Rappahannock Record

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Public to meet contractors at new school facility session

by Reid Pierce Armstrong

HEATHSVILLE—The public is invited to learn more about Northumberland County's plan to begin construction on a new combined middle and high school later this year.

The community meeting begins at 7 p.m. tonight (March 30) in the high school auditorium.

Superintendent Clint Stables will begin the session with some background information, including the current state of the schools and why the county is leaning toward building one large facility to contain both the middle and high school.

Stables will also explain the new bidding process through which the county is receiving proposals to design and construct the new facility.

This will be followed by presentations from Shockey LLC, First Choice: Public Private Partners LLC, and H&M Construction.

These companies recently entered the second round of a competitive bidding process with the county. While their detailed proposals are not due to the school board until May 1 and they cannot discuss the details of their proposals, they will be able to talk about their company's history and past projects.

All the proposals will include one combined campus for the middle and high schools with separate classrooms, locker rooms and eating areas for the two schools, and separate "houses" for the sixth, seven and eighth grades.

The schools will share a large band practice room, chorus room, art studios, drama rooms, home economics lab, ROTC classroom, computer lab, kitchen facilities, administration offices, storage space and special education conference rooms.

The schools will also share a community auditorium with seating for at least 500 people and a main gymnasium with seating for 1,000.

On May 15 and 24, the board of supervisors and school board will meet to hear formal presentations from the three companies and begin negotiations.

The county intends to award the project to one company June 10. But, it may chose to hire none of the above companies if the bids are all too expensive or none of the design solutions are adequate.

Earlier this year, however, both the board of supervisors and the school board signed resolutions stating their commitment to renovating or replacing the old schools.

(continued on page A15)

Author Dave Pelzer speaks to a crowd at the Northern Neck Family YMCA in Kilmarnock.

Abused as a child, speaker stresses higher expectations and positive reinforcement

by Lisa Hinton-Valdrighi

KILMARNOCK—As a child, Dave Pelzer was starved, stabbed and poisoned by his loved ones.

Chained to a bed in the basement of his home, forced to drink bleach and deprived of food for 14 straight days, Pelzer's was one of the worst child abuse cases in California's history.

Pelzer's teachers, who he calls heroes, helped him overcome his tortuous beginning.

"Besides parents and guardians, the biggest influence in a child's life are teachers," he told over 100 people at the Northern Neck Family YMCA last Thursday evening.

The Pulitzer prize-winning author and motivational speaker addressed teens and their caregivers for almost two hours during his "Help Yourself for Teens" program. Earlier in the day, he spoke to students at Page Middle School in Gloucester.

"Some people have this mentality that they take their kids to school and expect the teachers to fix them," he said. "But it's our job [as parents] to raise responsible, productive adults."

Pelzer, who's most famous for his autobiographical book, *A Child Called It*, said he doesn't waste time wondering why he was abused, but instead forgave his mother and overcame the obstacles in his way.

Pelzer stressed to teens the importance of making good decisions now that shape the future. He also told parents they can influence their child's decisions through positive reinforcement and higher expectations.

> ***"The closer you get to dying, the more you want to live. Why do you have to start dying to start living?"***
> **—Dave Pelzer**

"When was the last time you sat down with your son or daughter and said that attitude is not going to fly in this house?" he asked parents. "And when was the last time you said I expect greatness from you?"

In short, Pelzer's speech was about living each day to its fullest and not just reaching one's potential, but surpassing it.

"When you get on the back nine of life and have ten fingers and ten toes, you've done it all," he said.

"The closer you get to dying, the more you want to live," Pelzer added. "Why do you have to start dying to start living?"

Lancaster school board sends $14 million budget proposal to supervisors

by Reid Pierce Armstrong

KILMARNOCK—The Lancaster school board last Monday adopted a $14 million operating budget for the 2006-07 fiscal year.

However, school officials indicated they will continue to revise the document during work sessions in April.

The school board action forwards a proposed budget into the hands of the county administrator in preparation for a May adoption by the board of supervisors.

The approved budget would require a $1.4 million increase in county funding over last year.

Eight people attended the public hearing, but only Jack Larson commented on the proposal. He noted that he was speaking as a citizen and taxpayer, and not in his role as county planning and land use director.

"What you are asking for is a pretty dramatic increase in county funding," Larson said.

He criticized the budget proposal as being both incomplete and overly detailed. The projected expenditures should not be detailed to the penny, he said.

"It makes no sense to me," Larson continued. "You are ascribing to it a level of accuracy that is just not there."

At the same time, he noted, the budget summary fails to prioritize new and increased expenditures.

"The budget should include detailed explanations on why amounts exceed last year," he said. "Why is fuel up 136.9 percent? This needs justification," he said.

Bottom line.....

Budget total: $14,067,159
Budget increase: $1,046,389

Local share: $9,539,534
Local increase: $1,398,827

School board chairman Donald McCann said that figure is a space holder. "Nobody knows what the price of gas is going to do," he said.

"To what degree must we provide you with an explanation for every detail in the budget?" McCann asked Larson.

Any line item that increases by more than 10 percent above last year requires some explanation about why it is needed and what it will do to help students improve their standardized test scores, Larson replied. The dialog should also include alternative options.

Larson also accused the board of funding lower priority items in past budgets, such as technology, and then returning to the board of supervisors with shortfalls for teachers' salaries and concerns about unsafe school buses.

"Technology is as important as school buses," McCann replied. "A school bus does nothing if you don't provide an education for the students on that bus."

Superintendent Dr. Randolph Latimore said the lion's share of next year's increase will go toward teachers' salaries, the school district's top priority. Some $774,000 will pay for a 6.4 percent average salary increase for all staff, and $150,000 is designated for hiring four new teachers and one new bus driver.

(continued on page A15)

Everybody has a story . . . .

An occasional column by by Lisa Hinton-Valdrighi profiling interesting neighbors around the Northern Neck

When he's not competing in a basketball game, Dwayne Veney may be found at his desk at Veney's Heating and Air Conditioning in Kilmarnock.

Dwayne Veney rebounds from shooting incident

Once upon a time, Dwayne Veney could run the 400-meter dash in 52 seconds. He was a receiver and running back on the Lancaster High School football squad and a forward on the basketball team.

Then one day, four years after high school graduation, he found himself where he shouldn't have been and a bad situation quickly turned tragic.

Veney was shot in the back, immediately losing all feeling in his legs. The bullet hit the spine, ricocheted off and travelled up to his chest near his aorta, where it rests today. With a bullet still lodged in his chest, he's not a candidate for an MRI and surgery is way too risky. So doctors can only theorize that extensive bruising is what keeps Veney confined to a wheelchair as a T6 paraplegic, without movement or feeling from his chest down.

"When I got shot, instantly I couldn't feel or move," said Veney. "I didn't feel any pain or anything. I just wanted to get to the hospital as soon as possible so the doctors could do something about it."

Veney was shot in Lancaster County, taken to Rappahannock General and flown to MCV, where he stayed for six days before moving to a physical and occupational therapy center for a month of rehabilitation.

"They taught me how to get in and out

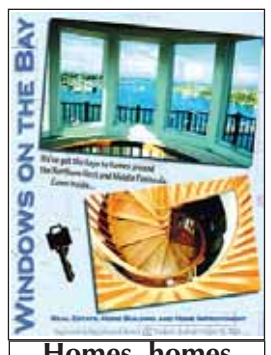
(continued on page A15)

Inside

■ **Burning changes:**
Dry conditions lead to emergency ban of all open fires.....**B1**

■ **Play ball:.**
Red Devils' baseball season begins with shaky start.....**B8**

■ **Historyland funds:**
Community workshop to support educational pursuits.....**A15**



Homes, homes and more homes: supplement inside

Business.A13-14 Opinion.....A4-5
Calendar.....A2 Police.....B1
Churches....B2-6 Schools.....B7
Classified....C1-9 Sports.....B8-11
Directory.C12-13 Upcoming...A2-3
Obituaries...B3-5 Wildlife notes.B10

Lancaster board posts agenda

LANCASTER—The board of supervisors for Lancaster County will meet at 7 p.m. tonight (March 30) at the courthouse at 8311 Mary Ball Road.

The meeting will open with a public input session, allowing county residents an opportunity to raise issues not otherwise on the meeting agenda.

Presentations set for 7:05 p.m. address the county's 2005 audit, a request for assistance from the Foundation for Historic Christ Church and a proposed Main Street economic development initiative linking villages and towns within the county.

At 7:25 p.m., the board will hear from the Virginia Department of Transportation and the Town of White Stone regarding a traffic impact study of the town related to a proposed Wal-Mart store in Kilmarnock.

A public hearing at 7:40 p.m. will address a request from Knull Properties LLC to amend proffers of a previous conditional rezoning to allow for a snack bar at Yankee Point Marina.

At 8 p.m., the board will consider salaries and invoice listings for March, a change of polling place for District 1, project manager fees for a roof project at Lancaster high School, and the replacement of boiler valves at Lancaster Middle school.

During a board report session at 8:40 p.m., Dr. Jack Russell will introduce a Lancaster County Leadership Development initiative.

County Administrator Bill Pennell will address the board at 8:50 p.m. regarding administrative matters.

Adjournment is set for 9 p.m.; however, the agenda times are approximate and the board may amend the agenda at the meeting.

The board meets in the General District courtroom in the basement level of the courthouse. The courtroom is accessible from the parking lot behind the courthouse.

Readers are reminded to set their clocks ahead one hour Sunday, April 2. Daylight Savings Time officially begins at 2 a.m.

March

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.
The Board Of Directors for the Rappahannock Foundation for the arts meets at 10 a.m. at Bay Trust Company at 1 North Main Street in Kilmarnock.
A Public Meeting on responsible development and transportation will be held at the Essex Public Library at 7 p.m.

31 Friday

Bingo is played at the Mid-County Rescue Squad Building in Heathsville at 7 p.m.
A Plus Square Dance will be held by the Square Pegs at 7 p.m. at Fairfields United Methodist Church in Burgess. $5. 580-4009.
"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.
The RFM Stitchers meet at 9:30 a.m. at Reedville Fishermen's Museum. 453-6529.
The RFM Quilters meet at 1 p.m. at Reedville Fishermen's Museum. 453-6529.

April

1 Saturday

April Fool's Day

A Ham and Oyster Dinner will be served by New Friendship Baptist Church in Burgess 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. $15 adults, $7 children. Carryouts available, 580-2127.
"A Little Princess" will be presented by students in the Northern Neck Homeschool Association. The play will begin at 6:30 p.m. at the White Stone Church of the Nazarene.
"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.
Lancaster MIddle School in Kilmarnock will host an All-Area Chorus concert at 3 p.m. at Lancaster Middle School theater.
Singer/Songwriter Mike Aiken will be featured at Cafe Mojo in Urbanna. The show starts at 9:30 p.m.

2 Sunday

The Widowed Persons Service for Lancaster and Northumberland counties holds its lunch brunch at The Crazy Crab in Reedville immediately following church services.
"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.
A Basket Bingo will be held by the Lancaster Band Boosters to raise money for the Lancaster High School Red Devils Marching Band. The event will begin at 2 p.m. at the Upper Lancaster Ruritan Center near Lively. $25. 462-0849.

Area Events

■ Gobble, gobble

A turkey dinner will be served Sunday, April 9, by the Mid-County Rescue Squad Auxiliary at the squad house at 7590 Northumberland Highway east of Heathsville. Service will begin at noon and continue to 3 p.m. The fee is $8 for adults and $4 for children.

The menu will include turkey, dressing, peas, mashed potatoes, cranberry sauce, rolls, dessert and beverage. Takeouts are available.

■ Medicare workshop

A Medicare Matters workshop will be held at the Lancaster County Department of Social Services at 9049 Mary Ball Road in Lancaster. The workshop will be held Tuesday, April 4, from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Staff will assist those who wish to sign up for a prescription drug insurance plan. For more information, call the Social Services Department.

■ Survivors needed

The Piankatank Relay For Life, serving Middlesex, King Willam and King & Queen counties, will hold its annual Relay For Life June 2 through June 3 at Middlesex High School in Saluda.The Relay For Life seeks area businesses and churches to support this event by becoming sponsors. Donations are much needed and appreciated

For more information regarding sponsorship, please contact Melody Latimore-Christian at 758-9777 or Janel Young-Ruffin at 758-5643. The Relay For Life is also seeking cancer survivors.

■ Give blood

The Northumberland County Chapter of American Red Cross will hold a blood drive April 11 from 12:30 to 6:30 p.m. at St. Stephens Episcopal Church in Heathsville.

The need for blood is constant and must be replaced on a daily basis. Blood cannot be manufactured, it must come from human donors.

2 Sunday

Dr. Charles F. Bryan, president of the Virginia Historical Society, will contrast two Virginia generals of the Civil War in "Choosing the Harder Right: Robert E. Lee and George H. Thomas." The presentation will begin at 2:30 p.m. at the Northumberland County Historical Society in Heathsville.

