lecture cancelled

The Sundays At Two lecture for February 12, by Phyllis McClure on "Rosenwald Schools in the Northern Neck" was cancelled early Sunday morning because McClure was snowbound in Washington, D.C.

McClure and the Sundays At Two committee of the Lancaster Community Library regret the cancellation and the inconvenience it caused. The lecture will be rescheduled for 2007.

AWL offers spaying rebate

The Animal Welfare League of the Northern Neck will join the Doris Day Animal Foundation's 12th annual Spay Day USA to offer a reduced spay and neuter program for the pets of residents of Lancaster, Northumberland, Richmond and Westmoreland counties from February 14 to March 14.

A 50 percent rebate program, not to exceed $50 per animal, will apply to dogs and cats. The rebate applies only to sterilization surgery charges. No other services are covered.

Owners must make an appointment with the veterinarian of their choice, pay the bill and then send proof of payment (paid bill) to the Animal Welfare League, P. O., Box 975, White Stone, VA 22578 no later than March 31.

For additional information, call 435-0822.

Pirates to hijack family lectures

The Reedville Fishermen's Museum February Lecture will feature author Donald G. Shomette. He will discuss his book *Pirates on the Chesapeake—Being a True History of Pirates, Picaroons, and Raiders on Chesapeake Bay, 1610-1807.*

The program will be held Monday, February 20, at 7 p.m. at Festival Halle in Reedville.

Shomette is a former staff member of the Library of Congress, a lecturer, and an underwater archeologist. Other books authored by Shomette include *Shipwrecks on the Chesapeake, Flotilla: Battle for the Patuxent, London Town: A Brief History, Shipwrecks of the Civil War, Tidewater Time Capsule: History Beneath the Patuxent,* and *Ghost Fleet of Mallows Ay, and Other Tales of the Lost Chesapeake.*

Admission is $5 per person and can be paid at the door.

Bill Gurley to present music program at library

Bill Gurley

Bill Gurley and friends will present "Bluegrass Fiddling: Rhythm and Roots" Sunday, February 19, at the Lancaster Community Library in Kilmarnock.

The Sundays at Two program will begin at 2 p.m. The presentation will be followed by refreshments and an opportunity to talk to the speaker and purchase CDs. The program is free.

The name most associated with the bluegrass sound heard today is that of Bill Monroe. Acclaimed as the "Father of Bluegrass," Monroe almost single-handedly created the genre. Born in 1911 in Kentucky, Monroe started playing the mandolin at age 9. He then moved to the guitar and in 1939, his band was hired at the Grand Ole Opry.

The definitive bluegrass band was formed in 1945 with the addition of banjo player Earl Scruggs and guitar/vocalist Lester Flatt. Together with Monroe, they set the standard to which all other bands aspired.

Monroe once said of bluegrass, "It's got a hard drive to it. It's Scottish bagpipes and old time fiddling. It's Methodist and Holiness and Baptist. It's blues and jazz and has a high lonesome sound. It's plain music that tells a story. It's played from my heart to your heart, and it will touch you."

Gurley has been playing bluegrass, folk and Celtic music for many years. His early interest in music was nurtured by his father who had been a band leader in his college days. After playing the guitar for some years, Gurley heard the music of Flatt and Scruggs and was taken by the sound of the five-string banjo. Blessed with a good ear, Gurley taught himself banjo and later fiddle and mandolin. Gurley and music mate—wife Pam, have been performing, writing, recording and teaching for more than 25 years. They have traveled in and out of Virginia giving hundreds of performances. Their first CD release as a duo, "Lights of Home,"was released in 1998; " October Winds " followed in 2002.

The Gurleys live in Lancaster in a restored family farmhouse with their two children. Gurley teaches fiddle, guitar, banjo and mandolin from the home and at Winter Sound Co. in Gloucester Point. He performs most Friday nights at The Trellis Restaurant in Williamsburg.

The final Sundays at Two program will feature Margaret Devinney's presentation "Mythology: How the Ancients Explained the World" March 5.

Land conservancy schedules annual meeting March 15

The Northern Neck Land Conservancy (NNLC) will hold its annual meeting Wednesday, March 15, at Menokin in Richmond County.

The meeting will begin with a coffee hour at 10:30 a.m. A two-part program will begin at 11 a.m. NNLC members and the public are invited to learn more about the NNLC and its movement to encourage landowners to establish easements for their properties. There also will be a brief presentation on the history of Menokin and recent progress in preserving and renovating the property.

The topic for the 2006 annual meeting will be "Preserve for the Future: our farms, forests, waters, and historic treasures."

As the region faces challenges arising from increased land values and expanding development, the NNLC works to implement its mission "to preserve the rural heritage of the Northern Neck by conserving its lands, waters, economies and cultures for future generations."

While welcoming desirable change and growth, the organization seeks to identify key elements contributing to the qualities of the area and to develop strategies for preservation and controlled growth to function as partners in a planned future.

Menokin is four miles west of Warsaw, off Route 3 on Route 690. For more information, call 435-2814, or email nnlc@kaballero.com.

Annual Gwynn's Island Festival seeks participants and sponsors

Planning is under way for the 58th annual Gwynn's Island Festival, June 23 and 24, in Gwynn's Island.

The family-style festival will begin Friday, June 23, at 4:30 p.m. with a chicken dinner at the Gwynn's Island Civic League building on Old Ferry Road.

On Saturday, June 24, festivities will begin at 9 a.m. at the Civic Center featuring a variety of music, arts and crafts, food vendors, children's games, golf putting contests and free blood pressure checks.

Other activities will include lawn mower races at 2 p.m. and a pet parade at 10 a.m. The rescue squad, sheriff's department, fire department, Coast Guard with boat, Coast Guard Auxiliary and Gwynn's Island Museum will have educational displays.

Festival logo tee shirts and 50/50 raffle tickets will be available on Friday night and all day Saturday. There will be free parking and admission.

Call Cricket Call at 725-7577 for an application to participate, or to place an ad in the souvenir booklet.

Fruit tree pruning clinic offered

The Master Gardeners will present a pruning clinic March 4 for homeowners who would like to learn techniques for pruning fruit trees.

The clinic is part of the Virginia Cooperative Extension program to provide educational instruction in horticultural activities. At the clinic, participants will receive instruction on proper pruning techniques, observe applications of the techniques and engage in pruning under the tutelage of a Master Gardener.

Apple, pear, plum and peach trees will be pruned. Handouts summarizing pruning techniques will be provided. Participants should bring their own pruning equipment.

The clinic will be held on Coan Harbour Drive in Lottsburg beginning at 10 a.m. Proceed to Lottsburg on Route 360. At the Auction House, turn on Lake Road north. Take the first left on Coan Harbour Drive. Proceed to 1013 Coan Harbour Drive, a tan stucco house on the left with trees in front.

The fee is $5. Proceeds will be used for Master Gardener programs to benefit the community.

Dinner, auction to support museum

The Reedville Fishermen's Museum will host a Benefit Auction Gala February 24 from 6 to 9 p.m. at Festival Halle in Reedville.

The event will include silent and live auctions conducted by auctioneer Manuel Haynie. The $30 per person ticket price includes hors d'oeuvres, buffet supper and an open bar.

Over 150 items have been donated to the auction by area businesses, members and friends.

There are several original artworks, limited edition framed prints and a large selection of antique and contemporary glass, china, crystal and furniture.

Other items include fitness center memberships, a consultation with a personal trainer and an exercise machine, restaurant and bed and breakfast gift certificates, bushels of crabs and fresh fish-of-the-month, rounds of golf, boating and sailing cruises, three-days/two-nights stay at a Manhattan condo apartment, a week at a condo in Naples, Fla., a three-day cruise on a sailing schooner, a day sailer, a 200 HP outboard engine, an electric dinghy motor, fishing equipment and a 10-foot Herreshoff Pram design dinghy built by the museum boat shop.

Reservations are required. Call the museum office at 453-6529, or email rfmstaff@crosslink.net.

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$25.00 per person plus tax and gratuity
Saturday
Brad and his wife Lydia join us at our Chef's Table for an incredible wine-paired dinner.
$75.00 per person plus tax and gratuity
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Friday and Saturday, March 24 and 25
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A Comic Entertainment
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Feb . 23 - 25
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Excerpts

by Henry Lane Hull

Last Thursday evening a vast throng of people from all over the lower Northern Neck assembled at Irvington Baptist Church for one of Rev. John Farmer's eloquent and poignant funerals. As I attended the service, my thoughts turned to the fact that most of that large gathering had not known the departed six years ago, but they were there because he had touched so many and had such a profound presence in the brief years he was in our midst.

His name was Charles Paul, a North Carolinian by birth, who came to the Richmond area to pursue a career in banking. He worked there for many years and then had the gumption with his good wife, Nancy Ray, to pull up stakes and move to a new opportunity in a new area, happily for us, the Northern Neck.

Charles came on board a new banking venture to be its trust officer, a position he used to be of service to those who needed a wise and faithful friend to advise them and care for their investments. His admirable diligence in carrying out those responsibilities does not explain the enormity of the crowd that attended his funeral. Rather it came from his going the extra mile for so many through charitable activities where his knowledge and wisdom served to make life better for those in need and those wishing to help them through their generosity.

I also reflected that, with the exception of his employers and realtors, our family had known him as long as anyone else in this area, having met him shortly before his family's move here. Although they were newcomers, the Pauls plunged into a wide variety of pursuits. They built on to the house they purchased. Nancy Ray moved her teaching career from Chesterfield where she had attained a great level of distinction to Lancaster, and with Charles, showed the willingness and excitement of starting over once again in new pastures with new goals.

As the few years they were to have together here in our "moated Eden" (to quote the late Jack Simmons) passed along, Charles encountered some health problems, which he routinely dismissed in speaking with others. He was a modest man, who by no means hid his talents under a bushel basket, but who never was boastful or self-serving either. He was a person of great ability and experience, both of which he laid on the line to work for a better community.

In January, he underwent surgery in Richmond, and as he progressed he came home, then suddenly and peacefully he died, in the setting which had come to mean so much to him, and in the community which in less than six years he had come to know and which had come to know him. Charles was a gentleman whom everyone appreciated. He was wise beyond his years, and always grateful for the chance to be of service. He never appeared to be uptight or nervous about the outcome of the day's work, but instead he was upbeat about the future and calm about the present.

Last Thursday evening the large sanctuary of his church was filled to standing room only and for many there, the loss to family and friends was all the more apparent as his sons delivered their moving and tasteful eulogies. Afterwards at the reception, dozens and dozens of photographs showed Charles in many of the roles he undertook in the brief but worthy life he led. So many came to honor his memory, a man whose presence was short, yet profound, and to offer comfort to his family whom they had come to know over the course of the last half-decade.

Charles Paul would have been a success in any venture anywhere. That he chose to spend what no one could have anticipated to be his last years in the Northern Neck was our good fortune. Thursday evening documented his impact which was as broad as it was deep.

Charles Winfield Paul, March 23, l948 – February 6, 2005. R.I.P.

Delegate's Report

by Del. Robert J. Wittman

The past few weeks leading up to February 14 have really flown by. For most of you reading this, February 14 is recognized as Valentine's Day. For those of us at the General Assembly, this date is known as Crossover. I must take this opportunity to say what a kind, patient lady my wife is because this is the time during the session when many extra hours are put in.

Crossover is when all of the bills introduced in the House have to be passed and sent over to the Senate and all of the bills from the Senate have to come back over to the House. Once the legislation switches Houses it must make its way back through the committees and be voted on a second time. Basically, Crossover can be seen as the deadline for completing the legislative agenda for the House.

This past week, I testified on behalf of a budget amendment that I introduced to provide funds for two pilot study birthing centers in rural areas of Virginia, one of which would be in Kilmarnock. These would be mid-wifery centers in which the mid-wives collaborate with obstetricians, who are also on call for birthing complications.

I also had the opportunity to testify, along with a member of the Virginia Farm Bureau, on the positive impacts and uses of biofuels when my biofuels production incentive bill was before the House Appropriations subcommittee on Agriculture. It has already passed through the Agriculture, Chesapeake, and Natural Resources committee. I am very excited to see this legislation make it this far because of the economic and environment impacts it will have on District 99 and all of Virginia if it passes.

While we were very successful in our biofuels legislation, we were not so in other pieces. Both the legislation to allow localities to make land use decisions based on their projected water supply and to establish purchase of development rights funding by including those in the zoning ordinance provisions were tabled this year. I will reintroduce them again next year.

Once again, I was delighted to see several constituents this week. Doris Whitfield, from King George, stopped in on behalf of the Sierra Club to speak on land use issues. I also got to meet Dr. David Hughes of Kilmarnock, regarding medical issues.

We had the opportunity to discuss Medicaid reimbursement and nursing education with representatives from Mary Washington Hospital.

