Rivah Museums & Exhibits

Essex

Essex County Museum and Historical Society, 218 Water Lane in Tappahannock, is surrounded by the town's historic buildings and is near the courthouse green and Ritchie House.

Continuing museum exhibits include prehistoric fossils, Native American and colonial artifacts, and items from the American Revolution, Bacon's Rebellion, the Civil War, and World Wars I & II. Steamboat travel on the Rappahannock River is detailed, along with other periods of interest.

Later this summer a new exhibit, "A Journey by Faith: History of Early Black Education in Essex County," will begin. Another exhibit, "A Family Political Dynasty" featuring the Garnett family, will be an ongoing display throughout the year.

The latest exhibit is "Epping Forest: Exploring an Essex Legacy." This highlights 10 generations of Rouzie and Baird families and their lives at Epping Forest including during the Civil War.

The museum gift shop offers books and other items of interest about Essex County and the Northern Neck and Middle Peninsula. Hours are Monday, Thursday, Friday, Saturday, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., and Sunday 1 to 3 p.m. Walking tours are available by reservation. 443-4690.

Gloucester

Gloucester Museum of History

The Gloucester Museum of History and Visitor's Center is in the Botetourt Building on Main Street (Route 17 Business) near the historic Courthouse Square.

The building, built about 1770, was New's Ordinary, a roadside tavern where travelers could get a meal and rent a room.

Permanent exhibits at the museum include Native American artifacts dating to 800 B.C., copies of a 1655 land gift from an Indian tribe, artifacts from the Old Free School House (ca. 1676), Civil War relics, and items from Hotel Botetourt, an Old Country Store and the Bank of Gloucester.

The museum is open Mondays–Fridays from 10 a.m.–3 p.m. and Saturdays from noon to 4 p.m. Call 693-1234 or 693-2659.

A volunteer from the Reedville Fishermen's Museum helps prepare the Claud W. Somers to set sail for the season. The museum offers tours of the local creeks on the restored skipjack every other Saturday during the summer.

Pocahontas Museum

The Pocahontas Museum at Gloucester Courthouse has information, artifacts and pictures relating to the Indian Pocahontas, Captain John Smith and the Powhatan Indians. On display is a rock traditionally known as the one on which Capt. John Smith's head was placed when Pocahontas saved his life at Werawocomoco (Wicomico) in Gloucester County.

The museum is open on the second Saturday of each month through October from 1–4 p.m. by appointment, phone 693-2795.

Virginia Institute of Marine Science

The visitor center for the Virginia Institute of Marine Science (VIMS) is open Monday–Friday from 9 a.m.–4:30 p.m. Visitors will find aquariums, audio-visual displays, and life-sized models to help them better understand and appreciate the marine ecosystems of the Chesapeake Bay. There is no charge for admission.

VIMS is on Rt. 1208, Greate Rd., at Gloucester Point. For directions and more information, call 684-7000 or visit the web site at vims.edu.

Lancaster

Carter Reception Center and Museum

A visit to the adjacent Carter Reception Center and Museum completes a tour of historic Christ Church. The complex is at the intersection of Routes 646 and 709 between Irvington and Weems.

The museum houses the original communion silver engraved by order to the Parish Vestry in 1720.

The church is open to the public from 8:30 a.m.–4:30 p.m., free of charge. The reception center and museum are open April–November from 10 a.m.–4 p.m. Monday–Saturday and 2–5 p.m. Sundays. Call ahead for group tours, 438-6855.

Kilmarnock Museum

The Kilmarnock Museum at 76 North Main Street features displays and exhibits focusing on Kilmarnock's past and present, including areas of commerce and banking; maritime, seafood and agricultural concerns; schools, churches and social customs; and children's interests. A miniature of Leon Rice's Soda Shoppe, made and donated by Nancy Clark, was added to the museum's permanent display last year.

A rotating exhibit celebrating Kilmarnock's 75th anniversary will be on display through the summer. The exhibit will include photographs and memorabilia depicting life in the town in 1931.

The museum is open Thursday–Saturday from 10 a.m.–4 p.m. 436-9100.

Mary Ball Washington Museum

The Mary Ball Washington Museum, named for George

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More Rivah Museums & Exhibits

continued from previous page

Washington's mother, is on Route 3 in the heart of Lancaster Court House. The museum is housed in a five-building complex on the Court House Green across the highway from the historic Lancaster County courthouse. The complex includes the Old County Jail (1819) and first Clerk's Office (1797) as living history museums.

A special exhibit, "The Bay at War — And Then They Came Ashore," depicts the local homefront during the Civil War period. Private family collections, as well as museum archives of the period, are on exhibit through Labor Day. Visitors will see sabers, pistols, guns, bullets and bullet molds, medical instruments and various Confederate articles such as currency, bonds and enlistment certificates. A family silver tea service that was buried for safe keeping from the Union troops is displayed.

Photographs of both President Abraham Lincoln and General Robert E. Lee are on display. A framed lock of Lee's hair, along with an autographed Carte DeVisiste photo of Lee are of special interest.