3 Monday

The Historyland Community Workshop volunteer craft group meets at the Lancaster Woman's Club from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Brown bag lunch. Guests welcome.
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.
Helen C. Rountree will speak on Virginia indians at Viewpoints at Rappahannock Westminster-Canterbury at 11 a.m. A luncheon follows the presentation. 438-4000.
The Friends Of Belle Isle State Park meets at 7 p.m. at the ranger headquarters at the park.
A Birding Class will be held by the Northern Neck Audubon society at 6:30 p.m. at Grace Church in Kilmarnock.
The Northern Neck Audubon Society meets at 7:30 p.m. at Grace Episcopal Church.
A Parkinsons's Caregivers support group will meet at 10:30 a.m. at Rappahannock Westminster-Canterbury near Irvington
The Northumberland County PFO will meet at 7 p.m. in the school media center.
A Parkinson's Support Group meets at 10:30 a.m. a the Winter Cafe at Rappahannock Westminster-Canterbury

4 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.
Duplicate Bridge will be played at the Woman's Club of Lancaster at 1 p.m. 462-0742.
A Lasagna Dinner will be served by the Episcopal Church Women of Wicomico Parish Church at 5 p.m. The menu includes lasagna, garlic bread, salad, wine and dessert. Donations accepted. Carryouts available.

4 Tuesday

U.S. Rep. Jo Ann Davis's Staff will conduct satellite office hours from 10 a.m. to noon at the Lancaster Community Library at 235 School Street in Kilmarnock; and from 2 to 4 p.m. at the Northumberland Public Library at 7204 Northumberland Highway in Heathsville.
Duplicate Bridge will be played at 12:15 p.m. at the Northumberland Woman's Club in Lottsburg.
The Kilmarnock Chamber of Commerce meets at 8 a.m. at the town office in Kilmarnock. 435-1302.
The Northern Neck Chapter of the National Active and Retired Federal Employees Association meets at 2 p.m. at the Northern Neck Electric Cooperative building in Warsaw. 436-0511.
A Photoshop Special Interest Group meets at 9 a.m. at the Lancaster Community Library in Kilmarnock. Judy Sapione will address creating a poster from a graphic artist's point of view and Joe Moeller will demonstrate creating a poster in Photoshop Elements 3. The contest theme is "motion." 580-2538.
The Irvington Planning Commission meets at 7:30 p.m. at the town office.

5 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 2:30 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.
The Woman's Club Of White Stone meets at 11:30 a.m. at the clubhouse in White Stone.
The RFM Quilters meet at 9:30 a.m. at Reedville Fishermen's Museum. 453-6529.
A Transition Forum for high school students, parents, teachers, administrators and commuity service providers will be held at Lancaster High School from 3:30 to 6:30 p.m. 493-1200.

6 Thursday

Bingo is played at the American Legion Post 86 on Waverly Avenue in Kilmarnock at 7 p.m.
The RFM Modelers meet at 10 a.m. at Reedville Fishermen's Museum. 453-6529.
Al-ANON meets at 8 p.m. at Palmer Hall in Kilmarnock.
The Wetlands Board for Lancaster County will meet at 9:30 a.m. at the courthouse in Lancaster.
The White Stone Town Council meets at 7 p.m. at the town office.
The Marine Corps League Detachment meets at 7:30 p.m. at the Callao firehouse. 580-3803.
The Wetlands Board for Northumberland County meets at 7:30 p.m. at the courthouse in Heathsville.
The Airport Club Of Hummel Field meets at 6 p.m. for a dinner meeting at The Pilot House at Topping. 758-5500.
"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.

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

The Irvington Farmers' Market takes place the 1st Saturday of each month, May through December.
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BRKIG (10/01)

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Apr. 5 • 6:15-7:30 p.m.--8 wks.
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THE MOUNT HOLLY STEAMBOAT INN: Overlooking beautiful Nomini Creek in historic Westmoreland County. Winter Hours Dinner Wednesday to Saturday. 5:00-9:00 Grand Sunday Brunch Buffet 11:00-2:00. 804-472-9070. 3673 Cople Highway (Rt. 202 at Nomini Bay) www.mthollysteamboatinn.com

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

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

THAI POT: Authentic Thai cuisine. Serving lunch and dinner. Dine in and carry-out. Hours: Tuesday-Saturday Lunch: 11:30am-3pm. Dinner: 5:30pm-9pm., Catering available. 238 N. Main St., Kilmarnock, 436-Thai.

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Sat. (2:00, 4:00), 6:00, 7:45
Sun. (2:00, 4:00), 6:00
Mon. – Thurs. (5:00), 6:45
FAILURE TO LAUNCH (R) 1 HRS 36 MIN
Fri. (4:15), 6:15, 8:15
Sat. (2:15, 4:15), 6:15, 8:15
Sun. (2:15, 4:15), 6:15
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FRI. MAR. 31
ICE AGE 2 (PG) 5:10, 7:20, 9:30
ATL (PG13) 5:15, 7:30, 9:50
INSIDE MAN (R) 4:45, 7:10, 9:40
V FOR VENDETTA (R) 9:35
SHAGGY DOG (PG) 5:20, 7:25
MADEA'S FAMILY REUNION (PG13) 5:00, 7:15, 9:45
SAT. APRIL 1
ICE AGE 2 (PG) 1:00, 3:05, 5:10, 7:20, 9:30
ATL (PG13) 12:45, 3:00, 5:15, 7:30, 9:50
INSIDE MAN (R) 1:45, 4:45, 7:10, 9:40
V FOR VENDETTA (R) 9:35
SHAGGY DOG (PG) 1:10, 3:15, 5:20, 7:25,
MADEA'S FAMILY REUNION (PG13) 2:00, 5:00, 7:15, 9:45
SUN. APRIL 2
ICE AGE 2 (PG) 1:00, 3:05, 5:10, 7:20
ATL (PG13) 12:45, 3:00, 5:15, 7:30
INSIDE MAN (R) 1:45, 4:45, 7:10
SHAGGY DOG (PG) 1:10, 3:15, 5:20, 7:25
MADEA'S FAMILY REUNION (PG13) 2:00, 5:00, 7:15
MON.-THURS. APRIL 3-6
INSIDE MAN (R) 7:20
V FOR VENDETTA (R) 7:30
HILLS HAVE EYES (R) 7:15
SHAGGY DOG (PG) 7:25
MADEA'S FAMILY REUNION (PG13) 7:25

Virginia Symphony pops concert to conclude series

The Virginia Symphony Orchestra will return to the Lancaster Middle School Theater April 8 at 8 p.m. for an "On Stage" engagement.

Under the direction of guest conductor Carl Topilow, the orchestra will present a pops concert, "When Swing was King."

The performance will conclude the 2005-06 "On Stage" series sponsored by the Rappahannock Foundation for the Arts. The series is made possible through season subscribers, Friends, Donors, The Virginia Commission for the Arts, The National Endowment for the Arts, and local corporate sponsors.

The local corporate sponsor for the Virginia Symphony Orchestra visit is Bank of Lancaster and Bay Trust Company.

Anyone interested in tickets for this concert or to receive a brochure for next season should call 435-0292.

Topilow is known worldwide for his versatility, whether he is holding a conductor's baton or his trademark red clarinet. He is a multi-talented virtuoso who is equally at home in classical and popular music, as conductor and instrumentalist.

His pops performances blend light classical, swing, jazz, Broadway, Dixieland, and Klezmer music, usually finding occasion to include a number on his array of brightly colored clarinets. His approach to pops programming includes extensive audience involvement and true showmanship.

Topilow founded the Cleveland Pops. The orchestra plays to large audiences in Severance Hall and in several other venues throughout northeast Ohio.

He is also conductor and director of the Orchestral Program at the Cleveland Institute of Music. In his 25th year as conductor of the CIM Orchestras, he is also head of the Masters program in orchestral conducting. Graduates of this program can be found as maestros with several leading orchestras.

He recently celebrated his 28th anniversary as music director and conductor of the National Repertory Orchestra, a summer music festival based in beautiful Breckenridge, Colo.

Topilow was educated at the Manhattan School of Music, and has held conducting fellowships with the National Orchestral Association (under Leon Barzin) and the Aspen Music Festival (under Jorge Mester). He began his professional career as Exxon Arts Endowment Conductor of the Denver Symphony Orchestra.

Topilow lives in Beachwood, Ohio, with his wife Shirley, director of Morgenstern Dance Studio and executive director of the Cleveland Pops Orchestra, and his daughter Emily. His daughter Jenny is a graduate of the Cleveland Institute of Music and Carnegie Mellon University, and is a member of the violin section of the Charlotte Symphony Orchestra.

LMS students to serve pre-symphony dinner

Students from Lancaster Middle School's SCA, BETA and Builders clubs will serve dinner prior to the April 8 performance of the Virginia Symphony.

Dinner will be served in Lancaster Middle School cafeteria from 5:30 to 7 p.m. The symphony will be featured in an "On Stage" concert at 8 p.m. at the Lancaster Middle School Theater. The concert is sponsored by the Rappahannock Foundation for the Arts. For tickets, call 435-0292.

The dinner will be sponsored by the Lancaster Middle School PTA. The menu includes chicken cordon bleu, rice, broccoli, salad, rolls, dessert, coffee and tea. The cost is $15 per person.

Proceeds will benefit the Science Fair, athletic, band and drama programs.

Dinner tickets are available at Rappahannock Westminster-Canterbury from Maria Ferrand, the middle school office, and the main branches of Bank of Lancaster and Chesapeake Bank, or call Donna McGrath at 438-5803.

From left are Reedville Fishermen's Museum quilters Kathy Pitts, Anita Hall, Mary Sawyer, Micki Pugh and Shirley Galo.

RFM quilters gather on first Friday each month

The Reedville Fishermen's Museum quilters gather every first Friday of the month to enjoy unusual and interesting programs.

The goal for 2006 is to "Stretch and Grow," meaning to try new techniques and venture into new and different areas of quilting.

At a recent meeting, the quilters learned how to construct faces of fabrics suitable for quilting using several different methods as demonstrated in the Renoir Art Quilt from 2005.

On April 7, Suzanne Fiscus will teach English appliqué. For details, call 453-6529.

Dr. Rountree to speak at Viewpoints April 3

Powhatan Indian specialist Helen Rountree, Ph.D., will speak at Viewpoints at Rappahannock Westminster-Canterbury April 3 at 11 a.m. She will talk about her research from the Indian point of view.

She has served as an advisor to Jamestown for two decades and is on call through 2007 for the settlement's quadricentennial. A friend to the Virginia tribes, she has testified before Congress on behalf of the Indians and has helped them prepare their own testimony.

Rountree has written extensively about the Powhatans, Pocahontas and Jamestown in scholarly fashion for adults and engagingly for young people. Her most recent book is *Pocahontas, Powhatan, Opechancanough: Three Indian Lives Changed by Jamestown*, published by the University Press of Virginia in 2005.

Rountree earned her bachelor's, master's and doctoral degrees in anthropology from The College of William and Mary, the University of Utah, and the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee. She taught at Old Dominion University 31 years and received the Outstanding Faculty Award from the State Council of Higher Education.

Dr. Helen Rountree

"I keep learning new disciplines, like botany, and bring that to bear on the accounts of John Smith. It gives me new eyes each time. I have to work at thinking like an Indian; I'm an engrained Anglocentric like everyone else. To write the Pocahontas book from the Indian perspective, I couldn't afford to talk much to people. I had to stay in that frame of mind."

A buffet luncheon will follow Rountree's presentation. Call 438-4000 for reservations.

Scots to celebrate

Northern Neck Scots will gather twice this month to celebrate their heritage. April 6 was formally designated by the United States Senate in 1998 as National Tartan Day, recognizing the role that Americans of Scottish descent have played throughout the country's history.

April 6 was chosen because it is the date in 1320 when the Scottish Declaration of Independence was signed at Arbroath Abbey in Scotland.

In 2000, the Lancaster board of supervisors adopted a resolution designating April 6 each year as Tartan Day in Lancaster County.

The community is rich in Scottish heritage beginning with the colonial ministers of Christ Church who were educated and ordained in Scotland. The succession began with the Rev. Andrew Jackson, an Ulster Scot, and continued through the Rev. John Bell and the Rev. David Currie, a period of over 100 years.

Further, the Northern Neck's colonial tobacco economy attracted many Scottish factors and merchants to the area who named the county's largest town, Kilmarnock, now with is colorful logo and namesake pipe band.

The 11th annual Kirking of the Tartan at Historic Christ Church will continue the celebration on April 30 at 12:30 p.m. The procession into the church will be led by the Kilmarnock and District Pipe Band. Special music during the service will be provided by the choir of Grace Church and the pipe band. At the close of the service, the pipe band will lead the tartan-wearing attendees out of the church and through the gates for an informal short concert.

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We want to express our sincere thanks to the more than 100 area residents who made our Anniversary Cruise a huge success. Your support & encouragement for the past seven years has made us the most successful travel agency in the area. We appreciate your business & look forward to helping make your future "travel adventures" moments to remember.
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Excerpts

by Henry Lane Hull

Harold Eubank was a brilliant gifted physicist whose career in plasma physics received wide acclaim from colleagues in the academic and scientific communities across the nation. That information might be news to many folks in the Northern Neck who might have known him quite well just the same. I say that because upon his retirement back to Kilmarnock he plunged into new areas of endeavor, many of which have affected the lives of numerous people in our region.

