Rappahannock Record

Thursday, August 31, 2006 • Kilmarnock, Virginia • Eighty-ninth Year • Number 47 • Three Sections • 50¢

Back-to-school

Most area schools return to classes Tuesday, September 5. Some 159 children boarded buses last week at the Northern Neck Family YMCA in Kilmarnock to go shopping for school clothes through the Bright Beginnings program. For more on the shopping trip and other back-to-school basics, see pages B7-11. (Photo by Audrey Thomasson)

Back-to-school for many students means back-to-sports. Lancaster senior Kenny Wilson drips with sweat after a hot afternoon practice with the varsity Red Devils football squad. The season begins for Lancaster and many other area teams tomorrow night (September 1). A preview of the upcoming Northern Neck District is inside in a special 2006 High School Football supplement. (Photo by Lisa Hinton-Valdrighi)

School and county officials respond to lingering issues

by Joan McBride

KILMARNOCK—Over the past few months, a variety of issues related to actions and decisions by the Lancaster school board and division superintendent Dr. Randolph Latimore raised questions which went unanswered.

Until now.

Swiss trip

According to Ernest Palin, director of federal programs for the school division, Latimore's six-day trip last June to Switzerland was paid for out of the federal Title II program.

Latimore took the group trip in conjunction with an outreach program from Virginia Tech, where he earned his doctoral degree in 2000. The group was studying European educational styles.

Palin said Latimore's $2,095 trip was an appropriate use of the funds, or Palin "wouldn't have allowed it." He added it came out of the Title II, Part A (Teacher Quality) funds which the school uses for professional development programs. For the 2005-06 school year, these funds totaled $101,698.

Latimore told the county board of supervisors less than a week after his return that Switzerland has four national languages: French, German, Romansh and Swiss.

However, since the children are required to take two foreign languages and one of them must be English, "it appears the common language will become English in Switzerland," he said.

On November 20, the division will host a Northern Neck educational summit called "Connecting the Dots," which was already in the works before Latimore took his trip.

At a school board meeting last May, Latimore discussed the issue, expressing his concern that schools in the area may not be turning out students who are ready to immediately enter the work force.

"We are concerned that businesses in the Northern Neck are asking for a viable work force that the school divisions may not be able to provide," he said at that time.

Summit participants will include school officials from all over the Northern Neck as well as many from the Northern Neck business community and representatives from local government bodies.

The business group will be urged to say, "These are the skills we need."

The summit will focus on career and technical education issues in the local high schools as well as the Northern Neck Regional Technical Center in Warsaw. The latter serves all four of the Northern Neck counties by offering vocational technical training to high school students.

In an interview about three weeks ago, Latimore spoke passionately about his plans to apply what he had learned from observing the Swiss style of education.

"Connecting the Dots" will look at what needs to be done to provide a quality work force by supplying high school graduates with marketable skills. The business community is looking for a work force they can immediately draw on, he said.

Latimore would like to see the format of the technical center change to be more like the Swiss model where early on in high school, students who have mechanical and technical aptitudes and are not planning to attend college opt to receive a strong technical education.

"Not all kids are geared to college. That's where we have fallen short," he affirmed.

Someone with good technical training can make a "handsome living here on the Northern Neck," Latimore said.

Budget

Folks are still scratching their heads over the July revelation that the Lancaster school division ended fiscal year 2005-06 over $300,000 in the red.

During the budget sessions last spring with the county board of supervisors, the school board was praised for its fiscal responsibility

(continued on page A15)

Board to address LHS repair project, related funding

LANCASTER—A Lancaster High School wastewater pipe repair project is on the consideration docket for the Lancaster board of supervisors meeting tonight (August 31). A related item will follow—the transfer of capital improvement funds.

The meeting will begin at 7 p.m. in the General District courtroom at the courthouse in Lancaster. A public input session will open the meeting. Citizens may address the board on any concerns not otherwise covered by the agenda.

At 7:10 p.m., the Virginia Department of Transportation residency administrator will meet with the board.

At 7:30 p.m., the board will conduct a public hearing on an application for a special exception requested by Tynesha Davenport to place an individual manufactured home off Nuttsville Road.

The consensus docket will be up for a vote at 7:55 p.m. Items include the minutes of the July 27 meeting, subdivision ordinance changes regarding rural road additions, and the Northern Neck Middle Peninsula Community Services Board performance contract for fiscal year 2007.

The consideration docket is due at 8 p.m. In addition to the high school project and related funding issues, items include the salary and invoice listings for August and use of the county building at 201 School Street in

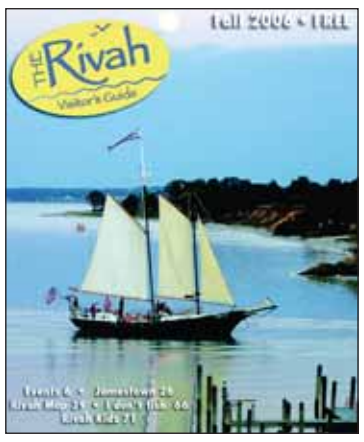
(continued on page A16)

Record closed for Labor Day

The Rappahannock Record office will be closed Monday, September 4, for the Labor Day holiday.

Since the display advertising deadline is normally at 5 p.m. on that day, advertisers are encouraged to submit copy by Friday if possible. The final advertising deadline for next week's paper is 10 a.m. Tuesday.

Other Tuesday deadlines are 11 a.m for calendar items and articles with photos, noon for classified advertisements, and 2 p.m. for all other news items.



Free and easy

The Rivah Visitor's Guide Fall 2006 edition hits newsstands throughout the Northern Neck and Middle Peninsula this week. The Rivah offers a calendar of events, directories for music, dining, lodging, camping, marinas, counties, museums, golf and parks, feature stories, articles on fall festivals and other activities, and fishing and boating news.

Inside

■ **Three for Treasurer:** Lindy Grigsby, Bonnie Haynie and Butch Jenkins on November ballot.....**B1**

■ **Thriving on exercise:** Seniors at Rappahannock Westminster-Canterbury get fit and benefit.....**A12**

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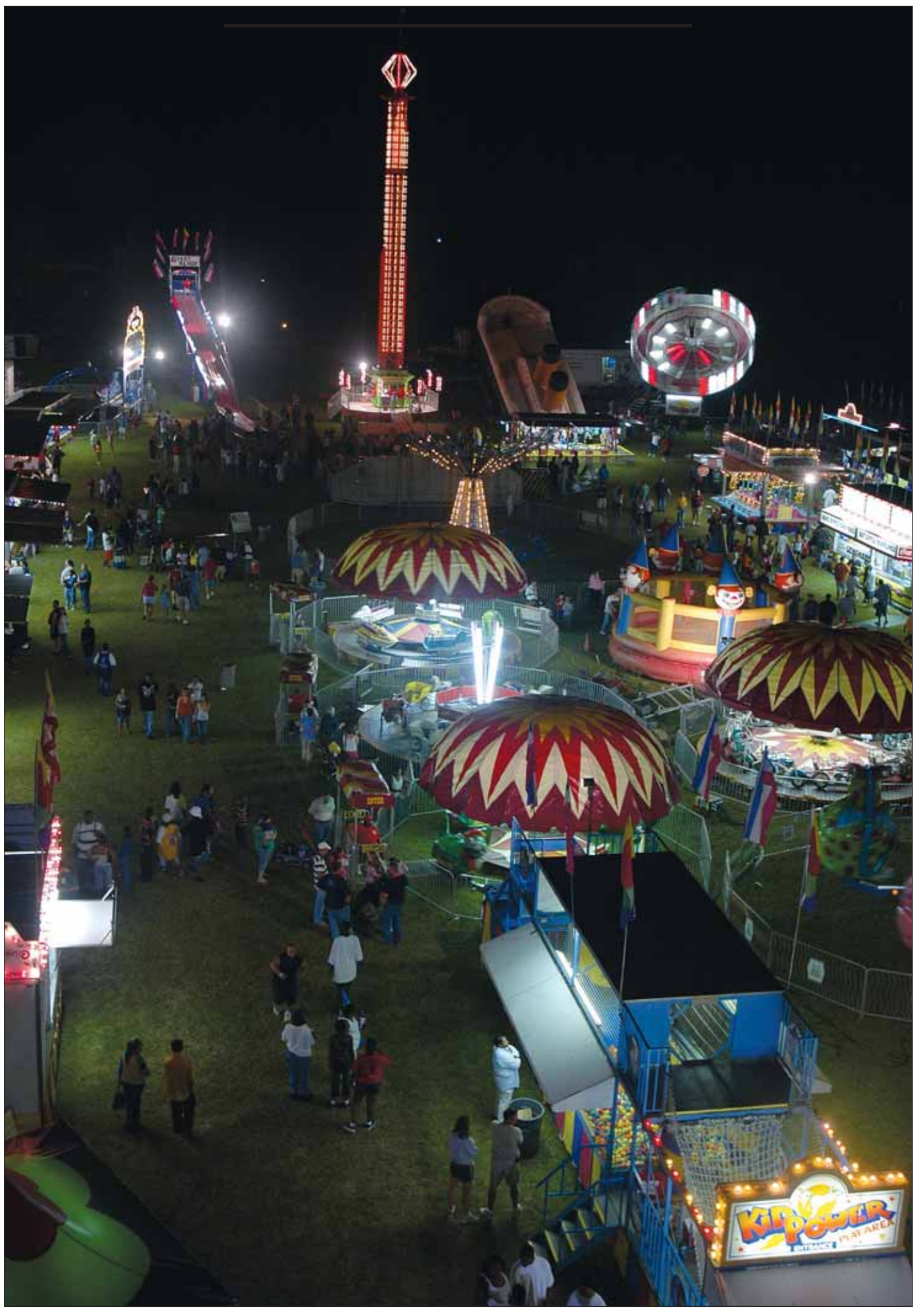

The midway crowd glimmers under annual fair glare

Bright lights illuminated the nighttime sky above Warsaw last week as thousands visited town for the annual Richmond County Fair. A carnival for thrill-seekers included a midway of rides, food vendors and games. Nightly entertainment also included rock, country, bluegrass and gospel music, livestock, arts, crafts and produce. (Photo by Lisa Hinton-Valdrighi)

Firemen's Festival is coming to Lively Saturday

LIVELY—The Upper Lancaster Volunteer Fire Department (ULVFD) will hold its 29th annual Firemen's Festival and Parade Saturday, September 2, with food, music, rides and games at the pavilion in Lively.

The grand prize is a 16KW Home Generator, including up to $1,500 in installation costs. Only 2,000 raffle tickets were printed and have been on sale over the summer from firemen and at various locations throughout the area. The remaining tickets will be on sale at the festival. The winning ticket will be drawn Saturday night at the dance. Winners need not be present. Tickets are $10 each.

Festival activities kick off at 8 a.m. with the annual bake sale. To donate baked goods, call 462-0745 by September 1. Also at 8 a.m. is a community yard sale. Call 462-6049 by September 1 to reserve a spot. At 10 a.m. in the firehouse, babies take center stage for the annual baby contest. Call 394-2621 by September 1 to enter. All of these events are sponsored and conducted by the ULVFD Ladies Auxiliary. At 11 a.m., the Bad Buoys Barbershop Quartet will entertain. WRAR will be in Lively from 9 a.m. to noon with live radio remote segments.

Annual parade to begin at noon, extend from Lively Oaks Road to the Old Lively School.

The annual parade will begin at noon. The route will extend from Lively Oaks Road north to the Old Lively School. The list of entries is growing and the parade is anticipated to be bigger and better than ever. Entries will be accepted through September 1 by calling 462-7168 or 462-5513. The parade will honor America's Armed Services with representatives from the different branches serving as Grand Marshals. A special ceremony is planned at the pavilion immediately follow-

(continued on page A16)

August 31 Thursday

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

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 Board of Supervisors for Lancaster County will meet at 7 p.m. at the courthouse in Lancaster. A public hearing will be held on an application for a special exception authorizing Tynesha Davenport to place an individual manufactured home on a property off Nuttsville Road near Nuttsville.

Sept. 1 Friday

Steve Keith will be featured on the Lucky Lady Deck at The Mooring Restaurant at Port Kinsale Marina in Kinsale. 472-4470.

Itchy dog will play on the deck at Smokin' Joe's Barbecue in Kilmarnock from 5:30 to 9:30 p.m.

Back to the books

Darrien Lee and Darrell Butler had a great time attending Storytime at Lancaster Community Library during the summer. Storytime will start up again Wednesday, September 6.

1 Friday

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

Alice Hershiser is featured on the piano at The Blue Heron Pub and Grill in Kilmarnock. 435-7005.

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

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

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

1 Friday

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.

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

The 45th Annual Art Exhibit sponsored by the Rappahannock Art League will be held at the Harold Porter Eubanks Art Center at Routes 608 and 200. Hours are 10 a.m to 5 p.m.

A Bake Sale will be held by the employees of Chesapeake Bank in the Kilmarnock lobby to benefit the March of Dimes WalkAmerica.

2 Saturday

Steve Keith will provide entertainment for the St. Stephen's Episcopal Church Christmas Countdown at 10 a.m. in Heathsville.

Steve Keith will be featured at Café Mojo in Urbanna. The show starts at 8:30 p.m. 758-4141

Linda Davis will be the headliner at Donk's Theater on Route 198 in Mathews at 8 p.m. 725-7760.

The Holiday Band will provide Carolina beach music for the third annual Irvington Stomp from 4 to 8 p.m. at White Fences Vineyard in Irvington. A host of family fun activities, wine tasting and all-you-can-eat steamed crabs. $40. Children under age 15, free. 438-6348.

Jumbo Lump Daddy And The Backfin Boys will present a "Groovin' at the Gallery"concert from 6 to 8 p.m. on the lawn at Yates House Fine Art and Craft Gallery in Deltaville. $5.

Alice Hershiser is featured on the piano at The Blue Heron Pub and Grill in Kilmarnock. 435-7005.

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

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

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 29th Upper Lancaster Firemen's Festival And Parade will feature games, rides, music, food, beverages, and a huge parade at noon. A 15kW Home generator will be awarded in a grand prize raffle.

The 45th Annual Art Exhibit sponsored by the Rappahannock Art League will be held at the Harold Porter Eubanks Art Center at Routes 608 and 200. Hours are 10 a.m to 5 p.m.

The Lion King will be shown at 8:30 p.m. in the backyard at Northern Neck Solutions at 72 North Main Street in Kilmarnock. The movie is free. Bring lawn chairs or blankets.

A Microchip Clinic will be offered by Animals First from noon to 1 p.m. at the Irvington Farmers' Market. $30.

2 Saturday

The Third Annual Irvington Stomp will be held from 4 to 8 p.m. at White Fences Vineyard in Irvington. It will feature all-you-can-eat hard crabs and barbecue chicken, outdoor games, the Holiday Band, hot air balloon rides, a petting zoo, vineyard tours new wines, corn maze and pony rides. $40. Children under age 15 free. Tickets available at www.irvingtonstomp.com, the Hope & Glory Inn and The Local.

The Down On The Farm Tour 2006 will feature two family operations in Northumberland County. Bearcroft Farms, owned and operated by Monty Swann, and the Cowart Canning Facility and Cowart Seafood Corporation, will be open to the public from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Maps are available from the Tidewater RC&D, Northern Neck Tourism Council, Cooperative Extension offices and by calling 443-1118.

A Hakefish & Fixin's Breakfast will be served by the Men's Ministry at Calvary Baptist Church in Kilmarnock, beginning at 8 a.m. $15. For tickets, call 462-7220, or 435-9673.

3 Sunday

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

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

The 45th Annual Art Exhibit sponsored by the Rappahannock Art League will be held at the Harold Porter Eubanks Art Center at Routes 608 and 200. Hours are 10 a.m to 5 p.m.

Nat King Kong will be the featured entertainment for a Labor Day Buffet from 4 to 9 p.m. at The Mooring Restaurant at Port Kinsale Marina in Kinsale. 472-4470.

4 Monday Labor Day

Steve Keith will play at Athena Vineyards & Winery at Glebe Point. The open house is from noon to 6 p.m.

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.

The 45th Annual Art Exhibit sponsored by the Rappahannock Art League will be held at the Harold Porter Eubanks Art Center at Routes 608 and 200. Hours are 10 a.m to 3 p.m.

5 Tuesday

Duplicate Bridge will be played at the Woman's Club of Lancaster at 1 p.m. 462-0742.

(continued on page A3)

LET'S EAT!

Your guide to the most delicious food & tastiest treats in the Northern Neck and Middle Peninsula.