The museum gift shop currently has Belle Isle Belgian crystal stemware in stock, along with heirloom lace items, a newly published book by local author Susan

continued on following page

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More Rivah Museums & Exhibits

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Schmidt, "Landfall Along the Chesapeake — In the Wake of Captain John Smith," and other historic and genealogy publications.

The museum is open to the public from 10 a.m.–4 p.m. Tuesday–Friday. Admission is $2.

The genealogy library is open from 10 a.m.–4 p.m. Wednesday–Saturday. There is a $5 search fee for non-members.

The entire Court House area is designated an Historic District and is on both the Virginia and the National Registers of Historic Places. 462-7280.

Morattico Waterfront Museum

The Morattico Waterfront Museum is housed in the former Morattico General Store building (circa 1901) at 6584 Morattico Road.

The museum offers exhibits related to country storekeeping, watermen's activities and agriculture in the former working watermen's village. Also on display are Native American artifacts and photos and documents relating to the village's history.

The museum is open May–October on Saturdays and Sundays from noon to 4 p.m.

Steamboat Era Museum

The Steamboat Era Museum at 156 King Carter Drive in Irvington preserves the history of the Chesapeake Bay steamboat era of the late 19th and early 20th centuries.

Among the permanent exhibits are a diorama of Irvington's steamboat wharf in the 1920's, artwork, photography, maps and memorabilia. The museum is preparing to restore the pilothouse of the steamboat Potomac, which is on the Irvington Commons adjacent to the museum.

The current exhibit, entitled "The Bay at War," provides a look at steamboat activities during the Civil War and features an introductory film narrated by Roger Mudd.

Summer hours for the museum are Thursday–Saturday from 10 a.m.–4 p.m. and Sundays from 1 to 4 p.m. For more information, call 438-6888.

Mathews

Gwynn's Island Museum

The Gwynn's Island Museum, open 1–5 p.m. each Friday, Saturday and Sunday May–October, has two floors of exhibits, a research library and gift shop. Visits by groups of eight or more can be arranged on weekdays by appointment. Admission is free.

A new exhibit include artifacts from a mid-18th century home site that was uncovered by Hurricane Isabel, including glass and pottery shards dating from the 17th century, a King George III half penny dated 1773, Native American points, pottery and fossils. There also are photos of two barrel wells.

Also on display are items relating to the Black American history of Gwynn's Island, and prehistoric Native Americans.

Other exhibits include an extensive history on the life of Captain John Smith and his connection to Gwynn's Island. Exhibits include a large collection of antique medical instruments from the estate of the late Mathews physician, Dr. James Warren Dorsey Haynes, and the

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More Rivah Museums & Exhibits

continued from page 19

old Grimstead Post Office (complete with postmaster).

The book "Gwynn's Island Times" by Elsa Verbyla Cooke has been republished and is on sale in the gift shop.

The museum is on Route 633 at Rose Lane. From Route 198 at Hudgins, take Route 223. After about two miles, it turns into Route 633 (Old Ferry Road). The museum is on the left just past the Gwynn's Island Cemetery. 725-7949. www.gwynnsislandmuseum.org

Tompkins Cottage

Near the Mathews Courthouse is Tompkins Cottage, a museum and headquarters of the Mathews Historical Society. The oldest wooden structure in the courthouse, it was used by Christopher Tompkins as a general store starting in 1816.

The museum houses a permanent exhibit of Mathews history including information on Captain Sally Tompkins, the only woman officer in the Confederate Army. Also included is an area of changing exhibits, a wonderful county map, and a sales area offering several publications concerning Mathews history and related gift items.

Of interest is an exhibit on New Point Comfort Lighthouse, which was completed in 1805 and still stands today.

There is no admission charge. The museum is open Fridays and Saturdays from 10 a.m.–1 p.m. through October and by appointment. 725-3487.

Middlesex

Deltaville Maritime Museum

The Deltaville Maritime Museum and Holly Point Nature Park are on 30 wooded and cultivated acres on the edges of Mill Creek just off General Puller Hwy. (Rt. 33) on Jackson Creek Road and Rt. 660 east of the village of Deltaville. The grounds of the park surround the museum buildings and the land-based boats that are among the museum's displays.

An outside boat shed has been built to shelter some of the historic vessels on display. The W.A. Johns is a 34-foot three-log bottom sailing canoe that has had a number of working lives in Deltaville waters. Also displayed is an old sora skiff once used for bird hunting in the Dragon Run, and several small skipjacks and deadrise workboats. The seven log F. D. Crockett, a bay buyboat, is at the dock and is being restored.

In the museum, artifacts and models from when Deltaville was the "Boat Building Capital of the Chesapeake" are being gathered and shown.

In the boat shop visitors can see under construction a flat-bottomed utility skiff typical of Deltaville boats of the past or whatever new project the "boat guys" are working on at the time.

In the park are picnic tables, walking trails through the woods, and a new children's garden laid out and planted just to appeal to their senses and tastes and size. There is good bird watching and plenty of butterflies to chase through the fish-shaped wildflower meadow.

