Rappahannock Record

Thursday, March 23, 2006 • Kilmarnock, Virginia • Eighty-ninth Year • Number 24 • Three Sections • 50¢

New Steptoe's overlay extends beyond traditional downtown

by Lisa Hinton-Valdrighi

KILMARNOCK—The town council approved a zoning district overlay for the downtown area Monday night without community comment and with limited discussion by councilmen.

A public hearing on the new Steptoe's District was opened and closed in less than five minutes, during which time the only comments came from planning commission member Lee Spivey.

"The overlay district is a necessary step in creating an eventual historic district," he said.

The ordinance allows a mix of retail, commercial and residential uses and smart growth is encouraged around the town center.

The district extends to parcels along Main Street from School Street to Wiggins Avenue, along School Street, and along portions of Irvington Road, Waverly Avenue and Church Street.

Within that designation, the use of sidewalks for dining and business displays is encouraged as long as a four-foot pathway is maintained at all times.

The district is named after "Steptoe's Ordinary," the name of the town in the mid-18th century before it was renamed Kilmarnock.

Councilman Fletcher L. Brown IV made a motion to approve the overlay. It was seconded by Dr. Curtis Smith and passed with unanimous approval (5-0).

Main Street Enhancement

Crews working to finish the downtown Main Street project meet with new and unusual obstacles every day, according to streetscape consultant Joe Staton.

In a status report to council, Staton said construction is nearly complete on block one except for the entrance at the Bank of Lancaster main branch.

Construction on the brick pavers across the street on block two at Waverly Avenue is being delayed because of a pole which needs to be moved.

Three tanks, one including oil, were found underground near Noblett's Appliance and Propane and were removed last week.

"Every day we're running into new issues that we didn't know existed," said Staton.

In a related issue, the council authorized an additional $21,546 in Main Street expenditures. According to Staton, much or all of the $7,583 cost to remove a rusted corrugated pipe at the intersection of Irvington Road and Main Street would be reimbursed by

(continued on page A14)

"We were at 32,000 feet and going into full code," said William H. "Bill" Evans.

Evans responds to another crisis

by Lisa Hinton-Valdrighi

Something or someone always draws William H. "Bill" Evans III of Irvington to the wrong place at the right time.

A Gulf War veteran and a front-line volunteer in storm-ravaged New Orleans, Evans, 55, has never been one to stand idly by in a crisis.

In the last two years alone, he's been involved in what he calls five "life or death situations."

So when a fellow passenger went pale, then gray, on a recent Frontier Airlines flight, Evans responded the only way he knew how — by saving her life.

"Somebody wanted me there for a reason," said Evans, who serves as the emergency medical services director for Irvington. "I've always believed the good Lord directs you."

The medical emergency erupted on a routine flight last Tuesday from Denver to Ronald Reagan Washington National Airport in Arlington County.

Evans had been attending an anesthesia conference in Portland and was en route from the airport in Denver when a 61-year-old school teacher started struggling to breathe.

Evans didn't respond initially when the flight attendant asked if anyone on board had medical training.

"I was sure there was a doctor or nurse or someone," on board the Airbus A319, he said.

"Then the captain comes on frantically and says we need anyone with any kind of emergency medical background,

(continued on page A14)

Correction

An article last week regarding the density of two proposed developments in the Reedville area should have stated that the proposed density for the Fleeton condo project is .28 acres per unit (not units per acre) and that the proposed density for the Main Street cluster development is .16 acres per unit (not units per acre).

Artists match a variety of waterfowl with thousands of visitors at 27th show

by Reid Pierce Armstrong

WHITE STONE—Not too hot. Not too cold. Last weekend's 50-degree, dry weather is to thank for record attendance at the Rappahannock River Waterfowl Show, say some volunteers and vendors.

It was not warm enough to work in the garden, but it also was not cold enough to stay inside. Clear blue skies beckoned people to do something, and what better way to spend the weekend than attend the annual show?

Aisles of wood carvings, duck decoys, wildlife photography and oil, acrylic and watercolor paintings filled the White Stone firehouse and a massive tent on the lawn behind it.

My first turn up and down the rows was overwhelming. To a novice, everything kind of looked the same – mallard green and grey goose brown.

It was not hard to tell which artists were popular, however. Their stands were surrounded by customers, the vendors on their feet, working the crowd. Other displays seemed desolate while the vendors, not seeing many customers, sat back to knit or carve and while away the time.

It comes and goes in waves, one woman told me. An hour goes by with nobody stopping at her stand and then, all of a sudden, a crowd gathers and she can hardly keep up. She'll make three sales in a row and things go quiet again. It's a rhythm art vendors know well.

During a second turn through the aisles, the displays came into focus, distinguishing themselves. I saw artists and customers deep in conversation, mutually respectful. I overheard tidbits of conversation, stories of life and livelihood being shared between strangers. The hours upon hours of tedious craftsmanship represented in each display became apparent, and I began to notice the not so subtle differences between each artist's work.

A display by Charles Jobes drew me in first. Tucked into a corner of the "tent," the floor of his stand was literally piled knee high with colorful decoys. His card claims that he is the "Decoy Capital of the World," and looking at the pile of ducks behind him, this is not hard to believe. But his most eye-catching pieces are the children's rocking horses – only, in place of a horse, they have a duck or a goose with handles.

Walking further into the crowd, I saw all kinds of people enjoying themselves.

Tammy and Rob Corrie of Warrenton and White Stone were attending the show for the first time and brought along some friends. They found Rick Fish's display of antiques and decoys and thought a

(continued on page A14)

Oodles of ducks dominated the show.

Tammy and Rob Corrie of White Stone (right) purchase matching decoys at the 27th annual Rappahannock River Waterfowl Show last weekend.

Inside

Kilmarnock pride: B1

■ **Funding education:**
Lancaster and Northumberland schools draft budgets for fiscal year 2006-07.....**B1**

■ **Seeking re-election:**
Rep. Jo Ann Davis recently launched her candidacy for another term in Congress.....**B1**

Business...B6-7 | Opinion.....A4-5
Calendar...A2-3 | Police.....B1
Churches..B2-4 | Schools....B8-9
Classifieds.C1-14 | Sports...A11-13
Directory.C12-13 | Upcoming.A2-3,6+
Obituaries....B3 | Wildlife notes.A12

Transportation official pledges to help fix road

by Reid Pierce Armstrong

WEEMS—Imagine the sound a kid makes when he runs his bike over a steel grate. That's the sound Mary Lee Carter said her car made when she toured Taylor's Creek Road for the first time last weekend.

The road contains one long section of unfinished gravel base, and the portion that has been completed is riddled with potholes and muddy banks.

The contractor has walked off the job, and the Virginia Department of Transportation says it has run out of money to complete the project.

Carter, a new member of the Commonwealth Transportation Board, met with area residents last Saturday at Wesley Presbyterian Church, on one of the road's most dangerous curves. She was trying to understand what went wrong and how she can help make it right.

"How did they spend that amount on this road? I would like them to show me where they did spend the $4 million."
—Mary Lee Carter, Commonwealth Transportation Board

Institutional memory has long forgotten why Taylor's Creek Road ended up on the county's "to do" list to begin with. It slowly worked its way up the list of road improvement priorities for 30 years, getting shoved aside most years in lieu of funding more pressing projects.

Some residents raised concerns as it suddenly neared the top of the list, but county leaders told them the project would never get done.

Many people felt the little country road was fine just the way it was. By the time residents circulated a petition to halt the construction plans in 2001, the unstoppable VDOT ball was already rolling. Engineering was under way, and there was no turning back.

Straightening the sharp turn by the church was the only part of the project that some citizens cared about. But something went wrong. That curve hasn't been touched while other parts of the road are now as wide as a highway, elevated above expensive culverts that don't seem to work in rainstorms.

Safety, the citizens told Carter, is their major concern. People come flying down the new straight and wide section of road and hit the sharp turn unexpectedly.

"We've almost had two head-on collisions around that curve," one woman said.

Although they are angry about the situation, the group worked hard to enlist Carter's help rather than alienate her.

"This is not the person to vent our anger at," one Taylor's Creek resident said. "We want to get her on our side."

The state has spent $4.1 million on the project to date, an overrun of almost $1 million.

"How did they spend that amount on this road?" Carter asked in disbelief. "I would like them to show me where they did spend the $4 million."

Completion of the road is the county's top priority in its new six-year plan, the citizens said, but the state won't touch the project until it has the money to complete it.

Carter promised to take the citizens' questions and concerns to the top, to Fredericksburg District administrator David Ogle. She said she will try to bring him down here and show him the condition of the road herself.

But, she explained, she wants to let Sen. John Chichester do his job in trying to secure the funding needed to complete the road.

"I don't want to go in front of Sen. Chichester," she said. "I think that would be a bad policy. But, I am willing to go to Richmond and to try to get you as

(continued on page A14)

They pass the warning signs every day, so it should come as no surprise to the residents of Taylor's Creek Road that they can expect a "Rough Road Ahead" even when trying to get the construction project completed.

March

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.
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.
The Democratic Committee for Northumberland County meets at 7 p.m. at the Community Center near Browns Store.

24 Friday

Bingo is played at the Upper Lancaster Ruritan Center in Lively at 7:30 p.m.
A Genealogy Class sponsored by Mary Ball Washington Museum and Library at the Lancaster County Woman's Club building in Lancaster. The class continues March 25. Sessions will be held from 9:30 a.m. to noon and 1 to 3:30 p.m. $35. 462-7280.
An Irish Family Festival will be held from 6 to 9:30 p.m. at Fesitval Halle in Reedville. Sponsored by the Northumberland County Republican Committee, the event will feature a variety of entertainment and food. $30 per family, by advance ticket only. 453-6625.

THE RECORD ONLINE www.rrecord.com

Rehearsing for 'A Little Princess'

Rehearsing for the Northern Neck Homeschool Association's production of "A Little Princess" are, from left, Kirsten Beatley, Jane Spencer, Maddie Simpson, Ellery Sadler, Mallory O'Bier, Mary Wright, Elizabeth Bowen and Kimberly Clark. The play will be presented at 6:30 p.m. April 1 at White Stone Church of the Nazarene. Admission is free and open to the public.

25 Saturday

A Sport Fishing Seminar will be held at the Northumberland County Community Center at 679 Browns Store Road. Admissions start at 8 a.m. Discussions, featuring several charter boat captains, begin at 8:50 a.m. $10, includes box lunch. The seminar is sponsored by the Northern Neck Anglers Club and the Chesapeake Angler.
The Northern Neck-Middle Peninsula Friends of IANDS will meet at 12:30 p.m. at Rappahannock Westminster-Canterbury near Irvington. 438-4822.

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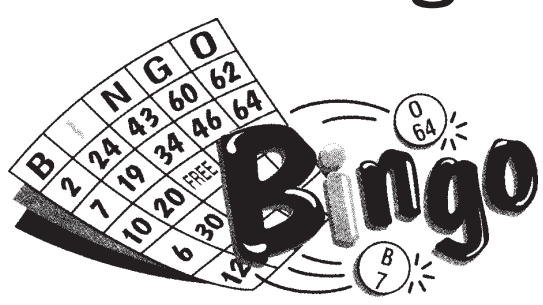
American Legion



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25 Saturday

A Bird Walk will be held by the Northern Neck Audubon Society on the 160-acre conservation easement on the Western Branch of the Corrotoman River. Hikers will meet by 8 a.m. at the Grace Church parking lot in Kilmarnock to car pool to the site.
"The Art of Dining," staged by the Westmoreland Players, opens at West Side Hall in Callao. $15 adults, $10 students. For show times and reservations, call 529-9345.
A Ham And Cabbage Dinner will be served by the Fairfields United Methodist Men at the church in Burgess from 5 to 7 p.m. Donations accepted. Take-outs available. 453-2631.
A Genealogy Class continues at the Lancaster County Woman's Club in Lancaster. Sessions will be held from 9:30 a.m. to noon and 1 to 3:30 p.m. $35. 462-7280.

26 Sunday

The Widowed Persons Service for Lancaster and Northumberland counties holds its lunch brunch at Eckhard's Restaurant in Topping immediately following church services.
A Farmer's Forum will be held from 2 to 4 p.m. at St. Stephen's Episcopal Church in Heathsville. Thea Marshall will moderate.
The Reagan Day 2006 dinner and silent auction will be held by the Lancaster County Republican Committee at Indian Creek Yacht and Country Club near Kilmarnock. Social hour will begin at 5:30 p.m., dinner at 6:30 p.m. $40 per person. For reservations, call 435-3350 or 435-6464.
Auditions will be held for The Court House Players' production of "Deathtrap" by Ira Levin. The auditions will be held at Apostles Luthren Church on Main Street in Gloucester from 2 to 4 p.m. 824-4853.
"The Art of Dining" will be presented by the Westmoreland Players at West Side Hall in Callao. $15 adults, $10 students. For show times and reservations, call 529-9345.

27 Monday

The First-Place Weight-Loss Class meets at 6:45 p.m. at the White Stone Church of the Nazerene at 57 Whisk Drive. 435-5701.

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27 Monday

A Blood Drive will be held from noon to 6 p.m. by the River Counties Chapter of the American Red Cross at Kilmarnock Baptist Church.
The Rappahannock Art League meets at 1:30 p.m. at the Studio Gallery in Kilmarnock. Jeffrey W. Allison of the Virginia Museum of Fine Arts will speak on Paris in the 1890s and the artwork of Henri Toulouse-Lautrec.
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. 462-7605.
The Democratic Committee for Lancaster County meets at 7 p.m. at the Bank of Lancaster northside branch in Kilmarnock.
A Budget Hearing will be held by the Lancaster school board at 6:30 p.m. at Lancaster Middle School in Kilmarnock.

28 Tuesday

The Kilmarnock & District Pipe Band rehearses at 7:15 p.m. at Campbell Memorial Presbyterian Church in Weems. 462-7125.
Al-ANON meets at 8 p.m. at Kilmarnock United Methodist Church.
The Lancaster Lions Club meets at 7 p.m. at Lancaster Landing Restaurant in White Stone.
Bridge will be played at 1 p.m. at Rappahannock Westminster-Canterbury.
The Virginia Marine Resources Commission meets at 9:30 a.m. at VMRC Headquarters at 2600 Washington Avenue in Newport News. Fisheries hearings begin at noon.
Books Alive! meets at 7 p.m. at the Northumerbland Public Library in Heathsville.

29 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 Kilmarnock. 438-5127.
A Grief Support Group meets at 4 p.m. at White Stone United Methodist Church. 435-7585.
A Yard Sale will be held from 3 to 6 p.m. by the Bethel Emmanuel United Methodist Men at their warehouse on Route 201 near Lively.
A Workshop on "Tough Plants For Tough Places" will be sponsored by the Northern Neck Master Gardeners at Wicomico Parish Church on Route 200 in Wicomico Church from 8:30 a.m. to 3 p.m. $30 at the door. Lunch registration ended March 22. 580-5694.

