

Rappahannock Record

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Ball players get a jump on the season

Spring like weather preceding this week's winter storm brought some 85 youth to the Lancaster County Little League skills assessment day March 1 at Dream Fields on Irvington Road near Kilmarnock. Andrew Fulmer (above) fields the ball and throws to first while other minor league baseball players wait their turn. Opening day is April 12. More photos appear on the Sports page. Photo by Lisa Hinton-Valdrighi

VMRC bans recreational fishing for speckled trout

by Larry Chowning

NEWPORT NEWS—The Virginia Marine Resources Commission (VMRC) on February 25 voted unanimously to issue an emergency order closing recreational fishing for speckled trout, other than catch-and-release, effective March 1 to July 31, 2014.

Plunging water temperatures have resulted in thousands of speckled trout dying or swimming lethargically just under the surface on the Piankatank and eastern and western branches of the Corrotoman rivers, Mobjack Bay, North and Ware rivers and inside Lynnhaven and Rudee inlets.

North Carolina also experienced massive cold-stun kills of speckled trout the first week in February and officials there closed the recreation and commercial fisheries to give surviving trout a chance to spawn in the spring before the warm weather trout season opens.

VMRC, however, opted not to close the commercial fishery because it is perhaps just weeks away from meeting its speckled trout quota for the season.

"By the time the fishery is closed to

John M. R. Bull is appointed Virginia Marine Commissioner

RICHMOND—Gov. Terry McAuliffe on February 28 announced the appointment of John M.R. Bull as commissioner of the Virginia Marine Resources Commission.

Bull has been with the VMRC since June 2007 and has been serving as acting commissioner since January 2014. He previously served as director of public relations and legislative liaison and has worked closely with the agency's many and varied constituent groups, the news media and the General Assembly and has been involved in all aspects of agency operations.

Before joining the VMRC, he was an award-winning newspaper reporter at eight different newspapers over the span of 23 years, most recently as an investigative reporter and General Assembly reporter for the Newport News Daily Press.

He is a journalism graduate of Penn State University.

recreational interest, or within a week or two, commercial fishermen will have met their quota and the fishery will be closed to all," said commissioner John Bull.

He said the recreational fishing community "has been talking about this for weeks and has appeared before the finfish committee and the board but the commercial fishery has not had the same opportunity."

Bull also said 90% of Virginia's speckled trout harvest (300,000 pounds) comes from recreational anglers. "The commercial impact overall isn't great," he said.

VMRC staff reported at the meeting the commercial quota is 51,104 pounds and commercial fishermen have caught 46,000 pounds, or 86% of the quota. There are approximately 6,000 pounds left on the quota.

Charter boat fisherman Bob Reed, who fishes out of Dividing Creek, said

the December freeze was a shock from Mother Nature.

"We can't do anything about it," he said. "What concerns me is that there are reports of commercial fishermen setting nets in upper reaches of creeks and of recreational fishermen shooting dying fish with bows and arrows. This must be stopped now!"

"My recommendation is to stop it to all user groups, regardless of whether or not they have met their quota. It bothers me that commercial and recreational fishermen are going out to get the last fish."

The board also voted to hold a March 24 public hearing to consider additional action to protect the speckled trout stock. Closing fishing during spawning season, closer monitoring of commercial by-catch, and lowering daily catch limits for recreational anglers were discussed at the meeting.

As extended filing deadline approaches, only two races are shaping up for May 6

by Audrey Thomasson

LANCASTER—The 2014 town elections here, as of 7 p.m. Tuesday, will include a few new faces, several incumbents seeking re-election, and, in some cases, no one to vote for on May 6.

However, due to the winter storm Monday, the filing deadline was extended by the Virginia State Board of Elections from Tuesday to 4:30 p.m. Wednesday, reported voter registrar Susan Jett.

In Kilmarnock, Mae Umphlett is challenging incumbent Raymond Booth in the race for mayor. Three candidates seek three seats on council, including incumbent Emerson Gravatt, former mayor Curtis Smith and newcomer Chris Allen.

In Irvington, four candidates filed for three council seats, including incumbents Wayne Nunnally and Jerry Latell; Mike Merrill, who was appointed last fall, and William Evans.

Frances Westbrook and Michelle Lybarger filed for the special election in Irvington to fill the two remaining years of a four-year term.

In White Stone, no candidates declared for mayor. There are three seats up for election on council, and only two declared candidates. Incumbents Irving Brittingham and Joseph Salikis seek re-election.

Jett said the deadline to register to vote in the May 6 election is April 14. To register, call the voter registrar's office at 462-5277. The office is on the lower floor of the County Administration Building, 8311 Mary Ball Road, Lancaster.

Sowder gives county waterfront tract to develop a boat ramp

by Audrey Thomasson

LANCASTER—A citizen concerned with the county's struggle to obtain land for public access to the water, recently donated more than five acres near the headwaters of Dyer Creek for a public boat ramp and parking area.

Bob Sowder of the Reserve at Lake Chase, LLC, said he wanted to help out the county after reading about a failed attempt to secure land for a fishing dock and boat ramp on Antipoison Creek several years ago.

"I've had a bit of luck..." said Sowder. "I'd like to give back to the county. I want a situation where grandparents can get their grandchildren out on a boat and get their attention."

According to planning and land use director Don Gill, Sowder bought the "Old Haynie Farm" off Fleets Bay Road in 2012 and portioned off 5.7-acres of the land to give to the county for public access.

"We've engaged a local design firm to draw up preliminary plans...and we've

been approved for a \$100,000 grant from the Department of Game and Inland Fisheries to put in a boat ramp," said Gill. "The launch will be about two miles from the Chesapeake Bay, 1.9 miles from Kilmarnock and 4.2 miles from White Stone."

