

Lancaster schools want \$3.5 million for capital projects

LANCASTER—The county planning commission will take public comment on the update to a capital improvement budget tonight (February 15).

The commission will meet at 7 p.m. in the General District courtroom in the basement of the county courthouse on Mary Ball Road in Lancaster.

A capital project or item is defined as "a real or personal property acquisition and/or improvement estimated to have a minimum cost of \$10,000 and a minimum useful life expectancy of five years," said county administrator Bill Pennell.

So far, the requests from county schools amount to almost \$3.5 million. The school board is hoping for about 80 percent of that money in 2008.

"We have a fairly aged infrastructure," said commission member and school board chairman Donald McCann. "If the county doesn't address it now, they will pay more later."

Needs from other constitutional or county offices include \$325,000 for telecommunications upgrades and a radio room expansion at the sheriff's office.

The second matter before the commission for public comment will be the reinstatement of a portion of the county's subdivision ordinance concerning the private road exception. It lists minimum specifications for subdivision streets and notes that the streets will not be maintained by either VDOT or Lancaster County.

The entire private road exception (Article 5-19 of the county subdivision ordinance) can be found at the county's website, www.lancova.com.

Four other issues will be considered by the commission: extending necessary services for development in the Kilmarnock-White Stone-Irvington triangle; a timbering ordinance; affordable housing; and farmland preservation.



Hunters discovered more than 1,000 drums leaking an unknown and potentially hazardous substance into the soil last fall on property near the Lancaster County line on Pinckardsville Road. The Environmental Protection Agency has since declared the property a Superfund Site and has launched a multimillion-dollar cleanup effort. Lancaster and Northumberland county officials knew nothing about the dump site or the EPA's involvement until a Rappahannock Record reporter called asking questions earlier this week.

Federal authorities take lead in cleaning up hazardous material stored in Lancaster

by Reid Pierce Armstrong

LANKFORD CORNER—Local officials were shocked to learn Monday of a large, multi-agency environmental cleanup effort taking place under their noses since September near the Lancaster-Northumberland county line.

The Environmental Protection Agency has declared an 18-acre

farm on Pinckardsville Road in Lancaster County a Superfund Site after hunters discovered some 1,100 corroded barrels leaking an unknown and potentially hazardous substance into the soil.

A chemical evaluation by the EPA of the black, tarry, sludge-like substance revealed no less than five potentially dangerous compounds. Of the greatest concern is the pres-

ence of Benzo(a)pyrene, a known carcinogen.

Commonly found in petroleum products, BaP can cause red blood cell damage leading to anemia and a suppressed immune system after only short-term exposure. In the long term, BaP has the potential to cause developmental and reproductive problems as well as cancer. Humans and animals ingest BaP

through contamination in drinking water, but it also can be harmful through inhalation and skin contact.

The EPA has not yet determined whether the ground water supply has been contaminated. It plans to dig monitoring wells in the coming month to ascertain the extent of the damage.

(continued on page A14)

County bans conservation zone building

by Reid Pierce Armstrong

HEATHSVILLE—Following teary and heartfelt testimony from members and leaders of two local Girl Scout troops regarding the pending sale of Camp Kittamaquand, the Northumberland board of supervisors passed an emergency ordinance last Thursday prohibiting any development on land zoned conservation.

Camp Kitty, as it is known, is on 387 acres along the Great Wicomico River near Glebe Point. It represents one of the last large undeveloped deep water parcels in Northumberland County. It is one of six major parcels in the county zoned conservation. Other areas include Bluff Point, Hughlett's Point, Smith Point, Dameron Marsh, and the headwaters of the Coan River. In all, less than 5 percent of the county is zoned conservation.

The county has been in the process of reviewing and restructuring its zoning code for the last six months, but the board of supervisors has not formally reviewed any proposed changes to uses within the conservation district.

Current uses in the conservation district include the subdivision of land into 1.84-acre lots for single family dwellings, golf courses, seafood processing plants, canning factories, boat sales, hotels and motels.

When these uses were outlined in the 1960s, conservation had a different connotation than it does in society today, said county administrator Kenneth D. Eades. The board wants to revisit the stated purpose of the conservation district and to revise the allowable uses within that district.

The emergency ordinance was necessary, Eades said, because developers are rumored to be speculating in the Bluff Point area as well as Camp Kitty. The county has not received any formal communication about a contract on either property, however, Eades said.

The board will have 60 days to take further action before the emergency ordinance expires.

The Girl Scout Commonwealth Council of Virginia announced in a November 2 press release that its board of directors had voted to sell Camp Kitty for a number of reasons, including damage from natural disasters, low camper enrollment and rising overhead costs.

Troop 3119 leader Susan Swift told the board last Thursday that local developers have approached the Commonwealth Council (which covers Richmond, Fredericksburg and the Northern Neck) with a "lucrative" bid for the property.

(continued on page A14)

Supervisors approve new school plans

by Reid Pierce Armstrong

HEATHSVILLE—Northumberland supervisors last week gave a reluctant 'go-ahead' to the architects of a new middle-high school to proceed with construction based on designs presented at a February 8 meeting.

The drawings show few changes from those previously published. The top of the stairwell towers are now octagonal to look more like area lighthouses. The front of the high school has a small bump-out to break up the expanse of the facade. The nameplate is backed by flat metal rather than corrugated metal.

Otherwise, the design remains similar to the original concept.

Despite the full support of the school board, only two members of the board of supervisors were willing to vote to proceed with the design. District 5 supervisor and board chairman Ronald Jett and District 1 supervisor Joe Self used a simple majority vote to direct the architecture firm to begin seeking construction bids on the design as it stands.

District 2 supervisor Richard Haynie and District 5 supervisor Pamela Russell abstained from the vote, stating that they still don't like some portions of the design but they don't want to hold the project up any longer. District 4 supervisor Jim Long was absent due to a death in the family, but he had been critical of the design in recent meetings.



Lancaster is out-growing its courthouse (above).

Lancaster County that we never had a fatality or something seriously going wrong," said Kennedy.

When the court hears the cases of 20 or 25 defendants in one day, she said all the prisoners

(continued on page A14)

Better security and more space needed at Lancaster courthouse

by Joan McBride

LANCASTER—"A new courthouse is long, long overdue," said Lancaster County Clerk of the Circuit Court Constance Kennedy after last week's meeting of judges, clerks, constitutional officers and other courthouse department heads to discuss security and space issues in the existing courthouse.

"The major issue has been security," said Kennedy.

She cited the three entrances into the Circuit Courtroom as an example. She said neither the two front doors nor one side entrance have security screen-

ing devices to ensure that the public doesn't bring contraband into the courtroom.

She said one new screening device has been awarded to the county, but hasn't been installed yet.

"Anybody could walk into the courtroom with a gun or anything," said Kennedy.

Capt. Martin Shirilla of the county sheriff's office said there are several logistical reasons for the delay in installing the new security device for the Circuit Courtroom.

"We're trying to find a good place to put it," he said, noting that the entry into the court-

room foyer is "not big enough for today's security screening needs."

Providing access for delivery people and members of the public using wheelchairs are other issues, he said.

Another of Kennedy's concerns is that prisoners from the county jail behind the courthouse are walked across the public parking lot by officers, then shepherded alongside citizens in the narrow corridors, past numerous offices, and even past the Circuit Court judge's chambers before arriving at the courtroom.

"We've been very lucky in

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Citizens speak for and against proposed Carter's Creek discharge

by Audrey Thomasson

IRVINGTON—Rappahannock Westminster-Canterbury's application to discharge treated wastewater into a tributary of Carter's Creek drew almost as many supporters as it did critics to last week's public hearings conducted by the State Water Control Board and Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ).

DEQ held informational sessions before and after the hearings to explain how the new facility would work and address concerns. DEQ regional director Gerald Seeley Jr. explained that the discharge would be "double treated using UV rays" in one of the most technologically advanced treatment systems in the state. The effluent would be discharged into a dry creek bed that runs across three privately owned parcels and empties into Old Mill Cove.

Plant operating consultant Don Caskie claimed that under

normal conditions, 75 percent of the discharge would be absorbed in the ditch before reaching the creek.

But no matter how "safe and clean" Seeley claimed the discharge would be, residents on Carter's Creek were not buying it, calling the system "experimental" and saying the discharge "is still waste."

For the most part, the hearings were a polite and sometimes passionate exchange between supporters—mostly residents of the retirement community—and people opposed to the discharge—residents along the creek.

"What goes in the creek, stays in the creek," said Thomas Gosse, a resident of the Old Mill Cove area.

Referring to the DEQ claim that the creeks are already condemned for shellfish, Gosse said crabs are taken daily out of the creek.

The creek is shallow and without much flow and therefore the effluent would remain in the cove, he said.

"No current samples were taken from the water. How do you measure water quality if you don't have a benchmark?" asked Gosse.

Seeley said DEQ would consider taking benchmark samples.

Referring to Caskie's comment of "normal conditions," Gosse said storms with eight inches of rain such as in Isabel and Ernesto caused dams and ponds to discharge and blow out.

"The creek is the breeding ground of many menhaden fish," said Irvington resident Frances Simmons.

Claiming that residents were planting oyster beds to clean the waters and revive the oyster population in Carter's Creek, she said, "We are concerned that the discharge will affect our oys-

(continued on page A14)



February 15 Thursday

The RFM Boat Shop opens at 9 a.m. at the Reedville Fishermen's Museum. 453-6629.

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

The RFM Photo Group meets at 2 p.m. at the Reedville Fishermen's Museum. 453-6529.

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

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

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

The Rappatomac Writers Critique Group will meet at 2 p.m. at Rappahannock Community College in Warsaw.

Duplicate Bridge will be played at 1 p.m. at the Woman's Club of White Stone. Men, women and newcomers are invited. No reservations are needed. 462-7605.

The Planning Commission for Lancaster County will meet at 7 p.m. at the courthouse in Lancaster.

The Planning Commission for Northumberland County will meet at 7 p.m. at the courthouse in Heathsville.

The Northern Neck/Middle Peninsula Chapter of the Virginia Aeronautical Historical Society will meet at noon at the Pilot House Restaurant.

The Northern Neck Chapter of the Virginia Native Plant Society will meet at noon at Wicomico Episcopal Church in Wicomico Church. Bring a brown-bag lunch. Beverages provided.

A Spaghetti Supper will be served at Kilmarnock United Methodist Church at 5 p.m. \$8 adults, \$3.50 children.

Male Caregivers can learn more about Alzheimer's and related diseases while enjoying a free breakfast, courtesy of the Alzheimer's Association, at 9 a.m. at Lee's Restaurant on Main Street in Kilmarnock.



Sweethearts Dance set February 24

The Wayne T. Holt Band (above) will host a Sweethearts Dance Saturday, February 24, from 8 p.m. to midnight at the West Point Country Club. Band members, from left, include Joe Edwards on guitar, fiddle and harmony vocals, Randy Carlton on banjo and harmony vocals, Wayne T. Holt on dobro, guitar and lead vocals, and Christie Holt on bass and harmony vocals. Tickets are \$10 in advance and \$12 at the door. For advance tickets, call Holt at 804-366-7432. (Photo by Robert Mason Jr.)

16 Friday

Bingo is played at the Upper Lancaster Ruritan Center in Lively at 5:45 p.m..

17 Saturday

Donks Theater on Route 198 in Mathews will host a talent search at 8 p.m. 725-7760

A Bluegrass Show to benefit the Gwynn's Island Museum begins at 7:30 p.m. at the Gwynn's Island Civic League building on Route 223 in Gwynn's Island. Donations are accepted. 725-3495.

Taylor 2 will dance "On Stage" at the Lancaster Middle School Theater in Kilmarnock at 8 p.m. For ticket information, call 435-0292.

The Northern Neck Computer Users Group will meet at 9:30 a.m. at Rappahannock Westminster-Canterbury near Irvington. A Beginners SIG follows at 11:30 a.m. and a Genealogy SIG at 12:30 p.m.

17 Saturday

A Babygarten program will be held at the Lancaster community Library in Kilmarnock from 10:30 to 11 a.m. The program will feature stories and a craft, for children 6 months to 2 years and their parents.

A Valentine Dance featuring the Ray Pittman Project will be held at the Lively firehouse from 8 p.m. to midnight. \$20 per couple, \$12 per single.

Dr. Char Roone Miller, assistant professor of public and international affairs at George Mason University will give a lecture, "Washington, Prince of the Potomac," at 2 p.m. in the Visitor Center auditorium at the George Washington Birthplace National Monument. Admission to the lecture is free. Regular admission fees apply to the Memorial Area. 224-1732

18 Sunday

The Widowed Persons Service for Lancaster and Northumberland counties will hold its lunch brunch at Rose's Crab House in Kilmarnock immediately following church services.

Sundays At Two will feature a lecture "Godspeed: The Voyage that changed the World" by the Rev. Terry Robertson at 2 p.m. at the Lancaster Community Library in Kilmarnock.

The Annual Membership Meeting of the Reedville Fishermen's Museum will begin at 2 p.m. at Bethany United Methodist Church in Reedville.

18 Sunday

The George Washington Birthplace National Monument at 2 p.m. will host the first public showing of a 1640s quilt that belonged to George Washington's great-grandfather, John Washington, and the unveiling of a crib coverlet reproduced by the Uptown Quilt Guild based on the John Washington quilt. Admission to the quilt and coverlet display is free. Regular admission fees apply to the Memorial Area. 224-1732

Authors Bonnie Jordan and Barb Tricario will sign their book, *Quilts of Virginia, The Birth of America Through the Eye of a Needle*, from noon to 4 p.m. at the George Washington Birthplace National Monument. Admission to the book signing is free. Regular admission to the Memorial Area applies. 224-1732.

19 Monday

Open Mike night will be held from 7 to 9 p.m. at the Gables Coffee and Ice Cream Shop on Main Street in Reedville

Flotilla 3-10 meets at 7:30 p.m. at the Callao firehouse. 472-4387.

The Historical Society for Lancaster County will meet at 7 p.m. at the G.C. Dawson administrative office in Kilmarnock. 435-6232.

The Northumberland Homemakers will meet at 11 a.m. at St. Stephen's Episcopal Church in Heathsville. 580-8613.

The U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary will conduct a flag-raising ceremony at 10 a.m. at the George Washington Birthplace National Monument in honor of George Washington's birthday. From 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. a variety of craft demonstrations typical of the activities that took place at Popes Creek when George Washington was a child will be presented in the Memorial Area. Admission to the site and all activities and refreshments are free. The site will be open from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. 224-1732.

The Lancaster County Chapter of the NAACP will meet at 7 p.m. at Queen Esther Baptist Church on River Road near Mollusk. 435-3099. (continued on page A3)



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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.

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

SWANK'S ON MAIN: Kilmarnock's newest continental dining experience located downtown at 36 N. Main Street. Enjoy dishes with a southern flair prepared by chef Joe Merolli, Cheryl Swank and their staff in a warm and inviting atmosphere with full bar and an extensive wine list. Reservations recommended. 804-436-1010.

TALK OF THE TOWN COFFEE HOUSE: Featuring a wide selection of gourmet coffees. Freshly prepared pastries, wraps and salads. 41 S. Main St., Kilmarnock 435-TALK (8255). Open 7 days a week.

