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Rivah Parks & Natural Areas

Port Fun Playground near Mathews High School.

Essex

Marsh Street Park Marsh Street in Tappahannock, run by Essex County Parks and Recreation Department, Pool open starting June 11, Tuesdays–Saturdays 11 a.m.–6 p.m. and Sundays 1 p.m.–6 p.m. 443-2470.

Gloucester

Beaverdam Park at the end of Route 616, Roaring Springs Road, contains a 635-acre freshwater lake. Built in 1990, 11 fish attractors and several species of fish are found there. Canoes, paddleboats, and Jon boats with or without electric motors are for rent, or you may launch your own boats for a fee. Motors powered by fuels are not permitted. The park also has a playground, picnic shelter and an extensive hiking trail system including an interpretive trail, a multi use trail for horseback riding or biking and an exercise trail. The park is open year around from sunrise to sunset. Fishing and hunting licenses, bait and snacks are available at the ranger station. For information call 693-2107 or 693-2355.

Tyndall Point Park contains remnants of Confederate and Union fortifications. It is the site of colonial Gloucester Towne, the first building of which was a tobacco warehouse built in 1632. The park is off of Route 17 at Gloucester Point and has open play areas.

Riverwalk at Gloucester Point Beach offers fishing with no license required, public beach and playground, restrooms, snack bar, an elevated observation deck with high powered binoculars to view birds and wildlife.

Lancaster

Belle Isle State Park Route 683. A 700-acre park on the Rappahannock River, Mulberry and Deep Creeks. Open daily sunrise to sunset. Picnic areas, handicap accessible boardwalk and fishing pier, hiking/biking trails, bridle paths, overnight accommodations, motorboat ramp ($3 fee). Canoe rentals ($8 per hour to $25 for a full day) and tandem kayak rentals ($10 per hour to $30 for a full day), bicycle rentals ($3 per hour to $15 for a full day), and motorboat rentals (10 hp: $15 for two hours or $90 for a full day; 25 hp: $22 per hour to $110 for a full day). The park also offers sunset and moonlight canoe trips ($6 per person), nature programs and overnight camping. Parking fee $3 weekends/holidays, $2 weekdays. 462-5030 or dcr.state.va.us.

Mathews

Bethel Beach Natural Area Preserve Turn left on Rt. 611 just south of the town of Mathews. Turn right on Rt. 643, then left on Rt. 609. This 50-acre parcel contains a sandy beach, low dunes and salt marsh habitat bordering the Chesapeake Bay. Over 90 bird species have been reported on the preserve, which also protects the globally rare Northeastern Beach Tiger Beetle.

Port Fun with a playground, ball fields and tennis courts, is on Route 14 about a mile north of Mathews Courthouse.

Middlesex

Taber Park Rappahannock Avenue in Urbanna (for residents and guests of residents): playground, swimming and tennis.

Deltaville Community Association Park Route 33 in Deltaville (for residents and guests of residents): playground, tennis, swimming and basketball.

Holly Point Nature Park in Deltaville offers a tranquil retreat on the banks of Mill Creek by Fishing Bay. There are benches and space for picnicking, bird watching or walking the wooded nature trail. Visitors can explore the fish-shaped wildflower meadow and view the boats exhibited on the grounds by the Deltaville Maritime Museum. There is a delightful children's garden with plants marked to exploit their taste, smell and touch. The park plans to have exercise stations along the trail and a nautical playground. The park is open daily from 9 a.m. until dusk.

King George

Caledon Natural Area Rt. 218. A National Natural Landmark, Caledon was the early colonial seat of the Alexander family. John and Philip Alexander founded the city of Alexandria and established Caledon Plantation in 1659. Caledon is the summer home for one of the largest concentrations of bald eagles on the East Coast. Preservation of the national bird's habitat is the primary focus of the natural area. Five hiking trails in the natural area are open year-round and take park visitors through environmentally sensitive marshlands and picturesque wooded areas of the park. The 3.5-mile Boyd's Hole Trail leading to the Potomac River is the most popular of the trails. Because human traffic disturbs the park's summer population of roosting and foraging eagles, this trail is only open from Oct. 1–March 31. Limited tours of the eagle area are offered mid-June through August by reservation only. Park guests can learn more about the natural history of Caledon and the American bald eagle by touring the visitor center. Interpretive Programs: Eagle tours, Junior Rangers night hikes,

continued on following page

More Parks & Natural Areas

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conducted walks, astronomy, storytelling, bonfire programs, birdwatching and crafts. (800) 933-PARK.

Barnesfield Park Highway 301 at the Potomac Gateway Welcome Center, King George. 175-acre county park on the Potomac River with nature trails, picnic areas and playground. Nature trails and beach fishing along Potomac River shore. (540) 663-3205.

Northumberland

Bush Mill Stream Natural Area Preserve At the mouth of Bush Mill Stream freshwater meets the saltwater of the Great Wicomico River. Fresh to brackish tidal marshes and mud flats are hidden between the steep-sided forested shores of this upper Coastal Plain stream. The quiet waters are home and resting area for an abundance of waterfowl and wading birds, including colonial nesting birds, raptors and large numbers of great blue herons. Access can be gained by foot or canoe. Public access facilities are open during daylight hours and include trails, a boardwalk, a wildlife viewing platform and interpretive signs. Four miles from Heathsville on Route 201, continue straight on Route 642 for half a mile, and turn left at the sign.

