

Talking taxes

by Joan McBride

LANCASTER—Commissioner of the Revenue George E. "Sonny" Thomas last Thursday discussed "taxing" issues with the board of supervisors.

He is expecting an increase of about \$35 to \$40 million in new taxable real estate this year, much less than last year's \$95 million, said Thomas.

"There doesn't seem to be as much new construction this year as last year," he said.

The market is "very soft" with more inventory than in a number of years, said supervisor Wally Beauchamp.

He shared results from his recent analysis of land sales in two specific price ranges over the last 16 months in both Lancaster and Northumberland counties.

Only 10 or 11 waterfront building sites in the \$350,000 to \$450,000 price range sold in Lancaster County during that time period.

Northumberland County saw just four off-water parcels sell in the \$120,000 to \$130,000 range in the same period.

Mindful of the property value reassessment effort just beginning in the county, supervisor F.W. Jenkins Jr. noted that if the soft real estate market trend continues, "We'll be assessing at a market value

which is declining."

Thomas said the new Kilmarnock Wal-Mart won't make up much of this year's drop in completed new construction dollars since it will only kick in about \$3,000 in taxes for 2007—just on the land.

Six different local taxes will be assessed on the new supercenter with a total amount projected to be about \$1 million, but not all of it will be collected until December of 2008, almost a year after the store opens. None of the county officials could predict how much the county's take would be of the tax revenue to be split with Kilmarnock.

Other taxes

Thomas suggested it is "time to look at personal property tax."

According to Thomas, the board determines how much money needs to be collected in taxes to accomplish its work for the county. As the assessing officer, the Commissioner of The Revenue determines how to establish the market value on property which is taxable.

By analyzing these two numbers, the board then establishes the tax rates for various types of property to raise the county's needed operating revenue.

"I have listened to about 8,000

(continued on page A15)

Lancaster school budget to increase by \$500,000

by Joan McBride

LANCASTER—It took three votes and much consultation by the Lancaster board of supervisors last week before the budget for the county's schools was finally adopted.

"We're not anti-education—we are anti-inefficiency and, in some cases, anti-poor management," said supervisor Jack Russell.

Russell said he wanted performance goals attached to the school division's budget, and funding focused on "addressing some of the problems."

One of the problems he specified was problematic reading test scores referenced last spring in an efficiency review of the school system. It was performed by an educational management firm which analyzed all aspects of the school system.

Planning director Jack Larson presented an analysis and comparison between the Lancaster and Northumberland school systems. He said the two counties are "very comparable" in demographics and population characteristics.

"Northumberland was very

forthcoming with information," he added.

Although Northumberland has just over 100 more students than Lancaster, Lancaster projects more spending in every budget category except transportation, said Larson.

"We expect Lancaster schools to be as efficient as Northumberland's and then we can start talking about adding money to achieve better performance," he summarized.

He said the answers have to come from the school board and the school administration as to why it costs about \$1,000 more per student for education in Lancaster County.

At several points during the board's discussion, reference was made to the new superintendent who will assume her duties July 1 upon the retirement of superintendent Dr. Randolph Latimore.

"Dr. Susan Schiabbarrasi has an accounting background, and I think we can look forward to getting some really good numbers," observed board chairman Pete Geilich.

He advised giving her a chance

(continued on page A15)



Tradition continues

The Elva C., carrying the clergy and choir, led a parade of boats up Cockrell's Creek toward the old Morris-Fisher factory for the annual Blessing of the Fleet. The 35-year tradition, sponsored by St. Mary's Episcopal Church in Fleeton and Omega Protein Inc., celebrates the start of the fishing and crabbing seasons. About 175 people braved the windy, cool conditions Sunday afternoon to attend the hour-and-a-half long service. More photos appear on page A15. (Photo by Lisa Hinton-Valdrighi)

Town council to study traffic

IRVINGTON—Traffic safety in Irvington will be the focus of the town council meeting tonight, May 10. The meeting will begin at 7:30 p.m. in the town hall at 235 Steamboat Road.

Mayor Alexander Fleet and zoning administrator Bob Hardesty will report the results of their recent meeting with Virginia Department of Transportation resident administrator Sean Trapani to find out what steps can be taken to help prevent accidents and eliminate drivers from speeding through town.

Council members also will get their first look at the fiscal year 2008 budget, which will be presented to citizens at a public hearing during the June 14 council meeting.

Cyclists to honor LaPrade

KILMARNOCK—Area cyclists will join others nationwide next week in the Ride of Silence, a ride that mourns all cyclists killed or injured by motorists. The local ride is in honor of cyclist Carter LaPrade of Weems, who was hit and killed by a motorist last year on Route 200 in Northumberland County.

Members of the Northern Neck Cycling Group will begin the ride at 7 p.m. Wednesday, May 16, and proceed on a six-mile route that will take them down Main Street and include segments of Route 200 and Route 3.

Participants will ride no faster than 12 mph and remain silent during the ride. The ride will start from the parking lot behind Noah's Ark on Main Street, accessible from Cralle Court.

The Ride of Silence was started two years ago in Dallas after endurance cyclist Larry Schwartz was killed by a passing bus mirror on an empty road. The ride has spread to cities across the United States and in several countries worldwide.

The ride is intended to raise cycling awareness during bike safety month among motorists, police and city officials.

The ride is open to the public. To participate, contact Jeff Warren at jwarren@kaballero.com, or 435-2597.

Supervisors to consider cluster development plan

HEATHSVILLE—The Northumberland board of supervisors will meet at 7 p.m. tonight (May 10) at the courts building at 39 Judicial Place in Heathsville.

The board will hear from Pim Montgomery with a safe boating proclamation, Sean Trapani on the status of the county's highways, Clint Stables on the schools, Doug

Westmoreland on the construction of the new school, Allyn Gemerek on housing for the elderly, and Joe Madej on current economic development projects.

After breaking for dinner, the board will reconvene at 7 p.m. to hear a request by Kilmarnock Land Development for a permit to construct a cluster development with

288 dwellings on Bluff Point Road near Kilmarnock.

Michael and Peggy Peters are asking the county to abandon a drainage easement on Lot A within Sawmill Cove Subdivision near Burgess.

The school board is asking the county to abandon the bus loops at the Northumberland Middle and Elementary school.

Inside

Water woes:

Leaky tank, pump problems, leave primary school without water; students go home.....B1

300 boats fishing:

Reedville Bluefish Derby expects full fleet for June 8-9 tournament.....A12

River music:

Homegrown music series to open with the Gurley family trio at Belle Isle State Park Saturday at 6 p.m.....A7, B1

Derby Day at Dyer Hall:

Chesapeake Academy's annual auction raises \$120,000; the money will help fund scholarships and other programs to benefit area children.....B8

Letting go:

Parting with the old home place after several generations can be painful for Cowart family descendents.....B1



Market dog tricks: A9

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Upcoming....A2-3,7-10

Windmill Point lady saves rose for Queen

by Lisa Hinton-Valdrighi

On a cold, rainy day in May in eastern Virginia, Dorris H. Stevenson's lifelong wish came true. For a fleeting second, she was in the midst of royalty.

For almost all of her 88 years, Dorris has wanted to see the Queen of England. She always hoped it would be on the streets of London, never dreaming it would be in nearby Williamsburg.

"Momma had been looking forward to this since the day she heard the queen was coming," said Dorris's daughter, Diana de Saavedra. "She watches the news all the time and knew all about where the queen was going."

A native of New Orleans, Dorris drew the attention of several onlookers during Queen Elizabeth's and Prince Philip's visit to historic Williamsburg last Thursday. The petite senior pulled up alongside Duke of Gloucester street in her wheelchair at 10 a.m. and sat, huddled under a blanket and brimmed hat, clenching a yellow rose for nearly eight hours, until the queen passed by at 5:50 p.m.

One gentleman, so struck by Dorris's determination to see the queen, made mention of her that night on the CBS news, saying that seeing her

sitting there patiently waiting all day for a glimpse of Queen Elizabeth "was what the visit was all about."

Although the queen was showered with flowers from well wishers in Richmond and Jamestown, Dorris's single

yellow rose was the only one de Saavedra saw in Williamsburg.

"Momma had held that rose all day and was so upset because she said if she hadn't been fumbling with it and trying to throw it, she would have seen the queen better."

"I still saw her," said Dorris. "But I saw Prince Philip better. When I threw the rose, Prince Philip smiled."

A journalism major who says she knew *Gone With the Wind* author Margaret Mitchell, Dorris has always been a history buff.

"She's always been fascinated with history, not just royalty," said de Saavedra.

Anticipating her trip to Williamsburg like a toddler on Christmas Eve, Dorris didn't sleep a wink the night before, said her health aide, Echo Landon.

A fan of Fox News, Dorris was glued to her television set all last weekend, watching the queen's every move.

"There'll be white tie and tails at the White House tonight," she said Monday. "I hope we get some news on that party."

Dorris moved to the Windmill Point area of White Stone from Georgia a year ago to live with her daughter and son-in-law.



Dorris H. Stevenson sits bundled up on a rainy day in Williamsburg, waiting to see the queen.



Upcoming

A2

Rappahannock Record, Kilmarnock, Va. • May 10, 2007

May 10 Thursday

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.
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.
The RFM Photo Group meets at 2 p.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.
The Wetlands Board for Lancaster County will meet at 9:30 a.m. at the courthouse in Lancaster.
The Irvington Town Council will meet at 7:30 p.m. at the town office.

The Interfaith Service Council will meet at 7:30 p.m. at Wicomico Episcopal Church in Wicomico Church.

The Upper Lancaster Ruritan Club will meet at 6:30 p.m. at the Ruritan Center in Lively.

The Rappahannock Amateur Radio Association will meet at 7:30 p.m. at the Mid-County Volunteer Rescue Squad Building at 7990 Northumberland Highway near Heathsville.

A Cancer Support Group will meet at Rappahannock General Hospital at 3 p.m. 435-8593.

The Board of Supervisors for Northumberland County will meet at 5 p.m. at the courthouse in Heathsville. Public hearings begin at 7 p.m. at the courts building.

Bingo will be played at the American Legion Post on Waverly Avenue in Kilmarnock. Doors open at 6 p.m.

The Northern Neck/Middle Peninsula Chapter of The Virginia Aeronautical Historical Society will hold its annual meeting at the Steamboat Restaurant in the Piankatank River Golf Club. A social hour will begin at 6 p.m., a buffet dinner at 7 p.m.. Advance reservations required.

11 Friday

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

The Second Friday Art Walk will be held in Colonial Beach. 224-8411.

A Spaghetti Supper will be served by the "Home Meals Volunteers" at Henderson United Methodist Church from 5 to 7 p.m. \$5 adults, \$3 children.

A Yard Sale to support the Northumberland County Animal Shelter will be held during the afternoon at the school board office on Route 360 in Lottsburg.



Lifesavers to hold open house

The Kilmarnock Lancaster County Volunteer Rescue Squad will celebrate its 50th anniversary with an open house May 19 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. at 61 Harris Road in Kilmarnock. From left above are Jim Walker, L.P. Schools, Clarence Welch, Jack Long and George Urban. These are just a few of the 25 men who in 1957 organized and started the volunteer rescue squad that continues to serve the community today. Open-house activities will include free medical testing including blood pressure checks, as well as cholesterol and glucose screenings. There also will be free hot dogs and hamburgers.

12 Saturday

A Yard Sale to support the Northumberland County Animal Shelter will be held from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the school board office on Route 360 in Lottsburg.

Adoption Day will be held at the Northumberland County Animal Shelter at Horsehead from 9:30 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Apple Seeds, a Mac User Group, meets at 10:30 a.m. at Rappahannock Westminster-Canterbury in Irvington. All Mac users welcome.

Donk's Theater in Mathews will present Lauren Woodrum in concert at 8 p.m. \$12 adults, \$2 kids. 725-7760, or www.donks-theater.com.

Bill, Pam and Macon Gurley open The Music By The River series at Belle Isle State Park in Lancaster County. Folk, rock, bluegrass, country, originals, gospel. 6 to 8 p.m. Picnics encouraged. \$3 parking fee. 462-5030.

Lamine Soumano will be featured at cafe Mojo in Urbanna. 8 p.m. 758-4141, or www.cafe-mojo.com.

The Eighth Annual Colonial Beach Historical Society Big Band Dance will be held in Colonial Beach. 224-3379.

Mood Swing will perform from noon to 5 p.m. at Jazz in the Vines at Belle Mount Vineyards near Warsaw. \$15. 333-4700.

Art On The Half Shell, a fine art and fine craft festival sponsored by the Middlesex Art Guild, will be from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. on Rappahannock Avenue in Urbanna. 758-0469.

The Urbanna Farmers' Market will be from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. in the parking lot of the Southside Sentinel on Virginia Street on the second Saturday of each month through October. 758-2000 or 758-3941.

12 Saturday

The Annual Pig Pickin' of American Legion Post #82 will be at the post hall on Watson's Landing Road in Saluda. Call 804-512-8023 or 758-2877 for tickets.

The Northern Neck Land Conservancy will hold a Field Day at Shiloh School in Northumberland County from 1 to 4 p.m. The historic school is north of Kilmarnock off Jesse DuPont Memorial Highway on Shiloh School Road.

The Down On The Farm tour will be held at Bearcroft Farm and Cowart's Cannery in Northumberland County with tours from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Brochures are available at the Tidewater RC&D, the Northern Neck Tourism Council, Northern Neck Cooperative Extension, local businesses and libraries. Call 443-1118 to receive one by mail.

A Boat Auction And Nautical Flea Market, sponsored by the Kiwanis Club of the Northern Neck, will be held at Yankee Point Sailboat Marina at 1303 Oak Hill Road in Lancaster County. The flea market will open at 8 a.m. and the auction will start at 10 a.m. 462-7018.

12 Saturday

A Lecture, "Serving Robert E. Lee: Young Virginians in the Army of Northern Virginia," will be presented by University of North Carolina/Greensboro professor Peter S. Carmichael at Stratford Hall. The free lecture will begin at 2 p.m. in the Council House. To reserve a seat, call 493-8038, ext. 8504.

A Health Fair will be held at First Baptist Church near Heathsville from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Three will be professionals to do various screenings, as well as a chiropractor and a dentist. **A Yard Sale** will be held at 7 a.m. at the Bethel-Emmanuel United Methodist Men's warehouse on Route 201 South of Lively.

(continued on page A3)

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May 19th - Rain or Shine - Kilmarnock - 8 am - 2 pm

PLAYGROUND
Yard Sale

At the corner of Irvington Road and Old Salem

Donations for the Yard Sale can be dropped off at the location on Wednesday the 16th, from 1:00 until 3:00 pm.

To make a tax deductible donation for the playground send checks to:
Kiwanis Club - Kids Foundation
Attn: Playground
Po Box 735, Kilmarnock, VA 22482

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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.

LANCASTER LANDING RESTAURANT: Great American dining with spectacular sunset/river views! Located at the foot of the White Stone Bridge. Hours: Tues-Thurs 4-12, Fri-Sat 4-1:30, Sun 11-7. Prime Rib and Seafood Buffet, Sat. 5-8. 436-9060

LEE'S RESTAURANT Hometown cooking and atmosphere in a popular downtown Kilmarnock tradition. Full menu, fresh local seafood in season, homemade pies made daily, Beer & Wine on premises. (B,L,D) Main St. Kilmarnock, 435-1255

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ROSE'S CRAB HOUSE AND RAW BAR: Relax and savor delicious food inside or on the deck outside. Enjoy live entertainment. L/D. Open daily, closed Tuesday, Sunday Brunch 11-3. (888) 323-CRAB (2722) or 456-8439. Across from Holiday Inn.

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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, General Manager Kathleen Fitzpatrick and their staff in a warm and inviting atmosphere with full bar and an extensive wine list. Reservations accepted, walk-ins welcome. 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 436-TALK (8255). Open 7 days a week.

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

TOWN BISTRO: Casual upscale dining in an intimate setting. Featuring a Seasonal Menu of locally inspired dishes. Open Kitchen. Full Bar. Tuesday-Saturday Dinner Only. Chef owned and operated. 62 Irvington Road, Kilmarnock. 435-0070.

UPPER DECK CRAB & RIB HOUSE: Featuring fresh local seafood in an inviting riverfront atmosphere. Thurs. 5-8pm, Friday 5-10pm, Sat. 5pm-10pm, 1947 Rocky Neck Road, Mollusk, VA. Near Lively.