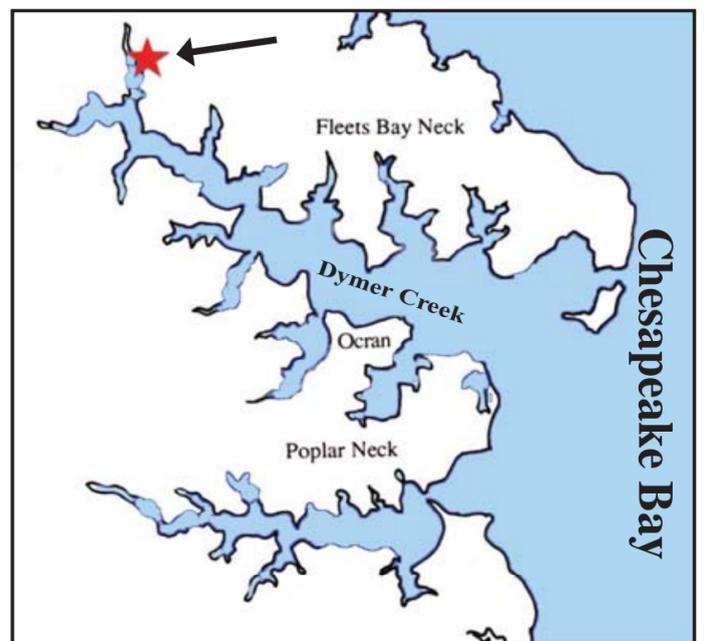
Conditions of the grant require the project be completed in 18 months and include 35 parking places and increased police presence on Fleets Bay Road for security, he said.

Public hearings on the project will be held by the wetlands board and Virginia Marine Resources Commission.

Gill said the creek will need to be dredged in that area in order to provide the required depth to accommodate boats. The county will hold a public hearing on a special exception permit to remove the spoils from dredging.

Supervisors thanked Sowder for his generosity.

"We appreciate very much what you have done for the people of Lancaster County," said District 2 supervisor Ernest Palin.



The star marks the approximate site of the proposed launch.

Readers are reminded to set their clocks ahead one hour Sunday, March 9. Daylight Savings officially begins at 2 a.m.



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Left & Right: Tom Haskins & Ed Pittman, Investment Executives
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NORTHUMBERLAND CIRCUIT COURT REPORT

by Renss Greene

HEATHSVILLE—Northumberland County Circuit Court was in session Thursday, February 27, in Heathsville, Judge Harry Taliaferro III presiding. On that date:

Michael Anderson "Jay" Crockett Jr. of Lancaster was to be tried for two counts of violation of probation on a felony offense. The trial was continued until July 8. His attorney is Brent Jackson.

Brain Anthony Moreland of Montross was tried for sale of drugs on school or library property. He had previously pled no contest to this charge. His sentencing will be held August 7. The prosecution elected not to pursue another charge of distribution of marijuana. Moreland's attorney is Jan Smith.

The trial date for Dalton Edward Douglas of Hague, represented by attorney Patrick O'Brien, was set for March 27. Douglas is charged with violation of probation.

Curtis Norman Diggs of Lancaster pled no contest to the charge of obtaining money under false pretenses. He was represented by Jackson.

Joshua Robert Bryant of Newport News was tried and found guilty of entering a house to commit assault and battery and malicious wounding. He has been sentenced to 30 years imprisonment, 23 years suspended, and three years of supervised probation. His attorney was Smith.

Deandra Redmond Newbill of Merry Point was found

guilty of malicious wounding. She was sentenced to 12 months imprisonment with eight months suspended.

Nicolas Zarco-Ramirez of Heathsville was to be tried for two counts of distribution of marijuana. His trial was continued to June 10. He is represented by James Cupp.

Desmond Lamar Lee of Warsaw pled no contest to two counts of entering a house to commit assault and battery. He was sentenced to 10 years imprisonment, with seven years and five months suspended, and two years of supervised probation. He was also found guilty on two counts of grand larceny and sentenced to 10 years, with all 10 years suspended. Lee was represented by Wes Charlton.

Jamaul Bradison Hill of Newport News was found guilty of malicious assault and wounding and sentenced to 20 years imprisonment, with 16 years and five months suspended, and two years of supervised probation. The prosecution declined to pursue charges of entering a house to commit assault and battery and abduction. Hill's attorney of record was John Hamilton.

Tristian Marie Phillips of Callao, represented by James Monroe, pled not guilty to grand larceny. The case is under advisement and will be reviewed on April 28.

Christopher Clarence Danbridge of Callao pled guilty to a third offense of driving while intoxicated. The charge was reduced to reckless driving, a misdemeanor. Danbridge was sentenced to 180 days of jail, all suspended, and had his license suspended for 6 months. He was also ordered to pay a \$500 fine and court costs. He was represented by Thomas Hendell.

Bruce Darnell Scott of Warsaw was found guilty of petit larceny and sentenced to two years imprisonment, with one year, eleven months and 26 days suspended.

Zachariah Scott McKinley of Heathsville was to be tried for manufacturing a controlled substance. His trial was continued to April 10.

Corneilius Lamont Burrell of Warsaw was to be tried for destruction of property causing more than \$1,000 of damage. His trial was continued to April 10. He is represented by Hamilton.

Antonio Javon Morris of Lancaster was granted bond and had his trial date set for May 22. He will be tried for three counts of manufacturing a controlled substance.

Michael Lee Newton, Jr. was indicted for eluding police, reckless driving in a parking lot, resisting arrest, and reckless driving. His trial is set for May 22.

Homeowners to meet regarding concerns with association governance

OTTOMAN—Members of the Corrotoman by the Bay Homeowners Association, who have grown increasingly troubled by actions of the current board of directors, are calling a meeting of all property owners Saturday, March 8. The meeting will begin at 6:30 p.m. in the clubhouse on Corrotoman Drive.

Officers from earlier boards will address the recent capital reserve assessment which some members feel was improperly executed. Facts concerning the relationship of current state regulations and the HOA's governing documents also will be explained.

"This is not a meeting called by the board, but initiated by grassroots property owners whether they have one tiny lot in the woods or multiple lots and a big home on the water," said former board president Fred McBride.