When he inherited his family home, which locals traditionally refer to as "the Porter Farm," on the edge of Kilmarnock, he and his wife, Mary Alice, set out on an ambitious plan for the town to have its own arts center. They cut off a lot on the south end of the farm and there they constructed The Center for the Arts, now known as The Arts Building, replete with a wonderful theater, rehearsal rooms, music lesson cubicles, and all the other amenities which one associates with a cultural center.

Mary Alice and Harold have given totally of themselves to provide a venue for the enrichment of folks from all over the Northern Neck and Middle Peninsula. She has put together a marvelous cadre of talented teachers and the center has become a mecca for arts students from the region. Today our young people have cultural opportunities equal to those of children in large metropolitan areas.

Harold poured himself into landscaping the farm and the Arts Building grounds. He planted an avenue of trees up his lane, and established a flower garden on the roadside of the Center, which is an object of beauty for all who enter our town along the Jessie DuPont Memorial Highway. His particular trademark was a block of cosmos, which he tended with great care. His offering was the largest cosmos garden I ever have seen anywhere.

He grouped flowering trees around the garden and tended all of the plantings himself.

Everyone could see him out there despite the weather, enjoying every minute of his time in horticulture as much as he had his years in physics. His presence on the road in his pickup with his dog by his side, or the latter waiting patiently in the truck while his master went in the local garden centers, had become a part of our lore.

I last spoke with him in the fall at the Kilmarnock 75th anniversary celebration at the old post office, now The Pedestal, and thereafter at the luncheon at Lee's. I was not aware that he had been under the weather, and was astonished to see how his illness had produced such a decline in his normally robust physical presence. I served as the master of ceremonies for the event, part of which included impromptu reflections on memories of the town on the part of those present. Harold contributed his share, thereby increasing the attitude of nostalgia for the bygone days on the part of all present.

We chatted after the afternoon discussion ended and he told me of his optimism that his health problems were behind him, and that he was looking forward to getting back outside to work. I told him how much I missed his venerable old walnut tree in the center of his field, a casualty of Hurricane Isabel. He enjoyed the day and a few times thereafter I saw him driving through town.

Last week Harold died. Unlike his mother who spent many years as the pianist at Morratico Baptist Church, and who lived in three centuries, Harold was only 81. When I read his age in the newspaper, I thought of how much he had enjoyed moving back to his roots, how thoroughly he and Mary Alice had given of themselves to enhancing the lives of all of us interested in the arts, and how profound a legacy he left in his wake.

In retrospect, one truly can say that his retirement years were as impressive as his years in science. All of us are better off because of the years of his passage among us.

Harold Porter Eubank, October 23, 1924 –March 23, 2006. R.I.P.

Off The Beaten Path

by Reid Pierce Armstrong

Every year the best and brightest of Virginia's Fourth Estate gather to share ideas and recognize each other's accomplishments. The two-day conference culminates with an awards ceremony and banquet at one of the state's premier hotels.

A contingent of the Rappahannock Record's editorial staff fled town last weekend for this year's conference at the Hotel Roanoke.

Between Friday dinner on the town and Saturday morning shopping at the market, it almost felt like vacation.

The best part, my husband will tell you, was separate beds in the hotel room. Six months pregnant, I now require a large nest of pillows to sleep comfortably and my husband has grumbled that he wakes up most mornings with a small fortress of cotton and down built between us.

Upon checking in, I requested two extra pillows, assuming there would be only two on the bed. But Paris (Hilton) takes care of her guests and in the room we found two beds each armed with four fluffy pillows, so I now had six to myself. The ensuing fortress provided me with two nights of the most satisfactory sleep I have had in months.

My husband was so happy he even suggested we make this a permanent arrangement. Maybe my grandparents were onto something with the twin doubles.

We did the regular moving into a hotel room stuff – tested all the complimentary soaps and shampoos, scrolled through all the channels on the television to see how it compares to home and read the welcome binders cover to cover.

Vacation-like moments aside, the Record staff spent most of the weekend focused on our profession.

Saturday's lunch was hosted by the Virginia Press Association and featured speaker Peter Kovacs, managing editor of The Times-Picayune in New Orleans. Mr. Kovacs shared with us his riveting account of the days following Hurricane Katrina and the paper's effort to keep its head above water despite a drastically reduced circulation and staff.

That paper has become the hero of its town. A readership that once lodged only complaints now steps aside in line to allow the editor of the Times-Picayune its place in line. The military worked to get the newspaper back into its city offices to make citizens feel like it was a safe place to live.

Online readership since the hurricane has tripled, keeping the New Orleans community connected even as it is scattered across the nation.

It's what any paper hopes to be – a symbol of community spirit and a leader.

Later in the day we sat down with other weekly newspapers from around the state for a discussion on ways to improve our coverage.

But, no sooner than we began, our editor was recognized and outed as a pool shark. His reputation and years of VPA conventions spent around the green felt preceded him.

A deep discussion on the finer points of eight ball ensued. First things first, after all.

We dressed to the hilt for dinner – the guys in coats and ties, the women in flowing pants and fancy jackets with sparkling necklaces.

Before a crowd of 800 people, we stood to receive our awards. The Record did better this year than it has in the past four years, winning eight awards for our writing, photography and presentation.

Our publisher also had his own moment in the limelight. Actually, he had to sit sweating in the limelight for hours on end. As the president-elect of the Virginia Press Association, he and his wife were obligated to warm a seat at the head table through three or four such events. We could only wave to him from afar throughout most of the weekend.

He will be officially inducted into his new position during the press association's 125th anniversary celebration at the Homestead in June.

We are very proud of him. Afterall, how many press association presidents still edit reporter copy and deliver newspapers?

The weekend concluded with a Mardi Gras bash in the hotel, thrown by several newspapers. Golden beverages and golden oldies flowed.

Dignified as ever, the Record staff and our significant others stood stoically on the sidelines watching all the other journalists – young and old alike – make fools of themselves on the dance floor.

We, of course, would never lower ourselves to singing out loud at the top of our lungs while miming the motions through "YMCA" by the Village People or "Shout" from the movie Animal House.

And if you believe that, I have some Mardi Gras beads to sell you.

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Letters to the Editor

Bush's actions beg *questions*

To The Editor:

The writer of last week's letter entitled "Defending Bush" should really think about stepping away from the Bush administration Kool-Aid. Even after Bush has shown himself to be a colossal failure in so many respects there are those who continue to absorb the talking points and spew them back as if they were facts.

The defenders of he who catapults the propaganda are reduced to childish arguments of who else thought there was WMD in Iraq. The writer says that Bill Clinton believed there were WMD. Last time I checked Bill Clinton was one of the most reviled men by Republicans. It looks like when it's convenient his viewpoint is all of a sudden terribly respected.

Also mentioned as a source of information on Iraq's WMD was Saddam's generals. Talk about reliable sources. And Hans Blix believed there were WMD? Maybe that's why he had the job of looking for them to see if they were actually there. Think of all the death and destruction that could have been avoided if those U.N. inspections had been allowed to continue.

The other major talking point mentioned by the writer is the Hurricane Katrina breached vs. topped levees argument. This one's been repeated over and over by the right wing talking heads who are obviously grasping at straws to explain away yet another of Bush's mistakes. Bush is, shall we charitably say, not known for his talent with the subtle nuances of the English language, so believing that he knew the difference and meant to make the distinction is quite a stretch.

As for the writer's contention that it is FEMA's job to help after a catastrophe, well then you can count that as another of the Bush Administration failures. The Gulf Coast is still a mess and many people are still suffering greatly all these months later.

Bush has made some bad decisions for this country and we all need to remember that it's our right and responsibility to question those decisions. Blindly following a leader is foolish and those who defend his actions without questioning the results of those actions are in danger of losing their right to question.

Cheryl Perkins
Topping

We need reform

To The Editor:

With the war in Iraq and the war between the Democrats and Republicans raging on with no relief in site, the little guy has been forgotten and left in the dust.

Elected officials seem only to be concerned about their own agenda, pockets, and longevity. While the American voters have been asleep at the switch, the executive and legislative branches of our government have been bought and paid for. Lobbyists, special interest groups, and Corporate America actually own our government.

Fuel, energy, food, communications, medical, insurance, taxes and the cost of housing are out of control and fast approaching the point where the poor, elderly on fixed incomes, and a majority of middle class families are facing a true crisis of survival.

Deregulate and competition will keep the economy stabilized, at least that is what we've been told. We are reaping the benefits of deregulation. When Congress deregulates a specific industry, it means less time they have to spend on regulation and oversight and more time they can spend on raising money to insure longevity. Recently, an electric utility company in Maryland increased consumer electric bills by 72 percent after Maryland legislators deregulated the industry. Gas and heating oil prices continue to rise while the oil industry reaps windfall profits. Medical costs are fast approaching the point where only the rich can afford to become ill.

What actions or laws have our elected officials passed to protect the economy and constituents? None to crow about.

What actions or laws have our elected officials passed to protect and expand Corporate America? Too many to list.

Why? Our elected officials, especially the leadership within Congress, are bought and paid for by Corporate America—not constituents. In appreciation, Corporate America has outsourced our jobs overseas for more tax benefits and cheaper labor with the blessing of our politicians. The only time our elected officials listen to constituents is when actions, individually or collectively, smell so bad they have no other choice, such as Alaska Sen. Stevens' "bridge to nowhere."

As a "nation of sheep," our shepherds are fast leading us over the precipice. We need to wake up, pull our heads out of the sand and hold our elected officials accountable. Longevity and incumbency should no longer be considered a badge of honor, as it breeds corruption and greed.

We need to vote. We need to demand term limits to begin an infusion of new ideas and professionalism in our government. Contrary to what the Republicans believe, control of both houses of congress and the executive branch is not necessarily a positive environment because we have no check and balance of power.

We need to demand civility and honest debate by our politicians. Most importantly, we need bipartisan cooperation for critical issues, such as homeland security, illegal immigration, and medical care.

If we wonder why Iraq is taking so long to form a new government, the answer might very well be...they are looking closely at our current system.

Martin F. Stewart
Lottsburg

Enjoying MBW Notes

To The Editor:

My 90-year-old mother enjoyed your article on the Old Jail.

She too remembers the prisoner singing in the jail. He was a bootlegger, arrested multiple times, and bought her father's farm nearby, "Plainview."

Guess his "beautiful voice" serenaded the villagers on many peaceful Northern Neck country nights.

A. Gresham Morris
Slingerlands, N.Y.

(The Old Jail was the topic for a Mary Ball Washington Museum Notes column by Charlotte Henry. The column appeared in the March 9 edition.)

Iraqi oil is behind war

To The Editor:

There's an old adage that says that decisions are made for two reasons, the logical reason and the real reason. In the decision to invade Iraq, the logical reasons given were that Saddam had something to do with 9/11 and had weapons of mass destruction, two assumptions that proved completely unfounded. I believe the real reason was to put the U.S. in a position to keep close watch over Iraq's oil production.

With George Bush surrounded by oil and energy executives, it is no surprise that much of his concerns were focused on Iraq. For example, while the looting was going on, one building U.S. troops protected was the oil ministry containing vital information on Iraq's oil resources. Also, I recall well the neocons' claim that Iraq's oil would help pay for the war.

An oil analyst summed it up when he said, "Think of Iraq as a military base with very large oil reserves underneath; you can't ask for anything better than that." No one talks about it, but the issue of how and when our troops leave Iraq has everything to do with assuring Iraq's oil production.

Currently, the president is trying to boost his approval ratings by saying that progress is being made in Iraq. The truth is that law enforcement in Iraq is not preventing the current state of anarchy evidenced by bombings every day and executed Iraqis being found on the streets. Real progress would be a working Iraqi government, but that's a long way off, if it ever happens.

Iraq is a classic "catch 22." If we keep troops there to protect the oil fields, their presence will encourage an insurgent response. Yet if we leave the overseeing of the oil to the Iraqis, with all that oil money at stake, there's bound to be corruption and there's no assurance that Iraq's police and military can assure the oil fields protection.

No one mentions oil when talking about troop withdrawal, but with the world's oil supply under stress and gas prices as they are, you can be sure it's a major consideration.

Frank Mann
Lancaster

Yesteryear in Lancaster

(A reprint from the March 30, 1906, issue of the Virginia Citizen.)

Alfonso

Miss Myrtle Lowery, teacher at Lebanon school, completed her five months' session on Friday last.

Prizes were given Virgie and Bernice Haynie for not being absent or late during the term. Lola Dunaway, Easie Christopher, and Carroll Pasquith were given prizes for high marks in their classes.

Mrs. Leonard Barker had the misfortune to loose (sic) one of her horses last week.

C. E. Barrack is having his new dwelling at this place completed.

Board of supervisors

County Board of Supervisors acted upon petition of citizens relative to constructing a bridge across Old Mill prong on the proposed short road between Irvington and White Stone. M. H. Wilder, R. D. Carter and G. W. Sanders, Jr. were appointed viewers for this purpose.

The dog tax during the past two or three years has brought in only about $1,000, and this was last week turned over to the Board of Supervisors and appropriated to the road fund in the three districts.

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

Letters to the Editor

Meals on Wheels needs more money

To The Editor:

Virginia's Area Agencies on Aging, like Bay Aging, feed seniors in our community and in every locality across the Commonwealth of Virginia. These meals help keep frail and disadvantaged seniors where they want to stay—at home—rather than in more costly nursing homes and assisted living facilities.