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

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<p>FRI MAY 11</p> <p>28 WEEKS LATER (R) 4:45, 7:20, 9:45 PERFECT STRANGER (R) 2:25, 5:15, 7:25, 9:35 SPIDERMAN 3 (PG13) 4:00, 7:00, 9:55 SHOOTER (R) 4:30, 7:10 NEXT (PG13) 9:40 ARE WE DONE YET? (PG) 5:25, 7:30, 9:30</p> <p>SUN MAY 13</p> <p>28 WEEKS LATER (R) 2:15, 4:45, 7:20 PERFECT STRANGER (R) 2:25, 5:15, 7:25 SPIDERMAN 3 (PG13) 1:00, 4:00, 7:00 SHOOTER (R) 4:30, 7:10 NEXT (PG13) 2:00 ARE WE DONE YET? (PG) 1:15, 3:20, 5:25, 7:30</p> <p>WED-THURS MAY 16-17</p> <p>28 WEEKS LATER (R) 7:20 PERFECT STRANGER (R) 7:25</p>	<p>SAT MAY 12</p> <p>28 WEEKS LATER (R) 2:15, 4:45, 7:20, 9:45 PERFECT STRANGER (R) 2:25, 5:15, 7:25, 9:35 SPIDERMAN 3 (PG13) 1:00, 4:00, 7:00, 9:55 SHOOTER (R) 4:30, 7:10 NEXT (PG13) 2:00, 9:40 ARE WE DONE YET? (PG) 1:15, 3:20, 5:25, 7:30, 9:30</p> <p>MON-TUES MAY 14-15</p> <p>28 WEEKS LATER (R) 7:20 PERFECT STRANGER (R) 7:25 SPIDERMAN 3 (PG13) 7:00 SHOOTER (R) 7:10 ARE WE DONE YET? (PG) 7:30</p> <p>SPIDERMAN 3 (PG13) 7:00 NEXT (PG13) 7:10 ARE WE DONE YET? (PG) 7:30</p>
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Upcoming

(continued on from A2)

12 Saturday

The Rappahannock Amateur Radio Association will meet at 7:30 p.m. at the Mid-County Volunteer Rescue Squad Building at 7990 Northumberland Highway near Heathsville. Jeff Newsome will speak on the use of digital methods of communication. The Middle Peninsula African-American Genealogical And Historical Society will meet at 11 a.m. at the Essex County Public Library at 117 North Church Lane in Tappahannock. 321-1206

13 Sunday Mother's Day

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

The Bad Buoy, a Northern Neck Bay Tones barbershop quartet, will entertain visitors from 1 to 3 p.m. in the tasting room at Athena Vineyards off Route 200 near Glebe Point.

The Kilmarnock Cruise-In will be held in the Chesapeake Commons parking lot at 4 p.m. 435-6171.

A Pancake Breakfast will be served from 7 to 11 a.m. at the Colonial Beach Volunteer Fire Department. 224-7255.

A Mother's Day Appreciation Event will be held at Ingleside Vineyards from 1 to 5 p.m. Refreshments, tours, tastings and a free rose for mom. 224-8687.

13 Sunday

A Mother's Day Celebration will be held at Westmoreland Berry Farm. Moms get a free sundae. 224-9171.

A Mother's Day Buffet will be featured in the Plantation Dining Room at Stratford Hall. Enjoy the springtime gardens, and stroll the nature trails. Buffet reservations required. Seatings are available at 11 a.m. and 2 p.m. Call 493-8038, extension 8504.

14 Monday

The Historyland Community Workshop volunteer craft group meets at the Lancaster Woman's Club from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Brown bag lunch. Guests welcome.

Flotilla 33 of the U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary meets at 7:30 p.m. in Grace House of Grace Episcopal Church in Kilmarnock.

A Bird Walk will be conducted by the Northern Neck Audubon Society on the Dragon Run. Participants will meet at Grace Episcopal Church in Kilmarnock at 7:45 a.m., or the Saluda Food Lion at 8:15 a.m. to carpool to the site. 580-2963.

A Neuromuscular Support Group will meet at 10 a.m. at the Riverside Wellness Center on Hobbs Hole Road in Tappahannock. A presentation on the cognitive problems related to neuromuscular deficiencies will be given by Kathleen Watson. 580-7315.

14 Monday

The Cobbs Hall Chapter, Daughters of the American Revolution, will meet at 1 p.m. at Rappahannock Westminster-Canterbury. Speaker Carl Failmezger will address "Estate Planning."

The Lancaster-Northumberland Relay For Life group will hold a team meeting at Fairfields United Methodist Church in Burgess at 6:30 p.m. Teams can consist of friends and family, and acquaintances in business, church and civic groups. 453-3621.

The Northumberland County Democratic Committee will meet at 7 p.m. at the Northumberland Public Library in Heathsville.

The Lancaster County School Board will meet at 6 p.m. at Lancaster Middle School in Kilmarnock.

The Northumberland School Board will meet at 5:30 p.m. at the school board office in Lottsburg.

The Lancaster Board of Supervisors will hold a work session on the county budget at 3 p.m. in the General District courtroom.

15 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.

A Bridge Discussion Group will meet at 9:30 a.m. at the Woman's Club of Lancaster's clubhouse in Lancaster. \$5. 462-0742.

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

A Yard Sale to support the Northumberland County Animal Shelter will be held during the morning at the school board office on Route 360 in Lottsburg.

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

The Corrotoman Seniors will meet at 10 a.m. at the Ruritan Club near Lively.

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

A Depression Recovery Support Group will meet at 2 p.m. at the Seventh-Day Adventist Church in Kilmarnock. 758-8110.

The Kilmarnock Garden Club will hold a luncheon at noon at Indian Creek Yacht and Country Club. 435-6877.

The Republican Committee for Lancaster County will conduct a mass meeting at 7 p.m. at Chesapeake Bank Training Center on School Street in Kilmarnock. Candidates for local office interested in the support of the Republican Party will be present.

16 Wednesday

The Rotary Breakfast Club meets at 7:30 a.m. at Lee's Restaurant in Kilmarnock.

16 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.

A Parkinson's Support Group will meet at Rappahannock Westminster-Canterbury at 2 p.m. 435-9553.

Sandwich Bridge will be played at the Woman's Club of Lancaster. For reservations, call 462-0742.

A Star Gazing Talk will be conducted by NASA astronomer Kathy Miles at the Lancaster Community Library in Kilmarnock in conjunction with a field session at Belle Isle State Park on May 18. The talk, from 7 to 9 p.m., is free.

Adoption Day will be held at the Northumberland County Animal Shelter at Horsehead from 9:30 a.m. to 2 p.m.

17 Thursday

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.

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 Retired Teachers Association for Lancaster and Northumberland counties will meet at 10 a.m. at the Bank of Lancaster northside branch in Kilmarnock. Del. Rob Wittman will speak.

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Fiction or Fact

from Bob's Almanac

by Robert Mason Jr.

How rude.

No, how crude.

The Town of Kilmarnock spends millions of dollars to make the downtown more inviting to guests.

Then promotes events to attract folks for an evening, and afternoon, or even a whole day of eating, drinking and merriment.

And there isn't a public restroom for them to use.

Step toe's District is lacking a permanent municipal restroom facility.

If town council is so intent on spending our money on press boxes and restrooms outside of town at least build presentable accommodations downtown first.

Of course, there are facilities available in some restaurants and other businesses. But who knew? And where?

And isn't that asking a little much of businesses?

Many folks feel uncomfortable calling on a business or restaurant just to use the restroom.

If we make our visitors feel uncomfortable, they won't come back.

The temporary portable toilets just don't cut it. Not when you're trying to promote the downtown area with a little class.

With the removal of the trees to make room for the new and improved sidewalks, there's not even a decent bush to step behind.

Lots of other resort towns or cities in Virginia and elsewhere provide public restrooms for their visitors. It's part of being a good host.

Just a simple block structure on the corner of one of the municipal parking lots would be reasonable. Staff to keep it clean and in regular working order is not too much to ask.

Maybe there's room at the new children's playground for such a facility.

I don't think we should expect anyone to hold it until the new municipal complex is built.

Excerpts

by Henry Lane Hull

One afternoon a half century ago, my parents and I were stopped at a traffic light at Fourteenth Street and Pennsylvania Avenue in Washington on our way down to the Northern Neck. The Willard Hotel was to our right and the Willard Building to our left. When the light changed, the police did not allow us to pass because a motorcade was coming, one in which President Eisenhower was accompanying Queen Elizabeth II of England on her way to address a Joint Session of Congress.

Within a few moments they passed in front of us, riding in the old bubble-top limousine, which allowed the public excellent views of the important passengers inside. A contingent of police motorcycles preceded them, but they were gone in a flash.

In those days when John F. Kennedy was a Senator with six years remaining in his life, security was serious, but not to the magnitude that it became after the assassinations in Dallas, Memphis, and Los Angeles. After all, the Puerto Rican nationalist assassination attempt on President Truman had taken place only four blocks away seven years earlier.

I thought of that afternoon when I learned that 50 years after that visit to commemorate the 350th anniversary of the landing at Jamestown, the Queen would be making a return to see the new findings in archeology. I proposed, and my family assented, to our going over to Williamsburg to see the Queen on this new anniversary visit.

We expected to have to park in Yorktown and walk the length of the Colonial Parkway to get into the historic district, but to our surprise we drove straight there, and parked three blocks from the Governor's Mansion, in a block with several other vacant spaces. We walked over, and waited with a couple of hundred other folks, not the thousands we envisioned, and after the luncheon we saw the Cheneys, Justice O'Connor, and Alan Greenspan depart.

Next came the Queen, having changed her outfit

from the Jamestown jaunt. She entered her limousine, bearing the Royal Standard flag, on our side, waved to all of us assembled about 200 feet away, and then pulled off to the Wren Building at The College of William and Mary. She passed us in close proximity, waved again, and then we saw her a third time as she left William and Mary for the airport to engage in watching the sport of kings and queens at the Kentucky Derby.

Security, like the crowd of onlookers, was much less than we expected. The weather was perfect, but people did not appear in the numbers we, or the authorities, anticipated. I suspected that more people were visiting "The Olde Country" at Busch Gardens than watching history in the making. At one point, I thought fewer onlookers were present than media gurus, all of whom were poised to offer their feeders instant analysis of what was happening.

The Queen's attire is not a simple matter. Aides came to Williamsburg months ago to make certain that none of her apparel would clash with furnishings in any of the buildings she was to visit. As she never wears the same thing twice, the luggage factor on a trip of this duration is significant.

I should not say that Friday afternoon qualifies us a family of royal watchers, but I was happy that at about the same age, the B.E.s could have a similar experience to mine of 50 years ago. In 1957, I saw a young monarch of 31, on the throne for only five years, seeing America for the first time. Much water has gone over the dam since that rainy afternoon, but the Queen, now 81, has been a constant through that course of history. Perhaps that is what monarchy really means.

On Monday, the elder B.E. said that he could not comprehend that with the same pair of eyes that he had seen his pet goat in the morning, he had seen the Queen of England in the afternoon. When I heard that, I thought it safe to count the day up as a success.

Letters to the Editor

Generals not worthy of their soldiers?

From Michael Morchower, Irvington

Whenever I'm contacted about a letter appearing in the Record, I can't help but think, why call me when they can write their own letter.

A recent Friday night caller asked about my military background, unhappy about my negative military comments. I was first introduced to the military when I was a student at New York Military Academy. Notwithstanding a little research, anyone can investigate the success and failures of U.S. generals in the Iraq war.

Some military analysts have concluded that Gen. Tommy R. Franks, Lt. Gen. Ricardo S. Sanchez, Lt. Gen. Raymond T. Odierno and other top U.S. commanders performed poorly in the Iraq war. Why? Because they underestimated the enemy, had poor strategy and made overly optimistic combat assessments.

Generally it's believed that the U.S. Army also blundered in its handling of abuses at Abu Ghraib prison.

Let's be clear about one thing: no criticism can be directed at our brave soldiers. They are fighting heroically and are not responsible for poor military decisions in Iraq. As one active duty officer recently said, "Our

generals are not worthy of their soldiers."

We are now being told that Gen. David H. Petraeus' new "surge" strategy should be given an opportunity to succeed in this fifth year of the Iraq war. It has been said by cynics that the "surge" is nothing more than a Bush maneuver to buy more time in order to hand the war over to the next president.

Why did it take four years of failure to suddenly try this so-called "surge" strategy?

Why doesn't the military demote and dismiss incompetent generals?

Why did we go to war with too few troops, inferior equipment and no coherent plan for post-war stabilization?

Who is responsible for overestimating the capabilities of Iraq's government and its security forces?

Why did our generals find it necessary to lie about how Pat Tillman died in combat?

Maybe former C.I.A. Director George J. Tenet's book, *At the Center of the Storm* will answer some of these questions and other issues about the misguided invasion of Iraq.

In all probability, it will take congressional hearings with witnesses under oath before the whole truth emerges.

Letters to the Editor

Seeking more of Dr. Moore

From Lloyd and Lou Dietrich, Kilmarnock

Flipping through our weekly edition of the Rappahannock Record, we always find news we can use when we locate Dr. George Moore's medical column.

Regrettably, it appears only sporadically, not because the venerable Dr. Moore has writer's block, but because he is too productive, with several unprinted articles for the editor.

Given this age of evolving medical services, newly discovered drugs, and of pharmaceuticalism, as seen in the plethora of drug advertising, the reading public needs someone to sort it out, which Dr. Moore does admirably. Surely his public service should be given the highest news priority. At a minimum, the Rappahannock Record should make his articles available on its website.

We are very appreciative that the Rappahannock Record occasionally presents Dr. Moore's articles. This is a plea for an expansion of an invaluable public resource.

Silence gives consent

From Lloyd N. Hill, Weems

I have been observing the comments pundits have been making about the racist and sexist remarks of Don Imus, concerning the Rutgers women's basketball team.

All civil minded people must condemn the inappropriateness and crassness of his words. However, I don't believe he should have been fired for using them. Imus has been on the airwaves for over 25 years with the same show. His bosses knew its format and listeners knew what to expect. If the company employing him had a zero tolerance policy, it should have been written into his contract. A breach would then justify his dismissal.

But to be silent about such language for years gave it tacit approval. To suddenly act as if this were the last straw, borders on hypocrisy.

There comes a time when enough is enough. But, a person deserves to be placed on notice when less tolerance is in effect. He used the offending words in conversations every day, which doesn't make them any less

offensive, but lends credence to the silent consent they were given for years.

As a nation, we have tolerated increasing displays of sex, smut and violence to the degree that we have almost become immune to it. It all stinks, but we don't smell it anymore. We allow the boundaries of common decency to be pushed further and further away under the banner of free speech.

Imus is a symptom of what we have fostered. We allow television shows to peddle filth and violence and we allow artists to glorify a gangster mentality and culture. Underwear has now become outerwear because we buy clothes three sizes too large for our kids and then don't make them wear belts. We allow our kids to pierce and place tattoos on every part of their bodies. I believe all this contributes to the lowering of the bar of common decency, which helped to keep the Imus types around for years.

We are the problem. Our sense of smell must become more attuned to what stinks and we must put a stop to it. All the Imus types must be placed on notice and given the boot if they don't clean up their acts. This includes the artists and the industries that promote them.

CBS acknowledged that Imus's programming was extraordinary, irreverent, intellectual and controversial. In other words, he was what he was hired for and they were pleased. I understand that they have now made a business decision after a large public outcry. But prior

to that, the industry and Imus simply did what we allowed. We buy the music and we view the shows. Where is our responsibility in all this?

Finally, a person may call you anything. It is what you answer that really matters. Our young ladies must understand that they don't have to respond to offensive and degrading greetings. A person's opinion of you does not have to become your reality. I welcome the long overdue spotlight that Imus' remarks have cast on this issue.

Congress seeks to do the will of the voters

From William H. Fleischman, Wicomico Church

President Bush asserts that Congress is playing "politics" when it seeks to limit spending for the Iraq occupation and that Congress is seeking to "micro-manage" military affairs there.

The Speaker of the House, Ms. Pelosi, asserts that the attempt to limit funding is not a matter of "politics," but merely an attempt to express the public's view of the matter.

It is useful, in my view, to consider portions of the U.S. Constitution that are pertinent to this dispute.

Article I, Section I of the Constitution provides that our voters will decide the representation for the entire House of Representatives every two years. Article I, Section 2 provides that our voters will decide representation of one-third of the Senate every two

years.

This occurred in November 2006. There is little doubt for some—I being one—that the voters' actions, which had the effect of changing "political," as in "party," control of the House and Senate resulted from negative opinions about our Iraq occupation.

As intended by the framers of the Constitution, perfecting meshing with how the voters may change the House and the Senate every two years, the Constitution includes the following in Article I, Section 8: "The Congress shall have Power...[t]o raise and support Armies, but no Appropriation of Money to that use shall be for a longer Term than two years[.]"