Retired New York City



Snow day

While some enjoyed a "snow day" indoors on March 3, others were outdoors clearing the way for those who had to venture to work. From left, Rappahannock General Hospital grounds foreman Robert Henderson and director of security Greg Pinel shovel snow off the sidewalk at the hospital. The two arrived at 5 a.m. Monday and spent the rest of the day clearing snow, said Pinel. Sleet and snow began to fall in Kilmarnock around 8 a.m. and snow continued to fall into evening, accumulating three to five inches. Photo by Renss Greene

LANCASTER CIRCUIT COURT REPORT

by Audrey Thomasson

LANCASTER—The following cases were heard in Lancaster County Circuit Court on February 24 by Judge Harry T. Taliaferro III.

David Thomas Pfarr, charged with two felonies of aggravated sexual battery of a child under 13 and parent violating a child under 13, asked to be released on bond pending trial. Attorney Albert D. Bugg III presented six friends and family members as witnesses testifying that Pfarr was not a flight risk, was no harm to the community and that they trusted him with their children and grandchildren.

Under questioning by Assistant Commonwealth's Attorney Kenny Kunkle, a seventh witness from the Community Services Board, who had testified on his behalf, stated she was unaware that Pfarr was a convicted sex offender from a 2005 case with a stepchild.

Bond was denied. While both the prosecutor and Bugg waived of a jury trial, the judge overruled and set a jury trial for 9 a.m. May 27.

Mathew Rosner, charged with probation violation for testing positive for use of marijuana, not reporting on time to his probation officer (PO), and moving without notifying his PO, was ordered to serve two days in jail. Defense attorney Dean Atkins won a request for leniency on

a plea that Rosner has since reported regularly and is now taking his drug rehabilitation program seriously.

Carl Timothy Rich, charged with three felony possession and shooting of a firearm by a convicted non-violent felon, was released from custody. Commonwealth's Attorney Robert Cunningham filed a nolle prosequi on all charges due to "trouble with a witness."

Victoria Mieras, who successfully paid restitution and worked off several convictions by performing community service, was allowed to work off court costs and fines with additional community service. A felony embezzlement charge was assigned to her attorney James Cupp.

Jerevon R. Henderson, charged with three felony credit card frauds and larceny, was set for trial at 9 a.m. April 7. Defense attorney James Cupp said they might waive a jury trial.

Travis Aaron Ball, charged with felony unauthorized use of a vehicle and misdemeanor cruelty to animals and interrupting 911 service by damaging phone lines, is represented by William Hubbard. The case is continued to 9 a.m., April 7.

Dasmine D. Fisher, charged with probation violations for missing an appointment and testing positive for marijuana, argued he missed the appointment due to snow and transportation problems. His attorney, John Hamilton, said he has enrolled in a stronger substance abuse program because the other program was not working. Also, he now has two jobs. Because of his progress, Judge Taliaferro took the disposition under advisement and extended his probation to 9 a.m. May 9 when he will review Fisher's progress.

The case against Dwayne

Donte Noel, who is charged with felony sale of schedule I and II drugs, was continued to 9 a.m. May 23. His attorney is Patrick O'Brien.

James Michael Maguire, charged with felony strangling/wounding, had the charge reduced to Class 1 misdemeanor assault and battery. Maguire pleaded no contest, but maintains his innocence, said attorney Wes Charlton. In a plea agreement, the judge sentenced him to 90 days, all suspended, one-year supervised probation, mandatory anger management course and revoked a permit to carry a concealed weapon.

Terrell Marvay Noel was removed from supervised probation. He was represented by Patrick O'Brien.

A charge of probation violation against Purcell Owens was dismissed after attorney John Hamilton showed he had enrolled in a Gloucester program rather than Tri-Rivers.

An appeal by Daniel Carl Grant on failure to comply with an order in General District Court will be heard at 9 a.m. March 14. He is represented by John Hamilton.

Carlesha Shawvel Reed, charged with probation violation, was not in court due to not being served. Attorney John Hamilton said he is still looking for his client. The case was rescheduled for 9 a.m. May 9.

Derrick Saunders, charged with a probation violation, was granted \$5,000 bond, after Kunkle asked for a continuance, citing failure to subpoena a witness. Hamilton asked for reasonable bond to allow his client to return to work. A new trial date was set for 9 a.m. May 9.

Corey Devon Smith, charged with felony probation violations, was granted temporary appointment of attorney Christopher

Robison for the purpose of a bond hearing. Smith was granted bond. The judge set March 24 for Smith to report to the court with hired counsel.

Calvin J. Hines pled guilty to three felony counts of forgery, uttering and grand larceny in cashing a forged \$3,500 check at EVB Bank on December 28. Sentencing will be at 9 a.m. March 14. He is represented by Robison.

Jerrick Deion Saunders, convicted of felony possession of burglary tools and misdemeanor entering property to damage property, was sentenced to five years with three years four months suspended on the felony and 12 months on the misdemeanor for a total active sentence of one year eight months. He received 10 years probation with one year supervised probation and was barred from Gaskins Boat Ramp. In addition, he must pay restitution for damages. Attorney Robison asked for work release, which was granted based on Saunders qualifying at the facility where he is imprisoned.

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Hearn sentenced in 2013 shooting of James Hayden

by Audrey Thomasson

LANCASTER—The man accused of shooting and crippling James Thomas Hayden in a February 2013 altercation on Greentown Road in Weems will serve eight years and seven months in prison.

In a plea agreement with Commonwealth's Attorney Robert Cunningham, Larry Warner Hearn Jr., 25, of Mathews pled guilty on February 25 in Lancaster County Circuit Court to four felonies including use of a firearm in commission of a felony, malicious wounding,

a probation violation and two misdemeanors of brandishing a firearm and reckless handling of a firearm.

Judge Harry T. Taliaferro III sentenced Hearn to 50 years and 10 months in prison, suspending 42 years and three months and leaving an active sentence of eight years and seven months.

The sentence also included paying court costs totaling \$1,413, restitution in the amount of \$24,621.29 and four years of supervised probation on his release.

Hearn was represented by attorney Albert D. Bugg III.

Hayden, 38, and two others were cutting wood in the yard when a vehicle pulled up and Hearn got out and jumped one of the men with Hayden. Hearn then pulled a gun and fired a round.

When Hearn fired the gun Hayden was struck and fell to the ground immobilized. He was transported to a Richmond trauma center in critical condition.