(continued on page A3)

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DOOGAL (PG) 1 HR 17 MIN
Fri. (4:15), 6:00, 8:00
Sat. (2:15, 4:15), 6:00, 8:00
Sun. (2:00, 4:15), 6:00
Mon. – Thurs. (5:15), 7:00

V FOR VENDETTA (R) 2 HRS 12 MIN
Fri. (4:00), 6:30, 8:50
Sat. (1:30, 4:00), 6:30, 8:50
Sun. (1:30, 4:00), 6:30
Mon. – Thurs. (5:00), 7:30

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FRI. MAR. 24
INSIDE MAN (R) 4:40, 7:15, 9:50
V FOR VENDETTA (R) 4:35, 7:00, 9:35
HILLS HAVE EYES (R) 5:00, 7:40, 9:55
SHAGGY DOG (PG) 5:15, 7:25, 9:35
MADEA'S FAMILY REUNION (PG13) 5:20, 7:30, 9:45

SAT. MAR. 25
INSIDE MAN (R) 1:45, 4:40, 7:15, 9:50
V FOR VENDETTA (R) 2:00, 4:35, 7:00, 9:35
HILLS HAVE EYES (R) 2:30, 5:00, 7:40, 9:55
SHAGGY DOG (PG) 1:10, 3:15, 5:15, 7:25, 9:35
MADEA'S FAMILY REUNION (PG13) 1:00, 3:10, 5:20, 7:30, 9:45

SUN. MAR. 26
INSIDE MAN (R) 1:45, 4:40, 7:15
V FOR VENDETTA (R) 2:00, 4:35, 7:00
HILLS HAVE EYES (R) 2:30, 5:00, 7:40
SHAGGY DOG (PG) 1:10, 3:15, 5:15, 7:25
MADEA'S FAMILY REUNION (PG13) 1:00, 3:10, 5:20, 7:30

MON.-THURS. MAR.27- MAR-30
INSIDE MAN (R) 7:20
V FOR VENDETTA (R) 7:15
HILLS HAVE EYES (R) 7:40
SHAGGY DOG (PG) 7:25
MADEA'S FAMILY REUNION (PG13) 7:30

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Call ahead to register
453-3771

Festival Halle
Reedville
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Call ahead to register
453-3771

Area Events

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

■ Reservations accepted

"The Art of Dining" will be presented by the Westmoreland Players March 25 through April 9 at West Side Hall in Callao. Tickets are $15 for adults and $10 for students.

The comedy may not be suitable for young children. For show times and reservations, call 529-9345.

■ Give blood

The River Counties Chapter of the American Red Cross will hold a blood drive Monday, March 27, at Kilmarnock Baptist Church at 65 East Church Street in Kilmarnock. The blood drive will be open from noon to 6 p.m.

■ $5 jewelry

The Rappahannock General Hospital Volunteers' Auxiliary will host a "Phantasias $5 Jewelry Fund-raiser" March 29, from 7 a.m. to 5 p.m. in the hospital's main building.

The sale will include watches, pins, rings, bracelets, necklaces, earrings, children's jewelry and men's watches.

■ Yard sale

The Bethel-Emmanuel Methodist Men's building on Route 201 near Lively will open for sales of furniture, appliances, tools, linens and other items on Wednesday, March 29, from 3 to 6 p.m.

■ Virginia Symphony

The Virginia Symphony Orchestra, under the direction of guest conductor Carl Topilow, will perform a pops concert April 8 at 8 p.m. at the Lancaster Middle School Theater in Kilmarnock.

The "On Stage" presentation, "When Swing was King," is sponsored by the Rappahannock Foundation for the Arts with financial support from the Bank of Lancaster and Bay Trust Company. For tickets, or to receive a brochure for next season, call 435-0292.

■ Annual dinner

New Friendship Baptist Church in Burgess on April 1 will serve its annual ham and oyster dinner from 5 to 7 p.m. The menu will include Smithfield ham, fried oysters, green beans, parsley potatoes, baked apples, rolls, coffee and ice tea. Home baked desserts also will be available.

Tickets may be purchased in advance or at the door. Tickets for adults are $15 and $7 for children 6 to 10. Carryouts will be available for pickup. Call 580-2127.

■ Auditions

The Court House Players will hold auditions for Deathtrap by Ira Levin March 26 from 2 to 4 p.m. at Apostles Lutheran Church on Main Street in Gloucester. Three males and two females are needed.

The play will be directed by Clint Alexander and presented June 22 through June 25. For more information, call 824-4853 or 642-4144, or email shmeg@crosslink.net or acosta@innanet.

■ Serving ham and cabbage

The Fairfields United Methodist Men on Saturday, March 25, will serve a ham and cabbage dinner at the church in Burgess from 5 to 7 p.m. The menu will include ham and cabbage, boiled potatoes, stewed tomatoes, and coffee or tea.

Donations will be accepted. Take-outs are available; call 453-2631.

■ Genealogy class

Genealogist and historian Carolyn H. Jett will lead a two-day class Friday and Saturday, March 24 and 25, at the Lancaster County Woman's Club building in Lancaster. The class will be sponsored by The Mary Ball Washington Museum and Library.

Sessions will begin at 9:30 a.m., break for lunch from noon to 1 p.m., and continue to 3:30 p.m. The fee is $35. To register, call Valencia Keeve at 462-7280.

■ Seeking survivors

The Piankatank Relay for Life, serving Middlesex, King William and King and Queen counties, seeks cancer survivors to participate in a relay event June 2 and 3, at Middlesex High School in Saluda. To participate, call cancer survivor committee chair Corrine Young at 758-5643.

■ Red Hat Day

The second Kilmarnock Red Hat Day will be sponsored by the Kilmarnock Chamber of Commerce June 3.

Activities will include breakfast, lunch, parade, shopping, contests, a game show, a no-cash auction, prizes and drawings. Commemorative pins will be awarded. Red Hat Chapters may call Brenda at 436-9033 for tickets.

Upcoming

(continued from page A2)

30 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.

Bob Layton will speak on "America's Unusual Landscapes" at 11 a.m. at Rappahannock Westminster-Canterbury.

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

Email your NEWS to:

editor@rrecord.com

The Irvington Farmers' Market takes place the 1st Saturday of each month, May through December.

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SATURDAY-MARCH 25, 2005

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THE PLACE TO BE ON SATURDAY NIGHT

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Excerpted from a thank you note from one of our dinner guests on the evening of February 25.

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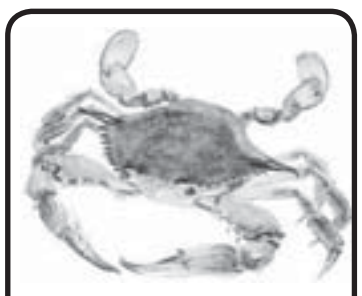

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Excerpts

by Henry Lane Hull

Sunday we took a family day off to visit Jamestown and Williamsburg. I had not been to the former for several decades, but had watched developments there from the Jamestown/Scotland ferry, which I have taken periodically over the years. The day was very cold, but the enthusiasm of our park ranger who guided us through the exhibits diminished the chill.

We decided that inasmuch as the younger B.E. was doing a school project on Jamestown, the opportune time to visit had arrived. We concentrated on the archeology, the greatest advances of which have been made since the discovery in 1994 of the largest part of the original fort. Unfortunately for us, the archeologists dig and sift only on weekdays, but we were able to see many of their products.

Our guide was a reserve military officer who is a full-time National Park Service ranger, Kirk Kerhberg. Although a Yankee from Illinois, he had imbued himself with the lore of 17th-century Virginia, and he seemed to take particular delight in noting the differences between Jamestown and Plymouth Rock. He is great on facts, and interprets them according to the latest research findings. He particularly enjoyed telling us that he was the only person ever to have excavated and sifted a ten-foot square area without finding anything. He also noted with amusement that the statue of Pocahantas depicts her wearing the dress of a Plains Indian, rather than the customary attire of the local area, which was quite scant indeed.

Jamestown Island is awash in new construction and other activities in preparation for the four-hundredth anniversary of the first voyage of discovery in 1607. A new visitor center is proceeding apace, and other areas are pushing ahead as well. My father always insisted that the Colonial Parkway from Yorktown to Jamestown was the most beautiful drive in America. The more I travel it, the more I think he was correct. Near the Jamestown terminus, crews are tucking new parking areas into the fabric of nature.

Jamestown holds ruins of 18th- as well as 17th-century structures. The town layout was impressive, but most of all, one leaves with the overwhelming impression of how much the people suffered to establish the colony. The mortality rate was staggering, leaving 21st-century tourists stunned by the numbers.

After the major part of the tour, we drove over to the glassmaking exhibit, the site of the first industrial and manufacturing activity in any of the colonies. It began in 1608, and its remains were unearthed in 1948. The kilns and cooling ovens of the period remain in good condition. Nearby, a modern reconstruction, faithfully replicating the original site, gives visitors an opportunity to see how the colonials made glass. The site accurately repeats the methods used and affords those who have never seen glassblowing an opportunity to do so. Two years ago we toured the glassmaking operation at Sandwich, Mass., which is also interesting, but more limited than that at Jamestown.

Our final escapade on the island was to take the circular eight-mile drive through its heartland, which is replete with many stops with further illustrating signs. The ravages of Hurricane Isabel were apparent at every turn, the fallen trees being left in their downed states. The marshes convince one all the more of the futility of living on a site with such a fine habitat for mosquitoes. The bugs and the absence of potable water plagued the early settlers in ways they could not have expected upon sailing from England.

The trip across the ocean in three little ships, one of which is no bigger than a school bus, was one of the bravest episodes in the history of exploration. That 144 men came over, and 104 stayed, most of whom would die the first year, makes one aware of their hard lives, and grateful for their beginnings upon which later generations have built so much.

Our day concluded with supper at Josiah Chowning's tavern in Williamsburg, which replaced Jamestown as the colonial capital in 1799, and a walk up and down Duke of Gloucester Street. On the way home, I thought about how rapidly the colonists had established themselves in the New World. Merely 125 years after the landing at Jamestown, the society of the Virginia Colony had achieved so great a level of craftsmanship that up in the hinterlands of the Northern Neck artisans could build Christ Church at Weems. The Jamestown experience still makes as indelible a mark in one's consciousness as it did for me the first time my parents took me there as a small boy.

Yesteryear in Lancaster

(A reprint from the March 23, 1906, issue of the Virginia Citizen.)

Some boat news

Steamer Dr. W. J. Newbill took a load of oyster shuckers from the Rappahannock to Crisfield this week.

Charley Watkins, deckhand on the steamer Ann Arundle, was drowned Monday morning while the steamer was lying at Lodge Wharf, Northumberland County. While attempting to descend from the hurricane deck to the lower deck, it is thought he missed his footing and fell overboard. His body was recovered.

In a few days the Crisfield Steam Packet Company will put on a steamer to connect Crisfield with Reedville. The object is to put Reedville in touch with Philadelphia and New York markets for the fish which are shipped from that point. Heretofore Baltimore has been the only market or outlet for that section of Virginia. This new line will give them the advantage of the best fish market. It will connect at Crisfield with New York, Philadelphia and Norfolk Railroad, arriving daily in time to ship by the 6:30 p.m. train.

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

USPS (455-600)

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Letters to the Editor

Deficit spending as child abuse

To The Editor:

I understand that the item in last week's Rappahannock Record "Rep. Davis supports measure to help prevent sexual abuse of children" is a press release from her office.

With all respect to Congresswoman Davis, the press release is more than a little self-serving, and, in my opinion, it conveys a false sense that she is unabashedly pro-child in her political philosophy.

She is quoted as saying, "We must do everything in our power to protect children from abuse and exploitation..." While I admire her personal courage in the face of life-threatening illness, I cannot help but observe that it takes no political courage whatsoever to vote for measures to protect unsuspecting children from those who would exploit them sexually.

It is ironic that on the same day I read the press release from Congresswoman Davis' office regarding her desire to protect unsuspecting children from those who would abuse and exploit them sexually, I learned of the senate vote to exploit unsuspecting children financially by increasing the congressional borrowing limit and piling further amounts of debt onto their narrow shoulders.

In my opinion, Congresswoman Davis, Senator Allen and Senator Warner have cast numerous votes to exploit children financially by their simultaneous efforts to dramatically expand government and reduce taxes for today's voters, while passing ever-increasing debt on to the next generation.

Perhaps my children's trust in members of the Virginia delegation is misplaced.

Andrew J. Billups III
Gloucester

Service sells

To The Editor:

Kilmarnock vs. Wal-Mart:

In this business there are two can'ts.

If you can't compete you can't stay.

There are a few merchants who will have to tighten their belts.

Did Kilmarnock merchants ask for Wal-Mart? Were they too lax in good business practice in the past because of lack of competition?

Shops will have to lower their prices as far as possible and still stay in business. Merchants will need employees with pleasant personalities. Employees will need to sell products which is more than taking money from a customer and depositing it in the cash drawer. They should know something about the products or get information quickly from someone who does know.

If a shop can't afford a lot of help, then it should have a bell or buzzer that can get someone's attention that help is needed.

A bird in the hand is worth two in the bush. Talking on the telephone needs to stop, unless it is a business call. If that is the case, someone needs to be put on hold for a second, the party at the other end of the call, or the customer in the store. A second is not 10 minutes, or forever.

Time is money. Telling a customer to look in aisle three and when they get there they cannot find the item, or there are look alikes, wastes his time. At the check-out counter, most customers don't want to hear discussion about things that do not pertain to the business. If the new Wal-Mart is open 16, 18 or 24-hours, folks will not have to rush into town to current merchants before, during or after work and find that they aren't getting the service they deserve.

You can hear whispers, "I hate to go there, but I don't have time to run to Wal-Mart, Lowe's or Home Depot." The shops needs the public and the public can go other places. No one should have to beg merchants to take their money. How many times have you stood senselessly waiting to be waited on?

Employees beware: if the shop closes, your job is gone. The owner needs your help, and that can save your job.

Wal-Marts will adjust their prices one notch lower than local merchants, but that may be too low to support a Wal-Mart in an area as small as this.

Years ago there used to be suggestion boxes in stores. Is it too little, too late, to bring them back? All stores carry excellent, good and fair products; which ones stand behind their products the best? The bottom line is, if you can't serve the folks, the folks can't keep coming back to you. I say to the merchants, tighten your belts, put your best foot forward and watch the customers come in with a smile.

Allen B. Curry
Kilmarnock

Don't raise taxes

To The Editor:

Richmond is at it again. They, the Virginia Senate, want to raise our taxes by $4 billion over the next four years.

I believe they are taking advantage of the increase of gas prices which we have little power over and much apathy for, that we will do nothing to stop them.

Throwing money at problems does not solve them; properly managing budgets does. Apparently the money will be used for transportation.

I think the people of the Commonwealth would do well to know how much of their gas money goes to taxes and I challenge all gas station owners to publicly post an itemized listing of those taxes, and to whom, local, state and federal, they go. Maybe they can even post petitions.

I admit, I don't know how much I pay in gas taxes, and many times take the road of the average Joe of not wanting to know. But I think it is time now to knuckle down and tell our legislators that enough is enough and we cannot afford more taxes.

Please look into the plan of House Speaker William Howell that offers solutions without raising taxes or taking funds from other programs.

Bernadette Barber
Nuttsville

Naming our community

To The Editor:

I read with interest the piece entitled "Kilmarnock could resurrect prior name." Instead of looking to the past, though, why not choose a name more representative of the influence that will increasingly define the character of our community-Walmarnock?

Joseph Oren
White Stone

Letters to the Editor

PSA storm gathering?

To The Editor:

If you think that the Public Service Authority (PSA) is dead, think again. Two weeks ago an elected White Stone official and PSA task force member made an announcement signaling that the PSA phoenix is indeed preparing to rise from its ashes.

This official said that the engineering study being conducted by Rickmond-Burry Inc. and funded by the Lancaster County Industrial Development Authority (IDA) is nearing completion, and that a final report is forthcoming. Rickmond-Burry was tasked by the IDA to evaluate the feasibility of bringing water and sewer infrastructure and central service to White Stone, Irvington, and the areas near those incorporated towns.

You may remember, it was the IDA's interim report that essentially spawned the PSA initiative and caused hundreds of county citizens to flock to multiple public hearings on the issue.

