Rappahannock Record

Thursday, August 3, 2006 • Kilmarnock, Virginia • Eighty-ninth Year • Number 43 • Three Sections • 50¢

Out for a spin at the carnival

From left, West Smithers, Xander Stephens and Ford Kirkmyer take a slow ride on the Ferris wheel at the 71st annual Kilmarnock Volunteer Fire Department Firemen's Festival.

Visitors at the festival enjoy carnival-style games. The festival continues nightly through Saturday, August 5. (Photos by Conrad Wineland)

Oyster industry leaders experience success with aquaculture system

by Lisa Hinton-Valdrighi

KINSALE—A. J. Erskine is a proud parent.

He cradled a homegrown spat like an infant, gently picking up and replacing the tiny shell into its stainless steel nursery.

The spats may be his newborns but FLUPSY, a $100,000, 60-foot-long, 30-foot-wide Floating Upweller System is his baby.

The system, which moves thousands of gallons of water through a paddle-wheel at one end, holds millions of oysters, some only coin-sized, in 16 bins. It floats on plastic foam billets in the Coan River, where Ronald W. Bevans of Bevans Oyster Co. in Kinsale and Lake Cowart Jr. of Cowart Seafood in Lottsburg have combined their efforts to save the struggling Chesapeake Bay oyster.

A Massachusetts native, Erskine came on board 15 months ago when Cowart and Bevans invested in an aquaculture project that may represent the future of the local oyster industry.

"We'd heard about aquaculture for years. The French have done it successfully, but here on the bay we just grew oysters on beds," said Cowart during a press briefing last Wednesday.

About 30 media and dignitaries had been invited to the two oyster houses to tour the aquaculture facility. A mid-morning trip from Kinsale to Lottsburg showed off FLUPSY, which will help produce between six and 10 million oysters a year.

The constant, moving water helps to force-feed the infants, preparing them to be moved from their large bins to flatter, steel cages.

Erskine, who has studied aquaculture in New Hampshire, Maine, Colorado, Florida and South Carolina, is the mastermind behind the project. A scientist and aquaculturist, he explained that the seed oysters for the project, purchased from a commercial hatchery, are triploid oysters, bred in a lab to be entirely disease resistant and fast growing.

They start out as flakes, about the size of a grain of sand. The three-week-old oysters Erskine showed first are pebble-sized. In another bin, filled with about 1,200 two-month-olds, the oysters are coin-sized.

An afternoon trip that took guests out to Bevans's oyster grounds on the Yeocomico River revealed hardy 12-month-old oysters that are five to six inches long and ready for harvest.

From left, Chesapeake Bay Foundation oyster specialist Tommy Leggett and Del. Robert Wittman inspect year-old oysters, ready for harvest. (Photos by Lisa Hinton-Valdrighi)

Years ago, watermen tonged for oysters. Bevans and Cowart use a hydraulic crane to lift steel cages full of oysters to the water's surface.

"Essentially, what we're doing with the cage is eliminating the predators and giving these oysters a chance to thrive," said Erskine.

The greatest danger to the bay's oyster population, other than the diseases Dermo and MSX, is the cow-nosed stingray, an ugly but graceful creature that feasts on mussels and oysters.

The cost of a million baby oysters from the hatchery is between $5,000 and $7,000. That price doesn't include the machinery and the man-hours needed to conduct the operation. Erskine hand picks through the oysters almost daily, separating the larger and smaller oysters and dividing them into cages.

Weeks-old, pebble-sized oysters grow rapidly in a protective bin.

"Yes, it's involved. Yes, it's labor intensive, and yes, it's expensive," said Erskine. "But there are so many benefits."

According to Erskine, although aquaculture systems have been successful on the west coast for years, it is just now becoming popular in the east and as far as he knows, the Bevans/Cowart system is the largest on the coast.

Two-month old oysters are protected in a nursery in the Coan River.

An oyster grown in a cage in the Yeocomico River is nearly five inches long and ready for harvest at 12 months old.

Board 'reluctantly' appropriates some $400,000 towards high school repairs

by Joan McBride

LANCASTER—County supervisors raised several concerns last week regarding a $400,000 capital improvement project at Lancaster High School.

Concerns focused on the "scope of the expenditure" as board chairman F.W. Jenkins Jr. described the $358,000 requested for a sewer system repair and an additional $50,000 cost to install a canopy over the band room stairway—"to put a canopy basically over a garage door."

It was explained that the canopy was to prevent rainwater from going down a storm drain just outside the band room door at the bottom of the stairway and sending large amounts of fresh water into the sewer system unnecessarily during a storm.

The supervisors also scrutinized the bidding process in general, expressing a host of concerns over the way it had been done.

(Continued on page A16)

White Stone council to discuss Wal-Mart traffic impact report

by Audrey Thomasson

WHITE STONE—After waiting months for results of the Wal-Mart traffic study impact on the town of White Stone, the report that arrived has town officials scratching their heads. The two-page summary and map developed by the consulting firm of Vanasse Hangen Brustlin Inc. (VHB) does not address issues brought up by councilmen in February and may create more questions than it answers.

The study will be the focus of tonight's (August 3) town council meeting in the town hall at 7 p.m.

Virginia Department of Transportation (VDOT) residency administrator Sean Trapani declined an invitation to attend the council meeting to explain the report. According to town manager Garey Conrad, Trapani claimed his office has already issued its approval to the Wal-mart plans.

However, questions remain for council. One issue regarding the report is that it is dated May 15, but was not made available to the White Stone council for two months. Also, because the Richmond office of VHB is under contract to the town of White

(Continued on page A15)

Chesapeake ray: The up-and-coming seafood dish

Story and photo by Lisa Hinton-Valdrighi

KINSALE—I'm a well-done kinda gal.

But Richmond chef John Maxwell was vehement about the proper way to eat a cow-nosed stingray steak, seared with a pink and tender center. It was the only way to retain the flavor of the unusual Chesapeake Bay delicacy, he said.

Maxwell sliced through a 37-pound ray, dipped it's large, bloody filets into a marinade and sauteed it, serving bite-sized samples for lunch to about 30 media and dignitaries at Bevans Oyster Co. in Kinsale last Wednesday.

The purpose of the culinary creation was two-fold. The message from Ronald W. Bevans and aquaculture partner Lake Cowart Jr. was clear: for the oyster industry to survive, the cow-nosed ray population must decrease.

To do that, Shirley Estes and Joseph Cardwell of the Virginia Marine Products Board say, eat more rays.

Estes and the board are investigating new markets for the ray and will spend some $17,000 this year in promoting the voracious oyster predator and developing a sales pitch.

The board will use restaurants in the Middle Peninsula and Northern Neck for taste-testing purposes and is negotiating with leather dealers in the south for production of the rays' hide as wallets, shoes and coats.

Chef John Maxwell of Richmond sliced filets from a 37-pound cow-nosed ray and then sauteed them for a group of reporters and guests at Bevans Oyster Co.

The ray is best served in fajitas, said Maxwell, who has tried the fish in just about every dish.

While Cardwell likens its flavor and texture to steak, I thought it tasted more like veal, a bit bland. Only one in the group disliked it; she found the flavor too gamey. Maxwell agreed that the ray, like veal, needs some dressing up with a sauce or two.

Tommy Leggett, an oyster specialist with the Chesapeake Bay Foundation, thought it needed only a couple slices of bread and lettuce and tomato, replacing the ham on his sandwich with strips of ray.

Look for the cow-nosed ray in local restaurants soon, but it won't likely be listed as such on the menu.

Estes thinks the name is less than appealing. From now on, it's Chesapeake ray, she said.

Now, doesn't that sound more appetizing?

Inside

■ **Menhaden cap:**
State, industry endorse proposal for federal fisheries panel.....**B1**

■ **Downtown doings:**
Dawg Daze and Steptoe's Walkabout slated in Kilmarnock.....**A10**

■ **Harvesting the Bay**
Pound net fishermen continue the tradition.....**B11**

■ **Community unity:**
Local NAACP remains active **A16**

Eagle Scout honored: A14

Business....B8-11 Obituaries.....B3
Calendar.....A2-3 Opinion.....A4-5
Churches.....B2-4 Police.....B1
Classified...C1-14 Schools.....B6-7
Directories.C12-13 Sports.....A12-14
Notices....C10-12 Upcoming.A2-3,6+

6 56525 10491 6

August

3 Thursday

The 71st Annual Kilmarnock Firemen's Festival is under way on the festival grounds off Waverly Avenue in Kilmarnock with rides, games, food and raffles. The fun continues nightly through August 5.

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.

Al-ANON meets at 7 p.m. at Riverside Warsaw Medical Arts building in Warsaw.

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.

Landscaping For Wildlife And The Bay with Rebecca Wertime will be presented by the Rappahannock River Refuge Friends at the Wilna House Refuge Headquarters in Warsaw from 7 to 9 p.m.

Evening Song, featuring Bill Duvall, Alice Hershiiser and David Hershiser, will be in concert at 7:30 p.m. at Lower United Methodist Church in Hartfield. The free concert is sponsored by the Middlesex County Public Library. 758-5717.

No-Name Needlers will gather at 1 p.m. at The Art of Coffee in Montross. 493-0873.

Guitarist Robert Keyes will play at 7 p.m. at Cafe Mojo in Urbanna. 758-4141.

4 Friday

Itchy Dog will be featured on the Steptoe's Walkabout stage at The Pedestal in downtown Kilmarnock from 5 to 7 p.m.

The Northern Neck Big Band will be featured on the Steptoe's Walkabout stage at The Health Food Store from 5 to 7 p.m.

River Song will be featured on the Steptoe's Walkabout stage at Burke's Jewelers from 5 to 7 p.m.

The Ray Pittman Project will play on the deck at Smokin' Joe's Barbecue in Kilmarnock from 5:30 to 9:30 p.m.

A Student Guitar Ensemble will perform at 3 p.m. at a Sunrise Gallery open house at 197 Whitaker Lane near Hughlett Point. Celeste Gates will perform at 4:30 p.m. and Banish Misfortune at 5 p.m.

Bingo will be played at the Upper Lancaster Ruritan Center in Lively at 7 p.m.

Bingo will be played at the Mid-County Rescue Squad Building in Heathsville at 7 p.m.

The RFM Quilters meet at 1 p.m. at Reedville Fishermen's Museum. 453-6529.

The RFM Stitchers meet at 9:30 a.m. at Reedville Fishermen's Museum. 453-6529.

Dessert Bridge/Mahjong will be played at the Woman's Club of White Stone at noon. $4. 435-6207.

Steptoe's Walkabout will be held in downtown Kilmarnock from 5 to 7 p.m. The event will offer visitors an opportunity to shop, browse, dine, listen to music and visit antique and art galleries.

Kilmarnock's 26th Annual "Dawg Daze" celebration will feature sales and raffles among participating businesses all over town.

An Open House will be held at Sunrise Studio at 197 Whittaker Lane. Artists, writers and musicians will be featured weekends through August 13. Call 435-2880 for details and directions.

Walking the dogs

Kathy Juron's Borzoi dog pack of Lydia, Flurry and Banner sit with a colorful but rather unresponsive new friend, Lavender. The brightly painted dog is the work of Susan Sills and Juron and sits in front of Burke's Jewelers. Decorated dogs are appearing throughout downtown Kilmarnock for the Steptoe's Walkabout Friday, August 4, from 5 to 7 p.m. The dogs are up for "adoption" by silent bid at the Studio Gallery at 19 N. Main Street. (Photo by Audrey Thomasson)

4 Friday

The 71st Annual Kilmarnock Firemen's Festival is under way on the festival grounds off Waverly Avenue in Kilmarnock with rides, games, food and raffles. The fun continues nightly through August 5.

Row It, Ride It, Roast It, a canoe trip, hayride and campfire will be held at Belle Isle State Park from 5:30 to 9 p.m. 462-5030.

A Homecoming for the northern and southern fleets of the Chesapeake Bay buyboats will be held at the Urbanna Town Marina at Upton's Point on Urbanna Creek. The fleets are expected to arrive at 2 p.m. and will be open for public viewing from 3 to 5 p.m. Activities continue August 5.

Tyrone World Entertainment will present a program of ventriloquism, puppets and music beginning at 6 p.m. at Lancaster Middle School. Awards for the Lancaster Community Library Summer Reading Program will also be presented.

5 Saturday

Mercy Creek will be featured at Café Mojo in Urbanna. The show will begin around 9 p.m. 758-4141.

Tracy Hill will be featured at Donk's Theater on Route 198 in Mathews at 8 p.m. 725-7760.

Joseph Stallings will perform at 3 p.m. at a Sunrise Gallery at 197 Whitaker Lane near Hughlett Point, Celeste and Mark Gates will perform at 4:30 p.m. and Banish Misfortune at 5 p.m.

The Stepping Stones will host a square dance at the Freeshade Community Center in Syringa from 8 to 10 p.m. 694-5118.

Intelligence will present a concert at 6 p.m. at Yates House Gallery in Deltaville. Bring a blanket, picnic dinner and friends. 776-8505.

Hotcakes will play at 8 p.m. at the annual Lower Midlesex Volunteer Fire Department Crab Feast in Deltaville. The all-you-can-eat feast is from 5 to 8 p.m. $20. 776-9753.

Steve Keith will perform at 11:30 a.m. for the second annual "Homecoming of the Chesapeake Bay Buyboats" at Upton's Point Marina on Urbanna Creek.

5 Saturday

The Irvington Farmers' Market will be held from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. on the Irvington Commons.

A Bald Eagle Quest will be held at Belle Isle State Park from 2 to 3:30 p.m. 462-5030.

A Full Moon Canoe Trip will be held at Belle Isle State Park from 8 to 10 p.m. $6.

An Open House will be held at Sunrise Studio at 197 Whittaker Lane. Artists, writers and musicians will be featured weekends through August 13. Call 435-2880 for details and directions.

A Skipjack Cruise aboard the Claud W. Somers departs the Reedville Fishermen's Museum dock at 10 a.m. $20 for museum members; $25 for others. 453-6529.

The Northern Neck Computer Users Group will meet at 10 a.m. at the Lancaster Community Library in Kilmarnock. Tom Foulkes will be the speaker. A Beginners Special Interest Group will meet at 11:30 a.m.

Kilmarnock's 26th Annual "Dawg Daze" celebration will feature sales and raffles among participating businesses all over town.

A Bazaar/Bake Sale will begin at 8 a.m. at Calvary Baptist Church at 490 East Church Street in Kilmarnock.

For Display, Classified & Directory Advertising, Call 435-1701

5 Saturday

The Second Annual Homecoming of the Chesapeake Bay Buyboats will be held at the Urbanna Town Marina at Upton's Point on Urbanna Creek. A ceremony will be held at 10 a.m. with an official welcome from the Town of Urbanna, speeches and dedications. A barbecue lunch follows with entertainment by Steve Keith. The buyboats will be open for public viewing until 5 p.m.

6 Sunday

The Widowed Persons Service for Lancaster and Northumberland counties holds its lunch brunch at The Tavern in Heathsville immediately following church services.

Fishing From The Pier will be held at Belle Isle State Park from 3 to 5 p.m. License necessary. 462-5030.

A Full Moon Canoe Trip will be held at Belle Isle State Park from 8 to 10 p.m. $6.

A Student Guitar Ensemble will perform at 2:30 p.m. at a Sunrise Gallery open house at 197 Whitaker Lane near Hughlett Point. **The Broken Consort Wind Trio** will play at 3 p.m. at Sunrise Gallery at 197 Whittaker Lane near Hughlett Point, **Mark and Celeste Gates** will perform at 4 p.m. and **Banish Misfortune** at 5 p.m.

An Open House will be held at Sunrise Studio at 197 Whittaker Lane. Artists, writers and musicians will be featured weekends through August 13. Call 435-2880 for details and directions.

Robert Keyes will be featured on guitar at Rose's Crab House in Kilmarnock, beginning at 11 a.m.

7 Monday

Open Mike Night is from 7 to 9 p.m. at the Gables Coffee and Ice Cream Shop on Main Street in Reedville.

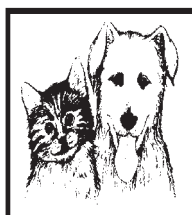
The First-Place Weight-Loss Class meets at 6:45 p.m. at the White Stone Church of the Nazarene Family Life Center at 57 Whisk Drive. 435-5701.

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.

A Summer Day Camp will be offered at Stratford Hall, the birthplace of Gen. Robert E.Lee, from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. for ages 9 to 12. The camp continues through August 11. $175. Register at 493-8910, or visit www.stratfordhall.org.

The Northern Neck Chapter of the National Active and Retired Federal Employees Assocaition will meet at 3 p.m. at Cobham Park Baptist Church in Warsaw. Sen. George Allen will speak. 436-0511.

(continued on A3)



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CONRAD'S UPPER DECK: Waterside restaurant overlooking the Rappahannock River, specializing in fresh local seafood. Full menu-All you-can-eat buffet. Boat dockage. Friday & Saturday only. 5-9pm (D) Route 624, Mollusk 462-7400.

DIXIE DELI: Family owned and operated (forever!) Serving lunch 5 days a week, Mon-Fri., 10:30-3:00, Subs, soup, our famous potato & chicken salad and sandwiches, 50 Irvington Rd., Kilmarnock 435-6745.