Hughlett Point Natural Area Preserve This 205-acre preserve has sand beaches on the Chesapeake Bay and the mouth of Dividing Creek, hiking trails and observation decks to view shorebirds, deer, turkey and migratory waterfowl. The beaches are home to the threatened northeastern beach tiger beetle. From Kilmarnock, take Route 200 north then right on Route 606 to the end. Turn right on Route 605. From Burgess, take Route 200 south then left on Route 606 to the end. Turn right on 605. 225-2303.

Dameron Marsh Natural Area Preserve This 316-acre preserve contains one of the most significant wetlands on the Chesapeake Bay for marshbird communities, and its pristine sand beach habitat is highly important for the threatened northeastern beach tiger beetle. Public access facilities include a trail and boardwalk, a wildlife viewing platform, and a small parking area. Part or all of the preserve may be periodically closed for resource protection or resource management activities. For additional information or to arrange a visit, contact Rebecca Wilson at 225-2303.

Richmond

Rappahannock River Valley National Wildlife Refuge, 336 Wilna Road, Warsaw. This is the newest of four refuges that comprise the Eastern Virginia Rivers National Wildlife Refuge Complex. Established in 1996, the goal of the refuge is to protect 20,000 acres of wetlands and associated uplands along the river and its major tributaries. As of November 2004, the refuge had protected 6,545 acres. Archeological and historic sites are abundant on both sides of the river. The 18th century Bristol Iron Works was located adjacent to the refuge's Toby's Point Tract, while the Leedstown Resolves, a 1766 protest against the Stamp Act, was signed near the refuge's Mothershead Tract. Old pilings can still be seen from the days when steamboats made regular stops to pick up produce and passengers for transport to the Port of Baltimore. At least four federally-listed threatened or endangered species may be found within the refuge boundary, including the American bald eagle, peregrine falcon, shortnose sturgeon, and sensitive joint vetch. The state's largest wintering roost for bald eagles is located within the refuge boundary. Shorebirds, neotropical migrant songbirds, raptors, and marsh birds rely on the Rappahannock River's corridors during the spring and fall migration periods. The refuge is restoring native grasslands and riparian forests along the river and tributary streams to provide additional habitat for these species. The Refuge hosts three sites on the Virginia Birding and Wildlife Trail. For more information about this trail, please visit www.dgif.state.va.us/wildlife/vbwt/index.asp.

Totuskey Tricentennial Park with boat landing, Route 3 at Totuskey Creek Bridge.

Wilna Pond, a 35-acre site, is now open to public fishing. The pond is home to largemouth bass, bluegill sunfish, fliers, yellow bullhead catfish and American eel. The Wilna Unit is open for wildlife observation and photography daily, sunrise to sunset. Access for canoes and kayaks to engage in these activities is available at Wilna Pond. Please note: All Virginia boating laws apply to Wilna Pond. All other refuge units are open for wildlife observation and photography by advanced reservation only. To schedule a visit, please call (804) 333-1470. The refuge headquarters is open Monday-Friday, 8 a.m. - 4:30 p.m., except federal holidays. From Tappahannock, take US-360 E (across the Rappahannock River, toward Warsaw). Follow US-360 E for 4.1 miles, then turn left onto Rt. 624/Newland Rd. Follow Newland Rd. for 4.2 miles, then turn left onto Strangeway/Rt 636. Follow Strangeway for 1/4 mile, then turn right onto Sandy Lane/Rt 640. Follow Sandy Lane for 1.1 miles, then turn left into

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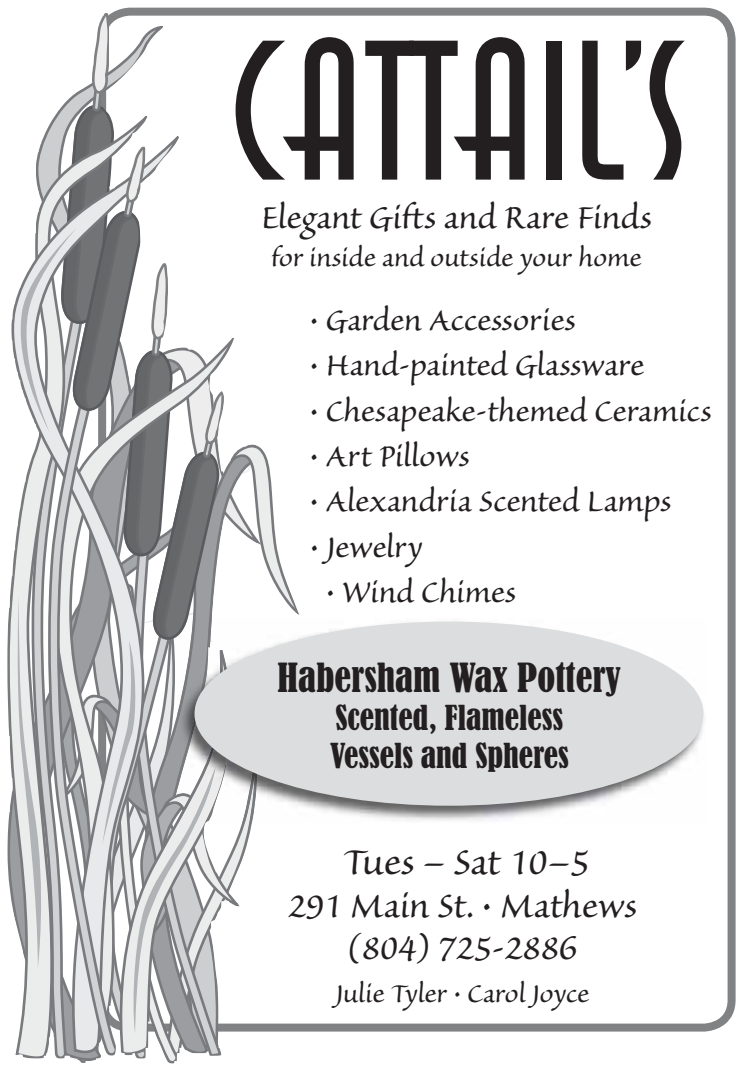