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BRIDGE TO TERABITHIA (PG)
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FRI. FEB. 16
GHOST RIDER (PG13) 4:45, 7:15, 9:40
BRIDGE TO TERABITHIA (PG) 5:00, 7:00, 9:30
DADDY'S LITTLE GIRLS (PG13) 5:20, 7:35, 9:50
NORBIT (PG13) 5:15, 7:30, 9:45
HANNIBAL'S RISING (R) 4:50, 7:10, 9:35

SAT. FEB. 17
GHOST RIDER (PG13) 2:00, 4:45, 7:15, 9:40
BRIDGE TO TERABITHIA (PG) 1:00, 3:00, 5:00, 7:00, 9:30
DADDY'S LITTLE GIRLS (PG13) 12:45, 3:05, 5:20, 7:35, 9:50
NORBIT (PG13) 1:00, 3:10, 5:15, 7:30, 9:45
HANNIBAL'S RISING (R) 2:15, 4:50, 7:10, 9:35

SUN. & MON. FEB. 18 & 19
GHOST RIDER (PG13) 2:00, 4:45, 7:15
BRIDGE TO TERABITHIA (PG) 1:00, 3:00, 5:00, 7:00
DADDY'S LITTLE GIRLS (PG13) 12:45, 3:05, 5:20, 7:35
NORBIT (PG13) 1:00, 3:10, 5:15, 7:30
HANNIBAL'S RISING (R) 2:15, 4:50, 7:10

TUES.-THURS. FEB. 20-22
GHOST RIDER (PG13) 7:15
BRIDGE TO TERABITHIA (PG) 7:00
DADDY'S LITTLE GIRLS (PG13) 7:35
NORBIT (PG13) 7:30
HANNIBAL'S RISING (R) 7:10

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Upcoming

20 Tuesday Shrove Tuesday
The Kilmarnock & District Pipe Band rehearses at 7:15 p.m. at Campbell Memorial Presbyterian Church in Weems. 462-7125.
AI-ANON meets at 8 p.m. at Kilmarnock United Methodist Church.
The RFM Boat Shop opens at 9 a.m. at the Reedville Fishermen's Museum. 453-6629.
The Bridge Discussion Group will meet at 9:30 a.m. at the Woman's Club of Lancaster. \$5. 462-0742.
"Bringing Up Boys," a video series by Dr. James Dobson will be presented at 7 p.m. at the White Stone Church of the Nazarene Family Life Center at 57 Whisk Drive. Child care will be provided. 435-9886.

20 Tuesday
Adams Post 86 of the American Legion and the legion auxiliary will meet at 7 p.m. at the post home on Waverly Avenue in Kilmarnock. 435-1588.
The Republican Committee for Lancaster County meets at 7:30 p.m. at Chesapeake Bank Training Center on School Street in Kilmarnock
The Middle Peninsula-Northern Neck Community Services Board will meet at the Middle Peninsula Planning District Commission office in Saluda at 4:30 p.m.
The Economic Development Commission for Northumberland County will meet at the courthouse in Heathsville at 7 p.m.
A Pancake Supper will be served at Whit Stone United Methodist Church from 5:30 to 7 p.m. \$5. Proceeds will benefit World Hunger. An Ash Wednesday Service will follow at 7 p.m.



Serving spaghetti

The men, women and youth of Kilmarnock United Methodist Church are preparing for their annual spaghetti supper Thursday, February 15. The men make and serve the meals, the youth serve tables and the women provide desserts. The supper will begin at 5 p.m. in the church fellowship hall. Meals are \$8 for adults and \$3.50 for children.

20 Tuesday
A Flapjack Supper will be served at Trinity Episcopal Church in Lancaster from 5 to 7 p.m. Donations accepted.
The 47th Consecutive Pancake Supper will be served by the men at St. Mary's Church in Fleton from 5 to 7 p.m. \$6 adults, \$4 children.
A Pancake Supper will follow informal praise and worship at St. Stephen's (Anglican) in Heathsville at 6 p.m.
Duplicate Bridge will be played at 1 p.m. at the Woman's Club of Lancaster. 462-0742.

A Symposium on the Restoration of the Chesapeake Bay will be sponsored by the Garden Club of the Northern Neck at the Bayne Center at Christ Church near Weems. Refreshments will be served at 9:30 a.m.; the program will begin at 10 a.m.
The Corrotoman Seniors will meet at 10 a.m. at the Ruritan Club near Lively.

6529.
A Parkinson's Support Group will meet at Rappahannock Westminster-Canterbury at 2 p.m. Nancy O. Byrne and Molly Rachael Strong will speak. 435-9553.
Sandwich Bridge will be played at the Woman's Club of Lancaster. For reservations, call 462-0742
A Community Lenten Service will begin at 12:05 p.m. at Calvary Baptist Church.
"High Five" is the topic for Storytime at the Lancaster Community Library from 10 to 11 a.m. The program features story, craft and refreshments for preschoolers.

22 Thursday
The RFM Boat Shop opens at 9 a.m. at the Reedville Fishermen's Museum. 453-6629.
The RFM Modelers meet at 10 a.m. at Reedville Fishermen's Museum. 453-6529.
No-Name Needlers will gather at 1 p.m. at The Art of Coffee in Montross. 493-0873.
AI-ANON meets at 8 p.m. at Palmer Hall in Kilmarnock.
AI-ANON meets at 7 p.m. at Riverside Warsaw Medical Arts building in Warsaw.
Birthday Cake will be served at 1 p.m. at the George Washington Birthplace National Monument to commemorate George Washington's 275th birthday. Admission to the site and all activities and refreshments are free. The site will be open from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. 224-1732.
The Board of Supervisors for Lancaster County will meet at 7 p.m. at the courthouse in Lancaster.
(Submit calendar items to Robert Mason Jr., editor.)

21 Wednesday Fish Wednesday
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-



This movement is from *Dust*, one of the dances Taylor 2 will perform "On Stage" February 17. (Photo by Tom Caravaglia)

Taylor 2 to present 'On Stage' program

The Paul Taylor Dance Foundation Inc. in association with the Rappahannock Foundation for the Arts will present the Taylor 2 dance troupe "On Stage" February 17 at 8 p.m. at the Lancaster Middle School Theater in Kilmarnock.
The program will feature four modern dance works choreographed by Taylor 2 artistic director Paul Taylor.
MetLife Foundation is proud to sponsor Taylor 2's 2006-07 National Tour. Support for Taylor 2 also is provided by the New York State Council on the Arts, the Helen Hotze Hass Foundation, and the board of directors and donors of the Paul Taylor Dance Foundation Inc.
The "On Stage" performance is possible through financial support from the Chesapeake Investment Group, the Virginia Commission for the Arts, the National Endowment for the Arts, and series subscribers, donors and friends.
For ticket information, call 435-0292.
At 76, Paul Taylor may be the most sought-after choreographer working today, commissioned by leading companies, theaters and presenting organizations worldwide. His career as a dancer, teacher, choreographer and artistic director spans over 50 years. His collection

of dances, numbering 125, are performed by his Paul Taylor Dance Company with 16 dancers, and the six-member Taylor 2.
The rehearsal director is Tom Patrick. The dancers will include Alison Cook, Jamie Rae Walker, Lata Wilson, Winston Dynamite Brown, Justin Kahan and John Eirich.

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Fiction or Fact

from Bob's Almanac

by Robert Mason Jr.

It's another Thursday night in Mattaponi.

The unobservant motorists buzzing along Route 33 would think there's nothing much going on in this suburb of West Point.

But, I see that long ribbon of red taillights stretching along Goulder's Creek Road.

I join the caravan heading to the Betty Faye and John Howard Walton residence. Actually, we're joining the assembly out back in the garage. At the Dew Drop Inn, the Thursday night jam session is about to begin.

This weekly gathering of bluegrass and gospel fans and musicians could be the one of the Middle Peninsula's best kept secrets.

But folks in the know come from all over the Middle Peninsula and Northern Neck, as well as Richmond, Newport News, Poquoson, Williamsburg, Petersburg and elsewhere. The last time I dropped in, there were a couple of musicians from Denver.

As far as regular jam sessions go, it's just a young'un. It started about six years ago with John Howard and four others around his kitchen. The crowd spilled over into the backyard and eventually took up residence in the garage. He's since added on to the garage.

Tonight, there are well over 100 people here. There are at least 20 musicians on the stage at the back of the building and rows of metal chairs extending all the way to the garage doors at the other end. There are more folks along the walls, but we've got room for you.

The average age is up there. Families are welcome and a few grandchildren are running around. The musicians range in age from near 90 to a young 15. There are men and women in the mix, professionals and amateurs, seasoned veterans and beginners.

On some songs, every musician on stage joins in. On others, it may be only a handful. Everybody gets their licks in and John Howard makes sure everyone who wants the lead gets a turn. He might even take a break from recording the jam on compact disc to sing a song or two. Anyone who wants a copy of the discs can purchase them at the end of the night.

Instrumentation includes guitars, banjos, fiddles, mandolins, dobros, stand up bass fiddles and harmonicas. There are several of each and by the end of the evening, don't be surprised to see the musicians swapping instruments.

Tonight, Krista Tabor plays the mandolin the first half of the session and the fiddle for the rest. She's the youngest on stage and only picked up the mandolin about four weeks ago. She's a natural.

The Wayne T. Holt Band is in the house tonight as well. The band plays a few songs—just the four of them: Joe Edwards on the fiddle, Randy Carlton on the banjo, Wayne T. Holt on the dobro and lead vocals and Christie N. Holt on bass. A few other musicians join in on some songs and then the band members fall in among the rest of the pickers.

About 40 minutes into the session, the Dew Drop Inn Gospel Quartet featuring Roland Pierce, Mildred Prince, Shirley Jones and Leon Wright sing a half-dozen traditional gospel songs. A couple of musicians accompany them on some songs.

After another 30 minutes of bluegrass, the entire group sings to those celebrating birthdays or anniversaries for the week. Prayer requests are shared and everybody bows their heads. The prayer ends with grace and the band takes a break as everyone enjoys a covered dish supper. Everybody brings a dish to share.

After a quick bite to eat. We jump right into more bluegrass for another hour or so. This is good ol' southern hospitality at its finest.

It's another Thursday night in Mattaponi, and it's all about the music.

Excerpts

by Henry Lane Hull

Call Miss Utility before you dig! We have all seen the signs and ads advising us to call for the location of underground cables before we disturb the earth, lest there be a buried wire or conduit in our path. Last week my good wife made the call as we were rebuilding some old fencing at the farm.

A nice gentleman came promptly, introduced himself, and my wife showed him where we were going to dig. I got home a bit later and went out to meet him for myself. He had outlined the area in question very clearly and showed himself to be someone who took his work quite seriously. When finished, he came up to the house to retrieve one of his equipment boxes and say good-bye.

As we talked I noticed a large bandage on his neck. He obviously seemed too young to have undergone carotid artery surgery, but it looked like the type of bandaging which one sees on such patients. I asked him if he had had surgery to which he replied that he had not, but had been attacked at a shopping mall on the south side of Richmond.

He had taken his eight-year-old son to shop for presents for his four-year-old daughter whose birthday was approaching. After leaving the store with her presents, they were putting them in the rear of their van, when two young men, he judged to be in their early twenties, came up to him demanding money. He had been willing to give them all that he had, and was offering no resistance, when one suddenly pulled a box opener and ripped it into his neck in three places.

An elderly lady sitting in her car nearby began blasting on her horn in the hope of driving them away and summoning help. The victim's young son had to stand and watch what was happening to his father. Aid came quickly and he was off by ambulance to the hospital where he was sewed up and admitted overnight. The doctors told him that had the wound been two inches away he would have bled to death before any help could have reached

him.

I asked him if he lived in Richmond, to which he replied, "No. I live in Richmond County, and I was there only for the day." His words made the horror of the crime that he had sustained all the more poignant. He told me that he was 36, an age at which he should have been enjoying every moment with his young family, working at a good job, and getting the most out of life. Yet despite what had happened to him, he could look on life with optimism and serenity. He was one of the most composed and impressive individuals I have met in a long time and he showed a degree of Christian acceptance that was memorable in its depth and sincerity.

As of his visit to our house, as far as he knew, his attackers were still at large. His gentle, non-confrontational approach did not lessen the brutality of his attackers, who apparently thought he was not sufficiently fast for their purposes. My wife and I were in awe that he could be out working on the job a mere nine days after this dreadful experience. He was grateful to be alive, happy to have a wonderful family, and ready to look to the future.

Here in the Northern Neck we are accustomed to living without violent crime facing us each day, making it much more shocking that one of our own, on a mere jaunt to Richmond, could come so close to losing his life at the hands of horrid criminals who were utterly devoid of morals and human kindness. This incident was not a faceless crime, but one which betrayed the absolute depravity of its perpetrators, yet it also disguised the extraordinary level of wisdom and civility of its victim.

My good friend, the late C. Jackson Simmons, who wrote so tellingly of the history of the Northern Neck, was fond of referring to it as "Our moated Eden." The story which we heard this week from this good man makes us recognize how blessed we are not to be looking at such vile deeds as commonplace in our own wonderful land. May it always be so.

Delegate's Report

by Del. Robert J. Wittman

With crossover now behind us, I feel confident saying that I have had a very successful session thus far. I have had 16 pieces of legislation pass out of the House of Delegates. I have had six of them also pass out of the Senate. On February 12, my legislation on stalking was heard in the Senate Courts of Justice committee and five other bills were heard February 13.

During the week of February 5, the House of Delegates voted out an additional five pieces of my legislation. One bill, HB 1864, deals with second or subsequent stalking offenses. This legislation

provides for mandatory sentencing of 30 days detainment after the second offense and 90 days detainment after the third or subsequent offense.

Another bill, HB 1989, was put in at the request of the Town of Colonial Beach to convert their treasurer from an elected official to an appointed position to be in unison with most other towns.

My legislation on the land application of biosolids has also made its way to the Senate, although in a slightly different form. Del. Kathy Byron and I both introduced legislation this year that would more strictly regulate such applications. In an effort to strengthen our bills, we combined them. The language from my HB 2079 was incorporated into her HB 2802, of which I am now the chief co-patron.

The other two pieces of legislation that passed out of the House to the Senate were HB 2947, which clarifies how the crime of obstruction of justice is charged, and HB 3037, which deals with the powers and compensation of the Commissioners of the Potomac River Fisheries Commission. We have been working closely with the state of Maryland to coordinate the wording of this legislation.

The sixth bill that passed out of both houses was discussed last week; the menhaden harvest quota, oyster measurements, salt-water fishing license fees, changing the name of game wardens to conservation police officers, establishing goals for volunteers to monitor water quality and establishing guidelines for oyster aquaculture in Virginia.

Other issues in Richmond have dealt largely with transportation and the budget. On February 8, the House passed the amendments to the 2006-08 Biennial Budget (HB1650) unanimously. While there were portions of the budget where legislators differed, there was consensus that the House Appropriation Committee had prepared a budget that would work well for the state.

In regard to Virginia's transportation needs, HB 3202, introduced by Speaker Howell, is a compromise that was reached by members of the House and Senate and addresses all the concerns over adequately funding transportation.

The bill includes components that will give Virginia's fastest-growing localities more authority to combat sprawl and traffic congestion, enact significant reforms to the state's delivery of transportation services, and inject over \$2 billion statewide into the Commonwealth's network of roads, railways, and public transit, with northern Virginia and Hampton Roads given authority to raise and retain local funds totaling an additional \$400 million and \$180 million respectively.

The House's amendments to the 2006-08 Biennial Budget provides for \$566 million in General Fund revenues for transportation, including \$339 million from the Transportation Reserve Fund, initiated at the behest of the House during budget negotiations in 2006.

To contact me, call 698-1099, email DelRWittman@house.state.va.us, or fax, 698-6799.



Do not mow

From Bob Wayland, White Stone

A VDOT crew recently mowed the marsh grass planted by students as part of a grant to the Soil and Water Conservation District to help protect Windmill Point Road from erosion. Unmown grass is shown in the foreground, just before the "VDOT Do Not Mow" sign.

Letters to the Editor

Growing on a rural scale

From Charlie Costello, Merry Point

This evening, February 15, the Lancaster planning commission will meet at 7 p.m. in the Lancaster District courtroom. The meeting will include discussion of four memoranda of much interest to county residents.

A year ago, five meetings were held to hear residents' concerns about revising the county's comprehensive plan. The prime concern of the majority was preserving the county's rural character. Another was affordable housing.

The first two memoranda were developed by LandDesign, the contractor hired by the county to address those concerns. While there are good things in the memoranda, I wonder about some of the "tools" discussed. Some appear to be more applicable to urban and suburban situations. They could destroy the rural character because of their potential for higher density than currently allowed.

The question of providing affordable housing is difficult. Provision for this must be included in the plan, but should not be solved solely by higher density.