FADED GLORY CRUISES: -Irvington "Faded Glory"-the Hope and Glory Inn's classic 1952 Chesapeake Bay dead rise. **Friday Night Crab Cruises:** $65 per person/wine and beer inclusive. Departure 6:30 pm-90 minutes. **Saturday Cocktail Cruises:** $30 per person/Libations a la carte. Departure: 4:30 pm. 90 minutes. Reservations required for cruises-438-6053 and 800-497-8228.

HOPE and GLORY INN: ***Dinners at our Chef's Table:*** $65.00 per person++/Four courses/wine paired/one table limited to 18/prix fixe/7 pm. Reservations required for dinners-438-6053 and 800-497-8228. 65 Tavern Road and King Carter Drive, Irvington.

LANCASTER LANDING RESTAURANT: Seafood, Steaks and daily dinner specials. Located at the foot of the White Stone Bridge. Hours: Main Dining Room: 5:00–10:00 Tues.–Sat; Lounge Dining Room: 4:00–12:00 Tues.–Thursday & 4:00–1:15 Fri. & Sat. Entertainment Friday & Saturday (in the lounge). 436-9060

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 7 days 7:30 am-5:30pm, Sat 9-5, Sun 11-3. Fresh Arabica Coffees, espresso, cappuccino, fresh baked pastries and sweets, soft ice cream, reading rooms, music, free WiFi for customers.

SANDPIPER RESTAURANT: Est. 1982. Casual relaxed dining with friendly service. Featuring nightly specials, charbroiled steaks and fresh seafood dishes. Full menu. (D) Route 3, White Stone. 435-6176.

ST. ANDREWS GRILL AT THE TARTAN GOLF CLUB: Open for lunch 10-3. Open Monday, Wednesday thru Saturday. Closed Tuesday. Daily Specials. Homemade Soups, Salads, Seafood and Sandwiches. Call 438-6009.

SKEETERS Home of the famous Buster Burger! Thursday Shrimp Night, Friday Crab Cake Night. Daily Lunch Specials. 5360 Mary Ball Road, Lively. 804-462-5700.

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.

THE TAVERN RESTAURANT: In the heart of Heathsville, Va. Chef Branden Levine serves a pleasing Progressive American Cuisine. Enjoy steak, seafood, chicken, lamb, and gourmet desserts. Open for lunch: Wednesday - Saturday 11:30 - 2:30, Dinner: 5:30 - 9:00 and Sunday Brunch 10:30-2:00. Call 804-580-7900 for reservations.

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Sat. (2:00, 4:00), 6:00, 7:45
Sun. (2:00, 4:00), 6:00
Mon. – Tues. (5:15), 7:30

BARNYARD
1 HRS 35 MIN
Fri. (4:15), 6:15, 8:00
Sat. (2:15, 4:15), 6:15, 8:00
Sun. (2:15, 4:15), 6:15
Mon. – Thurs. (5:30), 7:15

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FRI. AUG 4
BARNYARD (PG) 5:15, 7:30, 9:30
TALLADEGA NIGHTS (PG13) 4:45, 7:20, 9:35
ANT BULLY (PG) 5:00
MIAMI VICE (R) 4:30, 7:15, 9:45
MONSTER HOUSE (PG) 7:10, 9:20
PIRATES OF CARIBBEAN(PG13) 4:00, 7:00, 9:50

SAT. AUG 5
BARNYARD (PG) 1:15, 3:15, 5:15, 7:30, 9:30
TALLADEGA NIGHTS (PG13) 1:45, 4:45, 7:20, 9:35
MIAMI VICE (R) 1:30, 4:30, 7:15, 9:45
ANT BULLY (PG) 1:00, 5:00
MONSTER HOUSE (PG) 3:00, 7:10, 9:20
PIRATES OF CARIBBEAN(PG13) 12:45, 4:00, 7:00

SUN. AUG 6
BARNYARD (PG) 1:15, 3:15, 5:15, 7:30
TALLADEGA NIGHTS (PG13) 1:45, 4:45, 7:20
MIAMI VICE (R) 1:30, 4:30, 7:15
ANT BULLY (PG) 1:00, 5:00
MONSTER HOUSE (PG) 3:00, 7:10
PIRATES OF CARIBBEAN(PG13) 12:45, 4:00, 7:00

MON.-TUES. AUG 7-AUG 8
BARNYARD (PG) 5:15, 7:30
TALLADEGA NIGHTS (PG13) 4:45, 7:35
MIAMI VICE (R) 4:30, 7:25
ANT BULLY (PG) 5:00
MONSTER HOUSE (PG) 7:15
PIRATES OF CARIBBEAN(PG13) 4:15, 7:10

WED.-THURS AUG 9 & 10
WORLD TRADE CENTER (PG13) 4:45, 7:20
BARNYARD (PG) 5:15, 7:30
TALLADEGA NIGHTS (PG13) 4:50, 7:35
ANT BULLY (PG) 5:00
MONSTER HOUSE (PG) 7:15
MIAMI VICE (R) 4:30, 7:25

THE RECORD ONLINE
www.rrecord.com

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

29th Annual Spaghetti Dinner
St. Paul's Mission Church
7070 Tavern Run Road, Hague
Friday, August 4 - 5:00 to 7:30 pm

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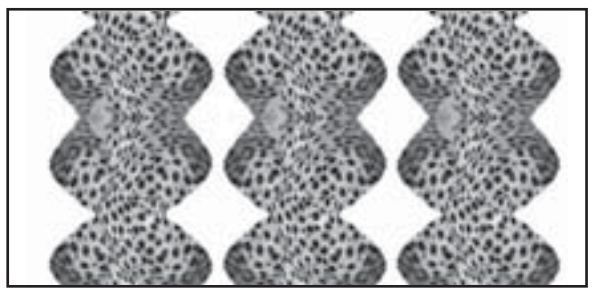
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Area Events

■ Kids' Day

Sunday, August 6, is Capital One Kids' Day at Maymont Park in Richmond. Outdoor games, art activities, music and food begin at 1 p.m. All activities are free.

The event is sponsored by Capital One, Boys & Girls Clubs of Richmond, Radio Disney and the Children's Museum of Richmond. For more information, visit www.c-mor.org, or call 474-2667.

■ Meet and greet

U.S. Sen. George Allen will visit Montross on Monday, August 7. He will visit businesses along Main Street from 1 to 2:15 p.m.

"I'm looking forward to spending time with old friends and meeting new folks in Westmoreland County," said Sen. Allen. "It is always great to get out in Virginia and hear first hand what people are thinking."

■ Mass meeting

The Republican Party of Lancaster County will hold a Mass Meeting at the Chesapeake Bank Training Center on School Street in Kilmarnock on August 15 at 7:30 p.m.

The purpose of the Mass Meeting is to nominate a Republican candidate for the office of Lancaster County Treasurer, to be voted for in the Special Election on November 7.

■ Christmas Countdown

St. Stephen's Episcopal Church in Heathsville will hold a "Christmas Countdown" September 2.

It will be an all-day event with 100 vendors, food, a bake sale, music with Steve Keith and other entertainers, and several short concerts in the church. The event will feature Christmas items.

Upcoming

(continued from A2)

7 Monday

U.S. Sen. George Allen will visit businesses along Main Street in Montross from 1 to 2:15 p.m.
The Northumberland County Red Cross Board will meet at 7 p.m. at the Mid-County Rescue Squad Building in Heathsville. 580-4933.
The Parkinson's Care Partners Support Group will meet at Rappahannock Westminster-Canterbury near Irvington at 10:30 a.m. 435-9553.

8 Tuesday

The Rappahannock Pistol and Rifle Club will meet at 7 p.m. at the northside branch of the Bank of Lancaster in Kilmarnock. 435-2143.
Boat Talk, an exchange of ideas on classic and wooden boats, will be held at 4 p.m. at the Reedville Fishermen's Museum. 453-6529.
Bridge will be played at 1 p.m. at Rappahannock Westminster-Canterbury.
The Kilmarnock Planning Commission will meet at 7 p.m. at the town office.
The Kilmarnock Museum Board of Directors will meet at 2 p.m. at the museum on North Main Street.
The Lancaster Lions Club will meet at 7 p.m. at Lancaster Landing Restaurant in White Stone.
A Blood Drive will be held by the Northumberland County Chapter of the American Red Cross from 12:30 to 6:30 p.m. at St. Stephen's Episcopal Church in Heathville.

9 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 meet at 2:30 p.m. at St. Andrews Presbyterian Church in Kilmarnock. 438-5127.
The RFM Quilters meet at 9:30 a.m. at Reedville Fishermen's Museum. 453-6529.
Duplicate Bridge will be played at 1 p.m. at the Woman's Club of White Stone. Men, women and newcomers, are invited. No reservations needed. 435-2755.
Go Fly A Kite, a kite building crafts program will be held at Belle Isle State Park from 2 to 4 p.m. $2. 462-5030.
The Bay Consortium Workforce Investment Board Inc. quarterly meeting will be held at 10 a.m. at Riverside Tappahannock Hospital on Hospital Road in Tappahannock. 333-4048.
The Northern Neck Soil & Water Conservation District will meet at 4 p.m. at the VFW Building in Warsaw, VA.
The Northern Neck Soil and Water Conservation District will hold a Cost-Share Conference at 6 p.m. at the VFW Building in Warsaw. Producers and landowners in the Northern Neck are invited to learn about the recent changes in the Virginia Agricultural BMP Cost-Share Program. 333-3525.

10 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.
A Hayride will be held at Belle Isle State Park from 9 to 11 a.m.
A Critter Catch seining activity will be held at Belle Isle State Park from 12:30 to 2 p.m
A Celebration of the Kilmarnock Station, 202 years of U.S. Postal Service in Kilmarnock will be held at the Kilmarnock Post Office. At 11 a.m. Katherine Keyser, the winner of the cancellation stamp anniversary contest, and runners-up will be honored.
The Wetlands Board for Lancaster County will meet at 9:30 a.m. at the courthouse in Lancaster.

10 Thursday

The Board of Supervisors for Northumberland County will meet at 3:30 p.m. at the courthouse in Heathsville. Public hearings begin at 7 p.m. at the courts building.
The Irvington Town Council will meet at 7:30 p.m. at the town office.
The Interfaith Service Council will meet at 7:30 p.m. at Wicomico Episcopal Church in Wicomico Church.
The Upper Lancaster Ruritan Club will meet at 6:30 p.m. at the Ruritan Center in Lively.
American Legion Post 117 will meet at 7:30 p.m. at the post home in Reedville.
No-Name Needlers will gather at 1 p.m. at The Art of Coffee in Montross. 493-0873.
The Rappahannock Amateur Radio Association will meet at 7:30 p.m. at the Mid-County Volunteer Rescue Squad Building at 7990 Northumberland Highway near Heathsville.

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

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Excerpts

by Henry Lane Hull

Last Wednesday our family set off on a jaunt we have intended taking for well over a year. We drove up to Orange, spent the night, and the following day we went to visit Mr. Madison's home, "Montpelier." I had last been there nearly 20 years ago when I led a tour for Northumberland Preservation, Inc. In those days the house still stood in its DuPont glory, with its Madisonian past barely alive.

The reference is to the DuPont family which purchased the estate in 1900 and began transforming it into a family retreat. The DuPonts built, and built, and built. The original house, which James Madison had enlarged in 1809-1811, became little more than a nucleus of the expanded version.

In 1983, when Marion DuPont Scott died, the estate passed to The National Trust for Historic Preservation, which opened it to the public. There it remained until the death of the philanthropist, Paul Mellon, who willed $20 million towards its restoration to the appearance which Madison and his wife, Dolley, had produced in the early 19th century.

This year, the long-term project has reached a major turning point, as the plastic covering of the façade has come down, revealing the beautiful brickwork which had borne a pink stucco surface for over a century. The great neo-classical portico is all the more impressive in this new phase, and during our visit artisans were cutting 150-year-old timbers to make a new tongue-and-groove floor for it.

Inside, the rooms are being reconfigured to meet the lines which the Madisons knew. Surprisingly, artifacts are returning to the estate, as are pictures which document how it appeared in earlier stages. We saw a wonderful, Federal Period mantel which a local resident brought forth, saying his family tradition held that it had come from Montpelier. Archeological and architectural investigation confirmed the legend and the workers will return it to its original site in the house.

Seeing the work in progress is a rare opportunity which will have passed when the project reaches completion. Nowhere is this more abundantly clear than in the underground digs taking place, particularly in the front yard. Students from the State University of New York at Potsdam have been working all summer locating the post-holes of the formal welcoming fence which disappeared longer ago than anyone alive today could remember. They eagerly leapt forward to ask if we had any questions, and took rightful pride in showing us what they literally had uncovered.

We strolled over to The Temple, a structure which appears to be a folly, but for the practical-minded Fourth President and Father of the Constitution, served as an ice house where he was able to store winter ice, the last of which would survive into the following September.

The domed building rests on a colonnade with 10 columns. I questioned whether this effort, begun in the last Madisonian burst of construction in 1810, could have had the symbolic significance of one column for each article of the Bill of Rights, but I could not find an answer from the guides.

We entered several of the DuPont-era barns on the plantation. These were Sears and Roebuck mail-order buildings, which the DuPonts used for the horse operation. They comprise the largest assemblage of such structures known anywhere. The restoration is retaining them, in some cases recycling them for exhibits. In their case, one time-travels back to the early 20th century, realizing that they are less than half the age of the mansion.

We walked through parts of the great forest and along the paths of the formal gardens, ending our tour at the graves of James and Dolley Madison. There, under a large granite obelisk, rests the remains of the Fourth President, and behind his tomb that of his wife, who died in Washington where she had moved after his death. She was buried there, and later removed to Montpelier to rest with her husband.

A new bridge across the railroad tracks is part of the restoration. It will open next year, and the hubbub of the overall activity surrounding this heroic undertaking should reach completion in two years. Now is the time to see it in progress, to get to know the house's bones, and to see the enduring personal legacy of "The Little Giant," under whose Constitution we have lived for over two centuries.

Delegate's Report

by Del. Robert J. Wittman

As areas along the shoreline are developed and new owners purchase existing properties, there are more and more applications to install or expand piers, platforms and boathouses.

When there are more and more of these structures being proposed on our rivers and creeks, there is more potential for conflict with surrounding property owners. The process of permitting for piers, platforms and boathouses includes a variety of public participation opportunities for folks to comment on how these structures may affect them.

The General Assembly recently addressed a bill to exempt a number of structures from requiring a permit from the Virginia Marine Resources Commission. As proposed, the new process does not include public comment. Essentially, it would have allowed all open-sided shelter roofs or gazebo structures over the water to be permitted without any public input.

Through my years on the Westmoreland board of supervisors, the issues that caused the greatest concern among folks that lived along the water were those related to the permitting of roofed structures over the water. Anything that eliminates the opportunity for the public to comment on these projects potentially allows decisions to be made without consideration of impact on others.

Eventually, the legislature adopted measures to require a permit and thus allow public input on any roofed structure of more than 400 square feet as part of a dock or any open-sided roofs designed to shelter a single boat, boat slip or boat lift that exceed 700 square feet. If any adjoining property owner objects to a proposed roof structure over the water, the project will require a permit from the Virginia Marine Resources Commission and therefore an opportunity for citizens to comment. Also, counties may continue to disallow such structures by ordinance.

Last week I attended the Kilmarnock Firemen's Festival. Over the weekend I attended a fund-raiser for the Northumberland Community Center as well as a picnic for the Caroline County Farm Bureau at the Upper Caroline Fire Station.

If I can be of assistance, call 493-0508, e-mail robwittman@verizon.net, or visit www.delegatewittman.com.

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Letters to the Editor

Responding to truth or treason

To The Editor:

I normally do not respond to letters written by left liberals, but a letter entitled "Truth or Treason" in the July 20 Rappahannock Record was about all I could take.

First, all far left newspapers such as the New York Times, the Washington Post, the Los Angeles Times and the major television networks and all far left liberals that support them have all given aid and comfort to the enemy during war time, if we were in World War II that would have been treason. Liberals have done nothing to help this administration fight this war. They have stalled all policy and undermined the president's actions to win this war. They have shown hatred for the military. They have hoped that many body bags would be coming home with our troops in them. They have told our fighting men and women that they cannot win this war and should come home and some have even hoped that we would lose the war.

Don't think that the terrorists haven't noticed what the liberals are doing. They have given them resolve to fight on hoping that the liberals could sway the American people into giving up.

Its not going to happen this time, there is too much to lose. I firmly believe that liberals love terrorists. I do not believe that liberals have any idea what a terrorist is and what they do. I feel that liberals think that 9/11 was caused by the United States and not the terrorists.

Liberals see the terrorists as victims and the United States as the bad guys. The writer of the July 20 letter thinks that people who blow up women and children should have convention rights. How sick is that?

When the terrorists take one of ours, they chop their heads. Where was the outcry from liberals demanding that the terrorists abide by the Convention?

The Supreme Court liberals also said that terrorists are protected by the Convention. Liberals called it a victory. And it was a victory for the terrorists, another aid and comfort given to them by liberals.

We are in a war, one we must win and will win, with or without the help of liberals.

And for what? All because of their hatred for the president.

I would rather fight the war over there instead of over here. I was in one war and I didn't like it. What will it take to make liberals understand that this war is real and very deadly?

I don't believe liberals will fight for anything. I believe that had the liberals supported the president from the beginning, this war would be over.