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More Parks & Natural Areas

continued from previous page

Rappahannock River Valley NWR. 333-1470.

Westmoreland

Hurt Field at Legion Park Route 3 west of Montross. Four-acre public park adjacent to Chandlers Mill Pond offering both active and passive recreational opportunities for county residents.

Oak Grove Park Route 205 between Oak Grove and Colonial Beach. Eight-acre public park featuring a sports field with bleachers, playground and picnic area.

Robin Grove Park on Robin Grove, off Monroe Bay Avenue, Colonial Beach.

Voorhees Nature Preserve A 729-acre preserve on the northeast bank of Rappahannock River, next to the Westmoreland Berry Farm. It is home to the bald eagle and many other birds. Four miles of wooded trails for self-guided walks. The difficulty level is moderate. A trail map and brochure are available at the adjacent Westmoreland Berry Farm store. There are picnic sites, restrooms and pick-your-own fruits and vegetables at the farm. The preserve is open on weekends, 8 a.m.–6 p.m., from April 22 to December 17. For information, call (434) 295-6106.

Westmoreland State Park Six miles northwest of Montross off Route 3. The park extends about one and a half miles along the Potomac River, and its 1,299 acres neighbor the former homes of both George Washington and Robert E. Lee. The park's Horsehead Cliffs provide visitors with a spectacular view of the Potomac River. The park offers hiking, camping, cabins, fishing, boating and swimming. The visitor center, open during summer, gives an informative historical and ecological perspective to an important natural area on the coastal plain.

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Creative Adventures plans art and craft classes

Creative Adventures is currently registering youth ages 8-18 for summer classes. The Middlesex County Woman's Club sponsors this award-winning program.

This is the sixth year that classes in the fine arts have been offered. The program is made possible with sponsorships from EVB, The Middlesex Art Guild Inc., and Moo's River's Edge Eatery.

Classes will begin July 6 and meet every Thursday morning from 9 a.m. to noon through August 10. All classes will be held at the Middlesex County Woman's Club building in Urbanna. Students may register for as few or as many classes as they choose. Each class costs $15 and includes all materials and ice cream from Moo's. The schedule and instructors of classes for 2006 are:

July 6—Metal Enameling, Wanda Hollberg.

July 13—Polymerclay, Sandy Davis.

July 20—Sculpture, Amy Schacht.

July 27—T-Shirt Printing, Linda Brent.

August 3—Basketweaving, Amy Schacht.

August 10—Watercolor Painting, Betty Burton.

Registration forms are available at all EVB Branches, Middlesex County libraries, art teachers in the Middlesex County Public Schools, and various businesses located around the county.

This program is run solely with volunteers. If you would like to help with a class or have any questions, call Wanda Hollberg, program director, at 758-0085.

Raffle to replace fair in White Stone

The White Stone Volunteer Fire Department annual country fair has been cancelled and will be replaced by a cash raffle with a drawing to be held at the firehouse September 16.

The fair was a victim of a cycle of poor weather and declining attendance. Seeking a replacement fund-raiser, a cash raffle drew the most interest.

WSVFD members will sell 400 tickets for $100 each to yield 20 cash prizes.

The grand prize will be $10,000, second prize is $2,500, third through fifth prizes are $1,000 each. Sixth through tenth prizes are $500 each. Eleventh through twentieth prizes are $250 each.

The members feel that it's a great opportunity as a fund-raiser and will give 20 of the 400 ticket holders a chance to win.

The September 16 drawing will be held at a dance with a band from 7 to 11 p.m. Ticket holders will receive free admission for two people to the dance. One does not have to be present to win.

Tickets are available from WSVFD members and by calling 436-6242 or 435-2672 and leaving a message.