According to Virginia Commonwealth University Medical Center neurosurgeon Dr. Robert Scott Graham, "The gunshot traversed his spinal canal and transected his spinal cord.

As a result of the spinal cord injury, Mr. Hayden will have permanent lower extremity paralysis."

"Hayden has had multiple surgeries and gone through extensive rehabilitation following the shooting over the last year. It has been life-threatening for Mr. Hayden and caused the case to be repeatedly delayed until now," said Cunningham.

"I am satisfied with the outcome of the case and appreciate everyone's help on this," said Hayden.

He is confined to a wheelchair, according to Sheriff Ronnie Crockett.

Cunningham clarifies why his office didn't handle Wiggins case

LANCASTER—Following a report last week regarding the sentencing of Travis Devon Wiggins on felony charges related to a May 2013 robbery at Chesapeake Bank in Lively, Commonwealth's Attorney Robert Cunningham's phone began to ring.

Cunningham said folks were questioning why his office did not prosecute the case. Instead, the case was handled by Northumberland County Common-

wealth's Attorney Jane Wrightson. The article did not offer an explanation.

This week, he explained why.

The Lancaster County Commonwealth's Attorney's office was required to recuse itself from prosecuting the case, he said.

"It was legally barred from trying this particular case," said Cunningham. "The Commonwealth's Attorney's staff witnessed the event and was

ultimately subpoenaed to testify in the case. This presented a situation where in direct examination the Commonwealth's Attorney would have to call his own staff to testify in the case, creating a conflict and risking the successful outcome of the case."

He noted the case could have been lost or ended in a mistrial.

"These are basic principles of the law that are exercised daily

throughout our judicial system and that worked successfully here," Cunningham said.

In November, Wiggins, 27, pled "no contest" in Lancaster County Circuit Court to five felony charges in the May 22 robbery that ended when Lancaster County Sheriff's deputies intercepted his vehicle near Mary Ball and Merry Point roads and recovered a shotgun and \$11,190 in stolen cash.

Judge Harry T. Taliaferro

III sentenced Wiggins to 30 years with 22 suspended for the bank robbery, a minimum mandatory three years for use of a firearm in commission of a felony, 20 years with 19 suspended for entering the bank to commit the robbery, a mandatory minimum sentence of 5 years for possession of a firearm by a convicted felon, and 10 years, all suspended, for possession of a controlled substance.

The sentence also includes suspension of his driver's license for six months, participation in a substance abuse program and restricts him from contact with the bank tellers.

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Unless noted, all phone numbers in this publication carry the 804 area code.

SHERIFFS' REPORTS

Lancaster County Sheriff Ronnie Crockett this week reported charges against five individuals.

Felonies

Sharon Sue Evans, 51, of Dirt Bridge Road was charged February 27 with felony probation violation.

Lachoane A. Palmer, 40, of Light Street was charged February 28 with felony probation violation in a Northumberland County case and for felony failure to register/reregister as a sex offender.

Misdemeanors

A Clove Lane man, 25, was charged February 26 with contempt of court.

A Courthouse Road man, 52, was charged February 27 with misdemeanor violation of probation in a Fairfax County case.

A Taylors Creek Road man, 22, was charged February 28 with contempt of an Essex County Court.

Activity Report

February 25: Staff checked on the well-being of a Peake Road resident at the request of a concerned citizen (no emergency services needed) and responded to a juvenile behavioral complaint on Buzzards Neck Road (parent was advised to contact juvenile intake officer).

February 26: Staff assisted Virginia State Police (VSP) with a traffic stop in the White Stone area; based on a citizen's report, attempted to locate and check on the well-being of a resident in the Alfonso/Lara Road area (the complainant could only provide a description of the residence and the general area of its location); and investigated a suspicious vehicle complaint on Chownings Ferry Road (subject moving into a residence).

February 27: Staff responded with the county code compliance officer to an illegal dump complaint on Woods Drive, and to a missing person complaint on Lowery Creek Road (the subject was located by authorities in St. Mary's County, Md., approximately 3½ hours after the initial report).

February 28: Staff attempted to intercept a reported reckless/aggressive driver in the Brookvale area; staff responded to the local emergency room on a report of an assault victim seeking medical care, to a noise violation complaint on Wildflower Lane, and to a burglary call on Ocran Road.

March 1: Staff responded with VSP and the Kilmarnock Police Department (KPD) to a motorist's report of an adult dragging a child into the woods near Chases Road (no criminal incident involved), with VSP to assist KPD with simultaneous domestic disturbance/assault calls on North Main Street, to a complaint of juveniles operating ATVs on Wild Flower Lane, and to a drag racing complaint on Fleets Bay Road; staff received a report of the unauthorized use of a vehicle and damages to the vehicle from a Dragon Fly Drive resident (\$1,500 damage estimated).

March 2: Staff responded to a domestic disturbance/trespass complaint on Windmill Point Road (parties have a child in common; no assault; both parties have legal standing to the residence), to a suspicious vehicle complaint in the 13200 block of Mary Ball Road, to a noise violation/disturbance complaint on Washington Street, and to a domestic disturbance on Levelgreen Road (child custody dispute).

March 3: Staff checked on the well-being of a Keep Safe program participant after prearranged telephone contact could not be made (telephone line problem); responded to a destruction of property/hit and run complaint in the 8600 block of Mary Ball Road (post, shrubbery; \$165 loss), to a single-vehicle traffic crash, no injuries reported, near Mary Ball and Regina Roads; received a report of a single-vehicle traffic crash, no injuries reported, in the median between Kilmarnock and Devils Bottom Road; and observed a second single-vehicle traffic crash, no injuries reported, while at the site of the previous crash near Mary Ball and Regina roads.

Staff also received a report of a single-vehicle traffic crash,

no injuries reported, near Old Fairgrounds Way; responded with VSP to a single-vehicle traffic crash, overturned vehicle, entrapment reported, on Weems Road; responded with VSP and KPD to a reported single-vehicle traffic crash on Goodluck Road, and to an E911 disconnect call on Grace Point Lane (telephone line problem).

During the week staff also conducted 18 traffic stops, issued three summonses, assisted a motorist, investigated five building alarms, processed a mental health order, logged two inmate transports and fielded a call for animal control service.