There is still time for the liberals to do the right thing and unify the country, but I am not holding my breath.

Bob Hunter
Ophelia

Waverly annex would be folly

To The Editor:

On August 21, the Kilmarnock town council will make a decision on the proposed boundary line adjustment. While the western section seems to make sense, incorporating land zoned for commercial and industrial enterprises with very few residences, the eastern component is deeply controversial.

The eastern part is land that abuts Waverly Avenue from the current town limits to the water. It includes a few working farms and businesses, and a community of 29 homes whose residents, myself included, are questioning the motives of the former town council.

We are upset due to a failure to communicate. The town council worked on this issue for two years. We, on the other hand, were given four days to prepare.

Perhaps, someone on the old council could have invited the affected residents to a meeting so we would have a notion of the town's vision for Waverly Avenue. What we got was an attitude that "we are going to raise your taxes and you will have to trust us on the rest." That trust is hard to come by when the town made promises 20 years ago on a boundary line adjustment and has yet to fulfill them.

What is the plan and will it be good for Kilmarnock? As I understand it, our taxes will be raised at a reduced tax rate of five cents per $100 of assessed value for a period of five years. Then our taxes will increase to whatever the tax rate is at that time.

At five cents per $100, the Town of Kilmarnock will receive a little over $7,000 annually in additional real estate tax revenue from the Waverly properties based on their current assessment. In exchange, the town will provide our community sewer and water service. This will require a sewer line a mile and a half long. The cost for such a line will exceed $1 million.

If I were a citizen of Kilmarnock, I would be contacting the town council for an explanation. The additional tax returns certainly do not justify a million dollar investment. The proposal does not make sense.

I suggest that the new town council reconsider the Waverly Avenue annexation. As I said during the last council meeting, the town has not made its case. The former council did not even try.

The new council should consider that their constituents and the town's business owners recently endured a 300 percent increase in water and sewer fees. The Waverly annexation would impose another one.

Charles F. Green
1503 Waverly Avenue
Kilmarnock

Still here making art

To the Editor:

"Tired of bashing letters" just hit the target. It's hard to understand how these political attacks from readers in any way will fix each view. It may be a relief for the writers to get a disappointment off their chests.

I have a local issue. The writers and readers can use their energy to visit and have fun in cultural activities around the area instead.

Ten years ago I discovered the "promise land" after five years of searching in the mountains close to northern Virginia for a place to live and create. I ended at Whittaker Lane with no mountains near but close to the bay. I rented a weekend cottage on the Rappahannock River to learn more about the area and people to eventually build my house on the land I purchased in 1995.

Soon I discovered the narrowest space on Main Street; the Kilmarnock Museum used to be there. Even though it was only eight feet wide I thought that the 60-foot long walls in two stories were perfect for a gallery. This was possible because at that time in there I learned to know my wife. She was a writer and a poet and I was the artist and businessman from Falls Church, a great combination. We opened the gallery and invited local artists and those from Northern Virginia and surroundings. We traveled every weekend to pursue a monthly show, including poetry and music.

We spent money and time to create an additional cultural activity for the community. The Rappahannock Art League was here but not on Main Street yet. Local people did not visit, not even to support the local artists, poets and musicians. But we had visitors from outside of the Northern Neck, from Florida to New York. The writers and poets brought their friends, family and audience no matter how long the trip. Even if just one person visited we held the open house and had a great time with our friends the exhibitors. Creative people have a very interesting life, and we are real thankful to all who participate.

We are still doing this, although we closed the gallery a year later because of the lack of participation in a free cultural activity. We met very special people. I did not make any money, but we created great friendships. That year I put about 50,000 miles in my new car. Finally I built my house and studio eight miles away from Kilmarnock and moved permanently in March of 2001 and we still do these activities.

We are visited by artists, friends and family and we always have a great time but we do not see neighbors or anyone different. It is like everyone wants us to fail. Some seem concerned because of my ethnic look about what kind of people we will bring. They cannot imagine how good we are doing in life. We even heard gossip after 9/11 from a few sources that I should be investigated as a possible terrorist.

I was born in Colombia, South America, a beautiful country. I may look Spanish, French, Arabic, Mexican or Italian, but everyone thinks I'm Mexican. It's very funny the attention I get by walking in the stores. Would it be better if I had my resume printed on my head? I hope those who visit my studio discover in my art how interesting people can be regardless of their looks.

Anyway, 10 years have passed and the local community can not be attracted. Maybe because it is free? The ones that have visited leave with a great impression and wish us well. One day a museum will be given as a present for the county.

Alvaro Ibañez
Kilmarnock

Town residents need to get involved

To The Editor:

Promises are made to be broken. The Kilmarnock Town Council promised water and sewage to Hawthorn Farms Subdivision. The promise was broken, but town taxes are still being paid.

The Kilmarnock Town Council promised water and sewage to residents past CVS on James B. Jones Memorial Highway. The promise was broken, but town taxes are still being paid.

Why should the residents of Waverly Avenue and Boat House Cove Road pay more taxes for nothing the town can give us we don't already have?

Councilmen and councilwomen, think about the promises the town has made and cannot or will not honor.

Please just leave us alone and fix the problems in town first. The town has some residents other than the two I've mentioned that do not have sewage. Why?

Kilmarnock residents should attend every town meeting to find out what the council is up to. The council works for you, the taxpayer.

Residents of Kilmarnock, do you want your taxes to pay the salary of a town manager when he doesn't pay any town tax, water or sewage rates that you pay? Why doesn't he live in town?

My hope is that the two councilwomen will keep their eyes open to what the other councilmen and mayor are doing.

Peggy S. Whaley
Boat House Cove Road
Kilmarnock

Yesteryear in Lancaster

(A reprint from the August 3, 1906, issue of the Virginia Citizen).

Wicomico Church

Mr. and Mrs. Willie H. Tapscott, Jr., of Baltimore, are visiting in this locality.

W. O. Doggett has built a new addition to his dwelling.

Children's Day services were conducted last Sunday evening at Mila.

Miss Lottie Haynie, of Sunnybank, is visiting her brother at Mila.

Lively

E. B. Clark, who left here on Wednesday last for a Baltimore hospital, is slowly improving.

Miss Lola Haynie has returned home from the Summer Normal School at Fredericksburg.

Mrs. R. O. Norris' little daughter, who was taken to Norfolk for medical treatment, will have to remain in the hospital six months before she will be able to return home.

R. O. Clark, of this place, left on Saturday last for Moran where he will be employed.

Some weddings

Among the marriage licenses issued Wednesday afternoon in Baltimore, was one to Herbert Henderson, of Northumberland County, but formerly of Lancaster, and Nora E. Cooker, aged 17.

Wesley Newsom, of Lottsburg, and Miss Homer Dawson, of Cowarts, were married Thursday, July 26th, at the Methodist parsonage, Heathsville, by Rev. E. F. Garner. Both bride and bridegroom are well known and popular in Northumberland. They will make their home at Lottsburg.

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

Letters to the Editor

Some balance please

To The Editor:

The multiple, lengthy, repeated Bush bashing letters in the Record demand a response.

The Clinton praising writer with the Irvington address appears to receive special treatment with his very lengthy diatribes.

He locates a piece of fictional data, then expands and distorts it to make it totally true. He makes generalizations without foundation and pretends to be presenting actual material. He references sections of our constitution to support his criticisms.

This writer and his compatriots express their pride in the previous Clinton administration. One wonders if they admire lack of ethics, morality, honesty and purpose—or are just politically blind. Their personal insults are demeaning, demonizing and scurilous. In short, they are blowing smoke.

Don McGonegal
White Stone

Revoke permit for reservoir

To The Editor:

The King William Reservoir (KWR) is being assessed by the Water Control Board for a permit extension.

The law only allows a permit extension without changes. There have been fundamental changes to the King William Reservoir regarding regional water need assessment. The original 1997 permit is based on the misrepresentation of material fact by Newport News that the regional water need is 40 million gallons per day (MGD).

However, the Corps of Engineers determined regional water need is only 16 MGD. The out-of-proportion KWR is scaled to produce 40 MGD. No alternatives based on 16 MGD have ever been studied by the state.

Whether the misrepresentation of material fact was accidental or intentional does not matter. That misrepresentation served as the fundamental design criteria used to scale the KWR. The 1997 WCB did not follow normal permitting sequences for the KWR. If the WCB waited for the Corps' assessment of regional water need, as is their normal operational procedure, they would not have permitted a 40 MGD solution to satisfy a 16 MGD water need.

By permitting the oversized 40 MGD reservoir to satisfy a 16 MGD water need, the following unnecessary destructions will occur: 347 acres of wetland will be flooded, over 700 acres will be disturbed to replicate lost wetlands, 12.2 billion gallons of river water will be impounded, 2 million MGD will evaporate from the 1.500-acre surface, 2 MGD will be lost to underground seepage, increased salinity on the Mattaponi River, the most important shad spawning ground in the state will be damaged, 21 miles of free-flowing streams, 1,089 acres of upland habitat, and 1,526 acres of wildlife habitat damaged or destroyed, etc.

According to the Norfolk Corps, many alternatives, properly scaled for 16 MGD, including desalination, conservation, and gray water reuse would provide the area with water without any new reservoir, not to mention the unnecessary cost of $230,000,000.

The Virginia Code states: "Any certificate issued by the Board...(may) be amended or revoked...(if) The owner has... misrepresented a material fact in applying for a certificate," and "Requires that wetland or stream impacts be avoided and minimized to the maximum extent practicable."

This misrepresentation of material fact which has predicated the scale of this project cannot stand. We appeal to the WCB to defend the State Code and prevent the unnecessary and illegal destruction of the greatest wetland area since the adoption of the Clean Water Act, and from spoiling the most important shad spawning ground in the state. We ask the State Water Control Board to revoke the KWR permit and deny the KWR extension.

We urge you to e-mail this letter to "mailto:egilinsky@deq.virginia.gov" egilinsky@deq.virginia.gov. Or mail to Ellen Gilinsky, Director, Division of Water Quality Programs, Virginia Department of Environmental Quality, 629 East Main Street, 9th Floor, Richmond, VA. 23219.

The deadline is Friday, August 4.

Thomas C. Rubino
King and Queen County
Alliance to Save the Mattaponi

Oyster farming is good for the Chesapeake Bay

by The Hon. W. Tayloe Murphy Jr.

Community Comments

Oyster aquaculture has been the subject of several recent news articles that have highlighted a controversy over waterfront rights and privileges. As a trustee of the Chesapeake Bay Foundation (CBF), and as a former member of the General Assembly and former Secretary of Natural Resources, I would like to offer some additional thoughts on the potential benefits of oyster farming in the Chesapeake Bay.

For centuries, oysters have defined the Chesapeake Bay, its culture, its economy and its menus. Historically, oyster packers and growers raised oysters on large tracts of state-owned river bottom leased from the Commonwealth of Virginia. They planted seed oysters on these leaseholds and then grew them to market size. Most oyster production in Virginia was done in this traditional way, and it was these entrepreneurs whose investment transformed non-productive bottom into highly valuable oyster grounds rivaling the constitutionally protected public oyster beds known as "Baylor" grounds.

Since the 1950s, the native oyster has been plagued by increasing water pollution and two parasites, one native and one thought to have been introduced. These conditions have reduced the bay's oyster population to a mere fraction of its historical levels.

Cownose rays also have had a severe impact on oyster harvests. Beginning in the 1970s, oyster planters in the lower bay began losing significant quantities of oyster seed to rays, which are opportunistic feeders that have turned increasingly to oysters and hard clams when their more preferred foods, such as soft-shelled clams, became scarce. This, unfortunately, is further evidence of an ecological system out of balance, as it is now thought that increases in the ray population may be a result of fewer ocean sharks, which eat rays as a primary food source.

In the 1980s, the Commonwealth, through the Virginia Institute of Marine Science (VIMS), began looking into the feasibility of oyster aquaculture using a variety of techniques such as floats, cages and bags. Oyster floats constructed of white PVC pipe began appearing at docks around the bay, and soon thereafter CBF and local oyster gardening associations began sponsoring workshops for prospective oyster growers. It was soon discovered that these temporary oyster gardens provided many of the same ecological functions—habitat, food and water filtration—as a natural oyster reef.

In 2000, CBF began operating a commercial-scale oyster farm in Gloucester County for the purpose of producing large quantities of oysters for reef restoration and to promote native oyster farming as an alternative means for watermen to earn a living on the bay. Interest in oyster farming is rising in the bay region, and growth of the new industry will certainly continue as more progress is made. The holders of oyster leaseholds should be allowed to use their grounds and the waters above them for aquaculture purposes.

The growth of a new industry tied to a public resource like the bay poses some potential user conflicts. In order for the oyster aquaculture industry to grow and flourish and for waterfront property owners and other interested stakeholders to have their concerns addressed, a well defined set of guidelines for placement of aquaculture operations should be developed by the Virginia Marine Resources Commission. Best management practices for operation can be developed by the industry, and industry members should be willing to explain aquaculture to neighbors in an effort to promote goodwill and an understanding of the industry.

Oyster farming is good for the bay, economically and ecologically. Oyster aquaculture offers watermen the opportunity to continue their age-old heritage of work on the water and helps provide a healthy and sustainable product from the Chesapeake Bay. Oyster aquaculture can also enhance wild oyster populations since farmed oysters spawn and help recruit new oysters to adjacent oyster beds.

Oyster farming can work in the Chesapeake Bay and, with cooperation from all stakeholders, it will not jeopardize the quality of life on the waterfront.

Bolling named to leadership committee of national association

Lieut. Gov. Bill Bolling has been elected to serve on the leadership committee for the National Lieut. Governors' Association (NLGA). Lieut. Gov. Bolling will serve as a South Region-At-Large member of the NLGA executive committee.

NLGA is a professional association providing research and training to the officeholders first in line of succession to the governor in all 50 states and U.S. territories. Lieut. Gov. Bolling is also serving on the executive committee of the Republican Lieutenant Governors' Association.

"Lieut. Gov. Bolling was nominated to this position by a bi-partisan group of his peers," said NLGA executive director Julia Hurst. "The positive vote on him from officials of both parties from every region of the country speaks to the high regard to which he is held among his peers."

"I am honored to have been asked to serve as a member of the executive committee of the National Lieutenant Governor's Association," Bolling said. "I have been very impressed with the work NLGA does and the important policy initiatives they promote across our country."

The committee meets about three times a year and is responsible for charting the course of issues and training to be pursued by the nation's second-highest state officeholders. In addition to its specific duties, the committee will also address issues of mutual concern to all members.

Evening Song plays tonight in Hartfield

The Middlesex County Public Library will present its third free family concert August 3 at 7:30 p.m. at Lower United Methodist Church in Hartfield. The concert will feature Celtic folk and bluegrass music by Evening Song, featuring Bill Duvall, Alice Hershiser and David Hershiser.

Their selections will include "Battle of New Orleans," "St. Anne's Reel," "Whiskey Before Breakfast," "You Can't Take It With You When You Go," "Billy in the Low Ground," and "Red Is The Rose."

Duvall, of Lively, plays guitar and mandolin and sings.

Alice Hershiser of Reedville sings and plays penny-whistle and concertina. She is organist at Fairfields Baptist Church and gives private music lessons. A graduate of New England conservatory in Boston, she plays the French horn with the Williamsburg Symphonia.

Her husband, David, sings and plays guitar, mandolin and banjo. He is an accomplished bagpiper and is pipe sergeant of the Kilmarnock and District Pipe Band. An enthusiastic bluegrass banjo performer for over 30 years, David plays with local and D.C. area groups.

The Friends of the Delatville Library and Friends of the Urbanna Library are financing the concert.

For more information, call 758-5717.

Service Notes

Army Reserve Pfc. Christopher A. Cooper has graduated from basic combat training at Fort Jackson, Columbia, S.C.

During nine weeks of training, he studied the Army mission, history, tradition, core values and physical fitness. He also received instruction and practice in basic combat skills, military weapons, chemical warfare and bayonet training, drill and ceremony, marching, rifle marksmanship, armed and unarmed combat, map reading, field tactics, military courtesy, military justice system, basic first aid, foot marches and field training exercises.

Cooper is the son of Warren Cooper of Fredericksburg and Susan Hall of Montross.

In 2005, he graduated from Courtland High School in Spotsylvania.

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Call for Mass Meeting of the Republican Party of Lancaster County

I, Joan Blackstone, Chairman of the Republican Party of Lancaster County, do hereby issue a call for a Mass Meeting of all members of the Republican Party of Lancaster County to be held at the Chesapeake Bank Training Center, School Street, Kilmarnock, Virginia, on Tuesday, August 15, at 7:30 PM.

The purpose of the Mass Meeting is to nominate a Republican candidate for the office of Lancaster County Treasurer, to be voted for in the Special Election on November 7, 2006.

Qualifications for Participation

All legal and qualified voters of Lancaster County, regardless of race, religion, color, national origin or sex, under the laws of the Commonwealth of Virginia, who are in accord with the principles of the Republican Party and who express in open meeting, if requested, either orally or in writing, their intent to support all of its nominees for public office in the ensuing election, may participate as members of the Republican Party of Virginia in its mass meetings, canvasses, conventions and primaries encompassing their respective election districts.

Voters must have a driver's license, voter registration card, or other form of identification as proof of residence. There is no registration fee charged at the Mass Meeting.