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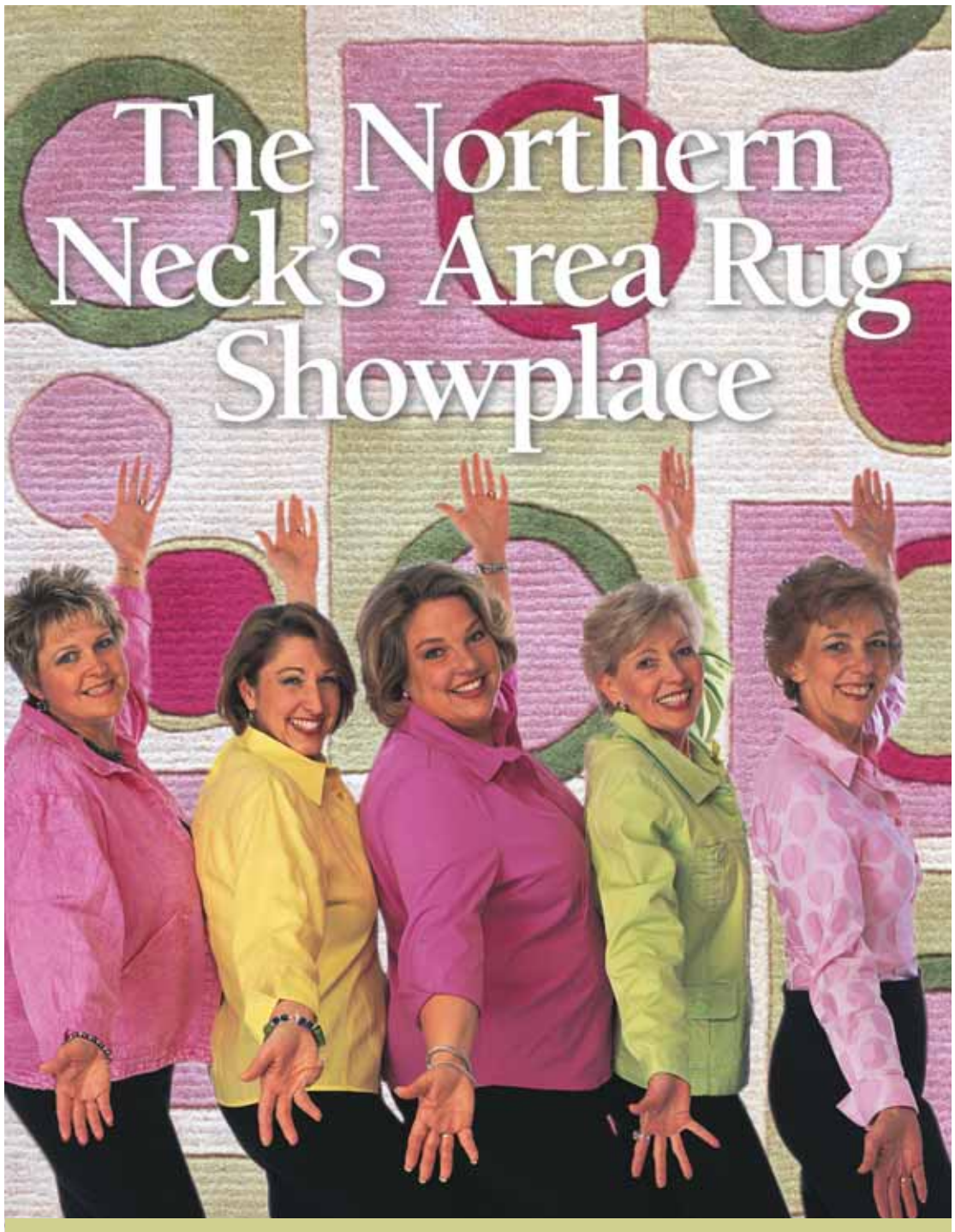

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4th of July!

The 4th of July, or Independence Day is an annual celebration of our freedom.

Many years ago colonists came to America in hopes of finding a place to live where they could worship and live freely instead of having to follow rules from the king of Great Britain. When the colonists were settled in America, the king still wanted them to follow Great Britain's rules and to pay taxes. The people in the colonies wanted to be free to make their own rules and decided to tell the king that they wanted to be an independent country.

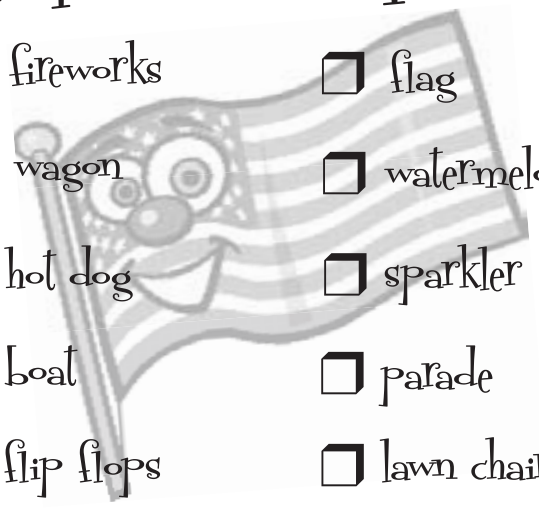
The King was very unhappy and decided to send troops to try to keep control of the colonists, eventually beginning the Revolutionary War.

Congress met and decided to appoint a committee to write a document that would let Great Britain know that Americans wanted to govern themselves. Thomas Jefferson worked for days and wrote the first draft of the document. The committee met again to read and make some changes to Jefferson's document. Congress officially adopted the document on July 4th, 1776 and called it the Declaration of Independence. Now, each year we celebrate on the 4th of July with picnics, parades, and fireworks to remember our freedom and the birthday of our country.

Can you help Claude unscramble the 4th of July words below?