A 36 percent increase in Virginia's senior population this decade, rising meal costs, and rising transportation costs for delivering these meals. plus state funding cuts that have left the Meals on Wheels with fewer dollars than five years ago, and the result is longer waiting lists, cuts in service, and seniors without a safety net.

State agency statistics have documented that each month 1,500 meals were needed and not served in 2004 because the funds were not there for the food and transportation. A General Assembly research report documented that monthly there were more than 139,000 meals needed and not delivered in 2003 and 129,000 in 2002. The situation keeps getting worse.

This basic need is not being met and the numbers are growing. Bay Aging has streamlined services, cut costs, and leveraged funding, but the need remains.

It will take an additional $7.3 million annually at $4 per meal to feed the growing number of Virginia seniors who already need this help. Urge your legislators to adopt a budget that remembers Virginia's frail elderly.

Allyn Gemerek, President
Bay Aging Board of Directors
Urbanna

Meal programs in crisis

To The Editor:

For $7.3 million, Virginia's financially strapped Meals on Wheels program could fulfill its unmet need for over 1.8 million meals for our senior citizens.

Sen. William Wampler of Bristol introduced an amendment to meet this need during the 2006 General Assembly session, but the Senate reduced the amount to half-a-million dollars. Thanks go to Del. Chris Jones of Suffolk who similarly requested $7.3 million for Meals on Wheels, but the House of Delegates ignored it completely.

From the points of view of compassion and cold financial calculation, the amendments made sense. Meals on Wheels is a highly effective federal, state, local and charitable program that uses volunteers in over 20 local organizations in every community to help the very old, those with disabilities, cancer and cardiac patients and patients recovering from surgery. The program helps these people stay in their homes and avoid institutionalization, resulting in major savings for taxpayers in state Medicaid funds.

For too many Virginians, the Meals on Wheels delivery person is the only regular contact they have with the outside world, their only source of balanced nutrition, and their lifeline in emergencies. However, Meals on Wheels programs have been cut back to as few as five meals a week per person due to funding cuts over the years, higher gasoline costs, and inflation. And this is while state programs have documented a need for an additional 1.8 million meals this year.

AARP's 940,000 Virginia members are asking for supportive services in the community, including Meals on Wheels.

If the proposed $7.3 million budget addition delays a senior's entry into a nursing home, it pays for itself. It will pay for itself several times over.

How, you may be asking?

Virginia's Medicaid pays for over two-thirds of nursing home care residents in the Commonwealth. At $4.8 billion a year, Medicaid is over 12 percent of the state budget. This needs fixing. It has grown 38 percent since the year 2000, and cutbacks to home care programs like Meals on Wheels are one reason why.

Each person who lives in a nursing home with Medicaid funding will cost the state at least $110 a day. Perversely, it seems that state policy would say that to go into a nursing home at taxpayer expense makes more sense than to receive $4 meals–$4 can save $110.

It is also perverse for a relatively wealthy state like Virginia to be under funding something as basic as food for the very needy. Meals programs have a total budget of about $20 million a year, of which the Commonwealth provides less than one dollar in five—only 20 percent.

Federal funding, local governments and local charity contributions split the rest of the cost. Individual Virginians and localities were over twice as generous as the Commonwealth itself.

The meals programs are in crisis. The cost of three critical items associated with meal delivery–vehicle insurance, workers compensation and fuel—grew 28 percent in 2003, 15 percent in 2004, and more than 20 percent in 2005.

The Senate and the House of Delegates reconvened March 27 to continue their discussions about taxes, debt and spending for the Commonwealth for the next two years. They need to hear that funding for basic food needs for Virginia's frail elderly should be on the table as well.

Jane H. Woods
Bay Aging, Urbanna

(Jane H. Woods is a former Secretary of Health and Human Resources for the Commonwealth of Virginia. She also served as a Republican member of the Senate of Virginia from 1992 to 2000, and the House of Delegates from 1988 to 1992).

Name that town

To The Editor:

If it is appropriate to honor downtown Kilmarnock's noble past by renaming it after its early predecessor, Steptoes' Ordinary, should we not consider renaming the newer part of Kilmarnock, with all of its recent and future spectacular appendages, "CVS Extraordinary?"

Fred Ajootian
Ocran

No confidence in Bush

To The Editor:

In a news conference this week, a reporter asked President Bush a question about the prime rate. The president answered that "interest rates are set by an independent organization." He seemed unable to pursue the question any further. The Federal Reserve Bank under Alan Greenspan was anything but independent of this administration, and only at the eleventh hour did Greenspan warn that the fiscal outcome was unsustainable.

Is this why, time and again, Bush merely parrots his tired, oversimplified positions and short-changes reporters' questions? His typical answers are nothing but his own opinions, devoid of any supporting facts or evidence. This debases the democratic process. The American people, our troops and the world deserve much better from him.

In stark contract, British Prime Minister Tony Blair could recently be seen fielding 64 back-to-back questions from the floor of the House of Commons. Blair consulted no notes, yet his answer to each question was specific, detailed and fully supported.

Blair inspires confidence. Bush has to ask us for it.

Jerry Peill
Lancaster

Taxes are high enough

To The Editor:

As a taxpayer I am tired of politicians getting into my wallet with new taxes.

Citizens of the Commonwealth had a large tax increase two years ago and our governor during his campaign promised no new taxes. As Ronald Reagan once said "There you go again."

The governor is flooding television and radio to try and influence the voters to agree with his tax proposals.

We may need more roads in Northern Virginia and Hampton Roads. We have a large surplus of money from the tax increase two years ago. Why not use this coupled with bond issues and toll roads.

Sen. Chichester was a prime mover in getting the tax increase two years ago and is at it again. I suggest we vote him out of office along with any others in the senate supporting more taxes.

Robert Miller
Kilmarnock

Restore democracy, or face dictatorship

To The Editor:

To quote the Scottish history professor, Alexander Tyler, at the University of Edinburgh some 225 years ago, "A democracy is always temporary in nature; it simply cannot exist as a permanent form of government. A democracy will continue to exist up until the time that voters discover they can vote themselves generous gifts from the public treasury."

He goes on to say, "The average age of the worlds greatest civilizations from the beginning of history, has been about 200 years. During those 200 years, these nations always progressed through the following sequence:

- From bondage to spiritual faith.
- From spiritual faith to great courage.
- From courage to liberty.
- From liberty to abundance.
- From abundance to complacency.
- From complacency to apathy.
- From apathy to dependence.
- From dependence back into bondage."

It would seem to me that we are depleting that treasury of spiritual faith, courage, liberty and abundance we have amassed as a nation of free people. It is time we began to put back in that treasury or face the bondage of dictatorship.

Bud Bussells
White Stone

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OFFICIAL VOTING INFORMATION

Monday, April 3 is the final day to register to vote in the May 2, 2006 town elections. If you live in the town of White Stone, Irvington or Kilmarnock and have never registered to vote, and wish to do so for this years town elections, you must register no later than 5 pm on April 3. The Registrar's Office, in addition to its regular office hours, will be open on Saturday, April 29, from 9 until 5 for those who may need to vote an absentee ballot. Should you have any questions about these elections, please call the Registrar's Office at 462-5277.

PLEASE NOTE: For those people who reside in the town of White Stone, the voting for town elections will take place in the new town office located at 433 Rappahannock Drive in White Stone. New voter cards will be mailed to town voters in the next couple of weeks noting this change.

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Crowd gathers for Reagan Day dinner

Lancaster County Republicans hosted its annual Reagan Day dinner featuring speeches from five prominent elected Republicans last Sunday at Indian Creek Yacht and Country Club near Kilmarnock.

More than 130 guests crowded the dining room for a program with Rep. Jo Ann Davis as the master of ceremonies.

Lt. Gov. Bill Bolling spoke about the need for Virginians to conduct the debate about the state's transportation needs in the state budget in a polite and truthful way.

Bolling said, however, that recent calls and radio ads sponsored by Gov. Tim Kaine were inaccurate, since they alleged that the House Republican budget plan cut needed programs. Bolling said this was not true and that Democrats should put an end to such false claims. He said the House Republicans' budget does not cut funding but increases it for such programs.

Virginia Attorney General Bob McDonnell, Del. Scott Lingamfelter and Del. Rob Wittmant addressed the gathering with calls to defend Ronald Reagan's sound conservative principles of government.

Virginia's Republican National Committeeman Morton Blackwell of Arlington spoke of the need to restore traditional grass roots activities such as voter identification and get-out-the-vote programs in order to maintain and increase current Republican majorities in the Commonwealth.

Former U.S. Attorney General William Barr (left) speaks with Virginia Attorney General Bob McDonnell.

Other prominent guests included Russ Moulton, chairman of the First Congressional District Republican Committee, and former U.S. Attorney General William Barr. Republican State Central Committee members Tom Foley and Carol Dawson were present. Local Republican Party chairs present included Dwight Taylor of Northumberland County, Jay Garner of Richmond County, George Miller of Middlesex and Joan Blackstone of Lancaster.

The event "was a tremendous success," said Lancaster Republican Party chairman Joan Blackstone. "We are motivated to continue to work even harder to support those conservative Republican principles espoused by all of our speakers."

To learn more about the activities of the Lancaster County Republican Party, call Blackstone at 435-6464.

Rep. Jo Ann Davis speaks with Lancaster County Republican Party chairman Joan Blackstone.

Virginia Indians plan annual spring Powwow

The Virginia Indian nations will gather on the Chickahominy Tribal Grounds at 8200 Lott Cary Road in Charles City May 6 and 7 for their fourth annual joint spring Powwow/Gathering.

Members will give honor to their past and look to their future, as they recognize their historic impact on Jamestown 1607 and the planned Jamestown 2007 celebrations.

Grounds open at 10 a.m. both days. The Saturday grand entry will be at noon; the Sunday grand entry will be 1 p.m. Native American dancers, drummers, singers and cultural demonstrations will be featured.

The Powwow/Gathering is open to the public. Gate admission is $5 for adults, and $3 for children ages 6 and under and senior citizens.

Proceeds will support the Virginia Indian Tribal Alliance for Life. VITAL is an organization of members of the Chickahominy, Eastern Chickahominy, Monacan, Nansemond, and Upper Mattaponi Indian Nations.

For directions to the Chickahominy Tribal Grounds, visit www.vitalva.org.

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AND MORE...
Call 438-4450 for Reservations

Mrs. William Robert Prince Barber Jr.

Barber-Kent vows exchanged

Tiffany Kaye Kent and William Robert Prince Barber Jr. were married March 11, 2006, at Sharon Baptist Church in King William. The service was officiated by pastors Robert Byrd Dawson and Ernest L. Johnson Jr.

The bride is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Gilbert Kent Jr. of Farnham, Joyce Barber and Kenneth Barber, both of Richmond. She is the granddaughter of the late Mr. and Mrs. Gilbert Kent Sr.

The groom is the son of Mr. and Mrs. William R. P. Barber Sr. of King William. The grandparents of the groom are the late Mr. and Mrs. J. Robert Campbell and Mr. and Mrs. H. Ray Barber.

The bride's father, Gilbert Kent Jr., gave her in marriage.

The matron of honor was Tina Turek of King Ferry, N.Y. The maid of honor was Angela Cain of Richmond. The bridesmaids were Melissa Barber of Fork Union, the groom's sister, and Christy Kellum and Michelle Bell, both of Aylett.

The best man was William Barber Sr., father of the groom. The groomsmen were Matthew Barber of Fork Union, brother of the groom, Robbie Pitts and Darrell Kellum, both of Aylett, and Ryan Kent of White Stone, brother of the bride. Ushers were Kevin Johnson, cousin of the groom, and Charles Martin, both of King William.

Children blowing bubbles led the bride into the ceremony. The children were James Michael Bryant and Braiden Kent, nephews of the bride, Coleman Scruggs, Macie Scruggs, Mattie Wilkins, Kyleigh Bell, Kinley Kellum, Paige Adams and Channing Pitts.

During the ceremony there was a reading by Lauren E. Kent, sister of the bride. Lin and Dawn Smith sang "When God Made You."

Following the service, a reception was held at Pebble Creek Clubhouse.

The couple honeymooned in Jamaica and then returned to their home in Aylett.

Basket bingo to be played on Sunday

Bingo players will compete for Longeberger baskets Sunday, April 2, at the Upper Lancaster Ruritan Center in Lively. Games will begin at 2 p.m., and will continue until all prizes have been won.

The event is sponsored by the Lancaster Band Boosters. Proceeds will benefit the Lancaster High School Red Devils Marching Band.

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

For tickets, call Kelly Oliver at 462-0849.

Alice Oliver of Bertrand displays a basket she won at last year's Longeberger basket bingo.

Dr. Bryan to compare two Civil War generals

Dr. Charles F. Bryan Jr. will speak Sunday, April 2, at The Northumberland County Historical Society headquarters in Heathsville.

At 2:30 p.m. he will present "Choosing the Harder Right, Robert E. Lee and George H. Thomas," a tale of two Virginia generals whose early lives were similar, but diverged dramatically as a consequence of the Civil War.

The story of Robert E. Lee, the Confederacy's most successful military commander, is familiar to many Virginians. Less familiar is the story of George H. Thomas. Like Lee, Thomas was born into a slave-owning family, graduated from West Point and enjoyed a successful military career. But unlike Lee, he cast his lot with the Union in 1861.