Filing Requirements

Candidates for the nomination for Treasurer at said mass meeting shall file a written statement by mail or in person, to Joan Blackstone, P.O. Box 532, White Stone, Virginia, 22578, (40 Oyster Point) which must be received no later than 5 PM on Thursday, August 10, 2006.

Immediately following the Mass Meeting, there will be a meeting of the Lancaster County Republican Committee to consider issues related to party business.

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Mr. and Mrs. Dusty Lee Gray

Gray-Deel wedding held

Vonda Faye Deel of Irvington and Dusty Lee Gray of Norfolk were married June 3, 2006, on the river-front lawn of Bel Air Mansion at Belle Isle State Park in Lancaster County. Rev. John Farmer of Irvington Baptist Church officiated.

The bride is the daughter of Wayne and Alice Deel of Clifton Forge. The groom is the son of Janice Gray of Minot, N.D., and the late Chuck Gray, formerly of Salem, Mo.

Donna Walton, friend of the bride, served as the maid of honor. Her daughters, Kaylyn and Jacklyn, goddaughters of the bride, served as flower girls. The best man was Rob Napora, friend of the groom. Travis Deel, the bride's brother, seated the m=others prior to the ceremony. The bride was presented in marriage by her father.

Keyboard music was provided by Patrick Gainer of Hampton, Virginia. Carolyn August of New Point performed her original song "More Than Anything," accompanied on guitar by her husband, Mike. Hazel Farmer directed the ceremony.

The bride is a 1986 graduate of Alleghany High School in Covington and received a bachelor's in fine arts in graphic design, drawing and printmaking from Longwood College in 1990. She worked as a graphic designer and art director for several Richmond advertising agencies from 1990 to 2001. She then moved to the Northern Neck to work as senior graphic designer for McFadden Clay Marketing Group.

The groom enlisted in the U.S. Navy upon graduation from Minot High School in 1989. He was selected for a commissioning program in 1998. He was commissioned as an ensign in 2000 and is now a lieutenant. He has an associate's in liberal arts from the University of Hawaii, and a bachelor's in electrical engineering from the University of Illinois.

The couple will reside in Summerville, S.C., where the groom will serve as instructor of reactor design at Naval Nuclear Power School in Charleston, S.C. The bride will work as a freelance graphic designer and art director.

Mr. and Mrs. Ryan Brent Self

Self-Ransone nuptials held

The marriage of Miss Terri Elizabeth Ransone, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Andy Francis Ransone of Lancaster, to Ryan Brent Self, son of Mr. and Mrs. Ronald Lee Self of Lancaster, took place May 6, 2006, at Bethel United Methodist Church in Lively with the Rev. Robert O. Jones officiating.

The bride is the granddaughter of Evelyn B. Carew of Lancaster and the late Harold E. Carew, and Mr. and Mrs. Francis G. Ransone of Lancaster. The groom is the grandson of Lottie P. Brent of Lancaster and the late Robert T. Brent, and the late Vivian L. Self and the late Woodrow W. Self, formerly of Lancaster.

The bride, escorted by her father and given in marriage by her parents, wore a designer Richard Glasgow candlelight ivory strapless gown that fell into a full bell-shaped gown with a chapel length train. Ivory satin braids accented the waistline. She wore a floor-length ivory veil trimmed in satin that attached to an encrusted pearl and crystal headpiece.

Erin Lynn Ransone, sister of the bride, was maid of honor. The bridesmaids were Susie Mayes, friend of the bride, Amanda Ransone, cousin of the bride, and Sarah Tingle, friend of the bride. The junior bridesmaid was Hanna Kellum, niece of the groom. The flower girl was Elizabeth Kellum, niece of the groom.

Ronald Lee Self, father of the groom, was the best man. Groomsmen were Dwight Forrester, B.J. Carrier and Charles Fox, all friends of the groom. The ring bearer was Logan Kellum, nephew of the groom. The ushers were Ted Fox and Jason Spence, friends of the groom.

Mrs. Karen Burke was the wedding director. The mistress of ceremonies was Linda Hall, aunt of the groom. The organist was Margaret Forrester, friend of the bride. Greeters, program and guest book attendants were Mary Beth Forrester, friend of the bride, and Dara Ransone, cousin of the bride.

A couples shower was given by Ronnie and Sue Forrester and Julie and Thomas Kellum. A lingerie shower was given by Amanda and Sherry Ransone and Erin Ransone. The rehearsal dinner, honoring the bride and groom, was given by the groom's parents at Indian Creek Yacht and Country Club in Kilmarnock. The reception following the ceremony was held outside at Belle Isle State Park overlooking the Rappahannock River.

The bride is a graduate of St. Mary's School of Radiological Sciences in Richmond and is employed by Riverside Tappahannock Hospital. The groom is part owner with his father of R.L. Self Timber Inc. in Lancaster.

After a honeymoon in St. Lucia, the couple will reside on Myers Creek in Lancaster.

Local News

Mr. and Mrs. Ed Somervell of Gloucester are the parents of a son, Charles Edward Somervell III, born Thursday, July 27, 2006, weighing 9 pounds, 7 ounces. Charles Edward has a sister, Carley Maxine, 2 years old. Paternal grandparents are Mrs. Charles Somvervell Jr. and the late Mr. Somervell of White Stone. Maternal grandparents are Don Ferguson of Plymouth, N.C., and the late Mrs. Ferguson.

Harry and Connie Parsons, daughters Claire and Rachel, of Jacksonville, Fla., spent a week with his mother, Mrs. Wallace Carter, and Mr. Carter at their home, Bondfield.

Randy and Mary Leila Covington of Verona were at their Indian Creek home for the weekend. On Saturday evening, they and their daughter and her family, Claire and Scott Hensley and Mary Shyanne, of Staunton were dinner guests of Mr. and Mrs. McConway.

Mrs. Wendy Usher and daughters, Julianna and Carla, of Wilmette, Ill., left on Monday after visiting her grandmother, Mrs. "Chuck" Rowell, and Mr. Rowell in Kilmarnock for several days.

Mrs. Peggy Jo Sanders of Montpelier was with her mother, Mrs. Anna Jo Sanders, in Kilmarnock several days last week.

Ms. Suzanne Smiley of Maceo, Ky., arrived last week for an extended visit with her aunt, Mrs. Jean Dize, on Prentice Creek.

Mrs. Helen Hoffman has returned to her home in upper Lancaster after hospitalization and rehab.

Mr. and Mrs. John Harrison and daughter and granddaughter of Blackstone, while visiting locally last week, called on Mrs. Mary Lent in Weems. Mrs. Harrison will be remembered as the former Olivia Carter of Rehoboth Church.

Weekend guests of Mr. and Mrs. Wayne Mullins were their sons and family, Chris and Karey Mullins and sons, Tanner and Benjamin, of Edinburg, and Doug Mullins of Bunker Hill, W. Va.

Mr. and Mrs. Lee Davis have moved from their home on the Corottoman in Weems to their new home on Ring Farm Road, Weems.

Mrs. W. R. Keyser was received into membership of St. Francis de Sales Catholic Church on Saturday evening. Mr. Keyser and Col. and Mrs. Robert Willis were her sponsors. A dinner celebration followed.

Sunday dinner guests of Mr. and Mrs. W.R. Keyser at their home on Kent Cove were Mr. Paul Keyser and two children and two friends of Salt Lake City, Utah; James, Denis and Leonard Keyser of Weems. After having steamed crabs and a seafood buffet, they enjoyed a fishing trip out in the bay with W.R. at the helm.

George and Peggy Clark Carlson and Ken and Nancy Clark Cruser were in Lively for the recent family reunions of the Archie and Lottie Clark family and the Revere family. A wonderful weekend of meeting with and enjoying familiar faces and friends was enjoyed by all.

Mr. and Mrs. Ernest Howard Flynn

Flynns celebrate second wedding

Ernest Howard Flynn and Ann Cordes Harvey celebrated their second wedding with families and friends July 8 at a private ceremony on the waterside deck at their home in Kilmarnock. Dr. W. Sibley Towner, friend and neighbor, officiated.

Boog Harvey was the attendant flower dog.

The long distance award was shared by Dr. Sarah Skinner DVM of Jacksonville, Fla., cousin of the bride, and Paul Rasmussen and Christine Scholl of Dekalb, Ill., friends of the bride's from Virginia Tech.

At 5 p.m., their friends and neighbors joined the celebration and garden party with an elegant barbecue buffet prepared and served by Patricia Prillaman, president of Country Gourmet of Callao.

The wedding cake, topped by stargazer lilies, was created from a carrot cake recipe of the bride's grandmother. Select Virginia wines, served by Bob Spencer, the bride's brother-in-law of Portland, Conn., were chosen by Francine Jones, sommelier at Tri-Star Supermarket in Kilmarnock.

Christine Scholl of Dekalb, Ill., photographed. Straw-bale seating was provided by Garner Produce of Montross.

Activities included catching snails and corks, letting sleeping dogs lie, and a tea party picnic. Guests stayed at the groom's sister's homes in Farnham and Callao and at the newlywed's home and on their boat.

The honeymoon began Sunday morning with a large baked French toast breakfast prepared and served by the newlyweds at their home for the remaining guests.

The original wedding ceremony was April 8, 2006, when Dr. Towner performed the nuptials and Jane Towner witnessed.

Engagements

Headley-Woolard

Mr. and Mrs. Robert Headley of Callao announce the engagement of their daughter, Pamela Lynne Headley, to Clayton Spencer Woolard of Farnham, son of Gregory Woolard of Farnham and Mrs. Terrie Woolard of Tappahannock.

Miss Headley is the granddaughter of the late Mr. and Mrs. John W. Clark, formerly of Montross, and the late Mr. and Mrs. Lanmon Headley, formerly of Heathsville. She is the adopted granddaughter of Mrs. Clara Lape of Heathsville.

Woolard is the grandson of Mr. Raymond Collins of Amelia, Mrs. Betty Miles of King William, and Mr. and Mrs. Darrell Woolard of Farnham, and the great-grandson of Mrs. Etta Pruitt of Lancaster.

Clayton Spencer Woolard and Pamela Lynn Headley

The bride-to-be graduated summa cum laude from Longwood University in 2004 with a bachelor's in liberal studies and received a master's in special education from Longwood in 2005. She is employed as a third-grade teacher at Northumberland Elementary School in Heathsville.

The prospective groom graduated from Rappahannock High School in 2001 and is employed as an electrician for Pritchard and Fallin Inc. in Callao.

The couple will marry October 7 at Smithland Baptist Church in Heathsville with the Rev. Greg Hensley and the Rev. Jimmy Dunn, childhood pastors of the bride and groom, officiating. After a honeymoon in Jamaica, the couple will reside in Heathsville.

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From left are Jennifer Pratt, the daughter of Penny Bellows Pratt, whose mother, Shirley Bellows, is holding Elspeth Kain.

Bellows family holds reunion

On July 29, 50 descendants of the late William Lorenzo Bellows and Myrtle Brewington Bellows of Ocran, gathered for a family reunion picnic at the White Stone United Methodist Church, the Bellows family ancestral place of worship.

At one time, Joseph Foster Bellows was co-owner of Bellows and Squires Company, Inc., the Ocran fishing and packing company.

Relatives came from as far north as Vermont and as far west as California and Washington state.

The senior member of the family present was Shirley Bellows, wife of the late William "Billy" Bellows of Kilmarnock. The youngest members of the family were born within a day of each other. Elspeth Kain was born on June 13, 2006, and Sarah Elizabeth McGee was born two days later. Both girls are great-great-granddaughters of William and Myrtle Bellows.

In addition to Joseph F. and W.L. Bellows Jr., William and Myrtle had a third son, John C. Bellows, and three daughters, Anne (Bellows) Talbot, Mary Vaughan (Bellows) Phillips and Elizabeth Bellows. All are deceased.

Among those attending the reunion were four cousins: Bellows Christopher, Nina Christopher Gunia, Anita Humphreys Cook and Betty Somerville Taliaferro.

The reunion was organized by Kitty Wray (Bellows) Juneau, daughter of Joe and Kitty Bellows, and John C. Bellows Jr., the son of John C. and Anne Jett Bellows.

Clark family gathers for reunion in White Stone

The 13th annual reunion of the descendants of Archie Clark and Lottie Hinson Clark was held July 22 in White Stone. The reunion was graciously hosted by Virginia Wilkins Crowther at her home on Shore Line Drive, where the views of the "Rivah" were unsurpassed.

A fun-filled afternoon was enjoyed by all, said George Carlson Jr., beginning with a wonderful buffet luncheon prepared and served by Virginia Crowther. The fried chicken, butter beans, deviled eggs, potato salad, and fresh vegetables were enjoyed by all, he said. The cakes, brownies, and pecan pies were said to be the best on the Northern Neck.

A hectic game of ancestor bingo was played and everyone enjoyed picking their prizes from the multitude brought by family members. Following the bingo game, a genealogical presentation was done by Peggy Clark Carlson, tracing the family back to 1480, and showing how family members are related to George Washington, through his mother and Esther Ball.

A lovely trumpet rendition of "Amazing Grace" was performed by Travis Surratt.

Those attending were Alice E. Clark, Joe Hazzard, Vernon Clark, Rose Anna Clark, George Carlson, Peggy Clark Carlson, Travis Surrant, Wendy Surratt, Nancy Clark Cruser, Ken Cruser, Nell Clark Wilkins, Randolph Wilkins, Virginia Wilkins Crowther, Diane Wilkins Landman, Barbara Ann Clark King, Timothy King, Dawn Crowther Biddlecomb, Joseph Davis Biddlecomb Jr., Grant Crowther Biddlecomb, William Randolph Blundon Biddlecomb, Christy Crowther, and two guests who attended the reunion for the first time, Alice Allison and Mary Schwartz. William Biddlecomb also celebrated his first birthday on the day of the reunion.

After lunch, games, and the genealogy presentation, family enjoyed the hospitality at the Crowther home to sit around and reminisce, learn more about the family and each other, and to just enjoy each other's company.

Barbara Ann and Tim King and their family traveled the longest distance, 470 miles. Joe Hazzard had the honor of being the oldest family member in attendance, and William Biddlecomb was the youngest.

Next year, the Clark Family Reunion will be held in October at the home of Nancy Clark Cruser and Ken Cruser in Newark, Del. Family members will be receiving more information in the mail and all are urged to attend.

Ann and Carroll Davis celebrate their 50th anniversary with a photograph from the steamboat on which they met.

Steamboat Era Museum hosts anniversary surprise

by Kelsey Robusto

Carroll Davis Jr. spotted his wife-to-be on a steamboat cruise 50 years ago. On July 15, to celebrate their golden anniversary, Davis presented his wife, Ann, a framed print of their special boat.

Davis bought the picture on the steamboat the night they met in 1956, knowing this was the woman he would marry.

"He has kept this picture hidden from her --for 50 years specifically to present it to her on their fiftieth anniversary!" museum director Terri Thaxton exclaimed. "He started telling me this and I was just melting," she said.

Davis, who grew up in Weems, made arrangements with the Steamboat Era Museum in Irvington months in advance for the presentation.

Ann Davis believed they would visit the museum to present an old steamboat print as a donation, which he did as well. The anniversary present was a complete surprise.

"She didn't know a thing about it," Thaxton said. "I bought them a bottle of champagne and a rose" as part of the celebration.

The second steamboat picture was a signed print of the old "Bay Line" by Casey Holtzinger. The Bay Line was the last steamboat to run in the area. It ran out of Norfolk from 1840 until 1962.

Births

William Sawyer Pierce

Scott Pierce and Reid Pierce Armstrong are delighted to announce the birth of their son, William Sawyer Pierce.

"Sawyer" was born at Memorial Regional Hospital in Hanover at 12:48 a.m. on July 21, 2006, weighing 7 pounds, 8 ounces and stretching 21.5 inches long.

He joins his big brother Justin, 8, and two canine companions, Tucker and Duncan, at the family's home in Heathsville.

His maternal grandparents are Anne and John Armstrong of Lottsburg and McLean, who have spent the last week at their daughter's house washing mounds of laundry, cooking countless gourmet meals and generally cooing over their new grandson.

Paternal grandparents, William and Dale Guzzetta of Yucaipa, Calif., plan to make the trek across country with assorted uncles, aunts and cousins this fall to meet the new addition.

Armstrong, a writer and photographer for the Rappahannock Record, reported that the much-feared two-hour drive to the hospital went smoothly. She is recovering well and plans to return to work after Labor Day. In the meantime, she is keeping her fingers nimble, her photography skills sharp and her wits about her by writing a blog (Web log): pierce-armstrong.blogspot.com.

Pierce, a local building contractor and developer, is already outfitting his newborn son with tiny tools and cargo pants. He plans to spend the coming weeks finishing the family's new home on Hull Creek and is hoping that Sawyer may find some time between his busy schedule of naps and meals to help.

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This Weekend August 4 & 5

Win ($100 K-9 Kash) and the "Doggy in the Window" by guessing the correct amount of funny money at Rappahannock Hang-Ups! You may vote at any participating Kilmarnock Chamber of Commerce member w/a green flyer in the window.

Gone to the Dogs NN Kennel Club will have "Handpainted dogs" on display throughout town. Place a silent bid at the Rappahannock Art League Studio Gallery and one could be yours!