1. pceedinndeen
2. gikn
3. olcontsi
4. gonscrse
5. wifKorers
6. eriacam
7. ybiarhtd
8. mfedroe

Things I see on the 4th of July



- ❒ fireworks
- ❒ flag
- ❒ wagon
- ❒ watermelon
- ❒ hot dog
- ❒ sparkler
- ❒ boat
- ❒ parade
- ❒ flip flops
- ❒ lawn chair

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Answers to the scramble: 1. independence 2. king 3. colonists 4. congress 5.fireworks 6. america 7. birthday 8. freedom

Welcome to Gloucester County

■ Size: 287 square miles ■ Shoreline: 269 miles
■ Population: 34,500

History

Exploration of what would become Gloucester County began soon after 1607 when Jamestown, the first permanent English settlement in the new world, was started 25 miles to its south.

Just as the Indians had their villages along Gloucester's creeks, rivers and bays, many settlers built their homes along these same transportation routes.

From the Indians colonists learned to grow tobacco, the mainstay and cash crop of colonial Virginia. But it was another Indian staple, corn, that sustained early settlers.

Gloucester County was formed in 1651 from York County. It contained Kingston Parish, which became Mathews County in 1791.

Gloucester was home to several well-known persons. One of the better known was Pocahontas, daughter of Indian Chief Powhatan. According to legend, she petitioned her father to spare the life of English explorer Captain John Smith, who was one of the first white men to see the area in the early 1600s.

In 1676 Nathaniel Bacon, irked at the governor's slow action, led a force of planters against the Indians. Bacon's Rebellion defeated the Indians and then attempted to make the governor reform colonial policies. His army burned Jamestown and he briefly controlled the colony before his death ended the revolt.

Dr. Walter Reed, who, in 1900 proved yellow fever is transmitted by mosquitoes and could be controlled by eliminating them, was born at Belroi in 1851.

Lesser known is John Buckner, who brought the first printing press to Virginia.

World-renowned botanist John Clayton was a clerk of the court.

Attorney Thomas Calhoun Walker, the state's first black collector of customs, was the only black to hold statewide office in the federal Works Project Administration.

Gloucester Point's location at the York River and the Chesapeake Bay has held a strategic place in history. Fortified during Bacon's Rebellion, Gloucester Point is just across the York River from Yorktown, site of the British surrender to end the American Revolution.

The many cuts, coves, creeks of Gloucester County invite kayakers to explore.

Originally called Tyndall's Point, named for an early mapmaker, it was renamed Gloucester Towne and was once the county seat until it was moved 13 miles north during the 1700s.

When Jamestown was burned by Bacon in 1676, the Virginia Executive Council considered moving the state capital to Tyndall's Point, but the motion was rejected by a 21 to 18 vote. Jamestown remained the state capital until it was shifted to Williamsburg.

In 1769, the new county seat, Botetourt Towne (old town Gloucester), was laid out. It was named for Baron de Botetourt, then governor of Virginia.

Today, visitors can find a classic example of an early Virginia county seat at the Gloucester Courthouse Historic District on Main Street (Route 17 Business) in the business district.

Government

Many county offices are in the Gloucester County Courts and Office Building on Main Street (Route 17 business), Gloucester. Hours: 8 a.m.–4:30 p.m. 693-4042.

Other frequently called numbers are: animal warden, 693-5290; clerk of the circuit court, 693-2502; general district court, 693-4860; solid waste transfer station, 693-5109; parks and recreation, 693-2355; water and sewer service emergencies, 693-3890; mosquito control, 693-5250; zoning administrator, 693-4041. gloucesterva.info.

2005 tax rates (per $100): Real estate, $.95; personal property, including cars and trucks, $2.20; and boats, $1.00.

Chamber of Commerce

Gloucester Chamber of Commerce, Coca-Cola Building, Main St. Gloucester, Va. 23601. Hours: 9 a.m.–4:30 p.m. Mon.–Fri. 693-2425.

The Gloucester Visitor Center is in the Roane Building (1896) on the Historic Court Circle on Business Route 17. The visitor's center and gift shop are open Monday–Saturday, 10 a.m.–4 p.m. and Sunday, 1–4 p.m., and by appointment for groups. Also open during operating hours is the Colonial Courthouse and the Clayton Building, which was a clerk's office in the early 1800s. 693-3215 or visitgloucesterva.info.

Services

ABC Stores Main Street near the courthouse in Gloucester, open 10 a.m.–9 p.m. Mon.–Sat., 693-3973. Hayes in the York River Crossing Shopping Center just north of Gloucester Point on Route 17. 642-9084.

Churches Call 693-3821 for information on Gloucester churches.

Day Care/Baby Sitting Gloucester Learning Center, for children ages 6 weeks through 12 years. Gloucester Courthouse, 693-4000; Hayes, 642-2000.

Recycling The convenience centers accept the following for recycling: newspapers, household papers, corrugated cardboard, glass bottles and jars, plastic bottles (#1 and #2), metal food and beverage cans, aluminum foil products, paint cans and metal aerosol cans, and used motor oil. Call Gloucester Clean Community at 693-5370

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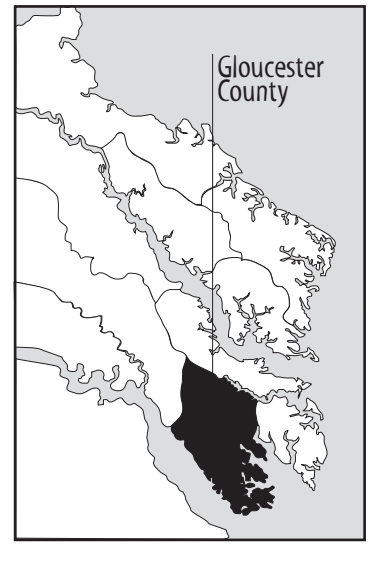

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or the landfill at 693-5109.