That is, if it is not already beyond doubt, what the framers intended and the Constitution thus provides every two years, as representation in the House and Senate may change with voter preferences, Congress shall decide funding for the army. Interesting enough and as explained at the time, a similar provision does not exist for funding of the navy.

The framers intended that the Congress shall be able to do what the Congress now seeks to do. It is a "political" act perfectly in accord with the Constitution and the framers intent.

I suggest that the term "macro-management" is the accurate term for what Congress has been seeking to do. "Micro-management" is generally understood to apply to what is done at the ground or office level within an overall policy. "Macro-management" aims at the policy itself.

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Delegate's Report

by Del. Robert J. Wittman

On May 1, a rededication ceremony took place on the steps of the Virginia State Capitol.

Since construction began on the Virginia State Capitol in 1785, there have been very few renovations. In 1904, wings were added to the building on the east and west sides for new Senate and House of Delegates chambers. In 1927 and 1954, there were renovations to the Old House of Delegates Chamber and the Old Senate Chamber, respectively.

The renovations over the past two years have included replacing the mechanical, plumbing and storm water systems; replacing heating, air conditioning and electrical distribution systems; preventing water and moisture penetration into the building; restoring architectural and historic features, such as the original decorative painting; renovating and replacing exterior surfaces, and constructing an extension for a visitor's center underground on the south side of the Capitol.

When Thomas Jefferson designed the Capitol, he desired that it be entered through the south entrance. For many years

the members and public have used the west wing to enter the Capitol. While this makes sense for convenience reasons, it leaves the beautiful south entrance unseen by many. The new entrance to the Capitol will be underground and will enhance the visitors' experience by providing the best view of the Capitol from the south, the way Thomas Jefferson intended the building to be seen.

The extension of the entrance underground south of the Capitol also increases space for visitors and government employees, without constructing another building. The creation of this space allows for expansion of a visitors' center, exhibition space, handicapped access, climate control, legislature workspace, increased security, improved media facilities and special meeting space.

Another historically significant event last week was a visit to Virginia by Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II. When the Queen arrived, the Governor and First Lady of Virginia greeted her. She was escorted into the Governor's Mansion where she met six former governors of Virginia;

Holton, Baliles, Robb, Wilder, Allen, and Warner.

The Queen then walked around the Capitol lawn, greeting members of the public who had come to see her. She attended a greeting ceremony at the main entrance on the south side of the Capitol, after which she was given a tour of the Capitol by Gov. Kaine. She then addressed members of the General Assembly and their guests noting her trip to Virginia in 1957 to celebrate the 350th anniversary of Jamestown, and how much the nation had grown since then. In her remarks she also noted the close friendship between the United States and England and expressed her country's deepest sympathies for the recent tragedy at Virginia Tech. During her visit, she met with members from the Virginia Tech community who had been affected by the tragedy.

It was nice to see so many people take an active role in these two historical events. Many people turned out to see the Queen from all over Virginia, including the Northern Neck.

I can be reached at 493-0508, or delrwittman@house.state.va.us.

Letters to the Editor



From the top are the Virginia, Culpepper and Gadsden flags, inscribed "Sic Semper Tyrannis" ("Thus Always to Tyrants") and "Don't Tread on Me."

What do these flags mean?

From Kendall Acors, Dragonfly Point

These flags are symbolic of the American Revolution and mean what they say. They evoke our hard-earned rights. Yet now in Lancaster County the Comprehensive Plan and the Highway Corridor Overlay Plan aim to restrict some of those rights by restricting development of private property without due cause and without compensation.

Property owners should know how these proposed regulations will affect them and their use of their property. For details, they may visit the county's web site or visit the court house.

The highway corridor overlay currently affects Routes 3, 200 and 354. It would also include Routes 695 and 201 except that at the May 18, 2006, planning commission meeting Jack Larson asked the commission's views on adding them to the overlay plan, commission member McCann said he did not agree with that proposal. He pointed out that for most of its length, Route 695 did not have 800 feet of land off the road. He gave no reason for excluding Route 201.

I note that McCann owns 19.7 acres on Route 695.

I also note that another commission member, Mr. Gill, owns 192 acres of land on Route 201.

The stated intent of the corridor overlay plan is to protect the public health, safety and welfare. These are rightful purposes of zoning, but do they bear scrutiny in this case?

The plan calls for a setback of 400 feet for 33.9 miles of two-lane highway and a setback of 250 feet for 5.1 miles of four-lane highway. Can the commission possibly think that the affected routes need to be protected from nitrate runoff or other hazards to that extent when the Chesapeake Bay Act only calls for a 100-foot to protect the bay?

The plan has one and a half pages about highway access, the number of access points, the minimum sight distances and "shared access and reverse frontage," none of which would be improved by increasing the setbacks as proposed. Safety or lack thereof concerns about one car-length from the highway. An increase of 175 feet or more doesn't help the line-of-sight, or anything else.

One rationale for the increased setbacks is to allow for highway expansion. Two-lane Route 3 is

40 feet wide ditch to ditch. Four-lane Route 3 is 120 feet wide. Even assuming that Route 3 will someday be six lanes wide, there will never be a need for 250 on each side. If all of Routes 3, 200 and 354 are expanded to four lanes, homes built behind the proposed 400-foot setback would have front yards longer than a football field.

One wonders if lawn care and driveway maintenance companies are behind this scheme.

In last week's "A Closer Look" Jane Tims explained that land owners receive income tax credits and property tax reductions when they grant land for conservation purposes.

This clearly acknowledges that the foregone development rights belong to the landowner and have value. Yet if the same rights are depleted by local and arbitrary regulations (Route 201 is included, Route 200 is excluded) how is the land owner compensated and how is the value determined? How will the tax base be reduced? How is this taking justified? I have not heard any answer from the authorities.

It seems that the only way that the overlay plan modification can be introduced in this zoning regulation is that control of "the visible element of the county" furthers the public welfare. The view from a car window is all important in this plan. McCann has said repeatedly that he doesn't want Lancaster County to look like Anywhere, USA.

This is evident in the two and a half pages of proposed landscaping regulations outlining the size, type and number of plants to "completely screen development closer than the otherwise established minimum setback." Any new buildings must be hidden from passing traffic.

In this scheme, the view of the public usurps the rights of the landowner. Yet legally no one has a free and clear right to a view across your land. Otherwise owners of waterfront lots could be prevented from building on them because a homeowner behind them could have his view blocked.

The proposed overlay plan modification is clearly about the view. Anything except forming and forestry will require a special exception. This taking will make the property owner bear the burden of the public's appetite for a view to which they have no claim.

If your rights are not affected by this proposed taking of 3,400 acres, they may be next time.

Martin Luther King Jr. said, "Our lives begin to end the day we become silent about things that matter."

New climate panel report

From Norm Mosher, Irvington

Working Group III of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change published its Summary for Policy Makers last Friday.

A network of 2,000 scientists prepared and submitted the report to delegates from 120 countries which, after negotiating the language of the findings and conclusions, approved the first roadmap for stemming greenhouse gas emissions through increasing the energy efficiency of buildings and vehicles, shifting from fossil fuels to renewable fuels and reforming forestry and farming sectors. The good news is that all the technology required is avail-

able now. There is no technological reason for delay.

A strong message of the report was that reaching the lowest emission targets could be done at less than 3 percent of global domestic product by 2030. This finding is higher than reported in the "Stern Review," an analysis concluded last year and published in book form as *The Economics of Climate Change* by Sir Nicholas Stern, head of the UK Government Economic Service and formerly Chief Economist at the World Bank. Stern's analysis estimated that costs associated with reducing greenhouse gas emissions to avoid the worst impacts of climate change could be kept as low as 1 percent of global GDP each year. On the other hand, his report noted that if we don't act—that is, do nothing—the overall costs and risks of climate change will be equivalent to losing at least 5 percent of global GDP each year with the possibility of that figure rising to 20 percent.

The Summary for Policy Makers of Working Group III's report is available at the Lancaster Community Library in Kilmarnock along with the two previous reports. They are not easy reading, and, often, they contain internal inconsistencies. For example, in the summary presented by Working Group I, modest sea level rise in various scenarios is associated with temperature increases that the report identifies elsewhere as being associated in climate history with the loss of all ice on Greenland which resulted in sea level rise of 4 to 6 meters (about 13 to 20 feet). The reader must constantly keep in mind that these reports are negotiated line for line with politicians from the participating nations. Imagine how hard it is to get the representative from Saudi Arabia to agree that a major reduction in the world's consumption of oil is necessary if we are to begin to reduce emissions of greenhouse gasses.

While Working Group III reported on likely costs of reducing greenhouse gas emissions, it was noted, as well, that significant economic potential exists in the process. For instance, policies that provide a real or implicit price of carbon will create incentives for producers and consumers to significantly invest in low-GHG products, technologies, and processes. Nations alert to these opportunities are likely to develop significant competitive advantages. For instance, Germany has made a major commitment to solar energy and intends to be the world leader in photovoltaics. Wind turbine technology is advancing, but not here in the United States. We are beginning to see movement in the new Congress that will address climate change. That's good news.

Meanwhile, here in Lancaster County, much can be done. The board of supervisors has not seen fit, as have other counties, to make home improvements to reduce energy demand exempt from property tax evaluation. That is fully within their power, and citizens who wish to install solar panels or a solar water heater should be given that minor incentive to do so.

I understand there is talk of building a new courthouse. If the board of supervisors fails to create a carbon neutral standard for that building, they will have failed in their duty. The American Institute of Architects has established a Project 2030 with a goal of designing only carbon neutral buildings by 2030. The technology and design know-how exists. The costs to operate these buildings will be much reduced, and for a public building, lower operating costs translate to a lower demand for tax dollars. The board of supervisors can do much to begin moving Lancaster County to being a "cool county."

Experience counts

From Eric F. Nost, White Stone

I am very pleased to support Sheriff Ronnie Crockett for reelection to another term as our county's top law enforcement officer.

Sheriff Crockett has served the residents of Lancaster with honor and distinction for over 23 years. His genuine commitment to keep Lancaster safe is clearly evident in over a dozen community outreach programs his office sponsors every year.

As our county grows, especially with the opening of a new Wal-Mart, I want an experienced sheriff at the helm. Ronnie Crockett has worked hard to assemble a team of professional law enforcement officers that are well-prepared to deal with the influx of people from surrounding counties when Wal-Mart opens its doors.

I urge all residents of Lancaster to support Sheriff Crockett. He has earned our trust many times over.

Resurrecting a classic novel

From Eileen N. Wagner, White Stone

Seasick. Forty years later, I might have called it norovirus. With a college deadline pressing hard upon me to finish Herman Melville's epic novel, *Moby Dick*, I could only describe my coincidental illness as feeling out-to-sea without sea-legs.

Reading all the graphic descriptions of a sperm whale's anatomy, inside out, and the details of reducing tons of blubber to barrels of oil, did not help my gastrointestinal distress one bit. Why couldn't Melville just tell the tale of the monomaniac Captain Ahab, as his ship pursued that albino leviathan that chomped off his leg, without subjecting the poor reader to a gory dissection of the entire species?

A quiz show question brought back this memory. "What's the origin of Starbuck?" I shouted at the radio: "Starbuck was first mate on the Pequod! Er, wasn't he?" The doubt obliged me to read the novel again.

This time, with a stomach on calm waters, I found the biology lessons not only accurate and informative but also in sync with current environmental philosophy. Since I moved to the Northern Neck five years ago, I've had a chance to consider the lives and habitats of oysters, crabs and menhaden because I asked my students to write research papers about local controversies. Sperm whales were just as interesting. I hadn't noticed on my first reading that the talk of the Pequod's shipmates was downright hilarious.

When I was a college student, I didn't know a thing about the art and skill experienced watermen used in the harvest. It never crossed my mind that such watermen might have an intimate relationship with the creatures they fished. But Melville knew. Out of the mouths of harpooners and oarsmen came thoughtful analysis of environmental threats such as over-fishing.

I can't help wondering what might have happened had the Pequod been swarmed by a flotilla of Green Peace activists.

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From left are chairman Ed Gillespie, Burnie Chewning and Tom Foley. (Photo by Tom van Auken)

Chewning receives GOP award

Former Mayfair House resident Burnie Chewning recently received the Governor's Award from Ed Gillespie, chairman of the Republican Party of Virginia, for his efforts on behalf of the Republican Party.

Chewning was recommended for the award by former Middlesex County GOP chairman Tom Foley, in his 10th year as a member of the State Central Committee of the Republican Party of Virginia. A panel of congressional district

chairmen recognized Chewning after reviewing recommendations received from throughout the Commonwealth. Chewning now lives in Urbanna.

Later that day, Foley and Chewning met with former Governor Gilmore for his presidential pre-announcement. Previously, Foley met Mayor Guilliani at the offices of former Attorney General Jerry Kilgore who is heading the Guilliani campaign in Virginia.

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Pollard opens headquarters

Albert Pollard, a candidate for Virginia Senate in District 28, recently opened his campaign headquarters at 5422 Mary Ball Road in Lively. From left are Pollard and campaign manager Krista Anderson. "The response has been flattering and overwhelming. I attribute this not only to the 'people before party' attitude I represent, but also because of my past work for education, responsible growth and economic development," said Pollard. He officially launched his campaign for the Democratic Party nomination May 5 in Stafford County.



Del. Wittman backs Stuart

Del. Rob Wittman (left) recently endorsed Richard Stuart (right) for the Republican nomination for Virginia Senate in District 28. "Richard is just the kind of person this area needs in the Virginia Senate and I am proud to endorse him," said Del. Wittman. "His values are in keeping with those of the Northern Neck and his common-sense conservative vision will help strengthen this region and all of Virginia. He will be a strong ally in the fight to keep taxes low, protect our traditional Virginia values and defend our constitutional freedoms." Stuart, a former Commonwealth's attorney for Westmoreland County, also has gained support from House Speaker Bill Howell and retiring Sen. John Chichester.

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Northumberland Democrats will sponsor family picnic

The Northumberland Democrats organization will hold a family picnic May 19 from noon to 4 p.m. in Heathsville. This "meet the candidates" event will be held, rain or shine, at the Pavilion where Knights Run meets Courthouse Road. "We're inviting people to pack a picnic lunch and bring the family. They will get a chance

to meet our local candidates for election in November and discuss the issues with them," said Bob Lindsey, vice chair of the Northumberland County Democratic Committee. "We'll provide fruit cobbler and ice cream for dessert." Admission is \$5 per person. Children under age 5 will be admitted free. In order to plan

for attendance, it is helpful to purchase tickets in advance; however, tickets may be purchased at the picnic. All the candidates for board

of supervisors and other county offices have been invited to attend. For ticket purchase, please contact Sadie Gee at 453-5043, or Kitty Creeth at 453-5859.

LOST: A generation of American black boys

by Phillip Jackson

There is no longer a need for dire predictions, hand-wringing, or apprehension about losing a generation of black boys. It is too late.

In education, employment, economics, incarceration, health, housing and parenting, we have lost a generation of young black men. The question that remains is will we lose the next two or three generations, or possibly every generation of black boys hereafter to the streets, negative media, gangs, drugs, poor education, unemployment, father absence, crime, violence and death?

Most young black men in the United States don't graduate from high school. Only 35 percent of black male students graduated from high school in Chicago and only 26 percent in New York City, according to a 2006 report by The Schott Foundation for Public Education. Only a few black boys who finish high school actually attend college, and of those few black boys who enter college, nationally, only 22 percent of them finish college.

Young black male students have the worst grades, the lowest test scores, and the highest dropout rates of all students in the country. When these young black men don't succeed in school, they are much more likely to succeed in the nation's criminal justice and penitentiary system.

It was discovered recently that even when a young black man graduates from a U.S. college, there is a good chance that he is from Africa, the Caribbean or Europe, not the U.S.

Black men in prison in America have become as American as apple pie. There are more black men in prisons and jails in the U.S. (about 1.1 million) than there are black men incarcerated in the rest of the world combined. This criminalization process now starts in elementary schools with black male children as young as six and seven years old being arrested in staggering numbers according to a 2005 report, Education on Lockdown by the Advancement Project.

The rest of the world is watching and following the lead of America. Other countries including England, Canada, Jamaica, Brazil and South Africa are adopting American social policies that encourage the incarceration and

destruction of young black men. This is leading to a world-wide catastrophe. But still, there is no adequate response from the American or global black community.

Worst of all is the passivity, neglect and disengagement of the black community concerning the future of our black boys. We do little while the future lives of black boys are being destroyed in record numbers. The schools that black boys attend prepare them with skills that will make them obsolete before, and if, they graduate.