On Thursday, I ended my day by dining with the King George board of supervisors and their county administrator. The topics of discussion ranged from land use and smart growth to high speed internet. I try to bounce ideas off of local officials as bills that may affect them come up in the House, but it was really nice to be able to discuss this legislation in depth.

I would also really enjoy discussing legislation with others throughout the district. Feel free to call me while I am in Richmond. I can be reached by phone at 698-1099, or email delrwittman@house.state.va.us.

Del. Rob Wittman Legislative Survey

Is transportation improvement a key issue to you?
_____Yes _____No
If you answered yes, please answer the following eight questions. If you answered no, please skip to Other Issues.
Would you support an increase in the annual vehicle registration fee?
_____Yes _____No
Should there be an increase in gasoline tax to fund transportation projects?
_____Yes _____No
Should general fund dollars be used to go towards transportation projects?
_____Yes _____No
Should highway tolls be used to fund transportation projects?
_____Yes _____No
Should a "Transportation Trust Fund" be created to ensure that other projects don't receive funding meant for transportation projects?
_____Yes _____No
Should the state use private companies in conjunction with VDOT to complete transportation projects?
_____Yes _____No
Should the state expand our public transportation system to handle traffic congestion?
_____Yes _____No
Would you support the increase in the vehicle sales tax?
_____Yes _____No

Other Issues:

Should the General Assembly work to limit the use of biosolids (sludge) in VA? _____Yes _____No
Should it be illegal to use hand-held cell phones while driving? _____Yes _____No
Should it be mandatory for a registered nurse to be in the operating room at all times during surgery? _____Yes _____No
Should there be a constitutional amendment allowing for a two-term governor? _____Yes _____No
Should grants be awarded to college students going to public four-year universities once they have completed their Associate's Degree at a Virginia community college? _____Yes _____No
Should smoking be prohibited in public buildings or other enclosed structures? _____Yes _____No

Name:_____ Phone:_____

Mailing Address:_____

Email:_____

Please return by February 20, 2006 to:
Delegate Rob Wittman, General Assembly Building,
P.O. Box 406, Richmond, Virginia 23218

Yesteryear in Lancaster

(A reprint from the February 16, 1906, issue of the Virginia Citizen.)

A pleasant evening

Just as the sun was setting on last Friday evening, February ninth, one could have seen gallant lads in many of the homes within a radius of ten miles of Lancaster donning white neckties with vests to match, and many fair girls might have been heard asking mother was amber or lavender the most becoming. The cause of all this was, a few days previous the Misses Webb had issued invitations to a "soiree" at "Level Fields," the beautiful home of Mr. W. E. Webb near Lancaster Courthouse.

The parlors had been beautifully decorated for the occasion and by eight o'clock about 30 laughing, jolly, fun-loving girls and boys were present, enjoying themselves as young folks delight in. Music was furnished by Misses Lila McKenney and Myrtle Lowery on organ and Miss Nellie Hutchinson on violin. At about ten o'clock all were invited to the dining-room where steaming oysters with crackers and pickle quickly disappeared.

We returned to the parlors where more games and much light and frivolous talk was indulged in. About twelve the guests were again summoned to the dining room which was this time dotted with little tables "just for two" on which refreshments were served and under the weird light of half a dozen or more Japanese lanterns hanging from festooning of green, cream and cake took flight.

At one a.m. the guests started for their homes, many of the boys with "their best," enjoying a moonlight drive, and all hoping that sometime in the near future the doors of "Level Fields" would again be thrown open on a similar occasion.

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

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Letters to the Editor

Don't raise taxes

To The Editor:

Gov. Tim Kaine, contrary to his campaign rhetoric, is proposing $3.7 billion in tax increases over four years. He claims that this is needed to improve the state's transportation infrastructure.

Not to be outdone, Senate leaders also are proposing new taxes. Their version of the tax increase would take more—$4 billion—out of our pockets over a period of four years.

Haven't we been down this road before?

The 2004 General Assembly passed the largest tax increase in Virginia history—$1.5 billion. The increase was signed into law by former Gov. Mark R. Warner—another governor who broke his pledge not to raise taxes.

With that tax increase accomplished, we were supposed to rest easy because our statewide long-term spending needs would be covered.

But it appears not to be so.

The new Virginia budget proposed by Gov. Warner and adopted by Gov. Kaine calls for spending $72 billion, a 15 percent increase over the last budget.

For comparison, recall that the 1998-2000 state budget was $46.9 billion, and before that the 1992-1994 budget was $28.6 billion.

I am aware that the state's population and therefore its needs are growing, but population growth alone does not justify a 50 percent increase in spending since the beginning of the decade.

Furthermore, these tax increase proposals are made even though the state has a budget surplus for fiscal year 2006 of $1.242 billion.

Fortunately, Republicans in the House have announced their own transportation reforms. They have a package of sensible ideas that includes much-needed reforms to the Virginia Department of Transportation but does not raise our taxes.

They believe the state can solve many of its transportation needs by better management and greater efficiencies. This package envisions better utilization of outsourcing and public-private partnerships, as well as introducing some long-term planning.

We cannot afford another round of tax increases in Virginia when we already endured a $1.5 billion increase in 2004, and we have budget surpluses that are projected to grow even more in the coming years.

I urge concerned Virginians to write their delegate and senator asking them to support the "no-new-tax" version of transportation reforms.

Carol G. Dawson
Morattico

Be proactive, not reactive to development

To The Editor:

I graduated from Lancaster High School in 1999. Many of my family members still live and work in Lancaster and I would like to return to the area when I am older.

I am resigned to the fact that Wal-Mart will eventually come to Kilmarnock, along with other large-scale development projects. It is evident that this area is experiencing rapid growth; and the major focus of dissent should not be on opposing growth, but rather encouraging sustainable development. It is imperative that we work to control the inevitable sprawl, fit new development into the existing landscape, and most importantly preserve our local natural resources for future residents.

Changes to our community will occur with or without the construction of Wal-Mart; however, anticipating and regulating these changes will ensure that our community retains its unique quality of life. I live in Charleston, S.C., which was once bounded by rural areas similar to those found in Lancaster County. Over the past 50 years, the massive migration to the coast has placed excessive demands on the resources in this area, and proper planning was not always in place to ensure that development was done in a sustainable manner.

The communities on the South Carolina coast have been battling massive sprawl for years. Recently a community in Georgetown County defeated Lowe's effort to build a "big box" store. While Kilmarnock may or may not have the same success, there were concessions that Lowe's was required to make in their conceptual design of the store and surrounding areas prior to being submitted for approval. The planning director of Georgetown County saw to it that the store had 30-foot buffers from surrounding neighborhoods and green spaces with gazebos between the road and parking lot to handle excess runoff and act as a small park along their county bike path. All of the design changes would have helped to lessen the impact on the surrounding areas if the plan was approved. If Wal-Mart wants to come to Kilmarnock, they will have to work with the town to see that people will be happy with their design. It is important that Wal-Mart is challenged on this issue, and that the pressure continues throughout the planning and implementation processes.

There are hundreds of ways to reduce the impact of Wal-Mart on the area it wants to build upon. Some of the possibilities include permeable parking spaces, extensive green space in the parking lot, extra sky lights to reduce the massive amount of energy to run a "big box" store and an exterior that is pleasant to look at while fitting into the surrounding landscape. Wal-Mart has these capabilities, and more.

Kilmarnock should force the issue and require Wal-Mart to implement similar measures on the proposed store in Kilmarnock. There are websites dedicated to educating municipal officials and the public on similar planning issues. There are tributaries that run near the store that drain into the Corrotoman River, which flows to the Rappahannock. Excessive runoff from the Wal-Mart parking lot could have detrimental effects on fisheries as a result of oil and grease, among other hazardous materials that could enter the water.

While Wal-Mart is the issue today, in the future it could be massive construction firms like Beazer or Centex who want to develop near the waterfront and in our own backyards. Lancaster County, Kilmarnock, White Stone and Irvington need to plan now so that when future developers propose construction, the local government will already have regulations in place limiting negative effects on our economy, our environment, and the health and safety of all of our residents.

Jeremy Landon Conkle
Charleston, S.C.

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Letters to the Editor

Boathouse issue raises concerns

To The Editor:

I own the property on Tipers Creek that was recently granted a boathouse permit. This is the action taken by Northumberland County that triggered a group of Tipers Creek dissidents to attempt to promote a wholesale prohibition against boathouses in Northumberland County, a quest that has gained widespread, and one-sided, publicity.

The story published by the newspaper on this situation is woefully incomplete because the file that was part of the permit application contained a wealth of information that has not been mentioned to date. For example, my home is at the headwaters of Tiper's Creek. The creek is not navigable past my home, nor do I have any adjoining property owners except on one side. There are no homes across from me so there is only one quadrant that might arguably object should a boathouse exist but there is already a boathouse at that location, and another couple across the creek about 300 feet or so.

My home had a lawful and permitted boathouse dating back to the early 1980s. It was damaged and fell into disrepair, most notably following hurricane Isabel. The previous owners did not have repairs made. Repairs were undertaken by me within about three months of purchase of the home, when I made application to remove and rebuild the boathouse, dock and pier in their entirety.

This provoked the outcry by the dissidents. Each of these objectors was written a letter by me informing them of the facts and inviting a call, a visit to the property and discussion to quell their supposed concerns. The invitations were ignored. All the while this small cluster of dissidents was pressing their frivolous objections, not a single adjoining property owner, or one nearby, objected to my permit application. This is an important fact—here I was, trying to improve the situation, no neighbors had objected, yet I was forced to go to the appeal process before the board of supervisors because of the knee jerk protests made against my application by people who chose to be willfully ignorant of the facts. The crusade continues.

This sorry situation was compounded by the disregard shown by a couple of local politicians when the permit application was brought to a public hearing. My own representative here in Wicomico Church, Pamela C. Russell, did not view my property before voting on the permit application. Under the ordinance, a first-hand view of the property is vital to understanding the question presented and to willfully be ignorant of the facts, as Russell was, is inexcusable. However, such was the state of affairs on January 12 when my application was heard. She voted against the permit.

I wrote the board, thanking members Ronald Jett, Richard Haynie and Joe Self for their affirmative vote on my boathouse application. Despite the favorable outcome, I found the hearing quite alarming because of what I observed in the process which culminated in Russell and James Long voting against my application.

First, it seems to me that if one is in a position of public trust to enforce the laws and regulations, that such duty requires an honest appraisal of the issues and strict compliance with the law. By all appearances, only three of the supervisors followed this standard.

Neither Russell nor Long viewed the property before the hearing and were in a state of ignorance, except hearsay, as to the factual situation, whether pro or con on the application. Although it was certainly not necessary to view the property, it is certainly more compelling to see the property before a negative vote is cast. To refuse a claimed property right should trigger greater inquiry than an affirmative vote in favor of the property owner. But I was given no such consideration.

Worse yet, Russell stated in the hearing that she had "spoken" to a number of people before the hearing that were opposed to the application and hence she was moved to try to defeat it. This is an alarming declaration. It means that citizens who are under, or trying to avoid, the weight of a law or regulation dealing with property rights have their rights held in the balance by an elected official that makes such determination by conversations before the hearing based upon statements and opinions not expressed in the hearing. This methodology leaves the applicant no right to hear much less rebut those whom the official relies upon in determining to rule against the property owner. In short, it becomes a secret process known only by the supervisor.

This is likewise apparently the case as to Long who remained mute in the hearing and gave not a word of explanation for why he was against the boathouse permit.

When I was young I heard an expression that fits this situation: "The only thing worse than being tried by a hanging judge is to be hung and then tried."

On January 12, my application was apparently dead on arrival in the minds of two supervisors before I showed up for the hearing—the only difference is that I was ignorant of that fact and incorrectly assumed the decision would be made as part of the hearing process. To an objective observer, I was in full compliance under the law of Northumberland County and the affirmative vote for the allowances of the permit should have been unanimous.

I also want to mention my awareness of the fact that the vote approving my application displeased certain residents that were, by appearances, well known and used to being shown considerable deference as having a long history of residence in the county. Although it never occurred to me to mention that I have owned property in the Northern Neck for approximately 20 years, because the length of ownership is not mentioned in the regulations as a factor in the boathouse permit scheme, it certainly came across in remarks made that there are expectations in the minds of others that such fact is worth consideration—in essence, a form of super-seniority of rights for those who have lived here the longest. Thankfully, such mentality has not yet become the majority opinion in Northumberland County.

David H. Shaffer
Wicomico Church

Committing fiscal suicide

To The Editor:

America's trade and government debt now equals all of the debt accumulated over the 220 years before the Bush presidency. This has happened in only five years, and there is worse to come.

The true all-in cost of the Iraq and Afghanistan wars will be around $2 trillion, as calculated by a Nobel Prize-winning economist.