You might say, "But, I thought that PSA thing was killed with a unanimous 5-0 vote by the board of supervisors (BOS) at its October meeting; and didn't the Friends of Lancaster County give the BOS a petition signed by 712 registered voters in the county asking for a public referendum on the PSA issue; and didn't the town councils of Irvington and White Stone table the PSA issue?"

The answer is "yes" to all the above. But, remember the old Yogi Berra saying, "It ain't over 'til its over." Well, that saying has a corollary that is relevant to the PSA phoenix, "Sometimes, it ain't over, even when it's over." It looks like that's what is about to re-happen here with the IDA's sewer and water report from Rickmond-Burry coming just in time to get into the update of the county's comprehensive plan.

Of course, the simultaneity of the report with the Comprehensive Plan update is likely just a coincidence, right? And, for those who may have forgotten, the New Tides, LLC and RW-C are active members of the IDA's PSA task force. So we know its final report likely will not be independent of organizational and financial conflicts of interest.

The PSA (or a PSA-like) initiative can be seen in the storm clouds gathering overhead. The same chutzpah that led the IDA's proposed PSA agreement to require that two members of the PSA board be appointed from the lodging/tourism (New Tides, LLC/Sedona) and the retirement/housing (RW-C) industry will no doubt lead them to reintroduce the PSA initiative. Maybe it will even have a new name to make it sound different and fresh, but if it walks like a PSA and talks like a PSA, it is a PSA.

So let's all get ready for still another call-to-arms and be prepared to have our summers interrupted with a flurry of public hearings.

Please, IDA and PSA task force, not again. Just let it end. We came here to enjoy the rural life style, quaint towns, and the natural beauty of the area. You're trying to bring more and intensive development to the area under the guise of solving environmental/septic issues when we all know the real threat that the county faces comes from the impacts of accelerated development. An operating PSA can only greatly exacerbate the trend towards greatly increased development within the county. So far, the county's rural character has been preserved largely due to the nature of its soils, which prevent wide-spread increases in the use of septic systems for intense development.

Most of us recognize that our relatively inexpensive property values are a prime target for developers from northern Virginia and Maryland. Adding the availability of county-wide sewer and water would result in an avalanche of new development. Recently, one elected county official was quoted saying that development pressure is currently active like a "swarm of locusts flying around our heads" and rezoning applications are depleting the time and resources of the county staff and the planning commission.

Today there are at least 18 recently approved and active subdivision developments in the county containing more than 1,530 approved new housing units. This recent dramatic increase in the number and scale of developments, combined with the normal build-out pace for individual homes, will bring about 4,000 new residents to the county over the next five years. That 34 percent increase in residents will put the county's population over 16,000 by the end of 2010.

Although this growth is quite dramatic, it will take place over a five-year period and therefore, should be manageable with good planning and infrastructure development. However, it will usher in the new high-growth, baby-boomer era to the county, with the threat of bringing significant changes to its rural character and life-style. If we want to retain its rural character and slow-paced quality of life, then a PSA by any name is not in our best interests.

We can all acknowledge that there is a need for improved sewer and water services in some county areas, and particularly so in the White Stone area and maybe even around Irvington. However, the sewer and water problems that do exist in these areas are highly localized and can be solved by local solutions, as opposed to engineering the entire county with a PSA-style solution. That's like hitting a fly with a sledge hammer.

Finally, we know who the winners will be if we allow a county PSA to be established. The developers, builders, the New Tides LLC and RW-C, and that's why they're all part of the PSA task force.

Sadly, here we go again.

Bill Warren
Weems

Support House budget plan

To The Editor:

The proposed budget plan of the House of Delegates is the far better and more honest plan.

Sen. Toddy Puller of Fairfax distorted the facts when she passed out a paper saying that the House plan would cut core spending. The figures in the House appropriations committee plan increased core spending, the very plan she sited. The House does not take money from the General Fund to harm education, healthcare or public safety.

The House plan includes $1.2 billion in additional funding for transportation, double what Gov. Warner proposed. Both Gov. Warner and Gov. Kaine campaigned on not raising taxes. Gov. Kaine said that we must live within our means.

Now as before, the senate and governor are crying wolf about a so called crisis. The House plan includes about $350 million in reliable funding from current permanent sources. We do not need to increase gas and sales taxes on cars. Partnerships between local areas and private companies can do a better job with additional transportation spending than the Virginia Department of Transportation, which is ill equipped to handle more projects and money.

We are being fleeced again by too many senators and the governor. Support the House budget plan; it makes more sense and respects the taxpayers.

Joan F. Blackstone
White Stone

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Letters to the Editor

Defending Bush

To The Editor:

The letter from one of your readers last week exhibits an extraordinary capability to be able to read the president's mind. While I cannot avail myself of anything beyond generally known facts, I still would like to take issue.

The writer claims, among other things, that Bush "cherry-picked" intelligence to justify going to war against Iraq. This claim is speculative at best. It is well known that almost everybody including Bill Clinton and those opposed to war with Iraq such as France, Germany and Russia fully expected that Sadaam did have WMD. Hans Blitz of the UN was surprised when none were found.

Further, Sadaam's own generals had no doubt that such WMD existed, just that their particular command didn't have access. That attitude certainly shouldn't surprise the rational reader because Sadaam had used the stuff against Iran and his own citizens a decade earlier, and certainly continued to act as if he still had such weapons.

Faulty intelligence?

All it takes is a limited understanding of logic to know that it is impossible to prove a negative. Sadaam had the stuff a decade earlier. It's a closely held government. Who would be silly enough to believe that Sadaam actually got rid of the stuff or hadn't improved his inventory?

Also, keep in mind that congress approved Bush's plans long before the WMD issue came out. The administration's argument about WMD arrived late, apparently a (failed) effort to convince the UN to go along.

From there the writer goes on to misquote George Bush on Katrina. Bush was informed beforehand of the possibility that the levees could be over-topped by water. Nobody beforehand was thinking "breach." There is a distinct difference. Over-topping would almost invariably involve significantly less flooding.

The writer, like every good Bush basher, attacks FEMA. While I don't particularly favor defending government agencies, or politicians, one should understand the FEMA's mission is to help after catastrophes, not during them.

The hurricane was not the end of the catastrophe, only the beginning. Recall that the president, for the first time ever, declared that region a disaster area before the hurricane hit. This permits the state governor to immediately call for federal help, which did not happen.

FEMA and various other help, such as the Red Cross were held at bay by Louisiana's governor, who reacted as does a deer in your headlights.

Denis Ables
Lancaster

Impeach Bush

To The Editor:

I am patriotic. I fly an American flag. I support our troops and hate to see so many of them and Iraqi civilians, including children, being killed and maimed in an immoral preemptive war.

I have voted in every election possible and have always supported my government when I've believed it was doing the right thing. My late husband served in three wars during a long career as a naval officer, so I know something about this "Commander in Chief" stuff and that our founding fathers knew, that even one of those commander in chief could be wrong.

I agree completely with last week's writer that President Bush could and should be impeached for lying to the American people and breaking our laws. I recently sent a fairly large amount of money to "World Can't Wait.org," an organization devoted to impeaching the president.

Then I started thinking of the alternative. Instead of a smirking inept puppet, we would have the ruthless evil quail hunter, who pulls all the strings anyway, and who, heaven forbid, could be re-elected. Given another terror attack here, which is certainly possible, if not probable, a majority might again be frightened into another disastrous re-election.

Many years ago while we were living in Spain, we knew an aging ex-patriot German princess, Aleandra of Hoenloe Longenburge. She had been asked to speak to the PTA at our American school. After giving a sweet little talk about being a child growing up in a royal household, someone asked her how she and her family, such educated people, could have supported Hitler, who committed such terrible crimes and atrocities. After a long pause she tearfully replied (I paraphrase): "I suppose that we have lived through such terrible times during and after the First World War, our country was prospering, the economy was recovering, and our leader was romantic and there was so much secrecy in our government that we didn't know, or maybe didn't want to know, what was really happening.

Greta Kirkbride
Irvington

Animal Tails

By Audrey Thomasson

Prison pups

It was a beautiful fall day. But for the woman running the printing press at the California Institution for Women in Corona, it was just another day behind bars in a maximum security prison.

June was 10 years into a life sentence that carried no possibility of parole. She had lost the thing that was most precious to her—her family—three children, five dogs and one prissy cat. Now, all her days were dictated by the prison's rules and a daily routine that left her bored and miserable. She focused on herself and staying out of trouble. It was a life without purpose or pride.

As she worked the press, June glanced out the window into the prison yard and was surprised to see a lady in a wheelchair. More surprising was the beautiful golden retriever that walked obediently at her side, alert to his owner's needs. The inmate couldn't believe her eyes. Shutting down the printing press, she went to the window to watch them. Seeing a dog again was such a glorious sight, she couldn't take her eyes away. Since she was not allowed to leave her worksite, she watched with envy as other inmates gathered around the lady and petted the dog.

June longed to feel the soft fur between her fingers, to smell the dog's scent. To be so close, yet out of reach made her crazy. But at the same time, the mere glimpse of a dog was incredibly satisfying.

It didn't take long for stories to spread around the prison that the lady was there to set up a program for prisoners to train dogs in assisting handicapped people.

June couldn't believe what she was hearing. At the same time, she couldn't bear the disappointment if it wasn't true, so she put it out of her mind.

Early the following year, the program was put into place and people from the non-profit organization, Canine Support Team, came in and conducted interviews to find inmates with the temperament and aptitude to work with dogs. Those selected had to complete a course in dog training. After that, dogs were matched with trainers and the women were given complete responsibility for the dog.

Caleb with his certified assist dog, Adam.

Trainers were expected to have their dog accompany them through the work day and sleep in their cells at night. In addition to regular work assignments, they were also required to spend four hours a day training their dog and once a week, attend training meetings with CST's Janette Thomas and Donna Shawver.

June didn't apply. While she knew she could do it, she couldn't bear becoming close to a dog and then having it taken away. It was a bittersweet pill to swallow. However, seeing inmates with dogs proved to be too much and by the end of the year, she knew she had to join the program regardless of how painful it might be.

June was matched with Adam, a robust golden retriever that had spent the first 18 months of his life with his "puppy raisers," a family that agrees to teach the dog basic obedience as well as socialization skills by taking it shopping and to crowded events until the dog is ready for advanced training in the prison program.

The first day June worked with Adam, the dog decided he wasn't interested and turned his back on her. He was not motivated by dog treats and had a stubborn streak to go along with it. It took a couple of days for her to figure out his treat weaknesses—cheese and peanut butter—and then she had that boy's number.

Adam proved to be one smart, happy pooch and by the end of his nine months with June, he responded to 65 commands including picking-up and retrieving dropped objects, turning lights on and off, opening and closing doors and cabinets, handing a wallet to a cashier, answering the phone, and assisting with dressing by tugging and pulling on garments, socks and shoes.

When Adam successfully completed his training the inevitable happened—he was taken away. It was extremely sad for June to see him go; however, she has the fantastic satisfaction of knowing her prison puppy is assisting Caleb, a 12-year-old boy suffering from cerebral palsy and confined to a wheelchair.

June is bursting with joy when she brags that Adam has proven to be even more special than anyone imagined. The dog began alerting Caleb's mom to impending seizures.

But her greatest pleasure comes from hearing how grateful the family is to her and CST for the gift of Adam. Knowing she has made such an outstanding contribution to this young boy's quality of life fills June with pride and purpose.

June will soon be getting her next prison puppy.

Prison Pups has resulted in improved behavior and renewed hope in program participants. Inmates derive satisfaction from being able to do something positive for the system they offended.

And while care and training of each dog costs about $15,000, CST charges only $200 to families who contact them from around the nation in need of an assist dog. With a paid staff of only four, CST operates on donations and relies on over 80 volunteers to help with staffing, fund-raising and as puppy raisers. To make a contribution, contact Canine Support Teams at www.caninesupportteams.org, or write P.O. Box 891767, Temecula, CA 92589-1767.

Request a story on your furry friends or view more animal tales online at www.animaltails.org.

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

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

Lancaster Democrats to meet

The Lancaster County Democratic Committee will meet at 7 p.m. Monday, March 27, at the Bank of Lancaster northside branch.

The committee will finalize arrangements for a caucus meeting in preparation for the First District's convention May 13 in Williamsburg. Lancaster may send four convention delegates and two alternates to the convention to nominate a candidate for the U.S. House of Representatives.

The evening's speaker is one of the hopefuls seeking the nomination, Shawn O'Donnell. He has experience in business management, retail, manufacturing, information technology and business development. He is the author of numerous articles and commentaries about politics, business and economics.

Last month, committee members heard from Dr. Lorenzo Grant, another contender. Dr. Grant is a retired educator and central school administrator and has served as a commissioner in the Newport News Redevelopment and Housing Authority.

Also on the agenda will be a review and update of General Assembly activities from Carmen Kilduff.

Essex youth dies in ATV crash

An 18-year-old Tappahannock youth was killed Monday, March 20, when his four-wheel all terrain vehicle slid off a trail and hit a tree.

Virginia State Police Sgt. Kevin A. Barrick said Paul Jacob "Jake" Copeland probably "died instantly upon impact."

Jake was a senior at Christchurch School and the son of Garnett and Paul Copeland.

Sgt. Barrick said the accident occurred sometime between 1 and 6 p.m. Copeland was riding his 2002 Yamaha 60 Raptor on a wooded trail on his parents' property at 1332 Berry Hill Road near Brays Fork in Tappahannock when the accident occurred.

"He was attempting to make a right-hand turn on the trail when the ATV slid sideways and hit the tree head on, and he was thrown from the vehicle," said Sgt. Barrick.

Copeland's body was found about 6:30 p.m. by some friends. State Police received the emergency call at 6:36 p.m., said Sgt. Barrick.

Visitation will be on Friday from 1 to 3 p.m. and 6 to 8 p.m. in the chapel of Marks-Bristow Funeral Home in Tappahannock.

The funeral service will be at 2 p.m. Saturday in the chapel of Marks-Bristow. Burial will be in the Gwathmey Family Cemetery at the family's ancestral home at Aylett.

Thank You

Lancaster/Northumberland Habitat for Humanity Inc. wishes to offer sincere thanks to the Mt. Olive Baptist Church who so graciously allowed us to use their kitchen to stage the luncheon fundraiser. Without their help the event would have not been possible!

We also thank the Rappahannock Record and WRAR Radio for their support in getting the word out on our successful event! We served over 430 lunches with the help of our great team of volunteers.

A Special thank you goes to Mrs. Elizabeth Scott for her homemade cakes, potato salad and chicken salad that got many rave reviews! Thanks to all who made this event such a success!

Warmest regards,
Mrs. Andrena M. Seawood
Vice President

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LANCASTER COUNTY SCHOOL BOARD
Lancaster County School Board Budget Hearing
Monday, March 27, 2006
6:30 p.m.
Lancaster Middle School Media Center
Mar. 16-2t

PAID ADVERTISEMENT

Reagan Day Dinner

Sunday, March 26, 2006
Indian Creek Country Club
5:30 PM social hour
6:30 PM buffet dinner

Join us to celebrate the memory of

President Ronald W. Reagan

Featured Speakers:
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• Lt. Gov. Bill Bolling
• Attorney General Bob McDonnell
• Delegate Scott Lingamfelter
• Delegate Rob Wittman
• Morton Blackwell, Republican National Committeman

Admission $40 Dress: Business Attire
Reservations: 804-435-3350 (Emerson Gravatt)
or 804-435-6464 (Joan Blackstone)

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What a Mess!

But you can't blame it all on President Bush. Current Republican leadership throughout the government is largely responsible. It's not your father's GOP anymore!

Jo Ann Davis must go: She has supported President Bush every step of the way inot the mess we're in now.