The park is open daily from 9 a.m. until dusk. Museum hours are Sat. from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. and Sun. from 1 p.m. to 4 p.m. and by appointment.

For more information about membership, programs and events go to deltavilleva.com and click on the museum website, or call 776-7200 during museum hours or 776-9811.

Middlesex County Museum

The Middlesex County Museum in Saluda (777 General Puller Hwy.) is a short half-block west on Business Route 17 from the Middlesex County Courthouse. It is open Friday and Saturday, 10 a.m.–3 p.m.

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More Rivah Museums & Exhibits

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The museum features a large country store exhibit, the super center of yesteryear. Memorabilia and medals of Lt. General Lewis B. (Chesty) Puller USMC (Ret.), the most decorated Marine in U.S. history, are displayed.

A new exhibit this summer is "Dressed for the Good Old Days: Clothing from Middlesex County, 1850–1920."

The museum also features a variety of other county memorabilia, including Civil War military items, Indian relics, a mastodon tooth, maritime items (including the pen and ink ship drawings of Dr. A.L. Van Name, long-time county physician, retired), agricultural and industrial tools, toys and personal effects.

The exhibits are free and open to the public. There is a gift shop. Membership is available and donations help operate the museum. Volunteers are welcome. 758-3663.

Northumberland

Reedville Fishermen's Museum

The Reedville Fishermen's Museum on Main Street in Reedville offers visitors a glimpse of the rich heritage of the fishermen and watermen of Virginia's Northern Neck and the Chesapeake Bay.

In addition to the Covington Building housing its permanent and changing exhibit galleries, the museum features the Pendleton Building with its boat and model workshops and the historic William Walker House.

In the water, the museum showcases the Claud W. Somers, a 42-foot skipjack built in 1911, which offers tours twice monthly, and the Elva C., a 55-foot traditional workboat built in 1922, which offers tours to members only.

The museum is open daily from 10:30 a.m.–4:30 p.m. through October. Admission is $5 for adults and free for children under 12. For more information, call 453-6529 or visit the web site at rfmuseum.org.

Richmond

Richmond County Museum

The Richmond County Museum is on East Richmond Road in Warsaw in the county's old jail. Built in 1872, the jail was previously used as an office for the

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The Gloucester Museum of History on Business Route 17 houses a diverse collection, including a permanent display honoring Irene Morgan who in 1944 refused to give up her seat on a bus from Gloucester to Maryland. Her case went to the U.S. Supreme Court that ruled interstate segregation on public transportation was unconstitutional.

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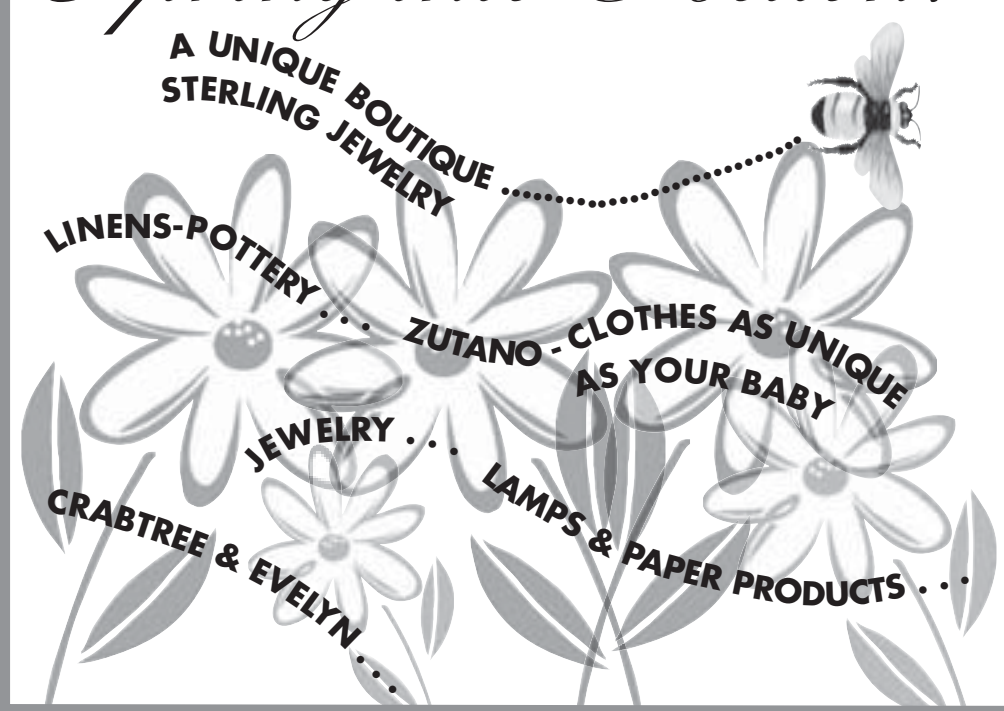

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board of education and court.

The museum includes three galleries and exhibit rooms and an office. The jail's hanging chamber is also on the second floor and is a point of interest.

Through October, the museum will feature the exhibit, "Gristmills of Richmond County," which includes photographs, maps and tools used at the mills.