The stability of the dollar is being called into question by world financial centers. The price of gold is soaring. Yet Bush's promise to begin reducing our deficits has been broken with his current deficit-increasing budget proposal.

If the White House won't restore order, Congress must act, and act decisively to staunch this fatal hemorrhaging.

Jerry Peill
Lancaster

Look at the good Wal-Mart will do

To The Editor:

Over the past few weeks, I have read the letters that have been published in the Rappahannock Record regarding Wal-Mart.

My family members have been in Lancaster and Northumberland counties for over 300 years. My wife and I were both born and raised here. In the past 48 years, we have seen the fishing industry go from six companies to one. The working watermen that left in the morning from Carter's Creek went from about 100 to 5. The working farms went to condos, subdivisions and golf courses.

In downtown Kilmarnock, my mother worked for the Rexall Drug Store. While she was at work I would go to the Fairfax Theater and watch movies until 9 p.m. and on Friday nights we would go to town to get our groceries and shop.

Now most of the stores close at 5 p.m., a few at 2 p.m. Regarding Wal-Mart coming to town, I feel as though the people who live and work here, and who voice their negative opinions, need to stop and consider the residents who are disabled and who are elderly. My wife is one of those disabled persons. One of her enjoyments is going to Gloucester to shop at Wal-Mart.

Wal-Mart has scooters that give her the freedom to shop, without my assistance. The store provides items that she can no longer find in Kilmarnock.

There are only two stores in town that offer the use of a scooter to shop. Don't get me wrong, there are several stores that still provide her with personal help with what she needs. Wal-Mart offers her the ability to shop anytime of the day, and any day of the week, wide isles and employees that go out of their way to help her.

Lancaster County has gone through many changes in the past several years. With all of the housing boom here and senior citizens who have retired here, this county needs to wake up. Having a Wal-Mart here along with the other merchants would be a blessing to the majority of residents.

It would also keep the revenue here.

We all seem to think of all that's wrong with this store and seem to forget all the good it would do for our residents.

Ernest L. George
White Stone

No right to boathouses

To The Editor:

The practice of virtually indiscriminate permitting of boathouses in Northumberland County has stirred up considerable interest and many people have recently expressed their opposition to the practice in the Record. It should now be evident to the planning commission and the board of supervisors that there is considerable opposition to boathouses, especially in residential areas.

One point bears emphasis. Ownership of waterfront property does not convey the rights to erect a structure over the water in the riparian area extending from the property owner's shoreline. The state owns the bottomland (and thus its water) up to the mean high waterline. Therefore, the county, acting for the state, has the responsibility of exercising judicious stewardship over these waters over which waterfront property owners have no vested interest.

In exercising this stewardship, the county should bear in mind the impact of its decisions with respect not only to the utilitarian value of an over-the-water structure, but also to its effect on the community in which it is located.

It cannot be alleged that boathouses add anything to the natural beauty of shoreline properties in Northumberland County. In fact, they substantially detract from it. The various county authorities should devote greater attention to what they are doing in our fair and pleasant shoreline. Otherwise, waterfront properties will soon be wrecked.

W. C. Magee
Wicomico Church

Questions boathouse opposition

To The Editor:

A January 19 front-page article in the Rappahannock Record may lead readers to believe that the "old waterfront structures" mentioned in the photo caption is or was a boathouse.

The buildings are not and never have been a boathouse. That building was a bait and ice enterprise, built and operated 60 to 70 years ago.

The article also noted "that old boathouses harbor harmful chemicals." This remark reminds me of Chicken Little saying "the sky is falling." I have never known of any harmful chemicals contaminating water or land from old or new boathouses.

As far as I know, the only group who can disallow boathouse construction is the board of supervisors.

I know the ordinance regulating boathouse construction permits residents who oppose a proposed boathouse to request that the board of supervisors disallow its construction because their view of the waterway would be obstructed. Also, neighbors across the waterway from the proposed boathouse can file an objection, provided the waterway is less than 500 feet wide at the site.

Northumberland County has strict requirements for the construction of boathouses. It would be interesting to know how many of the Tipers Creek residents bought or built homes where a boathouse existed that affected navigation, the environment and the view.

It never ceases to amaze me how some people can claim that boathouses can be a navigational nightmare. Some years ago, I found that I had to navigate around boathouses when I was soft crabbing on the shore of Hulls Creek. To navigate around the boathouses was no more difficult than to navigate around a boat dock.

If these complainers who claim that a boathouse impedes navigation and the view succeed with their quest, the next thing they may want to ban might be construction of boat lifts, boat docks and possibly boats tied to the docks.

It is important to know that any construction below mean low water must be approved by the U.S. Coast Guard, the Corps of Engineers, the Commonwealth of Virginia and the county. Any structure that impedes navigation in Commonwealth-controlled waters is not allowed.

There is no question that boathouses walled on three sides can block some view of the creek and some are in a state of disrepair. A thought brought to my attention is that any boathouse that is in a state of disrepair should be repaired or removed.

The Northumberland supervisors understand the view problem and have passed ordinances that only allow boathouses without side walls. I call these "boat ports."

Commercial boathouses are allowed in Northumberland and Lancaster counties. The greatest asset of the Northern Neck is the Chesapeake Bay and its tributaries. I remember when most local income was from the waterways. This is still so, not from production of seafood but from the waters' attraction to retirees and their watercrafts.

I believe that counties which disallow boathouses of any kind are discouraging a major source of income. Lancaster County passed an ordinance in 2003 designating a private boathouse as a structure or device, floating or temporarily fixed, that encloses a boat and, in so doing, increases the profile of the boat by any amount. Boathouses are prohibited in Lancaster County.

In my opinion, the ordinance outlaws the use of boatlifts. The boatlift is constructed of four or more pilings which enclose the boat. When the boat is lifted from the water, its profile changes.

I am one of many Northern Neck "come heres." We have knowledge and experience that might be useful. I believe the Northern Neck has a great future, provided we work together and not be led astray by the whim of a few.

According to the January 26 Rappahannock Record, "Northumberland seeks input on banning of boathouses." I live in Northumberland County, on Indian Creek, and from my viewpoint, every waterfront home has a dock. There is also a boathouse and a boat port, neither of which generate the objections noted by the few on Tipers Creek.

I wonder what percent of the Northern Neck population objects to any structure below mean low water that protects a boat from climatic conditions. I believe that those who oppose boathouses are fewer than those in favor of the Northumberland County ordinance.

I look forward to the commission meeting February 16 at 7 p.m. in the old Northumberland Courthouse.

Richard "Dick" H. Thompson
Kilmarnock

Suggests a regular Wal-Mart

To The Editor:

Given that the community is seriously divided with regard to the possible advent of a Wal-Mart Supercenter and that the company has yet to apply for a permit, has the Town of Kilmarnock considered the alternative of granting a permit for a regular Wal-Mart, rather than a Supercenter?

Kilmarnock has two supermarkets serving the area already; why take the chance that one or both might be driven out of business by a Supercenter? While increased competition is usually considered to be beneficial with respect to banks, the problem is different when it comes to the established food stores and their customer base.

While it may be true that other merchants might end up having to adopt to the extra competition by perhaps staying open on Saturdays, or staying open later at least one or two evenings a week, a regular-size Wal-Mart without huge meat, produce and bakery departments might be the answer for many lower Northern Neck shoppers who do not want to make the long drive to Gloucester or Tappahannock with gas prices as they are.

A bit of price and service competition never hurt anyone and does not necessarily have to end up making Kilmarnock a ghost town as far as local shops and merchants are concerned. Perhaps we might even get an Outback Restaurant or a multiplex movie house in town as a result.

The town fathers have admitted that they had no idea of how to creatively counter the Wal-Mart proposal and had to be instructed by an out-of-town consultant. Perhaps all they see is the bottom line of sales and property tax revenues without considering whether the whole project, including the impact on the town and the present infrastructure, would be beneficial to the community the voters charged them with managing. Let us hope they make the right decision.

Peter Weil
Irvington

Who is council representing?

To The Editor:

I was shocked and appalled to see the headlines of your paper recently. I was more shocked and appalled when I read the story.

I have not moved full-time to Kilmarnock yet and therefore have not been able to vote locally but I wonder what the other citizens must be thinking about their town council members.

It appears that the town council members, like many government officials, are thinking only about a very short term scenario with the development of the parcel at the north side of town to house the Wal-Mart. They seem to be thinking only of the tax revenues, jobs (albeit very low wage jobs generally without benefits packages), and the allure of working with the "big guys."

They do not think of the costs associated with those meager benefits: increased infrastructure costs including roads, lights, utilities and the loss of small business revenues (which could easily offset any increase in tax revenues from the new project), to name a few.

Nor do they appear to be considering the non-monetary costs associated with the project: increased congestion, increased light dimming our wonderful clear night skies, increased runoff into our precious Chesapeake Bay, increased heat generated from the massive parking lot required–the list goes on.

I wonder if the citizens of Tappahannock understood that with the development of a Wal-Mart Supercenter in Kilmarnock, it is highly likely that their store will close, thus losing all the "jobs" and other upsides they thought they were getting.

How can the Northern Neck support two such behemoths?

The size of the proposed store is so totally out of scale with the rest of the region I'm wondering who exactly the town council is representing. It certainly isn't the business leaders who are located in Kilmarnock. I would venture that the square footage of the proposed supercenter exceeds the total commercial square footage of downtown Kilmarnock.

It also appears to me that the town leaders are either entirely self-motivated or nearly so when I see that a planning commission member requesting a zoning change to her nearby parcel from low density residential to commercial. How convenient!

I hope that the citizens of Kilmarnock and the Northern Neck realize that what they may have grown up with and grown used to—the open spaces, the clear skies, the slow, unhurried pace, the small scale, friendly atmosphere—is theirs to lose and once that is gone it cannot be reconstructed.

I wish the Town Council recognized that, but it appears that they are a worse enemy to the residents than the superstores.

Nan Harvey
Kilmarnock

Supports Palestinian election

To The Editor:

Rep. Jo Ann Davis is sponsoring legislation to withhold funding and implement tough measures against the Palestine Authority. The recent elections in Palestine overwhelmingly supported a change from the old leadership. They voted for a better life in a democratic way.

Rep. Davis knows little about the situation and is only enflaming passion because she thinks it is good politics.

The Palestine people deserve a chance that has been denied them for over 50 years. They deserve a better life and peace. We will only instill more tension by denying aid as a punishment of a free and fair election. Let's give peace a chance and be more moderate and intelligent in our foreign policy decisions.

I suggest that Rep. Davis spend her energy on the high cost of gasoline and heating oil. Oil prices have jumped from $40 to $60 a barrel, a 50 percent increase. Gasoline prices have jumped from $1.50 to $2.25 per gallon, another 50 percent increase. The price of oil is controlled by an oil cartel. The price for refining and distributing gasoline is controlled by a gasoline cartel, Exxon-Mobile, Shell, BP etc. Just because the oil cartel increased the price by 50 percent is no excuse for increasing the refining and distribution prices by the same 50 percent. The American public is getting ripped off.

There are people on the Northern Neck unable to pay for heating oil. January was an extremely mild month. The winter season will create a big demand for heating oil. How can these people afford to heat their homes? I call upon Rep. Davis to look out for them.

John Holmes
Weems

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Mr. and Mrs. Daniel Lucas Lally

Lally-Eldridge nuptials held

William and Angela McCarty of Lancaster and David Eldridge of Lakeland, Fla., announce the marriage of their daughter, Heidi Ann Lucy Eldridge, to Daniel Lucas Lally, son of Kelley and Timothy Lally of Lancaster.

The couple were married on their five-year anniversary January 9, 2006, at Sandals Grande Ocho Rios in Jamaica. Upon their return to Virginia, the couple were married again with Catholic rites by Father James Bruse at St. Farnces de Sales Catholic Church in Kilmarnock. A wedding reception followed at St. Mary's White Chapel in Lancaster January 21.

The bride was given away by her father, David Eldridge. Austin McCarty, brother of the bride, was ring bearer. Casey Westhoff was maid of honor and Kyle Lally, brother of the groom, was best man. David Eldridge Jr., brother of the bride, read from the New Testament and Vincent Bolduc read from the Old Testament.

The bride is the granddaughter of Doris and David Westhoff of Lancaster, and Francesca and Wes Eldridge of Lakeland, Fla. She is a Dean's List student at Rappahannock Community College and is working on a bachelor's in history and elementary education through Mary Baldwin College. She hopes to pursue a master's in counseling. She is employed by Mary Moreland of Lancaster as a home care aide.

The groom is the grandson of Mrs. Ellen Lally of Ottoman and the late Timothy Lally, and the late Mr. and Mrs. George Nohelty of Milwaukee, Wis. He is a 2003 graduate of Lancaster High School and is employed by Gary Langhorne Concrete of Heathsville.

The couple live in Ottoman.