The Democratic Party does have good ideas–some new, some tried and true.

You can hear these better ideas put forth by two candidates seeking to represent Virginia's First Congressional District in the U.S. House of Representatives. **Shawn O'Donnell and Lorenzo Grant** will speak at the next meeting of the Northumberland County Democratic Committee, **Thursday, March 23, 7 p.m.,** at the Northumberland County Community Center.

Let's talk about replacing Davis's way with a better way: Join us at the Democratic Party Committee meeting on March 23.

Paid for by the Northumberland County Democratic Committee

Congratulations Robert Johnson!

Robert Gil

The Institute of Inspection, Cleaning and Restoration Certification has awarded Robert for Certification in the following areas: Carpet cleaning, Upholstery & Fabric Cleaning, Journeyman Textile Cleaner, Journeyman Fire and Smoke Restorer, Water Damage Restoration, Odor Control, Fire and Smoke Restoration. This certification recognizes employees who have reached a high level of proficiency in the industry.

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Local News

Pictured with Mr. and Mrs. Jason Edward Coates are flower girls Madison and Aniston Martin and Kimberly Outland (right), dressed as spring angels.

Coates–Walker wedding held

Miss Kendra Brooke Walker, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Kendrick Bruce Walker of Ottoman, and Jason Edward Coates, son of Edward Coates of Burgess and Mr. and Mrs. Charles Windsor of Indian Creek, were married March 4, 2006, at Corrotoman Baptist Church in Ottoman with Rev. Frank Schwall officiating.

The bride is the granddaughter of Mr. and Mrs. Lewis A. Weigand of Richmond, Rita Conkle of Kilmarnock, Mike and Rosa McCrauley of Sandston, Kendrick Walker of Lancaster and the late Virginia Walker, and the late Ruth Outland, formerly of Kilmarnock.

The groom is the grandson of Norma Jean Coates of Northumberland County and the late Norris Coates, and Nancy Blankenship of Louisianna.

The bride wore an ivory strapless chapel-length gown and was given in marriage by her father and mother. Bridesmaids were her sisters, Christy Hughes and Jessica Jackson. The junior bridesmaid was Samantha Coates, the groom's sister.

The best man was Edward Coates, the groom's father. The groomsman was Benjamin Jackson, the bride's brother-in-law. The junior groomsman was Grayson Hughes, nephew of the bride.

The flower girls, dressed as spring angels, were Madison and Aniston Martin and Kimberly Outland, cousins of the bride.

The ring bearers were Seth Hughes, nephew of the bride, and Luke Coates, brother of the groom.

Special attendants were Isaac Hughes and Ethan Jackson, nephews of the bride.

Ushers were Jason Hughes, the bride's brother-in-law, and Jason Acheson and Jonathan Davis, the groom's best friends.

Sherry Vanlandingham was the pianist and Phyllis Efford was the soloist. She sang "Unchained Melody."

Brittany Kellum, cousin of the bride, did the make-up. Katlyn Martin, cousin of the bride, handled the guest book. Anne and Bridget Conkle, friends of the family, photographed the wedding. Edward Outland, the bride's uncle, produced videos.

The church bells were rung by Bruce Lawyer, friend of the family.

Following the reception, the couple left on a honeymoon in Florida. They will make their home in Weems.

Covered in quilts

The Drunkard's Path, Mariner's Compass, Star of Hope, and Goosetracks are on display at the Virginia Historical Society (VHS) in Richmond. "Quilts of the Old Dominion" continues through December 3.

This exhibition features quilts made in Virginia before 1900 and selected for display by a committee of the Virginia Consortium of Quilters. There will be three rotations, each displaying 20 quilts. The first runs through May 31; the second, June 1 through August 30; and the third, September 1 through December 3. In each of the three rotations, five of the quilts are modern, showing the progression of art from 100 years ago to the present.

"Perhaps the most outstanding in the first rotation is Lone Stars with Appliqué," said Maren Lindberg of the Virginia Consortium of Quilters. "This quilt may be older than the lender thinks it is—one of our best appraisers/historians think it's older. Lone Stars are, of course, difficult to make, with all those points that need to be perfectly executed in order to make a visual impact. This one (and the others from this donor) is extremely well done. It has been well taken care of and is in perfect condition."

Other featured patterns include a Crazy Quilt, Noonday, Farmer's Fancy, Ocean Waves and Old Maid's Ramble. Each quilt comes with its own story of the woman who crafted it and how it has become a part of the family legacy of the owner.

"Tree Everlasting," scheduled for the second rotation, was made in 1850 in Bonsack, Roanoke County. The quilt maker was born in Bonsack and lived most of her life there. The quilt was on her farm during the Civil War and according to family legend, it was used by a wounded Union soldier, who promised not to burn the farmhouse if he was allowed to stay.

Programming for the exhibition includes a gallery walk May 11 at 6 p.m. when Eileen "Bunnie" Jordan, noted quilt appraiser, collector, and historian will walk through the first rotation of the exhibition. Jordan will conduct a second gallery walk November 8 at noon for the final rotation of quilts.

Additionally, the VHS is hosting a Quilt Appraisal May 13 from 10 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Jordan will give 15-minute verbal evaluations of quilts brought in. The fee is $15 per item. Reservations are suggested. Visit www.vahistorical.org for details.

The VHS will host a quilting workshop June 17 from 10;30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Paula Golden will conduct a class, "Mastering the Mariner's Compass" design. Reservations are necessary. The fee is $30, plus a supply list. Visit the website or call 358-4901 for reservations.

The VHS is at 428 North Boulevard. For hours, admission fees and directions, call or visit the website.

Club sponsors fashion show

There is still time to get tickets for the Northumberland Woman's Club fifth annual Fashion Show, Luncheon and Game Day at Tommy's in Reedville April 11 starting at 11:45 a.m.

For tickets, call Susan Payne at 580-7444 or Wonda Allain at 529-5491. The $22 ticket covers "Swinging Spring Fashions" by Foxy's of Kilmarnock followed by a luncheon of seafood pasta salad on a bed of greens or frittata with chicken, ham and vegetable.

Both entrees include soup, dessert and beverage.

Door prizes have been donated by Allison's Ace Hardware, Callao Supermarket, L.A. Images, Rivah Interiors and The Tavern Gift Shop.

Proceeds help the club support Read Aloud Virginia and club-sponsored scholarships.

Oyster roast to support Boy Scouts

The Northern Neck District of the Heart of Virginia Council will hold its annual Oyster Roast April 22, at the Fireman's Pavilion on Route 3 in Lively from 2 to 6 p.m.

Tickets are $15 per person for all one can eat. Raw, steamed and stewed oysters, and hot dogs will be served.

Tickets can be purchased from Scout leaders in Lancaster, Richmond, Northumberland and Westmoreland counties.

A portion of the proceeds will go back to the scout unit from which the tickets were purchased. All proceeds will go to help support Northern Neck District Scouts.

Tickets can also be purchased from Betty Bridgeman at 453-5806.

Ed and Zena Smith have moved from Bluff Point to their new home on Kent Cove Road.

Mrs. Betty Jones and her friend, Mrs. Vivian Dale of Hopewell, have returned after a month at Gulf Shores, Ala. While there they toured Louisiana and Mississippi, saw the destruction caused by Katrina, went to a Mardi Gras in Fairhope, Ala., a high tea in Loxley, Ala., and two Red Hat luncheons in Orange Beach, Ala.

Mr. and Mrs. Fred Lamberth of Midlothian spent the weekend with his mother, Mrs. M.B. Lamberth and attended the Waterfowl Show in White Stone.

Seventeen members of the Bluff Point Ecumenical Men's Breakfast Group met on Sunday at the home of Capt. Red Tolbert at Indian Creek with John Brauer as co-host.

Mr. and Mrs. Clifford Smith of Frostproof, Fla., have arrived to spend the summer at their apartment in White Stone where they will be able to enjoy visiting their children and friends.

Ms. Laura E. Allen and Jacob King were the weekend guests of Ms. Allen's father, Glenn M. Allen, and Virginia J. Townsend of White Stone. They also visited with her grandparents, Mr. and Mrs. Ashby L. Allen Sr. of Ocran. They also spent time visiting other relatives in the area, Ms. Joy Allen, Stephen Allen, Ashby L. Allen Jr. Ms Allen is a resident of Clear Spring, Md., and will be graduating in June.

Mr. and Mrs. Larry Burian have returned from Nashville, Tenn., where they attended the National Association of United Methodist Men's Conference. Mr. Burian, as president of the Virginia Conference of United Methodist Men, was a delegate. He is the associate minister of the Rehoboth United Methodist Charge.

Guests of Mr. and Mrs. Ennis Wood at their new home in Ditchley last Thursday were her son and his family, Mr. and Mrs. Chuck Headley and little son, Charles, of Virginia Beach.

Mr. and Mrs. John Taliaferro have returned after visiting with Matt and Dinah of Richmond and Tabbs Creek at their condo in Isle of Palms, S.C. The Taliaferros then toured Savannah, Ga., before returning home.

Paul and Carol Treakle have returned to White Stone after attending the funeral of Carol's brother, Charles G. Pratt, in Tierra Verde, Fla.

Chesapeake Academy raffle tickets are on sale

Chesapeake Academy's 2006 ZENsational! Auction will include an Irvington-themed raffle.

The prizes will include a two-night stay at The Hope & Glory Inn, "Smoothies for the Summer" from The Local, a week of sailing camp from Premier Sailing School, a day spa package at The Tides Inn, and a Friend's Membership at White Fences Vineyard.

Raffle tickets are $10 each. A drawing will take place during the April 29 auction. Winners need not be present to win.

The first winning ticket drawn allows the recipient to choose among the five items he or she likes best. The second winner selects from the remaining prizes, and so on. The academy requests that individuals rank their choice of prizes on the raffle ticket stubs.

To purchase tickets, attend the event, make an auction donation, or be a sponsor, call 438-6490.

Band Boosters schedule basket bingo

Ten soon-to-be-retired baskets are among the prizes for the Lancaster Band Boosters Longeberger basket bingo. The event will be held at the Upper Lancaster Ruritan Center in Lively April 2 at 2 p.m. Proceeds will benefit the Lancaster High School Red Devil Marching Band.

Around 20 bingo games will be played, and a basket will be awarded with every game. All baskets come with protectors and some also include a liner.

A raffle will be held for a special collector's basket complete with top, knob, protector and liner.

Tickets are $20 in advance and $25 at the door. Included in the ticket price is a bingo sheet for each game. Additional sheets and stampers will be available, as well as food and beverages.

Call Kelly Oliver at 462-0849 for tickets or information.

Service Notes

Petty officer 3rd class Justin Miller, the grandson of Bob and Nancy Weber of Corrotoman By The Bay, has returned from the Arabian Gulf after a six-month deployment aboard the aircraft carrier USS Theodore Roosevelt.

After completing a course in naval intelligence at Dam Neck in Virginia Beach 18 months ago, Miller was assigned to the aircraft carrier USS George Washington, but he volunteered to serve aboard the Theodore Roosevelt because it was being deployed.

In the course of his intelligence duties aboard the ship, he did mission planning and intelligence briefings for pilots flying missions in support of ground operations for Operation Iraqi Freedom and Operation Enduring Freedom.

In recognition of his abilities, he received the Navy and Marine Corps Achievement Medal in a ceremony aboard the carrier. After three weeks leave, he will rejoin his shipmates aboard the USS George Washington.

Engagements

Jason Michael Albright and Stephanie Carol Burruss

Burruss-Albright

James R. Burruss and Mr. and Mrs. Bill Cockrell announce the engagement of their daughter, Stephanie Carol Burruss of Norfolk, to Jason Michael Albright, also of Norfolk, the son of Mr. and Mrs. William J. Albright of Virginia Beach.

The prospective groom is a 1999 graduate of Cox High School in Virginia Beach.

The couple are both employed with GEICO in Virginia Beach.

A May 2006 wedding is planned.

Celebrations
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Helen C. Rountree, Ph.D.
Cultural Anthropologist and Author
Specialty: Powhatan Indian Tribes of Virginia
"So What If They Didn't Leave Written Records? I'll Find Out About Them Anyway."
Monday, April 3, 2006 at 11 a.m.

Betty Booker
Columnist, Richmond Times-Dispatch
"Rx: Humor"
Monday, May 1, 2006 at 11 a.m.

Previous Presenters

Donner Grigsby
Engineer, NASA Langley Research Center

Ada K. Jacox, Ph.D., R.N.
Professor of Nursing, University of Virginia

Reservations are required due to space limitations and will be taken one event at a time. Call (804) 438-4000.

Tickets are available for Menokin festival

Organizers of the Menokin Bluegrass Festival recently announced that tickets are available online for the 2006 Menokin Bluegrass Festival May 6 near Warsaw.

Tickets for the event are $20 each at www.menokinbluegrass.com. Children 12 and under are admitted free.

Grammy Award winner Dr. Ralph Stanley and the Clinch Mountain Boys will headline the event starting at noon May 6 at the Menokin grounds. Other performers include bluegrass legends The Seldom Scene, Grammy nominated Old School Freight Train and two time defending Menokin Bluegrass champions, Bill Kelso & Gas Money Band.

"It's going to be an incredible day of music for bluegrass fans of all ages," said J. Tayloe Emery, one of the founders of the festival. "Every year we've tried to make it a little bit better than the year before, but this is going to be tough to beat in terms of pure musical talent with the likes of Ralph Stanley and The Seldom Scene playing on our stage," he added. "Those bluegrass bloodlines run deep."

Dr. Ralph Stanley was born in Dickenson County, where he still lives when he's not on the road. After 55 years in the business, he's still the best banjo picker and tenor singer in bluegrass music. As a recording artist, he has performed on more than 170 albums, tapes, and CDs. He's also written many songs himself and with his brother, the late Carter Stanley.

He has played throughout the United States and in many foreign lands including several tours in Japan. In addition, Ralph has received many honors as a bluegrass musician, including membership in the Grand Ole Opry.

In particular, bluegrass fans worldwide will never forget his rousing rendition of the traditional tune "O Death" sung a cappella at the 44th Annual Grammy Awards and released on the "O Brother Where Art Thou?" soundtrack.

The Menokin Bluegrass Festival, an all-day, family-friendly event, will be held May 6 on the grounds of Menokin, the one-time home of Francis Lightfoot Lee—a signer of The Declaration of Independence. Organizers are planning for over 3,000 attendees. Proceeds will benefit The Menokin Foundation.

Tickets may also be purchased by calling 333-0512, by sending a cashier's check or money order for $20 for each ticket to Box 102, Warsaw, Va. 22572. Tickets will also be available at the gate.

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In the kitchen

Hope Byrne (left) and Jody Kirkland are among the Episcopal Church Women of Wicomico Parish Church getting ready for the annual lasagna dinner at the parish hall April 4. The menu includes lasagna, garlic bread, salad, wine and a special dessert. Dinner will be served at 5 p.m. with carryout available beginning at 4:30 p.m. Donations are accepted. Proceeds support outreach programs such as Interfaith, The Haven and The Northern Neck Free Health Clinic. The church is on Route 200 in Wicomico Church.

Dr. Harding to speak

The Books Alive program at Northumberland Public Library will host local author Dr. John H. Harding Jr. Tuesday, March 28, at 7 p.m. in the library conference room.

In his third book, A Reluctant Rebel, Dr. Harding has written a collection of vignettes of the life and times of one of his ancestors, William Harding, a prominent member of the Heathsville community whose life straddled the tumultuous changes brought about by the Civil War. With his wife Sally's help, Harding designed and built Springfield, a mansion that still stands on the east side of Heathsville.