On permanent display at the museum is a scale model of the historic 1748 Richmond County Courthouse, the third oldest courthouse in Virginia.

The museum is open Wednesday–Saturday from 11 a.m.–3 p.m. Group tours may be arranged by calling 333-3607.

Westmoreland

A. T. Johnson Museum

The A. T. Johnson Museum at 18849 Kings Highway near Montross preserves the history and legacy of education for African American students in the Northern Neck, especially in Westmoreland County.

The museum is a depository for collections, artifacts, memorabilia, documents and other items related to education.

Built in 1937 in the Colonial Revival style, A. T. Johnson High School was the first public education facility serving African

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More Rivah Museums & Exhibits

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American students in Westmoreland. The school was named for Armstead Tasker Johnson, a black educator and community leader instrumental in its construction.

The museum is open on Saturdays from 10 a.m.–2 p.m., Sundays from 2 p.m.–4 p.m. and other times by appointment, 493-7070.

Kinsale Museum

The Kinsale Museum is "On The Green" in the heart of the historic village of Kinsale on Route 203, off Route 202.

Located on a low bluff at the head of a branch of the Yeocomico River, Kinsale has enjoyed a rich maritime history.

The museum is dedicated to the preservation, collection, exhibition and interpretation of local history. It's in a late 19th century barroom, which was used as a meat market in the 1920's; next door is a soda fountain built in 1922, and the 1909 Bank of Kinsale building stands just off the green beside the Kinsale Motor Corp. building (1919).

At the foot of Steamboat Hill is the old Kinsale Wharf, a hub of activity for some 350 years. See it for yourself and imagine the schooners, sloops, pungies, warships, steamers, tugs, pleasure boats and barges seeking a deepwater port.

The museum is open Friday and Saturday from 10 a.m.–5 p.m. and Sundays from 2–5 p.m. Exhibits and artifacts depicting Kinsale's exciting years and walking tours are featured throughout the year. 472-3001.

Museum at Colonial Beach

The Museum at Colonial Beach is housed in the former Hoffman Gas Building (circa 1893) at the corner of Hawthorn and Washington Streets.

The museum depicts Colonial Beach heritage through various artifacts donated or on loan from local residents. Collections continue to grow as the community becomes more involved in the project, spearheaded by the Colonial Beach Historical Society. Emphasis is on the period from 1890 through 1958 when the town was a busy river tourism attraction that drew huge summer crowds.

The museum is open Saturdays and Sundays from 1–4 p.m. and other times by appointment. 224-3379.

Westmoreland Museum

The Westmoreland County Museum and Visitor Center is on Courthouse Square in Montross. The Westmoreland County Visitor Center welcomes visitors as they enter the foyer of the building. The museum and visitor's center share quarters with the Hungerford Library, Northern Neck of Virginia Historical Society and Northern Neck Historical Research Library, where visitors can trace the roots and the steps of Westmoreland County forefathers.

Outdoors, visitors can stroll in the Presidents Garden, which honors the three U. S. Presidents born on the Northern Neck: George Washington, James Madison and James Monroe.

The museum is open six days a week (closed Sunday). From April 1–October 31 the museum is open 10 a.m.–5 p.m. From November 1–March 31 the museum is open 10 a.m.–4 p.m. There is no admission fee but donations are welcome. 493-8440.

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RivahFest coming to Tappahannock June 17

The fourth annual RivahFest is anticipated to draw thousands of residents and visitors to downtown Tappahannock on Saturday, June 17. The already successful event will be even better this year, say RivahFest organizers.

As in previous years, the 2006 festival will include a huge arts and antiques section, children's activities area, farmers' market and merchants' row, and the "Treasures of Tappahannock" historic walking tour. There's also a maritime area and nautical activities like the June Parker Marina/Rivah Marine Croaker Fishing Tournament, as well as the "Taste of Tappahannock" food area, featuring local seafood and festival favorites.

Two entertainment stages will feature a wide variety of local and regional performers. Back by popular demand, classic country band "The Honky-Tonk Experience" and the smooth R&B sounds of the legendary Steve Bassett will be in the main stage spotlight.

Classic country music and rockin' rhythm and blues will once again have RivahFest visitors dancing in the streets of Tappahannock, entertainment chairs George and Sandy Longest have announced.

"We got such an overwhelmingly positive response to our headline acts last year," said George Longest, "that we brought them back for folks to enjoy again."

On Saturday, June 17, the main stage on the corner of Prince Street and Water Lane will feature "The Honky-Tonk Experience" from noon until 3 p.m. The five-member, Richmond-based group plays the music of such country greats as Merle Haggard, Ray Price, Johnny Cash, Waylon Jennings and Alan Jackson.

Local residents can "get experienced" when the band performs at Ferebee's in Tappahannock at 9:30 p.m. on Saturday, April 22. Preview MP3 files are available at <honkytonkexperience.com>.