Mr. and Mrs. Christopher Shaun Weber

Weber–Duke vows exchanged

Miss Crystal Anne Duke and Christopher Shaun Weber were married September 24, 2005, at the Ware River Yacht Club in Gloucester. Minister William Clark Jr. officiated.

The bride is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Jay Duke of Saluda. She is the granddaughter of Mrs. Charlotte Duke of Saluda and the late Walter Duke, Tommy Grimstead of Locust Hill, and the late Mr. and Mrs. Jimmy Brice.

The groom is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Billy Wilkinson of Waterview. He is the grandson of Mr. and Mrs. Alfred Weber and the late Mr. and Mrs. McClellan.

The bride was escorted by her father.

Miss Melisa Walker of Saluda served as maid of honor. Bridesmaids included Miss Joanna Higgins of Waterview, Crystal Harris of Saluda, Sarah Davis of Richmond and Brittany Taylor of Saluda. The flower girl was Kaitlyn Weber, daughter of the groom.

Shawn Powell of Waterview served as best man. Groomsmen were Eric Duke and Jamie Duke, both of Saluda, and Caleb Higgins and Dougie Willis, both of Waterview.

Travis Estiptu of Saluda served as ring bearer. Miss Ashley Wilkinson served as mistress of ceremonies.

A dinner reception was held at Ware River Yacht Club following the ceremony. The couple lives in Urbanna.

435-1701 .... this number will get you places!

Local News

Family and friends gathered at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Innis Wood on Saturday, the occasion being a "surprise" party given by her children to honor their mother on her 70th birthday. In attendance were her children and grandchildren, Chuck Headley and Charlie of Virginia Beach, Linda and Roy Peay, Tyler and Cory of Mechanicsville, Janet Bridwell and Laura of Charlotte, N.C., and friend, Chris Myers, Polly Headley and friend, Matt Poffenroth of Washington, D.C., Wesley and Dee Wood of Dahlgren, also, Dixie's sister, Frances Hawkins of Winston-Salem, N.C., and Lewis Henry Headley of Reedville. Mrs. Wood's oldest daughter, Lisa Hart and children of Point Pleasant, N.J., were unable to come because of weather conditions. Close school friends who also attended included Ann and Wallace Carter, Anne and Bill McClintock, Augusta and Warren Sellew and Sue Harvey Edson.

Mrs. Shirley Bellows returned home last Thursday after two weeks in Mechanicsburg, Pa., where she and Mrs. Wyomme Owen of Henderson, N.C., babysat grandchildren Amy, Abby and Hunter Bellows, while the parents, Mr. and Mrs. Tim Bellows, vacationed. En route home Shirley visited Judy Bellows and William Bellows in Richmond.

Mr. and Mrs. Tom Fletcher spent the weekend in Alexandria with their son, Dr. Wade Fletcher. Joining them to celebrate Tom's birthday on Saturday evening and Sunday brunch were Brandt Fletcher of Alexandria and Mr. and Mrs. David Fletcher and sons Riley and Will, of Springfield.

Mr. and Mrs. Stephen Proctor have returned from a two-week visit with friends in Vero Beach and Marathon, Fla. Weekend guests of the Proctors here were a daughter and family, Shaune and Aaron Colliver and son, Braydon, of Charlotte, N.C.

Mrs. C. E. Thomas of Merry Point was guest of honor on her 85th birthday at a dinner hosted by her daughter, Mrs. Claudia Williamson, at her home in Kilmarnock.

Mrs. Edna Cralle Johnson and Mr. and Mrs. John Taliaferro were Sunday dinner guests of Mr. and Mrs. Harry Owen at Indian Creek Country Club.

Births

Sarah Elizabeth Haynie

Billy and Erin Haynie of Fleeton announce the birth of their daughter, Sarah Elizabeth Haynie, January 26, 2006, at Henrico Doctor's Hospital in Richmond.

Sarah weighed 6 pounds, 10 ounces and was 19 inches long.

Her maternal grandparents are Keith and Brenda Wilmer of Regina. Her maternal great-grandparents are the late Mr. and Mrs. Elmer H. Pittman Sr. and the late Mr. and Mrs. W.W. Wilmer.

Her paternal grandparents are William and Sandra Haynie of Fleeton. Her paternal great-grandparents are Mr. and Mrs. James Newsome of Edwardsville and Braxton Dawson and the late Eva Rae Dawson of Heathsville.

Her big sister, Jessica Lynn, and two special dogs, Ginger and Fleeton, welcomed her home.

Celebrating 50 years

Don and Helen McGonegal of Mosquito Point recently returned from a tour of Egypt which was part of the celebration of their 50th wedding anniversary. The couple visited Giza with the Great Sphinx at left and the Great Pyramid at right. The tour included upper and lower Egypt and a cruise on the Nile.

Wed 65 years

Meredith and Margaret McKenney of Kilmarnock recently celebrated their 65th wedding anniversary at Indian Creek Yacht and Country Club. They were joined by their son and daughter-in-law, Jim and Joan McKenny of Richmond, and the Emory Webb family.

Engagements

Matthew Clay Brent and Tara Genevieve DiSciullo

Brent-DiSciullo

Mr. and Mrs. Anthony DiSciullo of Newark, Del., announce the engagement of their daughter, Tara Genevieve DiSciullo, to Matthew Clay Brent of Lancaster, son of Pam Brent of Lancaster and the late Morton Brent.

The bride-to-be is a graduate of St. Mark's High School in Wilmington, Del. She has a bachelor's in educational studies from the University of Delaware and a master's in special education from the College of William and Mary.

She works as a special education teacher at Greenwood Elementary School in Newport News.

The groom is a graduate of Lancaster High School. He has a bachelor's in history from Christopher University and teaches social studies at Lancaster High School.

The couple met in 2000 through their involvement with Circle K International, the collegiate level of Kiwanis International.

They are both members of Kiln Creek Kiwanis Club.

The wedding is planned for November 18, 2006, at New Life Christian Fellowship in Wilmington. Receptions will be held in Wilmington at Three Little Bakers Country Club and in Lancaster.

Elizabeth Dickson Bedell

Bedell-Lindsey

Mr. and Mrs. Dickson Johnston Bedell of Richmond announce the engagement of their daughter, Miss Elizabeth Dickson Bedell of Richmond, to McClintock Brockenborough Haynie Lindsey of Richmond, son of Mr. and Mrs. Aubrey Lee Lindsey Jr. of Chester.

The bride-to-be is the granddaughter of Delmar Lee Brown of Richmond and the late Maude Armistead Brown, and the late Mr. and Mrs. Louis Wood Bedell Sr.

The prospective groom is the grandson of the late Mr. and Mrs. M. B. Haynie, formerly of Kilmarnock, and the late Mr. and Mrs. Aubrey Lindsey Sr., formerly of Chester.

Miss Bedell graduated from Douglas S. Freeman High School and attended East Carolina University. She is pursuing a bachelor's in history from Virginia Commonwealth University. Lindsey graduated from St. Christopher's School and received a bachelor's in business administration from James Madison University.

A June wedding in Charleston, S.C., is planned.

Charles Francis Stevens and Jessie Meggin Rose

Rose-Stevens

Christy Fountain and David Rose of White Stone announce the engagement of their daughter, Jessie Meggin Rose, to Charles Francis Stevens of Staten Island, N.Y., son of Mr. and Mrs. Mark Stevens of Olcott, N.Y.

The bride-to-be is the granddaughter of Wilbur Rose and the late Elizabeth Brook Rose of Baltimore, and Harry Fountain and the late Jean Bond of Baltimore.

The prospective groom is the grandson of Charles Sutton of Olcott and the late Mary Sutton, and the late Mrs. Frances Stevens, formerly of Newfane, N.Y.

Miss Rose will graduate from Rappahannock Community College in May with an associate's in arts and sciences.

Stevens is a 2000 graduate of Newfane High School. He is in the U.S. Coast Guard, stationed at Fort Wadsworth, N.Y. He is a boatswain mate, third class.

A May 6 wedding is planned in Kilmarnock.

Haley Ann Lewis comes home

Haley Ann Lewis

Haley Ann Lewis, the infant daughter of Bill and Missy Lewis of White Stone, is home after five months in the Childrens Hospital of the Kings Daughters.

She was born July 27, 2005, at 24 weeks gestation at Norfolk Sentara Hospital and weighed 1 pound, 6 ounces and was 13 inches long.

Her chances of survival were one in three. She was transferred to CHKD where she spent most of her early days in an incubator hooked to two ventilators and several intravenous lines. She also had heart and eye surgery.

She now weighs 10 pounds, 3 ounces and is 22 inches long. While still on oxygen to help with her breathing, she has no serious health problems and in some respects is more advanced for her age than many other infants.

Her maternal grandparents are Joe and Becky Hinson, and her aunt is Joanne Hinson, all of White Stone.

Her paternal grandparents are Tommy and Ann Lewis of Kinsale.

Births

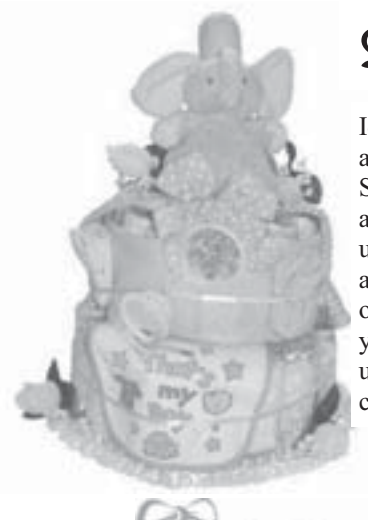
Anne Carter Fleet

Mr. and Mrs. Alexander McD. Fleet Jr. of Warsaw announce the birth of a daughter, Anne Carter Fleet, February 12, 2006, at Bon Secours Hospital in Mechanicsville.

Maternal grandparents are Mr. and Mrs. Mead Garner of Montross.

Paternal grandparents are Mr. and Mrs. Alexander McD. Fleet Sr. of Irvington.

Fee, Fye, Foe, Fum
We have a new
Queen of our Kingdom.
We shiver in fear
of making her cross.
And have to be good
'cause she's now our Boss!
Happy Birthday from your
loyal subjects at Heads Up.



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Neil Smart

Piper presents program

Neil Smart of the Kilmarnock and District Pipe Band presented the history and music of bagpipes at a recent meeting of the Woman's Club of Lancaster.

Smart described the history of the pipes. There is evidence of pipes as early as 1,000 B.C. he said.

The Roman Emperor Nero played a version of the pipes.

Smart also described the components and tuning of the pipes.

Music for the pipes includes airs, laments, marches, dances such as reels, hornpipes and jigs and ancient unwritten music, he said. One can hear bagpipe music in many settings as inspiration for marching troops, joy at weddings and mourning the dead.

Throughout the program, Smart played tunes. He concluded with the farewell tune of "We're No Awa to Bid Awa."

The next meeting is March 8. The program will be "Wasps and Night Witches" by Carl G. Finstrom, a program about women aviators during World War II. To attend, call Betty Thornton at 462-0742.

Music club to host The Forty Fingers

The February meeting of the Rappahannock Music Study Club will be held at Rappahannock Westminster-Canterbury near Irvington Monday, February 20, at 11 a.m.

The Forty Fingers, a quartet of four women on two pianos, will present "From Bach to Broadway and Beyond."

The members of the quartet are Marydel Flint, Pat Morris, Julia Olson and June Swanell. Their musical backgrounds include serving as church organists, piano and organ teachers, and as choir and chorale members.

This group of RW-C residents has been playing together for five years, first for their own pleasure, and later going on to offer two or three programs a year for the residents.

The Rappahannock Music Study Club is a member of the National and Virginia Federated Music Clubs.

Marple to speak to Woman's Club

The Woman's Club of White Stone will hold its monthly meeting March 1 at the clubhouse at 11:30 a.m. The speaker will be Rappahannock Foundation for the Arts president Allen Marple. He will speak on his association with The National Ballet of Canada.

Marple has a long and illustrious history in support of the arts. During his tenure in Toronto, Canada, he served as chairman of the board of directors of The National Ballet of Canada. In this capacity, he worked with some of the world's leading ballet artists.

After Marple's talk, members and guests will have a tea luncheon furnished by the club. Adele Jones of Ohio will entertain with a talk about teas and a look at her collectible tea pots.

Seniors group plans meeting

The Corrotoman Senior Citizens will meet Tuesday, February 21, at 10 a.m. at the Ruritan Center near Lively.

Minister Daniel Mochamps will be guest speaker.

Attendees may bring a friend, a sandwich, and a prize. Bingo will be played. Desserts and beverages will be provided.

Hosting the event will be Janet Abraham, Virginia Haywood, Thelma Newsome and Thomas Stevens.