THE BLUE HERON PUB & GRILL: 37 N. Main Street, Kilmarnock. Casual dining with a diverse menu. Full bar with an excellent selection of specialty draft and bottled beers and extensive wine list. Open for lunch and dinner from 11 am-10pm, Tuesday-Saturday. 804-435-7005.

CONRAD'S UPPER DECK RESTAURANT & MARINA: Featuring fresh local seafood in an inviting atmosphere. Expanded hours: Friday 5-10pm, Saturday 4-10pm. Sunday brunch 11am-5pm. All you can eat seafood buffet $19.95. 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.

TOWN BISTRO: Casual upscale dining in an intimate setting. Featuring Modern American Cuisine. Open Kitchen. Wine & Beer on premises. 62 Irvington Road, Kilmarnock. 435-0070. Mon.-Thurs. 5-9 Fri. & Sat. 5-10.

WILLABY'S: Comfortable casual atmosphere. Featuring daily chef's specials, gourmet burgers & delectable desserts. Eat in or carry out available. Monday-Saturday 11-3. Items available for take home until 4:00. White Stone. (L) 435-0044.

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Selected readings of Ms. Kreiter Foronda's Poetry will take place at 5:30 pm and at 6:30 pm during the reception.

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The Seabreeze Restaurant, Gwynn's Island 725-4000
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FRI. SEPT 1
STEP UP (PG13) 5:20, 7:30, 9:40
INVINCIBLE (PG) 5:00, 7:20, 9:50
BEERFEST (R) 7:15, 9:35
SNAKES ON A PLANE (R) 7:25, 9:45
BARNYARD (PG) 5:10
TALLADEGA NIGHTS (PG13) 4:45, 7:10, 9:30
ANT BULLY (PG) 5:25
SAT. SEPT 2
STEP UP (PG13) 1:00, 3:10, 5:20, 7:30, 9:40
INVINCIBLE (PG) 2:00, 5:00, 7:20, 9:50
BEERFEST (R) 7:15, 9:35
SNAKES ON A PLANE (R) 7:25, 9:45
BARNYARD (PG) 1:15, 3:15, 5:10
TALLADEGA NIGHTS (PG13) 1:25, 4:45, 7:15, 9:35
ANT BULLY (PG) 1:20, 3:20, 5:25
SUN. SEPT 3 & MON. SEPT. 4
STEP UP (PG13) 1:00, 3:10, 5:20, 7:30
INVINCIBLE (PG) 2:00, 5:00, 7:20
BEERFEST (R) 7:15
SNAKES ON A PLANE (R) 7:25
BARNYARD (PG) 1:15, 3:15, 5:10
TALLADEGA NIGHTS (PG13) 1:25, 4:45, 7:10
ANT BULLY (PG) 1:20, 3:20, 5:25
TUES.-THUR. SEPT 5-7
STEP UP (PG13) 7:35
INVINCIBLE (PG) 7:25
BEERFEST (R) 7:15
SNAKES ON A PLANE (R) 7:30
TALLADEGA NIGHTS (PG13) 7:15

Upcoming

(continued from page A2)

5 Tuesday

Duplicate Bridge will be played at 12:15 p.m. at the Northumberland Woman's Club in Lottsburg. 529-7029.

The Tavern Quilt Guild meets at 10 a.m. in the transportation building behind Rice's Hotel/ Hughlett's Tavern.

The Northern Neck Chapter of the National Active and Retired Federal Employees Assocaition will meet at 2 p.m. at the Northern Neck Electric Cooperative in Warsaw.The guest speaker will be Shawn O'Donnell, candidate for Congress from the First District. 436-0511.

The Photoshop Special Interest Group will meet at 9 a.m. at Lancaster Community Library in Kilmarnock. The contest theme is "old building."

6 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.

6 Wednesday

Bingo will be played at the Rappahannock Civic Club on Route 33 at Locust Hill in Middlesex County at 6:30 p.m.

The Woman's Club Of White Stone will meet at the clubhouse for a covered dish luncheon at 11:30 a.m. The guest speaker will be county administrator William H. Pennell Jr.

Storytime returns to the Lancaster Public Library in Kilmarnock.

7 Thursday

Bingo is played at the American Legion Post 86 on Waverly Avenue in Kilmarnock at 7 p.m.

The RFM Modelers meet at 10 a.m. at the Reedville Fishermen's Museum. 453-6529.

Al-ANON meets at 8 p.m. at Palmer Hall in Kilmarnock.

The Airport Club of Hummel Field meets at 6 p.m. for a dinner meeting at The Pilot House at Topping. 758-5500.

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

Free Square Dance Lessons will be given by The Stepping Stones from 7:30 to 9:30 p.m. at Freeshade Community Center in Syringa,

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

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

Area Events

■ Hakefish and fixins'

The Calvary Baptist Church Men's Ministry will hold a Hakefish and Fixin's Breakfast Saturday, September 2, at 8 a.m. in Calvary's fellowship hall in Kilmarnock.

A donation of $15 would be appreciated. For tickets, call brother Burton Moody at 462-7220, or brother Leonard Scott at 435-9673.

■ Sunset cruise

On September 15, Rappahannock River Sunset Cruise will be held to benefit the Richmond County Museum. Enjoy a buffet and beverages, door prizes and scenic river views aboard the Capt. Thomas.

Boarding will begin at 5:30 p.m. The cruise will depart at 6 p.m. from Hoskins Creek in Tappahannock. Tickets are available from board members and the museum at 5874 Richmond Road in Warsaw, or by calling 333-3607.

■ Bake sale

The First Baptist Church Praisers for Christ Adult Praise Dance Ministry will hold a bake sale during Edwardsville Day in Edwardsville on September 9.

■ Show and tell

The Photoshop Special Interest Group will meet Tuesday, September 5, at 9 a.m. in the meeting room of the Lancaster Community Library in Kilmarnock. The contest theme is "old building."

After Judy Sapione talks about composition, there will be time to try it out. So bring cameras.

■ Fall festival

The 11th annual Knights of Columbus Fall Festival will be held September 30 from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. at De Sales Hall at 151 Church Street in Kilmarnock.

Enjoy crafters, bake sale, farmers' market and community interest booths featuring the Heathsville Tavern forge and vintage farm equipment from the Northern Neck Farm Museum.

■ Barbecue

On Saturday, September 9, the Fairfields United Methodist Men will sponsor a North Carolina-style barbecue at the church in Burgess. Barbecue will be available from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. and will be served with baked beans and cole slaw. Take-outs are available; call 453-2631.

■ African drumming

Rusty Eklund will present an African drum concert at 6 p.m. Saturday, September 9, at the Urbanna Town marina at Upton's Point on Urbanna Creek. He will perform traditional songs and rhythms of the many ethnic groups from Mali, West Africa. He will play on the jebbe, dununs, krin and balafon.

African box dinners prepared by MoJo's can be ordered prior to the concert. The cost for each vegetarian dinner will be $7 and can be ordered through Suzanne at 804-815-0062.

■ Yard sale

The Northumberland County Animal Shelter will hold its monthly indoor/outdoor yard sale September 9 from 8 a.m. to noon. The yard sale is also open from 9 a.m. to noon on Tuesdays.

■ Grow oysters

The Chesapeake Bay Foundation will hold an oyster gardener seminar September 16 from 9 to 10 a.m. at the Rappahannock River Yacht Club in Irvington.

Reservations are required. Call 757-622-1964, email hamptonroads@cbf.org, or visit www.cbf.org/virginiaoysters.

■ On exhibit

Continuing at Richmond County Museum through Labor Day, The Gristmills of Richmond County include graphics and artifacts featuring the many gristmills that served Richmond County until recent years.

A painting of Tayloe's Mill by artist John Shaw is featured, with prints available in the gift shop. The exhibit may be viewed Wednesday through Saturday from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m., or by appointment by calling 333-3607.

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Excerpts

by Henry Lane Hull

For most of my life I have wanted to visit the Ladew Topiary Gardens north of Baltimore. I remember hearing of them in school, and knowing that for special occasions they were open to the public; but those were times that I could not be there. Coming home from New England last week, I resolved that the gap should be filled and we planned our stop.

The gardens are situated on a farm of over 200 acres purchased by Harvey Ladew in 1929. He then began developing the house and its adjoining 22 acres as a veritable park, which, although near the road, seems utterly secluded. Ladew chose the hunt as his theme for the venture and decorated both the house and the grounds accordingly.

The first topiary one beholds is the hunt itself, consisting of two riders on horseback, four foxhounds all in pursuit, and of course, the fox leading the way. One rider is jumping a white rail fence with the other close behind him. The substance of all of this production is the result of his planting a number of yew trees, which over several seasons he shaped into the figures depicted.

Farther up the gentle incline towards the house is the largest piece of topiary on the property, a giant caterpillar, encircling half of the circular area in front of the house. Beyond that, Ladew divided the plot into several different garden themes. The most spectacular two are the topiary statues composed of lyrebirds, Winston Churchill's hat and "V" for victory sign, along with many other subjects, and the dramatic iris garden in which a brook cascades from a seemingly endless downhill course with the flowers abutting it all the way.

The house is as inspiring as the gardens. Ladew took the original farmhouse of the 18th century to which previous owners had appended an elegant 1847 addition, and built on his own contributions. On a visit to London, he purchased an English oval mahogany partners' desk. For those not familiar with the term, it refers to a desk with two fronts, thus enabling two partners to work facing each other. He then constructed a large oval room to house the desk in the center.

Some critics have described the room as one of the 100 most beautiful in America. The walls are lined with floor-to-ceiling bookshelves filled with beautiful volumes. At every turn throughout the house are paintings of horses and hunt scenes which are replicated in Staffordshire figurines and other objects. The house is not a museum, but a home, and each window looks out on a captivating garden vista, the most distant of which is Ladew's Temple of Venus up a long evergreen alley.

We were there at the worst possible time of the year with the August drought stifling garden flowering, and with much of the grass as dry as what we have been experiencing here in the Northern Neck, but those impediments in no way hampered our thrill at being there. The B.E.s spotted the topiary nuances immediately at each turn, urging us forward.

Harvey Ladew was born in 1886, making him 43 at the time of his purchase of the property. He lived until 1976, allowing him almost 50 years to develop it as he wished. He received many awards for doing it all himself, granted with the help of hired gardeners, but all of the design and much of the execution he did himself.

In 1971, he opened the grounds on a limited basis, and upon his death the endowment he left permitted them to be open on a regular basis. At present, they are open from April through October, and the work force still comprises only a few gardeners and the house and shop staff.

We were too late for lunch at the café, which closes at 2 p.m., and thus dined at the Madonna Restaurant up the road at the Madonna crossroads.

The visit was more than worth the many years of anticipation on my part, one of the most rewarding stops one can make on a northward passage, as confirmed by the frequent visits by the Duke and Duchess of Windsor. Today, all of us can behold the beauty that they saw, and enjoy the serenity and hospitality of this piece of earth so magnified by Harvey Ladew.

Delegate's Report

by Del. Robert J. Wittman

This month we have seen major action on a much discussed issue; limiting the menhaden catch.

Last year the Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission (ASMFC) ruled that as a precaution a limit should be placed on the amount of menhaden caught by reduction fisheries. The proposal limited the catch until scientific studies could be done to determine how menhaden populations in the Chesapeake Bay are being affected by commercial fishing, water quality and weather conditions.

On July 31, Gov. Tim Kaine announced an agreement had been reached among sport and commercial fishermen, the environmental community and the state to limit the menhaden catch to 109,000 metric tons, based on the five-year average catch in the bay.

Omega Protein in Reedville, the state's only reduction fishery, worked with the state and the other groups to reach that compromise. I will soon introduce legislation to adopt these measures.

I attended the Atlantic Menhaden Management Board meeting August 16 in Arlington to discuss the compromise limit. The meeting concluded with the board deciding to approve to advertise for adoption of the limit at the October meeting of the ASMFC. The proposal passed with 14 votes in favor, one null vote, and one abstaining.

I recently met with Sen. John Chichester and representatives from the King George board of supervisors about the Potomac Gateway Welcome Center. This was a logistical meeting to transfer the ownership of the center to the state. The state has allotted $80,000 a year for the Virginia Tourism Corporation to run the facility.

On August 28, the House of Delegates went back into session for three purposes.

The first was to consider the governor's amendments to HB 5019. This bill repeals the estate tax and makes some changes to the Land Conservation Tax Credit Program. The governor proposed changes to the original bill which will greatly enhance the ability of the state to continue to conserve land in agriculture and forest uses. The original bill as it passed the House and Senate made significant reductions to the program, which is one of the most successful in the country. There is far reaching support, including my own, for the governor's amendments.

Second, the House has to make some changes to the budget to correct a $137.2 million mistake that was made in calculating the financing for schools. This mistake was due to a problem in the forecast of sales tax revenues which are earmarked to go to local school divisions. This stemmed from the reduction of sales tax collected on groceries. The rate that the grocery tax is to be reduced was underestimated. This resulted in a larger projection of money coming to local school systems from the sales tax. The House and the Senate are now faced with making up for this miscalculation by placing an additional $60 million in this year's budget to ensure that no city or county school system loses money as a result.

Third, the House and Senate will determine a date by which to begin deliberations on state transportation issues. The likely date is sometime in September.

If I can be of assistance, call 493-0508, or visit robwittman@verizon.net.

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Letters to the Editor

How about a thank you?

To The Editor:

In a column entitled Medicare: Spanning the coverage gap (RR 08/24), the writer, regarding the Galen Institute, enumerates several areas of dissatisfaction that many seniors experience with the new Medicare prescription drug program.

Her observations regarding the current system include disappointment with the program's "doughnut hole"—at which point reimbursement is interrupted until drug bills exceed $5,100.

The writer, whose Galen Institute promises not to lobby in exchange for the tax-favored protections of nonprofit status, seems to be lobbying for a plan that has no "doughnut hole" interruption of benefits.

Conspicuously absent in her opinion piece is any expression of senior citizens gratitude to the children and grandchildren of today, onto whose narrow shoulders the cost of this monstrously expensive new entitlement has been placed. I am disappointed that the term intergenerational equity appears nowhere in her article or, perhaps, in her thinking.

Andrew J. Billups III
Gloucester

Protect civil liberty and national security

To The Editor:

Now, let me get this straight: The Republicans want the president to have the power to wiretap any phone calls between the U.S. and other countries for the purpose of safeguarding our national security during wartime without seeking a warrant to ensure that the wiretap is being used for its stated purpose.

I wonder how comfortable the Republicans would be if a Democrat was elected president (it could happen) and could employ the same unrestricted wiretapping power.

It shouldn't be too hard for a Republican to envision an evil Democrat president inducing or compelling an NSA technician to eavesdrop "for reasons of national security" on, say, RNC phone calls. The warrant requirement in the Foreign Intelligence Surveillance Act (FISA) prevents such misuse.

To my knowledge, no Democratic senator or representative has opposed wiretapping for the purpose of protecting national security. They simply want wiretapping to be verified as legitimate by the judicial branch of government.

If the 72-hour period provided by FISA for obtaining a warrant is too brief, the president should ask Congress for an amendment that would grant additional time. I'm sure it would be passed quickly with a huge bipartisan majority. Democrats believe that both civil liberty and national security can and should be protected.

Bob Lindsey
Callao

Time now comes for action

To The Editor:

Your publication of the entire report of the Farmland Preservation Committee was very appropriate now, while we are being invaded by cynical developers who have "discovered" Lancaster and are eagerly consuming it in large chunks, and offering it back in tiny bits at inflated prices.

They do not see a community of farmers, watermen, and other workers and their families. They see our county as mere acreage, to be subdivided at great profit, before they move on to the next bonanza.

Not only farmland has been lost. Twenty-five years ago, all of the beach at Windmill Point was used by the public, as it had been for generations. The old pier was used for fishing, as was the old ferry dock next to the bridge. These have been lost to the public, as have many other places.

This does not compare in magnitude with the loss of farm acreage, but the loss to Lancaster's people is great.

I am old-fashioned enough to believe that preservation of the traditional way of life of Lancaster citizens is a primary duty of all of our supervisors, no matter how many times they hear "We don't want the public on our creek."

A wall of mega mansions is being built on our shorelines, and if present trends continue, Lancaster will resemble a gated community with a dry road down the middle.

A man with a trailered boat even now most likely launches it in another county.

If even a small number of citizens went to the beach here, chaos would result. We have 275 miles of waterfront, and 50 feet of public beach.

The difficulties of assuring continued access to public waters have been successfully overcome by all surrounding counties, leaving Lancaster at the bottom of the list.

Lancaster's loss of public waterfront must be considered as equally important as its loss of farmland. Correcting each will require public funds, and there is no reason why developers of waterfront should not have paid a "public access fee" for each lot. It's never too late to do this, but it should have been done long ago.