Dr. Harding, a dentist for 31 years in Burgess, will speak about the writing process—mixing data from land records, archives, and account ledgers with generations' worth of family stories about his ancestor to produce vivid tales of a man whose mark is still to be seen throughout Northumberland County.

Admission is free. Refreshments will be served. Dr. Harding will have copies of A Reluctant Rebel available for purchase.

Books Alive, sponsored by Friends of the Library, meets on the fourth Tuesday of each month.

Got Jewels?
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10:00 am - 3:00 pm
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Kilmarnock plans Crab Festival

Kilmarnock on May 19-20 will celebrate the Northern Neck heritage with its second Crab Festival, sponsored by the Kilmarnock Chamber of Commerce, and Spring Carnival, sponsored by the Kilmarnock Athletic Boosters.

In addition to vendors, activities will include crab picking and crab soup contests, a children's parade, and a crab pot design contest. Prizes will be awarded in several categories.

The decorated crab pots will be on display at the festival. Voting will be free and open to all attendees.

Entry forms for the crab pot design contest should be submitted by May 12. For entry forms, call Bonnie or Shawn at 435-9627.

Petro to share near-death experience

The Northern Neck-Middle Peninsula friends of International Association for Near-Death Studies will meet from 12:30 to 2:30 p.m. Saturday, March 25, at Rappahannock Westminster-Canterbury (RW-C) near Irvington.

Andy Petro will tell of his experience 50 years ago when he drowned in the cold waters of a lake in northern Michigan. He and his friends were having a picnic to celebrate their impending high school graduation.

"We will hear him tell what he experienced and how his life was inalterably changed and transformed after he was revived that June day in 1955," said Linda Small.

Those who have had a near-death or other spiritually transformative experience and those interested in learning more about these experiences are invited.

The suggested donation is $5 at the door. No one will be turned away.

RW-C is off Route 646. From White Stone on Route 3 turn left on Route 646 and left into RW-C.

For reservations, call Small at 438-4822.

Paul Healy is RW-C artist for March

The artist of the month exhibit at Rappahannock Westminster-Canterbury displays collection of original watercolors given to RW-C residents Mildred and Alan Christiansen by the artist, Paul Healy.

Originally from Upper Montclair, N.J., Healy painted on the coast of Maine and also in Bayville on the Jersey Shore, where he and the Christiansens had summer places. Healy's scenes are of boats and wharves and activity along the shoreline.

Healy had an advertising agency in Montclair that produced award-winning ads for the industrial brush manufacturing company where Christiansen worked. Healy and Christiansen became business acquaintances and friends.

Every Christmas, Healy sent numbered prints of his work to clients, but to Christiansen he gave an original, matted and framed. Year-by-year, Christiansen's collection grew to about 25 paintings, which he hung throughout his home when he moved to White Stone in 1994.

Painting was an avocation for Healy, and Christiansen knows nothing about the artist's training.

PAID ADVERTISEMENT

Travel lift operator, Mike Knight and technician, John Walden prepare to launch one of over a hundred yachts currently in their boat yard.

Deltaville Boatyard springs into action!

Early Spring-like weather has accelerated the pace of yacht commissioning at Deltaville Boatyard, located on Jackson Creek. Power boats, sail boats, Deadrise work boats, fishing boats, skiffs, barges, rowboats and just about any other kind of watervessel you can imagine are busily being prepped for launching over the next several weeks. Rigging, painting, polishing, sanding, welding, sewing, to name only a few, are common activities seen being performed by the boatyard's experienced staff of technicians. Deltaville Boatyard's newly refitted and overhauled travel lift is already working overtime as it moves boats in preparation of the spring rush.

Keith Ruse and his American Boat and Yacht Council (ABYC) certified technicians take great pride in their jobs, especially during this time of year. Like their customers, they get genuinely excited at the prospect of warmer days and sun-kissed evenings spent on the water. The opportunity to be in the business of helping the literally hundreds of captains prepare their boats for a successful and safe year on the water is truly appreciated by all of the boat yard crew-members.

In addition to offering high levels of customer service, Deltaville Boatyard is also focused on diversifying the technical services they are able to offer its customers. Already a Yanmar dealer, over the winter months they have become dealers for Volvo and Raymarine and have become certified in Harken sailing hardware installation and maintenance. Furthermore, through strong relationships with quality marine supply and service companies they are able to acquire parts essential to their customers in a reliable and efficient manner. Accordingly, they are proud to perform or coordinate practically any yacht service for vessels landing at their yard by sea or land.

Check out their website at: www.deltavilleboatyard.com
or call 776-8900 if you would like to talk about services
for your boat and how they might be of assistance.

Powhatan Indian specialist to speak at Viewpoints

Helen C. Rountree, Ph.D., cultural anthropologist and author, will speak at Viewpoints at Rappahannock Westminster-Canterbury April 3 at 11 a.m. Her topic is "So What If They Didn't Leave Written Records? I'll Find Out About Them Anyway."

Rountree is the most published expert on Virginia Indians, and she writes from the Indian point of view. Her most recent book is *Pocahontas, Powhatan, Opechancanough: Three Indian Lives Changed by Jamestown*. She has more books under way.

"It's not like being a novelist," she said. "You keep a pipeline going. Something's in the research stage, something in the outline stage, something in the writing stage, something in the production stage with an actual publisher."

A 13th-generation Virginian, she became interested in Virginia Indians while visiting the Mattaponai Reservation and seeing similarities to a reservation in rural northeast Nevada where she had done linguistic work with the Shoshone language.

"There is something about long-term residents on a reservation, with real Indian ancestry, knowing that their people predate the colonies," said Rountree.

"There are attitudes that come through, though not clearly stated," she said. "Most Indian folks do not confront people. They are very polite, and when they want to let off some resentment, they are still oblique about it. It's an Indian trait, not something you get out of books, but something that's handed down, and I saw it both places, at Mattaponai and in Nevada."

Rountree graduated from The College of William and Mary, received her master's at the University of Utah, began teaching at Old Dominion University (ODU), then received her doctorate at the University of Wisconsin at Milwaukee, the only place she could find a scholar who would supervise her dissertation on Virginia Indians.

She returned to ODU and taught there 31 years, retiring in 2000. She lives on Harris Creek in Hampton, continuing her life's work in the same area that her family has always inhabited.

A luncheon buffet follows the presentation. Call 438-4000 for reservations.

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Relay for Life event planned

The 2006 Relay For Life event for Lancaster and Northumberland counties will be held June 3 at Northumberland High School. The theme is "On Track For a Cure."

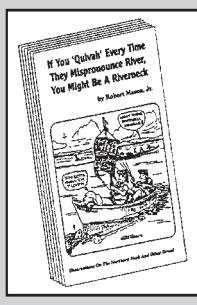
Relay For Life is a team event to raise funds for the American Cancer Society to be used for cancer research, cancer education and other cancer related programs. The event will begin with an opening ceremony and a survivors' victory lap at 10 a.m. Local area cancer survivors and those battling cancer will gather in the "survivors' activity pit shop" at center track to register for the Victory Lap. After a Victory Lap, they will be escorted to "survivors' row" for brunch.

Throughout the day, teams will be walking the track 'relay' style, while taking time to pause at the many "pit stops" to learn more about the American Cancer Society's many prevention and early detection programs, advocacy and the Cancer Survivors' Network.

Area survivors will be asked to once again gather at 8 p.m. in the survivors' pit stop to take an evening victory lap before the luminaria ceremony at 8:30 p.m.

Candles will line the infield track in honor of cancer survivors and in memory of those who have lost their battle.

To register for the victory lap, purchase a luminaria, join or form a team, or become a corporate sponsor, visit www.acsevents.org /lancaster, or call Denise at 453-3621.



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Speaker to address unusual landscapes

Bob Layton of Mechanicsville will return to Rappahannock Westminster-Canterbury March 30 at 11 a.m. to speak about "America's Unusual Landscapes."

A retired Richmond life insurance salesman, Layton has visited 60 countries and hiked throughout America. He has volunteered at five national parks, staying at each for several months at a time.

"Hiking in all 50 states has uncovered a variety of geological oddities," said Layton. "Most are easily accessible with little effort."

His slides will include standing petrified trees, frozen geysers, inland dunes, fossil beds, ice caves, tidal pools and a fern canyon. The program is free.

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Lettice Lee Chapter reviews early history

The Lettice Lee Chapter met recently at Oakland United Methodist Church in Richmond County.

Several members had never been to the Oakland Church area and enjoyed the ride as well as seeing the church. The ceiling of the sanctuary was of interest to all since it reminded many of the members of churches they had attended in their childhood.

The chapter will be one of the hostess chapters for the Spring Colonial Dames State Conference in Fredericksburg in March. Ferne Walker-Bernhardt will lead a delegation as hostesses and delegates for that meeting. Jean McKenney will attend as a past State President.

Registrar Patsy Underhill reported that one set of papers for membership is at national awaiting approval. Susan Rager has had one supplemental application approved in 2005 and five approved already for 2006. They are William Ball, Adam Thoroughgood, Raleigh Travers, Thomas Glascocke, George Yeardley and Cornelius Noel. She has several others in Washington awaiting approval at this time.

She also has prepared and submitted two supplementals for Betsy Ware. These also await approval.

Virginia Brown, grave marker chairman, reported that Ware and Underhill have purchased Colonial Dames Markers. The chapter is urging members to do this for it is easier and less expensive to have them ready to attach to tombstones at the time of purchase than having them attached later.

The speaker, William Bryant of Williamsburg, is a descendant of the Revere Family. His topic was the Northern Neck in 1700.

From 1607 until about 1644 the Northern Neck was reserved for the local Indians. During the latter part of this time period, whites ventured into the area and "bought land" from the Indians, but this was not legal and was generally frowned on. In the 1640s, planters settled along the Potomac River and in 1644, it was opened to white settlement by the government.

In 1648-56, the formation of Northumberland (the mother county), Lancaster, (Richmond) Rappahannock and Westmoreland counties was pretty much complete and it is said that by the 1660s all the river-front land was taken. The land was being cleared to grow tobacco, for this crop could be grown, not in rows, but in the fashion avoiding the stumps which had rotted or been grubbed out. It took too much labor to dig out the stumps so they were left to nature.

The newly arrived in the area from England were Protestant of the Anglican Church plus a few Maryland Catholics. At first the landholders did their own work or maybe had one or two indentured servants. Later, Scottish and Welsh Protestants as well as European Protestants came. All were looking for opportunity to have land and be free.

Most of those coming, who paid their own passage, were seeking to own new land, second sons of English landed gentry, young men seeking adventure, Londoners escaping the plague and fire of 1666 and supporters of Charles I who were seeking asylum. The English wanted them here to keep the Spaniards out and to expand the English trade and to have a place to send the English rural and urban poor and to empty the jails.

The new country was not all that pleasant to these adventurers. They were not used to the hot humid summers, violent storms, deep snows and hurricanes. And there was some dislike of the mandatory attendance at church, the appointed government, and hard work. It was a hard life with life expectancy in the mid 40s, and over half of the new arrivals were dead within two years.

Those in attendance were Mr. and Mrs. William J. Bryant Jr., of Williamsburg; Ellen Bray of White Stone; Betty Horner of Montross; Jinx Wright, Virginia Peck and Jean McKenney of Irvington; Mary Lent and Mickey Kelly of Weems; Marguerite Mahoney of Warsaw; Virginia Brown of Mt. Holly; Lorena Conner, Frances Ashburn and Lydia Brittle of Lancaster; Patsy Underhill, Betsy Ware, Anita Harrower and Patricia Haile of Essex Co.; and Susan Rager of Coles Point.

Lettice Lee members attend state conference

Ferne Walker-Bernhardt, president of the Lettice Lee Chapter of the Colonial Dames of the XVII Century and Jean Booth McKenney, past state president, attended the annual State Conference of the Virginia Society in Fredericksburg March 10 and 11.

The chapter received awards for the largest donation to the General Scholarship Fund and for 400 hours as Mentors for Youth Education. It was also noted that it had an honorable mention for the amount of publicity and publications plus contributions to McGuire Veterans Hospital in Richmond.

Lettice Lee Chapter meets four times a year at various places in the Northern Neck. The next meeting will be May 6 at Carmel Methodist Church in Kinsale. The speaker will be Westmoreland assistant county administrator Karen Lewis, on the James Monroe birthplace.

At the State Conference, a presentation was made about the Jamestown Foundation showing the new buildings being constructed and the activities planned for the 400th anniversary in 2007 of the founding of Jamestown.

Ruritans welcome Sheriff Crockett

Ed Pittman (left), chairman of the citizens and patriotism committee of the Upper Lancaster Ruritan Club, introduces Sheriff Ronnie Crockett. Sheriff Crockett spoke concerning community awareness and personal safety. The club meets the second Thursday of every month at 6:30 p.m. at the clubhouse in Lively. After dinner there is a program followed by a business meeting.

Lancashire Lines

by Joan M. Foster

Lancashire residents last Monday discussed the best and worst of the many things which happened during 2005. Hurricanes, U.S. casualties in Iraq, and the Chicago White Sox winning another World Series after 88 years, were just a few of the topics noted in the session. Margaret Marsh won the afternoon bingo.

Jay Jarvis and Herbert Carter last Tuesday led a gospel music fest. Forty-eight residents and many guests celebrated the love of our Lord during this powerful music program.

Special thanks to Hazel Ford and the Lively Seniors Group for hosting a March birthday party in the afternoon. Residents enjoyed the dancing, singing, and fantastic entertainment. Happy Birthday to Therese Stansbury, Christine Whay, Alma Conrad, Dorothy Henderson, Kenneth Boyd, Mary Moore, Larry Lee, Eliza Nutt and Annie Fallin.

Jim Conley led an inspiring Bible study last Wednesday and we prayed for traveling mercies and safety for him as he is in Uganda on a mission trip. Folks loved Rev. Middleton's guitar playing and singing during the afternoon praise and worship service.

Hymn sing was terrific last Thursday. Marsh and Noble Lee tied for high scorer in bingo.

Last Friday, residents celebrated St. Patrick's Day. Everyone wore a shamrock and outfits of green. The "luck o' the Irish" was with Dorothy Jones who won first place in pitching horseshoes. It was a "Top of the Mornin'" for Noble Lee and Linda Atkins who won second and third place respectively. Folks enjoyed green refreshments at a St. Patty's Party. They held up large "agree" or "disagree" shamrock signs while reviewing numerous Irish proverbs.

Last Saturday, the bingo group was thrilled with all the wins among the players. Residents watched the movie, "Hope Floats" during the afternoon.

White Stone Baptist Church hosted a Sunday worship service. We thank them and all our volunteers who helped to make this a wonderful week.

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10:00 a.m.

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2:00 p.m.

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Wednesday, March 29
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Dr. Paul Obert

Mountain climber addresses Rotarians

Dr. Paul Obert, who climbed the world's "Seven Summits" within a span of 27 months, was the featured speaker at a dinner honoring Paul Harris Fellow Rotarians at the February 28 meeting of the Kilmarnock-Irvington-White Stone Rotary Club at Indian Creek Yacht and Country Club.

Dr. Obert described the painstaking preparations for scaling the world's highest summits, including physical conditioning of climbing 150 flights of stairs per day while carrying 80 pounds of weights.

He also stressed the need for mental and spiritual preparation, organization, teamwork and sustained effort.

He reached the first of the seven summits February 15, 2001, climbing Mt. Aconcagua in South America. He subsequently climbed the highest peaks in Europe, Africa, Antarctica, North America and Australia. His final climb was completed in May 2003, when he reached the top of Mt. Everest.

KIWS Rotarian John McConnico introduced Dr. Obert.