Trips planned include "Behold the Lamb," Lancaster, Pa., April 4 and 5; a day trip for "Ragtime," Riverside Theater, Fredericksburg, April 12; Ocean City, Md., featuring Charlie Prose, April 24 to 27; and Branson, Mo., September 18 to 22.

For more information, call Hazel Ford at 462-7895, or Fannie Clingan at 435-1713.

Waterfowl show to feature 92 artisans, carving contest

The White Stone Firehouse will again be the setting for the Rappahannock River Waterfowl Show, now celebrating its 27th year.

The March 18 and 19 show will offer a variety of wildfowl related art. Some 92 artists, carvers, sculptors and photographers will participate.

Among the exhibitors are Artist of the Year Ed Hatch of Spring Grove, Jim Wilson of Yorktown, Art LaMay of Palm Coast, Fla., John Shaw of King George, William Redd Taylor of Newport News, Cary Savage-Ingram of Greer, S.C., Spike Knuth of Mechanicsville, Ned Ewell of Cockeysville, Md., Bradley Jackson of Weathersfield, Vt., Jean Carter of Kilmarnock, Diane Jackson of Montross and Ann Holloway of Salisbury, Md.

Carvers include Vince Ciesielski of Harrisburg, Pa., Al Burk of Sykesville, Md., Charles Jobes of Havre de Grace, Md., Wayne Baker of Richmond, Herb Lewis of Reedville, Lewis Shelton of White Stone, Eddie Wozny of Cambridge, Md., Dick Cook of Topping, Leroy Shelton of King George, Jim Britton of Reedville, William Cowen of Brown's Mill, N.J., and Russell Fish of Chincoteague.

Other artists include sculptor David Turner of Onley, John Orehovec of Williamsburg, Dan Williams of Dayton, Tenn., and Sol Levine of Wake Forest, N.C.

After an absence of 14 years, the carving contest is returning. The Rappahannock Carvers and Collectors Guild will host their annual contest Saturday, March 18, during the show in the White Stone Women's Club building next door to the firehouse. Registration will be held Saturday morning from 8 to 11 a.m. and judging will begin at noon.

Jim Wilson of Yorktown will be among the returning artists. This will be his 24th year at the Rappahannock River Waterfowl Show.

Business sponsors are The Bufflehead Society: Bank of Lancaster and Bay Trust, W.F. Booth Inc., Connemara Inc. and Rappahannock Rentals; The Heron Society: Lawler Real Estate and The Business Press; and the Cardinal Society: Willaby's Catering and Currie Funeral Home Inc.

Hours are 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Saturday, March 18, and 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Sunday, March 19. Admission is $7. Children under 12 are free. A Preview Night Gala will be held Friday, March 17. Advance tickets are required for the gala. For information on Preview Night, call 435-6355, or email info@rrws.org.

The Rappahannock River Waterfowl show is sponsored by the White Stone Volunteer Fire Department. Proceeds benefit the operations of the department.

Celebrate with the colonial presidents

Visitors to Colonial Williamsburg during Presidents Day Weekend February 18 and 19 will find George Washington and Thomas Jefferson discussing events that led to the birth of a new nation.

This holiday weekend is an optimal time to meet the first two Virginia-born presidents and delve into their lives and influence.

Programs on Saturday, February 18, will include:

• "The Great Men in Williamsburg," from 10 to 11:40 a.m. at the Capitol. The program discusses the role Washington and Jefferson played in the events that occurred at the Capitol. In 1780, Jefferson relates his early experiences as a lawyer in the General Court before the American Revolution. In 1781, Washington discusses his tenure as a Burgess from 1759 to 1774, as well as his friendship with the last royal governor, Lord Dunmore.

• "Comrades All…," from 11 a.m. to 12:20 p.m. at the Raleigh Tavern. In the Apollo Room in 1779, Patrick Henry discusses the friendships and political relations he had over the years with Washington, Commander in Chief of the Continental Army; James Madison, a member of the Governor's Council; and Thomas Jefferson, who was just elected to succeed Henry as the next governor of Virginia.

• "A Public Audience with the First President, George Washington," at 1 p.m. at the Kimball Theatre. Washington looks back over his long career in public service reflecting on his years in the House of Burgesses, the American Revolution, serving as Commander in Chief of American forces in the War for Independence, and his leadership in drafting the Federal Constitution leading to his presidential election. Reservations required.

• "I Remember the Time: The Marquis D' Lafayette Remembers George Washington," at 2 p.m. at the DeWitt Wallace Decorative Arts Museum. Serving as an American-French liaison officer while leading an elite unit, Lafayette speaks about Washington and his participation in the War for Independence.

• "Colonel Washington and the War Against the French and Indians," from 3 to 4 p.m. at the Governor's Palace. In 1758, a young Washington reports to the governor.

• "To Washington's Health," from 7:30 and 9 p.m. at the Capitol. The Virginia Company will perform a variety of songs and instrumentals familiar to the first president, reflecting the breadth and character of music during George Washington's time. Special ticket required.

Programs on Sunday, February 19, include:

• "The Constitution and Its Ratification," from noon to 2:30 p.m., approximately every 20 minutes at the Governor's Palace. Meet Jefferson and Washington, and discuss with them the letters they have sent and received from their friends and political allies.

• "Washington as a Symbol, A Historian's Perspective on the American Icon," at 1 p.m. at the DeWitt Wallace Decorative Arts Museum. Colonial Williamsburg historian Kevin Kelly explores the Washington myth so integrated into the American historical memory.

• "Young Martha: A Conversation with Martha Washington," at 2:30 p.m. at the DeWitt Wallace Decorative Arts Museum. Martha Washington was a woman of property and rank in colonial Virginia society. She was the mother of two, a beloved wife and woman of deep religious conviction. Come hear this newlywed reflect on the world that she inhabits, her thoughts about motherhood and matters of the spirit and her opinions of her adored and adoring husband. Reservations required.

• "Salute to the Presidents," at 4 p.m. at Market Square. Colonial Williamsburg's Founding Fathers, Colonial Williamsburg's Military Programs staff, and Fifes and Drums celebrate the institution of the presidency and the citizens who have served in that office over the centuries.

• "An Evening with the Presidents: The Role of the Executive and the Bill of Rights," at 7:30 p.m. at the Kimball Theatre. Join Washington, Jefferson and Madison in a discussion about the executive's challenges in protecting the nation while upholding the rights given individuals under the Constitution's first 10 amendments. Special ticket required.

• From Coronation to Inauguration," at 7:30 and 9 p.m. at the Governor's Palace. An elegant evening of music in the home of the first two governors of the new Commonwealth of Virginia—Henry and Jefferson. Special ticket required.

Established in 1926, the Colonial Williamsburg Foundation preserves and operates the restored 18th-century capital of Virginia. For more information or reservations, call toll-free 1-800-447-8679, or visit www.ColonialWilliamsburg.com.

Park to celebrate Washington's birthday

Marion Nelson Winship, instructor of American History at Virginia Commonwealth University, will give a talk "George Washington's Sense of Place" in the Visitor Center Auditorium at George Washington Birthplace National Monument on Saturday, February 18, at 2 p.m.

Winship's talk will focus on the first 20 years of Washington's life.

The talk will mark the start of the park's celebration of the 274th birthday of George Washington.

On Monday, February 20, costumed interpreters will portray plantation activities throughout the day and the George Washington Birthplace National Memorial Association will serve complimentary gingerbread and hot cider at the Log House.

On Wednesday, February 22, the public is invited to a birthday party for George Washington complete with a specially decorated cake and punch. The party will start at 1 p.m.

Admission to the park will be free all day February 20 and 22. Admission to the talk on February 18 will be free. Regular admission fees will apply for those wishing to tour the historic area on February 18 and 19.

George Washington Birthplace National Monument is on Route 204, two miles off Route 3, 11 miles west of Montross.

Regular admission is $4 for adults; visitors under age 16 are free. The site is open from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. daily.

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Lancaster's Madison Smith (left) and Northumberland's Shannon Lewis collided on the way down the court last Thursday night. The head-butt, which left both girls dazed and sporting goose-eggs, kept Smith and Lewis benched for the last five minutes of the first half.

Lady Indians beat Devils twice

by Lisa Hinton-Valdrighi

Northumberland held on to second place and Lancaster dropped to fourth last week in Northern Neck District girls basketball.

The varsity Lady Indians beat the Lady Devils, 58-27, in the regular season finale for both teams last Thursday.

The district tournament began Tuesday. In semifinal action, Northumberland beat Lancaster, 55-9. First-place Essex beat third-place Rappahannock. Essex will play Northumberland to decide the girls championship at 6 p.m. Friday, February 17, at Northumberland.

In the season finale, Shannon Lewis topped all scorers with 18 points to pace the Indians.

Lancaster, which ended the regular season at 3-5 in the district, never found its rhythm in the first half. The Lady Devils scored only four points in the first period and another five in the second.

The Indians enjoyed a 17-point lead at the break.

With a balanced attack, all but two Northumberland players scored. Eight shooters found the bucket. Tykia Thomas contributed eight and Ebonee Taylor seven.

Kimberly Crockett of Lancaster is double teamed as she goes up for a shot during a varsity game with Northumberland last week. Closing in on Crockett from behind is Indian Monet Stevenson (12).

Amber Smith scored 12 points and Tyeshia Harvey 11 to lead Lancaster.

Northumberland.....13 13 18 14 - 58
Lancaster.....4 5 11 7 - 27

Northumberland — Lewis 18, Saunders 0, Stevenson 5, Jones 4, Lewis 6, Taylor 7, Wilkins 0, Baker 4, Thomas 8, Fulchon 6. Three-point goals: Lewis.

Lancaster — Jones 2, Crockett 0, Harvey 11, M. Smith 0, A. Smith 12, Randle 0, D. Jones 2. Three-point goals: A. Smith 2.

Rappahannock 50, Lancaster 26

Rappahannock went wild in the first quarter, almost equalling Lancaster's total scoring effort in the first few minutes last Tuesday.

LaShauna Lucas scored nine points and Jasmine Dilworth six to lead the Raiderettes in a 21-4 first-period run en route to a 50-26 rout of the Lady Devils.

Lucas, the Northern Neck District's leading scorer, paced all shooters with 19 points, just seven shy of Lancaster's total.

The Devils struggled to hit double digits in the first half, putting up only 10 points in two quarters. Lancaster was held to a pair of field goals by Miesha Wiggins and Rayna Randle in the opening minutes.

Harvey was the high-scorer for Lancaster with 11 points.

Lancaster.....4 6 5 11 - 26
Rappahannock....21 9 14 6 - 50

Lancaster — T. Jones 0, Crockett 0, Crippen 0, Harvey 11, Wiggins 8, M. Smith 3, A. Smith 1, Randle 2, D. Jones 1.

Rappahannock — Dilworth 10, Lucas 19, Pierson 4, Morse 5, Barker 6, Brown 0, Hickman 0, Ellis 6, Carey 0, Bass 0.

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

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′
Sat	2/18	Sunrise	6:52	High	2:18	1.4′
		Moonset	9:13	Low	8:54	0.1′
		Sunset	**5:48**	High	**2:31**	1.2′
		Moonrise	**11:10**	Low	**8:59**	0.1′
Sun	2/19	Sunrise	6:50	High	2:58	1.4′
		Moonset	9:39	Low	9:38	0.2′
		Sunset	**5:49**	High	**3:11**	1.2′
				Low	**9:38**	0.1′
Mon	2/20	Moonrise	12:15	High	3:44	1.4′
		Sunrise	6:49	Low	10:30	0.2′
		Moonset	10:10	High	**3:58**	1.1′
		Sunset	**5:50**	Low	**10:26**	0.1′
Tue	2/21	Moonrise	1:22	High	4:41	1.4′
3rd Q. - 2:17		Sunrise	6:48	Low	11:32	0.2′
		Moonset	10:48	High	**4:56**	1.1′
		Sunset	**5:51**	Low	**11:25**	0.1′
Wed	2/22	Moonrise	2:29	High	5:47	1.4′
		Sunrise	6:47	Low	**12:41**	0.2′
		Moonset	11:36	High	**6:05**	1.1′
		Sunset	**5:52**			
Thu	2/23	Moonrise	3:35	Low	12:33	0.1′
		Sunrise	6:45	High	6:58	1.4′
		Moonset	**12:36**	Low	**1:50**	0.2′
		Sunset	**5:53**	High	**7:17**	1.1′
Fri	2/24	Moonrise	4:33	Low	1:44	0.0′
		Sunrise	6:44	High	8:06	1.5′
		Moonset	**1:47**	Low	**2:52**	0.1′
		Sunset	**5:54**	High	**8:25**	1.2′

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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Time runs out for Devils; Indians win season finale

by Lisa Hinton-Valdrighi

If a league championship game is supposed to be decided at the buzzer, then Friday's season-ender between Lancaster and Northumberland for the Northern Neck District title lived up to the expectation.