In a strange and perverse way, the black community, itself, has started to wage a kind of war against young black men and has become part of this destructive process.

Who are young black women going to marry? Who is going to build and maintain the economies of black communities? Who is going to anchor strong families in the black community? Who will young black boys emulate as they grow into men? Where is the outrage of the black community at the destruction of its black boys? Where are the plans and the supportive actions to change this? Is this the beginning of the end of the black people in America?

The list of those who have failed young black men includes our government, our foundations, our schools, our media, our black churches, our black leaders and even our parents. Ironically, experts say that the solutions to the problems of young black men are simple and relatively inexpensive, but they may not be easy, practical or popular.

It is not that we lack solutions as much as it is that we lack the will to implement these solutions to save black boys. It seems that government is willing to pay billions of dollars to lock up black men, rather than the millions it would take to prepare them to become viable contributors and valued members of our society.

Consider these short term goals that can lead to solutions for fixing the problems of young black men:

- Teach all black boys to read at grade level by the third grade and to embrace education.
- Provide positive role models for black boys.
- Create a stable home environment for black boys that includes contact with their fathers.
- Ensure that black boys have a strong spiritual base.
- Control the negative media influences on black boys.
- Teach black boys to respect all girls and women.
- Also, consider these long term goals:
 - Invest as much money in educating black boys as in locking up black men.
 - Help connect black boys to a positive vision of themselves in the future.
 - Create high expectations and help black boys live into those high expectations.
 - Build a positive peer culture for black boys.
 - Teach black boys self-discipline, culture and history.
 - Teach black boys and the communities in which they live to embrace education and life-long learning.

(Phillip Jackson is executive director of The Black Star Project in Chicago, Illinois).

Rep. Davis unveils new website

Rep. Jo Ann Davis recently announced a new website. The new site features updated appearance, easy-to-read text and launched a navigation bar to easily find constituent services.

Visitors will find many 24-hour services to help them contact Mrs. Davis, arrange a visit to Washington, D.C., or schedule a meeting directly with her scheduler.

"Today, the internet is used for much more than just research. I wanted to bring my website up to date and create a '24-hour office' where visitors to my site can find important Congressional information at their fingertips at any time of day or night," said Rep. Davis. "By just clicking on my homepage, constituents can read the latest news, sign up for an email newsletter, watch a slide show, participate in an interactive survey, order a U.S. Flag, e-mail me with a question or comment, and even plan a trip to Washington, D.C."

View the site at www.house.gov/joannadavis.

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Area Events

Relay for Life

A Relay For Life team meeting will be held May 14 at 6:30 p.m. at Fairfields United Methodist Church in Burgess. It's still not too late to form a team! Call Denise at 453-3621, or visit www.acevents.org/LNrelay.

Down on the Farm

Bearcroft Farms in Northumberland County will host visitors on the 2007 Down on the Farm Tour from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. May 12. The Cowart Canning Facility and Cowart Seafood Corporation on the Coan River are also on the tour. Brochures are available at the Tidewater RC&D, the Northern Neck Tourism Council, Northern Neck Cooperative Extension offices, local businesses and libraries, or call 443-1118.

Recital set

Soprano Willsonia Boyer accompanied by Robert Brown Jr. on piano, will appear in recital at 4 p.m. June 23 at the Lancaster Middle School Theater in Kilmarnock. Boyer is the daughter of Harvey and Mary Boyer of Irvington. Proceeds will benefit the Sharon Baptist Church building fund.

A graduate of Lancaster High School, Boyer has a bachelor's from Hollins University and a master's from Virginia State University.

Free flags

American Legion Post 86 of Kilmarnock will furnish small (12"x18") flags to be placed upon the graves of Lancaster's deceased veterans on Memorial Day and later on Veterans Day.

The flags will be available at Adams Post 86 on Waverly Avenue in Kilmarnock May 17 and May 24 from 6:30 to 7 p.m., prior to bingo. Flags are free and may be re-used if removed after each holiday and carefully stored.

Music By The River

May concerts in the 2007 Music By The River series at Belle Isle State Park include Bill, Pam and Macon Gurley May 12 and Steve Keith May 19. The free concert will begin at 6 p.m. at the park's William L. Humphreys Picnic Shelter. Families are urged to bring a picnic. A \$3 parking fee will apply.

Folk concert

Folk singer Mike Seeger will present an Arts Alive! concert May 19 at 7:30 p.m. at the W. T. Robinson/Sture G. Olsson Civic Auditorium and Fine Arts Center in West Point.

Tickets are \$23 for adults, \$18 for seniors (age 65 and older) and \$10 for students. Call 843-3475 for reservations.



Music by the Gurleys

From left, local musicians Macon, Pam and Bill Gurley will open the Music By The River family concert series at Belle Isle State Park Saturday, May 12. The concert will begin at 6 p.m. Bring chairs, blankets, picnics, bug spray and the entire family. There will be crafts for the kids during intermission. The concert is free. The park's \$3 parking fee per automobile will be collected at the gate. The park is off River Road (Route 354). Turn onto Belle Isle Road (Route 683) at Somers and head towards the Rappahannock River.

Yard, bake and barbecue sale

On May 19, there will be a yard and bake sale, as well as North Carolina-style barbecue at Fairfields United Methodist Church in Burgess. Barbecue will be available by the sandwich, by the platter, by the pound, or take-out (call 453-2631). Yard sale spaces rent for \$10. Call Shelby at 580-5405.

Spring fling

The Morattico Waterfront Museum will host its Spring Fling June 2, beginning at 5 p.m. at the museum in Morattico. Dinner will be served at 5:30 p.m. Tickets are \$20 per person. To reserve tickets, call 462-9898.

Dance music will be provided by Something Else, the Randy Davis Band.

Shrimp feast

The Upper Lancaster Volunteer Fire department Ladies Auxiliary will hold an all-you-can-eat shrimp dinner June 30 at the Lively Pavilion. Dinner will be served from 5 to 8 p.m. A dance with DJ Rock follows from 8 p.m. to midnight.

Tickets are \$20 for the dinner and dance. Admission to the dance only is \$5 at the gate after 8 p.m. Its a rain or shine event. Folks may bring their own bottle.

Noise alert

Communities surrounding NAS Patuxent River's Webster Field Annex may experience increased noise levels during May. Increased UAV flight operations are required to prepare crews for deployment in support of the Global War on Terror.

Day- and night-time operations will be conducted throughout May. Twenty-four hour operations are also planned for May.

Dinner and a show

The Men's Ministry of Calvary Baptist Church in Kilmarnock will present a buffet dinner and a play June 16 at 6 p.m. in the church fellowship hall. The play will be "Who Killed the Church?"

Tickets are \$20 for adults and \$10 for children under 12. For tickets, call 462-7220, or 435-9673.

Health fair

First Baptist Church will sponsor a health fair May 12 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. There will be professionals on hand to do various screenings. There also will be a chiropractor and a dentist.

Serving spaghetti

The "Home Meals Volunteers" of Henderson United Methodist Church will serve a spaghetti supper May 11 from 5 to 7 p.m. at the church. The fee is \$5 for adults and \$3 for children four to 12. Children under three eat free. Donations beyond the cost of the meal will be greatly accepted.

Historical society

The Middle Peninsula African-American Genealogical and Historical Society will meet Saturday, May 12, at 11 a.m. at the Essex County Public Library at 117 North Church Lane in Tappahannock.

The agenda will include a funeral programs project. Persons attending the meeting will have the opportunity to share recent genealogical successes and discoveries, as well as roadblocks that they may have encountered in their family research. For more information, call Bessida Cauthorne White at 321-1206.

Yard sale

The Bethel-Emmanuel United Methodist Men (BEUMM) will hold a yard sale Saturday, May 12, at 7 a.m. Items will include furniture, appliances, electronics, tools, sporting goods, household items, linens, books, pictures, frames and baked goods.

The BEUMM building is on Route 201 south of Lively. Proceeds from the sale go to local service groups, charities, youth and the needy.

Open house

The Kilmarnock-Lancaster County Volunteer Rescue Squad will celebrate 50 years of serving the community on Saturday, May 19, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. at an open house at 61 Harris Road.

There will be free hot dogs, hamburgers, drinks and medical testing.

Seniors to meet

The Corrottoman Seniors will meet at 10 a.m. Tuesday, May 15, at the Ruritan Center near Lively.

Guests will be Tim Wright and Faith Kemp. They plan to sing. Hostesses will be Reba Haynie, Alice Lewis, Virginia Haywood and Janet Abraham.

Bring a bag lunch, an envelope to play bingo and a friend. Desserts and beverages will be provided. Guests are welcome. Upcoming trips will be to Tunica, Miss., August 4 to 10. The tour will include Grace-land and St. Jude's Children's Hospital.

Christmas in Nashville is scheduled for November 26 to 30. Call Hazel Ford at 462-7895 for trip information, and Fannie Clingan at 435-1713 for club information.

Births



Ethan Taylor Rainville

Chris Rainville and Laurie Elbourn announce the birth of their son, Ethan Taylor Rainville, March 28, 2007, at 1:54 p.m. His grandparents are Derrel and Judy Bright of Callao and Joe and Misty Elbourn of White Stone.

Antiques to be evaluated

On July 7, the second annual Antique One-Stop Road Show will return.

The Northern Neck Branch of Association for the Preservation of Virginia Antiquities (APVA) and the Richmond County Museum will join forces to sponsor the show from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. at St. John's Church at 5989 Richmond Road in Warsaw. Professionals will evaluate antiques including silver, china, glassware, documents, prints, paintings, Civil War items, kitchen ware, guns and swords.

Lunch will be available. Tickets are \$10 per item or three for \$25. Tickets will be available from APVA members, Richmond County Museum and at the door.

Local News

Shaune and Aaron Colliver and son, Braydon, have returned after visiting family and friends in San Diego and Los Angeles, Calif.

Capt. and Mrs. George Urban III and Mr. and Mrs. George Urban Jr. were in Radford last weekend for the graduation of a daughter and granddaughter, Gretchan Urban, at Radford University. Other relatives attending were Mc and Regina McClain and daughter, Cary, of Greenville, S.C., and Will McClain of Richmond.

Mrs. Douglas Wood of Waynesboro was at their Northumberland home several days last week.

Mrs. Adam Anderson and daughters, Costen and Holland, of Ocean View spent several days last week with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Jesse Dize.

Bryan Butler returned to San Francisco, Calif., on Monday after spending several days with his grandparents, Mr. and Mrs. Bob Butler, of Rappahannock Westminister-Canterbury and at their home in Bluff Point.

Mark S. Conard, a security attaché at the American Embassy in Kuwait, while on business in Washington, visited his parents,

Don and Mary Conard on Barnes Creek near Kilmarnock.

Mr. Carroll W. Reiblich of Sarasota, Fla., and Tilghman's Island, Md., visited with his mother, Mrs. W. R. Keyser and Mr. Keyser for several days recently at their home on Kent Cove.

Mr. and Mrs. Tom Fletcher were in Manassas with relatives last weekend and then in Springfield for grandson Riley's, T-Ball game.

Mrs. Pauline Voss is home after an extended stay at Rappahannock General Hospital.

Mr. and Mrs. Stephen Proctor have returned after visiting their daughter and family, Shannon and Brad Lipsteuer, Bradley, Ella and Jack, in Charlotte, N.C.

James Lee of Harrisonburg spent the weekend with his mother, Mrs. Agnes Lee, in Fleets Bay.

Mrs. Joanna Pheris and Ms. Anita Sanders were recently in Lebanon, Ala., to visit an aunt, Mrs. Evelyn Maxwell, and her children and grandchildren. From there they visited cousins in Decatur, Ala.

Mr. Randall Marsh has been a patient at Rappahannock General

Hospital since early last week.

Paul Randall was honored on Monday evening when his wife, two daughters and son-in-law, Mrs. Randall, Mr. and Mrs. Chris Chaney and Patty Saunders, celebrated his birthday.

Win a Rivah Shirt

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Local tribe makes mark

Lots of activities will take place at the Ruritan Tricentennial Park at Totuskey Bridge in Warsaw May 26 when Richmond County dedicates an Historical Highway Marker to the Rappahannock Indians.

Sponsored by the county and the Richmond County Museum, the event will recognize the Rappahannock Tribal occupation of the north shore of the Rappahannock River at the time of European contact and throughout the 17th-century settlement period.

The program will begin at 3 p.m. with Rappahannock drumming, dancing, demonstrations and the blessing of the land. A special feature of the program will be the appearance of the Reedville Fishermen's Museum replica of Capt. John Smith's barge, a symbol of the coming together of two cultures.

Following welcome remarks by Louis Packett, chairman of the Richmond County Board of Supervisors, Rappahannock Chief G. Anne Richardson will unveil the Historical Marker.

For further information, contact the Richmond County Museum at 804-333-3607.

Continuing at the museum through October is an exhibit entitled The Rappahannock Tribe: Keeping Traditions Alive. The museum is open Wednesday through Saturday 11 a.m. to 3 p.m., and by appointment at 394-333-3607.

Art forum May 21 will feature van Gogh expert

"Sunny Skies and Starry Nights: The Short Life and Timeless Art of Vincent van Gogh," is the subject of the monthly art forum at 1 p.m. May 21 at the Rappahannock Art League Studio Gallery at 19 North Main Street in Kilmarnock.

The speaker will be Dr. Barbara J. Johnston, assistant professor of art history at the College of William and Mary, and adjunct professor of art history at Virginia Commonwealth University.

"His life was one of sunshine and shadow, of soaring joys, and the depths of despair," according to Dr. Johnston. "The epitome of a tragic genius, Vincent van Gogh's name has become synonymous with the modern concept of the artist as one who relentlessly pursues his own personal vision of beauty and truth."

The lecture will examine van Gogh's life and art, hopes and failures, and the timeless beauty of his paintings, which have brought pleasure to audiences worldwide, but ultimately could not save the artist from himself.

The program has been organized by the Virginia Museum of Fine Arts Office of Statewide Partnerships, of which the Rappahannock Art League is a member, and is supported by the Paul Mellon Endowment. The lecture is open to the public.



From left, Lora Garner and Jan Beckett discuss the outlook for the strawberry festival.

Festival picks berry vendor

St. Stephen's Church (Anglican) of Heathsville recently selected Garner's Produce to provide strawberries for the annual Strawberry Festival.

"The cool spring weather has extended the growing season and we will have enough great berries for the church event," said Lora Garner. "The few berries that are ready now are large and very sweet, a good indicator for the rest of the season."

"We selected Garner because they delivered wonderful fresh berries the morning of last year's festival as promised," said festi-

val co-chair Jan Beckett. "Our customers and guests were lined up to purchase the berries as soon as we opened. We received many compliments about the quality of the berries. That was a winning combination."

The Strawberry Festival is held each Memorial Day weekend to raise money to support the church's local, national and international missions.

The festival will include over 100 highly skilled and talented artists and crafters. Parishoners will provide food and local entertainment groups will perform.



Chorale support

Rappahannock Foundation for the Arts president Allan Marple presents a check to Brenda Burtner, director of the Rappahannock Women's Chorale, to support music purchases. The chorale and the Northern Neck Big Band will present a Heritage Concert: Best of Broadway, Saturday, June 2, at 3 and 8 p.m. at the White Stone Church of the Nazarene. Proceeds will benefit the Northumberland Elementary music program, the Lancaster Middle School music program and the Nazarene Church youth mission trip to Bulgaria in August. Tickets are \$10 for adults and \$5 for students and may be purchased at the Kilmarnock Antique Gallery, the Rappahannock Record, the Southside Sentinel or from any chorale member.

LHS Band to host spring dinner concert

Members of the Lancaster High School (LHS) Red Devil Band will entertain dinner guests to the theme of "Puttin' on the Ritz" at the seventh annual Spring Dinner and Concert May 18 and May 19 at 6:30 p.m. at the LHS Commons.

Presented concurrently with dinner, the concert will feature components of the marching band, the freshman band, the concert band, the symphonic band and the jazz band.

"The two-night event showcases the bands, and on Saturday night honors the graduating seniors. It also begins the Band Boosters' fund raising for the

band's trip to New Orleans in January," said Boosters president Maria Ferrand.

There will be door prizes and raffle items. The band's annual commemorative shirts bearing the names of the band members, flag line and majorettes, and designed to the theme of "Puttin' on the Ritz" will be for sale.

Admission is \$12 for adults and \$6 for children. For tickets, call the band room at 462-0697.