Towing Auto Towing Specialists, Hayes. 642-6623.

Trash Disposal Gloucester has five convenience centers to accept solid waste and recyclables from residents. Hours: Monday–Friday 8 a.m.–7 p.m. and Saturday 7 a.m.–7 p.m. The landfill is on Route 17 north of Adner and is open Monday–Friday, 8 a.m.–7 p.m., and Saturday 7 a.m.–7 p.m. Call 693-5480 or the landfill at 693-5109.

Veterinary Services Abingdon Animal Clinic, Route 17 and 1311, Hayes. 642-2181. Animal Care of Gloucester, 7102 Hayes Shopping Court, in Farm Fresh Shopping Center, Hayes, Route 17, Gloucester Point. 642-5740. Gloucester Veterinary Hospital Ltd., Route 17, a mile south of the courthouse. 693-3030. Sandy Creek Kennels (boarding, grooming and in-home pet care), call 888-266-3084 for pickup and delivery. Tails of Gloucester Pet Sitting, 694-0804. Emergency Veterinary Clinic (nights, weekends and holidays only), Route 17 at Oyster Point Road, Tabb. (757) 874-8115.

Recreation

The Gloucester Department of Parks and Recreation has 25 public parks or water access areas. A brochure is available by calling the office at 693-2355.

Water Access

Two of Gloucester's public boat landings have picnic areas. They are Cappahosic, on Route 618 at the York River, and Deep Point on Route 606 at the Piankatank River. Cappahosic, in addition, has seasonal restrooms.

The following locations have boat landings and fishing areas. They include: Cedar Bush/Olivers on Route 633 at the York River, Cherry Point on Route 641 at the Severn River, Glass Point, on Route 656 at the Severn River, John's Point on Route 629 at the Severn River, Millers on Route 612 at the Poropotank River, Paynes on Route 630 at Wilson Creek, Severn on Route 649 at Mobjack Bay, Warehouse on Route 621 at the Ware River, and Gloucester Point Beach on Route 1208 at the York River, which has fishing, a boat landing and restrooms.

Athletic Fields All of Gloucester's public schools have open play areas. Abingdon Elementary on Route 1308 at Wicomico has play equipment. Achilles Elementary on Route 216 at Achilles and Botetourt Elementary on Main Street near the old courthouse have softball fields and play equipment. Gloucester High on Route 615 has baseball, soccer, softball, tennis and outdoor basketball facilities. Page Middle School on Route 17 at White Marsh has baseball, soccer, softball and tennis facilities. T. C. Walker Elementary on Route 629 at Roanes has soccer and softball fields. Petsworth Elementary on Route 17 at Ark has soccer and softball fields and outdoor basketball. Ark Park on Route 17 two miles south of Ark has athletic fields.

To change or update Gloucester information, contact tchillemi@ssentinel.com.

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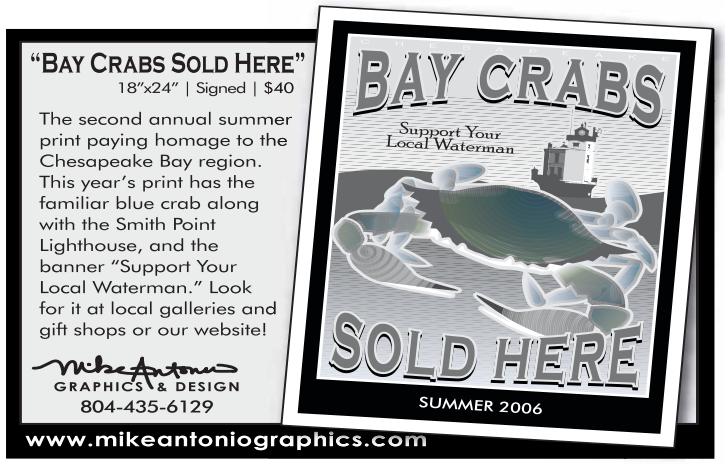