After his presentation, KIWS Paul Harris Fellows were recognized. They include Mitch Alga, John Baumhardt, Bob Berry, Jack Blunt, Ken Bransford, Kyle Bransford, John Cardwell, Dwight Clarke, Maurie Cree, Gary Ellis, Charles Franck, Neal Fridenstine, Tom Kinney, Ron Lang, Don McClean, John McConnico, Bob Morrison, John O'Shaughnessy, Kimball Payne, Wayne Penick, Gene Rackel, Richard Rau, Virginia Rhodes, Dick Taylor, Nina Thompson, Dwight Timm, Clyde Warner and Anne Warner. Paul Harris Fellows from the Northern Neck, Gloucester, Gloucester Point, Middlesex County and West Point Rotary clubs also were recognized.

The KIWS Rotary Club meets at 12:30 p.m. each Wednesday at Rappahannock Westminster-Canterbury in Irvington.

Finstrom speaks about women pilots

Retired Army Col. Carl G. Finstrom, who teaches at the Christopher Wren Association at the College of William and Mary in Williamsburg, spoke on women pilots at the March meeting of the Woman's Club of Lancaster County.

Finstrom described the formation of the Women Airforce Service Pilots (WASPS) by Jacqueline Cochran, and the Women's Auxiliary Ferrying Squadron (WAFS) by Nancy Love, both groups composed of women pilots who flew during World War II.

Cochran's millionaire husband and Eleanor Roosevelt, who supported the programs, led to women being trained as pilots and ferrying planes from the production line to military bases in the U.S. Some of the women also piloted planes towing targets for Army ground troops to practice their shooting.

Meanwhile, across the globe, Soviet women were also flying. One group, called Night Witches by the Germans, flew cloth and wood, single engine, open cockpit planes, at night, and hand dropped bombs on their targets after cutting their engines on approach.

It was not until 1977 that U.S. female World War II pilots were recognized as part of the military and awarded veterans' benefits.

The next club meeting will be April 12. To attend, call Anne Hanchey at 462-9133.

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Northern Neck APVA awards preservation grants

The Northern Neck Branch of the Association for the Preservation of Virginia Antiquities (APVA-NNB) recently issued grants for eight historically significant preservation projects.

The grants were announced at an annual meeting March 9 at Wellford Hall at St. John's Church in Warsaw.

Pauline and James Hundley received a grant for the emergency stabilization of the brickwork of St. Anne's Parish Glebe House (c. 1730) on their farm in Essex County.

St. John's Church in Warsaw received funding for brickwork restoration.

Jennifer and George Acree received a grant for the purchase of a highway marker to give St. Mathew's Episcopal Church in Essex recognition as one of the Commonwealth's historical resources.

The Northumberland County Historical Society gained support to prepare a brochure to seek community financial support for the restoration of the "Old Jail."

The Bluff Point Community League received funding for repairs to the historic Bluff Point School.

The Colonial Beach Historic Society received a grant for upgrades in the new Gallery at the Museum in Colonial Beach.

The Woman's Club of Essex County gained support for the archival preservation of the scrapbooks from the club's beginning in 1923.

Morattico Baptist Church near Kilmarnock received funding for the preservation and restoration of its pulpit Bible, which is more than a century and a half old.

About 50 APVA-NNB members attended the gathering. Virginia Historical Society president and chief executive officer Dr. Charles F. Bryan Jr., spoke on "Choosing the Harder Right," a presentation which compared the choices made by Robert E. Lee and George Thomas as the two focused on whether to remain loyal to the Union or side with Virginia.

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Music and myth conclude Sundays at Two

From left, Macon, Pam and Bill Gurley demonstrate bluegrass.

Dr. Margaret Devinney (left) chats with a member of her audience.

The second half of the recent Lancaster Community Library Sundays at Two series featured presentations on bluegrass and mythology.

On February 19, Bill Gurley presented "Bluegrass Fiddling, Rhythm and Roots." Joined by his wife, Pam, on the guitar and vocals, and daughter Macon on bass and vocals, the Gurleys demonstrated all the musical instruments typical of a bluegrass band.

Outlining a brief history of the movement, Gurley explained how Bill Monroe rose to world acclaim, moving the Kentucky mountain sound from radio music directed to rural populations of less education to the urban -educated elite. Through his ability to command air time and attract the best musicians, Monroe dominated the genre and set the standard for the traditional bluegrass sound, said Gurley.

His personal epiphany came at age 13 when he heard the banjo of Earl Scruggs playing "Foggy Mountain Breakdown." He then demonstrated the sounds of a 1924 mandolin, a 1912 mandocello, his model D Martin guitar and his 1968 five string banjo.

Upstaging her dad, Macon demonstrated the old time style of claw hammer, or "frailing," used in Appalachian mountain music. Gurley demonstrated the more contemporary style of Earl Scruggs using interconnected three finger rolls.

Bluegrass is characterized by improvisation similar to jazz, where each player can create his own sound and style, they explained. Bluegrass is also characterized by its high energy and songs which emphasis basic themes.

Gurley concluded his program with several energetic tunes on his 1927 fiddle, enlisting the help of the audience with singing and clapping.

On March 5, the final program in the series featured Dr. Margaret (Marge) Devinney. She quickly captured the audience's attention with an informative presentation on "Mythology: How the Ancients Viewed Their World."

Bringing the audience up-to-date with the theme of "What does myth mean to us today?," Devinney discussed myths as sacred narratives which explain the beliefs of particular cultures.

All cultures use myths as a means of passing down what they believe to future generations, said Dr. Devinney. By looking at a whole group of stories of a particular culture such as those of the Greeks, Romans, Egyptians, Scandinavians or the American Indians, it is possible to see how their beliefs evolved over time.

Some representations of gods such as Leda and the Swan, Venus and Bacchus have been popularly featured in art up to the present day, she said. The Hopi, Navajo and Zuni Indians of the southwest United States believed that people and animals made the world and that nobody owns the land, whereas biblically, the belief is expressed that people do own the land.

Ultimately, Devinney pointed out, all myths are the result of how we answer the question of "Why are we here?"

Concluding the program, committee chairman Gloria Wallace thanked the committee members who shared with her the responsibilities of providing the season's programs for the community, including library director Susanna Collins, Marianne Henderson, Elaine Weekley, Carolyn Scarbrough, Lovey Jane Long, Evie Thorndike, Amy Fuchs and Courtney Reisner.

The February 12 program on "Rosenwald Schools in the Northern Neck" was cancelled. The blizzard of the east coast prevented the arrival of speaker Phyllis McClure from Washington, D.C. The lecture will be rescheduled for the 2007 season.

Wayland elected to NNLC board

Robert H. Wayland III

Robert H. Wayland III formally joined the board of directors of the Northern Neck Land Conservancy (NNLC) March 15.

Wayland recently retired to White Stone with his wife, Susan, after a 36-year career with the federal government including 28 years with the Environmental Protection Agency. He was director of EPA's office of Wetlands, Oceans, and Watersheds from 1991 until his retirement.

Programs under Wayland's direction addressed some of the most challenging environmental issues confronting the nation—polluted run-off, wetlands protection, and ocean and coastal management.

During Wayland's tenure, innovations established the Clean Water Action Plan, Watershed Assistance Grants, 5-Star Restoration Grants, the first national Coastal Condition Report, an action plan to curb the "dead zone" in the Gulf of Mexico, the interagency Wetlands Plan, Watershed Information Network, and partnerships to enhance environmental performance by the nation's ports, golf and ski industries.

Wayland was given the Elizabeth Fellows Partnership Award by the association of state water quality agencies, and the President's Award of the Wildlife Habitat Council. He was presented with EPA Distinguished Career Award by Administrator Christine Todd Whitman. Presidents Bill Clinton and George W. Bush each awarded Wayland the Presidential Rank of Meritorious Executive.

"NNLC welcomes Bob Wayland to our eleven-member voluntary board of directors where we look forward to working together to strengthen the organization, as well as to serve our five-county Northern Neck community," said Kathryn Gregory, charter board member, secretary-web master, and chair of the easement committee for NNLC.

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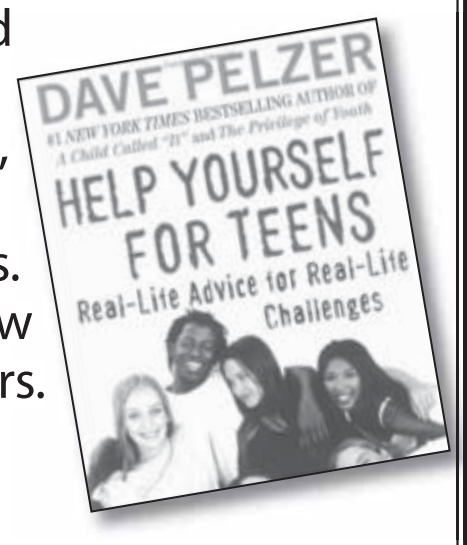

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Camp I AM participants from left are (front row) Jack Birdsall, William Clarke, Andrew Desantis, Grant Jewell, Genevieve Patrick, Sam Darden, Ann Tait Hall, Sarah Brabston, Lelia Battle and Annie Snead; (next row) Jay Bryant, Haley Fellows, Kalin Benza, Mariah Jayne, Connor Fitzpatrick, Devin Liner, Jack O'Neil, Justin Urbalejo, Reed Kattmann, Carter Bruffy and Connor Birdsall; (next row) Kristen Kelley, Brandon Benza, Gates Schwarzmann, Nini O'Neil, Madison Scott, Jennifer Radcliffe, Matthew Keane, Wendy Sparrer, Liz Hudnall, Grace Dodd and Lydia Roots; (next row) Kevin Aines, Scott Davidson, Liz Seigler, Nina Panzetta, Pat Abenante, Michael Muller, Taylor Nelson, Laura Ransone, Sarah Jones and Elizabeth Prillaman.

Four sessions of morning campers participated in summer program

The Indian Creek Yacht and Country Club Junior Sports Camp completed its 15th season with 210 campers attending nine week-long sport camps.

There were four morning sports camps: I AM from June 20 to 24, II AM from June 27 to July 1, III AM from July 11 to 15, and IV AM from July 25 to 29. In each of these morning camps, the children, ages 6 to 10 years, received daily an hour of instruction in swimming, tennis and golf, and a meal.

Instruction in golf was provided by golf pro Kevin Aines, and instructors Michael Muller and Robert Keyes. Tennis instruction was given by tennis pro Pat Abenante, assisted by Scott Davidson, Nina Panzetta and Julia Byrd. Swimming instruction was given by Liz Seigler and assisted by Eleanor Smith and Taylor Nelson.

Each group of 12 campers in the AM camps was assisted by a teen counselor. The counselors were Laura Ransone, Elizabeth Prillaman, Sarah Jones, Michael Faulkner, Maggie Keilhaur, Bruce Hammill, and John Radcliffe.

On the first day of camp, each camper received a green, gold and white t-shirt made by the Bay Window. In closing ceremonies they received pictures of their group, pictures of the whole camp, and a certificate of recognition of participation signed by all the instructors and the director Anne Reisner. They also received certificates for tennis and swimming and a sleeve of golf balls.

All campers were children and grandchildren of club members and came from all over the United States, Canada, Italy and Switzerland.

The 2006 Sports Camp schedules and applications have been mailed. Over 150 applications have been received so it looks like another exciting and busy summer schedule at ICYCC. For more information, call ICYCC or Reisner.

Camp II AM participants from left are (front row) JJ Greene, Hannah Holman, Savannah Gold, Julia Mitchell, Massie Neal, Emily Engstrom, Harper Jensen, T Carrington, Cade Inglish and Angela Marie Ripley; (next row) Justin Urbalejo, Caitlin Erin Egan, Walton Chamblee, Katie Holman, Chip Welton, Heather Holman, Annabel Carrington, Chandler Tempest, Shelby Townes, Taylor Godine, Townley Neal and Zack Johnson; (next row) Kai Jensen, Frances Mitchell, Maddie Young, Madeline Inglish, Meghan Townes, Spencer Godine, Mary Elizabeth Welton, Billy Ripley, Ronnie Calkins, Hunt Tempest, Virginia Margaret Connor and Sarah Ann Green; (next row) Scott Davidson, Pat Abenante, Michael Muller, Eleanor Smith, Liz Seigler, Nina Panzetta, Michael Faulkner, Kevin Aines, Laura Ransone and Elizabeth Prillaman.

Camp III AM participants from left are (front row) Emma Simpson, Garrett Gauntt, Drew Smith, Emily Sears, Cathleen Klem, Michael Altrui, Coleman Turner, Cole Shomer, Philip Raine, Taz Ridgely, Marietta Foley and Isabella Hurlbut; (next row) Brendan Lewis, Lindsay Hinch, Noah Johnson, John Harnsberger, Jack Simpson, Bradley Gray, Melanie Piller, Kyle Hammill, Chris Klem, Paul M. Connor, Kat Mapes, Katrina Gauntt, Weston Schomer and Matthew Keane; (next row) Harrison Turner, Cassie Haydon, Matthew Greenbaum, Claire Ridgely, Tim Lewis, Amy Williams, Paige Altrui, Christopher Piller, Marlena Hurlbut, Ben Hammill, Ryan Hinch and Ryan Cammarata; (next row) Scott Davidson, Pat Abenante, Nina Panzetta, Liz Seigler, Eleanor Smith, Sarah Jones, Laura Ransone, Elizabeth Prillaman, and Bruce Hammill.

Camp IV AM participants from left are (front row) Russell Jones, Andrew Bigelow, Alexis Miles, Billy Shand, Maggie Mixon, Ellie Pomer, Julia Tripodi, Shannon Sweeney, Brooks Henke, Jonathan Beigel, Wizzie Christopher and Parker Kaplan; (next row) Drew Hall, Patrick Hall, Mariah Jayne, Susan Haynie, Anthony Lascaris, Hunter Brady, Peyton Brady, Teresa Norman, Teddy Sherer, Dylan Jones, Mamie Trigg and Jonathan Holliday; (next row) Kevin Pomer, Zachary Beigel, Allison Gray, Rachel Jayne, Jackson Montgomery, Samantha Straughan, Lana Sachs, Cody Kaplan, Regan Sweeney, Bobby Norman, Stephanie Gray and John Lascaris; (next row) Scott Davidson, Laura Ransone, Pat Abenante, Robert Keyes, Liz Seigler, Eleanor Smith, Michael Muller, Julia Byrd, Maggie Keilhauer and Elizabeth Prillaman.

Scoreboard

Upcoming Games

Varsity baseball and softball:
March 23-24:
Lancaster and Northumberland at RGH Tournament, Deltaville (baseball only)
Lancaster at Richmond Softball Tournament, Chesterfield County (softball only)
March 27:
Northumberland at Mathews
March 28:
King George at Lancaster
Middlesex at Northumberland
March 29:
Lancaster at Charles City

JV baseball and softball:
March 24:
Northumberland at Fredericksburg Christian
March 27:
Mathews at Northumberland
March 28:
Lancaster at King George
Track
March 29:
W&L, Rappahannock, Northumberland at Essex

Soccer
March 23:
Northumberland at Middlesex
March 28:
West Point at Lancaster
March 29:
Mathews at Lancaster
March 30:
Middlesex at Northumberland

Sports Shorts

■ Fish talks

The Northern Neck Anglers Club and the Chesapeake Angler will host a Sport Fishing Seminar Saturday, March 25, at the Northumberland County Community Center at 679 Browns Store Road.

Admissions start at 8 a.m. Discussions featuring several charter boat captains sharing their expertise, start at 8:50 a.m. Admission is $10 per person and includes a box lunch.