Four years ago, a citizen's advisory group, appointed by the planning commission to study pubic access, submitted a report, which has been ignored ever since.

I hope that the farmland report will not be ignored because of its controversial implications, and the obvious objections of developers.

We cannot continue to allow our county to evolve into a place where its native citizens cannot afford to live, hunt, or go onto the water.

This process has continued despite a strong presentation in the existing Comprehensive Plan. I hope the new plan will be even stronger, but plans, committees and advisory groups may analyze, study and recommend, but the ultimate action must be taken by five supervisors who recognize their obligation to the ⅔ of their constituents who have lost almost all their rights to go to the water.

How much longer will this go on, and how many farms will disappear before action is taken by our supervisors?

How much more waterfront will be walled off from the public before Lancaster's supervisors consider the problem important enough to buy a piece of land for their people?

If it can't be done now, when would be the right time?

Fred Ajootian
Ocran

School decision reached with ease without public input

To The Editor:

In the August 17 issue of the Rappahannock Record, page B1, there is an article describing Lee Scripture Jr.'s, chairman of the Northumberland School Board, assessment of the ease of the process for building the new middle/high school project. He compared the ease in which the decision in Northumberland was done in relationship to other school divisions. It is easy to have a quick and smooth decision when the public is excluded. Many other divisions believe in following the Virginia Constitution and allowing the people the right to vote by referendum to approve long-term debt for the government projects.

For example of a county that is going through a long process is Powhatan County which is planning on building a new elementary school costing over $18 million. In Powhatan County, there was going to be a referendum in November. However, because Powhatan County just went through a new real estate assessment, like Northumberland County, Powhatan County decided to put off the referendum until November 2007 so the reassessment process and shock could be understood and absorbed. Northumberland County is not going to have a referendum so it is easy when only the board of supervisors and school board have to decide without the benefit of public hearings and public votes.

I did not have a chance to exercise my Virginia constitutional right to approve long-term debt because of the scheme used by Northumberland county to deny me by rights. I could have strongly considered voting for the school but I will not have the chance because the scheme employs "subject to annual appropriation" to avoid the constitutional requirements, maybe.

Since I cannot vote, there is only one avenue left for me to try to see that my constitutional rights are upheld, namely, a lawsuit. Since the scheme employed uses "subject to annual appropriation," I can choose which year to challenge the annual appropriation. I will file my lawsuit the first year after the school project is completed.

The worst that can happen is that I lose the lawsuit. I will lose some money and time. I will represent myself. I will have three years to prepare the lawsuit. The best that can happen is that this scheme and debt will be ruled unconstitutional and the appropriation will be considered illegal and we will get a completely new school without any additional payments due the bondholders. Therefore, bondholders beware.

On this issue, at times I feel like I may be tilting at windmills, but at least I feel better fighting the denial of the public's constitutional right to vote on long-term debt.

Thomas H. Tomlin
Wicomico Church

Speed up or slow down; watch your wake

To The Editor:

I am writing to make an observation that confronts me constantly at my home in Irvington overlooking Carter's Creek between the Tides Inn and the entrance.

There is an immense amount of traffic in this part of the creek and the wake of the boats is something fierce. Irvington needs a police officer there rather than one on the street because there is much more traffic. What I witness, if it occurred at Rudy Inlet, Virginia Beach, where I have kept my boat on occasion, the boat operators would be in jail.

The irony is that the largest vessel that goes by my house, namely the Miss Ann from The Tides Inn, creates the least wake, barely causing a ripple. Yet one of the worst offenders is a 20-foot launch with its 90 horsepower Honda that customarily takes people back and forth to the hotel. Occasionally, it comes by at half speed ferrying guests down the creek creating about a 1½ foot wake.

Apart from this observation, the worst offenders are the unwitting skippers of 18- to 20-foot outboards with 5 or 6 passengers running at half speed and dragging half of Carter's Creek behind them in the form of 2-foot seas that would rock you out of your bunk if you were anchored out there asleep.

In addition to creating discomfort to people in their boats anchored in the creek and also banging moored boats up against the docks, this wake also causes substantial erosion that is bad enough without the wake. I have been tempted to put a loud speaker on my dock so that I could plead with the skipper either to slow down or speed up since smaller boats put up less sea at full throttle.

Before I considered that remedy further, I thought it would be of interest to you and your readers to pursue further by paying closer attention to their vessels' wake. I am also sending a copy to the Virginia Marine Resource Commission (VMRC) for their interest. Occasionally, their patrol boats come by, and sometimes on Saturday afternoons, even the Coast Guard appears and arrests a couple of people with overloaded boats, no jackets. etc.

The least offenders are the watermen with their deadrise hulls. No matter what speed, they rarely create any wake at all because they have to care for their own boats and respect the value of others' crafts, but I still don't believe the worst offenders are doing it intentionally.

Years ago, when Brother Dixon and I owned the Irvington Boat Basin, we were expanding our capacity. One day, an old waterman from Mathews County who was extending our docks said, "Boys, I would rather drive piling in the Chesapeake Bay than Carter's Creek, it's so rough in here."

This is just a voice crying in the wilderness and not a mean, grouchy old man sitting on the bank who's jealous of everybody else having fun out on the water.

Merritt Foster
Irvington

P.S. I could also video the boat, registration number, size of the wake and file a complaint with VMRC or Lancaster County so that you could post a sign on old Weems Wharf: "Beware: Your Speed and Wake are Being Monitored."

Letters to the Editor

Censorship call elicits response

To The Editor:

I enjoy reading the opinions of my neighbors in this newspaper. You give us a forum to discuss our thoughts and concerns with a broader audience. You are fair and impartial in printing opinions on a wide spectrum of subjects without a narrowly prescribed limit as to subject or submissions.

Harry S. Truman stated in 1950, "There is no more fundamental axiom of American freedom than the familiar statement: In a free country, we punish men for crimes they commit, but never for the opinions they have."

In light of recent calls for the censorship of your paper I ask; is it possible that we are moving towards punishing men for their opinions as well as for their crimes?

Michael Fazzi
Weems

Sexuality stance challenged

To The Editor:

The August 24 issue of the Record contained an article with the headline "Virginia against loving—again." The writer argued that homosexuality (indeed, all sexuality) is inborn and immutable; that the Constitution prohibits discrimination against immutable differences; and that the civil right to marry should be extended to homosexuals because civil rights are, or should be, shared by everyone.

First, the writer believes that "civil rights" "are rights shared by all—there is no one in the United States who does not, or should not, share in them." However, civil rights typically exclude certain groups of people. For example, the right to vote in Federal elections is restricted to people who are at least age 18.

Second, the writer says that "(w)hen others gain a civil right...(m)y rights are not diluted by those my neighbor enjoys." This isn't true. For example, if a man wishes to sell his property only to someone of a certain race, he will find himself prohibited from doing so by various civil rights laws. Clearly, the seller's right has been "diluted" while the buyer's right has been expanded; in such a case, one man loses and one man wins.

Third, the writer claims that "sexuality isn't a preference—it is inborn, and the Constitution protects us all against discrimination based on immutable differences."

For starters, how do we know what is immutable and what is not? Does "immutable" mean "genetically-determined" or could it include a broader concept such as "genetically-predisposed"? And how about "psychologically-determined" behavior, keeping in mind that such behavior often appears immutable? If an adult prefers to have sex with children, could he, if armed with good scientific evidence, justifiably claim an immutable urge that is protected by the Constitution?

As for homosexuality, while there is some evidence of a genetic basis, the extent of that basis is unknown and it is pure speculation. As for the writer's claim about the Constitution prohibiting discrimination based on immutable differences, let me remind him that women didn't get the right to vote until the Constitution was amended in 1919. Let me also predict that the next time the U.S. implements a military draft, only males will be targeted. I look forward to the writer taking to the streets to protest against such sex discrimination.

Fourth, the writer claims that the Supreme Court correctly ruled in 1967 in *Loving v. Virginia* that the equal protection clause of the 14th amendment prohibited state anti-miscegenation laws. In fact, the court's ruling was incorrect, as constitutional historians have long noted. The foremost scholar of the legislative history of the 14th amendment, the late Raoul Berger, showed that the authors and ratifiers of the amendment expressly did not intend for state anti-miscegenation laws to be overturned by the amendment. Berger is not the only scholar to show this. Incidentally, the older view prevailed for nearly 100 years; that it was reversed testifies to changing politics on the Court, not to changes in the Constitution.

Fifth, even if the writer's premise that homosexuality is immutable were true, it does not follow that homosexuals must be allowed to marry based solely on that premise. One cannot reach any conclusion, no matter what the subject, on the basis of a single premise. One needs at least two premises, and the writer has only given us one, and even that is unproven.

In sum, the author of that article seems unaware that sexual behavior is to a large extent shaped by social forces and not by biology. To his mind, sexuality is purely biological in nature and has no other dimension; people do sexual things because they are driven to do so. Moreover, he believes that if sexual behavior is driven by biology (i.e., is immutable, like homosexuality), only a bigot would oppose such behavior.

In fact, every human society in history has had all sorts of sexual taboos because humans long ago realized that sexual behavior must be controlled and channeled in ways that result in a stable, affectionate, and safe society. Sexuality is universally recognized to be too important to be left to individuals to decide on the basis of their biological urges.

Hank Hoover
White Stone

U.S. meddling causes terrorism

To The Editor:

The success of Bush's propaganda campaign to tie Iraq to the terrorist attacks of 9/11 is clearly evident in a recent letter to the editor titled "justifying self defense." The writer, in attempting to justify the war with Iraq brings up 9/11 and terrorism several times. It is hard to believe that we have to keep saying this, but here we go again: Iraq had nothing to do with 9/11 or the terrorists who committed those crimes.

For some, Bush doesn't need to do anything but "stay the course." His lies have been accepted and ingrained as truth. It does not matter how much deceit and incompetence are revealed in the planning and execution of this war, nor how badly it has gone; they will support staying this misguided course.

This administration had an agenda for war with Iraq well before 9/11 and they manipulated the fear engendered by those attacks to gain support to attack Iraq. They engaged in a propaganda war aimed at creating and keeping that fear alive.

The campaign for this war featured constant mentions of 9/11 and/or terrorism and Iraq within the same sentence. There were solemn pronouncements about weapons of mass destruction even to the point of images of mushroom clouds threatening to destroy us all lest we immediately invade Iraq. There were no weapons of mass destruction, there was no proof of weapons of mass destruction and Bush didn't want to wait to find the proof. It's not good enough to go to war just because we think there may be a threat.

The Bush regime has depicted Iraq as the "central front in the war on terrorism." Just how is the catastrophic destruction of Iraq supposed to be useful in the fight against guys from Saudi Arabia hijacking planes with box cutters?

Yes, Saddam Hussein is a very bad man. He was a very bad man when the U.S. supported him and gave him weapons to use against Iran in the 1980s. Our meddling with countries in the Middle East has caused or contributed to the already outrageously contentious situations that existed between and within these countries. We need leaders who are capable of understanding that our meddling and hegemonic actions are causes, not cures for terrorism.

Cheryl Perkins
Topping

Democrats to host Labor Day Picnic

The Lancaster County Democrats will host a Labor Day picnic on Monday, September 4, from noon to 4 p.m. at 429 Irvington Road in Kilmarnock, the residence of Tom and Luci York. Barbecue and beverages will be served.

"With the Iraq war, the deficit, homeland security and the upcoming state elections, there will be plenty to talk about," said Donna Thompson, chairman of the Lancaster County Democratic Committee. "We should also use this holiday to celebrate the Democratic programs that have been so beneficial to working and middle-class Americans through the years."

To participate in local Democratic activities, call Thompson at 436-0605, or visit www.lancovadems.org.

Yesteryear in Lancaster

(A reprint from the August 31, 1906, issue of the Virginia Citizen).

Some weddings

Mrs. Frances Simmons Gibbs has issued invitations to friends at a distance to the marriage of her daughter, Miss Mary Grace Flowers, to Mr. Benjamin Franklin Chilton, Tuesday, September fourth, at 4 o'clock p. m., White Stone M. E. church, White Stone, Va.

Miss Evelyn Sydnor and Harry Headley, both of Northumberland county, were married at Heathsville Wednesday of last week by Rev. T. Benton Hill.

Some deaths

On Wednesday of last week Mrs. Lemuel R. Ashburn, near Weems, died after a week's illness. Mrs. Ashburn had been in feeble health for several years and had been a great sufferer. Interment took place Thursday afternoon in Irvington Baptist cemetery. She was 70 years of age and is survived by a husband, eight children and several grandchildren.

Miss Irene Fones, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. W. B. Fones, of Warsaw, Richmond county, died Saturday, August 25th, in the sixteenth year of her age, after a week's illness of typhoid fever. Funeral services were conducted by her pastor, Rev. G. M. Connelley, in Cobham Park Baptist church, of which she was a consistent member, Sunday afternoon. Although the day was very inclement, a large crowd of sorrowing relatives and friends were present to pay the last tribute of respect to one they loved. From the church she was tenderly borne to the cemetery just in the rear, followed by sorrowing loved ones, and placed by the side of an infant sister, who preceded her only a month.

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

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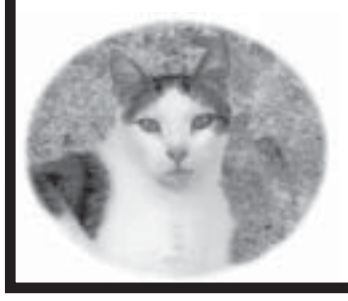

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Hope and Glory Inn's Friday Night Labor Day Picnic Cruise includes fried chicken, BBQ sandwich, bratwurst, peel and eat shrimp, corn on the cob, and more, plus libations (including wine and beer) while enjoying Carter's Creek and ultimately a river sunset.

$70 per person all inclusive — Departure: 6:00 pm

One and one half hours

SUNDAY – September 3

Cocktail Cruise aboard FADED GLORY

Hope and Glory Inn's Sunday Cocktail Cruise aboard "Faded Glory" its 1952 Chesapeake Bay dead rise which cruises the coves of Carter's Creek.

$30 per person / Libations: a la carte — Departure: 4:30 pm

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Dinner at our CHEF'S TABLE

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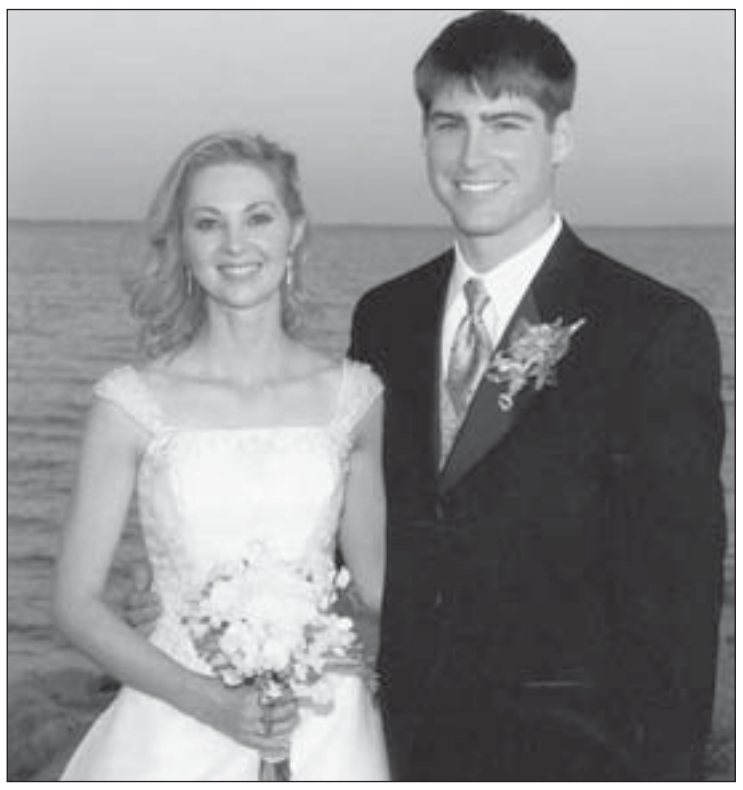

Mr. and Mrs. Steven Carter Christopher

Christopher-Phelps wedding celebrated

Cheryl Ann Phelps and Steven Carter Christopher were married May 19, 2006, at Victoria Inn and Gardens in Lafitte, La. The evening ceremony was officiated by the Rev. Scott West, formerly of Trinity Episcopal Church in Lancaster. The couple was announced in marriage by the groom's father, Michael Christopher. A reception of dinner and dancing followed on the grounds of Victoria Inn.