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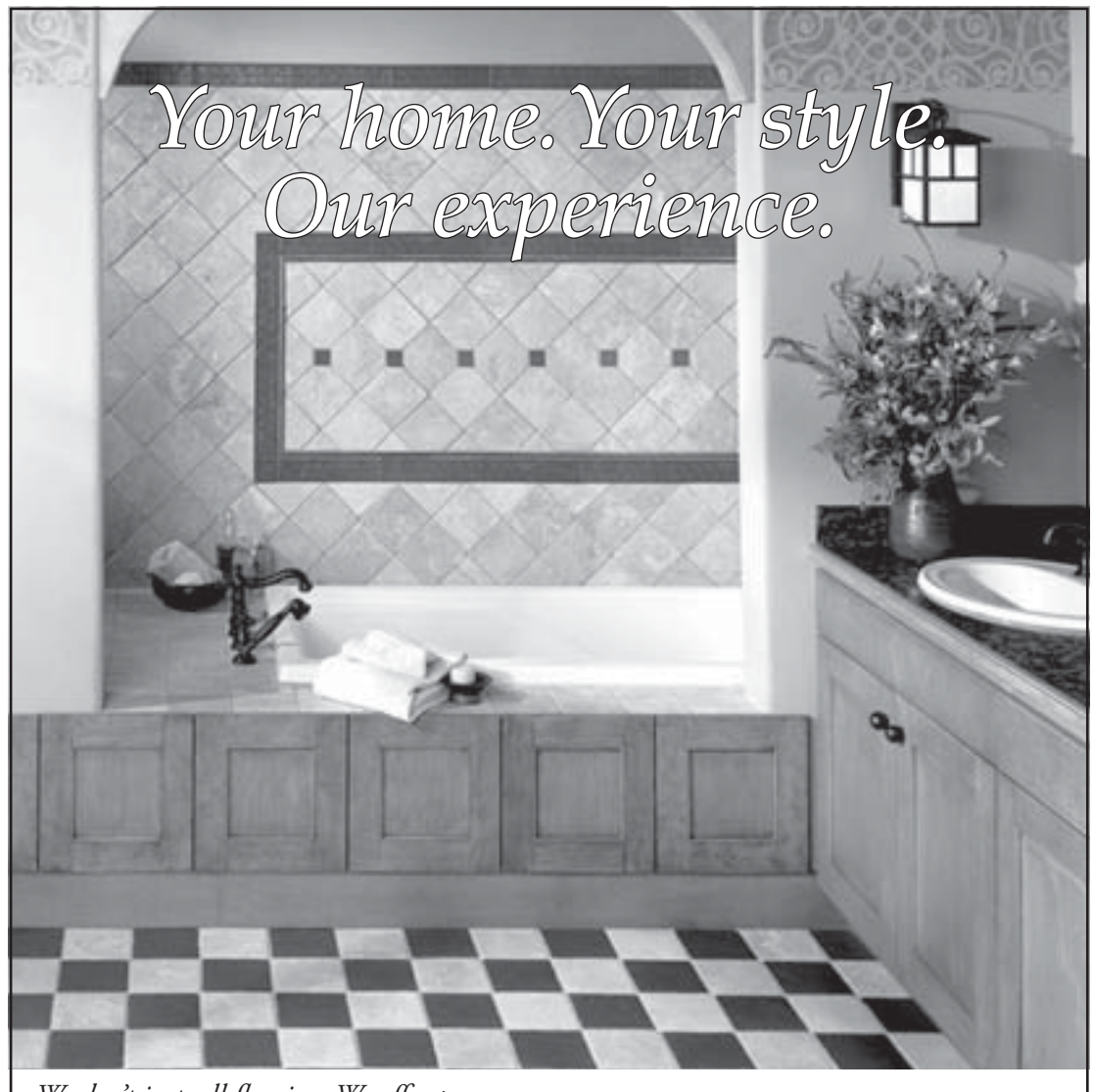

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Welcome to Lancaster County

■ Size: 136.5 square miles ■ Shoreline: 277 miles
■ Population: 11,300

History

Indians had occupied the Northern Neck for some 10,000 years when Capt. John Smith sailed up the Rappahannock River in 1608. The Powhatan Confederate was represented here by the Moraughtacunds and the Cuttatawomen tribes. A short 43 years later, Lancaster County was formed from neighboring Northumberland.

Families of notable influence in the social, political and economic climate of the colonies built magnificent "empires" here, and family names like Carter and Ball still are prevalent today.

Robert "King" Carter (1663–1732) of Corotoman was the son of the immigrant John Carter, who acquired property and lived at Corotoman from 1654 until his death in 1669.

At the time of his death, his holdings had increased to some 300,000 acres, and over 1,000 slaves were working his various plantations. There were 18 buildings on the estate then (not counting the Mansion House he built, which burned three years prior to his death).

Married twice, he had 15 children. Among King Carter's descendants were eight governors of Virginia, three signers of the Declaration of Independence, two presidents, Robert E. Lee, and Supreme Court Justice Edward D. White.

Carter and his two wives are buried at Christ Church, the church he paid to have built a few miles from Corotoman.

The Balls, meanwhile, established themselves at Millenbeck, and at Epping Forest. Mary Ball, later to become the mother of George Washington, was born in 1708–09.

A courthouse was established in 1698 at Queenstown, a newly formed port town on the Corrotoman River. In 1742, the court was moved to Lancaster.

Government

County Administrator William H. Pennell Jr., 8311 Mary Ball Road, Lancaster. Phone 462-5129, FAX 462-0031. Hours: 9 a.m.–5 p.m. Monday–Friday except holidays.

County tax rates (per $100): Real estate, $.41; personal property, $1.52.

Kilmarnock Town Manager Lee Capps, 514 North Main Street, Kilmarnock. Phone 435-1552, FAX 435-1587. Hours: 9 a.m.–5 p.m. Monday–Friday except holidays.

Town tax rates (per $100): Real estate, $.14; personal property, $.16.

White Stone Town Manager Garey Conrad, 572 Chesapeake Drive, White Stone. Phone 435-3260. Hours: 9 a.m.–noon and 1–5 p.m. Monday–Wednesday.

Irvington Town Administrator Gil Unangst, 235 Steamboat Road, Irvington. Phone 438-6230; Fax: 438-6265. Hours: 9 a.m.–1 p.m. Monday–Friday except holidays.