Fire calls

The Kilmarnock Volunteer Fire Department responded with the White Stone VFD to a fire alarm on Fox Hill Drive; with Upper Lancaster VFD and the Virginia Department of Forestry to a brush fire on Starling Place; to a traffic crash on Weems Road; and with Upper Lancaster VFD to a traffic crash on Goodluck Road.

Northumberland County Sheriff Chuck Wilkins this week reported charges against 14 individuals.

Felonies

Dalton Edward Douglas, 20, of Hague was charged February 18 with a *capias* to show cause on a felony charge. He was arrested by Richmond County authorities.

Carlos Neal Culbertso Jr., 36, of Lottsburg was charged February 20 with failing to perform construction after being paid and obtaining money by false pretenses.

Thomas Paul Crowell Jr., 19, of Reedville was charged February 21 with damaging property valued at more than \$1,000.

Lachoane Artea Palmer, 40, of Heathsville was charged February 28 on a *capias* to show cause from the Northumberland County Circuit Court. He was arrested by Lancaster County authorities.

Misdemeanors

A Newtown man, 20, was charged February 12 with failing to appear in the Northumberland County General District Court. He was arrested by Westmoreland County authorities.

A Heathsville man, 22, was charged February 18 with failing to appear in the Northumberland County Juvenile and Domestic Relations Court.

A Lancaster man, 35, was charged February 20 on two summonses for no rabies shots and three summonses for failure to provide adequate food and water.

A Farnham man, 26, was charged February 20 with failing to report for supervision/drug testing ordered by the Northumberland County General District Court. He

was arrested by Richmond County authorities.

A Richmond man, 30, was charged February 20 with failing to appear in the Northumberland County General District Court. He was arrested by Richmond County authorities.

A King George man 44, was charged February 22 with driving under the influence of alcohol.

A Callao man, 29, was charged February 22 with driving under the influence of alcohol, reckless driving, no drivers license and consuming alcohol/open container in the vehicle.

A Reedville woman, 83, was charged February 24 with reckless driving on a Lancaster County summons, served by the Northumberland County authorities.

A Dunnsville man, 29, was charged February 27 with failure to appear in Northumberland County General District Court. He was arrested by Essex County authorities.

A Montross man, 52, was charged March 1 with obtaining money by false pretenses. He was arrested by Westmoreland County authorities.

\$5,000 reward

A \$5,000 reward is offered for the arrest(s) of the person(s) involved in an assault and larceny of several firearms on July 21, 2013, in the Wicomico Church area. Call the Crime-Tips line at 580-8477.

CRIME SOLVERS

Lancaster County Crime Solvers seeks information regarding the whereabouts of two individuals.

Carlesha Shawvel Reed, 26, is wanted for probation violation. She is described as a black female, with black hair and brown eyes. She is 4 feet 11 inches tall, weighs 140 pounds and is of small build.

She was last known to be working at McDonald's in Warsaw. She is possibly in the Newport News area and may have changed her last name.

She also is wanted by the Hampton Police Department. Kyle Lee George, 29, is wanted for probation violation. He is described as a white male with red hair, and green eyes. He is 5 feet 8 inches tall and weighs 175 pounds. He has tattoos on both arms. He often appears unshaven with mustache and goatee.

Report information on Carlesha Reed or Kyle George to Lancaster County Crime Solvers at 462-7463. You do not have to give your name or appear in court. If an arrest is made on your information, you could receive a reward.

Lancaster County Crime Solvers pays up to \$1,000 for information leading to the arrest of wanted suspects.



Carlesha Shawvel Reed



Kyle Lee George

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Focal Point



This weather is for the birds, according to Spike, a "pet" mockingbird.

Photo by Jo Walters

Submit your interesting photos capturing the life and times in the Northern Neck to editor@rrecord.com, subject line Focal Point.

Thoughtful gift

Last Thursday at the board of supervisors meeting, Mr. G. Sowder presented a deed to Lancaster County for waterfront land on Dymmer Creek. This generous act will give citizens the ability to boat and fish from a [second] public facility.

Access to the water has been a plank in the five-year plan for a long time. Mr. Sowder solved a thorny problem for the board, since with minor exceptions, all waterfront land in Lancaster County is privately owned, expensive and therefore out of reach for public uses.

Mr. Sowder remarked that as a young man, a neighbor would often take him fishing. This proved to be formative, he said, kept him out of trouble and gave him a life-long love for our bountiful rivers, creeks and the bay. He once even rescued a future supervisor with a well-timed tow to shore.

This was a thoughtful gift. The improvements the county will make on it will give many more the chance to appreciate the rewards which Mr. Sowder so enjoyed.

George M. Bott,
Lancaster

Investing, Obama-style

After listening to the president's imposture on spending more and creating an even larger deficit in the economy,

YOUR LETTERS

I have a plan for every citizen that will improve the economy (sort of).

Mr. Obama claims that he is investing rather than spending so here is my solution to the economy.

My advice to everyone: Go out and spend money you don't have on new cars, new furniture, new boats, new TVs and anything else you want. Make sure you charge all of it and have no intention to pay any of it off anytime soon. Call it investing in the economy rather than spending. You will be creating jobs for many who manufacture and sell those items.

When the creditors come to collect just tell them you are following the economic investment plan of the president. Explain that you were not spending, you were investing. Explain to them that the solution to their collection problem is to give you more money so you can pay them back. If that doesn't work, just tell them to defer payment to your children and grandchildren just as the president is doing.

I have doubts about my solution working, but if it is good enough for the president shouldn't we try it? The president is an artful speaker with a divisive doctrinaire chaining our children and grandchildren to debt while pandering for votes to the Democratic Party. Unconscionable.

Are we really as naive as he thinks?

Al Hall,
Reedville

Time to debate a course of action

Last week, the U.S. National Academy of Sciences, jointly with the British Royal Society, released a report titled "Climate Change, Evidence & Causes."

The conclusion states climate change is occurring and most of the recent change is due to emissions of greenhouse gases caused by human activities. If emissions of greenhouse gases continue unabated, "increases in the extremes of climate that can adversely affect natural ecosystems and human activities and infrastructure are expected."