The other memoranda discuss timbering and waste water treatment. They were developed by county staff. The waste water proposal is troubling if its premise is included in the subsequent comprehensive plan which would allow the extension of waste water treatment lines into areas not currently allowed. Individual applicants would not have to apply to the county, or be the subject of further public discussion.

Based on experience in other parts of Virginia, there is no greater catalyst for rapid growth and higher density than the extension of such lines. Loudon County is an example. There are needs in some parts of the county and potential solutions, but they should be employed on an individual basis, or at most a very limited local basis.

Citizens need to be aware of what is happening and to consider the long-term effects of proposals. We should be concerned about our county over the next 20 years and beyond. We need to adopt an attitude that bolsters the economic well-being of the citizens while protecting their desires for preserving the county's rural character.

Perhaps our slogan should be "Lancaster County growing on a rural scale." Please become involved. Your thoughts, ideas and desires need to be expressed.

Change zoning to prevent sprawl

From Robert S. Westbrook, DDS, Irvington

Many citizens are concerned about RW-C's requested permit to the DEQ that would allow RW-C to expand its waste water treatment facility and change its method of discharging treated waste water.

An alternative choice that was raised and discussed at the public meetings is for RW-C to be allowed to connect to the sewer line that extends from Kilmarnock and services Hills Quarter. This seems to be a very reasonable alternative to their requested permit and I admit to being a strong advocate for this approach until I considered the county's proposed remedy.

In an attempt to be responsive to RW-C's needs as well as the

general public, the county administration is suggesting that the easiest solution to this situation is to amend the comprehensive plan to allow Kilmarnock to negotiate with any and all interested private businesses, developers, and others for the purpose of delivering water and sewer outside the town's border.

This blanket authorization, if passed, would certainly solve the RW-C question and it would certainly also make life easier for the planning commission and the board of supervisors because it would eliminate considering future requests on a case by case basis.

No public hearings would be required and no public input would be sought. This proposed amendment will come before the county planning commission at their regular meeting tonight, February 15, at 7 p.m.

There are two entirely separate issues that have unfortunately and unfairly been linked in the minds of many people. Those opposed to RW-C's plans may feel compelled to support the proposed amendment and those that fear unchecked growth believe they must support RW-C. These are not the only two choices.

Please attend the meeting tonight and request that the planning commission forward a recommendation to the board of supervisors to separate these issues and decide each on their own merits.

We must not encourage the passage of this amendment until we have reviewed and changed our zoning and subdivision ordinances to prevent the type of sprawl most probable under our present codes.

Do not change zoning

From Nancy Reath, Irvington

I would like to address these remarks to the Lancaster board of supervisors and the planning commission.

I strongly urge you to reconsider the new comprehensive plan now being considered, to increase from two units per acre to six units per acre in a primary growth area.

There is no support for this among the people of these areas. Builders and developers, whose only motivation is unmitigated greed, are the only ones who will benefit from such a change.

This is still a beautiful, rural area; though unfortunately it is changing rapidly. The proposed rezoning will lead to precipitous growth, bringing with it all the problems of city and suburbia life: traffic, noise, pollution, water and waste problems, increased expense for municipal services, crime, higher taxes, etc. The list is endless. Is this the kind of area we want to pass on to those coming after us? Is this progress?

Please listen to the people who have elected you and not the developers. Do not change the existing zoning ordinances, designed to preserve our rural area.

Email your ADS to:



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Letters to the Editor

A plan for the county

From **Bill Warren,**
Weems

Much concern has been generated by a proposed Rappahannock Westminister-Canterbury plan to discharge up to 80,000 gallons of treated sewage and waste water per day into an unnamed tributary of Old Mill Cove.

The Commonwealth's Department of Environmental Quality and representatives of the Chesapeake Bay Foundation have assured Old Mill Cove residents and other concerned citizens that the DEQ application by RW-C prescribes techniques that will be an improvement over RW-C's existing practice of spraying its sewage and waste water onto a nearby field.

Although that sounds good and certainly DEQ and CBF are sincere in their beliefs, neither organization has been able to provide scientific evidence that the high concentration of bacteria, viruses and chemical toxins that are health care center by-products will be treated effectively by the proposed approach.

Instead, DEQ and CBF representatives have indicated that research evaluating the effects of constituents of medical waste is on-going at this time. The results of these efforts are not yet available and are not reflected in the list of chemical elements for which DEQ specifies maximum allowable percentages for safe discharge into the environment.

That substantial uncertainty combined with the possibility of events like Hurricane Isabel prematurely washing discharges into Old Mill Cove, does not leave its residents with good feelings about the potential effects on the local waters and property values.

Why should Old Mill Cove residents unnecessarily incur any risk when there is an existing, proven and available solution: the Kilmarnock municipal treatment facility?

That facility uses proven technology, is already meeting DEQ standards and is operating at about 40 percent of capacity. RW-C has indicated that it does not want to be in the waste water treatment business since it detracts attention and fiscal resources from its primary business.

The simple, no-risk solution to this problem is for RW-C to negotiate an agreement with Kilmarnock for the extension of lines to RW-C, and for the processing of sewage and waste water up to the 80,000 gpd level.

We are told that RW-C was negotiating an agreement with Kilmarnock more than a year ago, when a letter from the county abruptly ended the negotiations. The county indicated that by Virginia laws, such an extension would require authorization via an amendment to the county's comprehensive plan.

Since receipt of that letter, RW-C has not submitted a request for the county to amend its plan to authorize the extension. As a result, more than a year has been lost with no progress being made on an agreement for the extension.

If RW-C had submitted a timely request for an amendment to the plan, it is possible that it would have been amended already and that the discharge of 80,000 gpd into Old Mill Cove would be obsolete.

Meanwhile, the county is well along to updating its comprehensive plan as is required by state law every five years. The current version of the updated plan has the planning commission considering a regional approach to the extension of Kilmarnock waste water treatment lines.

Unfortunately, this approach will authorize not only RW-C, but all other potential users and developers to negotiate directly with Kilmarnock for the extension of sewage and waste water treatment services into an area defined as the Primary Growth Area. This is a triangle between Kilmarnock, White Stone and Irvington which is also marked in the current version of the plan for more intense development, including densities of six units per acre for townhouses and condominiums.

The regional approach considered by the planning commission is not a preferred solution to the RW-C issue with Old Mill Cove. In fact, the emergence of that issue during the update of the plan has increased the likelihood that regional municipal treatment services will become a reality within the PGA. This will create a very attractive climate for developers and will lead to accelerated development within the PGA.

Although the regional approach would allow the extension to RW-C, it has a major defect in that can alter the rural character of the PGA by facilitating rapid growth. This is not what Old Mill Cove residents and others intended

when they opposed the RW-C discharge. They want to see an extension from Kilmarnock to RW-C for its exclusive use.

Surely, the county is justified in authorizing a stand-alone extension. The county has already approved one such extension for the Merry Point Development Corporation's Hills Quarter development of some 600 units. RW-C deserves special consideration as a nonprofit institution and is a smaller 200-unit facility requesting a moderate increase in its discharge to accommodate a planned 52-unit expansion.

I recommend the following next steps. RW-C should immediately submit a request to the county to modify its comprehensive plan to authorize Kilmarnock treatment services for extension to RW-C.

Old Mill Cove residents and others should send letters and emails to their representatives on the planning commission and board of supervisors requesting that they approve such a request and that the representatives do so. Upon approval, RW-C should renew negotiations with Kilmarnock and upon agreement, withdraw its DEQ request for discharge into Old Mill Cove, or if already approved, then notify DEQ that it will not discharge into the cove.

This approach will enable RW-C to expand its health care services and solve its waste water problem. It will save Old Mill Cove and Carter Creek residents from environmental risk and it will not create an aggressive pro-development climate within the PGA.

Protect our rural character and resources

From **Joe Urban,**
Lancaster

Citizens of Lancaster—"the law is on your side." Do not believe the myth: Growth is coming and you cannot stop it.

The reality is growth may come, but citizens and local communities do not need to bend over at all costs to help it along.

Habitat, our water supplies and the Chesapeake Bay's water quality do not need to be sacrificed. Quality of life does not need to be sacrificed. We do not have to just take it.

Lancaster County has grown well at a measured pace and we should make sure any changes are necessary before making them. Why is our government not willing to protect the very things that make the county different? Will the "pitch" be, look at the quality of life and rural area—oh by the way, we plan to make it look like Reston, or Myrtle Beach or Virginia Beach or (pick one) right after you decide to buy here?

Where are the data and actual experiences in similar rural counties to validate the approaches being advocated?

Who benefits from what is proposed? I know of no locality in Virginia where increased density and development has not increased tax rates. That includes localities with proffers, which Lancaster does not have.

The process so far to revise the comprehensive plan appears to ignore what citizens and residents said they want: No increased density and preserve the rural character of the county. Instead the recommendations are for more density and more development. The additional density is on top of current zoning districts that are already more suburban than rural in lot sizes.

The proposed changes do not protect sensitive land or waters and provides no data to show that density increases or clustering will result in any better results than the current plan.

The proposed changes and discussion papers are at www.lancova.com under the public hearing schedule and at www.folcva.org/compplan.htm.

Plan to attend the planning commission meeting February 15 and the board of supervisors meeting February 22, and ask that the changes be sent back until they protect our rural character and natural resources.

Course of global warming not settled

From **Denis Ables,**
Mollusk

With reference to a letter published last week in the Record referring to the UN's report, there doesn't seem to be much question that climate warming is real. While there is evidence demonstrating that global warming has been occurring periodically for at least the last one million years, it is obvious that modern man's machinations are also having an impact on our environment and on global warming.

But this is quite different than taking the blame for global warming. The distinction is important because the best we can prob-

ably hope for is the capability to clean up our own act. Picking a fight with Mother Nature will not likely prove productive.

It turns out that the "well funded blitz" referred to by last week's writer has already been "outed" as a bogus claim, according to a recent editorial in the Wall Street Journal. Exxon is evidently considering suing the people who began circulating that claim.

Yet, even assuming the writer's claim that "major industries have a huge economic interest in maintaining the status quo on the use of fossil fuels," that same skepticism should be employed to question the agenda of others, such as the U.N. and Europe, and our own politicians, bureaucrats and some of our environmental scientists.

The environmentalists, politicians and bureaucrats seek more money and/or power, and probably many of the scientists feeding at the federal-grant trough are getting a bigger bang chanting "global warming" than merely calling for support to study our effect on climate.

The U.N. has released its "executive report," but it will be months before the scientific report becomes available. The conclusions in the scientific report will be constrained to agree with the executive summary. Most European countries, probably most of the world, appear enthusiastic about shackling the U.S. economy via the Kyoto treaty while ignoring the cleanup schedules that they have long promised to meet.

A well publicized piece of "settled science" recently disappeared from the global warmers agenda when the "hockey stick graph" argument turned out to be bogus, which is even admitted by the U.N.

Another recent discovery, not yet accepted by the U.N. as "settled science," suggests global warming is caused by periodic variations in solar radiation which, if true, is more evidence confirming that global warming has been around for a very long time.

Most climate models, all of which are interesting and "unsettled," project much smaller effects on temperature variation, probably because the modelers focused on man's contribution and did not consider Mother Nature.

Finally, very little of the data referenced in Singer's book is derived from "unsettled science." His book includes cross validation of results from much evidence reported by unrelated investigations from different countries using well established measurement techniques.

When there are many credible scientists on both sides of an issue, the only conclusion is that more scrutiny is needed. Declaring the larger number to be the "winner" has not been a very useful predictor for establishing the "truth."

More than a breakfast

From **Fred Ajootian,**
Ocran

The White Stone Department of Homeland Security, otherwise known as the White Stone Volunteer Fire Department, is a group of men who, in addition to working and bringing up families, stand ready to help their neighbors when fires or other emergencies occur.

They maintain their equipment and the firehouse, keep up their training, raise a substantial amount of the money necessary to operate, and once a year, serve breakfast at the firehouse.

They serve a complete meal, with sausages, eggs, bacon, pancakes, rolls, coffee, and best of all—hake fish, potatoes and bacon gravy. All these delicacies are available aplenty, along with a generous quantity of early morning banter and blather as old friends greet each other at the next table, or across the room.

The warmth and friendship are part of the meal, and a dull February morning glows in spite of the cold.

Traditionally, this breakfast is held on Super Bowl Sunday, but a football game is only football, while White Stone Fireman's breakfast is a meal to remember all year.

And remember, the White Stone Fire Department is our first line of defense.

Ode to Grandmother's House

From **Kathryn C. Smith,**
White Stone
(Inspired by "Over the River" by Lydia Maria Child, 1844)

Over the rivah and right by the PUD,
To Grandmother's house we go;
Big developers know the way
To make some more hay,
And end up rolling in dough.

Where one house once stood,
Now it doesn't look so good;
Six condos sit there today.
But is this the right way
To change our old neighborhood?

Over the rivah and right by the PUD,
To Grandmother's condo we go;
Straight through a locked gate,
It may not be too late
If everyone gets to know.

That this is the plan for our wonderland
That is being discussed tonight.
So go to the show,
And let them all know,
And maybe they'll get it right.

Six houses per acre instead of just one,
If nobody speaks at the PC meeting tonight.
So go to the show,
And let them all know,
We don't want six; one or two is about right.

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February 22nd
2 pm at the Library
7 pm at Town Hall

Trails - a Park - Public/Private Facilities

Sixteen Prime Acres in Steptoe's District

Town/County/School Board Facilities?

Share your vision.

Feb. 15 x



Notice of a Call for a Northumberland County Republican Mass Meeting

A Northumberland County Republican Mass Meeting will be held on Thursday, February 22, 2007 at 7:30 p.m. at the Northumberland County Public Library in Heathsville, Va. Registration begins at 7:00 p.m. The purpose of this meeting is to nominate a candidate for the Circuit Court Clerk of Northumberland County.

Candidates for this position must file a written statement of candidacy with Allen Webb at P.O. Box 126, Callao, Va. 22435 or hand-carried to 135 Hampton Hall Rd., Callao, Va. which must be received by 6:00 p.m., Feb. 21, 2007. All Republicans of Northumberland County are encouraged to attend. The complete Call to the Northumberland County Mass Meeting can be found at www.vagop.org.

Authorized and paid for by the Northumberland County Republican Committee



1957 Rescue Squad

Kilmarnock Lancaster County Volunteer Rescue Squad
Celebrating 50 years of serving the community
1957-2007

Stop Smoking in one hour with hypnosis

Hands up all those smokers who made New Year's resolutions to give up tobacco. And how many of you are right back to 20, 30, 40 plus a day? All you nicotine junkies who really want to quit but can't summon up the wherewithal to do it might be interested to know that there is a man who claims he can convince even the most hardened smokers to stop - in just one hour!

Jim Seder uses a hypnosis technique that turns cigarette addicts into non-smokers in sixty minutes. He claims that their system has a 95% success rate, and there is a back-up session for the remaining 5%. The success rate of the system was established in a study conducted over a two year period in which people were contacted after one month and after six months to ensure that they were still non-smokers.

In fact, he is so confident of success that he offers a lifetime guarantee. If you ever start smoking again you can schedule a back-up session at no extra charge.

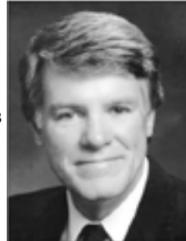
Seder is a hypnotherapist in Kilmarnock with over twenty-five years of experience in helping people to stop smoking. He has successfully treated over three thousand clients and is certified by the National Guild of Hypnotists, which is the largest hypnosis organization in the world. He is also certified by the International Medical and Dental Hypnotherapy Association.

Doctors Pleased

Doctors are so impressed with the medical benefits that they are now working with Mr. Seder by referring more and more of their patients for hypnosis. Says Seder, "We have a GP referral network. We regularly correspond with doctors about the health and success of our clients."

As Jim explains, "This unique, precise breakthrough technique combines hypnosis with a new science known as Neuro-Linguistic Programming. This takes the power of hypnosis to a new level in helping people to take back control of their lives without cigarettes. He continues, "I must emphasize that to achieve success the client has to want to overcome the problem. I can't make a person do something he or she does not want to do. But if the client does want to end the smoking habit then our program can be almost 100% successful."