From 3:30 until 7:30 p.m. on June 17, the main stage will be rocking and grooving to the sounds of the legendary Steve Bassett, Ammon Tharp and the Mystic Soul Bubbas, back by popular demand for their third RivahFest appearance. A nationally recognized artist, Bassett has toured with Delbert McClinton and the late Stevie Ray Vaughan and performed with Richmond favorites Robbin Thompson, Larry Bland and the Volunteer Choir, and jazz pianist Jimmy Black. He also is a prolific songwriter whose credits include and more than 100 network TV and radio commercials.

The "Honky Tonk Experience" (above) will be among the many musical groups performing at Rivahfest in Tappahannock on Saturday, June 17.

Bassett's most recent project, profiled in the online publication "West End's Best" at <westendsbestonline.com>, is a CD of authentic American music using Civil War-era instruments. As a special RivahFest treat, Bassett has made MP3 downloads of "Sweet Virginia Breeze" and other favorites available on the RivahFest website at <rivahfest.com>.

Stage Two, located in front of St. Margaret's Hall on Water Lane, will feature a variety of local bands presented by Brian Sprouse Productions. The lineup from mid-morning to early afternoon will include soft and classic rock, as well as "a little bit of country" and karaoke, said stage coordinator Niki Davis. Then 10 talented young vocalists, selected in an earlier semifinal competition, will vie for cash prizes and the RivahFest Idol title.

Magazine likes Urbanna lifestyle

The April issue of Coastal Living Magazine listed 27 of the most attractive coastal towns to visit and live on the east and west coasts of the United States. The Town of Urbanna was the only community named in Virginia.

St. Michael's, Easton and Cambridge in Maryland were other Chesapeake Bay communities listed. Caswell Beach, New Bern, and Edenton were North Carolina listings.

The attractions for being ranked were urban amenities, arts and culture, quaint towns, history, beaches and water sports.

The map of attractive coastal towns is on page 130 of the magazine.

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Camp Kittamaqund to offer Day Camp June 19-23

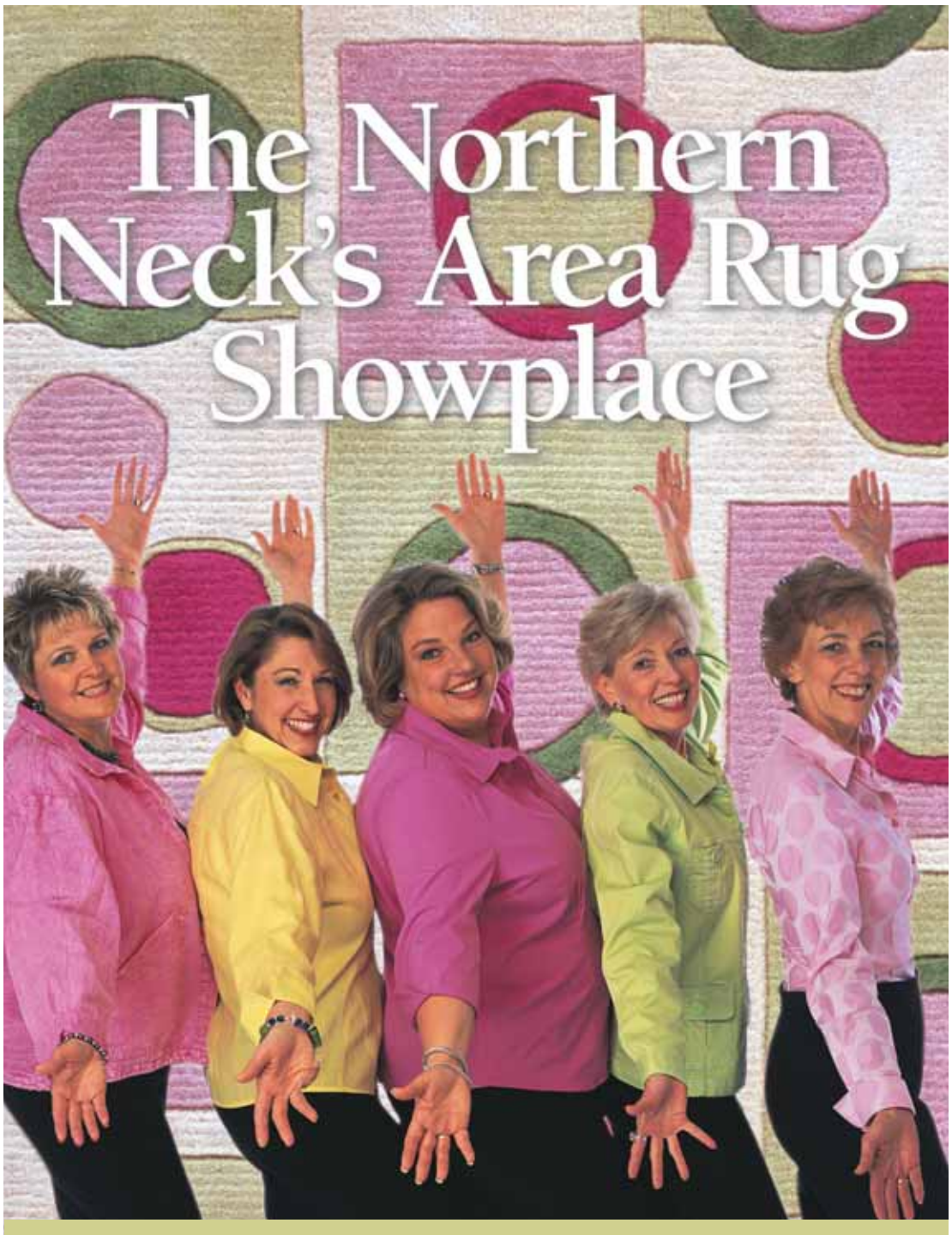
The Girl Scout Commonwealth Council recently announced that it will be holding Day Camp at Camp Kittamaqund in Northumberland County. The Day Camp will run June 19 to 23 from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. each day. The programs are for girls ages 5 to 17.