Lancaster's Andre Henderson took an inbounds pass and put up a miss with no time on the clock. The Indians won 44-42.

Northumberland, with its second win over Lancaster this year, wrapped up the regular season title with the two-point victory before a packed house at NHS.

The Indians (7-1) earned a home berth in the first round of the Region A playoffs next week.

Lancaster (6-2, 10-8), barring any major upsets in this week's district tournament, should enter regional play as the Northern Neck's number two team and play Tidewater's top seeded Middlesex in the first round.

Lancaster took an early but short-lived lead in the season finale, going up 13-8 after the first period, then giving up six unanswered points early in the second period. Northumberland took the lead with 42 seconds to play in the first half and never gave it up.

The Indians held their biggest lead, 25-16, early in the third after Jonathan Veney hit a three-pointer and Brandon Webb followed with a steal and a lay-up.

Lancaster made an 8-2 run minutes later to get back in the game and cut the margin to three, 27-24.

The Indians increased their lead to nine a second time with a 5-0 run to start the fourth, but the Devils battled back with an 11-4 run in a three-minute span.

A. Henderson sank a three-pointer with 21 seconds to go to pull Lancaster within two, 44-42, and bring the crowd to its feet.

After a travelling call on Northumberland turned the ball over with 12 seconds to play, Lancaster worked the ball in to Montel Mitchell under the goal. Mitchell's shot was rejected by J. Veney and Webb was called for stepping out of bounds trying to retrieve the ball.

Lancaster got the ball back with one second on the clock and LHS coach Brance Holmes called his final timeout.

The Devils brought the ball in under their own goal and A. Henderson let it fly almost as quickly as he caught it, missing the field goal as the buzzer sounded.

Lancaster struggled all night with the three Northumberland towers of J. Veney, Brian Seymour and Lavar Rich. They forced Lancaster to take outside shots most of the night and held Jamie Veney to eight points.

They held the Devils to only three points in the second quarter with Cleon Rice hitting once from the floor and once from the line. Rice chipped in nine total for the Devils.

Lancaster's Andre Henderson holds on to the ball after slipping and flipping over during a varsity game at Northumberland Friday.

Lancaster's Jamie Veney drives between Northumberland's Kyle Jones (20) and Brian Seymour (42) during varsity action last week.

Northumberland's J. Veney led all scorers with 17. Seymour contributed 15.

Both the Devils and Indians will be in action this week in Heathsville at the Northern Neck District tournament. The semifinal games were scheduled for earlier this week. The varsity championship is Saturday, February 18, at 8 p.m.

Lancaster.....13 3 12 14 - 42
Northumberland.... 8 12 11 13 - 44

Lancaster — T. Henderson 3, Mitchell 4, J. Veney 8, C. Henderson 0, Segar 0, A. Henderson 15, Rice 9, Laws 0. Three-point goals: A. Henderson 2, T. Henderson.

Northumberland — Starks 3, Webb 0, Jones 3, J. Veney 17, Brunt 0, Rich 2, Seymour 15. Three-point goals: J. Veney.

Lancaster 75, Rappahannock 53

Lancaster took only a minute or two to take control of last Tuesday's game against Rappahannock.

The Devils outscored the visitors, 29-12, in the first quarter and jumped to a 20-point lead at the half on their way to a 75-53 win.

Jamie Veney, who scored 16 points to pace the Devils, put up eight points and Curtis Henderson and Cleon Rice added six each in the opening run.

Lancaster got scoring from all 11 of its players in the rout.

Timmy Johnson scored 16 points to lead three double digit scorers for Rappahannock. Devonte Reynolds added 15 and Grant Rice 14.

Rappahannock.....12 17 14 10 - 53
Lancaster.....29 20 14 12 - 75

Rappahannock — Elmore 0, Dunaway 0, Taylor 0, Lucas 0, Rice 14, Johnson 16, Ellis 4, Reynolds 15, Sanders 0. Three-point goals: Rice.

Lancaster — T. Henderson 5, Veney 16, George 2, C. Henderson 9, Taylor 7, Segar 8, Saunders 2, A. Henderson 10, Rice 8, Laws 4, Wilson 4. Three-point goals: C. Henderson 2, T. Henderson, Taylor, A. Henderson.

Devils to defend sub-region crown

Lancaster and Mathews will be the favorites Saturday, February 16, during a six-team sub-region wrestling tournament at Mathews High School.

The Red Devils are sporting a 20-2 overall record after defeating Arcadia and York in a triangular in Kilmarnock last Friday.

"We're moving in the right direction and wrestling well heading into the post-season tournaments," said coach Craig Oren.

The Devils had five wrestlers go unbeaten against York and Arcadia in the non-district match.

Ross Kellum (112), Sam Frere (119), Thomas Frere (135), Robert Lally (145) and Louis Santangelo (189) all went 2-0.

Patrick Oliver (125), Ibraheem Bullock (140), Graham Winnstanley (152), Gary Wardlaw (170), Leif Mieras (160) and Justin Culpeper (HW) went 1-1 each.

"Last year, Arcadia was one of only three teams to beat us," said Oren, "so this was a big revenge win for us. We also wrestled a good match against a good double A team in York. It was nice to compete at that level and come away with a win."

The Devils will defend their sub-region championship on Saturday.

All-Star coaches named

Three new coaches will join Northumberland's Michael Stevenson at Lancaster High School March 18 for the eighth annual Norlan Shriner's All-Star Basketball games.

Stevenson will coach the Northern Neck All-Stars Boys for the second year. Newcomers include Neal Bailey of Middlesex High School, who will coach the Tidewater Boys; Darlene Boone of Essex High School, who will coach the Northern Neck Girls; and Joe Harper of King William High School, who will coach the Tidewater All-Star Girls.

The Northern Neck All-Star Boys edged Tidewater last year, 86 to 85. The Northern Neck Stars hold a 6-1 record.

The Northern Neck Girls have a 3-1 record.

The All-Star games are sponsored by the Norlan Shrine Club as a fund-raiser and will include a $100 half-court shoot-out sponsored by the Bank of Lancaster.

Tickets are $5. The first game will begin at 6:30 p.m.

Sports Shorts

■ Fishermen's Fair

The fifth annual Reedville Fishermen's Fair will be held March 4 and 5 from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. at Northumberland Middle School off Route 360 in Claraville. The fair features fishing seminars, fishing demonstrations, over 30 vendors and food.

Two-day admission is $10 in advance and $12 at the door. Proceeds benefit the Reedville Fishermen's Museum. For advance tickets, contact the museum at 435-6529, or www.rfmuseum.org. The fair is co-sponsored by Chesapeake Angler Magazine.

■ Fishing seminar

The Chesapeake Angler and Northern Neck Anglers Sport Fishing Seminar will be held March 25 at the Northumberland County Community Center at 679 Browns Store Road. Registration will start at 8 a.m. The seminar will begin at 8:30 a.m.

Several local charter captains will be featured. To pre-register, send a check for $10 (per person) payable to the Northern Neck Anglers Club to Tom Smith, 2380 Windmill Point Road, White Stone, VA 22578. Include name, address and phone number. Admission includes a box lunch and cold drink.

JV Lady Indians scorch Devils' undefeated trail

by Lisa Hinton-Valdrighi

The JV Lady Devils came within three points of a perfect Northern Neck District season last Thursday when the Indians edged Lancaster, 41-38, in overtime in the regular season finale.

The disappointing loss may have stripped Lancaster of the unbeaten bragging rights, but the young Lady Devils still laid claim to the regular season title with a 7-1 district record and 11-2 overall mark.

After trading shot-for-shot for four periods, the Indians and Devils were tied 31-31 at the end of regulation time in the season final at LHS.

Northumberland hit six free throws and Brittany Carter drilled a three-pointer in overtime to lift the Indians.

Lancaster never hit from the floor in the three-minute period, but the Devils did get four free throws from Andrea White and two from Jasmine Moody.

White led Lancaster with 26 of the team's 38 points. White led all scorers.

Ciara Turner did the bulk of the work for Northumberland, pacing the Indians with 22 points.

Carter chipped in eight.

Northumberland...7 7 8 10 9 - 41
Lancaster.....10 5 7 10 6 - 38

Northumberland — Mitchell 0, Sutton 0, Cockrell 4, Turner 23, Howard 2, Carter 8, Jones 2, Raines 2. Three-point goals: Carter.

Lancaster — Ritchie 0, Scott 0, Washington 0, White 26, Jeter 2, Moody 4, Cain 0, Yerby 4, Dawson 2.

Lancaster 24, Rappahannock 20 (OT)

White hit two field goals and Jasmine Moody one in overtime last Tuesday to lift Lancaster over Rappahannock, 24-20.

The two teams were tied at 18 at the end of regulation in the low-scoring affair.

The Lady Devils scored only six points in the second half and were held to a field goal by White in the fourth period.

The Raiderettes put up three in the third with a field goal by Julia Hundley and a free throw from Megan Davis.

Korrey Oord led Rappahannock with six points.

Lancaster.....8 4 4 2 6- 24
Rappahannock...4 5 3 6 2 - 20

Lancaster — Ritchie 0, Scott 0, White 16, Jeter 2, Moody 4, Cain 0, Yerby 0, Dawson 2, Washington 0.

Rappahannock — Harris 0, Hundley 2, M. Davis 4, Yackel 0, Sumiel 4, Jones 4, Oord 6, Thompson 0, A. Davis 0.

Lancaster's Latifah Jeter (24), Andrea White (23) and Samantha Cain (33) guard an Indian shooter during a JV game last week.

Janae Washington of Lancaster brings the ball down court in the final minutes of regulation time during last Thursday's JV game against Northumberland.

Scoreboard

Varsity boys basketball
Northumberland 44, Lancaster 42
Lancaster 75, Rappahannock 53

JV boys basketball
Lancaster 69, Northumberland 50
Lancaster 55, Rappahannock 33

Varsity girls basketball
Northumberland 58, Lancaster 27
Rappahannock 50, Lancaster 26
Northumberland 55, Lancaster 9

JV girls basketball
Northumberland 41, Lancaster 38 (OT)
Lancaster 24, Rappahannock 20
Lancaster 32, W&L 27

Wrestling
Lancaster def. York
Lancaster def. Arcadia

Upcoming Games

Boys basketball
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
February 17:
Northern Neck District tournament final at Northumberland (6 p.m.)

Wrestling
February 18:
Lancaster and Northumberland at the sub-region tournament at Mathews

Bridge Results

Five-and-a-half tables of duplicate bridge were in play at the Woman's Club of White Stone February 8.

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

Winners east/west were first, Judy Peifer and Virginia Adair; and second, Carolyn Reed and Rebecca Harger.

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

Six tables of bride were in play February 7 at the Woman's Club of Lancaster.

Winners north /south were first, Mary Andrews and Barbara Hubbard; second, Cynthia Birdsall and Arden Durham; and third, Ilva Doggett and Kay Williams.

Winners east/west were first, Judy Peifer and Jane Hughes; second, Liz Hargett and Tot Winstead; and third, Carolyn Reed and Rebecca Harger.

The next bridge for this group will be Tuesday, February 21 at 1 p.m.

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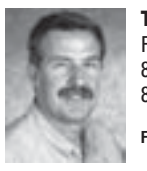

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Correction

A picture that appeared on the front page of last week's paper misidentified the JV girls basketball player from Lancaster High School as Tiara Scott. The Lady Devil shooter was actually Jasmine Moody.

JV Devils post 8-0 undefeated season

by Lisa Hinton-Valdrighi

The JV Devils ended strong, scoring 21 points in the fourth quarter against Northumberland last Friday to put the finishing touches on a perfect Northern Neck District season.

Lancaster beat the Indians, 69-50, to claim the regular season boys title with an 8-0 district record and 13-3 overall mark.

"It was a great season," said LHS coach Collin Rice. "They worked hard on a continuous basis."

Turning in a balanced effort in their season finale, the Devils got double digit scoring from four players. Quenton Henderson led the way with 19 points, Marcus Betts added 15, Jonathan Somers contributed 12 and Nick Gibson scored 10.

Lancaster opened up a close six-point halftime lead with a 16-9 third quarter run. Betts scored seven of his 15 in the period to help lift the Devils to a comfortable 13-point lead going into the fourth quarter.

Henderson scored eight points in the final six minutes, leading Lancaster's 21-point period.

Carolmaine Diggs helped keep the Indians in the game in the first half, scoring nine of his team-high 14 in the opening two periods.

Lancaster.....17 15 16 21 - 69
Northumberland..13 13 9 15 - 50

Lancaster — Gibson 10, Veney 0, Christman 3, Betts 15, Tiggle 1, Thomas 2, Henderson 19, Kuykendall 5, Somers 12, Lee 2. Three-point goals: Henderson 3, Betts.

Northumberland — Brent 3, Diggs 14, Scott 2, Walker 2, Ball 7, Crawley 9, Parker 7, Deihl 6. Three-point goals: Brent, Parker.