Ms. Cameron Standish, friend of the bride, served as maid of honor. The bridesmaids were Ms. Liliana Henriquez and Ms. Nicole Poirier, friends of the bride, and Ms. Channon Phelps, sister of the bride.

Jeremiah Christopher, friend of the groom, served as the best man. Groomsmen were Brian Butler, friend of the groom, and Chase Christopher, brother of the groom.

The flower girl was Miss Ashley Basham, sister of the bride. The ring bearer was Daniel Phelps, brother of the bride. Readings were performed by Mrs. Gretchen Christopher, aunt of the groom, and Dr. Deborah Wilmoth, aunt of the bride.

A rehearsal dinner was held at Victoria Inn the evening prior to the wedding.

The bride is the daughter of Danny Phelps of Elizabethtown, Ky., and Mrs. Cathy Basham of Cecilia, Ky. She is a 2000 graduate of Tulane University and is pursing a master's in business administration at the University of New Orleans. She is employed by the National Geospatial-Intelligence Agency.

The groom is the son of Michael S. and Janet K. Christopher of Kilmarnock. He is the grandson of John and Lucille Christopher of Irvington and Robert and Dorothy Keyser of Kilmarnock. He is a 1997 graduate of Lancaster High School and a 2001 graduate of the College of William and Mary. He is completing a master's in geography at the University of Southern Mississippi and is employed by 3001, Inc.

Following the wedding, the couple honeymooned in Italy. They currently reside in New Orleans.

Lewis/Castle wedding held

Bonnie Lee Castle and William Larry "Goobie" Lewis were married June 24, 2006, at their home on Ellyson Creek. The Rev. Raymond Spence of Richmond officiated.

The bride is the daughter of Raymond "Sonny" Williams and the late Dorothy Brann Williams.

The groom is the son of Bessie Mae Georginia and the late William "Billy" Lewis.

Kinsale will celebrate 300 years Sept. 16

On September 16, the community of Kinsale will celebrate its 300th anniversary. Activities are planned throughout the day.

The event will be focused upon life in Kinsale and Westmoreland County 300 years ago. Activities will include blacksmith demonstrations, period music, local artisans, re-created Indian village, re-created Colonial-era hunters and back-woodsmen. There will be a parade at 5 p.m. followed by country music around the gazebo and a fireworks display at 8 p.m. in the Kinsale harbor.

The day will begin with exhibits opening in the park and museum at 10 a.m. followed by the annual Kinsale Foundation business meeting. Music will include Gaelic, African-American gospel and bluegrass. There will be displays of antique farm machinery as well as reproductions of historical working water-craft. Demonstrations of traditional fishing, crabbing and oystering techniques will be presented.

Kinsale is a Virginia Landmark and is in the National Register of Historic Places. The town is the oldest municipal entity in the Northern Neck, having been created a "town" for tax-collection purposes by the Virginia House of Burgesses in 1706. It has been continuously occupied since the mid-1600s. While this sea-port village has seen several periods of economic prosperity, it has also witnessed decline, wars, fire and development, threatening both its existence and its character, but has survived to become a sleepy, well-preserved throw-back to an earlier time.

Weekend guests of Mrs. Julia Olson at Rappahannock Westminster-Canterbury were her brother and sister-in-law, Mr. and Mrs. Bruce Longenecker of Chambersburg, Pa. They were here for the wedding of Mrs. Olson's grandson, Michael Morris of Tappahannock, son of Mrs. Gary Clingan of Kilmarnock, to Miss Khresten Helms of Dunnsville. The wedding was at Howertons Baptist Church in Dunnsville. Others in attendance were Mr. and Mrs. Gary Clingan of Kilmarnock and her brother and sister-in-law, Mr. and Mrs. John McCabe of Boston.

Weekend guests of Mrs. Joe Robinson were Brent and Cindy Woods of Fredericksburg.

Drew and Sue Carter of York, Pa., were weekend guests of his father, Mr. Wallace Carter, and Mrs. Carter at their home, Bondfield.

Mr. and Mrs. Robert Hottle and sons, Michael and Daniel, of Hillsboro, Ohio, arrived on Monday to visit Mr. and Mrs. Bill Green on Pine Reach Drive.

Mr. and Mrs. Adam Anderson of Ocean View are the parents of a daughter, Holland Shea, 8 lbs, 1 oz. and 20¾ inches long, born August 15, 2006, in St. Paul's Hospital, Norfolk. The Adams have another daughter, Costen Grace, 2 years old. Mr. and Mrs. Jesse Dize of Kilmarnock are the maternal grandparents. Mr. and Mrs. Gary Anderson of Richmond are the paternal grandparents.

Mrs. Helen Goodman of Richmond and daughter, Dr. Barbara Goodman of Chester, spent several days over the weekend with Mr. and Mrs. Tom Fletcher and attended the Clifton Bowles-Stacy Davis wedding on Saturday.

Mrs. Charles Allen has returned to her home in Ditchley after 3 weeks with family in Old Saybrook, Conn.

Mrs. Wayne Mullins returned last week from a cruise to the Bahamas. She was accompanied by her sisters, Linda Carey of Mt. Dora, Fla., and Janet Fisher of Norwalk, Ct. The occasion was a celebration for their mother, Lydia King, who turned 90 during the cruise.

This week Tanner Mullins will be visiting his grandparents, Wayne and Karen Mullins, at their Bluff Point home. He will be joined on the weekend by his brother, Benjamin, and mother, Karey Mullins.

Mr. and Mrs. D.D. Clark and son, William, and Christina Porter spent a week recently in Myrtle Beach, S.C. While there they toured the aquarium on the boardwalk.

Roy Barrack of Colonial Heights visited his mother, Mrs. Isla Barrack, in Irvington last Tuesday. Other guests on Tuesday were her granddaughter and family, Mr. and Mrs. Joey Perkerson and infant son, Carter Bayne, of Chester.

Mrs. Ed Somervell and children, Carley and Charlie, of Gloucester spent Thursday with Ms. Maxine Somervell.

Mr. and Mrs. Tom Fletcher were in Springfield last Wednesday and Thursday with grandsons Riley and Will Fletcher.

Gilman and Shirley Hall recently visited with her niece and great-niece, Debbie and Lela Hoffman, and nephew, Bruce Northern of Jacksonville, N.C. Mr. Hall is now home recovering from surgery performed last week at St. Mary's Hospital.

Birthplace to observe Walter Reed's birthday

On September 9, the Association for the Preservation of Virginia Antiquities will host a reception at Walter Reed's Birthplace to celebrate his 155th birthday.

The birthplace is near the intersection of Hickory Fork and Belroi roads in Gloucester County. To mark the occassion, all Gloucester County History Trail sites will be open from 1 p.m. to 4 p.m.

Other sites are Abingdon Episcopal Church, Abingdon Glebe, Bethel Baptist Church, Long Bridge Ordinary and the archaeology lab at Rosewell. These buildings and exhibits are usually open to the public on a very limited basis.

Admission is free with the exception of Rosewell; however, all of the sites gladly accept donations to help fund their maintenance. Rosewell admission is $4 per adult and $2 for children 6-12 years.

A History Trail guide and map is available at the Gloucester Visitor Center on the Historic Court Circle and at each trail site.

McCarty-Merlot nuptials held

The marriage of Lindsey Merlot and Robert McCarty Jr., both of Virginia Beach, was held May 26 in Norfolk. The bride is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Vince Merlot of Pennsylvania. The groom is the son of Etta McCarty of Ottoman. The couple resides in Virginia Beach.

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Steptoe's Walkabout to rock Kilmarnock

"Steptoe's Rocks" will be the theme for the Steptoe's Walkabout Friday, September 1, in downtown Kilmarnock from 5 to 7 p.m. The event will feature poetry readings, children's activities, music, food specials, shopping opportunities, rocking chairs and rock painting.

Virginia Poet Laureate Carolyn Kreiter-Foronda of Hardyville will make an appearance at the Studio Gallery. She will read her own poetry at 5:30 and 6:30 p.m. A painter, sculptor and educator, Krieter-Foronda is a member of the Rappahannock Art League.

Carolyn Kreiter-Foronda

Children's activities will be featured at Northern Neck Solutions adjacent to the town parking lot. At 6 p.m., Lancaster Community Library children's librarian Tonya Carter will read to children. In keeping with the "Steptoe's Rocks" theme there will be paper mache rocks to paint, and the Pedestal will have little rocks for children to decorate as pet rocks. Cora Tiggle will also be at Northern Neck Solutions selling crab cakes, soft shell crabs, hamburgers and hot dogs, and radio station 101.7 will broadcast from there.

Music for the evening will be supplied by barbershop quartets River Song and Bad Buoys. Itchy Dog will rock the deck at Smokin' Joe's, Latin music will be featured at Buenos Nachos and Glenn Abbott will perform in front of High Health..

The painted dogs that appeared along Main Street in August are still around. Folks may bid to own their favorite at the Studio Gallery. The new owners will be announced at the October 6 Steptoe's Walkabout.

St. Stephen's will host 'Christmas Countdown'

St. Stephen's Episcopal Church in Heathsville will host "Christmas Countdown" from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Saturday, September 2.

There will be more than 100 vendors selling wood crafts, knives, art work and plants. There also will be a bake sale. Entertainment will include the The Beulah Men's Chorus, The Dragon Run Bluegrass Band and a special presentation by Steve Keith.

In addition, there will be a 15-minute concert held in the church at 10:30 a.m. and again at noon. These provide a welcome rest from shopping and the heat of the day.

Refreshments will be available throughout the day. There is plenty of parking across the street.

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Letha Records of Historyland Community Workshop and Farm and Home manager William Pittman.

Historyland Community Workshop announces benefit and raffle prizes

At the Farmers' Market in Irvington Saturday, September 2, the Historyland Community Workshop members will sell raffle tickets for the 2006 Greens and Gift Sale.

First prize is $500 cash, second prize is a handmade quilt suitable for a double bed, third prize is an original 9-piece Santa set (appraised at $350) and fourth prize is a $100 gift certificate from Farm and Home to be used as the winner chooses.

The annual benefit sale will be November 18 at Lancaster Middle School in Kilmarnock. The sale will begin at 8:30 a.m.

Proceeds from this sale benefit high school scholarships, unbudgeted items for the primary and middle schools in Lancaster County, and other educational programs in Lancaster and Northumberland counties.

Irvington Stomp to feature maize-maze and petting zoo

Irvington will be on the cutting edge of "agritainment" Saturday, September 2, from 4 to 8 p.m. as folks gather to celebrate the grape harvest at White Fences Vineyard, and compete for the title of King and Queen of the Stomp.

Created by vineyard manager Mark Hollingsworth, the maize-maze is two acres of "ear-resistable" family fun. Foregoing the use of GPS technology to set the corners, Hollingsworth utilized a tape measure and ruler to convert the measurements of a White Fences' Meteor 2005 wine bottle to the field, fine-tuning the shape when the stalks were one foot high.

"We chose to plant Indian corn late in the growing season so it'd be tall and green the day of the Stomp," said Hollingsworth.

Bird's-eye views of families navigating the nine-foot-tall stalks will be available compliments of 3 North, a Richmond architectural design firm, sponsors of a tethered hot air balloon ride provided by Balloon Promotions of White Marsh.

Other features include Carolina Beach music by The Holiday Band, hard crabs and chicken barbecue catered by FEST, and grape-stomping opportunities sponsored by the Hope & Glory Inn.

Thanks to sponsor TCH Oil and Chris Mart Inc, Bob Brown's Puppets of Oakton will present two 20-minute old-fashioned Old MacDonald marionette puppet shows, beginning at 4:30 p.m. at the haybale theater by the entrance of the corn maze.

A professional farm animal petting zoo will be sponsored by developer Jimmie Carter. Complimentary pony rides also will be offered.

Tickets are $40. Children under age 15 will be admitted free. Tickets are available at the event, or in advance at The Local, the Hope & Glory Inn in Irvington and www.irvingtonstomp.com.

Native plant sale set for September 9

The Native Plant Society will hold its annual plant sale September 9, beginning at 9 a.m.

The location will be the front lawn of the Thrift Shop adjacent to Wicomico Parish Church in Wicomico Church on Route 200.

There will be a selection of native trees, shrubs, ferns, and perennial flowers, such as magnolia virgiana (sweetbay magnolia), itea virginica (sweetspire), callicarpa americana (American Beautyberry), ilex glabra (inkberry), viburnum dentatum (southern arrowwood), oakleaf hydrangea, asclepias, phlox, rudbeckias, eupatoriums, and lobelias.

There also will be a selection of non-invasive imports.

Early shoppers will have an opportunity to purchase new books that focus on native plants.

Plant experts will be present to answer questions and help identify unknown plants.

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Bill Pennell to address Woman's Club Sept. 6

Lancaster County administrator Bill Pennell will speak to the members of the Woman's Club of White Stone Wednesday, September 6. Program chair Ginger Philbrick will introduce Pennell at 11:30 a.m.

Pennell has been county administrator since June of 1993. He is also chairman of the Community Corrections Justice Board and serves as the County Emergency Services Coordinator. He will speak on current county issues such as school funding, Comprehensive Plan revisions and the idea of using non-violent prisoners for trash pickup along county roads.

Following his presentation there will be a short question and answer period before members and guests enjoy a covered dish luncheon.

The club promotes educational, cultural, and philanthropic objectives. To join, call membership chair Doris Kidwell at 435-1409.

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Garden club fund-raiser is September 19

The Kilmarnock Garden Club's fund-raiser "Brunch with Bob," featuring Bob Henkel, will be held September 19 at Grace Episcopal Church on Main Street in Kilmarnock at 11 a.m.

Henkel will present creative floral designs for all occasions. He is the owner and president of Flower and Foliage of Virginia Inc., a florist and gift shop in Blackstone. He is also an accredited master flower show judge, chairman of the Healing Gardens and of protocol for the Virginia Federation of Garden Clubs.

Henkel is known in the Piedmont District of the Virginia Federation of Garden Clubs for his floral designs, knowledge of horticulture and his sense of humor. He will create floral designs at the event.

Brunch will be served at 11 a.m. and will include quiches, ham rolls, sweet breads, fruit and punch.

The fee is $25. Reservations are required. Call Genny Chase at 438-5560, Jane Denton at 435-6877, or Page Carlson 435-0946.

Club members are also selling raffle tickets to support the club's projects, which include landscaping Habitat

Bob Henkel

for Humanity homes, a $500 yearly college scholarship, sponsoring a young person to a two-week educational camp at Virginia Federation of Garden Clubs Nature Camp and decorating the exterior of Rappahannock General Hospital during Christmas.

The drawing will be held at the "Brunch with Bob." The raffle prizes are first, 18 holes of golf for two at Keswick Hall in Charlottesville, the Golden Eagle in Irvington, Quinton Oaks in Callao and King Carter in Kilmarnock; second, an overnight stay with breakfast for two at the Virginia Crossings Resort in Glen Allen; third, an original painting by June Higgins; fourth, an original painting by Sarah Soderlund; and fifth, an original painting by Miriam MacCarthy.

Raffle tickets may be purchased from any club member, or by calling 438-5560 or 435-6877. Tickets are $5 each, or five for $20.

Turf and Surf seminar will present lawn care tips

On September 30, the Northern Neck Master Gardeners and the Virginia Cooperative Extension will present a program on lawn care entitled Turf and Surf. The workshop will be held at Wicomico Parish Church from 9 a.m. to noon. The church is in Wicomico Church on Route 200.

The speakers for the program will be Agriculture and Natural Resources Extension Agent Matt Lewis and Master Gardener, Renate Muller. The major emphasis of the workshop will be the presentation of methods of maintaining lush, easy-to-care-for lawns without contributing to the pollution of the Chesapeake Bay.

Discussion will include best grass varieties for the Northern Neck, best timing for fertilizers, herbicides, and pesticides, and mowing regimens to be followed for best results. There will be time for questions.

The fee is $10. Checks should be made payable to N.N. Master Gardeners. Reservations are required. To register, send check, name, address, phone number, and email address to Northern Neck Master Gardener Association, Northumberland County Extension Office, P.O. Box 400, Heathsville, VA 22473.

Party planners

The Northern Neck Entertains Committee has announced its 14th season of fall social events to benefit the Rappahannock Westminster-Canterbury Foundation's Fellowship Fund. Reservations must be received by September 5 to be included in the lottery process. Descriptive booklets are available at RW-C; call 438-4013. From left, committee members are (front row) Adele Crosett and Terri Hubbard; (next row) Carter Prillaman, Chris Bresett, Peggy Estes, Ann Meekins, Margaret Hudnall, Eska Beckstoffer, Milena Van Sant, Jaira Walsh, Page Hunt and Pat Willett.