Steptoe's Walkabout • Friday, 5-7 Enjoy an evening of great food, live music, and special shopping throughout town! Itchy Dog at Pedestal, Ray Pittman Project at Smokin' Joe's, Northern Neck Big Band at Higher Health Food Store & Riversong at Burke's Jewelers

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Bassett

Dawg Daze is August 4-5

With downtown Kilmarnock renovations complete, the whole town will be going to the dogs this weekend. The 26th annual Kilmarnock Chamber of Commerce "Dawg Daze" event will be joined by a Steptoe's Walkabout and the Northern Neck Kennel Club and Rappahannock Art League decorated dog statues.

Most Kilmarnock merchants will offer special sales Friday, August 4, and Saturday, August 5, for Dawg Daze. The states new tax free days on back-to-school items will also be in effect.

Visitors to town can register to win $100 in K-9 Kash by guessing the correct amount of "Funny Money" guarded by the Lucky Dog in the window of Rappahannock Hang Ups and Gallery at 74 South Main Street. The winner gets to keep the dog too. Look for chamber merchants displaying the green "register here" sign. Participants can only register once in each store, but they may visit all stores displaying the sign. The winner will be announced on the Tawney Hayes morning show, Tuesday, August 8, at approximately 8 a.m.

Want to adopt a dog, but don't want the expense of feeding one? The Northern Neck Kennel Club has unleashed more than a dozen dogs all over downtown and they have been decorated by members of the Rappahannock Art League. The dogs are up for adoption by silent bid with a minimum of $125. The winning bidders will be announced September 30 at noon.

While in town, be sure to try one of Cora's famous hot dogs with her home made buns.

Katherine Keyser wins Kilmarnock stamp contest

On August 10, the Kilmarnock Post Office will celebrate 202 years of area service.

To help commemorate this occasion the Town of Kilmarnock and the Kilmarnock Post Office co-sponsored a Cancellation Stamp Drawing Contest.

"The town had the pleasure of receiving many wonderful and talented designs from local children," said administrative assistant Megan Jackson. "The decision was not easy, but we are proud to announce the winner of the Cancellation Stamp Contest is 10-year-old Katherine Keyser."

Keyser's drawing is a collage representing the Northern Neck, the United States Post Office and the local watermen. Keyser is the daughter of Mark and Suzanne Keyser of Weems. She is a fifth-grader at Lancaster Middle School. She plans to continue her art success under the instruction of art teacher Marilyn Sprouse.

Keyser and the competition's runners-up will be honored during a celebration Thursday, August 20, at 11 a.m. at the Kilmarnock Post Office.

The celebration will include a tribute to Kilmarnock's past and present postmasters, music by Kilmarnock and District Pipe Band, mail stamped by the cancellation stamp, and refreshments courtesy of the Kilmarnock Post Office.

Residents are urged to dig out their oldest letter/card sent through the Kilmarnock Post Office, oldest Kilmarnock Station cancellation stamp, oldest letter/card sent to a Northumberland or Lancaster Postal Station, any letters/cards that were postmarked with the town's 75th Anniversary Cancellation stamp and any letters postmarked December 8, 1930 (either to or from Kilmarnock).

"All local businesses and families are urged to join the town as we continue to celebrate our 75th "Diamond Jubilee" celebration and as we pay tribute to the Town of Kilmarnock's Post Office, the Kilmarnock Station," said Jackson.

Last call for 'On Stage' tickets

There are still a few season tickets remaining for the Rappahannock Foundation for the Arts 2006-07 "On Stage" series.

"If you are a previous subscriber or are new to the area and would like to enjoy high quality professional entertainment, this is your chance to become a season ticket holder for these popular events," said RFA vice president for presenters Maria Laqueur.

The series opens October 21 with the brilliant four-piano quartet Piano4, performing a program that ranges from Bach to Broadway. This will be followed by the internationally acclaimed Miami String Quartet performing a mixed repertoire November 6. On January 27, Saxton's Cornet Band will present a brass performance that is entertaining both musically and visually. That's followed February 17 with a return engagement by Taylor 2, one of the most exciting and delightful dance companies in the world. The Richmond Symphony returns on March 3 for an evening of classical favorites, and the grand finale to the season March 31 will be the great music of the swing era in an entertaining and memorable performance by Club Swing.

To subscribe, call the Rappahannock Foundation for the Arts at 435-0292.

Beat the heat at senior centers

Bay Aging will open all of its Senior Activity Centers five days this week with extended hours and welcomes all residents 60 and older to visit and escape from the extreme heat.

Residents should note that these hours and days will continue on an as needed basis at all senior activity centers throughout the Middle Peninsula and Northern Neck, said chief operating officer Kathy Vesley-Massey.

Seniors who have no air conditioning are free to visit their county's senior activity center. Lunch will be provided. Please bring necessary medications and snacks. Seniors may also sign up for help through the Fan Care and Cooling Assistance programs at the centers.

Anyone who is interested in going to a center may call Bay Aging's Care Coordination Office by 11 a.m.. In the Northern Neck, call 1-800-493-0238; in the Middle Peninsula, call 1-800-693-6109.

Steptoe's Walkabout is going to the dogs

A Steptoe's Walkabout event in downtown Kilmarnock is planned for August 4.

It will be a collaborative effort of the Rappahannock Art League, Kilmarnock Chamber of Commerce and the Northern Neck Kennel Club. "The Dog Days of August" is the theme.

Dog statues donated by the kennel club and painted by art league members will be auctioned. The winners will be announced at the October Walkabout.

Walkabout hours are 5 to 7 p.m. and will feature musical entertainment, specials at participating shops and restaurants, and artists painting at various locations, including Dorothy Pagano directing children's painting activities at Northern Neck Solutions.

Special "dog days" activities will include dog collars for children to decorate, Cora Tiggle serving hot dogs on homemade buns at the The Pedestal. Itchy Dog will perform at The Pedestal; Ray Pittman at Smokin' Joe's Barbecue; the Norhtern Neck Big Band at the Higher Health Food Store and River Song at Burke's Jewelers.

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Steptoe's Walkabout

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Sample Local wines & refreshments at participating businesses and enjoy the fun of shopping late on our new Main Street.

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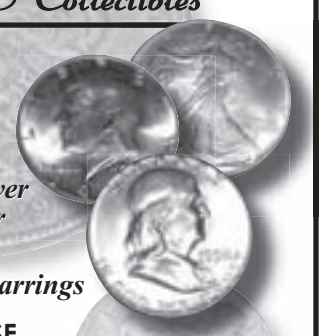

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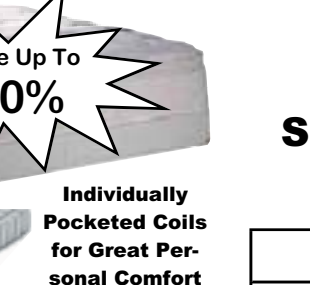

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Studio open house continues

An exhibit of Hispanic and local art raised $135 for Northumberland Library on its first weekend. Literary readings August 4 and 13 will continue the multicultural theme.

The event is hosted by artist Alvaro Ibañez and writer Denise DeVries at Sunrise Stuido Gallery at 197 Whittaker Lane near Hughlett Point.

"Most of the amount raised came from a single generous individual," said DeVries. "We hope to raise even more for the library on the next two weekends. We are very grateful to the musicians and artists who donated their time for this event, and we know there are many other philanthropists in the area who can turn out to show their support."

On the first day, Celeste Gates played guitar with her students Lara Belfield and Carter Fay, and followed with a solo performance of vocals and guitar. They will repeat their performances on Friday, August 4, beginning at 3 p.m.

After solos by guitarist Joseph Stallings on July 29, he was joined by Manuel Andres Flores Zuñiga (guitar) and his wife, Cornelia Hajer (drums), in a bilingual performance that ranged from Spanish religious songs to "La Bamba." Stallings will play again August 5 at 2:30 p.m.

Gates (guitar) and Marianne Henderson (flute) performed in duet on July 29. Henderson also displayed her photograph that inspired a postage stamp in honor of Virginia. The duo will be featured again August 5 at 3 p.m. The Broken Consort classical wind trio also is scheduled to play at 3:30 p.m.

Marianne Henderson and Celeste Gates perform at Sunrise Studio Gallery.

The Evening Song trio (Dave Hershiser, Bill Duvall, and Alice Hershiser) played a variety of lively acoustic music from Celtic to bluegrass. The group will appear again next weekend at 5 p.m. on August 4.

Geraldine Wilner drove from St. Petersburg, Florida, to read from her memoirs and display a series of prints.

Music will alternate with literary readings that evening. Between 5 and 6 p.m., featured writer Susan Brooks Thomas of Reedville will join DeVries in a choral reading of DeVries's bilingual poem "Droughtland," and will read from her own work.

"I knew I was going to be a poet and writer since birth, if not before." said Thomas. "Surprisingly, my first 'artistic' awards were for paintings."

She won several state competitions during her school years in Atlanta. Her first published literary poem, "The Song of the Wind Chasers" appeared in The Picture Window Anthology in 1978, after Susan relocated to Charleston, S.C. She served an apprenticeship in Poetry and Festival Arts with the Spoleto, USA Festival and was the festival poet for the City of Charleston's Piccolo Spoleto in 1979. She also attended the College of Charleston.

For the next decade, she was quite active in the poetry scene in south Florida and the Bahamas and won or placed in numerous competitions. Now that her daughter, Sarah, is about to enter college, says Thomas, "I am dusting off some old words, putting finishing touches on new poems and wrapping up a series of for-profit novels."

There are seven manuscripts incubating in her files, ready to be finalized. She will read selections from her poetry and fiction.

Gloria Tarasca Valdez, a highly recognized artist from Vienna, was instrumental in beginning the cultural exchange inspiring this exhibition. She is a major supporter of Artomatic Washington D.C. Sunrise Studio Gallery was responsible for initiating the Washington D.C. Queretaro exchange in coordination with SOMAAP. The exhibit features the work of guest artists from Queretaro, Mexico. They include Jorge Martinez Marin, director of fine arts at the Universidad Autonoma; Jesus Gonzales Aguilar, delegate of SOMAAP, Queretaro and Paris. (Mexican Association of Authors of Plastic Arts); Luis Fernando Figueroa, coordinator of Washington D.C./Queretaro exchange organized by SOMAAP; Jose Luis Varto, SOMAAP Social Communications, Mexico City.

Exhibiting artists include David Hershiser of Reedville, Nathan Gates of Burgess, Geraldine Wilner, Mary Ann Wells, Delia Denise Ibañez, and Alvaro Ibañez.

Hershiser's exhibit combines the landscapes of Hughlett Point with scenes from Mexico. The photographic collection of Mary Ann Wells includes Spanish colonial style buildings from the southwestern United States. This is the first exhibition for Wells' granddaughter, Delia Ibañez, 7, who enjoys designing costumes from countries all over the world. She and her father, Alvaro Ibañez, painted a large piece together as well.

The event will continue through August 13. Donations will be accepted for Northumberland Library and 10 percent of book or art sales will also benefit the library.

Directions are available by contacting Alvaro Ibañez or Denise DeVries at 435-2880, www.a-ibanez.org, or ibanez@rivnet.net.

Mentor training offered Aug. 19

Northern Neck Together will present professional training for current and prospective mentors August 19 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. at 685 North Main Street in Kilmarnock.

Clyde Glasser of Virginia Mentoring Partnership of Richmond will teach the essential elements of effective mentoring. Representatives from the Department of Social Services and Lancaster school system will present information about appropriate adult-child interaction.

Mentors meet individually with their children at LPS on Wednesdays after school. There have been mentor-child activities at the Northern Neck Family YMCA and Sunday afternoon tennis lessons at Indian Creek Yacht and Country Club.

Mentors are urged to plan individual activities to enlarge their children's worlds. Some fish, crab, swim or camp together. Some go to King's Dominion or the movies or the Richmond Braves games. Some have been to the WINDY-105 radio station and taped their own announcements, and some to the airport in Topping where a pilot let them sit in the cockpit.

"That to me is what this program is about," said member coordinator Cathy Hemans. "Children who haven't had the opportunities get to have all these great benefits, and the mentors enjoy it so much. If people knew, they'd be knocking at the door all the time saying they want to do this."

Mentors from Lancaster are Sandy Ball, Kim Bunns, M.J. Chewing, Ella Davis, Jim Evans, Cathy Gregory, C.D. Hathaway, William and Carolyn Hines, Steph Jewell, Rosie Kelley, Carter LaPrade, Cheryl Makulowich, Marilyn McGlamary, David Messinger and Jackie Stevens, Kathy Morchower, the Rev. Nancy Pinn, Rosa Prescott, Lisa Radtke, Kayana Roane and Denny Sulick.

Mentors from Northumberland are Pat Abenante, Barbara bowling, NNT founder Jones and Connie Felvey, Rob Grace, NNT board chairman Danny Kiser, Barbara Kuberski and Sylvia Saunders; and from Middlesex, Barbara Everton.

"I went to the training program and I was hooked," said Kuberski

"It's all pluses. What puts spirit in our heart is watching these little people's enthusiasm when they do or see things for the first time," said Kuberski. "One of the mentees is named Ambrosia, so her mentor brought the ingredients to make ambrosia. There were about three little mentees around this bowl. They had never seen coconut; they didn't know what it was."

To register, call Hemans at 435-8902. Background checks and fingerprinting will be required.

Books on loan

Pat Beard, Mary Hicks and Pam Key process books from Lancaster Community Library in Kilmarnock to be loaned out to residents at Rappahannock Westminster-Canterbury.

RW-C art students to exhibit in August

Works by art students in Pam Bowers' Tuesday class at Rappahannock Westminster-Canterbury will be on exhibit in RW-C's Chesapeake Center through August.

Resident art students are Barbara Agnew, Jo Clarke, Dr. John Gill, Annie Laurie, Mary Lou Miller, Marguerite Ritchie and Charlotte Waldrop.

Also included in the exhibit will be a painting by Saartje "Sara" Hammer, now deceased.

"I keep these students busy," said Bowers, an art teacher, art therapist and professional artist who lives in Callao. "All have shown progress in their skills, and their talent is evident in our exhibit."

Since the class began in April 2005, the students have worked mostly in watercolor, Bowers' favorite medium.

As occasional diversions, they have made prints by carving designs into Styrofoam meat trays, painted flower pots and crab Christmas ornaments for RW-C's fall bazaars.

They also used acrylics to paint ceiling tiles to be placed in the health center in the rooms of bedridden patients.

"The tiles are fragile and difficult to display," said Bowers, "but they turned out wonderfully."

Bowers has a bachelor's in fine arts from Richmond Professional Institute and a master's in art therapy from George Washington University. She retired last week from Fair Winds in Bumpass where she used art as therapy for elementary school children who had been abused.

She will display her work Labor Day at The Tides Inn and demonstrate painting there from noon to 6 p.m. Her blue crab prints and t-shirts are available at Hang Ups in Kilmarnock, Horn Harbor House Restaurant, and the Callao Supermarket. Her cat note cards are at Main Street Station, RW-C's gift shop.

"The most important part of the class is that it is a lot of fun," said Bowers, whose grandmother celebrated her 100th birthday at RW-C. "We enjoy meeting each other, and it has turned into a real group. I would miss it if we didn't have it, and they would, too."

Speaker will address Bay gardening

The Rappahannock Wildlife Refuge Friends will host the Alliance for the Chesapeake Bay Thursday, August 3, from 7 to 9 p.m. at the Wilna House Refuge Headquarters.

Horticultural and native plant expert Rebecca Wertime of the alliance will speak on "Gardening for Wildlife and the Bay."

The friends group is undertaking a landscape "makeover" at the Wilna House Refuge Headquarters September 16 to celebrate its second anniversary. The alliance will provide technical expertise, design a native plant landscape and help plant.

For directions, contact Ann Graziano at 333-0434, or visit www.rwrfriends.org.

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Stars of Tomorrow baseball tournament gets under way on Dreamfields diamonds

Nine teams will compete in the annual Stars of Tomorrow Major Boys Baseball Tournament at Dreamfields. Play begins tonight (August 3) at 6:30 p.m. and continues Friday, Saturday and Sunday, August 4-6.

Barring any weather related cancellations, the championship games should begin Sunday at 3:30 p.m.

Teams representing Middlesex, Mathews, Warwick Moose, Glen Allen, Lancaster, King William, Gloucester, Caroline and King George will compete for a championship trophy in three different brackets and the coveted sportsmanship award, selected by umpires based on the behavior and sportsmanship of players, coaches and fans.

Warwick Moose, Middlesex and Mathews will compete in the "A" bracket and Glen Allen, Lancaster and King William compete in the "B" bracket. The "C" bracket includes Gloucester, Caroline and King George.

In tonight's games, Mathews will play Middlesex at 6:30 p.m., Caroline faces Gloucester at 6:45 p.m. and Lancaster takes on King William at 7 p.m.

Friday night's games feature Glen Allen against Lancaster at 6:30 p.m., Gloucester versus King George at 6:45 p.m. and Warwick Moose playing Middlesex at 7 p.m.

On Saturday, King William plays Glen Allen, Warwick Moose takes on Mathews and Caroline versus King George. All three games start at 1 p.m. Games continue at 3:30 p.m.

Consolation games begin at 1 p.m. Sunday, with the championship games at 3:30 p.m. Closing ceremonies are scheduled for 5:30 p.m.

Hinton and Haydon lead Glen Allen to regional title

A couple of native sons are celebrating a big victory with some young ball players this week.