Bryan will describe how the decisions the men made were to have consequences for the remainder of their lives.

Bryan is president and chief executive officer of Virginia Historical Society in Richmond. A graduate of the Virginia Military Institute, he has a master's in history from the University of Georgia and a doctorate in history from the University of Tennessee. He writes and lectures on Southern history, especially on the Civil War.

Admission is free. Guests are welcome. The presentation will be followed by a social hour.

Charles F. Bryan Jr.

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Local News

Mrs. Betty Covington of Rappahannock Westminster-Canterbury was the honored guest last Thursday when her sister, Mrs. Frances Hurst, and Larry and Irene Burian entertained her for dinner at the Williamsburg Inn. En route home they stopped for homemade ice cream. Mrs. Covington is a chipper 94 years old. Mr. and Mrs. Carroll Hurst of Richmond were here on Sunday to celebrate her birthday.

Mrs. Tom Fletcher is home after undergoing hip replacement surgery in Fairfax Hospital. Mr. and Mrs. Fletcher were with their son, Dr. Wade Fletcher, in Alexandria while in northern Virginia for the surgery.

Eunice Thrift and Tom Northern visited relatives in New Market recently and called on longtime friends from Wicomico High School days, Ann and Graham Packett in Harrisonburg.

Mrs. Agnes Lee enjoyed having her son, James Lee of New Market, with her weekend before last and again last Thursday and Friday.

Mr. and Mrs. Peter Braatz of Indian Creek have returned from a cruise to the Southern Caribbean. While on board, they shared luncheon one day with Mrs. Ellen Brent Dize Boone of Morehead City, N.C., formerly of Kilmarnock.

Miss Gretchen Urban, a junior, and Miss Kelle Urban, a freshman, have returned to Radford University after spending spring break with their parents, Capt. and Mrs. George Urban III.

Ms. Parke Covarrubias of Castle Rock, Colo., has returned home after visiting her mother, Mrs. Effie Baskerville, at Rappahannock Westminster-Canterbury for a week. Steve Baskerville of Norfolk visited his mother and sister several days last week.

Mr. and Mrs. John Reynolds Ingram have returned to their home here after spending several months in New Smyrna Beach, Fla. En route home they visited his brother and sister-in-law, Mr. and Mrs. Ralph Ingram, in Durham, N.C.

Engagements

Leigh Anna Wood

Wood-Grayberg

Mr. and Mrs. Roy Garrison Wood of Chester announce the engagement of their daughter, Leigh Anna of Richmond, to Adam Stephen Grayberg of Richmond, son of Mr. and Mrs. Stephen Howard Grayberg of Pompton Lakes, N.J.

The bride-to-be is the granddaughter of Mrs. Glenn Christopher Withers and the late Irving Armistead Withers of Callao, and the late Mr. and Mrs. Daniel Perston Wood of Highland Beach, Fla.

The prospective groom is the grandson of M. Cass Lightner and the late Hazel Lightner of Boonton Township, N.J., and Shirley Grayberg and the late Robert Grayberg of Phoenix, Ariz.

Miss Wood, a graduate of Randolph-Macon College, is an elementary teacher with Hanover County Schools. Grayberg graduated from Randolph-Macon College and is employed with Kozak Beverages Inc.

A July wedding is planned.

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.

Miss Burruss is a 2000 graduate of Northumberland High School.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
editor@rrecord.com

Family Fun Day set for April 8

April is Child Abuse Prevention Month. It is a time of spring and regeneration. The school year is coming to a close and many families are beginning to visit the Northern Neck on the weekends in preparation for the upcoming summer.

The Northumberland Public Library, the YMCA, Healthy Beginnings, Northern Neck Head Start, The Haven Shelter and Services Inc., and Virginia Cooperative Extension, will host Family Fun Day at the Northumberland Public Library in Heathsville from 1 to 5 p.m. April 8. There will be games for children, a puppet show, music and dancers, face painting and other activities and displays for the entire family.

For more information, call 333-4999 or 1-866-293-4999.

Genealogy society to celebrate quilts

The Middle Peninsula African-American Genealogical and Historical Society of Virginia will meet on April 8 at 11 a.m. at the Essex County Public Library at 117 North Church Lane in Tappahannock.

Fabric artist and quilter Janice Williams will give an illustrated talk, "The Line that Leads to You: Fun with Family in Fabric."

She will speak about using fabric to visually celebrate family and will display examples of her works in fabric. Persons attending the meeting are invited to bring their own family quilts, pillows and wall hangings to share with the group.

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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.

Just Gardens

Sixth annual tour features ideas for quick landscape transformations

Now in its sixth season, Just Gardens will offer visitors a glimpse of six new gardens, never before on tour. The tour takes place rain or shine, May 12 and 13.

Tickets are $12 in advance or $15 on tour days and are available at Greenpoint Nursery on Main Street in Kilmarnock, Kemper Nursery on Route 3 in Farnham, Mary Young's Herbs on Cople Highway in Hague, The Dandelion on Irvington Road in Irvington, Colonial Collectibles on Route 3 in Warsaw or Wildest Dreams on Route 200 in Burgess. Advance tickets may also be purchased by sending a SASE (legal size) with a check payable to The Haven, P.O. Box 429, Irvington, VA 22480.

In Riverwood, the LaPrade garden, just a year old this spring, is a must-see for newcomers to the area. It shows what can be grown in a year's time and showcases many examples of different garden styles.

The LaPrade Garden

Suzanne and Carter started with a blank slate three years ago when the lot had first been cleared for construction. The only area that could be planted that would not be disturbed by construction equipment was an area close to the river bank. Even that was tricky due to dock paths that would eventually be put in place. With an eye to erosion prevention, Suzanne filled the riverbank area with viburnums, hollies and grasses. Existing mountain laurel added yet another dimension to this area.

Along a property line that borders a deep gully, an assortment of camellias, hollies, hydrangeas, crape myrtle, and native plants fill a wide swath that eventually leads to an upper parking area for the house.

Because of the slope of the land and the way in which the house had to be sited to deal with runoff, the LaPrades were able to incorporate a very effective terraced garden at the front of their shingle-style home. Juniper cascades from an upper terraced level. A variety of plant material has been used in each level to create interest and color throughout three seasons.

An enclosed lap pool is now home to Suzanne's collection of easy-care roses. A well-versed rose grower, and winner of many blue ribbons in The Garden Club of Virginia's annual rose show, Suzanne originally planted 30 plus rose bushes along the edge of the driveway. After a long weekend in New England last summer, the LaPrades arrived home to discover all 30 bushes had been eaten to the ground by deer. The naturally pruned bushes were moved to the pool area and deer-proof shrubs planted in their place.

"It's been a lot of trial and error this first year," said Suzanne. "Our plant morgue continues to grow as we continue to learn and experiment. It was a horrible first year in terms of weather. We were doing fine until July when it stopped raining. Now it's just a wait and see what comes back this spring."

An herb garden just off the kitchen makes snipping easy and trouble-free. Additional David Austen roses and old garden roses are planted in this area as well. "I love growing roses that don't require a lot of spraying and aren't naturally prone to black spot and disease," said Suzanne.

Over 1,000 daffodil bulbs planted along the drive edge and into the tree line signal spring with a big splash of color from mid-March to mid-April. A grassy area over the septic field is the only area that requires mowing. With "low maintenance" as their mantra, the LaPrades mulch most other areas of the property.

Further along Devil's Bottom Road, the entrance to Laurel Point is marked with a fence and sign. The Wrick garden, within this subdivision of 40 homes is one of three that will be open in Laurel Point for the tour.

This garden flows naturally into its surroundings. Taking advantage of the abundance of native laurel, the Wricks worked with landscape designer Brian Selph, to develop a landscape plan that incorporated walkways and flower beds into the natural areas of the property. The house, a variation of a low-country design, is sited facing a creek off the Corrotoman River. Both the house and the garage, which is connected via a small breezeway, are landscaped at the foundation with a variety of juniper, gardenia forsythia and English boxwood.

Garden beds have been carved out of grassy areas in the front yard.

"Brian added a sprinkler system in the front flower beds and a modified sprinkler system in the back beds. It's really helped during these years of drought," said Diane Wrick.

Budleia, crape myrtle, ornamental grasses, irises and daylilies share space in the beds at the front of the house.

"Trying to find 'deer-proof' plants has been challenging," Diane went on to comment. "A product called Liquid Fence and clear fishing line have helped somewhat, although plants I've found through trial and error seem to be the best solution."

An arbor covered in mandevilla and Carolina jasmine attracts birds and butterflies throughout the growing season and creates a focal point in the front garden area. Lilacs, roses, and an assortment of colorful annuals make this area not only colorful but fragrant as well.

The Wrick Garden

Hanging baskets overflowing with mandavilla and morning glories fill the back deck and create an oasis for wildlife in this more secluded area of the property.

"It's a very peaceful spot in the morning, looking down at the river and watching the birds flock to my plants and feeders," said Diane.

Hosta, rhododendron, acuba and hydrangea edge the deck and add to the tranquility of this space. Looking down to the river, a long stairway leading to a boat landing has been cut through the lush understory of laurel, native hollies and oaks. The stairway looks as though it has been dropped in place without any disturbance of shoreline or embankment.

Tour proceeds benefit The Haven Shelter and Services. For more information, call 435-1271.

Murphy says land conservancy is making significant difference

The Northern Neck Land Conservancy annual meeting was held March 15 at the King Conservation and Visitors Center at Menokin.

The Honorable W. Tayloe Murphy Jr., former Secretary of Natural Resources and District 99 delegate, was the featured speaker.

Murphy outlined some of the successes achieved by Virginia in conservation issues and also warned his audience of threats to future progress.

While Virginia mandates protection of the environment in its constitution, the legislature has never demonstrated great commitment to the concept, Murphy claimed.

However, with the passing of the bond issues in 2002, Virginia reaffirmed its commitment to providing open spaces and protecting the Commonwealth's great natural beauty. The Virginia Land Conservation Foundation makes provision for the funding of easements and acquisitions and the development of an easement program has allowed for the most productive use of public funds in this area, he said.

Murphy is hopeful that the Commonwealth will continue to fund conservation projects with more financial commitment. Non-profit groups such as the Northern Neck Land Conservancy are making a significant difference in the conservation of lands within the five-county area of King George, Westmoreland, Richmond, Northumberland and Lancaster, he said.

Menokin Foundation executive director Sarah Dillard Pope presented a brief history of the property and described a recent conservation easement. The purchase of a conservation easement by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service has allowed the foundation to establish a $1.3 million endowment which will cover operating costs and support further historic preservation and natural resource conservation.

Conservancy president Mary Louisa Pollard gave a summary of achievements over the past year. The organization has applied for several grants, including a successful submission to the Chesapeake Bay Restoration Fund. Conservancy representatives have met with local government officials to discuss land preservation agreements in the context of local comprehensive plans.

W. Tayloe Murphy Jr.

The conservancy also is seeking to assist in the preservation of Shiloh School, where Jessie Ball duPont once taught.

A strategic mapping program has been undertaken by part-time consultant Philip Reed. Examples of the maps were posted around the meeting room. Pollard said the Northern Neck is one of few places in the U.S. where those looking into the night sky can see the Milk Way.

Activities for 2006 include "Farm Country Gatherings" throughout the region, to bring together local landowners interested in learning more about the conservation easement process. Two seminars will be held for landowners and members of the legal and accounting professions to offer in-depth education on easement issues.

Pollard announced the annual "Boots and Barbeque" festival will be held September 10 at Juggs Farm on Sabine Hall Plantation.

Lancashire Lines

by Joan M. Foster

Spring officially arrived last Monday with unseasonably chilly temperatures; however, folks were warm inside just thinking about the delightful days to come now that they have said "goodbye" to winter. Residents reviewed the news and expressed some of their views about world events. Residents' Council had a large turnout and planned some fun upcoming events. Thanks to Sue Anne Bangel and "Little Girl" for coming in for pet therapy.

Tuesday morning's "Phrase Challenge" brought out the best in folks as they called out letters of the alphabet and identified the mystery phrases which all focused upon inspiring quotes. One favorite quote was, "We do not stop playing because we grow old; we grow old because we stop playing." Sandra Barnes won first place in this "mind-working" game. Ada King won the most bingo games in the afternoon.

Residents were blessed with Bible study on Wednesday and were most appreciative of the personal prayer times held with the leader. In the afternoon, Melvin Bromley demonstrated how to pitch horseshoes to win. Christabell Waddy placed second and Mildred Carter won third.

Special thanks to Rev. Jackson Blackstone for his wonderful piano and vocal concert Thursday. Bessie Wiggins won the most afternoon bingo games.

Hymn sing was joyful on Friday. Banana pudding was the hit of "Creative Chefs." Thanks to Miss Emma for putting her "special touch" on this yummy treat.

We thank City Worship Center of Kilmarnock for hosting a terrific Bible study Saturday.

Kilmarnock Baptist Church led a Sunday afternoon worship service and we thank them for serving us in this fine way.

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Exhibit highlights 'Virginia's Diplomats'

In the history of U.S. foreign policy, many Virginians have represented American interests overseas. "Virginia's Diplomats," on exhibit at the Virginia Historical Society in Richmond, explores the careers of 31 of them.