Phone New Directions Hypnosis now at (800) 351-0244, and then smoke your last cigarette.
www.newdirectionshypnosis.com



"I walked out a non-smoker"

"I smoked for 32 years. I tried patches, gum, cold turkey. I didn't have the willpower. Hypnosis was my last resort. I was amazed at how easily I quit with hypnosis. I walked in the door a smoker and out the door an hour later a nonsmoker. I had no urge or desire for cigarettes.

"I look and feel vibrant. I have not had an asthma attack. I handle stress without even thinking about cigarettes. I am extremely satisfied with my results."

Sandy Green

Hypnosis Takes Place of Willpower

"When I went to navy boot camp I started smoking. It lasted 3 years. I met a shipbuilder who smoked cigars. That's when I started cigars. Most people smoke 4 or 5 a day. I was smoking 4 or 5 packs a day!

"I tried the patches. The gum tasted awful. I tried subliminal messages. I read about hypnosis in the newspaper. Hypnosis did the trick. I have been a nonsmoker more than 6 months. Hypnosis took the place of willpower. I've saved more than \$3000 since I quit smoking. That makes it well worth it! I am constantly telling other people to give hypnosis a try. I say go for it!

Steve McVey
Ironworker

Letters to the Editor

Be heard

From **Jerry Hamm,**
Weems

If you have any interest in seeing Lancaster County retain its rural character, you need to make yourself heard now.

The planning commission, on Thursday, February 15, will address a draft of chapter 7 of the revised comprehensive plan. Included in this draft is a proposal to designate a Primary Development Area (PDA) which encompasses the entire triangle from Kilmarnock down Routes 200 and 222 to Weems, from Kilmarnock down Route 3 to White Stone, and all of the area in between.

The county proposes that "The vast majority of all new higher density residential and intensive commercial activity will be directed to the Primary Growth Area" from other areas of the county. Further, the county proposes to increase the residential density in the PDA from the existing limitation of 1.5 units per acre without available sewer and water or 2.2 units per acre with available sewer and water to a new density of 6 to 8 units per acre.

What is wrong with this proposal?

The concept of the PDA is totally in conflict with the overwhelming expression of the attendees at recent public input sessions, who almost universally expressed a desire for the county to retain its rural character. People expressed a great desire to preserve the concept of open spaces interspersed with small villages. To carve out a huge block of the county in a single contiguous area and permit vastly increased density therein is certainly not consistent with preservation of rural character throughout the county.

There is no commanding reason to increase the density limitations, beyond the existing limits, anywhere in the county. Sufficient land is available in all areas of the county for development in the foreseeable future, and certainly far beyond the effective time period of this revision of the comprehensive plan. In residentially-zoned (R-1) areas, there is no reason to reduce minimum

lot sizes below the 30,000- and 20,000-square-foot limits which now exist.

"Primary" growth should occur naturally, within the constraints of zoning ordinances, preferably within the town limits of the existing incorporated towns, and therein should be controlled by the towns. What would be the logic, for example, of a hypothetical situation where a town limited the minimum lot size to 1.0 acre and the county allowed 6 to 8 units per acre immediately outside the town limits? Wouldn't that seem a bit strange? Have the officials of the incorporated towns been solicited for their input on this concept?

If there were a circumstance whereby a PDA proved to be desirable, the proposed one is excessively and inappropriately large. As proposed, it encompasses the entire triangle from Kilmarnock to Weems, from Kilmarnock to White Stone, and all of the area between. There are vast areas included where there is presently no indication of developmental pressure that would indicate any need for increased density.

The idea that the county can redirect development from other areas of the county to the PDA is likely fallacious. Further, why should the county designate a specific area of the county to be "sacrificial" in an attempt to "protect" the remainder of the county?

People expressed a desire for the entire county to retain its rural character, not just selected segments of it.

Please, make your opinion heard. This is a very important matter for us all and the future character of Lancaster County is at stake. Attend the planning commission meeting at 7 p.m. tonight (Thursday, February 15).

Episcopal Church follows Jesus

From **Howard Hauchey,**
Ottoman

The letter in last week's Rappahannock Record, written by a member of St. Stephen's Nigerian Anglican Church in Heathsville, deserves a response.

Using second-hand material, the writer suggests, indeed does more than suggest, that the Episcopal Church in the United States is "tarnished" and the Nigerian Anglican Church is "untarnished."

Is this so? And what does he mean? Further, what does this statement make of the Episcopal Churches in the Northern Neck, a home to friends and colleagues of yours and mine? Two of these churches have been among us for over 300 years. Are these congregations, full of colleagues, friends and neighbors, "tarnished?"

The Nigerian Anglican Church and the American Episcopal Church are divided because of the respect the American Episcopal Church accords both women and homosexual persons and the way in which the Bible encourages us in this direction. The Episcopal Church's respect for the place of women in leadership positions dates to the early years of the 20th century. Our increasing respect for homosexual persons dates to perhaps the 1970s. Further, the Nigerian Anglican Church says the Bible does not support the views held by the American Episcopal Church.

The Anglican Church in Africa is constrained by a tribal heritage they much value. In fact, it is all they know. It is a culture permitting the genital mutilation of young girls. It believes that men are made to rule the community, that women are at their best serving men. In that attitude, if a woman is raped she is shunned for life; if a woman is caught in a conjugal relationship outside marriage, she can be stoned. There is no such punishment for men found in such circumstances, which is not surprising, since men wrote the rules and still make them.

In this "untarnished" Nigerian Anglican Church you find no women clergy, no women in leadership positions, nor do you find those attitudes about life in community that we in America have come to value.

In America we have learned to value the dignity of every human being. Much of this attitude rests in the Christian gospel. Thomas Jefferson wrote that all people "are endowed by their Creator

with certain unalienable rights, that among these are life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness." This attitude does not yet show much in fundamental Islam. We may not be perfect in our execution of Jefferson's hope, just as he was not. But we do value this vision as the hope that it is, a hope for the whole world.

Meanwhile, in Heathsville the remaining faithful of St. Stephen's Episcopal Church have been cast out of their building. Better than 50 strong, now, but maybe less than the majority who kicked them out of their beloved building, these now homeless Christians worship each Sunday in a neighboring Methodist church, a faith community which has been, for them, like the good Samaritan who, a long, long time ago, once took care of a traveler set upon by robbers and thieves. In the Episcopal Church nationally, a vast majority of clergy and lay leaders affirm the dignity of every person, welcoming all, whether heterosexual or homosexual. Are these faithful Episcopalians indeed "tarnished?"

The Nigerian Anglican Church in Heathsville has another kind of leadership, as do the few dissonant Episcopal Churches in northern Virginia, representing perhaps 10 percent of the Episcopal Diocese of Virginia. What are the dissonant congregations about? Listen with half an ear and you will hear more about the Deuteronomic law and the strong legal tradition in the Bible than you will hear of the mercy and justice of Christ.

Particularly, you will not hear the voice of Jesus in his summary of the law when he said that loving God and your neighbor as yourself is the great commandment and that from this "hangs all the law and the prophets."

Jesus nuances the Deuteronomic law and tradition with mercy and justice. We don't hear much about this in the Nigerian Anglican church. In the Episcopal Church, you will hear the more welcoming and authentic Gospel.

The American Episcopal Church, responding to the directives of Jesus, does indeed walk a different path from the Nigerian Anglican Church.

Rep. Davis introduced several bills to open 110th Congress

Rep. Jo Ann Davis recently introduced a series of bills to open the new Congressional session.

The bills include:

The Northern Neck National Heritage Area Study Act (HR 73), which calls for a study and report on establishing the Northern Neck National Heritage Area. This would include the eastern coastal part of Virginia between the Potomac and Rappahannock rivers; Westmoreland, Northumberland, Richmond, King George, and Lancaster counties, and other areas that have similar heritage aspects.

Rep. Davis has been meeting with the Northern Neck Planning District Commission, the National Park Service and constituents to discuss plans for the Heritage Area Designation.

The Disabled Veteran Small Business Eligibility Expansion Act of 2007 (HR 6041) would amend the Small Business Act and allow small businesses that are owned and controlled by service-disabled veterans to be eligible for the Small Business Administration (SBA) business development grants in the same manner that small businesses owned and controlled by socially and economically disadvantaged individuals are eligible for the award.

The Veterans Health Ben-

efits Voluntary Option Act of 2007 (HR 5044) would amend the Internal Revenue Code to allow an extension of the three-year limitation period for filing refund claims to members of the uniformed services whose retired pay in any taxable year is reduced due to an award of disability compensation by the Department of Veterans Affairs. This extension could be up until one year after the date of a disability determination.

The Solid Waste Interstate Transportation Act (HR 274), would provide state and local control over waste imports. The measure would allow local control over limiting waste if a landfill imports under 100,000 tons a year by instituting a "presumptive ban" which would stop imports to a landfill unless that landfill has a host agreement. If a landfill imports over 100,000 tons, the state would have control over limiting imports and would be able to cap percentages coming in.

The State Waste Empowerment and Enforcement Provision Act (HR 70), would amend the Solid Waste Disposal Act to authorize a state to limit, place restrictions on, or otherwise regulate out-of-state municipal solid waste received or disposed of annually at each landfill or incinerator in the state.

Helping to reduce drug prices (HR 118) would amend part D of the 2003 Medicare Law to authorize the Secretary of Health and Human Services to negotiate prices for part D covered drugs for medicare beneficiaries. Currently, by law, the Department of Veterans Affairs negotiates to secure better prices for the 4.4 million veterans who use its drug benefit. With a much larger pool of Medicare beneficiaries, prices could be lower for this group as well.

The Federal Firefighters Fairness Act (HR 697) would amend Federal law to provide first responders who develop diseases such as heart disease, lung disease, specified cancers and infectious diseases should be presumed to be caused by their job. Also, if a first responder's disability or death in fire protection activities results from such diseases, it would also be presumed to be the result of injury sustained while performing their job.

The National Navy Force Structure Policy Act (HR 375) would require our current naval fleet of 278 ships to increase in order to meet emerging threats around the world.

To Extend Recognition to the Rappahannock Tribe (HR 5130). This measure would provide federal recognition to the Rappahan-

nock Tribe in Virginia, granting members of the tribe eligibility for all services and benefits the federal government provides to recognized tribes. The service area of the Rappahannock Tribe would include King and Queen, Caroline, Essex, Spotsylvania, Stafford and Richmond counties in Virginia.

The Women's Health and Cancer Rights Conforming Amendments (HR 437) would require group health plans to include coverage for post-mastectomy reconstructive surgery.

The Breast Cancer Patient Protection Act (HR 1849) would require group health plans or insurers offering group health coverage that provides medical and surgical benefits to ensure that inpatient and in some cases outpatient coverage and radiation treatment are provided. Under this bill, the plan or insurer must notify patients and their beneficiary about the coverage required under the Act and must ensure that full coverage is provided by the secondary consultations by appropriate specialists to confirm or refute a cancer diagnosis.

The Higher Education Science and Technology Competitiveness Act (HR 226) would strengthen and increase scientific and technological education capabilities within associate-degree colleges through establishing arrangements with bachelor-degree institutions. This bill would allow associate-degree colleges to use and benefit from the programs and curriculum used by bachelor-degree institutions.

For more information on any of these bills, visit www.house.gov/joandavis, or www.thomas.gov.

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The Queen's Court
Heads Up

JEWELRY
FACTS

BY ROSS CHRISTIANSEN



The largest diamond ever found, the Cullinan, weighed 3,106 carats or about 1 1/2 pounds. Some experts believe that two-thirds of this enormous stone may have broken off in mining and retrieved as much smaller stones. As the supply of diamonds is depleted, such finds are increasingly rare. This may never be equalled.

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Yesteryear in Lancaster

(A reprint from the February 15, 1907, issue of the Virginia Citizen.)

An Oyster Exhibit.

Editor Citizen: I noticed in the Citizen of last week an article on the idea of opening an oyster house at the Jamestown Exposition and mentioning my name as a possible builder.

Now, this would meet with my approval, provided I could secure the privilege of getting in there at no cost—or, at no great cost. I suppose you are in position to know about what would be necessary to get in on the grounds, and if you will be kind enough to let me know some particulars I will

consider the matter of putting up an exhibit. Of course I cannot say anything definite as yet, but think we ought to have some exhibit of oysters there.

Yours very truly,
J. H. WHEALTON
Whealton, Va. (Morattico)

Afri-American Notes

The members of Hartswell Baptist Church of Ottoman, met

at the above church a few nights ago and re-elected Rev. Dennis Fields as their pastor for another year, and as a token of their friendship and love for him they presented him a fat purse for a New Year's gift, which was highly appreciated by the pastor.

(Transcribed by Stephen Redd, volunteer of the Mary Ball Washington Museum and Library.)



From cleaning to banking
and everything in between,
She's nosy and old but
best known as the
lottery queen.
Happy 50th Birthday
Angie Taylor!
Love,
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• Dine out on Fat Tuesday •



From left, Will Slaughter, Nick Slaughter, Randy Neal and Rev. Ted Tulis prepare for the pancake supper.

Fleeton men to serve 49th pancake supper

The men of St. Mary's Church in Fleeton, will serve their 47th consecutive Shrove Tuesday pancake supper on February 20. Since 1960 this event has been planned, prepared and served by the men and boys of the church. The supper will be available from 5 p.m. to 7 p.m., and the cost will be \$6 for adults and \$4 for children.

The menu includes sausage,

apples, pancakes, and coffee, tea, or milk. Seconds are readily available for especially hungry guests.

St. Mary's Church is at Fleeton Point. When approaching the beginning of Main Street in Reedville, take Fleeton Road, which bears slightly left and goes straight ahead. The church is a white frame structure near the end of the road and on the right.

Anglicans plan feast, praise

The people of St. Stephen's Church (Anglican) in Heathsville will hold an informal praise and worship service followed by a pancake supper in the parish hall Tuesday, February 20, at 6 p.m.

This event, "Prayer, Praise and Pancakes," is the second annual such celebration of the night preceding Ash Wednesday, which marks the beginning of the penitential season of Lent leading to Easter Sunday.

It will be the first of several such services planned for the coming

year. The pancake supper will be prepared and served by a men's group called the Levites.

In the weeks following Ash Wednesday, the church will offer Thursday evening Lenten programs on the challenge of being witnesses to Christ in an increasingly secular world. Schools, public life and media, the justice system and prisons, and health care will be discussed. The programs will begin at 7 p.m. following a homemade soup supper at 6 p.m.

Methodist supper to benefit hungry

White Stone United Methodist Church will sponsor a pancake supper Tuesday, February 20, from 5:30 to 7 p.m. in the fellowship hall. Tickets are \$5. Proceeds will benefit World Hunger.

An Ash Wednesday Service will follow in the sanctuary at 7 p.m.

Trinity to flip flapjacks

Trinity Episcopal Church in Lancaster will be flipping flapjacks Tuesday, February 20, at its annual Shrove Tuesday pancake supper from 5 to 7 p.m.

"We've been hosting this pancake supper for so long we can't remember how many years it's been since we started," said senior warden Janet Christopher. "But we do know the plates are stacked and the spirits are high that night. It puts the fun in fund-raiser."

Christopher urged folks to come early while the food is plentiful. Take-out meals are available. There is no set charge for the meal, but donations are accepted.

For more information about the pancake supper



Hayden Davenport is ready to pour on the syrup and devour his yummy pancakes at Trinity Episcopal Church's annual pancake supper.

or the Ash Wednesday services the following day at Trinity and St. Mary's Whitechapel, call the church office at 462-5908.

Mardi Gras (French for "Fat Tuesday") is the day before Ash Wednesday, and is also called "Shrove Tuesday" or "Pancake Day". It is the final day of Carnival. It is a celebration that is held just before the beginning of the Christian liturgical season of Lent.

- From wikipedia.org

Local News

Ken and Bernie Myers of Farnham Creek Road, Warsaw, were guests last Friday of her brother and sister-in-law, Ernie and Nan Flynn, in south Ditchley.