Animal Welfare League teams with United Methodist Men

The Animal Welfare League of the Northern Neck (AWL) has teamed with the Bethel-Emmanuel United Methodist Men (BEUMM) for the 2006 "Chili by the Rivah III" Music Festival.

BEUMM sponsors the music festival and selects a charitable organization to receive the proceeds each year and in 2006 the organization is the AWL. The festival will take place September 23 at the Upper Lancaster Volunteer Fire Department pavilion in Lively.

The gates open to the public at 10 a.m. and the entry fee is $5 for persons age 12 and older. Younger folks are free. The festival features the Northern Neck chili cook-off for a $150 first prize, and bragging rights for the best chili in the Northern Neck.

In the morning, Donnie and Lisa will entertain with a combination of folk, gospel and bluegrass. In the afternoon, Code Blue will play traditional and contemporary bluegrass.

An open 5K Run/Walk will take place in the morning and the course takes the participants into Lively to the Ruritan Center and back to the pavilion.

The festival brings together the chili cookers who start their brews early in the morning and arts and crafts vendors who will offer their wares from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Organized games and events will also be offered for the young folks. Details and applications to enter the chili cook-off, the 5K Run/Walk or to secure a vendor space can be obtained at www.beumm.org. or by calling 462-0946.

"Without events like this music festival and organizations like the Bethel-Emmanuel United Methodist Men, we could not rescue the helpless animals nor assist our neighbors in the community who need a little financial help to care for the animals they love," said Judy Harvell, president of AWL. "I encourage our members to attend and enjoy the wonderful festival planned."

"We admire the work AWL does for our community and the Northern Neck, said BEUMM president Jerry Ruble. "While we support many organizations that give volunteer help in our community, we adopted the AWL for this event and hope our friends and neighbors come out and enjoy the festival. The proceeds go to the AWL."

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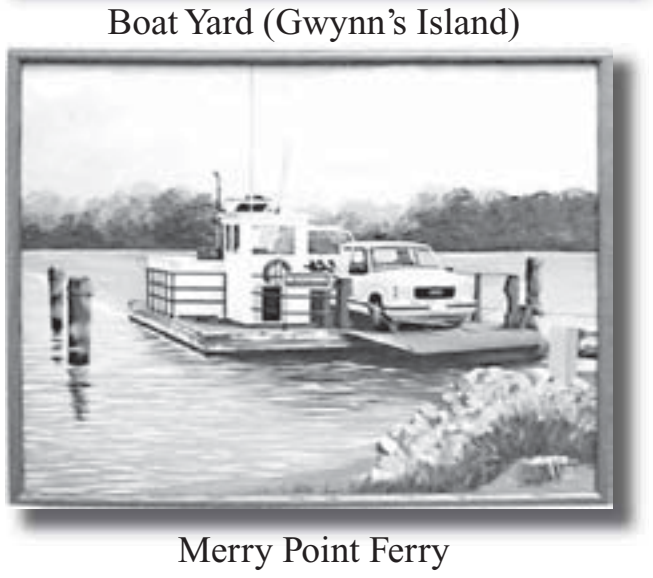

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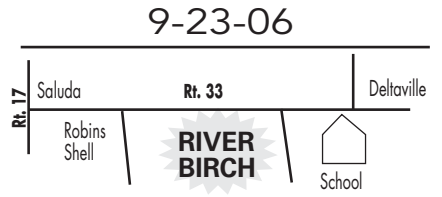

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Music festival set at Locusville Plantation

Music lovers are invited to set up their chairs and spread their blankets on the grass at Locusville Plantation for the fourth annual Music Festival, September 16 from 1 to 8 p.m.

Hosts Miles and Sharon Courson are finalizing plans, assisted by several friends and neighbors. The festival is held to celebrate another successful year's harvest of naturally grown farm-fresh food and to thank friends and patrons.

The audience will hear original as well as familiar tunes in many styles, including blues, bluegrass, Celtic, folk and rock. Several performers from past festivals will return, including Miles Courson and Plantation Blue; John Smith-American from Baltimore; and Albert Pembroke, Alan Sobel, Robby Jones on the washtub bass and Will Rogers on the drums.

Alice and Dave Hershiser with Bill Duvall have teamed together to form a new group called Evening Song. New to the celebration this year will be Louise Jessie and the Jessie Boys, Mead Usry and Morgan Sobel.

Adding another dimension to the festivities will be Mary Gustafson-Small, poet, whose work is often described as poetry for children of all ages. She will read from her book, *"The Jewel."*

Many local businesses have joined the celebration. They include The Village Center, Garner's Produce, Ken Michaels—realtor, Cap'n Tom's Seafood, Chesapeake Bank, Epping Forest Antiques, Olin Fox Farms, Corrottoman Plaza, R&K Country Store, Spa 2U, Rivernet, Little River Market and Deli and Grateful House Farm.

The store at the Plantation will open at 10 a.m. and will close at 1:30 p.m. so that the management can participate in the festival. Food and non-alcoholic drinks will be available for purchase all day. Donations to cover costs will be graciously accepted and this year a portion will be donated to The Northern Neck Farm Museum and Luther Welch Agricultural Center.

To get to Locusville Plantation from Lively, take White Chapel Road three miles, turn left on River Road, go 4 miles to Ottoman, turn left on Slabtown Road, (follow the signs), ½ mile on left.

Big Dawgs to serve barbecue and bluegrass

The Big Dawgs Mens Ministry at the White Stone Church of the Nazarene will serve a Barbecue Chicken and Bluegrass Gospel Luncheon Saturday, September 30, from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the Family Life Center at 57 Whisk Drive off Route 3 near White Stone.

The Wayne T. Holt Band of Deltaville will provide the foot-stomping bluegrass and gospel music.

Big Dawgs members will slow-grill the finger-licking chicken using a traditional Shenandoah Valley of Virginia recipe. Plate lunches will include a half a chicken, baked beans, cole slaw, roll and a beverage. Meals will be available to go.

However, folks are urged to sit a spell in the comfort of the sanctuary, enjoy the music and kick up their heels if they like.

Tickets are $10 per plate. A limited number of tickets will be sold. Tickets will be available from Big Dawgs members, the Rappahannock Record, Farm & Home in Kilmarnock, Twice Told Tales in Kilmarnock, EVB Bank in Kilmarnock, Lamberth's Building Supply in White Stone, the Family Life Center, and by calling 435-9886, or 435-1165.

Proceeds will support White Stone Church of the Nazarene missions worldwide.

Tickets available for annual fashion show luncheon

The Women of St. Francis de Sales Catholic Church will host its annual fashion show luncheon at Indian Creek Yacht and Country Club near Kilmarnock on September 20 at 11:30 a.m.

"Fall Into Fashion" is the theme. Women of the parish will model apparel from Wildest Dream Boutique and Salon Services in Burgess.

Tickets are $20 each through September 9 and may be purchased by phoning Rene Sica at 580-4476. After September 9, tickets are $25. For parties of four or more, one check will be accepted.

Dance Extravaganza will feature Ms. Virginia

Ms. Virginia Senior America Nancy Lee Martin of Mechanicsville will lead an all-star cast at Dance Extravaganza IX September 16 at Lancaster Middle School in Kilmarnock at 7:30 p.m.

Ms. Martin began her musical career at age 6. At age 16 she won a WRVA talent show and performed with Eddie Weaver at the Mosque in Richmond for six weeks. She later performed with a Richmond County music band and then joined The Sonlighters, a gospel bluegrass band, as a vocalist and played the guitar and dobro.

In 2005, Martin and a friend formed a group called "Comes From the Heart" which currently performs at music festivals, for senior groups and at nursing homes and adult day-care facilities.

Martin was crowned Ms. Virginia Senior America in June at Oakton High School in Vienna. She will compete for the Ms. Senior America title in Las Vegas in November.

Joining Martin on stage will be Joy Haddix, a former Washington Redskin cheerleader, Bippidi-Boppidi-Boo of the Middlesex YMCA, Jeff and Gayle Stoneman, the Soul Girls of Fredericksburg, the Northern Neck Big Band, The Dancing Divas, the winners of the Star Search Hanover Show in March, The Peanut City Cloggers and a surprise opening act featuring Maggie.

Dance Extravaganza is the only fund-raiser for the Kilmarnock Museum. Advance tickets are $7.50 for adults and $5 for children 12 and younger. Tickets are on sale at radio station 101.7 FM, Foxy's, Bank of Lancaster main office, northside office and White Stone office, Heads Up Hairworks, the Rappahannock Record, Twice Told Tales in Kilmarnock, EVB bank, Chesapeake Bank in Lively and at the museum. Tickets sold at the door will be $10. There will be one show only.

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Participants in King Carter Golf Club's Junior Golf Academy included, from left, Dustin Crenshaw, Andi Mayer, Liza Carter, Rory Blackshaw, Nell Carter, Hamilton Cribbs, Nicholas Whay, Megan Mayer, Matthew Harris, Brian Harris, Noah Johnson, Jonathan Keilhaver, Richard Bunnell and Shelby Townes.

Junior golf academy held

Recently, 13 students from seven to 14 years old participated in the first session of the Junior Golf Academy at the King Carter Golf Club; 14 students participated in the second session. The sessions were four days each from 9 to 11 a.m.

The students played tic-tac-toe putting, chipped into a bulls-eye, worked on full swings, ran golf relay races and were rewarded with swings at water balloons. The students were also quizzed on etiquette and basic rules.

A three-hole captain's choice tourney was held on the final day. The students in the first session played their tournament in the rain. The second session included a participant from England.

The junior academy will be repeated in 2007 and is open to all children in the age group.

Cliff Asbury Golf Classic set for Royal New Kent Golf Club

The third annual Cliff Asbury Golf Classic will be held at Royal New Kent Golf Club in Providence Forge September 29.

Cliff Asbury served in private education for 20 years at Christchurch School, and was well known for helping kids and playing golf. After his death in a car accident in 2001, some of his friends formed Friends of Cliff Asbury, committed to continue personally and financially pursuing Asbury's first love: helping kids.

The mission of Friends is to assist gifted, at-risk high school students and help send them to top-flight, private boarding schools in Virginia. The students possess strong academic, athletic and artistic abilities and the desire and drive to achieve, but not the opportunity.

Several Friends' Fellows currently receive assistance at Chatham Hall and Woodberry Forest. Funds have recently been received from two anonymous benefactors to include assistance that is restricted to young men at Blue Ridge School and Woodberry Forest School.

"What better way to keep Cliff's mission alive, and to raise money for the kids he loved, than to play the game he loved with a passion?" asks Ebo Fauber, president of Friends of Cliff Asbury.

Golfers and non-golfers are welcome. The cost is $100 per person or $400 per team for the four-man Stableford tournament. The cost for non-golfing guests for the awards ceremony and dinner banquet is $25. Corporate and individual sponsorships for the event range from $100 to $3,000. For more information, call Ed Richardson at 757-229-8727, or Wes Morck at 353-6614.

Deer hunts scheduled at Belle Isle State Park

Applications are being accepted for special lottery deer hunts at Belle Isle State Park in Lancaster County.

Belle Isle will hold a muzzle-loader hunt November 14 and 15. Applications are due October 20. A general firearms hunt will be held at Belle Isle January 3 and 4. Applications are due December 8.

A $5 non-refundable application fee must be submitted for each hunt. Anyone may enter the lotteries for a chance to participate in the controlled hunts; however, successful applicants on the day of the hunt must show proof of completion of a hunter safety education course and pay a $10 fee.

Each lottery entry requires a separate application. For more information about these and other hunting opportunities and programs in Virginia State Parks, or to obtain a lottery application, contact the Virginia State Parks Reservation Center at 1-800-933-7275.

Applications and information may also be found at www.dcr.virginia.gov/parks/hunting.

Scoreboard

Upcoming Games

Varsity football
September 1:
Lancaster at Northumberland
Essex at Middlesex
Central Lunenburg at W&L
Goochland at King & Queen
King George at King William
Charles City at Chincoteague
Smithfield at Surry
Windsor at Nansemond Suffolk

Volleyball
September 6:
Charles City at Lancaster

Field hockey
September 5:
New Kent at Lancaster

Golf
August 31:
Lancaster vs. Northumberland at Quinton Oaks Golf Course
September 7:
Lancaster vs. Essex at Hobbs Hole Golf Course

Cross Country
September 6:
Lancaster at Middlesex

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

Fri	**9/1**	Sunrise	6:36	Low	12:15	0.5′
		Moonrise	**3:13**	High	5:36	1.2′
		Sunset	**7:35**	Low	**12:02**	0.4′
				High	**6:23**	1.6′
Sat	**9/2**	Moonset	12:15	Low	1:20	0.5′
		Sunrise	6:37	High	6:41	1.2′
		Monrise	**4:13**	Low	**1:06**	0.4′
		Sunset	**7:33**	High	**7:30**	1.6′
Sun	**9/3**	Moonset	1:15	Low	2:25	0.4′
		Sunrise	6:37	High	7:51	1.3′
		Monrise	**5:07**	Low	**2:15**	0.3′
		Sunset	**7:32**	High	**8:36**	1.7′
Mon	**9/4**	Moonset	2:25	Low	3:24	0.3′
		Sunrise	6:38	High	8:57	1.4′
		Monrise	**5:53**	Low	**3:21**	0.2′
		Sunset	**7:30**	High	**9:36**	**1.8′**
Tue	**9/5**	Moonset	3:41	Low	4:18	0.2′
		Sunrise	6:39	High	9:57	1.5′
		Moonrise	**6:31**	Low	**4:23**	0.1′
		Sunset	**7:29**	High	**10:32**	**1.8′**
Wed	**9/6**	Moonset	5:00	Low	5:08	0.1′
		Sunrise	6:40	High	10:52	1.7′
		Moonrise	**7:04**	Low	**5:21**	0.0′
		Sunset	**7:27**	High	**11:23**	**1.9′**
Thu	**9/7**	Moonset	6:17	Low	5:55	0.0′
		Sunrise	6:41	High	11:44	**1.8′**
		Sunset	**7:26**	Low	**6:16**	0.0′
	Full - **2:41**	Moonrise	**7:33**			
Fri	**9/8**	Sunrise	6:42	High	12:13	**1.9′**
		Moonset	7:34	Low	6:41	-0.1′
		Sunset	**7:24**	High	**12:34**	**1.9′**
		Moonrise	**8:00**	Low	**7:09**	-0.1′

PM times are in **boldface type**.
Unusually high & low tides are also in **boldface**.
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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%

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Poll shows support for open space, access to outdoor recreation

Gov. Tim Kaine recently announced results of a statewide survey showing widespread support for using government resources to protect open space. The survey also shows that many Virginians consider outdoor recreation and access to open space to be important to their families.

The questions on protecting natural resources and open space were part of the Virginia Outdoors Survey, conducted by Virginia Commonwealth University for the Virginia Department of Conservation and Recreation. The 3,300-household mail survey was conducted as part of the revision of the state's comprehensive outdoor recreation and open space planning guide, the Virginia Outdoors Plan. The 30-question survey has a 2 percent margin of error.

Nearly 78 percent of respondents answered "yes" to the question "Should the state spend public funds to prevent the loss of exceptional natural acres to development?" When asked how important it is to protect Virginia's natural and open space resources, 67 percent said it was "very important" and 28 percent said it was "important." Less than 2 percent said it was not important.

"The results of this survey reinforce our belief that the people of Virginia have a great concern for this Commonwealth's landscapes and open spaces," said Gov. Kaine. "It also shows our citizens expect their state government to take a leadership role in natural resource protection."

More than 70 percent of those surveyed said they favored outright purchase from willing sellers as an appropriate tool for conserving open space.

"Working in a bipartisan way with the General Assembly, we have started to step up our efforts to protect open space by forging consensus on common-sense changes to our existing land conservation tax credit program," Gov. Kaine said."In addition, we have set an ambitious goal of protecting an additional 400,000 acres by the end of this administration—a goal that will require doubling the number of acres currently protected each year.

Several survey questions revealed that Virginians recognize the importance of outdoor recreation and access to open space. When asked about the importance of access to outdoor recreation opportunities for their families, more than nine-in-ten respondents indicated it was "important" or "very important," and fewer than 10 percent said it was "not important."

The Virginia Outdoor Survey also looked at how Virginians spend their time in the outdoors and ranked the top 20 outdoor recreational activities. The top activity, walking for pleasure, was unchanged from the 1992 and 2000 surveys. Water-related activities took four of the top ten activities (swimming 4th, visiting beaches 6th, fishing 7th, and boating 10th).