The report finishes with an identification of four choices (or combination of choices) for citizens and governments: They can change their pattern of energy production and usage in order to limit emissions of greenhouse gases and hence the magnitude of climate changes; wait for changes to occur and accept the losses, damage and suffering that arise; adapt to actual and expected changes as much as possible; or seek as yet unproven "geoengineering" solutions to counteract some of the climate changes that would otherwise occur. Each of these options has risks, attractions and costs.

Different communities vary in their vulnerability and their capacity to adapt. There is an important debate to be had about choices among these

options, to decide what is best for each group or nation, and most importantly for the global population as a whole.

We are well past the point of arguing the realities of climate change—the issue as defined by the premier scientific bodies in the world is: What do we do about it?

Many of us believe we need to be proactive, choose the first option and put a price on carbon emissions. We want to leave our grandchildren a livable planet and not "...wait for changes to occur and accept the losses, damage and suffering that arise."

Gregory T. Haugan, PhD,
Heathsville

Political scheming

All governments have one thing in common: they need access to money to remain in power.

Other than outright confiscation, there are only a few ways a government can get money: Collecting fees, rents, and taxes; borrowing, which is just putting taxes off into the future (with interest); and inflating the money supply, which drives prices up (but a government can blame inflation on suppliers of goods and services).

If a government slightly overspends, it can draw off of its sources [of citizens' monies] equitably. But, if a government for whatever reasons overextends itself to the point where its need for money is cause for onerous taxation—which increases poverty and lack—then maybe that government (or some politicians within) has another agenda?

By increasing the national debt to an unsustainable level, a government can then raise taxes indefinitely. Increasing taxes, therefore increasing poverty levels and dividing people into the "wealthy" and "poor," causes class warfare.

The resulting discontent makes it easier for politicians to capture votes by promising to increase taxation of the wealthy (or whoever)—with support by more and more of those who have been coerced into poverty—and who come to believe government should provide everything necessary to live.

Such a big government might look further into education and seek control of what people read and listen to as well as what children learn in school.

Belief in God might be removed from the government and schools.

Our government is taking over healthcare, and as we're now seeing, has caused hapless citizens to wander into our government's nightmare of bureaucratic oblivion and dependency.

Stirring up divisive and destructive class warfare enhances inaccurate perceptions of inequity. Unsustainable and self-serving hope and change policies wind up consuming everyone's freedom and liberty.

Matt W. Johnston,
Lancaster

Supporting Umphlett

I am thrilled, as I'm sure are the majority of Kilmarnock citizens, that Mae Umphlett is running for mayor of our fair town.

Having served for three years on the Kilmarnock Town Council with Mae, I can attest to her honesty, her fairness, her consideration for both sides of every question that comes up for a vote, for her dedication to her duties, her love for Kilmarnock, and her quest to do what's best for the town.

She is experienced, knows the charter and the by-laws, abides by them, and has always handled herself with complete decorum.

Mae is loved by everyone and will give the shirt off her back. I encourage all who know her to be at the polls on May 6 to elect her as a mayor of whom we can be proud and one who will add class and prestige to the office.

Rebecca Tebbs Nunn,
Kilmarnock

A flawed plan

"A public boat ramp at last. The board of supervisors is really looking out for its citizens."

But wait, let's take a closer look at this proposed project. After county leaders were promised free land for a public boat ramp, they plunged headlong into a plan, and they seem determined to make it work.

They neither sought nor wanted public input. They presented their plan in a "photo op" last week. What was presented is an unrealistically located boat ramp in a narrow, shallow cove of Dymmer's Creek.

County leaders quietly spent thousands of tax dollars, and, after months of studies, engineering, and planning behind closed doors, this is what they came up with; a plan that requires dredging 500 feet of mud bottom in a narrow cove; a plan that destroys long existing wetlands and wildlife habitat, which includes nesting for a bald eagle family; a plan which exposes property owners along Dymmer's Creek to inevitable shoreline erosion resulting from the manifold increase of boat traffic; a plan which diminishes the peace and quiet in this residential neighborhood we have grown to cherish.

Did the board of supervisors hope for a groundswell of public support that would bury the obvious shortcomings of this public boat ramp plan?

Please join me in speaking out against this ill advised plan, and the questionable methodology our elected officials utilized in the creation of this plan.

George Edward Simmons,
White Stone

YESTERYEAR

(Reprints from the March 5, 1904, issue of the Virginia Citizen)

Citizen's Files Burned

The files of two years of the Virginia Citizen were destroyed in the Baltimore fire, having been sent to that city for binding.

We are indebted to W. K. Dunaway, Jno. E. Waters and A. M. Hughlett, Sr., for missing copies, but still lack the following dates to complete new files:

1901- October 4, 11, 18, 25, November 1, 8, 15, 22, 29, and December 6 and 13.

1902-August 8.

1903-April 17.

Friends having one or more of the foregoing dates will confer a great favor if they will mail them to us. Please look up your old batch of old Citizens.

Mail Troubles Continue

No mail from Richmond reached the Northern Neck between Friday night and Tuesday night. Same old story that has been going on for about two months. Why at least Saturday's mail did not reach us until here Monday night is only to be accounted for by its being piled up at West Point or Urbanna, or between those points, awaiting distribution. The Department is at work on the derelicts, but it seems slow in readjusting things. No mail at all on Wednesday (the Citizen's most important mail day). We learn that important pouches were left at West Point, or en route, and only reached Urbanna.

White Chapel

Mrs. Jennie Doggett, of Lively, visited friends near here recently.

Little Howard Doggett, of Lively, spent Sat-

urday and Sunday with his uncle, of this place.

Mrs. Mary Doggett and her daughter, Anna, visited at the hospitable home of Mrs. M. A. Barrack last Sunday.

Mr. and Mrs. Horace Beane, of the Courthouse, on Sunday visited at the home of latter's sister, who is much worse at this writing.

Irvington

Musical on last Tuesday night at the Academy was highly enjoyed.

W. McDonald Lee, F. G. Newbill and B. S. Hammonds go to Richmond this week.

Police Steamer Rappahannock, Capt. W. E. Hudgins, harbored here Monday night.