Mrs. Jim Blankenship was in Flint, Mich., several days last weekend with her son, David, to help him get settled in his new home.

Mark Sellow and daughter, Lindy, of Williamsburg were with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Warren Sellow, last weekend.

Brian and Dawn Conley and son, Joey, of Severn, Md., were weekend guests of Brian's grandmother, Mrs. Toty Dixon.

Wallace Carter was in Bridgewater several days this

week to be with his grandchildren, Sam, Sarah and Steve, while their parents, Dr. and Mrs. Kevin Carter, attended a veterinary conference.

Mr. and Mrs. Peter Braatz have returned from an extended visit with their daughter and her family, Dr. and Mrs. C.S. Ivie and infant son, Jackson, in Hilton Head, S.C. The Ivies will be moving to Bennington, Vermont. En route home, the Braatz' visited longtime good friends, Mr. and Mrs. Max Van Voorst in Southport, N.C.

Ms. Parks Covarrubias of Castle Rock, Co., and her brother, Steve Baskerville, and son, Eric, of Norfolk were at the Baskerville home on Prentice Creek several days this week.

Ms. Betty Brown of Fairfax was the guest of her brother-in-law and sister, Mr. and Mrs.

Tom Spafford, for several days last weekend.

Mr. and Mrs. Steve Larson and Mrs. Sandy Quillan visited Mr. Quillan at Henrico Doctors Hospital on Sunday. They were pleased to find him somewhat improved.

Graham Kenneth Reiblich and Nicole Spamone of Tucson, Ariz., visited with his grandmother, Mrs. W. R. Keyser, and Mr. Keyser at their Kent Cove home on Saturday as they traveled from Cape May, N.J., to West Palm Beach, Fla., to relocate.



Mr. and Mrs. McClintock Brockenborough Haynie Lindsey

Lindsey-Bedell nuptials held

The marriage of Miss Elizabeth Dickson Bedell to McClintock Brockenborough Haynie Lindsey, was held June 3, 2006, at St. Luke's Chapel in Charleston, S.C., with the Rev. Robert H. Armstrong of Chester officiating.

The bride is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Dickson Johnston Bedell of Richmond. The groom is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Aubrey Lee Lindsey Jr. of Chester.

The bride was escorted by her father and given in marriage by her parents. She is the granddaughter of Delmar Lee Brown of Richmond and the late Maude Armistead Brown, and the late Mr. and Mrs. Louis Wood Bedell Sr., all formerly of Richmond. Alice Miles of Kilmarnock made the bride's dress and veil.

The groom is the grandson of the late Mr. and Mrs. M.B. Haynie formerly of Kilmarnock, and the late Mr. and Mrs. Aubrey Lee Lindsey Sr., formerly of Chester.

Miss Jessica Lynn Pruden of Richmond was maid of honor.

Bridesmaids were Margaret Benham Thomas and McQueen Sauer Calvert of New York, Meredith Anne Heighington of Toronto, Canada, Galen Patricia McLennan of London, England, Kathleen Michelle Graham of Mooresville, N.C., and Anne

Stewart Park Ellis of Chester. Colby Lee Bedell and Mallory Layne Bedell of Richmond, cousins of the bride, were the junior bridesmaid and flower girl.

The groom's brother, Aubrey Lee Lindsey III of Goochland, was best man.

Groomsmen were Todd Armistead Bedell, brother of the bride, and William Scott Kain of Richmond, Dr. Jonathan Hunter Ellis and Michael Stone Garrison of Chester, Christopher James Darden of Waynesboro, Alexander Daffron Hendrick of Charlottesville, and Jonathan David Ridout of Midlothian.

The readers were Reginald Hudson Bedell, uncle of the bride, of Essex, N.Y., and James Andrew Dyson of Chester.

The rehearsal dinner was given by the groom's parents at High Cotton on the Battery. The reception was held at The Wickliffe House.

The bride attended East Carolina University and graduated from Virginia Commonwealth University. She is employed by New Kent County public schools.

The groom is a graduate of James Madison University and is pursuing a master's at the College of William and Mary.

The couple lives in Williamsburg.

Milton Conrad will speak to seniors club

The Corrotoman Seniors will meet Tuesday, February 20, at 10 a.m. at the Ruritan Club near Lively.

Milton Conrad will be the guest speaker.

Hostesses will be Thomas and Thelma Stevens, Fannie Clingan and Nancy George.

Upcoming activities include a day trip to the Riverside Theatre in Fredericksburg to see "Shenandoah," May 16; Tunica, Miss., August 4 to 10 and Christmas in Nashville, November 25 to 30.

Plan to bring a friend and an envelope to play Bingo.

Bring a sandwich for lunch. Dessert and beverage will be provided.

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• Gardener News •

Symposium attracts experts in the field of bay restoration

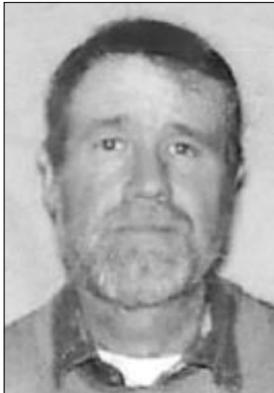
On Tuesday, February 20, the 7th annual conservation symposium presented by the Garden Club of the Northern Neck will take place at the Bayne Center at Christ Church near Irvington. The topic is "The Restoration of the Bay."

The history of oysters in the Chesapeake Bay and their management, including past and future efforts at restoration by the Virginia Marine Resources Commission (VMRC), will be discussed by James A. Wesson III. He heads the VMRC Conservation and Replenishment Department and has worked for many years with oyster restoration projects. He has a bachelor's and a master's from Virginia Tech and a doctorate from the University of Wisconsin-Madison.

Cleaning up the Chesapeake Bay may seem like a very large undertaking, too large for the average citizen to do anything to make matters better. However, Thomas Leggett, manager



Jeffrey Corbin



Tommy Leggett

of the Chesapeake Bay Foundation's Oyster Aquaculture Program, will explain that, actually, there are a number of very simple actions the average homeowner can take to make a difference. Collectively, these small behavioral changes can make significant improvements in the health of the bay.

Leggett has a master's in marine science from the Vir-

ginia Institute of Marine Science, College of William and Mary, and over 20 years' experience in commercial fishing, policy making and restoration. He grows approximately 100,000 oysters annually and serves as the Virginia oyster restoration and fisheries scientist.

Jeffrey Corbin, Assistant Secretary of Natural Resources, will discuss the

findings of the Blue Ribbon Oyster Panel, made up of members of VMRC and the Department of Natural Resources. Appointed by Gov. Tim Kaine in January 2006, Corbin has responsibility for helping formulate environmental policy in Virginia for the next four years.

He was formerly the Virginia deputy director and senior scientist for the Chesapeake Bay Foundation where he worked on natural resource issues, ranging from oyster restoration to water quality impacts from sewage treatment plants and agricultural and livestock activities.

Corbin has a bachelor's in marine science from the University of South Carolina and a master's in oceanography from the University of Rhode Island.

Refreshments will be served at 9:30 a.m. and the program will start at 10:00 a.m. Seating is limited; RSVP olsenj@crosslink.net, or Dana Smith, dysmith@kaballero.com.

Not Just Desserts 'groovin' to the '60s

Dust off those bell bottoms hidden in your closet—Not Just Desserts 2007 is groovin' to the '60s.

The 14th annual Not Just Desserts is a themed, fund-raising event for the Gloucester Montessori School (GMS), a non-profit institution that has been a part of the Gloucester community for more than 25 years. The event will take place at Abingdon Ruritan Center on February 23 from 7 to 10 p.m.

"This is our main fund-raiser, but it's also a fun event," said Pat Landau, the head of GMS. "Where else can you sample a variety of cuisine from local res-

taurants all in one night?" The event will boast live music provided by Joey and the Jammers, as well as cuisine provided by El Ranchito, River's Inn, Applebee's, Red, White and Bordeaux, Olivia's, Sweet Madeleine's, Kelly's Kitchen and Mobjack Bay Seafood, and Wawa.

Live and silent auctions will take place, with auction services provided by Lanny Phillips.

Tickets are \$30 per person and \$55 per pair. Tickets are available at Mathews Visitor Center, the Red, White and Bordeaux and Gloucester Montessori School, 693-6455.

Leedstown Resolutions to be commemorated

The Northern Neck of Virginia Historical Society will sponsor a commemoration of the signing of the Leedstown Resolutions February 27 at the Westmoreland County Museum in Montross at 10:30 a.m.

This will be the 241st anniversary of the signing of the document that preceded the Declaration of Independence.

The program will last a half hour with a welcome by the

society's president, Virginia Brown. Society officers will set the background for the resolutions and read them and the names of signers.

Del. Rob Wittman will then comment on a resolution he has introduced in the legislature concerning the resolutions.

The Hon. Tayloe Murphy will give the closing remarks. All attendees will receive a copy of the resolutions.

Rev. Robertson to discuss sailing aboard the Godspeed

The Lancaster Community Library's Sundays at Two program on Sunday, February 18, will be presented by the Rev. Terry Robertson, whose talk, "Godspeed: The voyage that changed the world," will focus on the 1607 voyage of the Susan Constant, Godspeed and Discovery.

He will describe life aboard the ships, the hardships and events that took place during the voyage, and provide a picture of some of the dangers of sea travel during the 17th century.

As a volunteer crew member and costumed interpreter on the Godspeed's 2006 U.S. East Coast voyage, he will contrast the two voyages, their similarities and differences.

The past three years as a Jamestown Settlement volunteer, Robertson has been involved in everything from ship maintenance and sailing to participating in the 2005 film "The New World."

He will again sail with the ships in April and May for the 400th anniversary commemoration of their landing at Jamestown.

Robertson graduated from the U.S. Coast Guard Academy in 1971 with a bachelor's in engineering.

He flew HH3F helicopters for the Coast Guard before resigning to attend Divinity School at Duke University where he received a master's of divinity in 1985.



The Rev. Terry Robertson

He served in the military for 30 years, the last 12 as a Navy chaplain, and retired in 1998. A new career as a Presbyterian pastor followed and this month concludes one and a half years as Campbell Presbyterian Church's interim pastor.

He will start a permanent pastorate in Florida in March. All Sundays at Two programs are free. Talks are followed by coffee and refreshments.

Upcoming programs are March 4 with Carolyn Kreiter-Foronda, poet laureate of Virginia, "Splash of Crimson in River Country"; and March 18 with Susan Anthony-Tolbert, "Harp Journey: the Instruments and the Players."

Anniversary Garden advocate to speak

Virginia Beach master gardener Liz Maurer will be one of three speakers at the March 24 gardening seminar, "Plants, Places and Pleasures - The Best in Virginia Gardening" at the White Stone Church of the Nazarene Family Life Center, from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.

The event will be presented by the Northern Neck

Master Gardeners and Virginia Cooperative Extension Service.

Maurer will describe the effect of European, African and Native American horticultural influences expressed in the Jamestown settlement.

She has been involved in developing the concept of "America's Anniversary Garden" and designed the sig-

nature three-ship logo to publicize the event.

Maurer travels the state to encourage planting of the red, white and blue America's Anniversary Gardens.

"Without Jamestown, we would be a much different country," Maurer said.

She is active in the Virginia Beach Master Gardeners where she serves as education chairman, a speakers bureau presenter, and representative to the state Master Gardener organization.

A student as well as a teacher, in 2005 she earned a master's in horticulture from Virginia Tech.

Maurer is familiar with the growing conditions in the Northern Neck.

She has worked for years to build up organic matter in the sandy soils at her home in Virginia Beach which is on a hill overlooking sand dunes.

Other speakers will include environmental scientist and water quality expert Frank Reilly and newspaper columnist, PBS host and author Richard Nunnally.

Reilly will speak on the principles and practice of low impact development as a part of an environmentally benign



Master Gardeners invite three Virginians to speak at public seminar.

landscape.

Nunnally will discuss plants that thrive in the Northern Neck. He is the author of *Best Garden Plants for Virginia*.

Admission is \$25 in advance and \$30 at the door. A box lunch is available for \$10 with advance registration.

To register, send check, name, address, phone, and email address to Northern Neck Master Gardener Association, Northumberland County Extension Office, P.O. Box 400, Heathsville, VA 22473.

Fruit tree pruning clinic offered February 24

The Northern Neck Master Gardeners will present a pruning clinic February 24 for homeowners who would like to learn techniques for pruning fruit trees.

The clinic will be held at 10 a.m. at 1013 Coan Harbour Drive in Lottsburg.

The clinic is sponsored by the Virginia Cooperative Extension to provide educational instruction in horticultural activities. Participants will receive instruction on proper pruning techniques, observe applications of these techniques, and then prune

under the tutelage of a Master Gardener.

Apple, pear, plum and peach trees will be pruned. Handouts summarizing technique will be provided. Participants should bring their own equipment.

In Lottsburg, look for the Auction House. Turn on Lake Road north (toward the Potomac). Then take the first left on Coan Harbour Drive. Proceed to 1013 Coan Harbour Drive, a tan stucco house on the left with trees in front.

The fee is \$5. Proceeds will be used for Master Gardener programs.

African American cultural heritage to be celebrated at Stratford Hall

A special exhibit, performances by the New Jerusalem Sunshine Choir, the Siloam Praise Dancers and the Siloam Youth Praise Dancers, traditional African American storytelling with songs and a "Please Touch" area for children, will be among the featured activities at Stratford on February 24.

The special exhibit entitled "Bondage, Resistance and Emancipation: The African American Experience at Stratford" will be featured all day in the Visitor Center. Great House tours during the day also will focus on the lives of slaves at Stratford.

The New Jerusalem Sunshine Choir from the New Jerusalem Baptist Church in Kinsale will perform in the Visitor Center from 12:30 to 1:30 p.m. and from 2:30 to 3:30 p.m. The Siloam Praise Dancers and Siloam Youth Praise Dancers from Siloam Baptist Church in Montross will perform from 1:30 to 2:30 p.m., also in the Visitor Center. Refreshments will be served from noon to 4 p.m.

Traditional African American storytelling and songs will be featured in the Southwest outbuilding from noon to 4 p.m.

The "Please Touch" area for children will feature Colonial tools and objects and will take place in the warming kitchen of the Great House from noon to 4 p.m.

Regular admission rates will apply on February 24. For more information and a complete calendar of events, please visit www.stratfordhall.org.

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Lydia, a Borzoi, will accompany her owner, Kathy Juron of Kilmarnock, as a model for an upcoming luncheon and fashion show.

An afternoon with the dogs

The Northern Neck Kennel Club will host a luncheon and fashion show March 3 at Indian Creek Yacht and Country Club. Companion and Therapy dogs will accompany the models.

Stores providing spring fashions and accessories include Wildest Dreams in Burgess, Dandelion in Irvington, Peppers in White Stone, Foxy in Kilmarnock, Dawson's Ltd., The Sports Centre in Kilmarnock and the Indian Creek Yacht and Country Club Golf Shop.

The event is a fund-raiser for the club. Tickets are \$25.

Gwen Kane, accompanied by Isadora, her Maltese, will emcee the event.

For reservations, call 435-0737, or 435-2618.

Area Events

Telling stories

"Telling Our Stories: School Desegregation in Western Virginia," will be presented by Dr. Theodore C. DeLaney at noon at the Virginia Historical Society at 428 North Boulevard in Richmond. Dr. DeLaney is an associate professor of history and director of the African American Studies Program at Washington and Lee University.

The Banner Lecture Series speech will focus on the course of integration in the schools of western Virginia following the 1954 Supreme Court decision in Brown vs. Board of Education. Dr. DeLaney's research included a significant number of oral history interviews.

Barbecue on a bun

The annual barbecue sponsored by the Knights of Columbus, Council 11667 will be held March 10 from 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. at De Sales Hall on Church Street in Kilmarnock.

The menu will include barbecue on a bun, slaw, baked beans, dessert and beverage. The cost is \$8.50 for adults and \$3.50 for children under age 12. Takeouts are available.