The percentage of people driving for pleasure dropped nearly seven percent from the 2000 survey. Visiting historic sites saw a 15 percent increase, and visiting natural areas rose by more than 17 percent.

"When looking at all of the activities ranked, it appears more people are visiting historic sites, parks and other natural areas to enjoy the outdoors," said Secretary of Natural Resources L. Preston Bryant Jr. "This also demonstrates the public's desire to have natural and historic resources that are not only preserved, but accessible as well."

The survey also focuses on the Virginia State Park system and the public's expectations from the award-winning 34-park system. More than 40 percent of respondents said they had visited a Virginia State Park within the previous year. "Lack of information" and "too far from home" were the top two reasons cited for not visiting a state park.

"Virginia State Parks are developed so that the programs and facilities highlight and complement the park's natural resources," said DCR Director Joseph H. Maroon. "People come specifically to enjoy, explore and learn more about the outdoors and our natural and cultural resources. These survey results confirm that."

DCR staff will use survey responses to develop regional recommendations for outdoor recreation infrastructure, and open space and land conservation strategies. A series of public meetings to review these regional recommendations and provide input on the 2007 Virginia Outdoors Plan will be held this fall,and the plan is scheduled to be completed next spring.

Club Golf

Holes-in-One

At the Tartan Golf Club last week, Don Holt hit a hole-in-one on hole five and Bobby McGlohn hit a hole-in-one on hole nine.

Quinton Oaks ladies

The Quinton Oaks Ladies' Golf Association on August 23 held a low gross/low net tournament. First flight low gross winners were first, Su Schmalz; second, Terri Sartori; and third, P.J. Kienast. Low net winners were first, Carol Reese; second, Darlene Bean; and third, Betty Lou Dunn. Second flight low gross winners were first, Faith Kauders; second, Alice Rawlings; and third, Sara Goodwyn. Low net winners were first, Carol Uhlfelder; second, Harriet Baggett; and third, Anna McCauley. Linda Dennis won low putts. Schmalz, Dennis, Judy Wise, Sartori, Kienast, Goodwyn and Reese had birdies.

On August 21, 17 members visited The Tartan. Schmalz won low net; Bean and Betty Hall tied for second; and P.J. Kienast was third. Schmalz hit closest to the pin on #3, and Bean hit closest on #13. Kienast won low putts; Schmalz was second; and Kay Miller and Linda Dennis tied for third.

On August 19 and 20, eight members participated in a 2-day invitational at Brandermill Country Club in Richmond. Bean won her flight. Maggie Dennett was third in hers. Dunn hit closest to the line.

ICYCC 9-holers

The Indian Creek Yacht and Country Club 9-holers on August 24 played a blind partner tournament. Golf pro Kevin Aines chose the partners after the ladies teed off.

Winner were first, Fran Sulik and Susie Swift; second, Ginger Klapp and Connie Purrington; and third, Dee Byrne and Nancy Jarrell.

ICYCC 18-holers

The Indian Creek Yacht and Country Club 18-holers on August 21 played a nine and nine game. Net winners on the front nine were first, Barbara Hope (34); second, Lou Dietrich (35); and third, Janet Blunt (36). Winners on the back nine were first, Carol Johnson (33); Susan Hill (35); and Ellie Davis (35). Audry Saunders had a chip in.

ICYCC

The Indian Creek Yacht and Country Club annual member/member tournament was played August 25, 26 and 27. Overall gross champions were Tom Davis and Top Allaun (139).

First flight gross winners were first, Marty Carter and John Halley (145); and second, Carol Webb and Joe Hudnall (146). First flight net winners were first, Joe Dugan and Emerson Gravatt (126); and second, Mat Ficklin and Forrest Henry (129).

Second flight gross winners were first, Billy Hudson and Mike Molineaux (151); and sceond, Emory Williams and Ned Crockett (157). Second flight net winners were first, Ed French and Phil Purrington (133); and second, Jim Georgiadis and Dave Pilvelait (137).

ICYCC men

In Indian Creek Yacht and Country Club men's midweek action on August 23, first place net (117) went to Fred Ripley, Derek Ferrand, Spence Webster and Bob Chambers. Second place net (120) went to Jim Murray, Ed Records, Wayne Mullins and Don Lynch.

Tartan club

Sunday Twilight winners at the Tartan Golf Club were first, Coy Best and Susan Burch; and second, Charlie and Bobbie Armfield.

Monday Play Day mens' winners were first, Herbie Hammock; second, John Burton; third, Hank Little; fourth, David Cornell; fifth (tie), Andy Sharpe and Mike Broderick; and seventh (tie) Steve Craig, Bob Granacher and Jerry Haney.

Bobbie Armfield was the low net women's winner.

Red Cross golf tournament scheduled for September 10

The American Red Cross River Counties Chapter annual golf tournament will be held at the Golden Eagle Golf Course September 10.

The format will be captain's choice with teams of four players. Check-in is at 12:30 p.m. Competition will commence with a shotgun start at 1:30 p.m.

The registration fee is $85 per person or $340 per team. A boxed lunch and awards buffet is included.

The registration deadline is September 5.

A hole-in-one will receive a $10,000 prize. Many other prizes will be given as well.

To register, Call Julie Dudley at 435-7669, or email arcriverco@verizon.net.

Pit Stop

Virginia Motor Speedway
August 26 results:
Late models – Jared Powell, first; Ronald Cusic, second; Walker Arthur, third.
Sportsmen – Walker Arthur, first; Tim Shelton, second; Roger Jamerson, third.
Modifieds – Bret Hamilton, first; Brian Dobie, second; James Snead, third.
Chargers – Davis Lipscombe, first; John Imler, second; Ernie Dettbarn, third.
All-Americans – Dustin Owens, first; Thomas Rose, second; Marty Coltrain, third.
September 1 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.)

Refuge project seeks volunteers

The Rappahannock Wildlife Refuge Friends seek volunteers to help plant a bay-friendly garden in front of the Wilna Wildlife Refuge Headquarters September 16 from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.

The event also marks the group's second anniversary. Participants should bring a bag lunch. Birthday cake, drinks and snacks will be provided. The rain date is September 23.

To find the refuge from Warsaw, take US 360 west toward Tappahannock. Turn right on Route 624. Go 4.2 miles. Turn left on Route 636. Go .2 mile. Turn right on Route 640 and go 1 mile. Turn left at the large brown and white refuge sign. Follow signs to the headquarters.

For more information about the event, call Ann Graziano at 333-0434, or Leslie Middleton at 775-0951;orvisitfgrazio@rivnet.net, or lmiddleton@acb-online.org.

Visit www.rwrfriends.org to become a member of Rappahannock Wildlife Refuge Friends.

Classic boats like this from across the region will take part in the fourth annual Antique and Classic Boat Show at the Reedville Fishermen's Museum.

Classic boat show coming to Reedville

The Reedville Fishermen's Museum joins the Tidewater Chapter of the Antique and Classic Boat Society to present their fourth annual Antique and Classic Boat Show, September 9, in Reedville from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Classic boats docked at local homes and businesses on Reedville's Main Street can be viewed by land or water taxi. Classic cars presented by the Antique Automobile Club of America will line the street. The museum will expand its hours during the event.

The event includes a Nautical Flea Market. Regional vendors and local groups will fill the museum campus with arts, crafts, foods and nautical items.

The Reedville Fishermen's Museum Quilters have arranged for Neva Hart, certified by the American Quilter's Society, to be at the museum. Verbal appraisals are $15; written appraisals are $45.

The annual Classic Boat Parade will take place at 3 p.m.

Sports Shorts

■ Fall yoga

Fall yoga classses with Cheryl Keyser will begin Tuesday, September 5, and continue through October 10 in council chambers at Urbanna Town Hall. The sessions are from 6 to 7:30 p.m. The fee is $48, or $8 per session. Wear comfortable clothes and bring a mat or towel.

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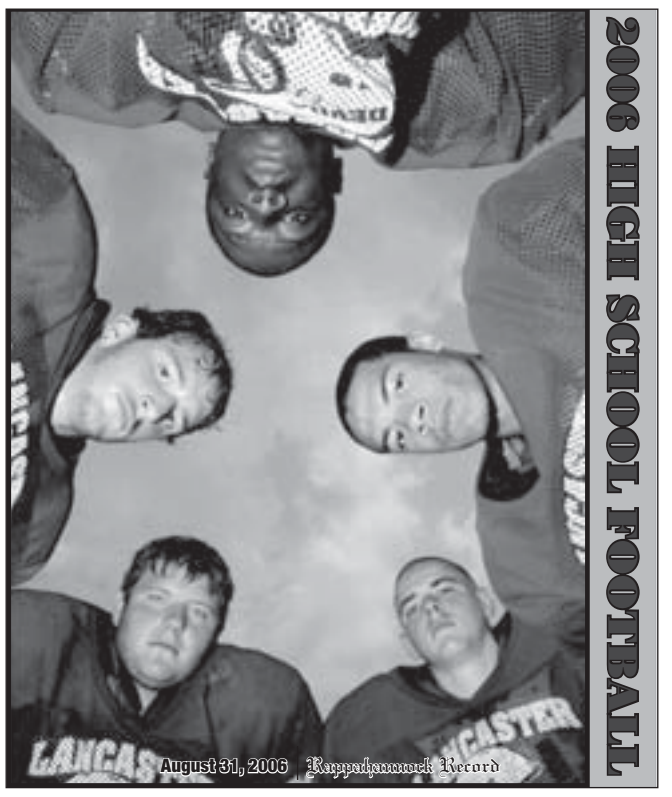

Preseason view

For a pigskin preview, see the 2006 High School Football Supplement in this edition of the Rappahannock Record.
(Photo by Lisa Hinton-Valdrighi)

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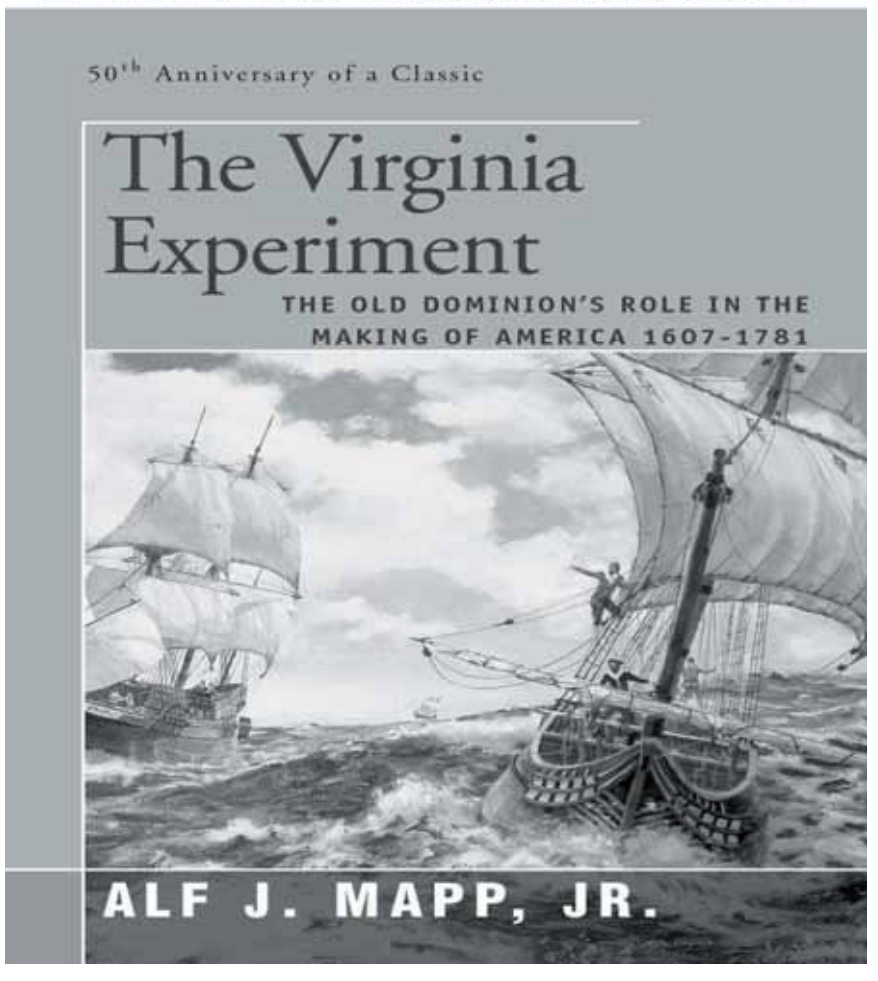

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RW-C seniors thrive on exercise

Gen. William Louisell (left) banters with the Rev. George Barton early in the fitness center.

Betsy Robbins, a recovering stroke patient, takes a turn on the NuStep machine in the fitness center.

From left, Kori Poplin instructs Charlie Miller, Louise Denegre and Capt. Thomas B. Denegre Jr. in lifting weights.

Dr. George and Melina VanSant visit the fitness center.

Fitness instructor Angie Jackson (right) helps Dot Rosenberger in the fitness center.

by Jane Tims

When the board of trustees of Rappahannock Westminster-Canterbury invested heavily in a first-class fitness program two Septembers ago, they expected residents to bite; they just didn't know how long they'd chew.

Exercise regimens have a way of starting big and slipping fast.

Now, two years later, the program continues to swell. Seniors at RW-C are not taking aging sitting down. Instead of accepting frailties, they are fighting back, feeling good, gaining strength and having fun.

Their weapons are not just the fitness center or aerobics in the pool. Through exercise they've adopted an attitude of living well overall, a lifestyle that through the last two years has swept the continuing care retirement community of 260 residents near Irvington.

At 90, Irma Henderson Burke always takes the stairs. Up at 5 a.m. for a 45-minute walk through RW-C's 165 wooded acres, the White Stone native attends strength and balance class two mornings a week, yoga two mornings, and on Fridays pushes wheelchairs or fills water pitchers at Rappahannock General Hospital, where she has volunteered since retiring from banking 25 years ago. Restraints of hip replacement in 2000 have become a vague memory.

A former equestrian, paratrooper, parish priest, and chaplain and football coach at Virginia Episcopal School and Woodberry Forest, the Rev. George Barton, 88, has always been athletic. Using the treadmill, he walks his first daily mile at 6:30 a.m. in the fitness center with retired Gen. William Louisell, then returns in the afternoon for his second. His pace of 110 steps per minute nearly matches the old Army cadence; he clocks a 24-minute mile.

With competitive spirit and striking Katharine Hepburn looks, Betsy Robbins attacks the NuStep cross-training machine with the feistiness she learned on the tennis court. Maryland's junior champion years ago and a relentless winner at Indian Creek Yacht and County Club, she had played doubles the week of her massive stroke in August 2005. She did not respond well in the typical post-stroke recovery window, and hope was slim when she returned to her cottage in the fall.

Then, with medication and physical therapy, she began playing family bridge. By Christmas, she was scooping tricks too quickly with her left hand the way she'd always done with her right. Even an additional mini-stroke in January 2006 couldn't slow her.

Refusing to give in to right-side paralysis, she has defied the textbooks. She is down to two days a week at Carousel Physical Therapy in Kilmarnock and up to three days in RW-C's fitness center.

She lifts 13 pounds with her left hand and three with her right on the chest press and upper back machines. She lifts 94 pounds on the leg press and works 20 minutes on the NuStep at 84 steps per minute. Her goal is to walk with a cane by Christmas.

The trustees' approach to the fitness focus was three-pronged. They engaged a top national consultant on senior fitness, bought the best Keiser strength training machines available, and hired superior staff to implement and oversee the program.

In wellness coordinator Kori Poplin, RW-C got more than it ever had envisioned. A health and exercise science graduate of the University of Arizona, Poplin believes in the residents and sparks their desire to strengthen minds and bodies, whether they are continuing a lifetime of athleticism like Rev. Barton or recovering from physical impairment like Mrs. Robbins.

"No one dreamed my mother would walk again except Kori, who never thought she wouldn't," said Carol T. Robbins of Pittsboro, N.C.

Since starting in September 2004 with a full menu of machine training and strength and balance classes on land, Poplin has added water aerobics, tai chi, yoga, and NeuroFit, an exercise program designed specifically for people with Parkinson's Disease and free to the greater community.

"The NeuroFit class works hardest of all," said Poplin. "It exercises three days a week, with as many as 14 in a class. They are so determined."

Smiling seniors exercise in the breezeway.

"Before this program, I had one fall a week and was always bandaged up. Since it started, I've had two falls, but both were my fault. I was gardening and fell over my own feet to miss the flowers. My balance is improving."