Volunteers to display art at Christ Church

Past and present volunteers at Christ Church will hold an art show beginning June 16. It will continue through July 12 and be held in the Bayne Center on the church grounds.

The public is invited to the show and admission is free. The show will be open from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Monday through Saturdays and from 2 to 5 p.m. Sundays.

Present and former volunteers may display one or two paintings or other objects of art. The entry fee will be \$10 for each object. Those interested in displaying should call 438-6855. The deadline to enter is May 25.

Christ Church is one of the oldest churches in the country maintained in its original state. Its building was completed in 1735 and its funding was provided by Robert "King" Carter, a wealthy land-owner who lived nearby in what is now the town of Weems.

The church is on Christ Church Road, between Weems Road and Irvington Road.

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Lancaster High School Band presents Puttin' on the Ritz Dinner/Concert
May 18th & 19th 6:30 pm
Seats are limited
Tickets on Sale Call 462-0697

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Players to take audience to 'enchanted' Italy in June

Tickets are now on sale for the Westmoreland Players' production of the romantic comedy, "Enchanted April."

The stage adaptation, written by Matthew Barber, is based on the 1920s book by Elizabeth Von Arnim, a romantic novel of two despondent London housewives (and their confused husbands), one straight-laced Victorian widow and a seemingly fancy-free "modern."

It was seen on the big screen in 1991. In 1993, the play appeared on Broadway and was nominated for the Tony Award for Best Play.

Onstage, the play speaks to the longings of both women and men who slowly lose sight of their true selves and the value of their relationships in the midst of complicated lives.

The first act in dreary, rainy London transforms to the sunny and certainly enchanted Italian Riviera for act two. Characters shed their raincoats, hearts are set aright and spirits are reawakened with the burgeoning spring.

A cast of eight performers delve into the depths of these

complicated characters. Leading the way are avid performers Tess Dumais of Wicomico Church and Julia Tilley of Lottsburg. Their onstage husbands are played by Jason Strong of Warsaw and Alan Campbell of Lottsburg.

Janice Coates transforms into the sobering Mrs. Graves. Deanna Lavery appears on stage as the lost soul Lady Caroline. Rounding out the cast are Chad Lewis as artist Anthony Wilding and newcomer Maggie Jones as Costanza, the Italian housekeeper.

Glenn and Joy Evans direct and produce. Bev Mangan stage manages.

Skip Tilley, Dick Allen and Andy Johnston have created an amazing rendition of a sprawling Italian villa on The Players' stage. Designed by Janice Wooley, it provides the perfect background for the typical 1920s linen clothes of the Mediterranean.

"Enchanted April" will open June 2 with performances through June 17. Tickets can be obtained at 529-9345, or www.westmorelandplayers.org.



Cast members, from left, are Julia Tilley, Alan Campbell, Tess Dumais and Jason Strong.



A view to Dymer Creek from Stuart and K.K. Painter's garden

Tour features Dymer Creek informal garden

The Just Gardens tour, May 18 and 19, will feature Stuart and K.K. Painter's garden on Dymer Creek.

The informal garden sits on a gently sloping knoll at the end of the creek. A combination of native trees, including pin and willow oaks, deciduous and evergreen shrubs, give the garden great "bones." Stuart Painter has arranged the evergreens and added architectural elements so that even in winter the garden is interesting to look at.

Starting with a new house with no lawn or landscaping, and no topsoil, the garden has been an ongoing project.

"I purchase what I see and like," said Painter.

The garden has Japanese elements and has evolved over 40 years. A curved drive at the front of the house leads to evergreen beds with perennials and bulbs. Camellias and azaleas hug the north side of the classic Virginia house. Bayberry and Leland cypress create a layered fence that borders a side of the property.

A brick walk on the creek side leads from a veranda onto the lawn.

"My daughter said she wanted to be married at home, so we thought a long walkway from the house to the river view would be ideal. We put an arch at the end of the walk and they were married there. It was really lovely," Painter said.

Two raised brick islands flank the sides of the walkway. They are planted with pale yellow tulips in the spring and transition to pale yellow lilies in summer. The walkway is edged with liriopie and junipers. Inkberry borders the slate veranda with its Chippendale railing.

The Japanese garden with koi pond and embellished with a Japanese maple is a lovely place to sit and enjoy the view across the creek. A large weeping cherry tree is the center of the garden and carpets the garden in pink petals in late

Flyball dogs to return to Heathsville Market

Flyball, a sport featuring dogs retrieving tennis balls over an obstacle course, will return to the Heathsville Farmers' Market at the Tavern Complex in Heathsville May 19.

Sponsored by the Rice's Hotel/Hughlett's Tavern Foundation, the market is open from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Terri Parrow, dog trainer and captain of a Flyball team in Springfield will explain the sport and answer questions at the demonstrations.

Also at the market, the Friends of the Northumberland Library will launch a super raffle. The raffle will feature a 2007 quilt created by the "Ladies of the Night" and other items with family appeal including a 12-foot kayak, sports store gift certificate, a piece of fine furniture, wine/cider cooler and a river boat ride.

About 30 vendors will feature



The Flyball dogs, like the one above, will return to the Heathsville Farmers' Market May 19.

a range of products from veggies to clothing.

Refreshments will be available at the market and the Tavern Restaurant will be open for lunch. The Tavern Store also will be open.

For exhibit instructions and directions, call 580 3377, or email rhtadmin@earthlink.net.

Kilmarnock Museum News

An exhibit of photos and news clippings of Queen Elizabeth's 1957 visit to Jamestown is on display at the Kilmarnock Museum with artifacts and postcards from the 1907 Jamestown Exposition.

A new display honoring the Kilmarnock Volunteer Fire Department as it celebrates its 75th anniversary is expected to be mounted by May 19, the day of the firemen's convention and parade.

Memorabilia also is being assembled for an exhibit honoring the Kilmarnock Lancaster Volunteer Rescue Squad as it celebrates its 50th anniversary.

The museum is open Thursday, Friday and Saturday from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. or anytime by calling 435-2473 or 435-0874. Admission is free.

Hearing loss group to meet

The Middle Peninsula Chapter of the Hearing Loss Association of America has postponed its May 12 meeting to May 19 due to a schedule conflict.

The group will meet at the home of president Linda Miller from 10 a.m. to noon, with a cookout to follow.

The program will include technology and information updates from the May 12 Celebrate Communications forum at George Mason University.

To attend that event, contact

Miller by 5 p.m., May 11.

The chapter meetings are free and open to all with a hearing loss or living and working with others with hearing loss.

Listening devices and systems help all present participate in discussions and activities.

Interpreter service is provided on request.

For directions, contact Miller at 725-2487 (voice/fax or TTY) or email gcsi94142@yahoo.com.

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Artifacts, old coins, exhibited

A private collection of early Virginia Indian tools, weapons, animal hides, a snake skin, and trinkets are on display at the Mary Ball Washington Museum from May to mid-August. The exhibit includes rare British coins of the 1600s from the Jamestown Colony.

Many of the Indian artifacts were found by Steve Redd of Lancaster, an ardent digger and collector, and a student of Native Americans. His collection includes arrowheads and projectile points dating from 5,000 B.C. to 1600 A.D., axes, scrapers, hammerstones, early hand plows, and a pestle and mortar.

Many items come from sites at Windmill Point, Morattico, Ottoman and Mollusk. An effigy of a horse made from a type of granite is one of Redd's unusual finds.

The exhibit includes articles from the Powhatan Confederacy, the Algonquin Nation and a dream catcher from the Mattaponi.

The Jamestown-era coins include an early 1600 groat from the Virginia Colony. Six pence, shilling, half-pence, and 1/2 scal-



These artifacts were found at Ottoman, Windmill Point, Bertrand and other sites.

loped groats are among the early silver coins.

Redd's fascination with Native Americans began with his appreciation of their reverence for and conservation of mother earth. Virginia Indians took care not to over fish, or over hunt, what they needed. They used all parts of the animals they hunted, not only

for food, but also for clothing, shelter and accessories. They ate shellfish and used the shells for jewelry and pottery.

Redd admires Tecumseh, and Powhatan for their leadership. Like many, he dislikes the treatment of the natives by colonists and later settlers. "The Indians abided by their agreements, while



A Mattaponi dream catcher

the white man did not live up to their treaties," he said.

The Mary Ball Washington Museum is across from the Lancaster Courthouse on Route 3, north of Kilmarnock. It is open from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Tuesday through Friday.

Stratford Hall campers to reconstruct the past

Marking the 400th Jamestown anniversary, children enrolled in Stratford Hall's summer camps will explore the Lees' Jamestown roots.

The Lees first landed in Jamestown about 32 years after the earliest colonists. Several generations of Lees later, after a succession of homes on the York River and the lower Northern Neck, Thomas Lee built Stratford. One of the many camp activities for 2007 will be the construction of a model of an early Jamestown house complete with mud and stud walls and thatched roof—a stark contrast to the Stratford Hall Great House.

There are openings in Stratford's summer camps. Five-day "Adventure" day-camps will be offered August 6 to 10 and August 20 to 24. Three-day, two-night "Grandparent/grandchild" camps will be offered June 12 to

14 and July 17 to 19. The fee is \$235 for children and \$265 for adults. The grandparent camp will include comfortable guest house lodging and meals. The program will be designed for elementary age children.

Every camp day will be packed with various activities with links to the 18th-century lifestyle. Campers will hunt for fossils, artifacts and ghosts; hammer hot iron on the blacksmith's forge; roll dough for pies in the colonial kitchen; tend the tobacco crop; or, with wooden muskets in hand, help Richard Henry Lee repel a British attack at the Stratford Hall landing.

Grandparents can participate side-by-side with their grandchildren fishing, spinning wool into yarn and surveying the land with compass and pole.

To request a camp brochure, call Bill Doerken at 493-7700, or email baymeadow@rivnet.net.

Firemen's Parade is May 19

The Kilmarnock and District Pipe Band, Smoky Bear, the Lancaster High School ROTC Color Guard and Buzzie the Clown and friends will join dozens of fire trucks and rescue vehicles in Kilmarnock May 19 for one of the largest local firemen's parades ever seen. The parade will celebrate the Kilmarnock Volunteer Fire Department's 75th anniversary.

Fire departments from as far as Maryland are expected to meet at Chesapeake Com-

mons for the 1 p.m. lineup, begin at 2 p.m. and will include new fire equipment and many antique vehicles. The parade will include the Virginia Tech station wagon from Tappahannock. Trophies will be awarded in several categories.

From Chesapeake Commons, the parade will head south on Main Street, turn onto Irvington Road, then onto School Street and end at Lancaster Middle School. The parade will be held rain or shine.

Burke memorial recital set

Pianist Anne Williams McMahan will perform a musical celebrating the life of her late grandmother, Anna Duling Burke, May 20, at Festival Halle in Reedville at 3 p.m.

Anna Burke, later known to her students as "Mrs. Duling," taught piano to many Northern Neck students, privately and in public schools from the early 1920s through the year before her death in 1969. She also played at services at Bethany Baptist Church in Callao and Kirkland Grove Campground in Heathsville.

McMahan organized the program and will be joined by soprano Ellyne Brice Davis and the pianist's husband, Robert Young McMahan, on keyboard.

The program will include piano works by Claude Debussy, "The Children's Corner," "Deux Arabesques," "Clair de lune," and "Jardins sous pluie," songs in English by several composers



Anna Duling Burke

and Sonata No. 3 in C major, for alto recorder and basso continuo by George Frederick Handel. The recorder will be played by Mrs. McMahan who will also perform

two songs from the Ojibway and Creek tribes on a Native American flute that she constructed.

The three performers were classmates, friends and graduates at the Peabody Conservatory of Music.

Mrs. McMahan teaches music at The Pennington School, in Pennington, N.J. Mr. McMahan is a professor of music theory and composition at The College of New Jersey. Davis teaches in Maryland and is a vocalist and fund-raiser for the newly formed Light Opera Company of Southern Maryland.

The program is free. Donations will be used to purchase musical instruments for Northumberland County's elementary and middle schools.

A reception with refreshments will follow the program. It is hoped that the honoree's past students will be able to attend and pose for a post recital group photo.

Lamine Soumano to perform

Jeli Lamine Soumano and Rusty Eklund will perform music from the Mande at Cafe Mojo in Urbanna, Saturday, May 12, at 7 p.m. and at Buenos Nachos in Kilmarnock, Saturday, May 19, at 11 a.m.

Soumano will showcase his musicianship on the Mande kora, a 22-string lute-harp, and guitar. He will be accompanied by Eklund on African percussion.

The upcoming performances

will highlight the traditional acoustic music of the Maninka, the parent ethnic group of the former Mande Empire that encompassed most of West Africa from the 12th to 14th centuries.

The Jeli are the musicians, historians, orators, advisors to kings and politicians, and community mediators of one of the most influential cultures in West Africa and the new world.

The music of Soumano is

based on some 800 years of tradition stemming from the Mande Empire. Spectators will hear modern arrangements of traditional music. Two of the oldest pieces of Maninka music, Sunjatta and Janjon, have been audience favorites and have defined the Maninka people and their traditions for eight centuries.

Soumano and Eklund have previously performed at Middlesex Elementary and Chesapeake Academy. Malian history is part of the third grade Virginia SOLs.

For more information, visit www.malikan.com.



Irvin Owings III

Owings to present privateers program

Irvin Owings III will present a program on American privateers during the Revolutionary War at the May 21 luncheon meeting of the Richard Henry Lee Chapter of the Sons of the American Revolution (SAR) at Rappahannock Westminster-Canterbury at 11:30 a.m.

Operating under charter from the United States, privateers operated much like pirates, confiscating cargo and ships attempting to re-supply the British Army in the colonies.

Illustrating how one successful privateer achieved celebrity, Owings will describe the exploits of Adam Hyler along the New Jersey coast.

The program will be accompanied by a slide presentation and the display of a scale model of Hyler's sloop, the Revenge. Owings, an avid history buff and Revolutionary War re-enactor, has a bachelor's in history from Hampden-Sidney College and is the chapter's program chairman.

Meetings of the SAR are open to the public. Reservations are required. Call Tony Waring at 438-5155.



This Art On The Half Shell poster was created by nautical artist Bob Holland.

Urbanna to host annual art show

The poster artist for the seventh annual Art On The Half Shell festival is Bob Holland, a noted nautical and historical artist from Hampton Roads.

The festival will feature the work of over 75 fine artists and craftspeople who will show and sell their work from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Saturday, May 12, in Urbanna.

The festival also will offer artist demonstrations, a children's art and crafts workshop, and a student art exhibit.

There will be model boat races at the Urbanna town marina and the Urbanna Farmers' Market.



The photo above was taken at the Kilmarnock Garden Club's first regular meeting on October 17, 1967. From left are (front row) president Mrs. H.W. Goode Jr., recording secretary Mrs. Emerson Russell, first vice president Mrs. R. L. Brumback Jr., second vice president Mrs. M. Ray Johnston and treasurer Mrs. Edward J. Davis; (next row) scrapbook chairman and historian Mrs. Leon Flint, corresponding secretary and publicist Mrs. John T. Quillan, former president of the Piedmont District of Garden Clubs Mrs. Claude A. Roberts, Mrs. T. W. Bonner and Mrs. T. Vaden Fitchett.

Kilmarnock gardeners will celebrate 40 years

In celebration of the Kilmarnock Garden Club's 40th anniversary, members will hold a luncheon at noon Tuesday, May 15, at Indian Creek Yacht and Country Club.

Virginia Federation of Garden Clubs' state president Anna Myers will attend. Virginia Federation of Garden Clubs Piedmont District president Lynn Bell will install new officers.

"An organizational meeting of a group of women interested in gardening was held September 19, 1967, at 10:30 a.m., in the home of Mrs. Vaden Fitchett, who served as chairman," reads an excerpt taken from the minutes of the Kilmarnock Garden Club's first meeting almost 40 years ago.

The club continues to focus on the education of its members and of the community, and involvement with conservation and community projects.

The club's first members were

serious and industrious. During the first meeting, officers were elected, a regular meeting date was established, the location for monthly meetings was determined, a meeting time was set, as well as the amount of the dues.

By the second meeting in October 1967, the members were bringing exhibits to be judged and committees were established to obtain programs, recommend town beautification projects, publish a yearbook, submit monthly publicity, maintain a scrapbook, select exhibits for each meeting and obtain judges for them.

Forty years later, the club continues to maintain the high standards established by that group of women interested in gardening. The club's first president, Becky Goode, is still an active member.

The club is open to new members. For program and membership information, call Jane Denton at 435-6877.