All-Stars split take in Shrine games

Above, Andre Henderson of Lancaster High drives for the goal against defender Andre Fells of Middlesex High during the Norlan Shrine Club boys all-star game Saturday. Fells scored 23 points as the most valuable player. Henderson and the Northern Neck All-Stars beat the Tidewater All-Stars, 77-63.

At right, Shannon Lewis of Northumberland High puts up a shot over Kelly White (13) of King William during the girls all-star game. White scored 17 points to lead the Tidewater All-Stars over the Northern Neck All-Stars, 67-38. She was named the most valuable player of the game. (Photos by Lisa Hinton-Valdrighi)

Lancaster High varsity softball team eyes improvement and leadership

by Lisa Hinton-Valdrighi

Coming off a so-so season, coach Dave Zeiler is just looking for improvement from his varsity girls softball team.

The Lady Devils didn't make the Northern Neck District tournament for the first time in a long time in 2005.

But "last year we were very young with no leadership," said Zeiler.

This year, with five juniors, six sophomores and two freshmen, Lancaster is still young, but a little more experienced.

"Our district is going to be tough again," Zeiler said, "but we've improved a lot and I think we'll be okay."

Zeiler returns seven from last season, including his five juniors and two of his sophomores. All seven are returning starters.

Junior Brandy Gilbert and sophomore Tiffany Lee will return to lead a pitching staff of four.

Gilbert and Lee will likely be Zeiler's starters with junior Kori George and freshman newcomer Takeia Jones also seeing time on the mound. Jones and freshman utility player Tyesha Harvey will split time on the varsity and JV squads. Zeiler will pull them up for non-district and tournament games.

George will make the move from shortstop to catcher this season, while sophomore Sara Caudle will go from behind the plate to short. Also returning to the infield will be juniors Madison Smith at first and Lucy McCann at second.

Returning to start in left field will be junior Sarah Robertson. She'll be snagging flies at various times with sophomore newcomer Natalie Stickel, Jewell Beatley, Abby Robbins and Katie Miller.

Varsity softball schedule

March 28	King George
March 29	at Charles City
April 3	at West Point
April 4	at Mathews
April 6	at W&L
April 11	Essex
April 27	at Rappahannock
May 2	Northumberland
May 9	at Essex
May 11	W&L
May 16	Rappahannock
May 18	at Northumberland

From left, members of the Lancaster High varsity softball team are (front row) Takeia Jones, Sara Caudle, Kori George, Brandy Gilbert, Natalie Stickel and Katie Miller; (next row) Madison Smith, Sarah Robertson, Abby Robbins, Tiffany Lee, Tyesha Harvey and Lucy McCann.

✳ Rappahannock Almanac ✳

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

Fri	**3/24**	Moonrise	3:15	Low	12:15	0.2′
		Sunrise	6:03	High	6:35	1.5′
		Moonset	**12:41**	Low	**1:23**	0.2′
		Sunset	**6:21**	High	**6:58**	1.3′
Sat	**3/25**	Moonrise	3:58	Low	1:29	0.1′
		Sunrise	6:02	High	7:44	1.6′
		Moonset	**1:57**	Low	**2:23**	0.1′
		Sunset	**6:22**	High	**8:06**	1.4′
Sun	**3/26**	Moonrise	4:34	Low	2:38	0.0′
		Sunrise	6:00	High	8:46	1.6′
		Moonset	**3:15**	Low	**3:18**	0.0′
		Sunset	**6:23**	High	**9:06**	1.6′
Mon	**3/27**	Moonrise	5:05	Low	3:40	-0.1′
		Sunrise	5:59	High	9:41	1.7′
		Moonset	**4:31**	Low	**4:08**	-0.1′
		Sunset	**6:24**	High	**10:01**	1.7′
Tue	**3/28**	Moonrise	5:33	Low	4:37	-0.2′
		Sunrise	5:57	High	10:33	1.7′
		Moonset	**5:47**	Low	**4:56**	-0.2′
		Sunset	**6:25**	High	**10:52**	**1.8′**
Wed	**3/29**	Sunrise	5:56	Low	5:30	-0.2′
		Moonrise	6:00	High	11:22	1.7′
		Sunset	**6:26**	Low	**5:42**	-0.2′
New - 5:16		Moonset	**7:02**	High	**11:41**	**1.9′**
Thu	**3/30**	Sunrise	5:54	Low	6:21	-0.2′
		Moonrise	6:28	High	**12:09**	1.7′
		Sunset	**6:27**	Low	**6:28**	-0.2′
		Moonset	**8:17**			
Fri	**3/31**	Sunrise	5:53	High	12:29	**1.9′**
		Moonrise	6:58	Low	7:11	-0.2′
		Sunset	**6:28**	High	**12:56**	1.6′
		Moonset	**9:31**	Low	**7:13**	-0.2′

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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Aviation group plans upcoming activities

The March 16 luncheon meeting of the Northern Neck/ Middle Peninsula Chapter of the Virginia Aeronautical Historical Society was held at the Pilot House Restaurant in Topping.

President Ron Lang reminded members and guests the April meeting will be a bus trip to the Old Air and Space Museum in Washington, D.C. Reservations can be made by sending $35 to Bob Schneider, 114 Club View Drive, Lancaster, VA 22503. His phone number is 462-7763. Gary Ellis arranged the trip, and may be reached for more information at 435-2947.

The chapter's annual dinner will be held May 16 at Rose's Crab House in Kilmarnock. Complete invitations will be mailed to members. Reservations and checks can then be mailed to Schneider.

A video, "The Challenge of Flight, Eagles over the Gulf," was shown. It was an exciting film about the training of pilots in the Iraq area, landing and taking off from an aircraft carrier. The training was to protect these flyers, and bring them home safely.

The aircraft were elevated from below carrier deck, to start their flying operations. The ground crew prepared and loaded the fighters once on deck, and even on the film the camaraderie between those who took the planes off the carriers, and those who waited for their return, was very evident.

"We have a job to do, and we do it," said one young man.

As the modern song says, "They are the Spirit of America." Those aircraft seen in operation on the film were the 4-D Wild Weasel, A-G E Intruder, A-7 Corsair, AV-8 Harrier, A-100A-10 Warthog, F-14 Tomcat, F-16 Eagle, F-16/ FA 16 Falcon, F-117A Stealth and the FA-Hornet. The video showed these wonderful aircraft in operation, flown by young flyers, who are strong, capable, smart and daring.

Members are reminded that there will be no luncheon meetings at the Pilot House for April or May. The next luncheon meeting will be June 15 at the Pilot House in Topping at noon. Anyone interested in aviation is invited to attend and join.

Inspecting the merchandise

The Kiwanis Club of the Northern Neck will hold its annual Boat Sale Saturday, May 13. From left, club president Curt Dozier and member Sky Stebbins inspect one of some 20 boats that have been donated for the auction. Dozier reports several more have been offered and will be picked up shortly. The sale will be held at Yankee Point Marina beginning at 9 a.m.

Antonio wins first match of the season

Veteran shooter David Antonio of White Stone captured first place with a score of 47 out of 48 in a falling plates match fired March 18 at the Rappahannock Pistol and Rifle Club range.

This was the first match of the 2006 season. Matches are planned every other Saturday at the range in White Stone.

Close behind with a 44 to take second place was Larry Taylor of Ditchley and John Herbein of Irvington came in third with a 43. This was Herbein's first match as a member of the club.

The course of fire for the handgun match was 48 shots. Six shot strings were fired at 10, 15, 20 and 25 yards. This event was not timed, but in the future it will be a timed event.

Members are reminded of the work party at 9 a.m. March 25. Bring shovels, rakes and pruning tools. Lunch will be provided by the club.

Sports Shorts

■ Bird walk

The Northern Neck Audubon Society will hold a bird walk Saturday, March 25, at the Western Branch of the Corrotoman River. Those interested in participating should meet at the Grace Episcopal Church parking lot in Kilmarnock by 8 a.m. to car pool to the site.

Rick Skelton will lead the walk on the trails of the 160-acre conservation easement on the Western Branch. The habitat is forest, open, and marshland so a good variety of birds should be available. This and all Northern Neck Audubon bird walks are open to the public.

■ Wellness program

The Northern Neck Aging Network will conduct a wellness program April 20 from 10 a.m. to noon at Mayfair House at 460 South Main Street in Kilmarnock.

The program will include individual assistance with Medicare Part D, blood pressure screening, testing related to blood sugar, bone density and balance, and lifeline information.

Window on Wildlife

by Joyce Fitchett Russel

My favorite event of the week is having our son come from North Carolina to visit us. We talked about our family and what we are doing.

As always, he and I took a long walk on the farm. At the farmhouse, yellow daffodils were blooming, a woodpecker was drilling holes in the ground where there were insects, and a crow was complaining about a hawk too close for comfort.

In the lane, we saw gum balls crushed by vehicles so that seeds had been released to spread the plant. Beyond, robins were foraging in the yard.

Soon we came to the pond where two mallard ducks were swimming. In the field, the garden had recently been plowed, and the plot for wildflowers had been burned. My son picked a purple henbit flower and gave it to me. We stopped to look at two large flies.

Next, we came to the hammock I swing in when summer comes. Here is the creek where a female loon is diving. We walk on the dock and sit for a while to enjoy the beauty and happiness of being together.

Back home, I get a call from Mary Frances Forrester who has a rookery of 17 bald eagles near her home at Lancaster.

We are all blessed.

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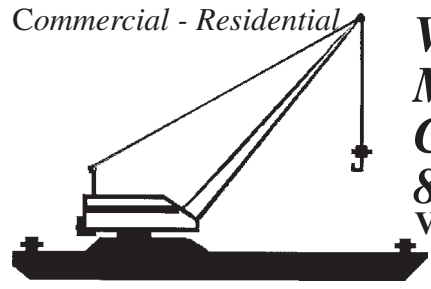

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RW-C initiates 'Aerobics for the Mind'

Residents at Rappahannock Westminster-Canterbury recently completed the first six-week session of "Aerobics for the Mind," a small-group program to stimulate the mind through creative exercises to integrate right- and left-brain activity.

RW-C's classes for mental exercise have been a dream of Tish Nystrom, R.N., director of RW-C's clinic. Developing curriculum in part from *Aerobics for the Mind: Keeping the Mind Active in Aging,* by Marge Engelman, Nystrom works with wellness coordinator Kori Poplin to plan and present the weekly hour-long sessions.

Addressing cognitive decline is critical for a healthy retirement community, Nystrom said. Cognitive decline is the major cause for transfer from independent living to health services, she said.

Continual change of thought process is key, said Nystrom. A vigorous walk taken on the same route each day loses mental impact, but physical exercise classes offer great benefit because participants use both sides of their brains to simultaneously hear, process and put into motion the instruction spoken.

Class activities use writing, art and music to spur the senses, creativity, and acute awareness.

"We focus on the senses, to be mindful of everything," said Poplin. "We try to turn off auto-pilot and be present in the moment. I'm doing everything differently myself. It's had a profound influence on Tish and me."

One class starts with deep breathing, which has helped one man sleep without medication. The group listens to Pachobel's Canon in D, silently isolating the predominant instrument. One person's doodle is passed around the table, and each participant adds strokes that change it into a decipherable scene. Participants write their names with both hands at the same time.

For one class, a woman uses 18th-century voice to write a letter to a friend from the widow, Martha Custis, describing this new Mr. Washington in her life. A man writes a story of love for family through the eyes of a male bluebird. In contrast, he also writes a sassy poem about the color pink. A woman writes a description of a portrait of her husband as a lad lazing on a Rhode Island wharf.

Asked to create a picture based on colors of a jellybean drawn at random, a woman creates a whimsical bunch of balloons from varying shades of blue paint chips cut into rounds. Another arranges magazine flowers in multiple tones of mauve.

The first homework assignments for the next six-week session are to create a personal dinner plate; and to list memories from the first decade of life and write a letter to someone significant during that period. Work on the timeline will continue each week, decade by decade. Residents are encouraged to read their homework assignments to the class, so courage and trust build, and relationships grow.

"It's like going back to college," said Mary Lou Miller, a retired certified gemologist "I am so impressed with the minds here. They're so varied. I knew all these people ahead of time, but now see them in an entirely different light."

"Our goal was to slow the progression in people in early stages of cognitive decline," said Nystrom. "But probably because of denial and fear of failure, we're not getting that population, so our goal has shifted to prevention.

"The classes give another focus besides self. We are astounded by the enthusiasm. It's not easy. You have to go home and think about it. You have to read in front of others. It's so good that people are stepping up" Nystrom added.

Bridge Results

Six-and-a-half tables of bridge were in play at Rappahannock Westminster-Canterbury March 14.

Winners north/south were first, Barbara Hubbard and Norma Drinnon; second, Dianne Monroe and Cynthia Birdsall; and third, Beverly Oren and Babs Murphy.

Winners east/west were first, Ginger Klapp and Judy Peifer; second, Terry Carter and Fran Blencowe; and third, Shirley Crockett and Elaine Weekley.

The next bridge for this group is Tuesday, March 28, at 1 p.m.

Six tables of duplicate bridge were in play March 16 at the Woman's Club of White Stone.

Winners north/south were first, Dianne Monroe and Babs Murphy; second, Cynthia Birdsall and Arden Durham; and third, Mary Andrews and Jane Hughes.

Winners east/west were first, Ilva Doggett and Kay Williams; second, Peggy Dent and Terry Taylor; and third, Tot Winstead and Liz Hargett.

The next bridge for this group will be Monday, March 27, at 1 p.m.

Bowling Results

Ladies League

In the week of March 6, the Lively Oaks Girls won three games against Yeatman's Forklift when Debbie Dodson bowled a 344 set with games of 103, 109 and 132. Jean Reynolds rolled a 325 set with games of 111 and 125. Patsy Headley had a 100 game and Lynn Gordon rolled a 112 game. For Yeatman's, Pat Harris bowled a 306 set with a 122 game. Alma George rolled a 303 set with games of 102 and 105.

Northern Neck Surgical Services won three games against Abby when Bev Benson bowled a 341 set with games of 110, 115 and 116. Terry Stillman rolled a 335 set with games of 103, 104 and 128. Lois Rose had a 107 game.

R.P. Waller won two games against Callis Seafood when Ola Nash bowled a 321 set with games of 102 and 123. Marsha Nash rolled a 316 set with games of 101, 105 and 110. Dee Atkins had a 118 game and Bea Hodge had a 101 game. For Callis, Donna Thomas bowled a 306 set with games of 103 and 106. Mary Savalina had a 102 game and Gayle Conrad had games of 100 and 103.

TCH Oil won three games against Young Country when Marie Piccard bowled a 405 set with games of 122, 126 and 157. Greta Walker rolled a 336 set with games of 109, 109 and 118. Sandra Evans had a 329 set with games of 103 and 131. Vicki White rolled a 301 set with games of 100 and 112. For Young Country, JoAnne Paulette bowled a 336 set with games of 103, 111 and 122. Betty Steffey rolled a 323 set with games of 105, 105 and 113. Linda Lake had a 122 game and Cathy Savalina rolled a 121 game.

For the week of March 13, Lively Oaks Girls won two games against Callis Seafood when Debbie Dodson bowled a 321 set with games of 106 and 116. Lynn Gordon rolled a 314 set with games of 113 and 119. Jean Reynolds had a 303 set with games of 105 and 115. Patsy Headley bowled a 300 set with a 117 game and Becky rolled a 102 game. For Callis, Donna Thomas bowled a 374 set with games of 103, 118 and 153. Betty Evans rolled a 105 game.

R.P. Waller won three games against Abby when Claudette Hame bowled a 314 set with a 120 game. Dee Atkins rolled a 326 set with games of 104 and 123. Marsha Nash had games of 103 and 110. Ola Nash rolled a game of 102.