—Gen. Sterling W. H. Wright

RW-C's fitness program took off so quickly that by November 2004 Poplin added Angie Jackson as an assistant. Like Poplin, Jackson brings strong commitment and spirituality to her work with the residents.

"You don't know how much good it does us to see you doing so well," Jackson told Robbins during a recent workout. "It's a great feeling to watch someone work so hard and come so far."

Poplin and Jackson conduct regular individual assessments to measure progress. The time-consuming tests challenge the residents and bring rewarding results. Strength, flexibility, balance, agility, and cardiovascular endurance have improved exponentially. And in a critical statistic for retirement communities, falls have decreased among participants.

"In class, we use dumbbells and rubber bands the first half hour, and the other half is balance," said retired Gen. Sterling W.H. Wright, 98.

"Before this program," said Wright, "I had one fall a week and was always bandaged up. Since it started, I've had two falls, but both were my fault. I was gardening and fell over my own feet to miss the flowers. My balance is improving."

Involvement increases. During the first quarter 18 months ago, 99 independent and nine assisted living residents participated; the recent sixth quarter brought 174 participants. Irma Burke logged 80 sessions and Rev. Barton overcame a March illness to log 63.

Not everyone can be so diligent at a place where many residents travel frequently. Dr. George Van Sant, for example, returns often to Fredericksburg as distinguished professor emeritus on the centennial committee at The University of Mary Washington, but he and his wife, Melina, 69, try to resume classes when they're in town.

Influenced by such unavoidable absences, average group participation last quarter was 1.53 times weekly. Poplin's goal is two sessions a week.

"There is a common misconception to be easy and gentle with older adults," she said. "I set the bar high for them and they always reach it and look for me to set it higher the next time. They enjoy the challenge, and their bodies respond favorably."

Results are reflected in lifestyle. Emily Jones, 87, founder and former president of the New York City Audubon Society, exercises faithfully in the fitness center twice weekly and gained the confidence to take a 2-1/2 week Adriatic cruise with her niece.

Dot Rosenberger, 90, attends strength and balance two to three times per week and, even with a spinal cord injury from an automobile accident, is able to rise from sitting to standing 24 times without holding on.

Charlie Miller, 84, noticed that his lifestyle had slowed. He has reversed the decline. Three days a week he uses 10-pound hand weights and the strongest stretch bands in RW-C's most challenging class, and three days he swims laps continuously for 40 minutes. He has increased a shirt size.

And in an extraordinary progression, Robbins has gone from being bedridden to the Hoyer lift to the sliding board to the wheelchair to the walker, and she can stand five minutes with her arms at her side. She grimaces on the chest press but completes her repetitions. Leaving the fitness center, she bravely shakes hands again from the right.

On a recent day when Poplin was away at a wellness conference, Jackson sang "Red River Valley" as she cleaned the machines and awaited Robbins's arrival.

Rev. Barton walked on the treadmill to her beat. He said he wished she'd be there to sing for him at 6:30 a.m.. She said she's not a morning person, and anyway, couldn't Gen. Louisell sing?

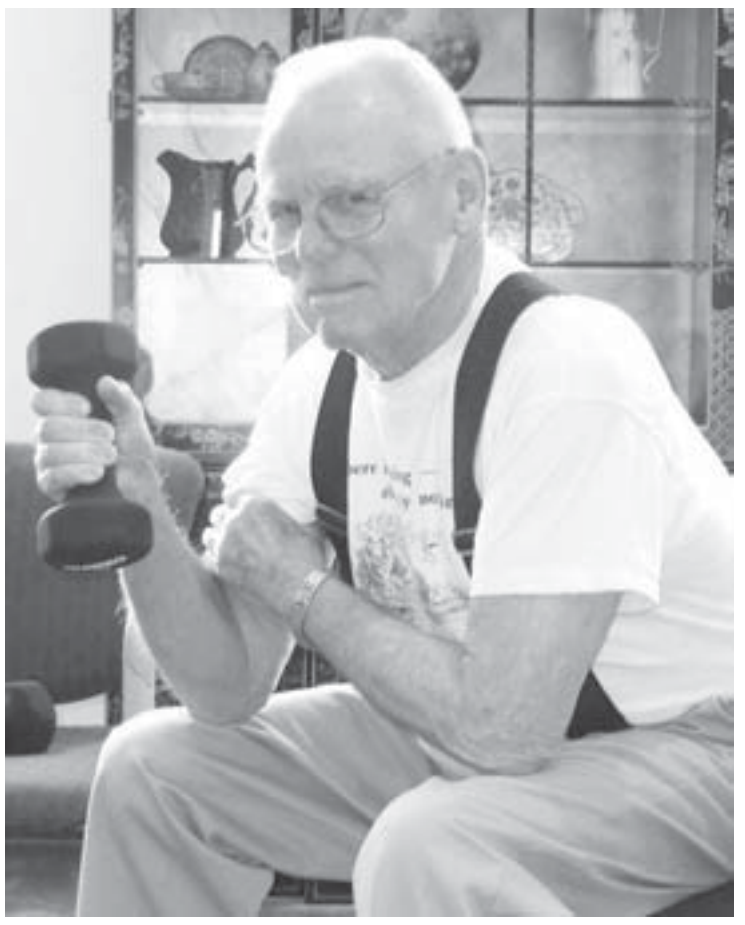
"I hope not," said Barton. "He can't carry a tune in a truck."

Three days a week Louisell bicycles 10 miles on the up-and-down paths at the Golden Eagle Golf Course, and three days he lifts weights with Barton. At 77, he has regained the strength and endurance required to enjoy Colorado skiing and is considering a winter return to the slopes.

That's the point: Through exercise, seniors not only lengthen but enrich their lives. Their strengthened bodies bring sharper minds. They feel better. They're happier. Their energy and options multiply. And they demonstrate daily – in their 70s, 80s or 90s – that it's never too late to start.

"They constantly inspire me," said Poplin, who has recently hired another assistant, Bill Bryant, as RW-C's fitness program marches strongly into its third year.

Wellness coordinator Kori Poplin (right) leads a fitness walk at Hughlett Point.



Charlie Miller lifts weights in the strength and balance class.

From left are Charlie Austin and chief range officer Barry Kennedy presenting Larry Taylor with a blue ribbon.

Taylor wins silhouette match

Larry Taylor won an August 26 silhouette match at the Rappahannock Pistol and Rifle Club range in White Stone.

Taylor and T. Nance both fired a 90. In the shoot-off, they each fired one shot at the target, but that did not break the tie. Five more shots were fired before Taylor won.

Charlie Austin was third with an 80.

The match was 10 shots at four silhouette targets at 40, 60, 77 and 100 yards. Any rifle with any sight was permitted. All shots were from an unsupported position. There was a time limit of two and a half minutes per five shots.

The next match will be a speed challenge September 16 at 9 a.m. Call Barry Kennedy at 435-2909.

Kennel Club to offer classes

The Northern Neck Kennel Club will offer Dog Agility Classes beginning the week of September 18. Pre-registration is required.

"Training for agility is not only fun, but it also produces an enthusiasm and bond between dog and handler that is transferred to other competitive training such as obedience and confirmation," said Joyce Burgess.

All breeds of dogs, large and small, pure breeds and mixed breeds, can participate and enjoy agility. The only requirement is a physically sound dog with a handler who is willing to have a good time while training.

The club has offered agility classes since the fall of 2001. This fall the club is offering Levels 1, 2, 3, advanced classes and competition class.

Club members will show their dogs' skills in agility September 2 at the Irvington Market.

Other classes offered by the club this fall are Show Handling. Showing dogs is a great sport where the thrill of competition is combined with the joy of seeing beautiful dogs. The handler must keep their dog's attention without any dramatic or unnatural movements.

The appearance of the dog and the handler is important. The handler should be suitably dressed for the occasion and the dog should be groomed and trimmed appropriate to its breed.

This class is to help the owner/handler teams become more polished and confident. Handling classes will begin September 27.

For applications, visit northernneckkennelclub.com, or call Joyce (for agility) at 462-0946,

A Doctor Speaks

by George Moore, MD

Prevention of Type 2 Diabetes

Diabetes mellitus, as most people know, is a metabolic disorder characterized by abnormally high levels of blood glucose, the sugar that all cells in the body need for energy. The manufacture of glucose by the liver, and the use of glucose in cells, is regulated primarily by insulin, a hormone produced in the pancreas.

In a person who has diabetes, either the pancreas isn't producing enough insulin (type 1 diabetes) or the cells are resistant to the actions of the insulin (type 2 diabetes). In either case, the result is abnormally high blood levels of glucose, called hyperglycemia, and an accompanying spill-over of excess glucose into the urine.

In the United States about 16 million people have diabetes—though more than one third of them do not yet know they have the disorder because symptoms of type 2 diabetes often develop gradually. A large portion of people with diabetes, some 3.2 million, is age 65 or older. Since 1958, the number of people diagnosed with diabetes in the U.S. has more than tripled, rising from less than 1 percent of the population to more than 7 percent.

Diabetes can be detected before symptoms appear, and it can also be controlled and in some cases prevented. When it is not controlled, however, there are dangers from the immediate complications of high blood glucose levels and long-term complications affecting the eyes, nerves, kidneys and large blood vessels.

Type 1 diabetes usually emerges before age 30 and tends to come on suddenly. Type 2 diabetes is far more common—about 90 percent of people with diabetes have type 2. It usually starts later in life, after age 40. The onset tends to be more gradual, and blood glucose levels are more stable. Most patients with type 2 diabetes are obese.

Prevention of diabetes is, of course, preferable to its treatment. Efforts to prevent type 2 diabetes are especially important for individuals at highest risk for developing the disease—those who have impaired glucose tolerance as from smoking, are overweight, have a family history of the disorder, belong to a high-risk ethnic group (such as Afro-Americans, Hispanics, or native Americans), or have a history of diabetes during pregnancy.

The main strategy for prevention is a combination of diet and exercise. Both help to achieve and maintain weight loss. Exercise improves insulin resistance by making muscles and other tissues more sensitive to insulin. There is some evidence that a high-fiber diet may decrease the risk of developing type 2 diabetes. Diet and exercise are even more effective than metformin (Glucophage), a new drug sometimes used to reduce the risk.

The classic symptoms of diabetes are an increased frequency of urination, increased thirst and fluid intake, and as the disease progresses, weight loss despite increased hunger and food intake. Type 2 diabetes may develop so gradually that some patients notice few or no symptoms for a number of years. Their first symptoms may be from chronic complications, such as peripheral neuropathy (nerve damage in the hands and feet). The diagnosis of symptom-free type 2 diabetes can be made by a routine laboratory test, which measures the blood glucose level.

So, if you are over 40 years of age, obese, have a parent or sibling with diabetes, and are in a high-risk ethnic group, see your doctor about routine blood glucose tests soon. You can still prevent the dangers of eye, nerve, kidney and large blood vessel complications. You may even begin a diet and exercise program that will halt the disease. And remember to drink several cups of coffee each day to reduce the risk.

In days of yore, when a family doctor visited your home, he would have made a diagnosis of diabetes by tasting your urine. Think of it. Sweet urine probably led to the mouth wash industry.

Micro Chip Clinic set for Saturday

Animals First will hold a Micro Chip Clinic Saturday, September 2, from noon to 1 p.m. at the Irvington Farmers' Market.

A microchip that contains a personal, one-of-a-kind identification number is implanted under the skin of the animal, according to president Debbie Barnes. Shelters can scan for a chip and locate the owner of the animal. "In the event of a disaster like Hurricane Katrina when thousands of animals were displaced, collars and tags lost, a microchip can help reunite you and your pet," said Barnes.

It is an unalterable, court recognized and guaranteed method of positively identifying an animal. The chip will make sure that no one's pet fails to come home because it cannot be identified. Call Kathy Juron at 435-0799 to make an appointment. The fee will be $30.

Bridge Results

Ten tables of bridge were in play August 22 at Rappahannock Westminster-Canterbury.

Winners north/south were first, Dianne Monroe and Cynthia Birdsall; second, Babs Murphy and Beverly Oren; third, Ilva Doggett and Kay Williams; and fourth, Arden Durham and Jane Hughes

Winners east/west were first, Margaret Livesay and Vera Romaine; second, Suzi Winters and Betty Fay Lewis; third, Rebecca Harger and Carolyn Reed; and fourth, Jim Hazel and Virginia Adair.

The next bridge for this group is September 12 at 1 p.m.

Seven-and-a-half tables of duplicate bridge were in play at the Woman's Club of White Stone August 28.

Winners north/south were first, Arden Durham and Cynthia Birdsall; second, Laura Schooley and Verla Burgess; and third, Mary Andrews and Al Jodrey.

Winners east/west were first, Elvira Plumb and Ginny Flanagan; second, Ronnie Gerster and Shirley Crockett; and third, Iris Panzetta and Grace Nagel.

The next bridge for this group is September 13 at 1 p.m.

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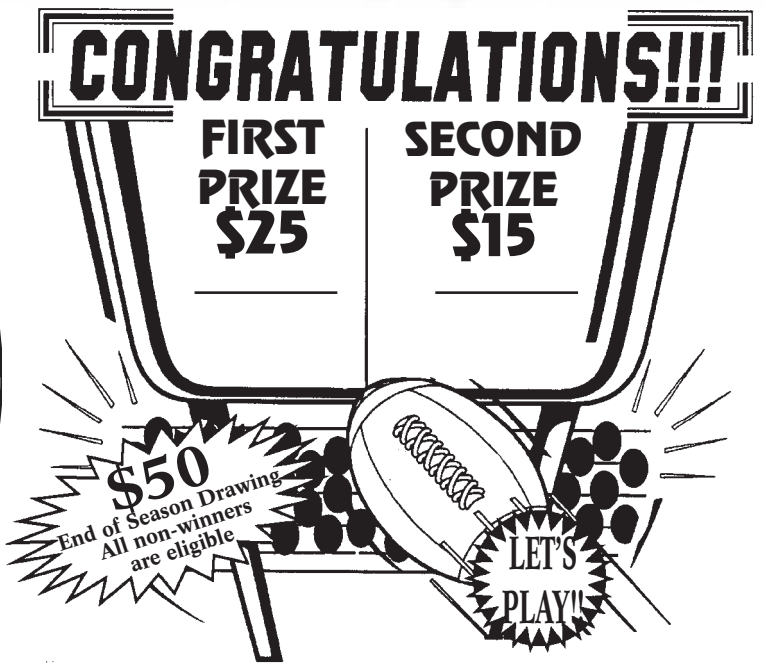

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Entries must be delivered to the Rappahannock Record office before 5 p.m. each Friday, or mailed to the Rappahannock Record Football Contest, P.O. Box 400, Kilmarnock, Va. 22482, with a postmark no later than Friday or enter online at www.rrecord.com (same deadline).

Persons picking the most correct winners will win $25 and the runner-up will win $15. In case of a tie, the first tiebreaker game will decide the winner. If there is still a tie, the second tiebreaker game will decide the winner.

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3. _____
4. _____
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6. _____
7. _____
8. _____
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▼ School and county officials respond to lingering issues . . . .

(continued from page A1)

"The history of the school board is judiciousness in the way they budget the funds," declared supervisor Geilich at a May 4 meeting.

In fact, for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2004, the division ran a surplus of $381,000 while in 2005 the surplus was even larger, about $441,000, according to the supervisors.

At one joint spring meeting between the two boards, some of the school board members expessed great surprise and amazement that the division had underspent the previous year's budget (2004-05) by so much. Several members kept returning over and over to this fact, which evidently hadn't been known by them until that moment.

Then in July, a joint meeting was requested by school board chairman Donald McCann to "see what the problem is." His big concern was that an earlier county audit had indicated the school had $300,000 in unspent funds, but that it had just come to his attention that the $300,000 was in fact "overspent."

In the past two years, an accounting method called a "vacancy factor" was favored by supervisors F.W. Jenkins Jr., and Pete Geilich.

As Geilich explained it recently, when someone retires from the public sector, or becomes disabled, or leaves their position during the year, they are generally replaced by someone of lesser experience at a lesser salary. In the case of teachers, that would be someone lower on the "step" or pay-increment chart which rewards experience and longevity as well as additional education.

As a person ages and becomes more experienced and/or earns advanced degrees, his/her salary increases, especially the fringe benefits, which can rise exponentially, adding as much as 25 to 30 percent to one's compensation.

So when a younger, beginning teacher replaces a 30- or 35-year veteran whose retirement and other withholdings were very costly to the district, the district saves a bundle of money on the new employee, who might be earning 35 to 40 percent less than the veteran in salary and benefits.

Another obvious example is when a teacher leaves during the year and a substitute must be employed to stand in while a permanent replacement is found. Substitutes are paid much less than a permanent teacher.