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Devils win two soccer matches

Lancaster's Billy Jackson wins a header against a Middlesex defender during Lancaster's 9-1 victory last Friday. On Monday, Lancaster beat Essex, 2-1. (Photo by Jacob Jackson)

Love scores 3 goals

JV Devils can't connect

Corbin Love accounted for all of Lancaster's scoring last week in JV soccer games.

Love had the only goal for the Devils Monday night in a 2-1 loss to Essex in a Northern Neck District game.

Essex broke a 1-1 halftime tie with a shot midway through the second half that got by keeper Danny Hayden, who had 13 saves in the game.

Wade Davenport and Miguel Godiness scored for Essex.

Love scored unassisted in the first half for the Devils.

Lancaster 2 Middlesex 2

Love scored twice on assists from Colby Bishop last Friday in a 2-2 tie game against Middlesex.

The Chargers took a 2-1 lead at the half but were shut down by the Devils' defense in the second half. Hayden had 12 saves.

Love scored once in each half.

The JV Devils are now 4-5-1 overall and 2-1 in the district with three games remaining. They will travel to Washington & Lee Friday, May 11, and to Rappahannock on Monday, May 14.



Indians shave Devils, 3-2

Lancaster third baseman Chris Buzzell catches the ball a little too late to make the tag on a Northumberland runner during a JV baseball game at Dreamfields last Tuesday. The Indians edged the Devils, 3-2, in Northern Neck District play. (Photo by Lisa Hinton-Valdrighi)

Red Devils club Indians, 13-3

Lancaster came out swinging, and hitting, last Tuesday, scoring six runs in its first at-bat and going on to rout Northumberland, 13-3, in a varsity Northern Neck District baseball game.

William Saunders struck out seven and allowed four hits in four innings for the win. Lancaster improved to 3-1 in the district and 11-2 overall with only three games remaining in regular season play.

Ryan Reynolds pitched one inning with two strikeouts and a walk and Jonathan Somers closed with a walk and two

strikeouts in one inning.

Lancaster jumped to a 6-0 lead in the top of the first frame on three hits, two walks and an Indian error. Reynolds had a key two-out double with the bases loaded to drive in two runs. He batted 3-for-4 on the day for three RBI and a run scored.

Jonathan George, who went 3-for-3 with three runs scored, had two RBI in the top of the third with a two-run homer.

Jack Jackson batted 2-for-4 for Lancaster with a double, RBI and run and Will Barrack was 1-for-3 with three RBI and

a run scored.

The Devils will travel to Washington and Lee today (May 10) and Rappahannock Tuesday, May 15.

Scoreboard

Varsity baseball
Lancaster 13, Northumberland 3

Varsity softball
Lancaster 6, Northumberland 1

JV baseball
Northumberland 3, Lancaster 2

JV softball
Lancaster 6, Northumberland 3

Varsity soccer
Lancaster 2, Essex 1

Lancaster 9, Middlesex 1

JV soccer
Lancaster 2, Middlesex 2

Essex 2, Lancaster 1

Upcoming Games

Varsity baseball/softball
(All home games at 5 p.m. at Dreamfields)

May 10:
Lancaster at W&L
Essex at Northumberland

May 15:
Lancaster at Rappahannock
W&L at Northumberland

May 17:
Northumberland at Lancaster
Rappahannock at Essex

JV baseball/softball
(All home games at 5 p.m. at Dreamfields)

May 10:
W&L at Lancaster
Northumberland at Essex

May 15:
Rappahannock at Lancaster
Northumberland at W&L

May 17:
Lancaster at Northumberland
Essex at Rappahannock

Soccer
(JV games 5:30 p.m., varsity 7 p.m.)

May 11:
Lancaster at W&L
Essex at Northumberland

May 14:
Lancaster at Rappahannock

(continued on page A12)

Lady Devils outhit Indians

The varsity Lady Devils beat Northumberland, 6-1, last Tuesday to head into the second round of Northern Neck District softball play at 2-2.

Brandy Gilbert tossed a three-hitter, gave up one walk and struck out six in the win for Lancaster. Only three games remain in regular

season play including a road game today (May 10) at Washington & Lee.

The Lady Devils outhit the Lady Indians, 12-3, with Takcia Jones and Kimberly Crockett leading the batters. Jones and Crockett both went 2-for-3 with Crockett recording two RBI and two runs

scored. Jones scored once.

Sara Caudle batted 2-for-4 with an RBI and Carly Webb was 2-for-4 with a run scored. Tiffany Lee was 1-for-4 with a run and RBI and Bailey Garrett was 1-for-2 with an RBI. Gilbert also scored once off a 1-for-3 day at the plate.



Lancaster's Gabby Mondy tags out Northumberland's Jennifer King on a slide at third base as umpire Carroll Lee Ashburn makes the call in the background. The Lady Devils beat the Lady Indians, 6-3, in the JV softball game. (Photos by Lisa Hinton-Valdrighi)



JV Lady Devils claim game in bottom of 6th

by Lisa Hinton-Valdrighi

The Lady Devils scored three runs in the bottom of the sixth inning to break a tie and beat Northumberland, 6-3, in a Northern Neck District JV softball game last Tuesday.

Rachel Haywood retired 10 batters, walked 11 and gave up three hits for the win for Lancaster, which

improved to 2-2 in the district and 7-4 overall.

The homestanding Lady Devils took the lead for good in the bottom of the sixth, breaking a 3-3 tie with Danielle Shelton, Gabby Mondy and Haywood all scoring in a three-run rally. Shelton and Haywood both scored on a two RBI shot by Mondy.

Tiffany Koscienski led the offense with two hits

for an RBI and two runs scored, while Mondy had a hit, run scored and two RBI. Shelton and Tiffany Pitman each had a triple and a run scored.

The Lady Devils will host Washington and Lee today (May 10) and have two more games remaining, including their final home game Tuesday, May 15, against Rappahannock.

The Fishing Line

by Capt. Billy Pipkin

Fishing in the bay and rivers is showing improvement this week as fish continue to migrate into the area. The bay water temperature, in the low 60s, is well below normal for this time of year. The difference has resulted in a sluggish migration pattern.

Striped bass fishing remains very good. The larger specimens continue to be found in southern Maryland locations and are funneling through the main shipping channel of Virginia waters. These fish would have usually migrated to and below the Maryland/Virginia line at this time. Conversely, the influxes of smaller striped bass that are commonly found while chumming have not settled into the region in large numbers just yet. Water temperature is a major factor in not only the migration, but in the feeding habits of fish.

In Maryland, trolling has been yielding 28- to 40-inch fish each day along the channel edges between Buoys 64 and 72. There have been good catches in and

around the Buoy 65 area just north of Smith Point as well.

In Virginia, the western channel edges from Smith Point Light down to Buoy 1 outside of the Great Wicomico River is holding fish in the mid to upper 30-inch class. Catches are not consistent in any location due to the constant migration of fish. Each day it is necessary to work the channel edges at different depths as well as in a north/south pattern.

Umbrellas are doing a great job with white being the primary color and chartreuse being more effective when the water is churned up and during dark, overcast skies. Tandem rigs where a lighter 3-ounce buck-tail trails a heavier 6- to 8-ounce rig is effective when the fish become finicky.

Croaker are being caught in the rivers and feeder creeks. The mouth of the Rappahannock River, particularly along the south side, is holding croaker in the 9- to 12-inch range. Many mid-river locations have yielded catches

as well. Although the bite is best during the evening hours, catches also remain consistent during the day. Bloodworms are enticing the best results. We are finding an improved croaker catch outside of Ingram Bay and in creeks feeding the Great Wicomico River.

On the Potomac, the Coan River has been holding some nice croaker mixed with stiff-back perch. Squid and bloodworms are working well, but as the water warms a bit, small silver Mepps lures work well for the perch.

I urge anglers, both young and old, to get out on the water this week and learn more about fishing. In the words of Henry Ford, "Anyone who stops learning is old, whether at 20 or 80."

Have a great week of fishing and until next time...Fair winds.

(Captain Billy Pipkin owns and operates Ingram Bay Marina and Capt. Billy's Charters in Wicomico Church, 580-7292, captbill@crosslink.net or www.captbillyschararters.com.)

* RAPPAHANNOCK ALMANAC *

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

Day	Time	Moonrise	Sunrise	Moonset	Sunset	Low	High
Fri	5/11	2:51	6:00	2:14	8:05	1:04 7:02	0.2' 1.5'
Sat	5/12	3:18	5:59	3:25	8:06	2:13 8:04	0.1' 1.5'
Sun	5/13	3:44	5:58	4:38	8:06	3:18 9:04	0.1' 1.5'
Mon	5/14	4:12	5:57	5:54	8:07	4:18 10:02	0.0' 1.5'
Tue	5/15	4:44	5:56	7:12	8:08	5:15 10:57	-0.1' 1.5'
Wed	5/16	5:21	5:56	8:09	8:32	6:10 11:50	-0.1' 1.5'
Thu	5/17	5:55	6:06	8:10	9:48	7:03 12:42	-0.1' 1.5'
Fri	5/18	5:54	7:01	8:11	10:55	8:10 1:07	1.9' -0.1'

Corrections
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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From left are (front row) Sally Parr, Kathryn Brann, Maria Pas-sagaluppi, Jessica Shearwood and Beth Long; (next row) Stacey Hall, Brittany Kemp, Heather Lambert, coach Reggie Brann, Shannon Lewis and Ashley Kemp.

Gulls softball team honored

At a recent reception, members of Rappahannock Community College's women's softball team were recognized for their hard work, dedication and immense improvement. In 2007, the team won 15 and lost 7 games.

After struggling in the early games, they ended the season winning 14 of the last 15 games. "I'm astonished at how far you've come as a team," said RCC president Dr. Elizabeth "Sissy" Crowther. "The transformation from a team that lacked confidence to one that played with great self-assurance has been amazing."

Several team members will graduate May 15.

In addition to presenting certificates to each player, coach Reggie Brann personalized the awards with stories and accolades. He quoted John Wooden's statement of his father's creed: "I am not what I ought to be, not what I want to be, and not what I am going to be, but I'm thankful that I am better than I used

to be."

"You made it happen," he said.

The team responded with special gifts for Brann and Crowther, framed team pictures signed by all members. For Dr. Crowther, they had saved the first ball thrown out on her namesake field, again signed by each player.

Both Brann and Crowther thanked Warsaw Campus buildings and grounds supervisor Jerry Stephens for his workers' preparation of the new Elizabeth Hinton Crowther Field.

Brann also thanked "all of the folks that helped the team," which included Crowther, RCC dean of student affairs Robert Griffin, and physical education professor Wade Johnson, coach of RCC's men's baseball team. Recognition was also given to Brann's wife, Sharon, who attended the games and recorded team statistics; and to Sue Shearwood, who coached first base and filled in for Mrs. Brann when she was unable to be present.



Cookies for The Haven

Junior Girl Scout Troop 95 recently donated 34 boxes of Girl Scout Cookies through the "Gift of Caring" program, a community service project. The girls chose The Haven in Warsaw as this year's recipient. The Haven provides shelter and support for victims of domestic violence. From left are Kalin Benza, Kristy Hoff, Abby Nelson, Nadia Moss, Christina Bagnall and Haven executive director Ellen Yackel.



Karate students compete

American open style karate students competed successfully at the fourth annual King George Karate Isshinryu Open Championship May 5. Each of the 12 students won at least one trophy or medal, with several multiple trophy winners. From left, students are (front row) Caitlyn Gray, Derrick Wiseman, Gracie Taylor and Renshi Andrew Hudnall; (next row) Sarah Pillows, Yulia Gray, Brandon Wiseman, Taylor Elliott, Kenneth Taylor, Kyle Elliott and Nick Garnett. American Open Style Karate holds classes Mondays and Wednesdays from 7 to 8 p.m. at the Warsaw YMCA and Tuesdays from 6:30 to 8 p.m. at the Northern Neck Family YMCA in Kilmarnock.

Bridge Results

Seven tables of bridge were in play May 3 at Indian Creek Yacht and Country Club.

Winners north/south were first, Iva Doggett and Carolyn Reed; second, Arden Durham and Dianne Monroe; and third, Kay and Les Inskip.

Winners east/west were first, Margaret Livesay and Helen Hopton; second, Helen Kinne and Joy Straughan; and third, (tie) Cynthia Birdsall and Ronnie Gerster, and Ginger Klapp and Marilyn Reed.

Five-and-a-half tables of bridge were in play May 2 at Rappahan-

nock Westminster-Canterbury. Winners north/south were first, Ginger Klapp and Arden Durham; and second, Babs Murphy and Beverly Oren.

Winners east/west were first, Terry Carter and Jim Hargar; and second, Shirley Crockett and Margaret Livesay.

The next bridge for this group is June 6 at 1 p.m.

Fishing for photos

Anglers are reminded to submit photos to the Rappahannock Record for publication in the newspaper and The Rivah Visitors Guide.

Photos of the angler(s) and their catch are appropriate. Action shots are welcome, too.

Be sure to identify the folks in the picture and where they live as well as the type of fish, its weight and length, the body of water, the fishing hole, the boat and captain and the date. Include a phone number for verification.

Send your pictures by email to editor@rrecord.com; or mail to Rappahannock Record, P.O. Box 400, Kilmarnock, VA 22482; or deliver them to 27 North Main Street in Kilmarnock. There's a mail slot in the door for weekend and after-hour delivery.

Derby fleet to fill

Smith Point Sea Rescue president Andy Kauders recently indicated that tournament officials have high expectations that the maximum of 300 boats for the 24th annual Reedville Bluefish Derby will be reached before the June 7 cutoff. The tournament will be held June 8 and 9 at Buzzards Point Marina in Reedville.

Eligible species which will qualify for over \$32,000 in cash and prizes are bluefish, striped bass and croaker.

Tournament director Tony Sica attributes the early response to the inclusion for the second year of croaker. Sica said many fishermen feel that even if the weather keeps them from going to their favorite deep water spot, they can still save the day by fishing for croaker in more sheltered waters.

For those who are not fishing, there is still a lot to enjoy on the derby grounds, said Sica. Watching the boats bringing in their catch is fun for the whole family.

A number of vendors will be selling their goods under the pavilion Friday and Saturday afternoons and evenings, he said. The band, FAB, will entertain Friday and Saturday nights beginning at 8 p.m., he added.

Applications can be obtained at www.reedvillebluefishderby.com, or call Roger Wilkins at Jett's Hardware in Reedville at 453-5325.

Scoreboard

(continued from page A11)

May 17: W&L at Northumberland Girls soccer

May 17: W&L at Northumberland (varsity only, 7 p.m.)

Track (4 p.m.)

May 11: Northumberland at Southern Track Classic, Richmond (9 a.m.)

May 15: Northern Neck District meet at West Point

Boys tennis (4 p.m.)

May 10: Essex at Rappahannock

May 14: Rappahannock at Essex

Girls tennis (4 p.m.)

May 10: Rappahannock at Essex

May 14: Essex at Rappahannock

Bowling Results

Ladies League
D&L won three games against R.P. Waller when JoAnne Pualette bowled a 316 set with games of 102 and 116. Linda Lake rolled a 314 set with games of 106 and 132. Terry Stillman had a 322 set with games of 101, 107 and 114. Bev Benson bowled a 319 set with a 139 game. Theresa Gill rolled a 100 game. For R.P. Waller, Iva Jett had a 305 set with games of 100 and 125. Ola Nash bowled a 100 game.

TCH Oil won three games against Callis Seafood when Greta Walker bowled a 323 set with games of 101, 103 and 119. Cathy Savalina rolled a 311 set with games of 101 and 112. Marie Piccard had a 358 set with games of 106, 113 and 134. Sandra Evans bowled a 368 set with games of 117, 122 and 129. For Callis, Donna Thomas rolled a 323 set with games of 101 and 123. Sharon Price had a 111 game. Betty Evans bowled a 100 game and Mary Savalina rolled a game of 107.

The Misfits won three games against Yeatman's Forklift when Betty Steffy bowled a 370 set with games of 115, 122 and 133. Jean Reynolds rolled a 320 set with games of 105 and 118. Joan Bowles had games of 100 and 125. For Yeatman's, Gladys Sisson bowled a 121 game and Alma George rolled a 125 game. High average: Betty Steffy, 119; Terry Stillman, 110; JoAnne Pualette and Marie Piccard, 108.

Standings	W	L
D&L	30	15
TCH Oil	26	19
R.P. Waller	23	22
Yeatman's	20	25
Misfits	19	26
Callis Seafood	16	29

Pit Stop

Virginia Motor Speedway

May 3 results: Super dirtcar - Danny Johnson, first; Matt Sheppard, second; Dale Planck, third.

Super late models - Tim McCreadie, first; Jeremy Miller, second; Jason Covert, third.