Lancaster 55, Rappahannock 33

Lancaster held Rappahannock to a pair of free throws in the first quarter last Tuesday and went on to beat the Raiders, 55-33.

Lancaster fired four three-pointers in the opening period to take a 14-point lead. The Raiders were never able to recover.

Henderson led all scorers with 19 points. He scored nine in the first quarter and seven in the fourth.

Gibson added 12 for Lancaster.

Rappahannock.....2 8 14 9 - 33
Lancaster.....16 10 18 11 - 55

Quenton Henderson (21) and Lee Kuykendall (23) go up for a rebound under the Northumberland basket last Friday night during a JV game.

Michael Parker (32) of Northumberland trails Lancaster's Marcus Betts as he drives for the goal during a JV game last Friday.

Northern Neck Family YMCA *Fitness Assessment*

What is the YMCA Fitness Assessment Day?
A series of interactive stations designed to give you an accurate picture of your current fitness level. You choose the number of stations to complete—do one, or do all. Stations include:

- Blood Pressure
- 3-Minute Step Test for Cardio-Respiratory Endurance
- Body Composition Analysis
- Flexibility Test
- Upper Body Muscle Endurance Test

Who can take the assessment? Any person age 18 and older. You do not have to be a member of the YMCA to participate in this free fitness assessment.

How long will it take? What should I wear during the assessment?
Allow 30-minutes to complete all the stations; we encourage everyone to wear comfortable clothing to allow for physical movement.

Location:
39 Harris Road
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Day and Time
February 18
8:30 AM—12:30 PM

FREE TO ALL

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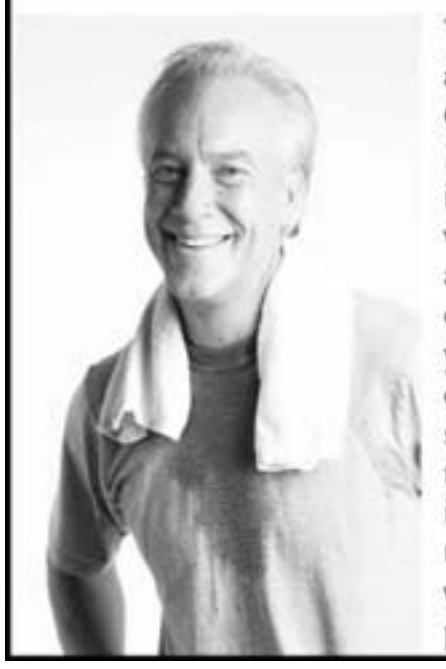

Who administers the assessment? YMCA Group Exercise Staff and Instructors. Each station is a private interactive site with our staff; your assessment results are confidentially shared with you. A follow-up private consultation can be scheduled and recommendations made to improve personal fitness through one of our 12-week "FIT-FOR-LIFE" programs.

Peninsula Metropolitan YMCA

We build strong kids, strong families, strong communities.

Farm Bureau and VHSL team up to offer scholarships

Farm Bureau Insurance and the Virginia High School League recently announced they are accepting applications for the Farm Bureau Insurance/VHSL Achievement Awards.

The program honors students for outstanding participation in athletic and academic activities. This marks the 16th year of the program, and the ninth year that Farm Bureau Insurance has provided $10,000 in scholarships to worthy Virginia students.

Ten $1,000 scholarships will be awarded, honoring a male athlete, a female athlete and an academic activities participant in each of the VHSL's three group classifications. A student who has overcome incredible odds to make significant contributions to athletic or academic activities also will be rewarded.

Nominations must be postmarked by March 15. Winners will be honored at a luncheon at the Richmond Marriott West May 15.

The awards, recognizing outstanding achievement in VHSL activities, are open only to students graduating during the 2005-06 school year.

Candidates must have won a varsity letter or the equivalent in baseball, basketball, cheerleading, cross country, field hockey, football, golf, gymnastics, indoor track, lacrosse, outdoor track, soccer, softball, swimming, tennis, volleyball or wrestling.

Candidates also can qualify with a varsity letter or equivalent in debate, drama, forensics, creative writing, newspaper, yearbook, magazine or scholastic bowl.

Candidates also must have a minimum cumulative GPA of 3.0 on a 4.0 scale, be involved in other school-sponsored activities and involved in activities outside of school. Candidates must also submit two letters of support; an essay not to exceed 500 words describing how extracurricular activities have enhanced their educational experience; and a head and shoulders photograph.

Farm Bureau Insurance will recognize 39 regional winners as finalists for the state awards. VHSL members are urged to nominate students in each of the four categories for the scholarships.

Nominations will be reviewed by a panel of education, business and media professionals that will select one student from each region in each category, plus three finalists for the Andrew Mullins Courageous Achievement Award.

This award goes to a student who has made significant contributions to one or more VHSL athletic or academic activity and has a serious illness or overcome one; overcome great adversity, such as challenging social or home situations; or overcome other extraordinary situations and displayed tremendous courage against overwhelming odds. At least one of the letters of support must document the unusual circumstances the student has overcome.

Application forms can be found at www.vfbinsurance.com/vhsl, or contact Lisa Giles at 434-977-8475, or lgiles@vhsl.org.

Veney's still competing

Dwayne Veney (above) and teammates on the Virginia Beach Sunwheelers visited Lancaster High School last week to offer up an inspirational message and entertain students. A 1998 LHS graduate, Veney has been confined to a wheelchair for three and a half years. A tri-athlete at Lancaster, he played football, basketball and ran track. Instead of giving up sports after becoming paralyzed, he joined the Sunwheelers. "They gave me an opportunity to be a competitor and compete in the sport of basketball," Veney said. The Sunwheelers played a game of four-on-four and got students and teachers into the act. The Sunwheelers will host the eight-team East Coast Championship tournament March 17, 18 and 19 at Peninsula Catholic High School.

Bowling Results

Men's League

On February 9, Sal's Pizza won two games and lost one against Evans Bowling Center. For Sal's, Wayne Condrey bowled the high set of the week of 386 with games of 144, 132 and 110. Bill Hendershot rolled games of 128, 124 and 120 in a 372 set. Bob Huff had two games of 110. For Evans, Bunks Mitchell bowled the high set of 359 with games of 118 and 134. Richard Savalina rolled a 128 game and Wilson Evans had games of 122 and 120.

D&L Marine Construction won two games and lost one against J&J Construction. For D&L, Steve Hinson bowled the high set of 304 with a 105 game. Mark Obsharsky rolled a 139 game. Dana Stillman had a 109 game. For J&J, Curly Lewis bowled the high set of 385 with games of 140, 121 and 124. Steve Edwards rolled a 131 game, Frank Perkins a 115 game and Rolaid Lewis a 114 game.

Cap'n John's won two games and lost one against H&S Printing. for Cap'n John's, Herbert Hammock bowled the high set of 373 with games of 124, 128 and 121. Ernie George rolled games of 122 and 156. Ryan Dawson and Joe Hinson each had a 114 game. For H&S, Gary Hodges bowled the high set of 366 with games of 130 and 128. Louis Coates rolled games of 145 and 126. John Hollowell had a 137 game.

High game: Curly Lewis, 179; Ernie George, 170; Herbert Hammock, 167; Bob Huff, 166; Ryan Dawson, 165; Louis Coates, 162.

High set: Louis Coates, 457; Ernie George, 415; Wayne Condrey, 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, 134; Wayne Condrey and Curly Lewis, 120; Bill Hendershot, 119; Herbert Hammock, 118.

Standings

	W	L
Evans Bowling	10	5
Cap'n John's	9	6
H&S Printing	9	6
J&J Const.	6	9
Sal's Pizza	6	9
D&L Marine	5	10

Sports Shorts

■ Little League

Registration for the 2006 Lancaster County Little League season continues Friday, February 17, at Dream Fields near Kilmarnock, from 5 to 7 p.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.

Going polar

Cammie Smith of Kilmarnock and her daughter, Hannah, recently took a quick dip in the chilly Atlantic Ocean to raise money for Special Olympics Virginia. They waded into 42-degree water along with 3,400 other participants in the 14th annual Special Olympics Polar Plunge. From left, Hannah, Cammie and Holly Smith huddled under a blanket to keep warm on the chilly February 4 afternoon. The event raised $575,000 for the state's Special Olympics program. The Smiths solicited $500 in local donations.

Smith earns Eagle Scout

On Sunday, February 26, at 3 p.m., the public is invited to St. Stephen's Episcopal Church in Heathsville for the official Court of Honor where Patrick Smith, 18, will receive his Eagle Scout award.

Smith has been in the Scouting programs since the fifth grade when he joined the Cub Scouts at the Webelo II level. That year he moved up to Boy Scouts and went on his first camping trip with his dad, Randy Smith, and Troop 202. It was on that trip that Patrick learned of the road to Eagle Scout, and began a dedicated pursuit of the highest award in Scouting.

Over the next six years Smith earned 22 merit badges and was elected as Troop Representative for the Order of the Arrow. He completed the "Ordeal" level and earned "brotherhood" to seal his membership in the Order of the Arrow.

"Scouting has prepared me for many of life's challenges," said Smith.

Challenges he has experienced include spending a week in Washington, D.C., with the National Youth Tour and a week in Uganda on a Mission Trip with other members of St. Stephen's Church.

For his Eagle Scout project, Smith built a trophy case for Northumberland High School. He and his fellow scouts embarked on a fund-raising plan to raise $1,600 to pay for the materials needed. In two months he raised his goal, mainly by selling products at St. Stephen's Annual "Christmas Countdown" held every year in early September, and from generous contributions from church members, family and friends.

Patrick Smith

Working on the project included constructing a wood and glass front to the trophy case, with lots of help from his fellow scouts.

The final step in applying for the Eagle Scout award was completing all the paper work and finalizing his Eagle Project Workbook….all of which had to be completed and approved by Troop Committee before Smith's 18th birthday. He made it with a day to spare.

Scouting has been a part of my life for the past six years," said Smith. "Through Scouting I've made many friends and had many adventures. It has taught me life lessons and given me experiences I will never forget. As I look back on my Scouting adventures, I haven't forgotten to stay focused on the trail ahead because as one adventure comes to a close I know a new one is just beginning."

The public is invited to join Smith's parents, Sharon Baldacci and Randy Smith, members of the St. Stephen's congregation and his many friends, at the Court of Honor at St. Stephen's at 3 p.m.

Bike Walk group plans local chapter

Bike Walk America, in conjunction with the Northern Neck Tourism Council and the National Park Service, will hold an organizational meeting for a Northern Neck Chapter at Chesapeake Bank Friday, February 17, at 5:30 p.m.

The meeting will be held at the training center at 35 School Street in Kilmarnock.

There will be a welcome and pizza session from 5:30 to 6 p.m. followed by an organizational meeting at 6 p.m.

All cyclists and hikers are urged to participate in the discussion.

The group's first activity will be a September bike tour of the Northern Neck. To register, call Patty Long at 333-1919.

Audubon bird count gets under way Friday

The Northern Neck Audubon Society (NNAS) invites area residents to participate in the 2006 Great Backyard Bird Count (GBBC) Friday, February 17, through Monday, February 20.

The annual event is conducted by the National Audubon Society and the Cornell Lab of Ornithology, with sponsorship from Wild Birds Unlimited. Its purpose is to document where the birds are, and track changes in their numbers compared with previous years.

Participants contribute to scientific knowledge by joining in the only count that creates a mid-winter snapshot of what the birds are doing across North America.

"Birds serve as an ecological 'marker' and thus help scientists determine the overall health of our environment," said NNAS education chairman Jim Groff.

"Participation is easy and enjoyable," said Groff.

A basic knowledge of bird identification is required.

Participants can count birds for as little or as long a time as they wish. They note the highest number of each species they see at any one time and enter their sightings online where complete instructions for participation can be fund.

In 2005, GBBC participants sent in more than 52,000 checklists, with 613 species and more than 6.5 million birds counted.

This year for the first time, awards will be given to states, provinces, and localities that submit the most checklists.

For more information, call Rae Hinch at 435-7484.

Window on Wildlife

by Joyce Firchett Russell

Ann stands beside me at our kitchen window.

We are watching a flock of red-winged blackbirds eating stale cereal I threw out. There's also a whole ear of corn attracting the squirrel. The birds are trying to get the corn too. We laugh at the action.

Later, down at the farm, I see four wild turkeys in a field. A pair of crows are building their nest in a tall pine tree. In the ditches, spring peepers and other frogs are chirping. They are calling for mates. A mockingbird is singing.

My wildlife calendar reminds us to houseclean all bird houses and order plants and seeds for wildlife plots.

Many birds are wearing nuptial plumage and singing softly as they practice their love song. Birds that migrate will be flying through; birds that nest here, like ospreys, will be settling in. Look for them.