Book signing

The Mary Ball Washington Museum and Library in Lancaster will sponsor a book signing Saturday, February 24, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. with Frank Wood, author of *Slavery—A Look at History Through Primary Source Documents*.

The book is available in the museum shop and sells for \$18. The book features some of the documents that appear in a current museum exhibit.

Bay restoration

A symposium on the Restoration of the Bay, sponsored by the Garden Club of the Northern Neck, will be held Tuesday, February 20, at the Bayne Center at Christ Church near Weems.

Refreshments will be served at 9:30 a.m. and the program will start at 10 a.m. Seating is limited, so please let us know if you will be attending. Email Anne Olsen at olsenj@crosslink.net, or Dana Smith at dysmith@kaballero.com.

Temporarily closed

The Mary Ball Washington Genealogy Library will be closed for the month of February. The volunteer staff will be cataloging many new acquisitions and doing some reorganizing of the collection.

Inquiries may be directed to the Mary Ball Washington Museum at 462-7280.

Raising boys

A "Bringing Up Boys" seminar is under way on Tuesday nights at the White Stone Church of the Nazarene Family Life Center at 57 Whisk Drive. The video series produced by Dr. James Dobson is presented at 7 p.m. by Jack Watson. Child care is provided.

The series explores the challenges of raising boys and is beneficial to parents, grandparents, teachers, coaches, and others who work with boys of all ages. For more information, call 435-9886.

Computer users

The Northern Neck Computer Users Group will meet Saturday, February 17, at 9:30 a.m. at Rappahannock Westminster-Canterbury near Irvington. The speaker will be Jane Fortin, who will demonstrate Acronis backup software.

Following the general meeting, a Beginners SIG will meet from 11:30 to 12:30 for a Truly Basic Introduction to Your PC and Windows. A Genealogy SIG will meet at 12:30 p.m. Visitors are welcome at all meetings.

Jamestown 1957

As part of its celebration for 2007, the Mary Ball Washington Museum and Library wishes to exhibit memorabilia from the 1957 Jamestown dedication and related events (or the 1907 events). Those who have newspaper clippings, postcards, programs, tickets, souvenirs, pictures, or first-person accounts are urged to contact the museum. Call Jean Nead at 462-7280.

Alzheimer's conference

Family members of people with Alzheimer's disease can meet by telephone conference call February 23 with Dr. Virginia Templeton, one of the nation's leading authorities on the disease.

The one-hour call, sponsored by the Alzheimer's Association, will be offered free from 3 to 4 p.m. Participants must register in advance by calling 800-272-3900, or 804-967-2580. Or, they may email fran.foster@alz.org.

Hospice training

A hospice support service volunteer training class will be held at the Warsaw Office of Hospice Support Services of the Northern Neck March 17, 24 and 31 at 9:30 a.m.

Lunch will be provided. To register, call 333-0084.

Therapists will offer alternative treatments at Parkinson's Group

The Parkinson's Support Group will welcome two guest speakers to speak about alternative methods of treatment Wednesday, February 21, at 2 p.m. at Rappahannock Westminster-Canterbury.

Nancy O. Byrne, physical therapist and founder in 1994 of Carousel Physical Therapy Inc., will speak about relief of chronic pain using craniosacral therapy, which she has studied for 14 years with the Upledger Institute of West Palm Beach; and Molly Rachael Strong, a nationally certified massage therapist in Gloucester, will demonstrate accupressure to divert overac-

tive neurons in the Parkinson's patient.

Byrne received a bachelor's in physical therapy from Indiana University. She has served as director of physical therapy at hospitals in Indiana, Montana, Blacksburg and at Rappahannock General Hospital. Conditions she treats include total joint replacement, musculoskeletal dysfunctions, arthritis, temporal mandibular syndrome, migraine, stroke and other neurological issues.

A means of decreasing pain and increasing function, craniosacral therapy is a gentle and non-invasive examination

of the cranium—the bones of the skull, face and mouth—and extends to the lower end of the spine, or sacrum. It locates problems and encourages the body's natural healing mechanisms to positively activate the brain and spinal cord while decreasing negative effectiveness of stress.

Strong trained for her LPN certification in Elgin, Ill. During her massage therapy courses at Virginia School of Technology in Virginia Beach, she achieved the highest grade point average in the school.

A mobile therapist in private practice, she feels that working in people's homes particularly

benefits those uncomfortable in or unable to access treatment centers.

Her clients have included those with tears and strains, end-stage cancer, HIV, MS, limited disabilities and Parkinson's. She will bring her massage chair to the meeting and demonstrate major Shiatsu pressure points and the use of reflexology for ears and hands as pairs of Parkinson's patients and care givers learn to apply the treatment to each other.

The free support group for people with Parkinson's and their care partners meets the third Wednesday of each month.

Revolutionary City launches second year of programming

Citizens voice their outrage as the government takes away their rights. Businesses are accused of wartime profiteering. Enemy combatants, imprisoned for years without formal charges, are suspected of war crimes. Families are torn apart by war.

These are some of the issues surrounding the American Revolution presented during the compelling interactive dramatic presentation, "The Revolutionary City—From Subjects To Citizens," in Colonial Williamsburg's Historic Area.

Begun in 2006, The Revolutionary City has been enthusiastically received by Colonial Williamsburg guests. "This was the best history lesson I've ever had—I was part of it, I was a first-hand witness," said a summertime guest. "It made history so real, and enabled you to see similarities to issues that exist today," said another. "I felt I was 'eyewitness' to our nation's history and I understood the impact on ordinary and not-so-ordinary citizens."

As a two-day event, The Revolutionary City connects guests to the emotional and philosophical climate of the period by presenting the stories of Williamsburg residents from 1774 to 1781 in two alternating two-hour outdoor dramas that take place in their original locations.

"The Collapse of Royal Government: 1774-1776" chronicles developments from May 1774 to May 1776 as Great Britain's King George III and Parliament attempt to tighten control of their unruly colonies in North America, but only succeed in offending them further and driving the colonies to independence. The Collapse of Royal Government is presented 2:30 - 4:30 p.m. Tuesdays, Thursdays and Saturdays.

"Citizens At War: 1776-1781" details the trials, tribulations and sacrifices that citizens endured during the American Revolution from July 1776 to October 1781 as they transformed their society from royal subjects to citizens of an independent Virginia. Citizens At War is presented 2:30 - 4:30 p.m. Wednesdays, Fridays and Sundays.

A new program, "The Revolutionary City: Nation Builders," will be presented on Mondays. The weekly program will explore the lives of individual residents of Williamsburg and their contributions to the 18th-century foundations of the nation. Colonial Williamsburg's Nation Builders program recognizes that the Founding Fathers such as George Washington, Thomas Jefferson and Patrick Henry stood on the shoulders of other 18th-century residents such as Gowan Pamphlet, an enslaved preacher, and Lydia Broadnax, the enslaved cook of George

Wythe who was a College of William and Mary law professor and Thomas Jefferson's friend and mentor.

The Revolutionary City program urges guests to explore other sites in the Historic Area—The Governor's Palace, the George Wythe House and the Peyton Randolph House, for example—to expand and enrich their experience and understanding of Williamsburg's role as Virginia's capital city in tumultuous times.

"Many of the challenges we face today are paralleled in the lives of colonial Americans—families were torn by war, parents and children argued about what's right and wrong and political debates were a daily occurrence," said Rex Ellis, Colonial Williamsburg's vice president of the Historic Area. "By presenting our ancestors' personal struggles for freedom, we hope guests will reflect on the liberties we've been granted and develop newfound respect for the benefits of citizenship as well as the responsibility to actively participate in the democratic process."

Guests are encouraged to follow the lives of the famous

and not-so-famous, including the frustrations of Barbara Hoy as she tries to learn the fate of her husband, Alexander, captured by the British at Charleston, or Eve, a slave of the Randolphs, or Baptist preacher Gowan Pamphlet who finds hope for freedom in biblical passages for himself and his fellow enslaved Africans.

All Revolutionary City program activities take place in Colonial Williamsburg's Historic Area where the adventure continues as guests explore the restored and reconstructed 18th-century gardens, trade

shops, homes and public buildings. Admission to Revolutionary City programs is included with the Colonial Williamsburg general admission ticket.

For more information or reservations, call 1-800-447-8679, or visit www.ColonialWilliamsburg.com.

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April 19 and 20	Lella Lee Edwards	Art 101 - Part 2 - The Secret To Better Painting
April 25-27	Rose Nygaard <i>Visiting Artist</i>	Abstract Acrylic
May 3	David Tanner <i>Visiting Artist</i>	Still Life With David Tanner
May 4 and 11	Jane Stouffer	Expand Your Horizons: Open Studio
May 8-10	Barclay Sheaks <i>Visiting Artist</i>	Introduction To Acrylics
May 14-16	Jane Slivka <i>Visiting Artist</i>	The Joy Of Painting - Acrylic Workshop
May 18-25	Lella Lee Edwards	Art 101 - Part 3 - The Secret To Better Painting
May 22-24	Charles VanDenburgh	Oils Fresh And Loose
May 31 - June 1	Kurt Schwarz <i>Visiting Artist</i>	Portrait Painting

For more information and registration, please call: (804) 436-3909 or drop by the gallery at:
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Kilmarnock, VA 22482
Visit our website at: www.ralgallery.com

Madison to show new approach to his lifelong home

James Madison will be inviting America to view the restoration of Montpelier, his Piedmont plantation, from a fresh angle by entering through a brand new gateway and bridge on February 16.

The 11 a.m. ribbon-cutting ceremony for the new gateway at the main entrance to James Madison's Montpelier will include James and Dolley Madison, Virginia Secretary of Transportation Pierce Homer, Montpelier Foundation Chairman Joe Grills and President Michael Quinn, and Virginia Department of Fire Programs Division Chief E.S. (Bert) Roby.

The \$2.8 million construction project will provide an entrance to James Madison's Montpelier that is capable of safely handling the

additional visitors expected during the final phases of the extensive mansion restoration, and after the restoration is complete. The mansion is undergoing a \$23 million meticulous restoration to return it to the home that James and Dolley Madison knew and loved.

"We are very pleased with the new entrance to Montpelier," said Michael Quinn, president of The Montpelier Foundation. "The gateway provides a beautiful, winding entrance to the property that will let people know they are entering a prestigious presidential home of one of our most distinguished founding fathers, right here in the heart of Virginia. The new gateway will provide a slightly longer and more pastoral approach to the

bridge, and will ensure the highway is never blocked in either direction by traffic entering and exiting."

The Gateway is designed in keeping with the character of Madison's time. The entrance features a white wooden gate flanked by brick walls. Past the gate, the new entrance road curves through the trees to a ticket booth. From there, the road turns again to cross a new bridge over the rail line.

"James and Dolley Madison were famous for their hospitality at Montpelier, and the new gateway will not only provide a safe, accessible entrance to the property, but will also let all Americans know they are welcome to the home of the Father of the Constitution," said Peggy Seiter Vaughn of the foundation.

Lady Devils go undefeated in district action Girls earn top seed in tourney and home berth in Region A

by Lisa Hinton-Valdrighi

The varsity Lady Devils capped an unbeaten Northern Neck District campaign last Thursday with a 43-36 win over Northumberland for the regular season title and a home berth in the Region A tournament.

"I honestly didn't think we'd go undefeated, even though I knew we'd be tough to beat," said LHS coach Joanne Webb-Fary. "The kids absolutely wanted to win the district and go to regionals, especially after last year."

Webb-Fary's team, under different leadership, struggled to win only three games last season. That team, plus the addition of three including starters Ashley Ransome and Andrea White, have dominated district and regional play this year with a 14-4 overall record.

White, the district's leading scorer, paced both the Indians and Devils last Thursday as the only double-digit scorer in the outing. She finished with 17, including 11 in the second half when Lancaster outscored the host Indians, 27-19.

The Devils had trailed by one, 17-16, at the half before taking a two-point lead after three quarters.

"They've proved it time and again, that they can win under a lot of different circumstances," said Webb-Fary. "They've come back over and over after being down."

White put up eight points in the fourth quarter to spark a 16-11 run.

The Devils went into the final regular season game with a lock on first place in the league after beating Rappahannock, 49-33, last Tuesday.



Lancaster's Amber Smith gets by Lady Indian Kara Messick.

With a regional spot already secured, the pressure was off. That "need-to-win" feeling won't be there this week either in the District tournament at Northumberland.

Lancaster was scheduled to play fourth-place Washington & Lee in the first round while second-place Essex faced third-place Northumberland.

The Eagles earned a tournament spot Saturday night by winning a fourth-quarter tie-breaker over Rappahannock, 51-47.

"I personally feel less stress," said Webb-Fary. "Obviously the girls want to win, but they are playing more relaxed now and with a lot more confidence. And I'm very

confident in them."

White led all scorers with 14 points last Tuesday as Lancaster put a lock on first place. She did most of her work in the first half with 10 points.

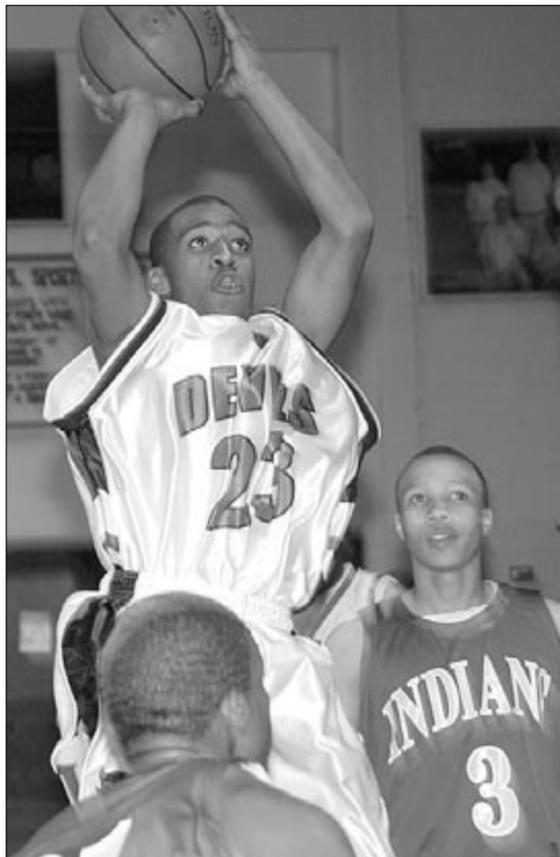
Tyesha Harvey also scored in double digits with 10 points. Ashley Ransome added eight.

Mykia Ellis led the Raiderettes with 12 points.

Lancaster.....6 10 11 16 - 43
Northumberland.....7 10 8 11 - 36
Lancaster — Crockett 0, Harvey 2, Wiggins 4, Smith 4, Randle 2, Jones 2, Ransome 4, Jones 8, White 17. Three-point goals: White.
Northumberland — Turner 9, Messick 7, Stevenson 5, Jones 0, Lewis 9, Rice 0, Baker 6. Three-point goals: Lewis, Turner, Messick.



Andrea White of Lancaster drives for the basket against Northumberland's Ciara Turner. White scored 17 points last Thursday as the Lady Devils beat the Indians to win the Northern Neck District regular season title.



Lancaster's Nick Gibson (24) shoots a long two over Northumberland's Tony Starks (3).

Red Devils make it to district tournament by six points, 48-42

by Lisa Hinton-Valdrighi

Despite losing their last two regular season games, the varsity Devils slipped into the Northern Neck District tournament with a 48-42 win over Washington & Lee last Saturday.

The fourth-place playoff victory pits Lancaster against first-place Northumberland in a tourney semifinal game this week. Second-seeded Essex was scheduled to play third-place Rappahannock with the winners of each game meeting in the district championship tomorrow night (February 16) at 7 p.m. at Northumberland High School.

Lancaster's players will have their hands full when they face the Indians for a third time this season.

The Indians' Lavar Rich made his presence known last Friday in a 59-42 win over the Devils. Rich was out with an ankle injury when Lancaster edged Northumberland in their first meeting earlier this season.

His game-high 21 points last week made the difference in a contest that belonged to Northumberland from the start.