Included are Thomas Jefferson, James Madison, James Monroe, John Marshall, John Young Mason, Thomas Nelson Page, Alexander W. Weddell, Edward R. Stettinius, Walter S. Robertson and David K.E. Bruce. Objects and letters from the Virginia Historical Society, and loans from Monticello, the James Monroe Museum and Memorial Library, the College of William and Mary, the National Portrait Gallery, the Department of State and other institutions, will illustrate the changing role played by Virginia's diplomats in world politics and commerce. Also included are gifts to ambassadors from foreign governments and objects collected abroad by the diplomats.

The exhibit chronologically highlights significant events throughout American history while examining the impact of diplomacy—especially that which involved Virginians—on world history. Expansion for young America was limited beyond the Mississippi River by Spain and France. A desire to control the Mississippi and thus trade in the Gulf of Mexico led some to advocate the purchase or conquest of New Orleans. But in the end, New Orleans—and indeed all of the Louisiana Territory—was purchased with the help of Virginian James Monroe, who was sent to France by Thomas Jefferson to negotiate with Napoleon.

An early diplomatic move by the new United States included recognition of newly independent Latin American countries. This was done to secure free trade as those countries broke free from the Spanish empire.

Virginian president James Monroe left his diplomatic mark—and his name—on the world with the Monroe Doctrine. This message essentially informed the powers of the Old World that the American continents were no longer open to European colonization and that any effort to extend European political influence into the New World would be considered by the U.S. as "dangerous to our peace and safety." This was important as the first—though certainly not the last—assertion that the United States would supervise not only its own foreign policy, but also hemispheric relations. This court suit and ceremonial rapier worn by Monroe as minister to France are among the featured objects on display.

Later, the concept of Manifest Destiny would lead America to annex a newly independent Texas and to instigate a war with Mexico. Virginian Nicholas Trist negotiated the treaty of Guadalupe-Hidalgo in 1848 to end that war and secure the newly conquered territories. Its provisions called for Mexico to cede 55 percent of its territory (Arizona, California, New Mexico and parts of Colorado, Nevada and Utah) in exchange for $15 million in compensation for war-related damage to Mexican property. "Virginia's Diplomats" features the pen set used to sign this treaty.

During World War I, Germany's offer to help Mexico re-take the American southwest was an important factor that persuaded Congress and Virginia-born president Woodrow Wilson to join the war on the side of the Allies.

During America's Civil War, it was important for the Union to keep foreign countries, especially Britain and France, from recognizing or giving aid to the Confederate States of America. Union troops boarded the British vessel Trent in order to detain two Confederate agents—including Virginian James M. Mason. That occurrence almost led the Union into a simultaneous war with Britain, an event that would have significantly changed the course of American history.

Other events, such as the Spanish-American War and subsequent acquisition of Puerto Rico and the Philippines, both world wars, the Cold War, and the War on Terror find many Virginians at the forefront of global politics. The exhibit examines these political figures and their roles in shaping world history.

Related educational programming includes a gallery walk on June 7, a Banner Lecture May 23, and a three-lecture subscription series at Virginia House cosponsored by the World Affairs Council of Richmond.

This exhibit was made possible with funding from the Lettie Pate Whitehead Evans Changing Exhibition Fund and the Walter S. Robertson Exhibition Fund. "Virginia's Diplomats" will be on display in the Olsson Family Gallery through July 30.

For directions, hours and admission information, call 358-4901, or visit www.vahistorical.org.

Olson leads discussion on gardening styles

The featured speaker at the March meeting of the Rappahannock Garden Club was Anne Olson. She presented a slide program on different approaches to garden styles that she has learned in her travels.

Olson, a Master Gardner, is co-founder of the "Just Gardens Tour" and a 2004 winner of the Garden Club of Virginia Horticulture Award of Merit.

Design awards included Nancy Collings, blue; Mary Loftus red; and Catherine Bennett, red.

Horticulture awards included Ann Hecht, blue; Claudie Holmes, 4 blue; Ann Hopkins, red; Mary Loftus, 2 red; Sharon Rowe, 6 blue, 5 red, 2 yellow; and JoAnn Smith, 3 blue.

Food Gardens awards included Claudia Holmes, blue; Sharon Rowe, 2 blue, 2 red; and JoAnn Smith, blue.

The April meeting will be a joint meeting with the Kilmarnock Garden Club on April 13 at White Stone United Methodist Church. Horticulture and design entries must be in place by 11:45 a.m. The program will be "Re-blooming Iris" given by P. Michael Lockatell.

Plans are being made for a standard flower show in June.

Anne Olson

Former Gov. Linwood Holton (standing) addressed the Northern Neck Rotary Club on March 22 at its regular meeting.

Gov. Holton speaks to Rotary

Linwood Holton, governor of Virginia from 1970 to 1974, recently addressed the Northern Neck Rotary Club.

He shared a bit of his political history, which parallels that of the Commonwealth and Republican party.

After serving as a submariner in the latter days of World War II, Gov. Holton returned to Virginia and established a law office in Roanoke. According to Gov. Holton, the area was one of diversity with free thinking which was not the norm of the times in the Commonwealth.

He noted that Bill Tuck was elected governor in 1945 with only 6 percent of the registered voters casting ballot. He set out to change the political environment and participation as best he could. Gov. Holton told the club that he was proud for his part in breaking the Harry Byrd political machine which ran politics in Virginia at the time.

In 1964, his opportunity came to fulfill his childhood dream, explained Gov. Holton. A childhood friend said that Gov. Holton was given an opportunity he had been campaigning for since he was in the fourth grade. After the ultra conservative failure with Barry Goldwater, a vacuum was created in a broken party according to Holton.

No one would accept the nomination against Gov. Mills Godwin, a shoo-in, Holton said

He was "thrown into the briar patch" and set out with $65,000, a car and driver to seek the governorship. His hope was to get between 35 and 40 percent of the popular vote and the name recognition that would come with it and win him the job four years hence.

Gov. Holton tells of going into a Cape Charles Drug Store and seeing only one

gentleman. So he walked up and introduced himself and said "I am running for governor." The gentleman said "I know and I am going to vote for you."

"Well could you tell me why?" asked Gov. Holton.

"Because I sell goods to drug stores across the state and you have shaken my hand in four cities so far, so I figure I should vote for you," the man replied.

He shared other episodes in his career and concluded his remarks by saying that he was most proud of being able to make Virginia more accepting and giving more equal opportunities to everyone. He hopes to see that legacy continue to grow in this era also, said Gov. Holton.

Daffodil show will bloom in Fredericksburg April 5-6

The Rappahannock Valley Garden Club welcomes guests to the 72nd annual Garden Club of Virginia Daffodil Show, the Middle Atlantic Show of the American Daffodil Society.

The show will be held April 5 and 6 at the Jepson Alumni Executive Center of the University of Mary Washington at 1119 Hanover Street in Fredericksburg. On April 5, the show is open to the public from 2 to 8 p.m. April 6 hours are 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Donations will be accepted.

The show theme is "On the Banks of the Rappahannock: Women of Fredericksburg." The Interclub Class will spotlight Mary Washington with a late colonial-style arrangement, Elizabeth Monroe with a federal arrangement, Clara Barton with an early Victorian arrangement and Corinne Melchers with a Dutch/Flemish arrangement. In the horticultural classifications, exhibitors will bring specimens of daffodils for judging.

Show parking will be available on Hanover Street and in the Fredericksburg City parking garage.

Belmont will be open and will host a special event April 5 beginning at 11 a.m. The tours, by reservations, will be followed by a box lunch and presentation by museum grounds preservation supervisor Beate Jensen. To make reservations, contact Betsy Labar at 540-654-1848, or blabar@UMW.edu.

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JEWELRY FACTS

BY ROSS CHRISTIANSEN

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32-3-4 fertilizer. Slow release nitrogen for controlled feeding.
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Speed Zone
20 ounces. Broadens the spectrum of control for broadleaf weed control in ornamental turf, golf courses and lawns
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High volume 100 pound capacity hopper. Height adjustable handle. Super duty gearbox with 2 year warranty 13" x 4" pneumatic tires
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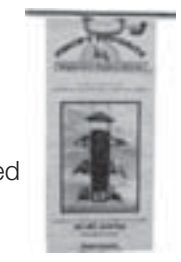
$9.99
Molemax Granular
10 pounds. Repel moles, voles, gophers, rabbit, armadillos and skunks in lawns
(102-04583)



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Nyjer Thistle Seed
20 pounds. A premium, gourmet seed to attract finches.
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Displaying the Rappahannock Record awards from left are Lisa Hinton-Valdrighi, editor Robert Mason Jr. and Reid Pierce Armstrong.

Record staff wins awards

The Rappahannock Record news staff received several awards last weekend during the annual Virginia Press Association News Conference in Roanoke. The awards recognized news, photography and design efforts during 2005 among weekly newspapers throughout the state with similar circulation.

The annual Vintage Years section, which in 2005 featured memories of White Stone Beach, won a second-place award. Jointly produced by the Record staff and the staff of the Southside Sentinel in Urbanna, the issue was described by judges as a "wonderful flashback section."

The contest was judged by members of the Oregon Press Association.

Record reporter Lisa Hinton-Valdrighi won second in the home, leisure and entertainment writing category for a trio of submissions. They included an interview with Santa Claus, a report on the auto collection of Buddy Brill and the restoration of a Reedville Victorian home by the Biddlecomb family. Judges described the entry as "very nice work" and noted that "this writer isn't afraid to experiment with different forms" of reporting.

Hinton-Valdrighi won third in the sports news category for her report on the new YMCA facilities in Kilmarnock and third for a sports news photo of a near collision under the basket during a basketball game at Lancaster High School.

Reporter Reid Pierce-Armstrong won first in health, science and environmental writing for her stories on a vineyard erosion problem, an oyster seeding program on the Great Wicomico and the State Health Department condemnation of oyster grounds on area creeks. Judges said the entry "brought complicated issues to a level of understandability for the readers."

Pierce-Armstrong took second in the feature photo category for her shot of two youngsters diving off a boat into the Potomac River; the judges liked "all that gangling splay of arms and legs headed straight for the splash to be." She won third in the combination picture and story category for her report on the Schooner Virginia's visit to Reedville.

Reporter Robb Hoff won second in the business and financial writing category for his reports on The Tartan Golf Course ownership change, big box store concerns in Kilmarnock and the tours by plane offered at Hummel Field.

Julie Burwood of the Southside Sentinel staff won a first-place award in the page design category. Her entry included covers she produced for the Vintage Years, Windows on the Bay and The Perfect Gift, all joint Record/Sentinel special sections.

The weekend conference at the Hotel Roanoke featured seminars and workshops for editors and writers. During the annual Virginia Press Association business meeting on Saturday, Fred Gaskins of Urbanna, publisher of the Sentinel and Record, was elected to serve as president of the group for the term beginning in July 2006.

Noffsinger to lead watercolor workshop

Kathleen Noffsinger of Deltaville will teach a watercolor workshop, "Watercolor Seascapes," on Tuesday and Wednesday, April 11 and 12, from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the Rappahannock Art League Studio Gallery in Kilmarnock.

Noffsinger has spent many hours with her husband on the Rappahannock River and the Chesapeake Bay, and her paintings reflect this.

"I am fascinated by the life that is both above and below the water's surface and the play of light and color on that life," said Noffsinger. "I love to zoom in on every aspect of nature, capturing special moments in 'close ups' that force me to use my creativity to make a painting rather than just copy what I am seeing."

She constantly keeps her "artist" eye open for painting ideas. "My husband, Tom, found the lost buoys that washed ashore and hung them on the side of our tool shed near an old oar," said Noffsinger. "I decided to sketch and paint it when I saw the sunlight hitting the buoys late one afternoon and making the most wonderful shadows."

Noffsinger graduated from the University of Maryland with a degree in elementary education, choosing classes in art and design for electives. She has painted solely in watercolor since 1991, studying over the years with several internationally known artists.

Noffsinger is a member of the National Watercolor Society, Virginia Watercolor Society (Signature Artist Member), Mathews Art Group, Rappahannock Art League, Middlesex Art Guild and the National League of American Pen Women. She exhibits her work in juried shows on the East Coast.

The artist's limited edition prints can be found at many fine art galleries.

To register for the class, call the gallery.

Antique dealers and shoppers gather on the lawn at historic Epping Forest Plantation during last year's popular Antiques Fair.

Third annual Antiques Fair preparations are under way

Antiques dealers from all over will be returning for the third annual Northern Neck Antiques Fair Memorial Day Weekend May 27 and 28.

"Last year's show was such a success, almost all the dealers are returning for a repeat performance." said event promoter Louise Jesse. "Any time you get this great response from the dealers, who hail as far away as Mississippi, New York, or Tennessee, you've usually got a winner."

Over 1,300 antiques enthusiasts attended last year's show and raved about the quality of the dealers and the great selection of merchandise.

Sponsored by Lancaster County Historic Resources Commission, the event will take place on the lawn at Epping Forest Plantation, birthplace of Mary Ball, George Washington's mother. Hours of the show are 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Saturday and 11 a.m to 4 p.m. Sunday. Please No Pets.