TCH Oil won two games against Yeatman's Forklift when Marie Piccard bowled a 339 set with games of 105, 118 and 119. Vivian Callaway rolled a 321 set with games of 112 and 114. Sandra Evans had a 308 set with games of 104 and 106. For Yeatman's, Alma George bowled a 327 set with games of 106, 107 and 114. Pat Harris rolled a 314 set with a 133 game. Corrine Beauchamp had a game of 103.

Young Country won three games against Northern Neck Surgical Services when Betty Steffey bowled a 371 set with games of 122, 124 and 125. Theresa Davis rolled a 351 set with games of 120 and 135. Cathy Savalina had a 332 set with games of 109 and 126. Joanne Paulette bowled a 303 set with games of 100 and 115. Linda Lake rolled a 110 game. For N.N. Surgical, Bev Benson bowled a 304 set with a 114 game. Julia George rolled a game of 100.

High game: Nancy Carter, 159; Alma George, 158; Marie Piccard, 157.

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

High average: Betty Steffey, 114; Nancy Carter and Donna Thomas, 108.

High team game TCH Oil, 682; Young Country, 612; Yeatman's, 578.

Standings

	W	L
Lively Oaks	17	7
Callis Seafood	16	8
R.P. Waller	16	8
Yeatman's	15	9
TCH Oil	15	9
Young Country	10	14
N.N. Surgical	7	17

Men's League

On March 16, H&S Printing won three games against Evans Bowling Center. For H&S, Louis Coates bowled the high set of the week of 412 with games of 138, 133 and 141. John Hollowell rolled games of 138, 122 and 140 in a 400 set. Billy Hudson had a 122 game and Bill Hayden a 105 game. For Evans, John Forrester bowled the high set of 364 with a 145 game. Bunks Mitchell rolled a 122 game. Richard Savalina had games of 119 and 115 and Woodie Evans games of 119 and 118.

Sal's Pizza won three games against D&L Marine Construction when Clay Gill bowled the high set of 391 with games of 147, 122 and 122. Bill Hendershot rolled a 143 game in a 356 set. Bob Huff had games of 123 and 139. Justin George rolled a 116 game. For D&L, Doug Hundley bowled the high set of 327 with games of 116 and 114. Mark Obsharsky had a 133 game and Steve Hinson rolled a 109.

J&J Construction won two games and lost one against Cap'n John's. For J&J, Curly Lewis bowled the high set of 391 with games of 125, 140 and 126. Rolaid Lewis rolled games of 132 and 137 in a 362 set and Frank Perkins had a 114 game.

For Cap'n John's, Herbert Hammock bowled the high set of 368 with games of 128 and 138. Ernie George rolled a 133 game. Joe Hinson had a 116 game and Ryan Dawson rolled a 111 game.

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

High set: Louis Coates, 457; Bill Hendershot, 424; Ernie George, 415; Wayne Condrey, 413 and Steve Edwards, 411.

High team game: Cap'n John's, 560; Sal's, 548; J&J, 537; H&S, 510; D&L, 508; Evans, 502.

High team set: Sal's, 1,518; J&J, 1,465; H&S, 1,455; Cap'n John's, 1,446; D&L, 1,429; Evans, 1,427.

High average: Louis Coates, 134; Curly Lewis, 121; Bill Hendershot, 120; Wayne Condrey, 119; Herbert Hammock, 117.

Standings

	W	L
Sal's Pizza	19	11
H&S Printing	19	11
Evans Bowling	17	13
J&J Const.	14	16
Cap'n John's	14	16
D&L Marine	7	23

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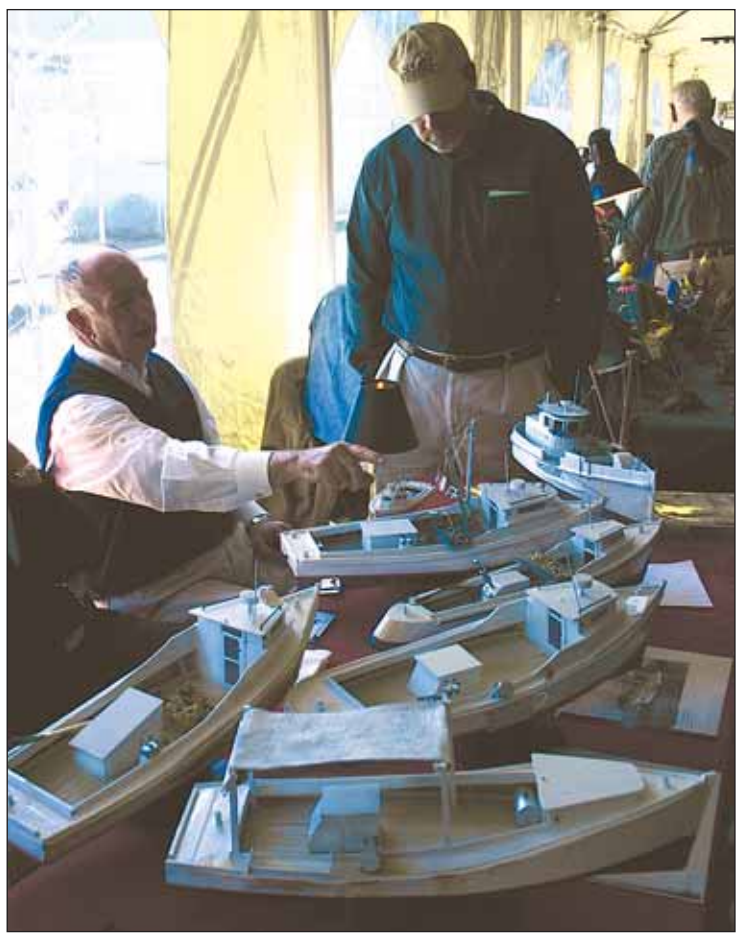

Lenyon Walsh sells a model workboat to Gary Sanders of Warsaw.

Kristi, Gil and Rebekah Seay of Jamaica search for a perfect print.

▼ *Waterfowl Show . . . .*

(continued from page A1)

few wooden ducks would make the perfect wall display for their new river cottage. But they needed two that looked almost exactly alike for the display to work, Tammy said.

Everybody got involved in helping match two decoys and deciding which two would look the best.

Dick Stephenson of Heathsville strolled the aisles alone. He attends the show every year, he said, and usually buys something. His interest was in C.L. Willis's shelf of antique decoys. He purchased an antique from Willis last year and was eager to talk to him again. After a few minutes of browsing the display quietly, he reintroduced himself to the owner. Once they got to talking, it was clear the conversation was going to last for a while. The two share a deep passion, and Willis took the time to show Stephenson each of his most prized possessions individually.

Regular shoppers and vendors at these kinds of shows often form a lasting bond, and the reunions are sweet. Buyers quickly become collectors and seek out their favorite artists year after year.

Gil and Kristi Seay of Mechanicsville, along with their daughter Rebekah, were attending the show for their second year. They purchased a print last year from Carl "Spike" Knuth, also of Mechanicsville, for their house in Jamaica. The first place they headed when they returned this year was back to Knuth's stand of wildlife art. Gil was soon entrenched in conversation with Knuth, being sold on a painting, while Rebekah browsed through some prints for her own room.

Gene and Susan Dix, lifetime residents of White Stone, come to the show every two or three years, primarily for the social aspect.

"We like seeing our friends," Gene said. "We've already run into a few people we know."

What better place to see a few familiar faces?

But Gene's curiosity was caught by an original wildlife carving by Chuck Robertson. Finely crafted, with intricate shore birds and tall grasses, the sculptures were really elegant. The couple each turned their heads to the side to look up at the tall displays, and sweetly touched brows as they did so.

The art eventually draws in everyone.

Gary and Donna Sanders are regulars to the show. They always walk away with something, Donna said, but its usually prints and decoys. This year, however, Gary was fascinated by Lenyon Walsh's Chesapeake Classics, a display of carved wooden workboats.

Walsh was in the middle of sharing the story behind his centerpiece workboat with four potential customers gathered around the table listening. Donna was hanging back a little, letting her husband be drawn in deeper. Lunchtime was nearing, and people were walking by with plates of barbecue and potato salad that could make the stomach growl. She was anxious to sit down and eat.

Eventually the crowd moved on, leaving Gary to go in for the kill. He bought the centerpiece boat and quickly headed off to lunch with his much relieved wife.

Less than a minute later, one woman from the previous gathering returned and said she wanted to buy that boat.

"I just sold it," Walsh told her.

She who hesitates never walks away with the best carving.

Walsh has been attending the waterfowl show for seven years. "This is the best crowd yet," he said.

The art's appeal may have been strong, but the smell of barbecue was stronger and it was time that I headed off to the cafeteria myself.

I bid farewell to my new artist friends and followed my nose to a back room run by an efficient team of volunteers. I had already been impressed by how many people had given up their day to help run this event, but the kitchen was bustling with energy and laughter. These volunteers were having a lot of fun, despite the long line behind me.

I happily handed over my four dollars which, along with the ticket price, benefits the White Stone Volunteer Fire Department, and plopped myself down with a heaping plate of food.

As I stuffed my face and waved at some familiar faces, I surprised myself a bit. I was having a good time.

Dick Stephenson of Heathsville examines an antique decoy display.

▼ *Road mess . . . .*

(continued from page A1)

much help as I can."

"I am on the CTB, but I'm not VDOT. I'm you all," she said.

As for Sen. Chichester's effort to secure money to finish the road, he said there was an item in the approved Senate budget that would provide enough revenue to the district to finish the Taylor's Creek Road project as well as other much needed safety improvements on roads in the Northern Neck.

He did not, however, itemize any specific projects for that funding.

"All highway construction becomes political," he said. "I think it's best to let the local governments prioritize which local roads need attention."

Taylor's Creek Road, he noted, is one of many transportation problems in the Commonwealth and his district that needs to be fixed, but he said he has heard that $300,000 is needed to complete that project.

"The people of Virginia are speaking loud and clear that they want transportation dealt with but not necessarily with bigger roads," Sen. Chichester said. Funding for better rails and buses is included in the Senate budget for cities. In rural areas, safety on narrow roads is the number one concern.

"My job is to make sure we get, at last, a solution to the transportation problem, and the Senate has done that. The House has not."

He enumerated the differences between House and Senate budget bills.

The Senate believes that when the state has unanticipated revenue, as it does now, "This is the time to take excess revenue and squirrel it away for the inevitable recession," he said. "We do that by paying cash for transportation projects. The House of Delegates takes that cash and issues debt for transportation, which ends up increasing the cost of transportation projects by 50 percent."

Once the budget is settled, the residents of Taylor's Creek Road may still have a rough road ahead before their project is completed. If all goes as planned, Carter will help smooth the bumps.

▼ *Town council . . . .*

the Virginia Department of Transportation.

Mayor Mike Robertson and Brown voiced concern over the repeated increase in the project cost, saying that many of the obstacles should have been foreseen by the engineers.

"The owner, the town of Kilmarnock, has no leverage," said Robertson. "We have no option except to pay the bill or somebody is going to throw a tantrum and stop the project."

The council directed town attorney Paul C. Stamm to investigate any errors and omissions made by the engineer.

Bikewalk Kilmarnock

Despite the reluctance of Robertson, council supported a BikeWalk Virginia campaign that could bring as many as 1,000 cyclists to the area in September.

Representing a new local chapter of BikeWalk Virginia, Tom Richardson asked the council to endorse and possibly later offer its financial support to an annual biking event in Lancaster County.

The date for the fall tour is September 30.

Robertson said he had no problem supporting the event; however, he wanted to learn more about it and thought the council should delay any action until its April meeting.

Town manager Lee Hood Capps, who is a member of BikeWalk Virginia, assured the council that no monetary support was needed, only a sponsorship.

Smith then made a motion to support the event. Brown added a second.

Christ Church project

Council also endorsed by resolution an improvement project at Christ Church.

The Foundation for Historic Christ Church plans to make significant changes to the gallery, grounds and support facilities by its 50th anniversary in 2008.

The foundation has secured the support of town councils in White Stone and Irvington and representatives will ask for similar support from the Lancaster board of supervisors at its next meeting.

Farewell to Sanders

During council comments, Robertson bid a goodbye and thank-you to planner and developer Jonathan Sanders, who will leave at the end of the month after nearly two years with the town. Sanders has accepted a position in Loudon County.

Robertson also voiced dismay with an ongoing project that isn't going anywhere. For three years, Robertson said, he has sought to have the town's fire hydrants painted. He noticed last week that several have been painted on Route 200 heading towards Irvington.

▼ *Evans responds . . . .*

(continued from page A1)

now," said Evans. "That's when I got up."

He immediately checked her heart rate, which "was about 180" and her blood pressure, which was "about 30 over nothing."

"We were at 32,000 feet and going into full code," he said.

Evans called for the oxygen tanks from the plane's medical supplies to keep her breathing.

After talking with the passenger's husband and family, Evans found out the woman had lung disease and he estimates she went from about 90 percent capacity to "working on a quarter of a lung."

The educator, he said, was so upset because she was flying to Washington, D.C., for a luncheon with First Lady Laura Bush the next day to discuss education issues.

Evans' concern was keeping the woman alive for the 45-minute remainder of the flight. He was down to about two minutes of oxygen left in the tank when the captain declared a medical emergency and reached the airport.

"Normally, you circle 15 or 20 minutes but we went straight in," said Evans.

A mix-up on the ground sent the plane to the wrong terminal and with the situation growing more tense by the minute, the captain "blew the doors out like we made a water landing," said Evans.

A swarm of paramedic trucks circled the plane and the woman was rushed to Arlington Emergency.

"I understand she had her ups and downs and I heard she was in ICU somewhere, but now I believe she's doing better," he said. "After we got her off and I walked back on the plane, people in the back were standing up clapping. It was like something you see in a movie."

Evans, who was in uniform, is an inactive member of the Army Reserves.

He was severely wounded while serving as a nurse anesthetist at a mobile Army surgical hospital in Iraq during the first Gulf War.

Recently, after Hurricane Katrina hit the U.S. Gulf Coast, he traveled to the region and with Rangers in New Orleans helped treat the injured.

Evans, who trains others in shock trauma and gives lectures on "when things go bad," is no stranger to emergencies.

"It seems like every three months or so I'm in some life or death incidence," said Evans, who two years ago was the first to arrive at a fatal crash in Topping, where he helped to pull a woman safely from her vehicle. The day before he had assisted a man in a car accident at a fast food restaurant near Saluda.

Last summer, while working as a park ranger in the Shenandoah Valley, a family of five was struck by lightning while inside their tent. Evans was there to help.

"Believe me, I don't set this up," he said. "But I just can't watch people hurt. During this time the Lord guides me to do what I have to do."

While folks aboard the Frontier flight threw around the word hero, he backed away from the moniker.

"The real heroes right now are the ones over in Iraq. They never get a break. The danger there is 24/7," said Evans.

(continued from page A1)

Most of the others have not.

"If the town cannot get it done, I would like to offer it to the Boy Scouts," he said. "It would be an excellent Eagle Scout project."

Public session to address school facilities

HEATHSVILLE—The Northumberland County school system will conduct an informational session at the Northumberland High School auditorium at 7 p.m. Thursday, March 30.

The purpose of this meeting is to provide information to the public concerning the facility needs of the middle and high schools and plans to address the needs.

A brief presentation by superintendent Clint Stables will provide background information. This will be followed by presentations from the three firms that have submitted proposals to Northumberland County to provide improved facilities for students in grades 6 through 12. The companies are: Shockey LLC, First Choice: Public Private Partners LLC, and H&M Construction.

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