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More than 200 people turned out for the board of supervisors meeting in Northumberland last Thursday, forcing the county to move the meeting to the high school auditorium.

A representative of Double D Development shows architectural drawings for proposed condominiums near Fleeton. Each building would contain four or five residential units.

▼ *Fleeton condo project is tabled . . . .* *(continued from page A1)*

the project, noting that the county needs another choice in housing.

"There is a need for condos and townhouses around here," said Anne Haynie of Reedville. "(As people grow older) they don't want to do the yard work."

While others agreed, they worried that Fleeton Road is not the right place for such a community. Comments against the project were met with a room full of applause.

"This is a rural area and this is a suburban project, and unless you can tuck it away somewhere where it's not going to stick out like a sore thumb, it is not going to fit in this community," said Matt Terry of Reedville.

"This is fundamentally the wrong location for this project," said Susan Tipton of Reedville. "It is out of scale to the community."

John Clark, a land developer in Caroline County, said, "This is the right plan in the wrong place. It is incompatable with the architectural character of Reedville and Fleeton."

A number of people noted that a development built between the Victorian fishing villages of Reedville and Fleeton should reflect the architectural styles of those communities.

Many said the proposed style of the buildings looked like they belonged in Northern Virginia, Richmond or Fredericksburg.

A proposed density of .28 acres per unit concerned many people. The developer said the density would be less than at Westbay, the only high density development of its kind in Northumberland County.

"The density is a real concern," said Tommy Tomlin of Burgess. "Westbay was different. It was built on an old oyster house site. The property was commercial and barren. This will establish a baseline

▼ *Building . . . .*

(continued from page A1)

the county's shoreline.

The issuance of pier and wetland permits continued to climb in 2005. The Virginia Marine Resources Commission issued a total of 199 pier permits and 130 wetland permits compared with 175 and 114 in 2004.

The VMRC received 15 boathouse requests in 2005, but the county reported that only 6 permits were actually pulled in 2005 compared with 14 in 2004 and 12 in 2003.

Escalating construction costs caused in part by the 2005 hurricane season are helping to keep the county's 2006 numbers fairly steady compared with last year at this time. Although the total number of single-family dwelling permits dropped from 11 in January 2005 to three in January 2006, estimated construction costs for the month held at around $3.5 million.

The full report is available at www.co.northumberland.va.us.

density for other communities."

The potential environmental impact concerned many. An environmental impact assessment had not yet been completed but several people expressed concerns about the amount of asphalt for roads and parking areas in the proposed development. The presentation stated the development would have 69 percent pervious surface.

"The real issue is that we are setting a precedent related to impervious surfaces," said Lee Allain of Lottsburg. "Reducing the number of condos and using pervious parking would improve the ratio."

Traffic on Fleeton Road posed another major concern. Carter White, engineer for JL Howeth Engineering, said a VDOT traffic study predicted the development would bring 320 additional vehicles on Fleeton Road over a 24-hour period. VDOT concluded that the road was built to handle that amount of traffic.

White's comments brought gasps from the crowd and raised concerns about turning lanes and speed limits.

A list of 28 proffers, including contributions to the library, fire and rescue squads, did not seem to impress the crowd.

"Virtually all of the proffers were items that were required anyway," said Spud Parker of Reedville. "I came away unimpressed."

In the end, District 5 supervisor Ronald Jett moved to table the hearing to see if the developer could "work out some of the concerns." The board agreed with his motion unanimously, although it did not set a date to discuss the topic again.

Other actions

The board also tabled until next month a request by Watson Construction and Development to establish a 12-home cluster development behind Reed Square. A town meeting in Reedville February 7 drew more than 100 people concerned about this project.

It was mentioned at that meeting that the Virginia Department of Health has placed a moratorium on new connections to Reedville's water supply due to its capacity and age.

Apparently the county had never been notified of this action, but later confirmed it. The developer will have until next month to test the site for a community well.

The board authorized Marvin Chattin to use 10 cargo containers on his property along Route 360 so long as they are moved out of sight of the road and sheltered from neighboring property with a vegetative buffer.

The board granted property tax exempt status to the Westmoreland Players.

Joanne Nolan and Joanna Yohe withdrew their request for a duplex in Chesapeake Cove subdivision.

Lt. Gov. Bill Bolling to speak at annual Reagan Day Dinner

Lt. Gov. Bill Bolling will deliver the keynote address at the 2006 Reagan Day Dinner March 26 at Indian Creek Yacht and Country Club near Kilmarnock.

Bolling was elected lieutenant governor last November. He served District 4 in the Virginia Senate from 1995 until assuming his current position. He was elected to the Hanover board of supervisors in 1991 and served as a member and as chairman of the board until his election to the Senate.

Bolling joins Del. L. Scott Lingamfelter and Del.Rob Wittman on the podium at the ninth annual Reagan Day Dinner.

U.S. Representative Jo Ann Davis is acting as master of ceremonies for the event.

"We are honored to have Lt. Gov. Bolling, the highest elected Republican statewide official, as our keynote speaker this year," said Lancaster County Republican Party Chairman Joan Blackstone.

In the election last fall, Bolling received more votes than any other statewide Republican candidate.

As a member of the General Assembly, Bolling served as chairman of the Joint Republican Caucus and the Virginia Republican Senatorial Committee. He also served as chairman of the subcommittee on Health Care, the Joint Commission on Health Care, the Commission on the Future of Virginia's Environment and the Chesapeake Bay Commission.

Morton C. Blackwell of Arlington County, the Republican National Committeeman for Virginia, will be a special guest. Blackwell is also the president of the Leadership Institute in Northern Virginia, a well-known school for conservative activists.

Russ Moulton of Stafford County, the chairman of the First Congressional District Republican Committee, also will attend.

Lt. Gov. Bill Bolling

The dinner begins at 5:30 p.m. with a social hour and a silent auction. A buffet dinner follows at 6:30 p.m. Dress is business attire. Admission is $40 per person. To make reservations for the dinner, call party treasurer Emerson Gravatt at 435-3350, or Blackstone at 435-6464.

House passes bill eliminating floor privileges for past members

WASHINGTON, D.C.—Rep. Jo Ann Davis last week voted for legislation to eliminate house floor privileges for former members of Congress who are now registered lobbyists.

Current House rules allow former members of congress unrestricted access to the House floor.

"Recent ethics violations involving lobbyists and members of Congress have made it very clear that reform is needed, and this legislation helps address this issue by eliminating House floor privileges for former members of Congress who are now registered lobbyists," said Rep.Davis. "Currently, former members are able to access the House floor. However, a conflict of interest arises when these former members are now registered lobbyists. In my opinion, this sets the stage for inappropriate lobbying tactics, and I am pleased to support legislation eliminating this floor privilege."

The legislation is the beginning of lobbyist reform, she said.

"This year, Congress will put forward a number of initiatives designed to strengthen current laws to help ensure that honesty and integrity are paramount in Congress," said Rep. DAvis.

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▼ Smith Point Lighthouse . . . .

(continued from page A1)

"She's been my biggest supporter," he added. "She's been right here with me."

While the lighthouse is rock solid, McNally recalls the first trip up the 20-foot ladder being rather treacherous.

"It's difficult to get on that light," he said. "My wife hesitated."

Once inside, McNally said, the brick lighthouse smelled fresh and airy, not at all musty or damp as one would assume from a 100-year-old structure surrounded by water.

Armed with a measuring tape, flashlights, binoculars and an octagonal style drawing, the McNallys went straight to work, measuring rooms and drawing sketches.

Bigger than it looks, the 1,115-square-foot structure contains four stories, plus a full basement and a cistern that once collected rainwater for showers and drinking. The main floor includes an entryway, bathroom, kitchen, eating area and sitting room.

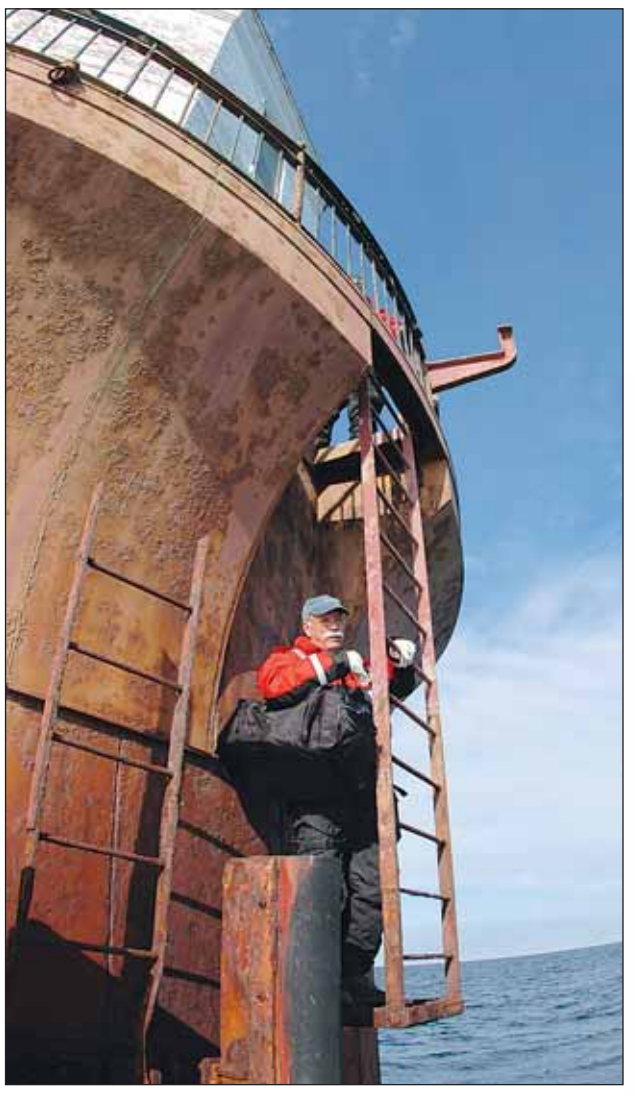
The second floor holds three bedrooms, each surprisingly large enough for a queen-size bed. The third floor is a large, open, 80-square-foot watch room with "amazing views," McNally said.

The fourth floor contains the light and fog horn as well as an attic where the McNallys discovered old paperwork and logs from the '50s and '60s.

Everything else, the old sinks, toilets, showers and appliances had been removed. All that remains are bare walls with peeling paint hiding some intricate woodwork.

They spent three hours visiting the lighthouse that December day.

"As we were saying hello, the Coast Guard was saying goodbye," McNally said.



Dave McNally described the climb up the ladder as "treacherous."

He visited his lighthouse a second time in January. He stopped in Reedville to buy a boat at Jett's Marine. First things first, after all; he needed transportation to his new retreat, something with a large enough bow to accommodate a 4-foot by 8-foot sheet of anything.

He made the drive from Minnesota in 16 hours, he said, stopping at the National Archives in Philadelphia for a copy of the original plans for the lighthouse.

Smith Point Lighthouse is listed on the National Historic Register, so any updates must be approved by a review committee and be true to the original structure.

McNally intends to work on the remodel by himself as much as possible, making monthly trips to his lighthouse starting in the spring. There is currently no running water, working plumbing or electricity, but McNally has plans to tackle these obstacles. A desalinator will fix the water issue. A small tank that treats wastewater will take care of the plumbing. And, he hopes to soon be allowed use of the electricity line that runs the light and horn.

He plans to have the lighthouse ready for the first family retreat by July.

It will be a bit like camping, he admits, since the family will still be hauling in their own water, using a portable potty and relying on lanterns and flashlights to see at night.

McNally believes the lighthouse will some day act as a beacon for his own family, drawing his growing children back together even after they graduate from college and begin their own careers.

He sees it as a starting place for adventures.

It's a personal dream come true.

"I have always loved lighthouses," he said. "I love boating. I love being on the water. I am sure I will love living in a lighthouse too."

▼ Irvington town council . . . .

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was used by the former Winn-Dixie store in Kilmarnock.

Council previously authorized the purchase of a 45-kilowatt generator from Rappahannock Tractor in Kilmarnock for $12,250. The generator would be used to keep water pumping at the west Irvington well in the event of power outages.

Town administrator Gil Unangst said Simmons has offered the generator to the town for $7,500. Fleet directed Unangst to contact Aqua Virginia about whether the used generator could be used for emergency purposes.

Other action

Council subdivided a 6.1-acre property owned by Grayson and Suzanne Mattingly into two parcels of two acres and 4.1 acres. The property, known as the Wilder Grant, will be served by existing roads.

Council deferred action on a planning commission recommendation that council appoint Suzanne Mattingly to the commission to replace Clark Winner. Former councilman Jimmie Lee Crockett also said he is interested in the commission appointment to fill out the term ending in 2007.

Fleet said other town residents who might want to serve on the commission should notify the town administrator before council makes the appointment next month.

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