Admission to the show is $5, however look for the show cards at various business sites and ads in the papers for a $1 off the admission or clip this article and show it the day of the show for the $1 discount. Parking is free. Food and beverages will be available.

The Antiquer's Cafe and Food Court will be located in front of the plantation house. Providing food and favorite beverages for those hungry shoppers will be The Corrotoman Hunt Club.

For more information, please call Louise Jesse at 804-462-7960, or email at eppingforest@rivnet.net.

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Irvington shop pursues knitted bear project

The Bay Window in Irvington recently was taken over by bears.

Friends and knitters have contributed their time, materials and generosity to the "Bay Bears to Jamaica" project.

Co-owners Mary Ragland and Candy Terry with employee Nancy Drake last week packed as many of the more than 100 bears that would fit into two large suitcases.

Ragland will accompany the bears to Jamaica where she and her son, Will, a Peace Corps volunteer, will give them to orphaned children at a Mustard Seed Community. Mustard Seed Communities are set up in inner cities for abandoned children with AIDS or multiple disabilities.

The original bear project was started in the 1980s by a volunteer in Africa working with abused children, they explained. The pattern dates back to World War II and uses scraps of yarn to create one-of-a-kind bears. Since then, bear projects have spread to give comfort to children all over the world.

When Terry, Ragland and Drake learned of the project, they wanted to contribute. Terry thought of Will Ragland, his two years of working with children in Jamaica and Ragland's upcoming trip to work with her son. Since there are thousands of orphans in Jamaica, who have nothing to call their own, Will Ragland chose the Mustard Seed Community and a goal of 50 bears was set.

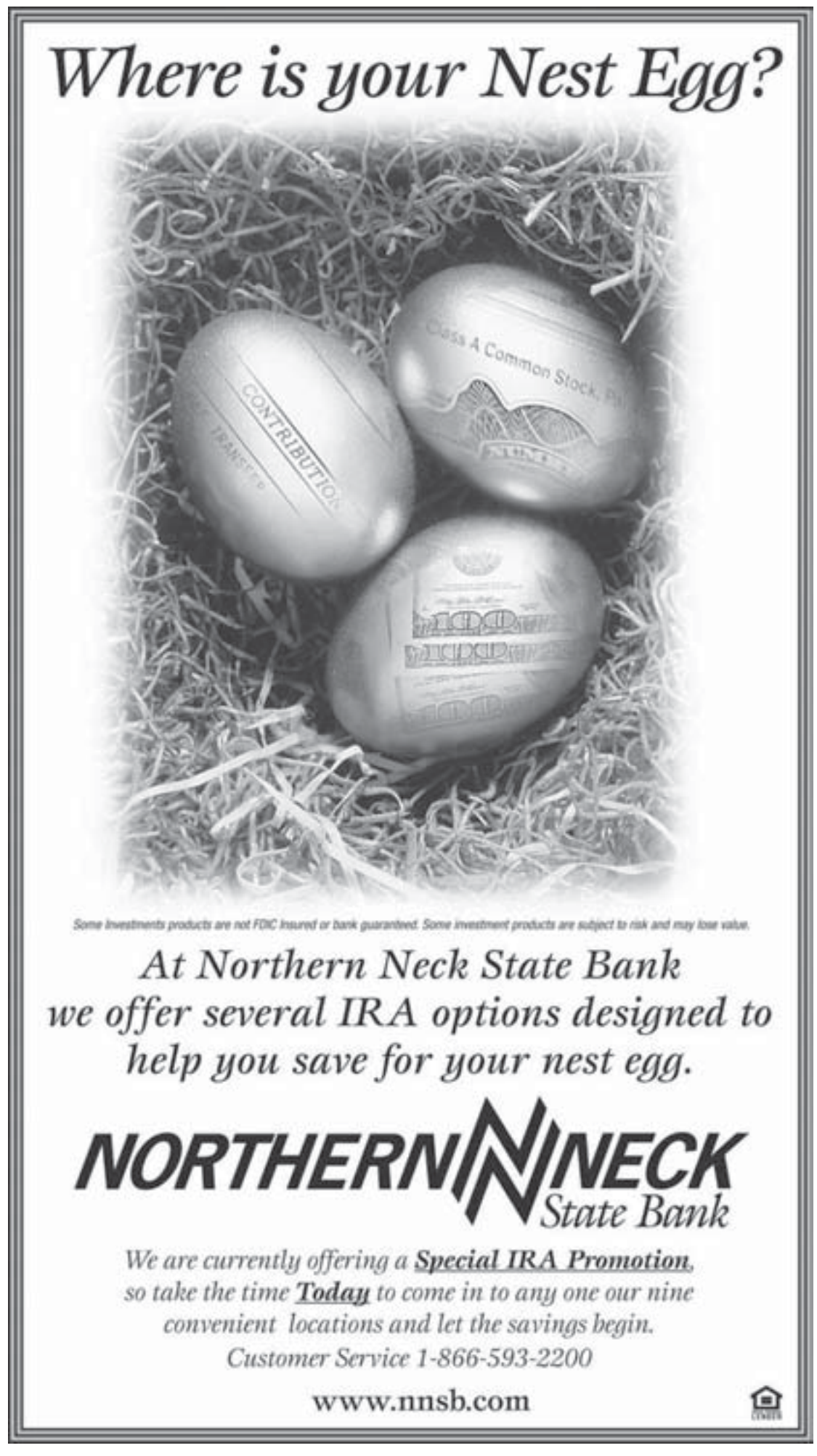
From left, Nancy Drake, Mary Ragland and Candy Terry pack bears.

With customers and friends knitting, donating yarn, stuffing and helping each other, they edged closer to their goal.

About six weeks ago, yarn representative Phyllis Schaeffer noticed a display of bears in the front window. When she heard of the project, she began her first bear. She also posted the "Bay Bears to Jamaica" on her Blog (www.phyltypepad.com).

As a result of her help, bears began arriving at the shop, sometimes one a day, frequently more, from all over the country, with caring notes from the knitters. Each bear has his/her own personality and will carry a bit of its knitter to a deserving child.

The project will continue. Once a year more bears will be delivered to additional orphans in Jamaica. To see the Bay Bears, visit the shop or call 438-6636.



Radio stations change ownership

Danny Wadsworth, owner of WRAR-FM in Tappahannock, and Lin Wadsworth, owner of WNNT-FM in Warsaw, recently agreed to sell their stations pending FCC approval to Real Media Inc., a newly formed local company.

The owners of Real Media have names familiar to many radio listeners—Rich Morgan, Terry Brooks, Jon Stallard and Tom Davis. Morgan, Stallard and Davis are on-air personalities. Brooks has been a broadcasting office administrator for more than 20 years.

The Wadsworth brothers said they wanted to insure the stations would continue to be locally owned and operated.

"Rich Morgan has been with me for over 25 years," said Danny Wadsworth. "He and the others have worked very hard for the station and the community. They deserve the opportunity to be station owners."

"These people have experience in all aspects of radio from advertising sales to behind the microphone," said Lin Wadsworth. "They understand that successful radio stations must become part of the fabric of the community. That's what WNNT and WRAR have done in the past and will continue in the future. These stations are the source for area news, high school sports, and weather every morning."

"People turn to local radio in droves during emergencies such as Hurricane Isabel," said Danny Wadsworth. "Our generators ran continuously while we provided much needed information and reassurance during the stressful days that followed. And when it snows, everyone depends on us to announce school closings."

"We plan to continue with country music on 100.9 WNNT along with NASCAR and VA Tech football," said Morgan. "On 105.5 WRAR we'll keep contemporary hit music, along with ABC News every hour, Paul Harvey, Washington Redskins and UVA football and basketball. We are counting on the talented staff at each station to help us continue to bring quality radio to the area. After all, we think the stations belong to the people of the Northern Neck and Middle Peninsula more than they belong to anyone else."

Danny Wadsworth also announced ownership of WRAR-AM will be transferred to A.C.T.I.O.N. Inc., a non-profit corporation based in Tappahannock. Dr. Geoffrey Coleman serves as president, Clinton Adams is vice president and Ida O. Minter is secretary of the organization.

A.C.T.I.O.N. Inc. is associated with Tappahannock Seventh Day Adventist Church. AM-1000 is the only AM radio station in the area and will continue to provide a variety of spiritual and inspirational programming along with news and information.

Burke's to unveil new jewelry line

Karen Burke of Burke's Jewelers in Kilmarnock and Gloucester recently announced the unveiling of the Heritage Collection.

The collection, similar to the Rivah Remembrance Collection, will begin with the Heritage bracelet. Designs are in the works already for matching pendants and earrings. The Heritage bracelet will be offered in 14k gold and sterling.

The Heritage Collection was inspired by her love for the Commonwealth of Virginia and her pride in the place in which she lives, said Karen Burke.

The unveiling of the Heritage bracelet will be held at Burke's of Gloucester during the 2006 Daffodil Festival. Anyone who purchases a Heritage Bracelet during the unveiling will receive a certificate of authenticity as well as a daffodil charm designed by Karen.

Jewelers Fred and Karen Burke

Karen and Fred Burke are the second generation of Burkes at Burke's Jewelers, which opened its doors in Kilmarnock in 1969.

The Burkes opened the branch in Gloucester last September.

Farm Bureau launches production decision site

With farm income anticipated to be down nearly $15 billion in 2006 compared to 2005, the American Farm Bureau Federation has launched a new website to help farmers and ranchers make production decisions based on prevailing economic factors.

The Farm Bureau Production Decision Aid at http:/fbpda.fb.org features information related to crop and livestock production expenses as well as whole-farm planning, compiled by the AFBF economic analysis team. Updates will be posted throughout the year.

The website lists production information for cattle, cotton, dairy, feed grains, fruits and vegetables, hogs, peanuts, rice, soybeans and wheat. Commodity-specific information is available for various regions of the United States.

"Via the Production Decision Aid site, producers can link to the best farm management information available, including recent government and university reports and marketing specialist analysis," said AFBF cief economist Bob Young.

"As the site notes, marketing will be a key to producer income in 2006, as in most years. The lowest crop prices during 26 of the last 30 years occurred at harvest time," said Young.

Sue Ramsey

Ramsey displays in gallery window

Sue Ramsey's colorful floral paintings and landscapes are featured in a window of the Rappahannock Art League Gallery on Main Street in Kilmarnock.

Ramsey has always been interested in creative arts and has experimented with various art and craft media. She studied art in high school and took art classes in college while majoring in education.

After college, she taught school for a few years and then opened a gift and accessory shop which she ran for 20 years.

Ramsey and her husband are retired and live on the banks of the Rappahannock in Sharps in an 1889 waterman's house.

An active member of the Rappahannock Art League, Ramsey has studied watercolor with numerous local and nationally known artists. Flowers are one of her favorite things to paint. She is an enthusiastic gardener and award-winning flower arranger. She participates in Arts and Flowers at the Virginia Museum of Fine Arts.

Ramsey is an avid traveler and enjoys taking pictures on her trips. Memories and photos of the places she's visited provide inspiration for her watercolor landscapes.

Recently, Ramsey has been taking classes in sketching, figure drawing, and watercolor at the Visual Art Center in Richmond. Her paintings and greeting cards are regularly on display at the Studio Gallery.

Stocks of Local Interest

Quotes as of: Close on 3/27/06

TAT&T	27.31
Altria (Philip Morris)	72.05
BB & T Corp.	39.88
Bay Banks VA	14.35
CSX Corporation	59.62
Chesapeake Financial	*20.00
Chesapeake Corp	14.14
Davenport Equity Fund	14.29
Dominion Resources	70.60
Eastern VA Bank Shares	22.00
Exxon Mobil	61.29
IBM	83.08
Kraft Foods	30.70
Omega Protein	5.75
Sun Trust (Formerly Crestar)	74.86
Union Bankshares	46.43
Verizon	34.93
Wachovia Bank	56.70
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Business Briefs

■ Job Fair

The eighth Regional Job Fair on the Middle Peninsula will be held April 26 from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the Cooks Corner Office Complex on Route 33 in Middlesex County.

The registration fee will be $20 per organization. To participate, call Deborah Santrock or Sherry Pearson at 804-785-2470.

■ NARFE to meet

The National Active and Retired Federal Employees Association (NARFE) Northern Neck Chapter 1823, will meet Tuesday, April 4. Guest speaker Jackie Richards will discuss what information should be available to one's survivors and how to organize it.

The meeting begins at 2 p.m. at the Northern Neck Electric Cooperative Building in Warsaw.

■ Retired teachers

The Lancaster-Northumberland Retired Teachers will meet April 19 at the Bank of Lancaster northside branch. The meeting will begin at 10 a.m. Fellowship and coffee begin at 9:45 a.m.

Following a brief business meeting, Thomas Gale will address the issues loved ones need to know regarding educators' benefits.

■ April artist

Gib Pulley of Gwynn's Island is the Mathews Art Gallery "artist-of-the-month" for April. She has been painting since 1979. Largely self taught, she credits several local artists with shaping her vibrant style, including Grace Williams, William Martz and David Daniels.

■ Free legal advice

John R. Rellick of Rappahannock Legal Services in Tappahannock will be available at First Baptist Church at 3585 Courthouse Road in Heathsville, from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. April 6 and 20, May 4 and18th. He will meet with persons from Northumberland and Lancaster counties seeking free legal services.