The Indians outscored Lan-



Cleon Rice of Lancaster charges through Northumberland defenders De'Ante Palmer (42) and Lavar Rich (34).

caster by seven points in the first quarter, then held the Devils to single-digit scoring in the second for a 31-18 lead at the half. Nick Gibson hit two field goals and Michael Saunders one for Lancaster's only points in the second quarter.

Cleon Rice was the only double-digit scorer for Lancaster with 10 points.

Rich, who scored 13 of his 21 in the second half, sealed the win with crowd pleasing alley oop with 3:00 to go in the game, lifting the Indians to a 51-37 lead.

Justin Brunt chipped in 16 points for the Indians.

In Saturday's playoff, Gibson sparked a 32-point first half for the Devils with 13 points. He added another seven in the third to finish with 20 to pace four double-digit scorers for Lancaster.

Trevor Henderson added 13 points, including nine on three pointers, Cleon Rice scored 12 and Quinton Henderson had 10.

Lancaster expanded a five-point halftime lead with a 19-13 third-quarter run.

Chris Kinard did most of the work for the Eagles with 21 points to lead all scorers.

Rappahannock secured its third-place tournament berth by upsetting Essex last Friday and



Lavar Rich (34) of Northumberland puts pressure on Lancaster's Michael Saunders (3).

(continued on page A11)

* RAPPAHANNOCK ALMANAC *

White Stone/Grey's Point Tides, Sun, & Moon - February, 2007

Day	Date	Sunrise	Low	High	Moonrise	Moonset
Fri	2/16	6:53	4:17	1:04	7:00	5:47
Sat	2/17	6:53	5:09	1:54	7:00	5:59
Sun	2/18	6:52	5:59	2:46	7:29	5:48
Mon	2/19	6:51	6:50	3:42	7:57	5:49
Tue	2/20	6:49	7:41	4:34	8:24	5:50
Wed	2/21	6:48	8:33	5:22	8:52	5:51
Thu	2/22	6:47	9:29	6:10	9:24	5:52
Fri	2/23	6:46	10:29	6:58	10:02	5:53

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

PM times are in boldface type.
Unusually high & low tides are also in boldface.
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Lancaster's Ryan Joyner gets the advantage over his Arcadia opponent last Friday. (Photo by Dr. Richard Wineland)

Red Devil wrestlers on the hunt to win three straight district titles

by Lisa Hinton-Valdrighi
Lancaster High's wrestlers head into post-season competition this week with their best record in school history.

With a 68-6 team win over Northumberland and a 57-23 victory over Arcadia in a quad in Kilmarnock last Friday, the Devil grapplers improved to 30-3, with many non-district wins coming over larger Group AA schools this year.

"We're pretty excited about where we are now," said LHS coach Craig Oren. "We feel like we're peaking at the right time."

Last year, Lancaster took a record 11 grapplers to the Group A state meet and turned in a 20-2 season as the Region A and Northern Neck District champions.

"We're on the hunt to win three straight district titles and three straight regional titles," said Oren. "Those are our goals."

Lancaster's state performers last year led the Devils to a 10th place team finish, their best ever Group A tournament finish.

Three Devils went 2-0 with two pins each against Nor-



From left, Lancaster High's Ross Kellum celebrated his 100th career wrestling win last Friday night during a quad in Kilmarnock. Kellum actually won his 100th match against Nandua two weeks ago in Mathews. LHS principal Sandra Spears was on hand Friday to present Kellum a commemorative award. (Photo by Dr. Richard Wineland)

thumberland and Arcadia last week. They are Sam Frere (130), Thomas Frere (145) and Louis Santangelo (215).

Ross Kellum (125) was rec-

ognized for his 100th career win during the quad after going 1-1. Kellum actually picked up his 100th victory two weeks ago against Nandua and is now at 102 wins for his career.

With a crucial 7-6 overtime victory over Matthew Moore of Northumberland, Robert Wine-land (103) may have secured a seed in the regional tournament.

Weston Johnson (112) also came away from the Northumberland match with a 6-2 win over TJ Ellis.

Against Arcadia, Kendrick Diggs (140) had a tech fall over Matt Fries. Diggs struggled to get by Fries earlier this season with an overtime win.

At 160, Corbin Marchand had an impressive 10-2 win over Phillip Snyder.

The Devils will have a home advantage in this week's Northern Neck District tournament, which was scheduled for Tuesday at Lancaster Middle School. Qualifiers there will head to Northampton next Saturday, February 24, for the Region A tournament.



Kentel Noel of Lancaster chases down a Northumberland ball-handler during the final JV game of the season last Friday.

JV Devils cap season with a 42-41 thriller over Northumberland

By Lisa Hinton-Valdrighi

Fans at last Friday's boys basketball games at Lancaster High School got their money's worth before the varsity action ever started.

The regular season junior varsity finale between rivals Lancaster and Northumberland went down to the wire and beyond, with the JV Devils picking up a Northern Neck District win, 42-41, in overtime.

CJ Lee and Tevin Moore emerged as the heroes for the home team, combining for nine points in overtime.

Lee hit the game-winning free throw with four seconds to go in extra minutes. He finished with three points in OT and was the high scorer for the night with 17.

Moore did the bulk of the work in overtime, putting up six of Lancaster's nine in the three-minute span. He scored eight total.

After playing to a 33-33 tie and trading baskets in the first minute of overtime, Lancaster took a 38-35 lead on a free throw and ensuing field goal by Moore.

Northumberland went up 41-38 with a quick 6-0 run, but Moore then hit the front end of two free throws and another field goal to knot the game at 41. Moore scored six straight points to keep the Devils in the game in OT.

With eight seconds to play, the Indians brought the ball inbound, then threw it away and were forced to foul Lee with four seconds remaining. Lee hit the first and missed the second.

Northumberland missed a mid-court shot as time expired.

Roger Lee also scored eight for

Lancaster.....4 12 11 6 8 - 41
Northumberland.....7 9 6 11 9 - 42
Northumberland -- Hall 4, Henry 0, Caster 2, Porter 12, Taylor 0, Hutchinson 5, Adams 4, Shabazz 14. Three-point goals: Shabazz 4, Porter 3.
Lancaster -- CJ Lee 17, Noel 5, R. Lee 8, Carter 4, Tiggle 0, Yerby 0, Veney 0, Morris 0, Moore 8. Three-point goals: R. Lee 2, Noel.

Lancaster 38 Rappahannock 19

In other JV action, Lancaster scored more points in the second half than Rappahannock's game total last Tuesday as the Devils routed the Raiders, 38-19.

The Devils held Rappahannock to single digit scoring in the second half with a 21-9 run.

Visiting Lancaster led by seven at the half, then outscored the hosts 11-5 in the third quarter when CJ Lee scored four of his game high 10 points. Lee led nine different scorers in a balanced attack for the Devils. Kentel Noel did all of his scoring in the second half, chipping in seven points for LHS.

Rappahannock's offense was kept in check for just four points in each of the first and fourth quarters. Tyler Robinson, who led the Raiders with eight points, hit his team's only field goal in the opening period.

Lancaster.....9 8 11 10 - 38
Rappahannock.....4 6 5 4 - 19
Lancaster -- Curry 0, Carter 4, Veney 2, R. Lee 1, Whitaker 3, Noel 7, CJ Lee 10, Moore 4, Bullock 0, Morris 3, Deschamp 0, Tiggle 4, Blunt 0. Three-point goals: Morris, Whitaker, Noel.
Rappahannock -- Mauphin 0, D. Brown 2, Lee 2, Ball 0, Scott 4, Towles 3, Roberts 6, Banks 0, Jones 0, Dunaway 0, P. Brown 2.

All-Star games are March 17

The ninth annual Norlan Shriners All-Star Basketball games will be held March 17 at Lancaster High School.

The games will feature the best boys and girls teams of the Northern Neck District versus the best of the Tidewater District.

As in the past, the popular 100 half-court shootout will be held during half time of both games.

The coaches for the teams will be the regular season district winners. A traveling trophy will be presented to the winning teams with a most valuable player picked for both contests. Every player chosen will receive a gold or silver Olympic-style medal.

The first game begins at 6:30 p.m. Tickets are \$5 at the door.

▼ Red Devils

(continued from page A10)

defeating Lancaster, 66-47, last Tuesday.

Gibson led Lancaster with 15 points, Marcus Betts added 12 and Rice scored 11.

The Raiders used a 38-22 second half to blow open a two-point game. Rappahannock led 28-25 at the break, then outran the Devils, 19-12, in the third period with Durvin Lucas scoring nine points. Lucas led the Raiders with 21 points.

Lancaster.....12 6 11 13 - 42
Northumberland...19 12 13 15 - 59
Lancaster -- T. Henderson 5, Saunders 7, Rice 10, Gibson 8, Q. Henderson 5, Kuykendall 0, Baker 4, Ball 0, Saunders 2, Carter 1. Three-point goals: T. Henderson, Rice, Q. Henderson.

Northumberland -- Turpin 0, Walker 2, Carer 0, Starks 3, Diggs 4, Parker 5, Seymour 0, D. Brunt 0, J. Brunt 16, Deihl 0, Prince 0, Rich 21, Palmer 4. Three-point goals: J. Brunt 4.

Sports Shorts

■ Lancaster Little League

The Lancaster County Little League will hold registration for the 2007 season February 17 and 24 from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. at Dreamfields in Kilmarnock.

Boys and girls, ages 5 to 18, are eligible. Registration is \$40 per person, but no one will be turned away because of inability to pay. First-time players should bring a copy of their birth certificates and parents of all players should bring proof of Lancaster County residency, in the form of a driver's license or any bill showing a 911 address.

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Flotilla members train

Norm Smith, Paul Lassanske and Vic Guyan, members of USCG Auxiliary Flotilla 33 in Kilmarnock, completed the required tasks in the survival equipment section of the Boat Crew Qualification course February 7 led by training staff officer Roy Sheppard.

The candidates demonstrated proficiency in the use of personal safety equipment including flares, signal mirrors and personal marker lights. They also described how best to escape if trapped in a capsized vessel.

Sheppard said that the boat crew qualification is required for auxiliary members before becoming crew members on water patrols. Candidates must also demonstrate skill in first aid, boat handling, communications, navigation, towing and fire fighting.

Once qualified, members must be re-certified every three years to ensure that their skills are maintained.



With outside temperatures barely above freezing, Paul Lassanske (left) and Norm Smith were grateful for the YMCA pool in Kilmarnock as they completed their swim in anti-exposure overalls.

A Doctor Speaks by George Moore, MD

For spinach lovers

For most of you who are nutritionally virtuous, you may be still wondering whether or not the spinach you love is safe to eat.

The memory of three Americans who died and almost 200 who became ill in September is still fresh in our minds. The spinach was bagged and supposedly washed. What have we learned?

The bacteria identified as the culprit is a rogue strain of E.coli 0157:H7 that emits toxins similar to those produced by Shigella, a source of deadly dysentery in the developing world. Health officials estimate that roughly 70,000 Americans get sick every year from eating food contaminated with this bacteria and perhaps as many as 60 die. Leafy greens are the second leading source of E.coli infection in the United States after undercooked ground beef.

Cattle carry the E.coli 0157:H7 in their intestines and the bacteria wind up in cow feces. Cow manure is now being used heavily as a fertilizer in organic farming and investigators in California have narrowed their search to four

ranches in Monterey and San Benito counties.

Genetic tests now prove that the E.coli in cow feces taken from one of the ranches matched the strain of bacteria for the spinach outbreak. Other factors are still being studied such as wildlife and poor hygiene of workers.

The E.coli problem may become worse since there is good evidence that the intestines of corn fed cattle are more hospitable to the 0157:H7 strain than those raised on grass. The cattle industry is increasingly dominated by huge feedlots where the animals are kept in close quarters and fed mainly corn. The FBI and FDA are investigating the outbreak for possible criminal negligence regarding sanitary conditions.

When you buy leafy vegetables today, you need to apply special precautions. Cooking is not an option for lettuce, but it is for spinach. A temperature of 160 degrees will kill any 0157:H7 in about 15 seconds.

Otherwise, be extra careful about washing fruits and vegetables. You should wash your produce under

running water for a couple of minutes and then rinse it off. Bacteria are sticky and may be embedded in the crevices of the leaves but should loosen in cold tap water after a good two-minute washing (don't just soak it).

Even if the bagged greens are labeled "pre-washed, triple-washed or ready-to-eat," wash them again, refrigerate and eat before the "best if used by" date.

Research has shown that soaking lettuce in vinegar and lemon juice solutions and in a commercial product, Veggie Wash, is no better than cold tap water. Canned vegetables are safe since they have been cooked at high temperatures. Commercially frozen vegetables are blanched (briefly plunged into boiling water) which kills most microorganisms; freezing slows the growth of any that remain, and proper cooking will destroy them.

Don't stop eating spinach and other produce. Overall, the health benefits far outweigh the potential risks. You might question the merits of organic foods when local produce is available.

Bridge Results

Seven pairs played the Howell Movement at the regular duplicate bridge game at Rappahannock Westminster-Canterbury

on February 7. Winners were first, Judy Peifer and Virginia Adair; and second (tie) Ilva Doggett, Joy

Straughan, Mary Andrews and Barbara Hubbard. The next bridge for this group is February 27 at 1 p.m.



Northern Neck Family YMCA Recognizes Our Members of the Week



January 2007

Dorothy Johnson of Wicomico Church

Dorothy has just re-joined the YMCA as of Jan 2nd. She is very excited about her membership and plans to come in at least 3 times a week and hopefully 5 times. She is motivated to workout with so many people around. Already, she has met many new people both male and female. The atmosphere at the Y is so nice, the equipment varied and the location is convenient. She also thinks the facility is grand! It's always nice to be greeted by such nice front desk staff who already know her by name. She uses the cardio and strength training machines and enjoys the senior specialty class. Dorothy is originally from Westmoreland County but has been living in Wicomico Church for almost 30 years. She has six grown children who live out of the area. Dorothy has also lived in various places like New York, New Jersey and Maryland. The Y has already started to make a difference in her life. Coming to the Y gives her a purpose to get up in the morning and have some place to go. Her motivation is not just physical but spiritual and mental as well. Working out makes her feel whole. Dorothy was very pleased to learn about the YMCA's Guardian Program. It has allowed her to make this new commitment to her health.



Clovies "Neal" Boyd of Nuttsville



You may have seen the recent article on Clovies in the Rappahannock Record about his selection to attend the 2007 Scout Camp Pro Football Regional Combine in Atlanta on May 5th, but he is also a long time YMCA member. Clovies, who is also known as Neal, has been a member of the Y since 2002. He was formerly a member of Jim's Gym. He came to the Y when it was still across the street because it offered more services like showers, treadmills, as well as free weights. At the Y he has taken Karate

classes, uses the pool, and is currently using the facility at least twice a day for training. Because he comes to the Y so frequently, he has lots of friends and knows many Y members. His mother, Dorine Boyd, bought the membership specifically for him but occasionally comes to workout as well. Clovies loves the Y because it is convenient, everybody greets him with open arms and the staff is friendly. It has also given him a place to train. Clovies has lived in Lancaster County his whole life, 27 years, and is currently working on starting a local foundation called "Achieving Your Dreams Foundation" to help promote and expose the youth in this county to professional sports and programs. He hopes to take several hundred people with him to the Combine on May 5th.

Jon Wertz – "Jon Boy" of Reedville

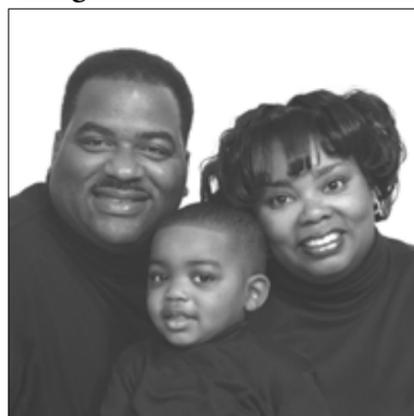
"We have a celebrity in our midst," the front desk girls informed me. He is the rapper we saw on VH1 this month. Okay, sounds like a great Member of the Week to me, and he willingly agreed.