That's the vacancy factor—the amount of money saved with personnel replacements.

County administrator Bill Pennell, who has many years of experience with this accounting method as a "routine, annual strategy," said it works in "many other jurisdictions and enterprises."

"I now think it is a key factor that in order for it to work, one person (usually a chief financial officer or chief administrative officer) is in charge of all organizational spending to monitor the effectiveness of the vacancy factor, " Pennell added.

For the 2006-2007 year, the supervisors have estimated the vacancy factor to be about $296,000, and lessened the amount of the division's budget request by that amount.

But according to Latimore, the fiscal year 2005-06 vacancy factor did not amount to nearly as much as the supervisors had anticipated when they withheld $222,900.

Only 22 teachers left during the past year and were replaced, with the dollar amount saved not nearly what the supervisors had projected, in effect cutting the school board budget by too much.

Jenkins said he had been alerted by the school board's central office in April that they might be over budget, while the county auditor seemed unsure at that point.

In addition, the rising fuel expenses for school cars and buses and heating oil for buildings were all higher than had been calculated over 16 months ago.

"The numbers we get from the school are somewhat difficult to analyze," according to Geilich. "That's why we've asked them for more information over the last few months."

Another factor in the overage for 2005-06 was that there weren't as many state and federal dollars coming into the system.

"I think all the numbers are squishy. The school system receives funds from a variety of sources: state, feds, multiple sources," so the revenues can't always be projected precisely, said Geilich.

As a result, as of July 31, 2006, one month after the fiscal year ended, Latimore said the total budget-busters in school expenses for 2005-06 were operations and maintenance, $17,987.09 over budget; transportation, $70,827.88 over budget; and instructional, $208,904.96 over budget, for a total in the red of $297,719.93.

Even before the large deficit appeared, specific concerns over past irregularities in payroll lists and in-house promotions had been raised by the supervisors during the budget work sessions, but were not explained by the school board office.

Possibly for this reason, the board of supervisors voted to split this year's appropriation of $14.4 million for the school into two halves, with the schools getting the first half on July 1, 2006, and the second half on December 31, 2006, after a "mid-year budget review to determine the amount of the remaining appropriation," Pennell stated in a May memo to the superintendent of schools.

A quarterly report is to be issued by the schools with a budget variance report each time. A variance report tells the amount budgeted for a category, the amount spent, and the amount remaining.

In addition, instead of funding the bottom line for the 2006-07 year, supervisors funded category totals so that a clearer picture of where the money goes can be seen.

And the county administrator's May 2006 memo informed the schools that the supervisors had directed that a 3 percent vacancy factor be withheld from the schools' appropriation.

"The amount $296,000 will not be appropriated pending a year-end review of personal [sic] services expenditures. Should legitimate personal [sic] services expenses occur that require the appropriation of some or all of this vacancy factor, the board of supervisors will make supplemental appropriations as it sees fit."

At a July joint work session called so that the school board and the supervisors could officially learn the state of the school's finances and begin to understand the reasons for the additional $300,000 needed to finish out the payroll and expenses for the 2005-06 year, the supervisors suggested that one way to keep the school board and the supervisors all on the same page would be if the schools would convert to the Bright System accounting software used by Lancaster County government.

"If we were all on the same system we could access the same reports," Jenkins noted.

The county even offered to pay for the system if the school would use it, and a county employee already trained in the software could do some of the programming for the schools.

Paul Lee, the independent auditor for the county, agreed at that meeting, "It would be a heck of a lot easier if both bodies were on the same system."

Jenkins and Geilich as well as other supervisors and even McCann expressed frustration in understanding the 2005-06 budget prepared by the school board's central office.

At the April 20 budget work session between the two bodies, Jenkins complained, "It's the hardest exercise I've ever had in budgeting!"

And Geilich said the budget's "format is exceedingly difficult."

At a meeting just a few weeks later, Geilich observed, "I don't think there is a person in this room, with the exception of Dr. Latimore, who understands the budget."

For the school year ending in June, Jenkins said he doesn't think the school board "knowingly overspent their money," but he thinks that "school boards get caught up in the minutiae of running the division and do not exercise proper oversight over financing."

"If you run for the school board, your primary interest is in trying to get the best educational experience for the kids," whereas the board of supervisors' interest is "primarily financial," Geilich said.

He said, "The board of supervisors would not be doing their job well if they did not fully understand what the school board was doing (or the superintendent) inasmuch as 65 percent or more of the county budget goes to the schools."

Pipe project

The board of supervisors raised significant issues over this summer's $358,000 price tag to replace the main sewer line at the high school. An alternate bid with the same contractor for a $50,000 canopy over the band stairwell raised its own concerns.

According to Tim Guill, director of operations and maintenance for the schools, there had been increasing problems with the high school's sewer system in recent years.

Last fall, the sluggish action prompted visits by plumbers on two separate occasions and they didn't seem to be able to get things working properly.

Guill said a special tool with a camera was snaked down the main line starting in the front of the building and it revealed two places under the boys' locker room and under the kitchen where sagging waste pipes were creating the sluggishness in the line.

Since one of the trouble spots was right under the kitchen, a possible public health concern was involved, he said.

"If sewage backed up into the kitchen drains, the health department would close us down," he stated.

So, on October 27, according to a report prepared for the supervisors by county administrator Bill Pennell, the school board "secured an architectural firm, on an emergency basis, to assist in developing a solution for the sewer line problem."

Rancorn Wildman Architects, a firm the school had worked with previously, said they hoped to have a proposal to the school board no later than November 27, 2005, according to Pennell's report.

In January, the report states, the board of supervisors approved $7,039.47 for emergency design and repair work by the firm.

Pennell reported that an additional invoice from the architectural firm for $24,488.72 was received by the county in July for "waste water design and construction administration" professional services from February 16, 2006 to May 14, 2006.

Pennell stated that neither the firm's services for almost $24,500 nor the subsequent $358,000 in charges for the sewer repair, nor the $50,000 alternate bid for the construction of a canopy had been brought to the board of supervisors for approval so that a supplemental appropriation could be effected and funding transferred from the county's capital improvement fund.

An examination of the school board minutes for the last year found a handful of mentions of this matter.

On March 13, the schedule of fees by Rancorn Wildman was approved, but amounts were not announced at the meeting nor included in the minutes.

Then on April 28, the school board approved the RFP for the sewer line repair in a special board meeting.

During the May 8 school board meeting, a short report by Guill indicated that a contract for the work would include the "carrot and stick clause."

The board approved the bid amount from Warwick Plumbing & Heating Corporation on May 25 for both the sewer repair work and the canopy in a special board meeting.

At the July 10 regular school board meeting, Guill outlined the progress on the division's summer projects saying the "majority" of the sewer line at the high school had been replaced to the septic tank, and that it looked like Warwick would meet the August 18 deadline for "substantial completion."

Evidently, the contractor would receive that $5,000 "carrot."

According to Gull, to replace the main sewer line serving the building from front to back, it was necessary to knock down some walls, dig up much floor, then replace the line with cast iron pipe.

For a time, a small 31-inch-wide excavator worked in the building, which Warwick's on-site construction foreman Skip West described as being about the size of a large wheel chair.

In an explanation of the original problem, West confirmed that the old cast iron pipe had "just about lived out its life."

However, the engineering specifications dictated that the same piping material be used again, because of the "temperature of the dishwater," he said. The majority of other jobs these days use PVC pipe.

The foreman said costs were held down by reusing the existing soil, so that only three loads of VDOT-approved fill had to be purchased.

In a tour of the kitchen area, West explained the technology used by an innovative grease remediator which he said costs about $10,000 wholesale. The stainless steel unit utilizes fat-loving bacteria to keep as much fat as possible out of the sewer pipes, thus helping to avoid future problems.

When building principal Sandra Spears was asked about the progress on the job recently, she said, "I didn't know construction could be so neat." She admitted she didn't really get involved in the project, but left it to those with more experience and knowledge about such things.

The board of supervisors raised many issues over the bidding and contracting methods employed by the schools when the superintendent of schools came before them in July to request the appropriations from the capital improvement fund.

Latimore said only one bid was received by Rancorn Wildman, even though "We advertised in all the area newspapers."

The supervisors took Latimore to task for the bidding process which had all bids coming to the architectural firm. The firm reported that only one bid was received—the one from Warwick—and that was opened at the firm in the presence of Guill.

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

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

When asked, Latimore verified that no school board members had been present when the bids were opened.

When asked later about the supervisors' concerns that the bid was not opened by any elected officials, he replied that the school board's attorney in Charlottesville had advised him the bids did not have to be opened in front of the body.

Commonwealth's attorney C. Jeffers Schmidt, a former school board attorney "six to eight years ago," indicated there are "no strict rules required in opening or tabulating competitive bids."

Rancorn Wildman spokesman Mark Whitford did not answer any questions.

Explaining why an architect was needed for a plumbing job, Guill said, "We needed the facilities surveyed and the plans drawn to facilitate the repairs. I'm not sure there were plans here" for the high school building.

"They had to develop the plans to pull out the walls and floors," he added.

McCann said he learned of the impending repair job when he came onto the board in January. "An estimate was given to us by the architects," he said, adding he saw the blueprints after the first of the year, and Guill, a former contractor, had looked at the specifications.

If it was considered "an emergency" in October, why was the contract not signed until May and the work not begun until shortly after?

"In order to have the plans developed, let out bids, and start the project, " Guill answered. He said the school didn't want to have to shut down if they could wait until summer and do the repairs over the long vacation.

And why the $5,000 bonus for getting the job "substantially completed" on time?

McCann acknowledged that a bonus was "not customary," but "it's because it was so time sensitive. We have a new food service group [Aramark] that needs to come in and set up."

They wanted to get into the kitchen and commons area by a certain date.

The base bid amount included plumbing, $150,000; electrical, $10,000; bulk earth excavation and disposal on-site, $100/cubic yard; compacted engineered fill, $60/cubic yard; VDOT No. 57 fill, $60/cubic yard; removal of concrete slab, $35/square foot, and install concrete slab, $20/square foot.

Canopy

The $50,000 canopy over the stairwell leading down to the band room on the lower level of the front of the building was added as an "alternative" bid in with the sewer repair project.

When this item came up in the supervisors' meeting, 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.

When the time came for the supervisors to vote on this separate alternate bid, both Geilich and Beauchamp noted that they did so "reluctantly."

Guill said the canopy was needed to prevent rainwater from overwhelming the storm drain pipes which lead directly into the regular sewer. He said that type of configuration isn't allowed anymore.

West explained the construction as being several vertical structural steel beam supports incased in brick plus a 37-foot structural steel beam extending the long north-south span of the canopy.

A heavy-gauge galvanized metal truss system was employed for the roof of the canopy.

The canopy's new roofing was supposed to match the red metal covering of the rest of the high school's roof. That proved to be quite tricky to find, said West, but they finally found one supplier and bought the last roll.

When asked if he thought the canopy was worth $50,000, he responded, "I thought the canopy was all in the bid price."

In a July 5, 2005, letter to Latimore from Rancorn Wildman, the architectural firm offered a "revised fee proposal for the professional architectural and engineering design services required to conduct a Planning Study (Phase I) for the Lancaster County School Board."

Of the six items in question, two were related to renovating or constructing a new bus garage, two pertained to the primary school building interior and parking lot, one was a building to house the JROTC program, and the final one was to re-design the band room entrance at LHS, providing several design options and probable costs.

The fee schedule for that item reads: "Provide design options for band entrance improvements—$800. Provide cost estimates for design Options—$400. Total fees...$1,200."

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Pope wins Best-In-Show

Exhibit to hang through Labor Day at the Harold Porter Eubank Art Center in Kilmarnock

KILMARNOCK—The Rappahannock Art League's 45th annual Labor Day Weekend Exhibit opened to viewers Wednesday. A reception was held Wednesday evening and Don Kennedy, chairman of the show, announced the winners.

Jeffrey W. Allison—artist, teacher, and Paul Mellon Collection Educator at the Virginia Museum of Fine Arts in Richmond—was the judge.

Nathan K. Pope won the Best-In-Show award.

Blue ribbon winners were: Andrew Pitts, Nancy Reath, Sue Rosen, Elaine T. Lozier, Ginny Sawkins and Ann Vliet.

Red ribbon winners were: Margaret VanEtten, Hermie Wait Powell, Gwendolen Galliher, Jane Stouffer, Sarah Soderland and Matt Johnston.

Yellow ribbon winners were: Maude B. Brumbach, Joan Robinson, Gary Kammeter, Adele Harwood, Richard Kirkland, Anne Marie McNally. Renate Bumgarner won the Joachim Schoppe Memorial Award.

Judge Jeffrey W. Allison picks best-in-show.

Sue Ramsey was awarded the Rita Wooddell Memorial Award.

Rose Nygaard won the Rhoda Bowman Memorial Award.

The show hangs at the Harold Porter Eubank Art Center at Route 200 and 608 in Kilmarnock.

Admission to the show is free. Show hours are Thursday through Sunday, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. and Monday, 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.

The studio gallery on Main Street also will be open during show hours.

▼ *Festival . . .*

(continued from page A1)

ing the parade.

After the parade, Faron Hamblin will perform on the pavilion stage from 1 to 4 p.m. Other afternoon activities at the pavilion include "Buzzy the Magic Clown" at 1:30 p.m. under the tent; the LIFE EVACIII helicopter lands for display around 2 p.m.; the High Flying Gymnasts of the nationally acclaimed Northern Neck Athletic Center will be showcasing trampoline and tumbling skills at 2:30 p.m.; and "Egg Drop" contest messes things up around 3:30 p.m.; and the traditional fire truck rides for kids begin around 4 p.m.

The ride, game and display area at the pavilion will be open from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Ride tickets will be on sale at the ticket stand behind the pavilion. Arts, crafts and vendor displays will surround the pavilion. Spots can be reserved through September 1 by calling 436-3739. New this year is a "Camp of Instruction and Drill" by the 40th Virginia Regiment Company B - "The Totuskey Grays" continuing all day. As always, hamburgers, hot dogs, corn dogs, French fries, soft drinks and beer will be available throughout the day.

The "End of Summer Dance" will feature "Young Country Band" playing country and country rock music from 8 p.m. to midnight. Bring a lawn chair if you like, but no glass bottles please. Tickets are $5 per person at the gate, and food, soft drinks and beer will be available.

Proceeds raised from the festival help the ULVFD maintain and upgrade its fire fighting equipment. Additionally, the department has just broken ground at the pavilion for a long-awaited new firehouse. All improvements enable the department to provide the best possible fire protection for the community. The ULVFD appreciates and thanks the public for support.

To accommodate the parade, a traffic detour will be in effect from noon to 1 p.m.

Vehicles traveling south on Route 3 will be directed left on Route 617 to Route 600, right on Route 600 to Route 201, left on Route 201 to Route 600 and right on Route 600 to Route 3.

Vehicles traveling north on Route 3 will be directed right on Route 600 to Route 201, left on Route 201 to Route 600, right on Route 600 to Route 617 and left on Route 617 to Route 3.

▼ *Supervisors . . .*

(continued from page A1)

Kilmarnock.

At 8:30 p.m., board members may comment on issues not otherwise addressed by the agenda and at 8:45 p.m., the county administrator will report to the board on administrative matters.

The agenda calls for adjournament at 9 p.m.

Times are approximate and the agenda may be amended.

Guest speaker to present Kauffman Center as lecture topic

The Reedville Fishermen's Museum will present the second of its lecture series September 18 at 7 p.m.

The lecture will feature Dr. Standish K. Allen Jr. discussing the Kauffman Center. The center was specifically designed to enhance and extend the work and facilities of Virginia Institute of Marine Science (VIMS) in studying aquaculture genetics and breeding technology.

Dr. Allen is director of the center and is professor of marine science at VIMS. His research interests lie in the applications of biotechnology to fisheries management and aquaculture. His current projects include work in determining disease resistant stocks of the native oyster (Crassostrea virginica) of the Chesapeake Bay and in the study of other non-native oysters such as the Crassostrea arienkensis and Crassostrea gigas.

The Kauffman Center is designed to hold both native and non-native species in quarantine. The initial use will focus on studies of the native oyster, virginica, and the non-native oyster, arienkensis.

The Kauffman Center is on Locklies Creek..

The lecture will be held at Festival Halle on Main Street in Reedville. The fee is $5.

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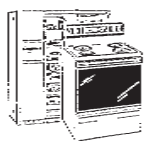

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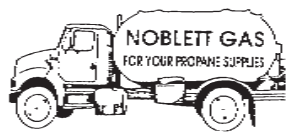

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