Ryan Hinton of Glen Allen, formerly of Miskimon, and K.C. Haydon of Richmond, formerly of Millenbeck, took a team of Glen Allen All-Stars to Tennessee last week where they captured the Cal Ripken League 11-and-under Southeast Regional championship.

The Nashville tournament included teams from seven states up and down the east coast. Eleven-and-under teams in the Cal Ripken League can only advance as far as regional play, making the title equivalent to a national championship.

Glen Allen shut out North Carolina's South Buncombe All-Stars, 7-0, in the tournament final last Wednesday. Earlier that day, the Richmond-area team downed West Raleigh, N.C., 5-4, for a berth in the title game.

Glen Allen went 5-1 in regional play, capping a 13-1 mark in three all-star tournaments. The team went undefeated four weeks ago to win the Richmond area title, then was unbeaten again a week later to win the state tournament in Arlington.

K.C. Haydon

Ryan Hinton

Hinton is the team's manager, Haydon the assistant coach. Hinton made a return trip to the big show after leading the Glen Allen 12-year-olds to the Southeast Regional championship game in Florida in 2004. That team lost in the tournament final to the eventual national champions.

Hinton is the son of Harvey Hinton of Miskimon and the late Bonnie Hinton.

Haydon is the son of Diane and Terry Haydon of Millenbeck.

Both graduated in 1995 from Lancaster High School, where they played on the Red Devil baseball team. They also played for Lancaster County Little League teams and as adults volunteered with the local baseball programs. Hinton coached four years for the Lancaster Little League, while Haydon umpired and for one season coached the LHS JV baseball team.

Rowdies schedule tryouts

The Virginia Rowdies traveling fastpitch softball team will hold tryouts for girls ages 10 through 16 at Essex High School on August 13.

Tryouts for the 10-and-under (10U) team will be held from 1 to 3 p.m. The 12-and-under (12U) team tryouts will be from 3 to 5 p.m. and the 14-and-under (14U) and 16-and-under (16U) teams will hold tryouts from 5 to 8 p.m.

Members of the 10U team should be between 8 and 10 years old and cannot turn 11 before December 31, 2006. Members of the 12 U team should be between 10 and 12 years old and cannot turn 13 before December 31, 2006.

Players on the 14U team must be at least 12 years old and cannot turn 15 before December 31, 2006. Those on the 16U team cannot turn 17 prior to December 31, 2006.

Over the past year, Rowdie players have trained with and developed a relationship with Olympic coaches Larry Mays of California and Ernie Parker of Tennessee. These two coaches have trained and worked with nearly every current player on the USA softball team, now considered the best softball team in the world.

Mays and Parker travel to Tappahannock several times a year to work extensively with the Rowdie players and coaches. The two normally train Division I college players.

Rowdie players have also trained with members of the pro softball team, the Philadelphia Force, an opportunity which gives the girls a chance to meet some of their role models.

The Rowdies have traveled to New Jersey and New York to train with the Force and Force players have traveled to the Northern Neck and Middle Peninsula.

Ed Russian will be the Rowdie's full-time pitching coach when Parker is not available. Russian will teach the same methods and form as Parker and he has a proven track record of developing pitchers who make it into the collegiate world. Russian will work with both beginners and advanced pitchers on a monthly basis. He teaches form, technique and the mental part of the game.

The Rowdies have trained at several colleges, gone to showcase tournaments as far away as California and now have over half of its 14- and-under team activities watched by college scouts.

The 2006-07 schedule includes an international tournament as well as a Disney World Tournament. The Rowdies Place, an indoor training facility, will also open this year.

To sign up for try-outs, call -443-7974, or send an email to sportsman@hughes.net, or varowdies.com.

From left are Barry Kennedy, Larry Taylor and Tom Watkins.

Watkins wins pistol match

Tom Watkins of Heathsville earned first place with a 32 in the falling plates match fired with pistols July 29 at the White Stone range of the Rappahannock Pistol and Rifle Club.

Larry Taylor of Ditchley was second with a 31 and Barry Kennedy of Irvington was third place with a 27.

This was Watkins' first blue ribbon in competition with the club. He is also the chain saw champion at the work parties for the club.

The next event will be a tyro match at 9 a.m. August 12. The match will be fired twice since the earlier scheduled match was cancelled. Call Larry Taylor at 435-2143 for details.

Stingrays tryouts slated during August

The Tri-River Stingrays organization will hold tryouts this month for each of its five baseball teams.

Over the past two years, the Stingrays have had players from Gloucester, Middlesex, Essex, Westmoreland, Northumberland, Lancaster, King William and Richmond counties.

The Stingrays 11-and-under team, coached by Billy Collier, will hold tryouts August 20 at 2 p.m. The 12-and-under team, coached by David O'Neil, will hold tryouts August 12 at 4 p.m. Tryouts for the 13-and-under squad, coached by Jerry Crittenden, will be held August 19 at 2 p.m. The 15-and-under team will hold tryouts August 19 at 2 p.m. and the 16-and-under team, coached by Brian Fletcher, will hold tryouts at 4 p.m. August 12.

All tryouts will be held at the Middlesex Sports Complex at Locust Hill.

A player's age is as of May 1, 2007. For example, if a player is 12 years old on or before that date, he or she would play for the 12-and-under team. A player may play up a division, but he or she may not play in a division below his or her correct age group.

Most of the Stingray teams will play in four to five tournaments and one to two doubleheaders before the end of October.

For more information, contact Mike Myers at 832-0242, or James Pitts at 758-3098.

August is company's baseball month

Baseball's rich history has some deep roots across Virginia.

For example, Charlottesville served as the spring training home for the Boston Red Sox in 1901 and Hall of Fame pitcher Eppa Rixey hailed from Lynchburg.

Like baseball, Virginia Farm Bureau''s roots in the Commonwealth stretch across generations of families.

To celebrate America's pastime and Virginia's baseball heritage, Farm Bureau Insurance has teamed up with the state's eight minor league teams to offer free and discounted admission tickets during August.

Fans can receive free tickets to games in Pulaski, Lynchburg and Salem or buy one, get one free ticket in Norfolk, Richmond, Salem, Danville and Potomac.

Ticket coupons are available at all Farm Bureau Insurance offices across the state. Virginia Farm Bureau members can present their membership card at any of the participating box offices to obtain free or discounted tickets.

Osprey Cup to be played on October 6

The ninth annual Osprey Cup Golf Challenge to benefit Chesapeake Academy will be held October 6 at The Tartan Course in Weems. Up to 30 teams of four will compete in a modified captain's choice format for a place on the Osprey Cup trophy.

"The modified captain's choice format adds a lot of fun and play to the game. Each player hits a drive, you take the best drive, and everyone in the foursome plays their ball in from that point," said chairman Jack Kirkmyer. "We would love to have a full course in support of school."

Proceeds will benefit academic programs.

Invitations will be mailed in mid-August. Call 438-6490 or email cahlborn@chesapeakeacademy.org to register a team.

Club Golf

ICYCC 9-holers

The Indian Creek Yacht and Country Club 9-holers on July 27 played a scramble. Winners were first, Betsy Chambers, Karen Mullins, Fran Sulik and Donna Swinney; and second, Anne Alston, Louise Petralia, Sydney Reynolds and Pat Willet.

ICYCC 18-holers

The Indian Creek Yacht and Country Club 18-holers on July 25 played a best ball of threesome. Winners were first, Seale George, Jan Hitch and Kay Inskeep; second, Molly Gatchell, Joan May and Emily Pomerleau; and third, Rachel Jackson, Pat Gwaltney and Lou Dietrich. Pomerleau and Hinch made chip-ins.

ICYCC men

In Men's Midweek action, first gross went to Craig Callahan who shot 85; second gross, Ned Crockett, 86: and third gross, James Pancoast, 90; first net, Richard Ranc, 66; second net, Dick Schreyer , 66; and third net, Fred Speidell, 68.

The Indian Creek men visited 2 Rivers Country Club for an interclub match. Indian Creek defeated 2 Rivers, 22 to 14.

Tartan club

In Monday Playday action, Herbie Hancock was first. Hall Muller and Max Knight tied for second. Arthur Abbott, Mike Broderick, Ed Bunch, Pete Sturm and Don Bowser tied for fourth.

Piankatank River ladies

The Piankatank River Ladies Golf Association on July 20 played a round of "beat the pro."

First-flight winners were first, Sue Silberhorn (61); second, Lindy Hatch (66); and third, Carole Lloyd (69).

Second-flight winners were first, Kim Harris (65), second, Sheila Lia (69); and third, Roseann Moncure (71).

Third-flight winners were first, Ann Stanley (66); second, Sally Parkinson (68); and third, Linda McMakin (68).

A Doctor Speaks

by George Moore, MD

Is your forgetfulness normal?

Shakespeare once said, "Men are men but the best sometimes forget."

While young men laugh off memory lapses, older men can be quite disturbed by innocent forgetfulness.

Age has an impact on even the best brains. New learning takes longer, new information is processed more superficially, and details begin to slip. Short-term memory typically weakens, but long-term memory is well preserved. And healthy elders show little decline in abstract reasoning, visual-spatial ability, and language skills.

In fact, while these processes often slow down a bit, some cognitive functions, such as vocabulary, may actually improve with age.

Aging is inevitable, but new research suggests that mental decline can be prevented. A comprehensive program that includes life style changes and medical care can substantially reduce your risk of "losing it." It would be great to have a simple dietary supplement to preserve your memory but that is a long way from reality.

The leading candidate was ginkgo biloba, but new studies have shown no benefit from the herb. It is much the same story for Vitamin E, estrogen and testosterone. There are no effective hormone supplements to improve your memory.

Minor memory losses may be normal and inevitable, but they are still annoying and embarrassing.

They do increase with age, even in people with healthy bodies and brains. Here are a few ways to compensate:

Write it down. Make lists, jot memos to yourself, and use a calendar to note your appointments and obligations.

• Rehearse. If you have a complex task or trip ahead, review all the steps in your mind until they become second nature.

• Simplify. Eliminate distractions. Make routine things automatic so you won't waste mental energy on them; for example, always put your keys and eyeglasses down in the same place.

• Stay alert. Get enough sleep. Minimize your use of alcohol, sedatives and even antihistimines.

• Reduce stress. The last thing you need is to be distracted by worry or anxiety.

• Concentrate. Work at learning new information by focusing your mind and repeating the information until it's yours. Do one thing at a time.

• Be sure your hearing and vision are up to par. It can be hard enough to recognize a face, let alone identify one that's blurred.

• Be honest and ask for help when you need it. "I'm having a senior moment; please remind me of your name."

Cognitive impairment is now being understood through new research that will improve diagnoses, treatment and prevention in the future.

THE RECORD ONLINE www.rrecord.com

✳ Rappahannock Almanac ✳

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

Fri	8/4	Moonset	12:48	Low	1:53	0.4′
		Sunrise	6:12	High	7:15	1.2′
		Moonrise	**4:23**	Low	**1:38**	0.3′
		Sunset	**8:11**	High	**8:00**	1.5′
Sat	8/5	Moonset	1:34	Low	2:55	0.3′
		Sunrise	6:13	High	8:18	1.2′
		Moonrise	**5:28**	Low	**2:40**	0.2′
		Sunset	**8:10**	High	**9:02**	1.6′
Sun	8/6	Moonset	2:30	Low	3:54	0.3′
		Sunrise	6:14	High	9:21	1.3′
		Moonrise	**6:28**	Low	**3:41**	0.2′
		Sunset	**8:09**	High	**10:00**	1.7′
Mon	8/7	Moonset	3:37	Low	4:48	0.2′
		Sunrise	6:14	High	10:19	1.4′
		Moonrise	**7:19**	Low	**4:40**	0.1′
		Sunset	**8:08**	High	**10:54**	**1.8′**
Tue	8/8	Moonset	4:52	Low	5:38	0.1′
		Sunrise	6:15	High	11:14	1.5′
		Moonrise	**8:01**	Low	**5:36**	0.0′
		Sunset	**8:07**	High	**11:46**	**1.9′**
Wed	8/9	Moonset	6:10	Low	6:25	0.0′
		Sunrise	6:16	High	**12:06**	1.6′
		Sunset	**8:06**	Low	**6:31**	-0.1′
	Full - 6:54	Moonrise	**8:37**			
Thu	8/10	Sunrise	6:17	High	12:36	**1.9′**
		Moonset	7:28	Low	7:11	-0.1′
		Sunset	**8:04**	High	**12:57**	1.7′
		Moonrise	**9:07**	Low	**7:25**	-0.1′
Fri	8/11	Sunrise	6:18	High	1:24	**1.9′**
		Moonset	8:44	Low	7:57	-0.1′
		Sunset	**8:03**	High	**1:47**	**1.8′**
		Moonrise	**9:35**	Low	**8:19**	-0.1′

Corrections	High	Low	Height
Piankatank River, Cherry Pt.	-1:42	-1:44	86%
Great Wicomico River Light	0:30	0:20	76%
Smith Point Light	1:01	0:44	86%

PM times are in **boldface type**.
Unusually high & low tides are also in **boldface**.
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In the foreground, from left, are Ersel Buckley Sharp, Michael Sharp, Weezie Gray, and Brad Gray at the lobster fest on Mill Creek.

Yacht club holds lobster fest

Sixty members of the Indian Creek Yacht Club played croquet and boccie ball and feasted on Maine lobsters on July 28. The party was held at the home of Terry and Nancy Greene on Mill Creek in Wicomico Church.

Most of the attendees arrived by boat and anchored in the creek. Shore boats were operated by Jim Harding, Joe Sarnowski and Paul Lassanske.

The lobsters, flown in live from Maine, were steamed to perfection by Gary Kirksey and Bill Throckmorton in a huge cooker borrowed from the Northern Neck Wild Turkey Association.

During the hors d'oeuvres and cocktail hour, croquet, supervised by Bill Blackwell, turned into a close contest won by Jim and Sue Harris. On the boccie ball court, winners were Don and Kathy Davidson, Bill and Judy Bullock, and Tyler and Molly Gatchel.

The fierce squall that swept through the area at about 6 p.m. briefly interrupted proceedings. Kirksey and Throckmorton pressed on with the cooking and lobsters were served on schedule at 6:30. Potato salad, cole slaw, cornbread, and Nancy Greene's homemade brownies completed the menu.

Bottles of champagne were presented to the game winners, and brief remarks were made by commodore Bob Guthrie, fleet captain Paul Lassanske, and host Terry Greene thanking the helpers who made the affair go smoothly: Jim and Vicki Harding, Paul and Sue Brands, the cooks and shore boat operators, and Seale George, who handled publicity.

Success of Godspeed tour puts wind in the sails of America's 400th Anniversary

America's 400th Anniversary today announced the official results of the 2006 Godspeed Sail, an 80-day goodwill tour to six East Coast cities. The 17th-century ship and its Landing Party Festival received a warm reception in each port city with more than 456,000 people attending the free event, surpassing planners' original estimates of 250,000 to 350,000 visitors.

The Godspeed Sail, which began in late May, visited Alexandria, Baltimore, Philadelphia, New York, Boston, and departed its final port Newport, R.I., on July 30. In less than three months the tour also generated significant media coverage that enhanced national and international awareness of the commemoration. More than 1,200 placements focusing on the Godspeed and its Landing Party were secured in top tier print, broadcast and online outlets that reached an estimated audience of more than 335 million individuals across the U.S. and in countries around the world.

"We are very excited about the success of the Godspeed Sail," said Jeanne Zeidler, executive director of Jamestown 2007. "People reacted enthusiastically to the ship and the festival, demonstrating an intense interest in the nation's origins."

The Godspeed Sail took American history on tour, providing a tangible way for citizens to connect with the founding of the nation. The sail was designed to highlight Jamestown's pivotal role in American history on the eve of America's 400th Anniversary. Jamestown's legacies include the introduction of democracy, free enterprise and a multi-cultural society to American culture.

The Godspeed, an 88-foot recently constructed replica of one of the ships that brought settlers to Virginia in 1607, serves as a floating museum. The ship will return to Jamestown Settlement, where it will be open to visitors along with replicas of the Susan Constant and Discovery.

Jamestown 2007, a sub-agency of the Jamestown-Yorktown Foundation, is coordinating efforts to commemorate the 400th anniversary of Jamestown, the first permanent English settlement in the Americas. Jamestown also is the site of the nation's first representative government, free enterprise and multi-cultural society.

State, national, and international commemorative events to salute these legacies began in May 2006 and continue into 2008.

Major corporate sponsors of America's 400th Anniversary include Norfolk Southern Corporation (NYSE: NSC), Verizon (NYSE: VZ) and The Colonial Williamsburg Foundation. More information about the commemoration is available at www.Americas400thAnniversary.com.

The replica Munstermobile

Munstermobile appears at Cruise-In

A replica Munstermobile appeared at the July Cruise-In in Kilmarnock. The bizarre vehicle was brought from Richmond by its owner, Rucker Posey. It was among 60 vehicles at the event. The Kilmarnock Chamber of Commerce arranged the appearance.

The next Cruise-In will be August 13 in the Chesapeake Commons parking lot at 4 p.m. They will continue on the second Sundays of the month through October. The event is free and open to the public.

The Cruise-Ins are not restricted to old cars. Those who like to show off their cars are welcome.

The organizers thank KFC, Pizza Hut, NAPA and Advance Auto for their support of the door prizes, and the Town of Kilmarnock for the extra trolly service.