May 11 races: (VMS is on Route 17 in Jamaica, eight miles north of Saluda. Pit gates open at 4 p.m.; spectator gates open at 5 p.m. Track activities begin at 7:30 p.m.)

late models (35 laps), **sportsmen** (30 laps), **modifieds** (25 laps), **sprints** (25 laps), **all-Americans** (15 laps)

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Taddy Stokes leads Sam Stokes, Bill Hendershot, JR Dodson and Page Swift in the final laps of the feature race.

Races benefit emergency units

Lancaster Moose Lodge on April 28 hosted a Race Event to benefit the Upper Lancaster Volunteer Fire Department and Upper Lancaster Volunteer Rescue Squad behind the Lively firehouse.

Thirteen of the entrants raced modified go-karts around a 700-foot track for two 15-lap qualifying heats followed by a 20-lap feature race. Entrants came from as far as Champlain and as near as Lively.

The top five finishers were first, Taddy Stokes of Wicomico Church; second, Sam Stokes of Wicomico Church; third, Bill Hendershot of Wicomico Church; fourth JR Dodson of Lively; and fifth Page Swift of Heathsville.

Pistol and rifle club celebrates 25 years

The Rappahannock Pistol and Rifle Club is celebrating its 25th anniversary.

The club was founded in 1982 by a handful of shooters, volunteer firefighters and deputy sheriffs of Lancaster County who needed a safe place for target practice.

Founding members included Robert Berry and Betty and Larry Taylor, Robert Martin, William Rowe, Harman Treacle Sr. and Sterling Wright. They formed a private organization which has grown into the Northern Neck's premier pistol, rifle and shotgun range.

"The original members leased land that had been part of a local sandpit," club president Berry said. "The club purchased the property in 2001 and has made a number of improvements."

The ranges in White Stone have been upgraded and rebuilt over the years to meet National Rifle Association standards and to comply with county ordinances and regulations. The enhanced ranges have allowed the club to become a venue for increasing educational and training programs.

"We've offered handgun safety courses for the community for many years," Berry said. "We now offer these courses every other month and provide shotgun and rifle courses when we have requests for them."

The club's handgun safety course is popular, since it meets Virginia requirements for an individual to obtain a concealed carry permit. The club was recently qualified to teach the NRA course in home defense.

In 2006, the club offered its first "Women On Target" program, a day-long gun safety course for women. More than 60 women signed up to learn about and take range instruction with pistols, rifles and shotguns.



Active charter members of the Rappahannock Pistol and Rifle Club from left are president Robert Berry and Betty and Larry Taylor.

The club also offers an annual youth shooting camp, a one-day program to introduce them and their parents to shooting sports and provide gun safety training. In past years, the club has provided an air gun safety course for youth and will resume that course when a program coordinator is found.

The club's trap shooting programs also are growing. The club offers a one-day trap shooting course for women and plans to start one for men.

The club will soon provide a place for area youth to take firearm safety and marksmanship training and engage in competitive shooting. Club officials say they plan to offer a youth shotgun trap shooting team for boys and girls within a couple months.

"Shooting sports are increas-

ingly popular nationwide and we've certainly seen a growth in local interest," Berry said.

Club membership has grown to 210. During the shooting season there are competitive club-sponsored events every other Saturday.

To celebrate its silver anniversary, the club will hold a picnic at its 55-acre facility for members and invited guests.

The range is available to all local law enforcement agencies so officers can maintain their shooting skills and participate in their biannual firearm qualification program.

"We're pleased that we've been able to provide firearms safety instruction and pleasure for our members and we hope to build on these accomplishments," Berry said.

Deltas to open season May 12 with Cardinals

The Deltaville Deltas semi-pro baseball team will open the 2007 season Saturday, May 12, at 7:30 p.m. against the Peninsula Cardinals at Deltaville Ball Park.

All home games will be played at Deltaville Ball Park. Admission is \$5; youth ages 12 and under will be admitted free. All games begin at 7:30 p.m. unless otherwise noted on the schedule.

For more information, contact Jerry Crittenden at 241-5630; or www.svabl.com.

2007 Deltas Schedule

May 12, Home, Cardinals
 May 19, Home, Cannons
 May 20, Away, 1 p.m., Cardinals
 May 25, Home, Navy Baseball
 June 2, Home, Astros
 June 3, Away, 4 p.m., Pirates
 June 8, Home, Cannons
 June 15, Away, Mariners
 June 16, Home, Astros
 June 22, Home, Tigers
 June 24, Away, 1 p.m., Astros
 June 30, Home, 5 p.m., Navy
 July 1, Away, 1 p.m., Navy
 July 8, Away, noon, Cardinals
 July 8, Away, 3 p.m., Tigers
 July 15, Standings Game (TBA)
 July 20, Home, Mariners
 July 21, Away, 2 p.m., All-Star
 July 22, Away, 1 p.m., Pirates
 July 28, Home, Pirates
 July 29, Away, 1 p.m., Tigers



From left are Larry Taylor, Dick Farr and match official John Bentley.

Nance wins handgun match

Tom Nance took top honors outscoring Larry Taylor by two points of a possible 420 in a Rappahannock Pistol and Rifle Club match April 28.

Of 14 competitors, only Taylor with a score of 402 closely challenged Nance's 404. Third place went to Dick Farr who scored 385, and Ted Haynie's 377 took fourth.

The match, known as Los Alamitos, the California area where it originated, follows

National Rifle Association action pistol rules. A total of 42 timed shots at three targets over distances of 7, 10, and 25 yards is required. Each shot counts 10 points or can lose up to that many from a perfect score of 420. Accurate shooting is made especially difficult by the necessity of having to use each hand separately for a portion of the required shots.

For membership information, call 435-2577, or visit www.rprclub.com.

Bridge Results

The Woman's Club of White Stone held its regular dessert bridge and mahjong games May 4.

There were nine tables in play.

Head hostess was Jane Jarvis, assisted by Paula Teeples, Shirley Crockett, Fran Blencowe, Donna Smith and Jaira Walsh. High scorer was Iris Panzetta.

The next regularly scheduled dessert bridge/mahjong games will be played June 1. Call Carolyn Reed at 435-6207 for reservations.

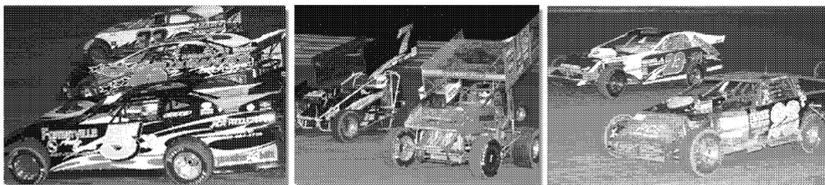
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New astronomy program at Belle Isle State Park

Join astronomer Kathy Miles at Lancaster Community Library in Kilmarnock to learn about the fascinating mysteries of Saturn. The program will start at 7 p.m. Wednesday, May 16.

Then come to Belle Isle State Park on Friday, May 18, to view Saturn and other celestial happenings through telescopes. The program starts at 8 p.m. at the picnic area.

Both events are free. A \$2 per car parking fee is required on Friday evening.

Miles is an astronomer who has lived in Virginia about four years. She works for NASA and also volunteers for the Jet Propulsion Laboratory's public outreach program. She has published many articles about popular astronomy and enjoys turning the public on to the night sky.



Demetrius Means

Means to host sports

warblers, including the prothonotary, hooded, and yellow throat warbler. Other possible sightings include many sparrows, bald eagles and Baltimore orioles.

Participants will meet either in the parking lot of Grace Episcopal Church in Kilmarnock at 7:45 a.m. or at the Saluda Food Lion on Route 17 at 8:15 a.m. to carpool to the site.

Binoculars and water resistant footwear are recommended. For additional information, contact Rick Skelton at 580-9066.

Two Rivers Communication recently announced that Demetrius Means will join morning sportscasts on BAY FM and WIGO-FM.

Means has covered sports in the Middle Peninsula and Northern Neck for a decade, as a sports analyst, a play-by-play announcer and talk show host.

"Demetrius has become one of the best commentators in the area," said his game broadcast partner Carroll Ashburn.

The sportscasts mark a return of sorts for Means. He began his broadcast career over 10 years ago at WKWI in Kilmarnock and is now approaching a milestone of 250 live broadcasts of area basketball games.

Means lives in Kilmarnock with his son, Demetrius II, a sophomore at Virginia Union College, his daughter, De'Ane, a sophomore at Lancaster High School, and his wife, Pat, an assistant principal at Lancaster Middle School.

Birdwalk to tour Dragon Run Swamp

On Monday, May 14, the Northern Neck Audubon Society (NNAS) will conduct its monthly bird walk on the Revere Tract on the Dragon Run.

Friends of Dragon Run president and NNAS member Tom Gregory, will lead the walk.

The Dragon Run stretches 35 miles from its source to the Piankatank River. The remoteness of this million-year-old swamp contributes to its abundant wildlife. Spring migrations may provide sightings of wood

Civic club to host lawnmower races

Rappahannock Civic Club in Topping will host a Regional Lawnmower Race Saturday, May 12.

The race will be held at the club grounds at 8215 General Puller Highway at Harmony Grove. Gates will open at 11 a.m., and the races will begin at 1 p.m.

Admission is \$2 per person. Ages 6 and under with a paid adult are free.

A portion of the gate fee will go to the Hartfield Volunteer Fire Department. Proceeds from the races also will help Rappahannock Civic Club continue to support the local community.

Sports Shorts

Bird walk

The Rappahannock River Valley National Wildlife Refuge will celebrate International Migratory Bird Day May 12 at the Toby's Point Tract. From 8 to 11 a.m., wildlife biologist Sandy Spencer will lead a guided bird walk through

mature oak forest on an easy, laurel-lined path that follows the edge of a ravine out to the Rappahannock River.

To reserve a space, call the refuge office at 333-1470 Monday through Friday from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., or email fw5rw_evrnwr@fws.gov.

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From left are Joe Riley and Wayne Ploger.

Flotilla 3-10 holds awards ceremony

Flotilla 3-10 recently held its annual awards banquet at The Mooring restaurant at Port Kinsale Marina. Joseph Riley of Montross received the Auxiliary of the Year Award.

The Coast Guard District 5 Auxiliary vice commodore Albert De Jean presented 19 Flotilla 3-10 members with district commodore commendations for volunteering more than 200 hours of service to the auxiliary. This level of participation resulted in Flotilla 3-10 achieving its second consecutive "First Place Flotilla of the Year" award within the Chesapeake Division.

"Flotilla 3-10 members volunteered over 12,000 hours of their personal time in 2006 in support of the United States Coast Guard," said De Jean.

He also presented 18 district commodore awards for outstanding member achievement in the areas of operations, public education, member training and

public affairs.

Thirteen members received auxiliary annual service performance awards for their support of the recreational boating safety programs, particularly for operations activities on the Potomac and Rappahannock rivers, and for public education and member training.

Riley also received the Carl and Jane Vogt Award, four of the eight individual flotilla awards and numerous district commodore and director of auxiliary awards during the course of the ceremony. These were in the areas of recreational boating safety visitations, public affairs, member training, and operations. Riley also serves as the vice captain of the Chesapeake Division. He has been a member of Flotilla 3-10 for 10 years.

To join the flotilla, call Commander Wayne Ploger at 472-3385, or vice commander Gary Palsgrove at 472-3370.

RW-C announces tournament winners

Fritz Sitterding of Hartfield shot his first hole-in-one on the third hole of the King Carter Golf Course at the Rappahannock Westminster-Canterbury Foundation's 23rd annual Open Golf Tournament April 25. Unfortunately, the Mooer's Volvo hole-in-one prize for the seventh hole went unclaimed.

Tournament proceeds benefit the foundation's Fellowship Fund, which provides financial assistance to qualified residents for entrance or monthly fees, and to qualified participants in the Adult Day Program.

"On behalf of the recipients of the RW-C Foundation's Fellowship Fund, we appreciate the support of all the golfers, sponsors and donors of our 23rd annual Open Golf Tournament. It was a pleasure being at the King Carter Golf Club this year," said Whiz Harris, vice president of development.

Awards were announced after play during a reception prepared by RW-C chef David Coontz and the dining services staff.

Jerry McMurtrie won the grand prize package of a one-night midweek stay at the Hope & Glory Inn, golf for two at The Tartan Golf Club and dinner for two at Rose's Crab House.

Allen Whittaker and Kyle Bransford had the longest drives; and closest to the pin were Hugh Falkenstein at nine feet, five-and-a-half inches, and Ann Stanley at seven feet, one inch.

The women's low gross winners were Lana Falkenstein, Mary Francisco, June Kink and Ann Padgett. The low net winners were Nancy Collings, Teensa Williams, Rachel Jackson and Tina Radigan.

The men's first flight winners were first, Harry Hoffon, Butch Gregory, Duncan Quicke and Ben Reese; and second, Bruce Edwards, Glenn Kelley, Kevin Aines and Bunny Bryant.

Second flight winners were first, Joe Hudnall, Mike Molin-

aux, Tommy Major and Billy Hudson; and second, Ken Bransford, Susan Pittman, Ward Currin and Kyle Bransford.

The third flight winners were first, Adam Duryea, David Nova, Steve Self and Whittaker; and second, John O'Shaughnessy, Greg Powell, Marty Bowling and Dwight Clarke.

Sponsors

Gold Sponsors were Chesapeake Bank/Chesapeake Investment Group, Davenport & Company LLC, King Carter Golf Club/Hill's Quarter and Regions Morgan Keegan.

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Patrons were Anchor Pharmacy, Area Access, and Milena and George Van Sant.

Golf courses providing prizes were Ford's Colony Country Club, Golden Horseshoe Golf Club, Hobbs Hole Golf Course, Independence Golf Club, Indian Creek Yacht and Country Club, Kingsmill Resort & Spa, Kiskiack Golf Club, Plankatank River Golf Club, Quinton Oaks Golf Course, Swan Point Yacht and Country Club, The Gauntlet, The Tartan Golf Club and Wintergreen Resort.

Donating other prizes and gifts were Al Pugh Distributing Co. Inc., Bank of Lancaster, Bay Design Group, Chesapeake Bank, The Dandelion, Kelsick Gardens Too, Khakis of Irvington, Mooer's Volvo, Northern Neck State Bank, Rose's Crab House, The Tartan Golf Club, The Hope & Glory Inn, The River Market, Twice-Told Tales, Sysco Foods, RW-C Wellness, Northern Neck Mechanical Inc. and U.S. Foods/Manassas.

The tournament committee included Bob Barlowe, Ken Bransford, Ed French, Keith Hudgins, Pat Kirby, J. Moon, O'Shaughnessy, Violet Whay, Pat Willett, Alice Helen Wohlleben, Harris, Linda Reeves and golf pro Mike Mayer.

Physical activity is good for arthritis pain

The Arthritis Foundation and the Centers for Disease Control are promoting physical activity as a method of arthritis self-management. The month of May has been designated as National Arthritis Month.

Research shows that becoming more physically active can help arthritis patients feel less pain, move more easily, feel more energetic and positive and do more activities.

"The sooner you start, the sooner you'll feel better," said Pam Lane, senior health educa-

tor for the Three Rivers Health District. "You may hurt a little at first, especially if you are not used to it. But most people who stick with a program of regular physical activity begin to feel better within four to six weeks."

For people with arthritis, low-impact activities at a moderate pace—like walking, swimming, and riding a bicycle—are best. Everyday activities such as dancing, gardening, and washing the car are also good.

"Choose an activity that

Little League Extra Innings

MAJOR GIRLS

X-plosion 5

Orioles 0

Casey Clarke fanned 15 batters last Friday to lead Lancaster X-plosion in a 5-0 shutout of the Middlesex Orioles.

At bat, Macey Carmell had a hit for an RBI and Amber Cutting and Chelsey Montgomery had a hit and run each. Clarke also had a hit.

X-plosion will play Northumberland at Dreamfields Friday, May 11, at 6:30 p.m.

Heat 13

Cardinals 3

Taylor Hinson struck out nine to lead Lancaster Heat over the Middlesex Cardinals, 13-3, last Friday at Dreamfields.

Hinson had a triple and scored twice to help herself. Brooke Hudnall and Katherine Keyser scored three times each, while Alexis Hayden scored twice and Katie Lackert and Paige Pittman had one RBI apiece.

Hannah Smith, Ammoni Roane and Samantha Parks also scored once each. Amber Sean and Brianna Voel reached

base on walks.

Lancaster Heat is coached by Alan Hinson, Honey Simmons and Tammy Crandall.