Activities will include age-appropriate climbing wall and ropes course challenges, swimming, canoeing and arts and crafts. Lunch and a snack will be provided each day and at the end of the week the girls will receive a camp patch.

Camp Kittamaqund is accredited by the American Camping Association. Developed exclusively for the camp industry, this nationally-recognized program accreditation focuses on program quality and health and safety issues and requires the Girl Scout Commonwealth Council to review every facet of its operation.

Camp Kittamaqund has voluntarily submitted to this independent appraisal done by camp experts and has earned this mark of distinction.

The fee is $150 for Girl Scout members and $175 for others. To register, call 1-800-472-6884.



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Welcome to Essex County

■ Size: 261 square miles ■ Shoreline: 150.8 miles
■ Population: 9,989

History

Essex County's history in written form dates from Captain John Smith's visit during the winter of 1607-08, when he wrote of the "excellent, pleasant, fertile, and navigable" Rappahannock Valley.

In 1645 Bartholomew Hoskins patented the Tappahannock site, which became known at various times as Hobbs His Hole, Hobb's Hole, the short-lived New Plymouth, and the Indian name Tappahannock. The port town was to become a center of commerce during the 17th and 18th centuries, establishing a crossroads.

The county came into being in 1692 when Old Rappahannock County, which once encompassed at least 50 modern counties in Virginia and West Virginia, was divided along the river with the north side becoming Richmond County and the south becoming Essex.

During Bacon's Rebellion in 1676, armed men gathered near Piscataway Creek and defeated Governor Berkeley's cavalrymen. Later they prevailed in the Dragon Swamp, but eventually English warships and troops suppressed the uprising. Frontier patrols, however, were maintained against hostile northern Indians into the early 1700's.

The British Stamp Act of 1765 led directly to the American Revolution, and it was in Tappahannock that one of the first confrontations occurred.

Leading merchant Archibald Ritchie, who supported the Stamp Act, was labeled as "the greatest enemy of his country." On February 27, 1766, gentlemen from nine counties gathered at Leedstown to draft the "Resolutions" that led Virginians to disobey Parliament. They also made plans to publicly humiliate Ritchie and the Scots merchant Archibald McCall. These events occurred seven years before the Boston Tea Party.

The Essex Courthouse contains the oldest records in Virginia. James B. Slaughter's history of the area, "Settlers, Southerners, Americans: The History of Essex County, Virginia 1608–1984," recounts in detail the county's 350-year-old story. The book is available at the county administrator's office.

The public landing (above) on Hoskins Creek in Tappahannock has a large dock just right for fishing. The facility also has a boat ramp. The dock and boat ramp are located near the mouth of the creek that empties into Rappahannock River.

Government

Essex County Administrator R. Gary Allen, P. O. Box 1079, 205 Cross Street, Courthouse Square, Tappahannock, 22560. Phone 443-4331, FAX 443-4157. www.essex:virginia.org. Open 8:30 a.m.–4:30 p.m.

County tax rates (per $100): Real estate, $.68; personal property, $3.50.

Tappahannock Town Manager G.G. Belfield Jr., 915 Church Lane, Tappahannock. 443-3336. FAX 443-1051. Open 8:30 a.m.–4:30 p.m.

Town tax rates (per $100): Real estate, $.13; personal property, $1.25.

Chamber of Commerce

Tappahannock-Essex Chamber of Commerce, Linda Lumpkin, executive secretary, P.O. Box 481, 205 Cross Street, Courthouse Square. Lumpkin@crosslink.net. Hours, 8:30 a.m.–4:30 p.m. 443-5241.

Servicecs

Churches Essex County Ministerial Association. Contact: Paul Beith, 443-6887.

Day Care/Baby Sitting (in Tappahannock) Gayle's Family Home Day Care, 443-0748; Mount Landing Children's Center, 443-1060; Segar's Tender Loving Children's Center, 443-3852; Tappahannock Children's Center, 443-3272.

Trash Collection Sites are at Bray's Fork on Rt. 17, just south of the Rt. 360 and Rt. 17 intersection, open daily 7 a.m.–6 p.m.; Champlain on Rt. 17, open Mon., Wed., Fri., and Sat. 7:30 a.m.–5:30 p.m.; and Center Cross on Rt. 684, open daily except Tuesdays, 7 a.m.–6 p.m. 443-4331.