Call Jack Ashburn at 435-6171, or Jim Francis at 436-1154 for information.

Lumberlost Park hosts flag camp

About 50 campers between the ages of six and 14 attended camp at Lumberlost Park in Weems July 10 to 21 from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.

The day began with devotions and raising of the flag, followed by games, crafts, swimming and music. Swimming classes also were taught after regular camp hours.

Family night was observed on Thursday when parents and campers enjoyed an evening of swimming, games and fellowship.

Counselors were principal Grant Wolters of Tappahannock Junior Academy and youth pastor Buz Menhardt of Mount Pisgah Academy Church in Candler, N.C. There also were several student counselors.

Some campers attended worship services at Kilmarnock Seventh Day Adventist Church on July 22; pastor Menhardt was the guest speaker.

Closing exercises were held Saturday night at Lumberlost.

Bridge Results

Seven tables of bridge were in play July 25 at Rappahannock Westminster-Canterbury.

Winners north/south were first, Cynthia Birdsall and Dianne Monroe; second, Babs Murphy and Beverly Oren; and third, Betty Thornton and Mary Andrews.

Winners east/west were first, Arden Durham and Jane Hughes; second, Virginia Adair and Alice Slember; and third, Shirley Crockett and Elaine Weekley.

The next bridge for this group will be Tuesday, August 8, at 1 p.m.

Seven tables of bridge were in play July 27 at Indian Creek Yacht and Country Club.

Winners north/south were first, Babs Murphy and Helen Hopton; second, Arden Durham and Dianne Monroe; and third, Barbara Bryant and Mary John Gilchrest.

Winners east/west were first, Cynthia Birdsall and Jane Hughes; second, Helen Kinne and Joy Straughan; and third, Margaret Livesay and Pat Hurlbut.

The next bridge for this group is August 3 at 1 p.m.

Deltaville Maritime Museum to offer model boat class

Don't miss out! There is still time to register for the model boatbuilding class to be given by Warren "Rob" Robinson at the Deltaville Maritime Museum, August 21 to 25.

The fee will be $80 and will include all materials and instruction to complete a 1-inch, scale model of a Chesapeake crabbing skiff.

The class, limited to eight students, will meet from 5:30 to 8 p.m. at the museum. The crabbing skiff is a basic model for the novice builder.

Robinson, who studied model building with Steve Rogers at the Wooden Boat School in Maine, builds and sells models of all sizes and types.

To register for the class, call 776-9811 between 10 and 5 p.m.

Students will learn to build this 1-inch to 1-inch scale model of a Chesapeake Crabbing Skiff.

Sports Shorts

■ Sunday cycling

Northern Neck Cycling will depart at 7:30 a.m. from Fletcher's Fixit bike shop in Kilmarnock for an easy 28-mile bicycle ride. Bicyclists of all ages and abilities are invited. For route details, call Fletch at 435-6716.

■ Habitat golf

Habitat for Humanity will hold its eighth annual golf tournament fund-raiser August 23. To reserve a foursome or individual player, call 435-4152. The deadline for entries is August 10.

Pit Stop

Virginia Motor Speedway

July 29 results:

Late models – Neil McClanan, first; Eddie Groome, second; Walker Arthur, third.

Sportsmen – Donnie Owens, first; Walker Arthur, second; Roger Jamerson, third.

Modifieds – Bret Hamilton, first; Brian Dobie, second; James Snead, third.

Chargers – James Givens, first; Davey Pullen, second; Chris Tatum, third.

All-Americans – Dustin Owens, first; Marty Coltrain, second; Byard Harris, third.

August 5 upcoming races:

(VMS is on Route 17, eight miles north of Saluda. Pit gates open at 3 p.m.; spectator gates open at 4 p.m. Track activities begin at 6:15 p.m.)

Late models (40 laps), **sportsmen** (30 laps), **chargers** (25 laps), **all-Americans** (15 laps).

Cross Country Festival offers runs for all ages and abilities

Maymont's rolling hills and beautiful scenery will create a spectacular and challenging setting for the 4th annual "McDonald's X-Country Festival at Maymont."

The event will feature different races for different age groups and genders including a 5k, 8k and half marathon, so participants can also be active as spectators to cheer on family members and friends. High school and college teams will compete in separate events that showcase their speed and endurance. Everyone can enjoy live bands and Maymont's grounds and gardens.

This premier cross country running festival is organized by the Richmond Sports Backers, who also operate the SunTrust Richmond Marathon and the Ukrop's Monument Avenue 10k, both nationally-recognized events known for their high quality.

Registration is now open for the event. The cost for Open Division participants, ages 18 and older, is $20 through August 15/ $25 from August 16 to September 27. The entry fee for youth in grades one to 12 is $12. The cost for the half marathon is $40 through August 15/ $45 from August 16 to September 27. For more information, call the Richmond Sports Backers at 285-9495, or visit www.sportsbackers.org.

A portion of the proceeds from the McDonald's X-Country Festival benefits Maymont.

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Court of Honor held for Eagle Scout Darryl S. Doggett Jr.

Darryl S. Doggett Jr. of Boy Scout Troop 222 may be the first Afro-American to earn the rank of Eagle Scout in Lancaster County.

Doggett began his scouting career in 1998 as a Wolf scout in Cub Pack 222. He worked up the ranks earning several awards along the way. He earned a trophy for a bike race and two for a Pinewood Derby race. He also earned the God and Family Religious Emblem of Faith.

In May 2000, Doggett earned the highest rank in Cub Scouting, the Arrow of Light Award. His Boy Scouting challenge began in late 2000. First earning Tenderfoot and Second Class in 2000, First Class and Star in 2002, Life in 2003, and Eagle Scout October 16, 2005.

While working his way through the ranks he helped younger Cub Scouts by serving as a den leader and instructor for six years.

Beginning with Cub Scout Summer Camp at the training center near Lively, he has attended summer camp every year since joining the scouts. He attended Camp Goshen in 2000, Camp Powhatan in 2001 and 2002, Camp Shenandoah in 2003, Camp Rock Enon in 2004 and Camp Ottari-Fish camp in 2005.

Doggett held several leadership roles while scouting: Assistant Senior Patrol Leader, Assistant Patrol Leader, Chaplin Aide, Order of the Arrow-Troop Representative, Senior Patrol Leader and Troop Guide.

Some of his accomplishments were Totin Chip and Vigil Member, Order of the Arrow. He earned a total of 37 merit badges. He also earned a Bronze Eagle Scout Palm. The Palm was presented to him at the Eagle Court of Honor.

Darryl S. Doggett Jr.

Doggett's Eagle Scout project was landscaping the Lancaster County Jail. He met with Deputy Sheriff Vivian Abbott several times to discuss the type of plants and shrubbery they wanted at the jail. He then met with Assistant Scoutmaster Bill Bunnell of Greenpoint Nursery in Kilmarnock to discuss the layout of the landscaping and purchasing of the plants from the nursery.

After deciding on the plants and shrubs, he began to raise his finds. He had a spaghetti supper at his church, Queen Esther Baptist Church in Mollusk. He also had a bake sale in front of Food Lion in Kilmarnock. The remaining funds came from donations. Ronnie Self of Lively Wood Yard donated a ton truck load of mulch.

Doggett and other scouts from the troop and friends worked two weekends removing existing plants and then planting the new ones.

The morning of the Eagle Court of Honor was a morning that Doggett will never forget. The guest speaker and friend of the family, The Honorable Tristam T. Hyde IV, invited Doggett and his father, Darryl Sr. to join him and his son, Thomas, for breakfast. Upon arriving at his home, they were flown in his plane to enjoy breakfast at the Pilot House Restaurant. Judge Hyde called the flight "Eagle One."

Over 50 people attended the Eagle Court of Honor Ceremony Saturday, July 1. Special guests were The Honorable Tristam T. Hyde IV (guest speaker), Camp Ranger Tim Strigle and his wife, Karen, from Goochland County, Dr. and Mrs. Price, Mr. and Mrs. William H. Grouch Jr. of Richmond, Dr. Robert Poole, and Doggett's wrestling coach, Matson C. Terry. Troop 222 of Lively took part in the ceremony along with Eagle scouts Kyle Pittman and Andrew Smith. Several family members and friends also attended.

After the speech was delivered, Doggett received special recognition for his accomplishments on earning the rank of Eagle Scout. His mother pinned the Eagle Scout Badge on him. Doggett then presented his mother and father pins for all their hard work along the way. His father was also presented a "Gold Mentor's Pin."

Other awards received were the Good Citizen Citation Award, presented to him by Commander James F. Kelly of the American Legion. A special plaque was made by Assistant Scoutmaster John Hammell of the Rappahannock District. Jeff Newsom, Cub Master of Pack 222, and a member of the Upper Lancaster Ruritan Club, presented Doggett a plaque from the Ruritans on his accomplishments. The troop also presented him with a plaque, and a walking stick was made especially for him by Dare Lubke of Montross.

Several letters were received and read from President Jimmy Carter, President George W. and First Lady Laura Bush, Del. Robert Wittman, Gov. Timothy M. Kaine and Lancaster County Sheriff Ronald D. Crockett.

Doggett thanked everyone for attending the ceremony and taking part in his scouting career. He also gives special thanks to Judge Hyde, Bill Bonnell, Ronnie Self, Troop 222 and Mrs. Jean Poole for teaching him how to swim.

Scouting for adventure

Cub Scout Pack 202 of Reedville attended the Cub Adventure Camp July 16-19 in Goochland. The boys participated in archery, shooting, sling shots and swimming. From left are (front row) Zachary Kent, Luke Jennings, Trevor Cantrell, Trey Gibson and Donnie Brown; (next row) Larry Jennings, Jonathan Brown, Corey Kelly and Jason Kelly. (Photo by Kelly Near)

State Parks to get new visitor information system

The Virginia Department of Conservation and Recreation (DCR) has contracted with Imperial Multimedia of Baraboo, Wisconsin, to develop a new interactive visitor information system. The Virginia State Parks Interpretive Information System uses outdoor, weather and vandal resistant, touch screen, interactive information kiosks to provide park guests with state park and local attractions information around the clock.

The new system will be installed in 31 state parks by Spring 2007. The proprietary information program builds on a system that has been successfully used in the Wisconsin State Park system.

The Interpretive Information System Imperial developed exclusively for Virginia State Parks includes GPS-based trail information, wildlife spotting guides, in-depth information on park amenities, printable guides and maps, program descriptions, schedules and more. The stations will also provide interactive virtual tours of every trail in each of the 31 parks selected for the project.

"Imagine park guests having the ability to preview trails and amenities, plan their visit, print out custom maps and guides showing points of interest and information tailored specifically to them or their families," said Warren Wahl, DCR state parks deputy director. "Our goal is to help our guests access a world of information about Virginia's natural places and the resources available to them, in and around, the state parks."

DCR hopes to recoup the project's development costs through Imperial's solicitation of advertising, sponsorships and partnerships with businesses and attractions that cater to state park visitors. These potential partners range from locally owned and operated shops and attractions to national brands.

"Imperial Multimedia and the Commonwealth of Virginia strongly believe in promoting tourism and recreation-based economic development in and around the state parks," said Lawrence Fisher, Director of Experience Development for Imperial Multimedia. "As a result of this belief, the project has been developed to create opportunities for local organizations to participate with the option of adding enhanced content describing their business or service."

Businesses and service providers can go to www.imperialmultimedia.com/vaparks/, to find out how to participate in the project. The website features expanded information about the project; a sample of the type of information that will be available; and additional opportunities for sponsorship and special interest partners.

Headquartered in Baraboo, Wisconsin, Imperial Multimedia is a full service company specializing in delivering custom interpretive and information solutions in public places. The firm's work includes state, local and national parks; museums and historical sites; mass-market and specialty retail; theme parks and destination resorts; public transportation; and more.

The Virginia Department of Conservation and Recreation manages the Virginia State Park System, celebrating its 70th anniversary in 2006. For more information on any of Virginia's more than 30 state parks, go to the DCR website at www.dcr.virginia.gov, or call toll-free, 1-800-933-7275.

Supporting the fire department

Kilmarnock-Irvington-White Stone Rotary Club member Lee Capps (right) presents a contribution to Kilmarnock Volunteer Fire Department vice president John Smith. This contribution was made possible from the proceeds of the Bay Seafood Festival. This year's festival, September 8 at Belle Isle State Park, is sold out. "We appreciate the great support our area citizens give to the seafood festival," said chairman David Dew. "This festival enables the KIWS Rotary Club to greatly benefit local community organizations and charities. We hope everyone got their tickets before we sold out. I encourage everyone to get their tickets early next year."

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Kilmarnock Garden Club learns Bonsai basics

The Kilmarnock Garden Club recently enjoyed an informative and entertaining program on the art of Bonsai presented by Ronnie Baum of Tiny Tree Bonsai in Virginia Beach.

Baum began his program with a basic rule for all Bonsai growers, "outdoor plants need to remain outdoors and indoor plants need to be brought inside during the winter months."

Baum also outlined the care needed for these two categories and described the three philosophical styles of Bonsai. The first is Japanese; the beauty of the tree is prominent, not the container in which the tree is planted or accessories. The second is Chinese; total composition is considered, including ornamental plant container and accessories such as rocks. The third is American, a combination of the first two.

Baum has worked in the art of Bonsai for 23 years and has experienced great success with many of his own Bonsai, especially a slanting style Black Pine which he began 15 years ago. He stressed that growing a Bonsai tree takes patience and planning; however, the outcome is a very rewarding and beautiful endeavor. He closed his program with numerous examples of his own Bonsai and gave the group many hints on how to begin with a plant from a nursery and the proper care of that plant.

Ronnie Baum displays Bonsai trees.

Members also discussed the raffle prizes for a fund-raising event September 19 with Bob Henkel. Genny Chase reported that Keswick Hall in Charlottesville has given a round of golf for two on their Arnold Palmer Signature Golf Course. The Golden Eagle in Irvington has given a round of golf. Other raffle prizes include an original painting by June Higgins, an original painting by Sara Soderlund and an original oil painting of a vase of flowers by Miriam McCarthy. The club will also offer opportunity tickets the day of the event for various other prizes. Event admission will be $25. Raffle tickets will be $5 each or five for $20. Tickets may be purchased from club members, or by calling 438-5560.

The community beautification committee reported the Habitat for Humanity home's landscaping is well under way and the completion date is September 1. Page Carlson concluded the meeting with a report on the menu for the "Brunch With Bob" fund-raising event.

Among artistic awards, Novice winners were Nell Brothers, yellow; Jenny Saam, red; Olga Speck, yellow; and Ruby Wilson, yellow.

Midge Speight won and Advanced II blue.

Horticulture winners were Ersel Buckley-Sharpe, 2 blue, 2 red, 1 yellow; Carlson, 1 blue, 1 red; Pat Clawson, 10 blue, 2 red; Jane Denton, 2 blue, 1 red; Jenny Saam, 2 blue, 1 red; Speck, 7 blue, 4 red, 6 yellow; Speight, 2 blue; Ruby Wilson, 3 blue, 2 red.

At the August 15 meeting, Rebecca Elston will present "Creating a Decorative Tablescape." The meeting will begin at 1 p.m. at Kilmarnock Baptist Church on Church Street in Kilmarnock.

The theme for artistic design will be "Creative Visions - a creative design." The horticulture classes to be judged are zinnia, annual, herbs, vegetable/fruit, marigold, rose, perennial, house plant, shrub and other classification. Guests are welcome. For more information, call Barbara Ohanesian at 462-7325; for membership information, call Pat Clawson 462-0442.

Betsy Overton creates an arrangement for the Rappahannock Garden Club.

Overton demonstrates skill

Can anything be more beautiful on a hot July day than a big bunch of blue hydrangeas in a bowl ? This is "Flower Arranging Personified," the subject of Betsy Overton's program at the July meeting of the Rappahannock Garden Club.

Overton, a third-generation floral designer and president of the Ahoskie, North Carolina Garden Club, demonstrated dramatic but simple use of floral material. Overton talked about feeling one's way through flower arrangements. "Be confident and enjoy what you are doing" were her key words. Her arrangements were donated to the club.

Horticulture points were awarded to Ginny Brown, 5; JoAnn Crichton, 5; Susan Edmonds, 10; Ann Hecht, 16; Aleta Hoffman, 18; Claudia Holmes, 10; Mary Jacobs, 8; Mary Loftus, 13; Betty Otley, 8; Margaret Peill, 10; Joan Robinson, 7; Carol Shear, 25; JoAnn Smith, 8; Reta Stover, 13; Barbara Touchette, 15; Loya Wheatley, 18; and Cathie Ward, 10.

Food garden points were awarded to Ann Hecht, 5; Mary Loftus, 16; Margaret Peill, 8; and JoAnn Smith, 8.

Class I, "Celebrate the USA" Spatial Thrust Design awards went to Anne Skerrett, blue; Loya Wheatley, blue; and Anne Lewis, red; Class II, "Summer Sun" Reflective Design awards went to Anne Lewis, blue; and Barbara Touchette, red.

The August 10 meeting will be held at White Stone United Methodist Church. Charlotte Hundley, past president of the Garden Club of the Northern Neck and founding member and past president of the Northern Neck Rose Society will speak on "The A to Zs of Growing Roses." Horticulture and design entries must be in place by 11:45 a.m. The program begins at 12:30 p.m. followed by a business meeting. Guests are welcome.