Griff Garner has returned from long cruising as mate on an Eastern Shore schooner.

Go to Smith, the old reliable Registered Druggist, Irvington, Va.

Millenbeck

We are glad to say at this writing that Mr. and Mrs. A. B. Wood, who have been down for several days with the grip, are improving.

W. H. Warren, who recently moved to his home place across Town Creek, will move back in a few months to Millenbeck.

W. E. Stevens, near this place, is down with the grip.

Miss Mabel Warren, of Mollusk, was seen in this place the past week.

Miss Mae E. Blakemore left on steamer Middlesex Friday last to visit friends in Baltimore.

W. W. Davenport left last week for Baltimore where he will purchase spring stock.

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

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Excerpts

by Henry Lane Hull

For the past several months as the news has mounted from crisis to crisis in Ukraine, I have been reliving my academic life as a Russian history teacher. This time, unlike Winston Churchill's analysis of Russia being a riddle, wrapped in a mystery inside an enigma, the facts of history are more apparent. For eight centuries, the relationship between Russia and Ukraine has dominated Eastern European developments.

Ukraine's struggle for freedom from Russian imperial and later Soviet control has been heroic, and obviously still is ongoing. Much of our contemporary knowledge of Ukraine is due to the work of the late Professor and Ambassador Lev Dobriansky, who taught at Georgetown University from 1948 until President Reagan appointed him Ambassador to the Bahamas in 1982.

I did not have the privilege of studying under him, but for over 35 years we were close friends. In 1948 as a young economist with a Ph.D. from New York University, he moved from New York to Washington. The Yalta Conference at the end of World War II, only three years previous, had transformed the map of Eastern Europe substantially to the

How Ukraine goes in this current crisis will determine the balance of power in Europe for the foreseeable future. In its hands is the course of westernization or Russification.

lines that we know today.

In those days here in the West, Ukraine was known as "The Ukraine," a term the Soviet Union found appealing for its connotation that the region was a part of Russia, similar to "The Great Plains" being a part of the United States. The symbolism was significant, and the reality was harsh. Christianity and western culture had come to Kiev first, a source of perpetual irritation to Moscow, which over the last five centuries has seen itself as "The Third Rome," that is, the logical heir of both the Roman and the Byzantine Empires.

Lev Dobriansky set out to articulate a new

American approach to the Soviet Union and its satellites. He forcefully, and almost singlehandedly, compelled the West to drop the "The" in speaking of Ukraine. His books, *The Vulnerable Russian* and *U.S.A. and the Soviet Myth*, debunked the theory that we had to live with communism forever.

His days passed teaching at The Hilltop in the mornings followed by visiting Senators and Congressmen in the afternoons to explain to them with great patience how the historical realities of Eastern Europe should be understood by our government. He developed an equation, U.S.S.R. Minus Ukraine Equals Zero, as the cornerstone in planning for the eventual breakup of the communist behemoth.

In the post-war days when many complained about the Soviet Union having three votes in the United Nations General Assembly, he took the opposing view, namely that we should support all of the satellite Soviet republics being able to vote as a means of showing that we did not recognize Moscow's hegemony over them.

He lived to see the collapse of the Soviet Union along the lines that he had spent decades predicting, and was especially happy

to witness the birth of an independent Ukraine, now universally referenced without the "The." When he died at 89 in 2008, The Washington Post headline for his obituary read, "Professor and Foe of Communism."

Today Ukraine is at another crossroads in its history, whether to align with The West or to return to the status of subservience to Russia. The three principal parts of Ukraine are divided in their loyalties, the predominantly Catholic western section looking to The West, much of the eastern region seeing its home with Russia, and the Crimean Peninsula, which was the last part of the Mongol overlordship to be overthrown, only in 1783 by the Russian Empire under the Empress Catherine II, the so-called "Great," seeks to return to Mother Russia.

How Ukraine goes in this current crisis will determine the balance of power in Europe for the foreseeable future. In its hands is the course of westernization or Russification. To understand the true nature of the situation, a good place to begin is with the two works I have cited. The realities that Lev Dobriansky expressed over his long career are as accurate today as when he wrote them.



Do you remember?

A flag with a "V" was flown by several merchants whenever Lancaster High School posted a sports victory, according to Kilmarnock Museum president Carroll Lee Ashburn. This 1974 photo taken along South Main Street, Kilmarnock, shows former downtown businesses including VEPCO (now Dominion Virginia Power), The Fairfax Theater and Cockrell's Super Market, as well as a truck from W.F. Morgan Seafood of Weems. "Do You Remember?" is a community service of the Kilmarnock Museum.

Delegate's Report

by Del. Margaret Ransone

As the 2014 General Assembly session enters its final days most of the legislative work has been completed.

The biggest remaining obstacle is the disagreement on Medicaid expansion between the House and the Senate. Rather than debate Medicaid expansion on its merits, the governor and his allies are using the budget as a bargaining chip to implement their agenda.

The House has said clearly and consistently that we do not think the federal government will be able to keep its commitment to pay for Medicaid expansion. Every aspect of the proposal would be subject to the terms, conditions and approval of the Obama Administration and Virginia cannot turn its health-care decisions over to the same administration that promised us we could keep our doctors and our health plans.

These are uncertain times in regards to Healthcare. In 2011, President Obama proposed \$15 billion in cuts to state Medicaid payments. Those proposed cuts would dramatically shift the burden of Medicaid expansion costs to the state.

The Obama Administration also recently announced cuts to Medicare Advantage, proposing a nearly 2% cut to insurer rates on

the important program that serves over 180,000 Virginians. And as recently as last week the Department of Defense announced cuts to TRICARE, the health care program for military personnel.

Rushing the Medicaid expansion debate like Congress rushed ObamaCare would be a mistake. The federal government is \$17

RANSONE, continued on A6



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YOUR LETTERS

Fracking is not the real problem

An article in last week's Record cites opposition to fracking in conservation easements on the website frackingisnotconservation.com.

Among other allegations, it states, "Audubon, The Nature Conservancy, and US Fish & Wildlife Service" have opposed fracking.

Wait a minute! Not according to their web sites.