Veterinary Services Tappahannock Veterinary Hospital, Drs. Lauriel Turner and Lewis Wilkins Jr., 525 Airport Road, Call 443-2878 for doctor's hours.

Towing Jack Stokes Towing, 246 Berry Hill Rd., Tappahannock. 443-4000 or (800) 830-8697.

ABC Store Rappahannock Shopping Center. 443-3441.

Recreation

Ball Fields Essex Little League. 443-9344.

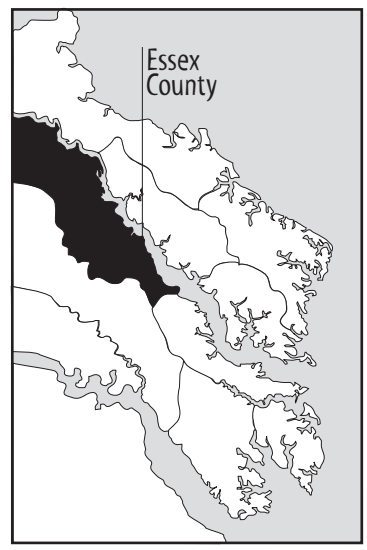
Essex County Parks and Recreation Department runs a number of sports activities for youth and adults. Ball fields at Essex High School are used. Contact recreation director Sylvia Allen at 443-2470.

Fitness Centers Riverside Wellness and Fitness Center, 1025 Hobbs Hole Drive, Tappahannock. Aerobics, cardiovascular and strength equipment, free weights, indoor track, Jacuzzi and sauna. For hours, call 443-0500.

Tennis Courts at Essex High School on Airport Rd. are open to the public from about 5 p.m. until dark and when school is not in session. Contact Sylvia Allen at 443-2470. Riverside Wellness and Fitness Center, Tappahannock, offers tennis as well as racquetball, basketball and volleyball. See fitness center listing.

River Cruises Rappahannock River Cruises, 468 Buzzard Pt. Rd., Reedville, Va. 22539. 453-BOAT (2628). Tues.–Sun., May–October: narrated tours up the river to Ingleside Winery. Departs from Hoskins Creek in Tappahannock at 10 a.m. and returns at 4 p.m. Reservations necessary.

To change or update Essex information, contact <lchowning@ssentinel.com.



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Charger Golf Classic set for June 30

Middlesex High School will hold its sixth annual Charger Golf Classic at 1 p.m. on Friday, June 30, at Piankatank River Golf Club at Hartfield.

Registrations forms are available at the golf course and at MHS. Call Brad Norris at 758-2132 for more information.

The cost is $300 per four person team, and the format is four-person captain's choice. A variety of sponsorships are also available.

Make checks payable to Middlesex High School. Mail names of players and their handicaps and payment to Middlesex High School, I/C Brad Norris, Golf Tournament, P.O. Box 206, Saluda, VA 23149.

All players will receive a gift bag, BBQ chicken dinner, awards and prizes.

Hole #5 at the new King Carter Golf Course on Old St. John's Road in Weems is a picturesque dog-leg left par 4. It measures 412 yards from the championship tees, 382 yards from the blue tees, 329 yards from the white tees, and 282 yards from the forward tees. Above, a golfer prepares to hit his approach shot to the green.

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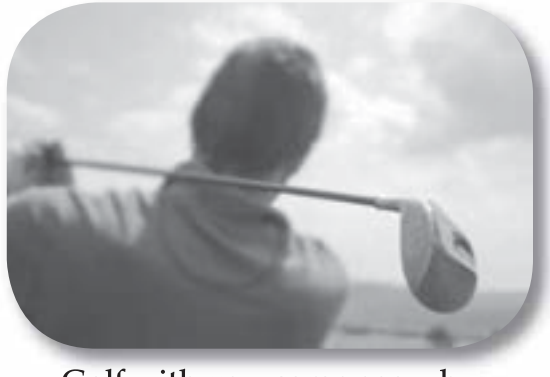

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Rivah Golf Tournaments

Following is a list of the golf tournaments that are open to the public in Rivah country.

Saturday, June 3

The Wakefield HuntClub will hold a four-person captain's choice tournament at 9 a.m. at Hobbs Hole Golf Course in Tappahannock. 443-4500.

Friday, June 16

Rudd Realty will host a four-person captain's choice tournament at 1 p.m. at Hobbs Hole Golf Course in Tappahannock. 443-4500.

Thursday, June 22

New Bridge Baptist Church will host a four-person captain's choice tournament at 1 p.m. at Piankatank River Golf Club at Hartfield. 776-8846 or 776-6516.

Friday, June 23

The Middlesex Family YMCA will-hold a benefit four-person captain's choice turnament at 11 a.m. at Piankatank River Golf Club at Hartfield. 776-8846 or 776-6516.

Saturday, June 24

Woodland Academy will host a four-person captain's choice tournament at 9 a.m. at Hobbs Hole Golf Course in Tappahannock.443-4500

Wednesday, June 28

The Junior River Tour for youth ages 6-17 will begin at noon at Hobbs Hole Golf Course in Tappahannock. Individual stroke play. 443-4500.