It is preferred that applicants call in advance at 443-9393 or 1-800-572-3094 to determine eligibility for services and reserve an appointment time.

■ Drafting a plan

The Rappahannock Region Small Business Development Center will offer a Business Plan Workshop from 6:30 to 9 p.m. April 18 and 19 at Rappahannock Community College in Warsaw. Pre-registration is required. A $40 fee is due by April 14. To register, call 333-0286 or 800-524-8915.

The workshop will cover the development of a narrative and financial forecasting portions of a business plan.

■ Artist showcase

Belle Mount Vineyards near Warsaw will host a local artist showcase April 8 from noon to 5 p.m. Original artwork, jewelry, photography and limited edition prints will be featured. Admission will be $15 per person.

Joshua V. Howell

Howell joins realty firm

Ches-Bay Realty recently announced Joshua V. Howell of Gloucester has joined its sales staff.

Howell attended Ware Academy through the eighth grade before entering Christchurch School. He transferred to Mathews High School where he graduated in 1998.

While in high school, Howell did construction work in summer. His job experience includes new home construction and restorations. He also has worked in marine construction, and repairing and rebuilding docks and piers.

His experience in construction led to an appreciation of Middle Peninsula property and homes and piqued his interest in real estate.

He lives in Gloucester where he recently purchased his first home.

Flea market to reopen

The annual spring opening of the Lancaster Flea Market will be held Friday, Saturday and Sunday, March 31 and April 1 and 2.

Shop owners will donate door prizes. No purchase is necessary to win and there is no cost to enter.

Shops at the market include Amazing Thailand, Beat 'em & Cheat 'em, Book Shelf, Carl's Collection, Cast Iron Corner, Don's Dynamite Deals, Grandpa's Goodies, Kitchen Cabinet, Tool Box, and Toys in the Attic. All shops feature new merchandise.

The market also has a welcome center with free local maps. Area businesses and individuals are urged to display 8.5-by-11-inch posters, business cards or other information to advertise their goods and services.

Vendor space is available. Outdoor day merchants set up for free. The market is open Fridays from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m., Saturdays from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., and Sundays from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. Call 462-0373.

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Del. Wittman to meet friends on Saturday at Eagle Landing

Del. Rob Wittman will meet constituents Saturday, April 1, at the Eagle Landing Clubhouse to review actions by the legislature and to discuss water quality issues.

The clubhouse is at 299 Bald Eagle Drive in Lancaster. The meeting will begin at 10 a.m.

Del. Wittman serves on the House Agriculture, Chesapeake and Natural Resources, and the Transportation committees. He is involved in key questions facing state law makers in the areas of both transportation and water quality.

In his full-time work, Del. Wittman is field director of the Virginia Health Department's Shellfish Division. Solutions to improve water quality and boost seafood production in rivers and the Chesapeake Bay will be discussed.

▼ *School facilities. . . .*

(continued from page A1)

The boards also made a commitment to the project by agreeing to enter the second phase of negotiations with three companies. Round two will cost each company $25,000 in application fees to the county as well as a great deal of time and expense for the firms. The companies wanted assurance that the county is serious about the project before proceeding.

How the project will be financed remains to be seen. The proposals will all include financing options, but the county may decide to fund the project through alternative methods.

With a 12 percent annual inflation on commercial construction costs, Stables said the county cannot afford to put the project off any longer. He hopes to see construction begin in September.

Firemen's raffle prize

The grand raffle prize for the 71st annual Kilmarnock Firemen's Carnival is a 2006 Ford Focus. At left, carnival president Melvin Gordon receives the keys from Robbie Crowther. Carnival vice president Tom Jones is behind the wheel. Raffle tickets are $10. Tickets are available from Kilmarnock firemen and at Crowther Ford. 3,000 tickets will be sold. The carnival will be held July 27 to August 5. The drawing will be August 5.

▼ *School budget . . . .*

(continued from page A1)

Technology, Latimore noted, is primarily paid for by Series 5 funding and a small local match.

Latimore said the board has made some substantial cuts from earlier drafts of the budget. It already eliminated three requested instructional positions and two of four requested new school buses.

"This school board pared down the requests that came from the principals and department heads," Latimore said.

"If we gave our kids what we really want to," agreed board member Bill Smith, "a $1.4 million increase wouldn't come close to covering it."

"Nowhere does anyone get what they ask for in a budget," Larson reminded the board.

Larson also expressed his disappointment with the public's attendance at the hearing. He said if anyone comes to him complaining about their tax rates next year, he will ask, "Where were you tonight?"

"They should be here tonight and they should be here when the overall county budget is passed," he said.

Larson's comments so flustered the board that it adjourned the meeting without a vote approving the budget. McCann had to reopen the meeting to call for a vote. Smith had already departed and Carl Failmezger was absent.

With just enough members for a quorum, the board proceeded. Jayne "Lindy" Grigsby moved to approve the budget as presented. Board member Karen Doyle said she was hesitant to pass the budget.

"I feel like we have more work to do," she said.

"There is a very good possibility that it will be revised in the future," Latimore told her. "Passing it tonight does not mean this is the final budget."

"Approval tonight is just a formality because the budget has to be in the county administrator's office by March 30," he added.

"I do believe we need some revision," Doyle repeated, "but with that in mind I will go forward."

The board approved the budget 3-0.

The total request for county funds is $9,539,534 representing a $1,398,827 increase over the current fiscal year.

The total budget is projected at $14,067,159, which is an overall increase of $1,046,389.

▼ *Dwayne Veney . . . .*

(continued from page A1)

of my wheelchair and do simple things like how to get dressed. They wanted to make sure I could take care of myself."

Three months later, he was driving with the help of hand controls.

"In the beginning, I thought I would walk again. I didn't believe the doctor who told me I wasn't going to walk. So it wasn't for a year or two that it finally settled in."

A natural athlete, Veney chose to "do something" rather than spend his life controlled by his limited mobility.

A little more than a year after the shooting, he started working out at a gym in Newport News, where he lives with his wife, Irene.

"I thought, maybe if I go to a gym my body will come around."

There he met Mark Hartley, the president of Sun Wheelers Sports, an athletic program for the handicapped.

Veney joined its basketball team and travels the east coast playing a 30-plus game schedule for six months of the year.

The players occasionally take time to deliver inspirational messages to middle and high school students.

Veney and company stopped at Lancaster High School for such a message a month ago en route to a tournament in Baltimore.

"Just by me living every day and doing the things I do, people realize you can do what you want to do," he said.

Veney swims 20 laps three times a week, works out at the gym daily and rides his handcycle about 10 miles a week.

But every day and every activity is an exercise in overcoming pain, which is constant in both his legs. Physicians can't explain it. Right now, Veney's undergoing acupunture to try and relieve it.

"I'm still hoping that my body will come around. Doctors may say that I'm crazy to hold on to that possibility but I think anything is possible."

Veney grew up in Weems. The son of Melvin and Caroline Veney, he relies on the support of his parents, two brothers and friends. His wife, Irene, was there from the beginning. She was his friend when he didn't have any.

He drives to Kilmarnock daily from his home in Newport News to work at his family's heating and air conditioning business.

There's no indignation in his voice. No obvious animosity towards the man who put him in the wheelchair. If anyone, Veney blames himself.

"I'm angry at myself for being in the wrong place, for putting myself in a place I shouldn't have been," he said. "Lots of times in life things happen you can't control. People go through life and bad things happen, but you have to go on."

Optimism is evident in his wide smile.

"God has made my disability easy for me to deal with. I think God does things for a reason and he will still give me my ultimate blessing and let me walk again. Maybe not right now, but in the future."

Perhaps one day, Veney will have his happily-ever-after.

APVA Preservation Virginia to offer advocacy workshop in Charlottesville

APVA Preservation Virginia in partnership with the Virginia Department of Historic Resources and the National Trust for Historic Preservation will offer "Building Relationships, Building Success: Achieving Our Preservation Goals," a day-long workshop on preservation advocacy, April 7, at the office of the Virginia Foundation for the Humanities in Charlottesville.

Renee Viers, associate director of State and Local Policy, and Stacey Mahaney, program associate of Congressional Affairs, Public Policy for the National Trust for Historic Preservation will talk about the importance of advocacy as well as development of an advocacy campaign and leveraging medial exposure.

In addition, Genevieve P. Keller and Jennifer Hallock with the Thomas Jefferson Branch of APVA Preservation Virginia and Gina Haney with Preservation Piedmont will speak to local preservation advocacy efforts.

The workshop will be held from 9:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. The registration cost is $30 for members of APVA Preservation Virginia and the National Trust, $35 for others. Lunch is included in the registration fee.

Early registration is urged. Tuesday, April 4, is the registration deadline. To register, contact Terry Graham at 648-1889 ext. 314, or tgraham@apva.org.

This workshop is the third in a series to be offered statewide by APVA Preservation Virginia and the Virginia Department of Historic Resources. The next workshop is "Learning From a Landmark: Masonry and Woodwork Conservation at Menokin" on May 20 at Menokin near Warsaw and is co-sponsored by the Menokin Foundation and the Northern Neck Branch of the APVA.

Lectures to explore historical topics

The Banner Lecture Series continues at the Virginia Historical Society April 6 with "'A Votary to Love: George Washington's Relationship with Sally Cary Fairfax," presented by Dr. Peter R. Henriques.

On April 13, Dr. Peter S. Carmichael will present "Defending Virginia, the South, and the Union: Young Virginians During the Civil War Era."

Both lectures begin at noon at the Virginia Historical Society at 428 North Boulevard in Richmond. Call 358-4901 for directions and admission information.

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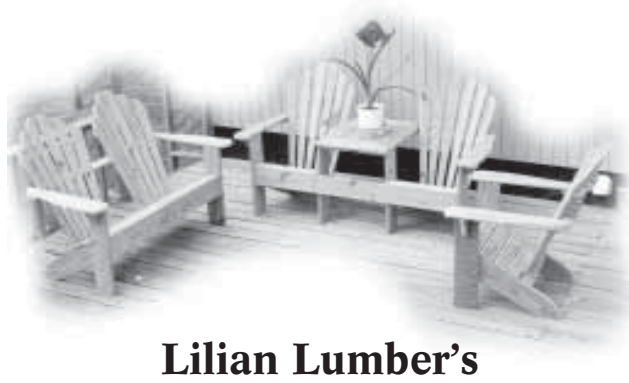

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Alternative Spring Break crew digs in at state parks

Eight students and two counselors from Franklin Pierce College in New Hampshire spent their spring break last week working at Belle Isle State Park.

The volunteers were housed at Westmoreland State Park in the Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC) camping cabins. Even with their busy schedule, the crew managed to accomplish a few rainy day projects there, in addition to the beautification and stabilization projects at Belle Isle.

Although they expected it to be warmer, the windy cold days did not dampen the spirits of the New England students. Equipped with picks, shovels and a lot of energy, they helped park staff plant some 200 shrubs and 70 trees.

A variety of native trees were planted including holly, willow oak, red cedar, red bud, dogwood and pin oak. Shrubs planted range from bayberry to winterberry and are all indigenous plants to enhance aesthetics and provide food for wildlife. The shrubs and trees were planted in fields and in proximity to a campground under construction at the park.

From left, Anne Power, Beth Pelletier, Courtney Breese, Mike Herman and Scott Ansevin-Allen prepare a site for tree planting.

The students said they didn't think twice about volunteering for this kind of "spring break."

Scott Ansevin-Allen, assistant dean of student involvement at Franklin Pierce, started the Alternative Spring Break program eight years ago.

"It gives students an opportunity to encounter a different type of spring break experience and helps to meet the community service requirements in order to obtain a degree from Franklin Pierce College," said Ansevin-Allen.

Virginia State Parks are always in need of volunteers to help with various projects and programs. To volunteer, call 443-0125.

Education initiatives to receive $14,000 from Historyland Community Workshop

LANCASTER—The Historyland Community Workshop members voted recently to distribute most of the proceeds from their November 2005 sale towards scholarships and educational programs.

Five scholarships of $1,000 each will be awarded to graduates of the class of 2006 from Lancaster High School. Additionally $5,000 is earmarked for follow-on scholarships for previous graduates.

The Lancaster Primary School will receive $1,000 for unbudgeted supplies and books for classroom libraries. The Lancaster Middle School will have $700 to supplement Media Center supplies of DVDs and support equipment.

Lancaster Community Library will receive $200; its Storymobile, $400; and the Children's Library, $100 for Summer Reading Program books.

The Northumberland Public Library will receive $200 for books, CDs or DVDs and its Children's Library, $100 for books for the Summer Reading Program.

The Mary Ball Washington Museum will receive $200 for being a good neighbor to Historyland. Look for Historyland craft items in their gift shop.

As many know, the primary aim of the workshop is to support education in early years and to reward needy graduating seniors wishing to continue their studies at the community college or university level, said publicity chairman Luci York.

The workshop can make these charitable donations with the continued patronage of loyal customers and the support from local merchants, said York.

Readers are reminded to set their clocks ahead one hour Sunday, April 2. Daylight Savings Time officially begins at 2 a.m.

April is Membership Month @ Lancaster Community Library.

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Jacob Taft, Kendall Barnhardt and Noah Lewis having fun on the Storymobile.

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