▼ *Traffic study . . . .* *(Continued from page A1)*

Stone on a federal T-21 grant for road and sidewalk upgrades in the business district, a possible conflict of interest has been raised.

"The concerns of a minuscule town of 360 people may be far outweighed by VHB's contracts with the huge national chain and VDOT," said Conrad.

He is also at odds with VHB's traffic study analysis and would like answers as to the basis of their estimates.

In the report, VHB concluded that only 27 percent of the Kilmarnock Wal-Mart traffic is expected to originate from the southern portion of the Northern Neck and that an additional 18 percent would come across the Robert O. Norris Jr. Memorial Bridge from the Middle Peninsula. Projecting a conservative estimate of approximately 1,l80 new trips per day on a weekday and 1,380 trips per day on a Saturday, the report claims it is nearly a wash with the amount of traffic now crossing the bridge in the other direction to use the Gloucester Wal-Mart.

VHB consultants estimated an "insignificant" net impact of 30 to 40 more cars through White Stone per day.

The study also estimated that additional traffic along Route 3 in Lancaster County generated on a daily basis by the store will be 6,545 trips during a weekday and 7,647 trips on a Saturday. Traditionally, VDOT traffic studies only include peak traffic times and exclude Sundays.

Vogel, a VDOT district planning program manager, said VHB most likely based the study on proprietary market analysis done by Wal-Mart that would not be available to the public.

The issue of truck traffic across the bridge was not addressed in the report. However, Vogel said he understands only one to two trucks per day would deliver to the Kilmarnock Wal-Mart. Due to the location of the company's distribution center, he speculated trucks would use Route 360 in Mechanicsville to Route 3 through Warsaw rather than cross the Norris Bridge near White Stone.

VDOT's long range traffic study in 1988 concluded that Route 3 would be sufficient to handle area traffic through the year 2010. While the study does not include the impact of a big box store in the area, additional studies will be done for the future, according to Vogel. He said there are no plans in the foreseeable future for bypasses routing traffic west around White Stone or east of Kilmarnock.

Other items on council's agenda tonight include reports from Conrad on overcharges by Dominion Power for street lights, the repaving of the town parking lot, and the new town generator. Local business owner Penny Latham will give an update on a shop local campaign and the Dickens Christmas event. The town will recognize Clay Dingledine for the contribution of a town flag pole.

Kilmarnock mayor addresses Northern Neck Rotary Club

Kilmarnock Mayor Dr. Curtis Smith addressed the Northern Neck Rotary Club July 26.

Smith said that his first meeting of the town council was anything but uneventful as the boundary line adjustment was on the agenda for consideration. Following a hearing, council tabled the issue until additional information could be gathered.

Smith said that some of the needed information has been received. The annexation will cost approximately $1.6 million and take three years to complete. During the time required to extend services, the tax rate in the new area will likely be greatly reduced or abated entirely.

He said that some misinformation always comes when broad issues such as this are raised. For example, it has been said that the town failed to extend water and sewer to Hawthorne Acres when the water lines were extended out Main Street some years ago. Smith related that at that time the property owners in the area petitioned the council not to run lines into the subdivision as they had new septic tanks and a private water system providing services.

Smith also said that the property along Waverly Avenue, much of it waterfront, could not be developed until sewer was extended to the area as the land would not perk. The town's sewage treatment plant operates at approximately 40 percent of capacity due to the state's requirement to upgrade, so the capacity exists for the area without enlarging that facility.

The state also is calling for a reduction of metals in the discharge. Smith said the metals include minute quantities of silver and zinc. The silver is from photo processing and zinc from floor waxes used by residents, he said.

It's important for the town to get the boundary line adjustment done correctly as further adjustments cannot be made for a number of years, according to Smith.

The Main Street renovations are nearing completion having been delayed only two months by unforeseen underground surprises. Left to install are benches, trash receptacles, bike racks and road signs all of which are hoped to be in place in two weeks.

Some things that caused unplanned effort included 17 underground storage tanks; a dump where debris from the great fire was buried; fire hydrants that were apparently used at the time they were installed some 50 years ago, as they were dated 1900; and modernization of the water system to include valves that would permit the isolation of service block by block rather than having to shut down the entire system in case of a failure.

The Downtown Committee will be retained to tackle other projects in the future as it is now well constituted and functioning. On the horizon is a new town hall with commons which might include a relocated library and some county offices as well as a pavilion where events such as concerts may be held.

Wal-Mart plans to break ground October 1 and be completed by May 2007, according to Smith. Permitting issues have been resolved and the plan will use attributes of the Main Street modernization in its design. The store will be slightly smaller than the store in Gloucester and will include a strip mall.

Wal-Mart officials have been very cooperative, said Smith, *(Continued on page A16)*

Lancaster NAACP continues to work for community unity

by Joan McBride

"We are here to help everyone regardless of creed or color. We want to stand behind everyone."

That's how president Barbara Tiggle describes the purpose of the Lancaster County chapter of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP).

"You still have to be together to make sure you are treated fairly," said vice president Mary J. Crockett. "You have to have unity for the rights of people."

Crockett worked with others to keep the group together after the sudden death in 1996 of the Rev. Clarence Carter, president at the time.

Other current officers of the chapter are treasurer Dorothy Campbell, membership chair Geraldine Curry, secretary Tonia Waddy and chaplain Gilbert Dorman.

In the past year, the chapter has reached out to help individuals and families at the holidays. Last Thanksgiving, turkeys were distributed and fruit baskets were taken to individuals at the Lancashire, Mayfair House and the Warsaw Health Care Center at Christmas time.

Currently the group is preparing individual back-to-school bags of necessary school items for younger school-age children from several of the area's churches.

At the August 26 Local 400 picnic, members will have a table to invite folks to join the local NAACP.

On September 9, New St. John's Baptist Church in Kilmarnock is sponsoring an intercommunity Song Fest to serve both as an NAACP fund-raising event and membership drive.

From left, officers and members of the Lancaster County NAACP include (front row) Barbara Tiggle, Julia Mattocks, Mary J. Crockett and Dorothy Campbell; (next row) Tonia Waddy and Elizabeth Coleman.

Local history

Retirees J. Allen and Ruth C. Ball met in the 1950s when both were school teachers in the African-American "separate but equal" school systems in Lancaster County.

"We had some of the most qualified, hardworking teachers that ever existed," Ruth Ball recalls.

"If we didn't do it the first time, we did it the second time," she says, remembering how teachers took responsibility for a child who might not have done well in a certain school year and had to repeat the grade.

The primary teacher recalls teaching in the four-room Mt. Jean Elementary School which now houses the school board office on Irvington Road.

Both educators taught at New Mollusk Elementary at one point, while J. Allen Ball also served as principal at Merry Point Elementary, later teaching history and government while acting as principal at both A.T. Wright and Lancaster high schools.

J. Allen Ball fondly recalls taking government students to the General Assembly in Richmond each year as well as Washington, D.C. He proudly displays a double-frame 1970 picture of him and a smiling President Jimmy Carter shaking hands and the president's letter to him.

And he remembers traveling to Washington with other NAACP members and friends from the Crusaders' Political & Social Club in 1963 after President John F. Kennedy's assassination. He stood in line from 7 p.m. until 1 a.m. for his turn to view the casket and pay his respects.

The couple proudly recalls colleague Dr. Elton Smith, former principal of Brookvale Elementary (now Lancaster Primary School), who later made history by becoming the first African-American superintendent of schools in Virginia while serving in King and Queen County.

In the 1950s, J. Allen Ball was president of the local NAACP chapter, leading a group of about 20 "very active" members which were described as "mostly men." Ruth Ball says she and other women were also members, but didn't play as active a part.

"Those involved didn't hesitate in using the organization's name," Ruth Ball added. "The NAACP had a little prestige behind it."

J. Allen Ball, called by some "The Politician," also participated in the Crusaders, a group which still meets locally.

"We were very active, especially during elections and prior to," he said, explaining that this group did "more politicking than the NAACP."

The 1954 landmark Brown vs. Board of Education U.S. Supreme Court ruling ended segregation in public schools, the couple remembers. Ruth Ball said African-American parents were pleased to then have white teachers for their children.

However, they note there wasn't total integration in the county schools until quite some time later, about 1970.

Somehow the degree of integration of the school children didn't translate to the same degree of integration of African-American and white teachers, according to Ruth Ball.

She mourns the long-ago loss of the large numbers of those "qualified, hardworking" African-American teachers she knew in the schools, and feels the percentage of minority teachers now is not much greater than it was 30 or more years ago, even though the school population is almost evenly divided between the two races.

The Balls' life together offers a snapshot of an important time in American history. Married in 1954, the same year as the historic Supreme Court ruling, they just celebrated 52 years of marriage on July 24.

They have experienced the important civil rights triumphs of the last 50 years.

Their son, J. Allen Ball Jr., is a graduate of the University of Maryland and works as the principal radiation safety manager at Calvert Cliffs Nuclear Plant in Solomons Island, Md.

A national legacy

According to information from the national NAACP organization, the vision of the venerable civil rights organization—set to mark its 100-year anniversary in 2009—is "to ensure a society in which all individuals have equal rights and there is no racial hatred or racial discrimination."

Among the principal objectives of the association are to achieve equality of rights and eliminate race prejudice among the citizens of the United States; to seek enactment and enforcement of federal, state, and local laws securing civil rights; and to inform the public of the adverse effects of racial discrimination and to seek its elimination.

There are currently 1,700 chapters with additional youth and college units nationwide.

The present

When addressing the association's mid-July national convention for the first time ever, President George W. Bush acknowledged that slavery and the long period of legal discrimination following it "placed a stain on America's founding, a stain that we have not yet wiped clean."

The president praised Thurgood Marshall, the first African-American to serve on the U.S. Supreme Court, and the legacy of civil rights leader Martin Luther King Jr., and assured the association of his understanding "that racism still lingers in America."

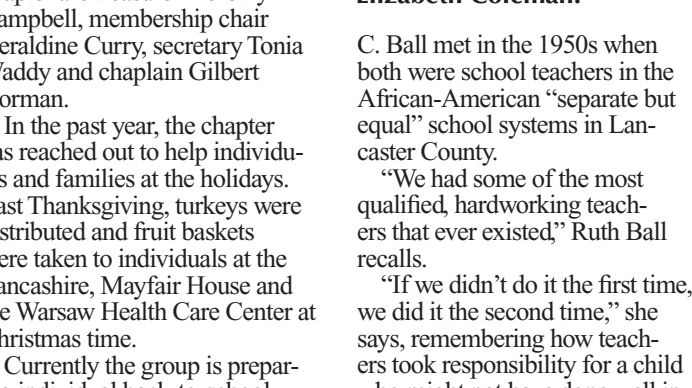
He spoke at length of the importance of quality education as an aid in reducing "the obstacles for opportunity for all our citizens."

"There's an achievement gap in America that's wrong for America," he added when explaining the need for the federal No Child Left Behind Act, designed to make sure every child receives "an excellent education."

According to the president, "Decent education is the gateway to a life of opportunity. It is a fundamental civil right."

He also talked of the importance of the Voting Rights Act of 1965 which was instrumental in affording African Americans another important civil right, reminding those assembled at the convention that President Lyndon Johnson had called the right to vote the lifeblood of our democracy.

To join the NAACP, call Tiggle at 436-0129, or Crockett at 435-00582.



Too hot for work, or play

The temperature was 107 degrees at the Bank of Lancaster northside branch in Kilmarnock around 3 p.m. Tuesday afternoon with the heat index rising well over 110. Find a cool spot to ride out the current heat wave. If working, or playing outdoors, remember to take plenty of breaks and consume lots of liquids. Take a lesson from the dogs, stay in the shade. (Photo by Conrad Wineland)

▼ *School repairs . . . .*

(Continued from page A1)

Superintendent of schools Dr. Randolph Latimore said only one bid was received by Rancorn Wildman, the architectural firm handling the repairs, even though "we advertised in all the area newspapers."

Supervisor Pete Geilich wondered aloud when the supervisors had approved such an amount, and expressed distress in the procedure the school board office had employed.

"We aren't kept in the loop," he complained.

"Tell the school board that we are distressed" by the way this has been done, he said to Latimore. Latimore said the high school situation was brought to the supervisors last fall "when we became aware of it."

He said he and school board chairman Donald McCann had met with David Jones, one of the partners in Connemara Corporation, a White Stone general contractor, to review the problem and learned the tentative cost would be "one hundred and some thousand" not including the cost of excavation.

"There was no indication of this board [board of supervisors] to instruct the superintendent of schools to come back to the board."

"Have you ever heard the board give approval without a number?" Jenkins asked Latimore.

The supervisors had earlier approved a $7,039.47 payment to the architectural firm to accommodate the emergency design for repairs to the LHS waste water problem.

Jenkins reiterated Geilich's earlier concern that the proper procedure was not followed when the bid was received and opened at the architectural firm.

"Those bids are supposed to be opened in public by the government [the school board]," he said.

Geilich said that since bidders were directed to send their bids to the architectural firm, "It leaves it outside the school board's control."

It was verified by Latimore that no school board members were present. However, Tim Guill, the operations and maintenance director of the school division, was there.

"What we want to suggest to the school board is that all bids come into the school board," supervisor Ernest Palin, the director of federal programs for the school division, said in summation.

"I think we need to go a step further and remind the school board that no money can be spent without appropriation," said county administrator Bill Pennell.

The supervisors passed a unanimous motion to pay Rancorn Wildman Architects PLC an additional $27,488.72 in professional fees and reimbursable expenses along with the $358,000 to Warwick Plumbing & Heating Corporation, the contractor who had done the mechanical work on the project and served as general contractor.

But additional concerns were expressed when dealing with the $50,000 canopy over the band room stairway.

Geilich observed that there was a need to watch over contracts such as this in detail.

"There is a need for better financial skills in and around the school board," he added.

Geilich then made the motion, "but very reluctantly," he noted, that the supervisors appropriate $50,000 for the canopy.

Beauchamp voted next in favor of the motion, but also noted that it was "very reluctantly."

In the end, this second motion passed unanimously also, with the notation that the funds would come out of the county's capital improvement fund and then later be paid back to that fund.

Residents resist town boundary changes

by Joan McBride

LANCASTER—During the public input session at last week's Lancaster board of supervisors meeting, Kilmarnock area resident Warren Sellew presented a petition with four sheets of signatures to the board.

Sellew said he was representing Waverly Avenue residents living just outside of the Kilmarnock town limits who had signed the petition opposing the town's possible boundary line extension to encompass their area.

During a later phone conversation, Sellew confirmed that 73 individuals had signed the petition, a number which he felt included at least 90 percent of the residents in the area.

"There is nothing the town can give us that we don't already have," said Sellew. "We have water and sewer. They just want our taxes."

Sellew said it was his understanding that if the town does attempt to annex the Waverly Avenue area, the residents can appear before the county supervisors, who would vote on the issue.

If the supervisors should side with the town, the residents can then appeal the decision to a three-judge panel in Richmond.

▼ *Mayor visits . . . .*

(Continued from page A15)

incorporating landscape screening requested in spite of the lack of ordinances requiring it. Additional access points to Route 3 are to be worked out with several possibilities, one of which would involve a bypass which is in the idea stage at present. It is hoped that the right-of-way can be acquired by the time VDOT becomes involved in the actual planning, Smith said.

President, Sam Nuckols received a report from CAPINNÉ treasurer Ken Knull showing that this year's annual dinner and auction is expected to net slightly less than $34,000. This makes it the second most successful event in the 16-year history of the event. This will enable the club to assist in more ways and in greater depth than in prior years, according to Nuckols. He commended members on the effort in making the event such a success with special recognition to chairman Richard Abbott and data manager Linda Morris.

The Northern Neck Rotary Club meets Wednesdays at 7:30 a.m. for breakfast at Lee's Restaurant in Kilmarnock.

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2	GE/Monogram SS Dishwarers	ZBD6600	$1195	695
1	GE/Monogram 30" Ceramic Cooktop with touchpad Controls - Black	ZEU30RB	$1249	895
1	Bosh 30" Dual Fuel Range - Stainless	HDS255	$2099	1795
1	LG DTR Microwave Black	LMVM1935	$349	199
1	LG OTR Microwave - SS	LMV1976ST	$349	275
1	Viking 24" Beverage Center - SS	VUAR140	$1449	950
1	GE 30" Trivection Built-in Oven-Black	JT930BH	$2295	1695
1	GE 30" Ceramic Cooktop Black w/SS Trim	JP940SK	$899	699
1	Jenn Air Dual Fuel 30" Downdraft Range - Black	JDS9860	$1995	1395
1	Jenn Air 30" Built-in Oven Stainless	JJW8530	$1295	795

Hotpoint by GE Top-Freezer Refrigerators

16.6 cu. ft. capacity
• Upfront temperature control
• Two fixed gallon door shelves
• Two clear vegetabel/fruit shelves
• Optional auto. icemaker
• Deluxe quiet design
• NeverClean condenser
$399

GE® Sensor oven

• 11 cu. ft. capacity, 1100 Wats
• Sensor cooking controls
• Auto and Time Defrost
• Instant On controls
• Turntable
• Timer On/Off
• Child lockout
$99

GE® Manual Defrost Chest Freezers

• 7.00 cu. ft. capacity
• 2 lift-out and sliding bulk storage baskets
• Power "On" light
• Limited food loss warranty
$219

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