JR./SR. GIRLS

Heat 6

Northumberland 3

Lancaster Heat beat Northumberland back-to-back in a doubleheader last Saturday at Dreamfields.

Tiffany Pittman had three strikeouts and gave up only one walk to lead Lancaster to a 6-3 win in the opening game.

At the plate, Kimberly Crockett, Tiffany Pittman and Brianna Ritchie all had hits. Bailey Garrett and Takeia Jones each recorded an RBI.

Heat 11

Northumberland 0

Jones fanned 11 batters and walked one in an 11-0 shutout in the second game.

Tyesha Harvey led the Heat's offense with an in-the-park home run and three RBI. Jones, Carrie Miller, Sarah Jones and Garrett each had hits. Jones had two RBI and Miller one.

Sports Shorts

Women On Target

The National Rifle Association's Women On Target program on June 2 will sponsor an instructional shooting clinic for women only at the Rappahannock Pistol and Rifle Club at 640 Blueberry Point Road in White Stone. The clinic will begin at 8:30 a.m. and conclude at 3:00 p.m.

The fee is \$10 and includes lunch. To register, contact clinic coordinator Peggy Cathey at 438-6069, or pegc@pleasantlife.com. All necessary equipment will be provided by the club, including firearms, ammunition and eye/ear protection. This clinic will feature training in the safe handling of pistols, rifles, and shotguns to help participants learn the fundamentals of shooting in a relaxing and fun-filled environment.

30th anniversary

The Yankee Point Yacht Club is looking for former members. The club will celebrate its 30th anniversary June 9 at the clubhouse at Yankee Point Marina. The reunion event will begin at 11 a.m. with a short program followed by lunch. Storytelling will continue throughout the day.

Former members who did not receive an invitation may contact Don Crabtree at 739-6612. The pre-registration deadline is May 22.

Cruise-in

The Kilmarnock Cruise-In will be held in the Chesapeake Commons parking lot at 4 p.m. every second Sunday of the month throughout the summer.

The event is family friendly, free, and open to the public. The owners of all special interest vehicles from full antiques to modern sports cars are urged to participate. There will be door prizes and a 50/50 drawing. For more information, call Jackie Ashburn at 435-6171, or Jim Francis at 436-1154.

Junior regatta

A junior regatta sponsored by the Southern Chesapeake Leukemia Cup Regatta will be at the Christchurch School waterfront in Middlesex County. 800-866-4483.

Kayak tour

A kayak tour sponsored by the Southern Chesapeake Leukemia Cup Regatta will be held from 9 a.m. to noon at the Deltaville Maritime Museum and Holly Point Nature Park on Jackson Creek in Deltaville. 725-0626.

Tourney planned

Plans for the first Steamboat Era Museum golf tournament May 11 at the Tartan Golf Club are under way. Ken Bransford and Susan Hill are tourney chairmen. To register, call museum vice president Anne McClintock at 438-6888.

Bike race

Tour de Chesapeake will return to Mathews County this spring. Sponsored by BikeWalk Virginia and co-sponsored by the Mathews County Visitor and Information Center, Tour de Chesapeake IX is expecting 1,000 cyclists, beginning May 18 and continuing through May 20.

Cyclists may register at www.bikechesapeake.org.

Model regatta

A model skipjacks and schooners regatta will be held on the waterfront in Urbanna at Upton's Point Marina. The Solomons Island Model Boat Club in conjunction with the Calvert Maritime Museum will race their 4-foot-long handmade, wooden, radio-controlled boats starting at 10 a.m. 758-1606.

Free boating class

A free Boat Virginia safety course will be offered from 9 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. May 19 at the Northumberland Public Library in Heathsville. The course will be sponsored by the Virginia Department of Game and Inland Fisheries and the Northern Neck Sail and Power Squadron. To register, contact Twy Williams at 529-5093, or twynan@msn.com by May 12.

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A fleet of spotter planes from Omega Protein Inc. flew over Cockrell's Creek, the National Anthem ended and boats sounded their horns to conclude the Blessing of the Fleet last Sunday in Reedville.

Tradition continues

Photos by Lisa Hinton-Valdrighi

The Northern Neck Chantey Singers (right) sing "Help Me to Raise 'em Boys," one of two songs they performed.



Honorary harbormaster Capt. Gus Dunaway led a procession of scouts to cast the memorial wreath. The Boy Scouts of Reedville Troop 202 and Girl Scouts of Troop 3119 assisted with the ceremony.



The Rev. Dr. T.W. Morris spoke on reclaiming civility in the 21st century.

Spring fire season officially ends; conditions ripe for wildland fires

CHARLOTTESVILLE—Spring fire season officially ended at midnight April 30 along with the prohibition on outdoor burning before 4 p.m., but officials with the Virginia Department of Forestry (VDOF) caution that conditions are not ideal and that the threat of wildland fires is still very real.

"While the first of May typically means that the grass is green, the leaves are once again on the trees and we've experienced some decent amounts of rain throughout the Commonwealth, that's simply not the case this year," said John Miller, VDOF's director of resource protection.

"This 'green-up' has occurred in many parts of Virginia, but there are still lots of areas—particularly in the Shenandoah Valley and the mountains of Southwest Virginia—that are just beginning to see these changes. In addition, virtually the entire

Commonwealth is in a rain deficit situation," he said. "So, just because the calendar says that spring fire season is over doesn't mean that the threat of wildland fires has ended."

From January 1 through April 30, the VDOF responded to 878 wildland fires that burned 7,423 acres. Agency employees and members of numerous volunteer fire departments protected 488 homes and 336 other structures. Nine homes and one other structure were damaged.

During the same period in 2006, a total of 1,048 wildfires burned 11,365 acres. Homes protected during the first four months of last year totaled 432 along with 269 other structures. Thirteen homes and 38 other structures were damaged.

While there was a 17 percent decrease in the number of fires and 35 percent decrease in the numbers of acres burned this year compared to last year, the number of homes

protected increased 13 percent and the number of other structures protected increased 25 percent.

"As more and more people move into what were the more rural areas of the state, we are seeing that more people and more property are at risk," Miller said. "This risk will only continue to grow."

Debris burning remains the primary cause of wildland fires in Virginia, and Miller urges anyone planning to burn—regardless of the time of year—to properly prepare by clearing the area around the place to be burned; have available sufficient water and hand tools, such as a shovel or rake, and burn only when conditions of high humidity and low wind speed are present.

For more information on wildland fires, or how to protect oneself and property, go to www.dof.virginia.gov or www.firewisevirginia.org.



Kick Butts Day celebrated

Kick Butts Day was recently celebrated by Citizens United for Youth Development (CUFYD) at the Upper Deck Crab and Rib House in Mollusk. CUYFD coordinator Maxine Logan arranged with restaurant owner Ron Edwards to bring the group to a smoke-free atmosphere. Fifteen adults and 14 children participated. Vanessa Waddy and Phyllis Landers prepared the meals. Waitresses Lora Smith and Corrie Ashburn were given a thank-you plaque. Above, from left, are Peggy Dillon, Aline Waller, Ashburn, Smith, Logan and Lewis Conway.

▼ Taxes

(continued from page A1)

people scream over the last eight years" about their cars being taxed at a value higher than what they could sell them for, Thomas said.

He has decided to assess the vehicles at their NADA loan value which is "probably closer to the fair market value," but that decision will probably reduce county tax collections by about \$200,000 to \$250,000 unless the board raises rates, said Thomas.

The commissioner said to keep the tax revenue on vehicles the same as it is now, the tax would need to be raised to about \$2 per \$100 of value from the current \$1.52.

Because the current boat tax rate in Lancaster County is more than three times that for a home, Thomas said, the tax bite on a \$1 million home is about the same as the tax on a \$300,000 boat. (The boat tax rate is \$1.52 per \$100 and the real estate tax rate is \$.46 per \$100.)

County officials agreed that Lancaster's high boat tax steers pricier vessels owned by county residents to docks in Northumberland and Middlesex where boat taxes are one-half and two-thirds, respectively, of Lancaster's boat tax rate.

He expressed the hope that lowering the tax would make docking larger boats in the county more attractive.

In the end, Thomas proposed the board consider raising the general property tax rate to \$2 per \$100 of value, up \$.48.

"We're still lower than counties for a long way around us," he noted.

And he suggested the board look at rating the "big boats separately—under the \$2.00 general property tax rate."

Tax relief

"You'd be surprised at how many widows in this county are getting [only] \$500 a month in Social Security," Thomas told the board. In many cases the real estate tax bill for some elderly citizens "exceeds their total Social Security income," he said.

According to Thomas, because property tax relief for the elderly and the disabled is tied to the Consumer Price Index, in the past eight years the income ceiling to qualify has risen from \$10,000 to \$16,000.

The Virginia Tax Code allows county boards to set the relief ceiling for income as high as \$50,000 and the value of all assessments other than a home and one acre of land up to a value of \$200,000, Thomas explained.

He recommended Lancaster County use one-half of the ceiling allowed in both categories, thus allowing property tax relief for households with incomes up to \$25,000 and other assessments up to \$100,000.

Currently, about 40 citizens receive tax relief at the county level (totaling just over \$7,700 in relief) and this year five or so others were turned down for having income that was too high, Thomas said.

"We've got a lot of people who probably qualify now, but they don't come in and ask for it," Thomas added. He predicted that if the two ceilings were raised, it would less than double the number of those now qualifying for relief.

Thomas also told the board that making changes in assessment methods, rates, and outright exemptions for farm animals and farm machinery could "make our tax system more equitable and fairer for our taxpayers" and aid in preserving farms and "encouraging the rural use of land."

▼ Budgets (continued from page A1)

to "settle in, prioritize, and set the needs."

Noting that since the schools are now beginning to use the same accounting system as the county, it will "give us a better hold of what's going on." He acknowledged the "excellent cooperation" on getting it installed this spring.

Russell remained focused on results.

"What kind of performance can we expect for the amount of money being spent?" is what he will ask the new superintendent, he said.

He also expressed concern with "the gap between black and white students in test scores."

In the end, the board had to vote three times before the budget could be agreed upon by a majority. In a 3-2 split, supervisors Wally Beauchamp, Geilich and Russell prevailed with a motion to increase the school budget by \$500,000. That's about \$1.2 million less than the school system was seeking.

After more discussion on whether to fund the budget by

category or bottom-line amount, supervisor Ernest Palin Jr., who is also director of federal programs for the schools, made a successful motion to adopt the bottom-line budget which then passed unanimously.

The board scheduled a work session on Monday, May 14, at 3 p.m. in the General District courtroom to consider other areas of the county budget.



Models from left are Ginger Philbrick, Byrl Taylor, Billie Barnes, Jaira Walsh, and June Swanell.

Fashion Show is a hit

On May 1, The Woman's Club of White Stone (WCWS) held its annual Fashion Show/Games/Luncheon at Rappahannock Westminister-Canterbury (RW-C) near Irvington.

More than 80 people enjoyed the fashion show, sponsored by Peebles Department Store of Kilmarnock and other activities designed to raise money for the scholarship fund sponsored by WCWS. Members look forward to awarding three or more scholarships to graduates of Lancaster High School each year.

"We would like to thank all the local merchants who generously donated gifts and gift certificates that were used for door prizes and game prizes," said Nancy Lee. Those merchants include Chesapeake Bank, Car Wash Café and Catering, Sal's Italian Pizza Restaurant, Home and Garden Supply Co., Burke Jewelers, Sara Brown of Hair Design Studio, The River Market, Willaby's, The Book Nook, Ross's Rings and Things,

Country Cottage, The Local, All Occasions and Rappahannock Florist. Several members and several "friends of WCWS" also donated gifts.

Members making special donations included Mary Niven Stover who provided table favors, Barbara Bernhardt who designed and provided score cards and tally sheets, and models, Jaira Walsh, Billie Barnes, Ginger Philbrick, Byrl Taylor, and June Swanell.

Winners of the bridge games were Ginny Wagener for high score and Sally Rankin for low score. In mah jongg, JoAnn Smith was the high scorer with Martha Morrison turning in the low score.

"We are very grateful to RW-C and their staff for providing their lovely facility for this event," said Lee. "Most importantly, however, we thank everyone who came to enjoy the day with us as we could not achieve our goals without their support."

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Winemaker Jacques Recht watches over the first batch of wine at Athena Vineyards in 2005.

Northern Neck winemaker wins 2007 Award of Merit

by Reid Pierce Armstrong

The American Wine Society has named Jacques Recht the recipient of a 2007 Award of Merit, its highest honor. Well-known former recipients of the award include Konstantin Frank, Robert Mondavi and Lous P. Martini.

The 76-year-old Belgian has been heralded for helping to establish the Virginia wine industry. He is being honored specifically for his contribution to the research of the polyphenolic enhancement in Chardonnay.

Recht served as resident winemaker at Ingleside Vineyards in Oak Grove for 15 years. He came out of retirement three years ago to become the winemaker at Athena Vineyards near Wicomico Church.

Recht's first calling was not to winemaking. In his lifetime, he has had many careers — each representing his quest for knowledge and adventure.

During World War II, at the age of 12, Recht served as an agent for the Swiss Secret Service in its covert efforts to aid the Allies. He carried documents hidden in a child's photo album through occupied France to Spain and Portugal and, finally, to England. There he turned the album over to an austere British officer who spoke perfect French and used Recht's code name, "Kiki."

After the war, Recht studied chemistry and became a professor of enology and a consultant for wineries in Europe and North Africa. He met his wife, Liliane, on a street car in Brussels. He thought she was winking at him. She said she was just trying to focus her eye. They have been married for more than 50 years.

Together, they learned how to sail. Recht became a master of navigation. He wrote a book on using the sextant and became a sailing instructor. He built a 36-foot replica of an ancient Polynesian-style catamaran equipped only with oil lamps and a sextant.

For two years, he and Liliane sailed around the world, navigating by the stars and sleeping in the hulls of the pontoons. They explored the African coast and crossed the Atlantic in half the time it took Columbus.

A coin toss landed them in Virginia.

"If the coin fell differently, our lives would be different and the winemaking industry in Virginia would be different," Recht said. "We would be drinking Pina Colodas in Bora Bora."

Their nautical chart noted that the first casualty of the War of 1812 was in Kinsale, and the Rechts stopped to visit.

They were always quick to make new friends, and through some newfound sailing comrades in Kinsale, they met Carl Flemer who had just started Ingleside Vineyards and was desperately seeking a winemaker. The Rechts reluctantly agreed to stay for three weeks to help with the winemaking.

During those weeks, Recht discovered that Flemer had not yet acquired his license from the department of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms. When they made the application, Recht discovered the department officials knew a lot about tobacco and firearms, but nothing about wine.

"I had to tell them what kind of questions to ask and what my answer should be," he said. "I had to go to Richmond and teach

them about how wine is made."

Three weeks turned into three months, three months turned into three years and three years became 25 years.

After Ingleside was up and running, Flemer asked Recht to consult with other vineyards in Virginia and to do the same thing for them that he did for Ingleside. If they are making bad wine, he explained, it reflects on all Virginia wines.

Recht consulted with vineyards such as Accomac, Applehouse, Misty Mountain, Oakencroft, Oasis, Stonewall and Tarara. He also consulted with wineries in New York, Pennsylvania, West Virginia and Iowa before he retired in 1995.

Retirement lasted roughly 30 minutes. Recht spent the next seven years consulting with wineries in Texas and New Mexico.

As his retirement project, he agreed in 2004 to be the winemaker for Athena Vineyards near Wicomico Church.

"I have been seduced by these women," he said.

He has helped Athena produce six wines, including the Chardonnay that has made him famous, and a champagne, which everyone said could not be made in this region.

He will receive his award at the 40th annual conference in November in Winston Salem, N.C.

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Arbor Day Foundation offers pruning guide

Those who care about trees will find advice on pruning and related topics in The National Arbor Day Foundation's free booklet, "How To Prune Young Shade Trees." From pruning in the early years of a tree's life, to learning how to strengthen trees by removing branches, this illustrated, easy-to-follow guide offers timely and practical tips.

"How a tree is pruned in its first few years of life will affect its shape, strength, and even lifespan," said Arbor Day Foundation president John Rosenow. "People who value their trees will learn how to make them safer, more beautiful, healthier, and easier to maintain with this guide and its step-by-step illustrations."

Other tips in the booklet cover the best ways to make a pruning cut, how to prune for form, and how to maintain a tree's health by removing trouble spots. It also offers such basic advice as how to hold a pair of pruning shears and make cuts at the proper angle.

For a free copy, send name and address to How To Prune, National Arbor Day Foundation, 100 Arbor Avenue, Nebraska City, NE 68410, or visit www.arborday.org.

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