Friday, June 30

The Middlesex High School Athletic Department will hold a benefit four-person captain's choice turnament at 1 a.m. at Piankatank River Golf Club at Hartfield. 776-8846 or 776-6516.

Rivah Golf Courses

Essex

Woodside Country Club A nine-hole course on Route 17 north of Tappahannock. Pro shop. Snack bar. 443-4060.

Hobbs Hole An 18-hole course behind Wal-Mart on Routes 17 and 360 in Tappahannock. Pro shop. 443-4500.

Gloucester

Gloucester Country Club A 9-hole course off Route 17 at Gloucester Court House. Pro shop. Snack bar. 693-2662.

Lancaster

The Golden Eagle An 18-hole course on Route 646 in Irvington. Operated by The Tides resort. Pro shop. Full service restaurant. 438-4460.

The Tartan An 18-hole course on Route 646 in Irvington. Pro shop. Restaurant. 438-6005.

King Carter Golf Course A new 18-hole course at 480 Old Saint Johns Road in Weems. 435-7842.

Middlesex

Piankatank River Golf Club An 18-hole course on Route 629 in Hartfield. Pro shop. Full service restaurant. 776-6516.

Northumberland

The Village Green A 9-hole course on Route 360 in Callao. Pro shop. Full service restaurant. 529-6332.

Quinton Oaks An 18-hole course on Route 600 in Callao. Pro shop. Full service restaurant. 529-5367.

Westmoreland

Miller's Glen Formerly Bushfield. A 9-hole course on Route 711 at Mt. Holly. Pro shop. Restaurant. 472-2602.

Golf courses:
Email information on upcoming tournaments to rivah@ssentinel.com

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More Rivah Golf

Middlesex YMCA golf tourney set for June 23

The Middlesex Family YMCA will hold a fund-raising golf tournament on Friday, June 23, at the Piankatank River Golf Club in Hartfield. The captain's choice format tournament starts at 11 a.m.

The cost is $350 per foursome and includes 18 holes of golf, boxed lunch and prime rib awards dinner, two beverage tickets and gifts. Spouses and guests are welcome to the dinner for an additional $25 per meal.

The registration deadline is June 16. Sponsorships are still open.

For more information. call Buzz Lambert at the YMCA at 776-8846.

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Mayers are new pros at King Carter

PGA Golf Professionals Mike and Brenda Mayer have joined the staff at the King Carter Golf Club on Route 200 between Kilmarnock and Irvington.

Mike Mayer will be the resident pro and Brenda Mayer will be the assistant pro. They were previously employed by Wintergreen Resort.

Mike Mayer, a graduate of the University of Virginia, was the director of golf and head professional for the past 20 years.

Brenda Mayer, a graduate of James Madison University, was a 10-year teaching professional in the resort's golf school. The Mayers will relocate to Lancaster County with their two girls, Megan and Andi.

Instructional programs will be designed to increase participation. The instructional focus will be to create a more efficient and consistent swing. Private lessons, adult and junior clinics, video analysis and club fitting will be offered.

Colonial re-enactors coming to Gloucester

Re-enactors of the 7th Virginia regiment of the Continental Line return to Gloucester on Saturday, May 27, from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. for a colonial encampment at the historic court circle on Business Route 17 (Main St.).

Authentically costumed re-enactors will prepare meals over a campfire, drill in formation, and demonstrate firing of muskets. At 3 p.m. there will be a tribute to the 60 men from Gloucester and Mathews counties who formed the 6th Company of the 7th Virginia Regiment of the Continental Army in 1776.

Call Gloucester Parks and Recreation at (804) 693-0014 or see www.gloucesterva.info.

Colonial Downs begins racing season June 16

Colonial Downs, just off Interstate 64 in New Kent County, will hold its thoroughbred race season June 16 through August 12.

Racing will be held Fridays through Tuesdays. Post time for races on Fridays, Mondays and Tuesdays is at 5 p.m. post time for Saturdays and Sundays is 1 p.m. Nine or 10 races are usually held each race day.

Colonial Downs will host the Colonial Turf Cup on June 24 and the Virginia Derby on July 15. For more see www.colonialdowns.com.

Deltaville Farmers' Market set for May 27

The second Deltaville Farmers' Market of the season will be held Saturday, May 27, from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. on the front lawn of Yates House Fine Art & Craft Gallery in Deltaville.

This is the third season of the Deltaville Farmers' Market. All of the regular vendors are returning with a number of vendors showing all kinds of handmade items, such as woven scarves, wooden pens, wreaths, pillows, shirts, vests, and jewelry from various designers.

Len Scharf will be showing Chinese paper sculpture that he acquired at the Art and Frame Show in Las Vegas.

Jean Hornsby will be selling her book to benefit Middlesex Hospice, and volunteers for Habitat for Humanity and the Women's Community Club of Deltaville will also have booths.

The Deltaville Farmers' Market will continue on the fourth Saturday of each month through November. One is also set June 24.

Inquiries regarding the market should be directed to Blanche Scharf at Yates House Gallery or 694-9130.

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