Jon Boy, age 25, and a 2000 graduate of Northumberland High School, is a new member of the Northern Neck Family YMCA. He used to work out at BeAFit in Reedville until she closed. He realized that being in the public eye meant it was



important to stay fit and looking good, especially with summer coming. He tries to come in 3x a week to run on the treadmill averaging 8-9 minute miles and lift weights. So far he loves the Y. It has so much to offer! He likes to shoot baskets, use the sauna and stream room and basically try everything out. Jon Boy has been doing a lot of traveling lately with shows every week in various clubs and in different cities. Recently he has been spending a lot of time in NYC. He is originally from Maryland and most of his family is still there. To hear his music and to learn more about Jon Boy check out his profile on MySpace.com!

Dwight, Andrena & Matthew Seawood of Wicomico Church



The Seawood family has been members of the Northern Neck Family YMCA for nearly 6 years. They joined because they wanted to be involved in activities that the whole family could enjoy and be part of an organization that wanted them. Dwight currently is serving his second term on the YMCA Board of Management. He also works out 3x a week with his "Morning Workout Crew". Matthew has been coming to the Y since just after he was born. He has been taking swimming lessons for nearly 5 years – and he only just turned 5 years old on New Year's Day! He also plays basketball and loves

the childwatch. Andrena routinely takes a "mommy moment" to recharge her batteries with a swim in the pool. For Andrena this is not about weight loss but about doing something for her health. The Y is a very social place. They have made many friends by being members. Their three favorite things about the Y are: 1. It's a beautiful, up-to-date facility that has everything that they need to stay happy, healthy and whole. 2. The Northern Neck Family YMCA has a diversified viewpoint on serving this community. This is very important. 3. And, it is FUN! The Northern Neck Family YMCA allows the Seawood family to take care of their social giving by reaching the church and the unchurched in the this community.

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Firefighters used a ladder truck from Kilmarnock to fight this house fire in Morattico early Saturday morning. The home was completely destroyed. (Photo by Jean Bedwell)

Clawson residence destroyed by fire

by Lisa Hinton-Valdrighi

MORATTICO—Pat Clawson and her dog, CC, escaped an early morning fire Saturday that completely destroyed her Morattico home.

Clawson and her golden retriever were asleep around 3 a.m. when she received a frantic call from neighbor Salene Haire, whose husband, Bill, had awakened minutes earlier and looked out of his window across Lancaster Creek at what appeared to be a fire at the house next to Clawson's.

In actuality, Clawson's detached garage was on fire.

"Salene was yelling 'get out of the house because your neighbor's house is on fire' and the next thing I know Bill is at my door," said Clawson. "Bill was my hero. He was banging on the door telling me to get out."

Clawson, who begged Haire unsuccessfully for time to collect some belongings and her purse, slipped on shoes and sat nearby in her robe and nightgown as her home of 14 years erupted into flames.

"I just sat there and watched helplessly," she said. "It was awful. You couldn't believe how fast it spread."

Upper Lancaster Volunteer Fire Department chief Robert "Bones" Beckham was the first responder, arriving within six minutes of the 3:20 a.m. call.

The fire, which started in the garage, jumped from the roof to the gables under the house, spreading quickly through the attic and then under the brick home on Morattico Road.



The charred remains of a car and scattered debris were all that remained after a fire swept through the home of Pat Clawson in Morattico Saturday. (Photo by Jean Bedwell)

Some 60 firefighters from Upper Lancaster, Kilmarnock, White Stone, Richmond County and Callao responded, remaining on the scene until about 8 a.m.

Although several nearby residents heard tiny explosions as the fire erupted gas tanks and paints in the garage, Clawson said her house "was so airtight, I didn't hear anything."

There was no smoke inside the house when Haire made her leave, but as she exited, her smoke alarms sounded.

"Everything I owned meant something to me," said Clawson, who had filled her home with family heirlooms and antiques.

She was able to salvage only a cedar chest and a family sewing table, along with her mom's cathedral quilt and a few baskets belong-

ing to her father, a basket weaver.

Sifting through rubble the next day, Clawson's daughter found her mother's wedding rings and a few pieces of family jewelry.

"It's like my daughter said, you can replace stuff, not people," said Clawson.

"I have lost a lot of family members and still had a lot of family treasures that I needed to get rid of," she added. "And I was having a hard time parting with them. I think God stepped in and did it for me. My belief is when things get too big, God steps in."

A widow, Clawson says she's been overwhelmed with the community's response.

"The people here are so nice. They are showering me with gifts. And the Red Cross responded immediately."

▼ Federal authorities to clean up site (continued from page A1)

In the meantime, the immediate neighbors have been notified of the potential hazard, said EPA spokesperson David Sternberg. They have not, however, been told that it is unsafe to drink the water, he said.

More than 100 residents live within a one-mile radius of the dump site, and more than 1,000 people live within a four-mile radius. The EPA plans to release fact sheets within the one-mile radius, and Sternberg said a public meeting can be arranged if there is interest.

"Obviously this is something we consider serious," Sternberg said. "Drums that contain hazardous material are leaking. But, fortunately, the site is not easily accessible. It is not next to a school or in a residential neighborhood."

The EPA has committed \$2 million to the cleanup, which is expected to take at least a year.

The property where the barrels were found is held in a trust. Formerly owned by a Brent family, the land is currently owned by Eleanor B. Hayden and Charlotte Self, according to Lancaster County tax map records. The current owners told EPA personnel that they acquired the property from a relative upon his death. They reportedly have not used the property, but they have allowed a local game club unrestricted access to the parcel for hunting purposes.

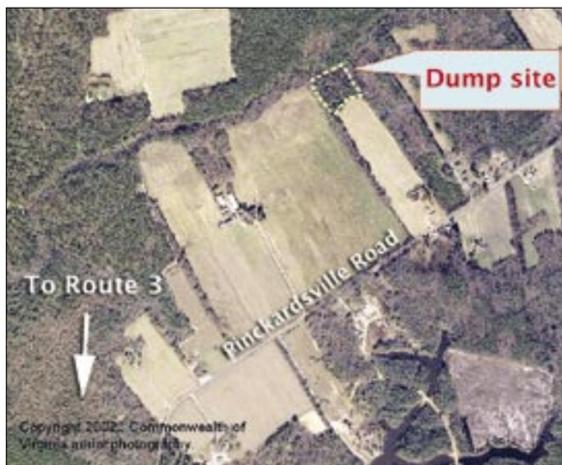
After discovering the drums last year, hunters contacted a Virginia State Game Warden who notified the Virginia Department of Environmental Quality, which investigated the property and reported its finding to the EPA last August.

In an initial investigation, EPA field investigator Todd Richardson reported finding more than 1,000 drums on two acres at the northern edge of an open field. The source of the drums is not known, nor is anyone certain specifically what the drums might contain.

All of the containers are old, open-top steel drums in poor condition. Many have trees and other plant life growing through them. Some are partially below ground. Only a few of the drums could be inspected for safety reasons.

The black, tar-like material has seeped at least 18 inches into the soil where it has mixed with water and organic material to create a spongy consistency, Richardson reported.

A video of the investigation shows an EPA employee walking on the contaminated soil near the drums. When the person steps on the spongy soil it sinks as much as 12 inches and returns to its original



About a mile off Route 3 near the headwaters of the Corroto-man River, the Puddingland Drum Dump Site is being assessed for any potential risk to nearly 1,000 people who live within a four-mile radius.

position after the person steps away, Richardson wrote in his December report to the Lancaster County Health Department.

"The ground surface actually resembles a playground bouncing 'moon walk' surface," Richardson noted.

The EPA has thus named the site the "Puddingland Drum Dump Site," since the soil is similar to pudding.

Sternberg said the EPA has been "working closely" with the Lancaster County Health Department.

Lancaster county administrator William Pennell said Monday that he had never even heard of the cleanup effort. Northumberland county administrator Kenneth D. Eades was equally surprised. Dr. Thomas Irungu, director of the Three Rivers Health District, said he had not been informed of the matter either.

David Fridley of the Lancaster County Health Department said the EPA has been keeping him abreast of the cleanup effort, but the EPA is taking the lead on all fronts. He has been waiting for more informa-

▼ Courthouse (continued from page A1)

ers are escorted into the courtroom early on and then they all sit together right through each trial or hearing.

"It's a bad scenario," she added.

She observed that some of the modernized courts buildings in the region bring prisoners from the jail into a secure area outside the court rooms where they are then placed in holding cells.

Shirilla equated better courtroom security to needing more staff for the new duty of being stationed at the security screening device outside the courtroom.

He explained how courtroom staff assignments are designed to be "prudent and reasonable for each case." He said if the security device were to be used all day every day, he would need two full-time additional staff people. If it were to be used only when court is in session, then he would still need additional part-time staff.

A more secluded jury room also is needed to protect juries from both the public and prisoners, Kennedy said.

County administrator Bill Pennell agreed. "The jury needs to be sequestered in safety," he said.

However, he added that the county's department heads and constitutional officers also need more space.

"We are the last one in this region to modernize," he said regarding the challenges offered by the current courthouse.

Another concern of Kennedy's is that the circuit courtroom is not handicapped accessible for jurors. In addition, the offices

from the EPA regarding the public health impacts on the ground water.

"We are waiting to hear what, if any, impact there may be on public health," Fridley said.

Testing the ground water to determine whether the hazardous compounds have leached into the water is the EPA's first priority. If the monitoring wells show a dangerous level of BaPs, then a hydrologist must determine to what extent and where the ground water has been impacted.

The other priority is building an access road to the dump site, Sternberg said. Unearthing the sunken drums, setting up a staging area for transportation and testing the drums to determine their contents will follow. Finally, the EPA will remove the drums and all the contaminated soil from the site and backfill the area with clean dirt.

Sternberg said the EPA plans to find out who is responsible for the mess: "We will pursue the responsible parties to the fullest extent of the law and our resources — and our resources are great," he said.

of both the Commonwealth's attorney and the county extension office are only accessible by walking up a flight of steps.

Modernizing would be "better for the general public and the court system," concluded Kennedy, who has worked in the courthouse for about 40 years.

Options

Wiley and Wilson, an architectural and engineering firm engaged by the county, came to the February 6 meeting with several different options for remodeling the historic building (last renovated in the 1970s) and offered drawings for the layout of a new courts building.

Several months ago judges expressed their concerns to the board of supervisors, asking them to begin looking at ways to resolve the issues, according to Pennell. Judges from the Circuit Court, General District Court, and Juvenile and Domestic Relations Court are all providing input.

In one scenario, all the judicial offices and courtrooms would be moved to a new courts building. Other county departments not directly related to the courts and the constitutional officers would use the remodeled vacated space to expand their crowded work areas.

Where might a new courts building be built?

"We're looking in the Lancaster village area," Pennell said. He said there are state laws which govern many aspects of locating and constructing courthouses or additions.

Pennell said another meeting is planned for sometime in March.

▼ Citizens speak for and against proposed discharge (continued from page A1)

concerns, however, "in the past we have not denied discharges" based on their objections.

While many citizens spoke of their desire to protect Carter's Creek so that their grandchildren could swim and fish in the waters, others claimed the creek has been polluted for years due to private septic systems which are not monitored, unlike treatment plants.

RW-C resident association president George Van Sant claimed that if he lived on the creek he "would be delighted to have this discharge flowing into the waters around my home. This plant will go a long way in cleaning up the water."

Rebecca Smiley of Glebe Road said no one wanted to see the creek defaced. "I think the proposal is a step in the right direction."

Real estate agent Tom McGrath of Merry Point supported the application, claiming the discharge would be far superior to individual septic systems which filter into the creek.

He claimed some residents are now running PVC pipes from their washers into the creek, he added.

Sealy said DEQ does not have the resources to monitor such illegal discharges and urged citizens to report the activity to the Alliance for the Chesapeake Bay.

Dave Raffetto of Irvington later said the treated discharge would not be bad by itself, but that it represented "death by a thousand cuts."

Gosse addressed RW-C's proposed addition of 52 single family homes, which is driving

the need for the discharge plant. "RW-C would not continue building if it wasn't in their economic interest. Old Mill Cove has been set up to be sacrificed."

"You don't need 52 new units," said Simmons. "You are also stressing our aquifer."

Van Sant took offense at comments in the community that he said inferred "we're less than human." He said two-thirds of RW-C residents are self-sufficient and they support the community both financially and by active participation. "We recognize that this is not the most desirable choice, but to protect ourselves we must have this permit in hand. We don't want to pollute Carter's Creek."

Beverly Randolph of The Lane in Irvington urged RW-C to pursue hooking up to Kilmarnock's wastewater treatment facility.

"You said you don't want to be in the wastewater treatment business...and we don't want the discharge in our creek. It's a win-win solution." RW-C residents Louise Denegre and William Pregnall agreed with Randolph, saying the county and town needed to find ways to deal with the inevitable growth and development.

Charlie Costello of Merry Point rejected the idea of hooking into Kilmarnock's wastewater treatment facility saying it would not help in cleaning up the bay since the town's discharge goes into a tributary of Indian Creek. "It gets emptied into one creek or another, but it all goes into the Chesapeake Bay," he said. Costello suggested the facility expand its present system which involves spraying the effluent onto a field.

Although RW-C's present system runs sufficiently, Seeley said the spray field system was subject to weather conditions such as freezes or excessive rain.

DEQ will continue to accept public comments until 4 p.m. February 23. Comments may be mailed to Denise Mosca at DEQ, 4949-A Cox Road, Glen Allen, VA 23060 or emailed to dmmosca@deq.virginia.gov.

▼ County bans conservation zone building (continued from page A1)

In fact, the Commonwealth Council has received numerous unsolicited proposals from developers in regards to purchasing the property, according to a timeline published on the council's website.

Swift said that while the Girl Scout Council leadership has not confirmed any of the details with the membership, speculations are that the property will sell for upwards of \$10 million.

"The biggest problem I can see in this situation is that Camp Kitty was not for sale," Swift said. "The sale or possibility of it was never mentioned to or discussed with the Girl Scout membership. There was no debate or discussion."

"I am sure developers all over the Northern Neck are positively drooling at the very thought of developing this pristine waterfront property," she said.

Camp Kitty has cabins, a boat launch, a pool, a mess hall, an arts and crafts building in a tree house, a rock wall, hiking trails, a lake, a sports field, a ropes course, an outdoor amphitheater and, at each campsite, a pavilion with a fireplace and bathroom facilities.

Swift called the council's cited reasons for selling "weak."

promoting or managing the camp since the current president took office," Swift said.

The Northern Neck Girl Scout leaders met February 3 with council vice president Mary Palmer. At that meeting, "We quickly countered her suggestion that Camp Kitty was a money pit by asking if council sought to enlist the help of our community after Isabel," Swift said.

"Several leaders in attendance immediately said that their husband/brother/father/friend was a builder/logger/plumber/electrician and would gladly volunteer time to do what needed to be done at the camp because of the girls. We told her that's the way we work in the Northern Neck - we help each other," continued Swift.

"I have learned from our county administrator that if council had contacted him after Isabel, he could have put them in touch with FEMA and 95 percent of the repair cost would have been covered by the federal government because the Commonwealth Council is part of the Girl Scouts of America, a non-profit organization, although they (the Commonwealth Council) are certainly profiting from Camp Kitty . . . at the girls' expense," Swift told the

board. "If the Commonwealth Council was feeling that Camp Kitty was such a financial burden, there were many other scenarios that could have been explored before such a devastating and drastic measure," Swift said.

Among those options, Swift mentioned that the council could have organized a capital campaign or sold some small parcel of land to help modernize the facilities.

Eades has even said that the county would have been interested in acquiring the property as a public recreation area through the recently formed Northern Neck-Chesapeake Bay Public Access Authority.

As it stands, the Commonwealth Council has forbidden its membership from attempting to raise money to save the camp. Council president Tina Dickerson is planning a March 31 meeting in Richmond with the Girl Scout membership to discuss the reasons for the council's secrecy throughout this process.

In a February 9 message to the membership, Dickerson also said she is considering litigation against the Northumberland board of supervisors in response to its moratorium.

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