Chamber of Commerce

Irvington Chamber of Commerce. 438-6230.

Kilmarnock Chamber of Commerce, 435-2273 or 435-1302, meets at 8 a.m. every first Tuesday in the town hall. The Kilmarnock Information Center is in the Kilmarnock Antique Mall, 144 School Street.

Lancaster County Chamber of Commerce. Located next to the Kilmarnock Town Hall on north Main Street. 435-6092.

Services

Trash Services Residential collections: Doggett Disposal Service, Mollusk, 462-5296, and Northern Neck Refuse, Lottsburg, 529-7854.

County refuse and recycling collection centers (open 7 a.m.–7 p.m. daily): Lancaster, Route 604, Regina Road; Kilmarnock-Weems, Route 200; Nuttsville, Route 723.

Day Care/Baby Sitting Services Kilmarnock YMCA, licensed day care offering full and part-time services. 435-0223.

Churches Call Rev. Richard Fichter Jr., 435-1285, for reference and directions to all denominations in Lancaster County.

Ferry Schedule The Merry Point Ferry, Route 604, crosses the Western Branch of the Corrotoman River 7 a.m.–7 p.m. Monday–Saturday, closed Sunday. No charge. Passenger vehicles only.

ABC Store Virginia ABC Package Store, Main Street, Kilmarnock, 10 a.m.–9 p.m. Monday–Saturday. 435-1845.

Veterinary Services Bayside Animal Hospital, Route 3 North, White Stone, 435-2896; Kilmarnock Animal Hospital, Lee Street, Kilmarnock, 435-6320.

Recreation

Public Beach Westland Beach at the terminus of Route 695 provides public access to the Chesapeake Bay.

Public Kayak Launch Off Route 695 on Windmill Point Creek. Accessible from the Westland Beach public parking area at the intersection of Windmill Point Road and Brightwaters Drive.

Public Kayak Launch Kayaks and canoes may be launched at Belle Isle State Park, Route 683, at the end of Route 354.

Hiking Trails Hickory Hollow Trail, 2 miles of marked trail, Route 604, Regina Road.

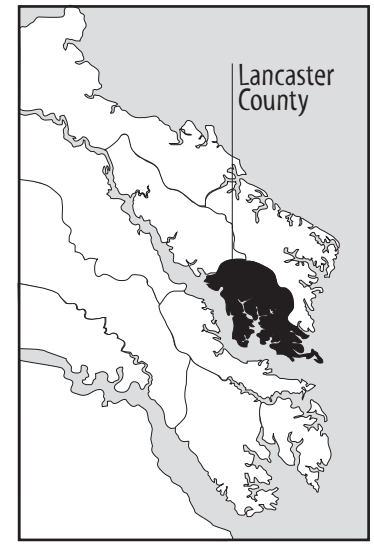
Boat Cruises Classic Cruising and Charters LLC, Irvington, offers morning and afternoon leisurely excursions. 438-1212.

Ball Fields Lancaster County Youth Park, Route 200, Kilmarnock, boys and girls diamond sports, game times and dates vary. 435-3423.

Public Recreation The Lower Northern Neck YMCA serves the public recreation function for Lancaster County. Various programming throughout the year. Public swimming pool located in Lively. 435-0223.

To change or update Lancaster information, contact lvaldrighi@rrecord.com.

The United States Air Force Heritage of America Band will perform Saturday, July 1, at 7 p.m. on the Irvington Commons.



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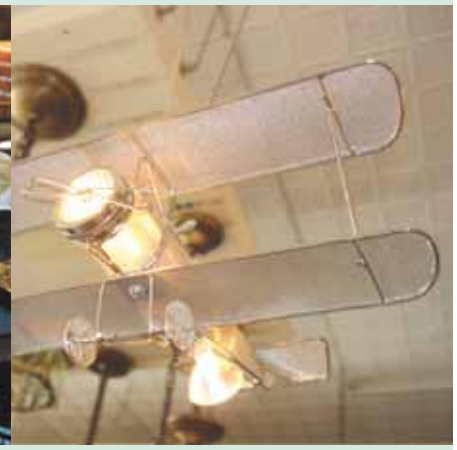

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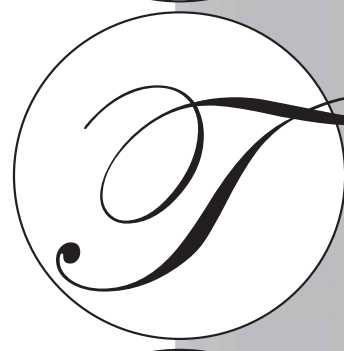

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Steptoe's Walkabout to debut July 7

Steptoe's Walkabout will debut in Kilmarnock Friday, July 7, from 5 to 7 p.m.

This "First Fridays," event will continue through October and will offer visitors time to shop, browse, eat, listen to music and visit the Rappahannock Art League's Studio Gallery.

The band Katface from Warsaw will be featured next to The Pedestal and Itchy Dog will be at Smokin' Joe's.

The gallery will offer wine and cheese for their patrons and many of the businesses and restaurants in the Steptoe's District will offer specials for the evening. An RAL artist will be painting on location. Signs featuring the logo of a flip-flop will designate the participating businesses.

A swearing-in ceremony also will be held for new council members at 6 p.m.

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