For example, Michael Powelson, director of the Nature Conservancy's North America Energy Program, states that we "look forward to working collaboratively with BLM and key stakeholders as the agency finalizes and implements its fracking rule. At the same time, the Conservancy will continue its work to find solutions that allow society to meet its energy demands while protecting our lands and waters across North America."

The other two sites barely mention fracking.

Furthermore, I take issue that fracking for oil and gas is the greatest threat to our drinking water aquifer.

Rather, the greatest threats are immense withdrawals from the aquifer by commercial interests granted by Virginia; the greatest threats to pollution of our creeks and rivers are agricultural runoff from over-fertilization and dumping of animal rendering waste.

Back to fracking. Over the last 55 years tens of thousands of oil and gas wells have used fracking. There have been only a handful of contaminations of surface and shallow subsurface water, and primarily during the early years. Most of the fracking fluids are organic, but there is a danger from improper disposal of dangerous components.

The recent example of fish harmed in Kentucky cited in the website did occur as a result of improper regulation and on-site monitoring of fluid disposal in the fracking operation. It is regrettable but avoidable if the state had done its job properly.

Real conservation entails actions by state government directed at real problems, not phantoms.

Sam Marshall,
White Stone

Questions remain

I concur with the many concerns raised by recent letter writers about Rappahannock General Hospital's merger with Bon Secours.

Will a person's end-of-life instructions, as stated in a living will and/or advanced medical directive, be followed?

These instructions may not always be in keeping with the ethical and religious directives for Catholic Health Care Services. Bon Secours is a Catholic hospital.

The questions remain: Has Rappahannock General Hospital addressed these concerns?

Nancy Reath,
Irvington

Do you really understand the implications?

A letter in the February 27 Record should be on the front page with a large banner headline.

Our community does not have the luxury of choosing one of several hospitals so we depend on the only one we have. Does the population of this area have any real idea what the take-over by Bon Secours means in terms of practical day to day experiences for both Catholics and non-Catholics if and when they attempt to exercise their freedom of choice—whether that has to do with reproduction, or end of life decisions?

As a practicing Catholic in good standing, I decry the hubris of organizations that force their ideologies and beliefs on others who may or may not be like-minded. I experienced that under the Nazis and the Russians who occupied us for 10 years afterwards.

Where is tolerance? Where is freedom of the individual to act according to his or her conscience? Who am I to tell you that my faith is superior to yours and therefore you must abide by my religious beliefs because they supersede yours?

For example, all religions do not believe that life begins at conception and as a result have no problems with abortions. Do I have the right, because I see abortion as an intrinsic evil, to force someone back into alleys with coat hangers rather than safe medical care if they do not

share my point of view?

As well, end of life decisions to remove or withhold life supports according to directives should not be influenced by a hospital trying to fill beds with insurance monies in the guise of religious principles. Too few Catholics advert to the fact that the church does not require any artificial means to prolong life.

However, that doesn't support the bottom line.

Think about it.
Monika R. Smith,
Reedville

Follow the dollar

How much does it cost? This is a question I consider whenever buying something. So let's take a look at the potential costs associated with the plan for a carbon fuel tax as proposed recently by two writers.

The term "revenue neutral" has an appealing sound, but what does it really mean?

It certainly does not mean "free." One writer explains that the government does not keep the money but returns it to the people with about 66% breaking even or getting a dividend check. Some people have referred to this system as "redistributing the wealth."

But is it really as simple as that? What will be the effects on electricity costs in the USA?

The U.S. Energy Information Administration (EIA) provides some useful facts (2012 annual data). The average cost per ton of coal burned to generate electricity was \$46.09. Burning one ton of coal would produce about two tons of carbon dioxide (CO2). Fossil fuels comprised 68% of the fuel source in electricity generation of which coal comprised 37%.

Conclusions:
• A carbon tax starting at \$15 per ton of CO2 (\$30 per ton of coal) and \$10 per ton annually thereafter as proposed by two recent letter writers would increase the cost of coal burned by electric utilities from \$46.09 to about \$76 per ton in the first year, doubling after two years, and nearly tripling after four years.

• "Electricity rates would necessarily skyrocket"— a quote from then Senator and Presidential candidate Barack Obama in January 2008.

• High electricity costs would drive new manufacturing investments and related jobs away from

the U.S. to overseas locations with lower costs.

• North American fossil fuels with proper pollution controls must remain an essential component of U.S. electricity generation for both cost and national security reasons.

Tom Smith,
White Stone

Teach patriotism

Too many citizens have paid too little attention to the circumstances that created our nation. It took faith, courage, and sacrifice to earn our rightful status as a sovereign nation.

Are our Declaration of Independence, Constitution and our founding history adequately taught in our schools?

Our founding fathers warned us that we must teach each generation about the virtues of our founding if we are to maintain our system of government, a republic (a representative democracy) based on the Constitution.

They told us that religion must be part of our education if we were to retain our liberty. What happened to that concept? And why have our "federal and state educational experts" shunned teaching what our founding fathers urged us to teach?

Christianity has always been part of our American culture; but it is being squashed. To quote just two of our founding fathers:

"The only foundation for a useful education in a republic is to be laid in religion. Without this there can be no virtue, and without virtue there can be no liberty, and liberty is the object and life of all republican governments."— Benjamin Rush

"Enlighten the people, generally, and tyranny and oppressions of body and mind will vanish like spirits at the dawn of day.... If a nation expects to be ignorant—and free—in a state of civilization, it expects what never was and never will be." —Thomas Jefferson

It would be a great service to our students and our country if our schools would provide educational programs that focus on developing an understanding of our national heritage; our country's founding principles and the role of a responsible, informed and engaged citizenry. For if a nation loses its culture, achievements, identity and heritage, it will never survive.

Clark Waring,
Saluda

www.FrackingIsNotConservation.com

"Stop Fracking..." - Audubon

31 Service and Trust Concerns - US Fish & Wildlife

"Fracking... should not proceed." - The Nature Conservancy

"Fracking Fluids... toxic concentrations of heavy metals." - USGS

Read these reports and speak up - Protect Your Drinking Water!

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The Agenda

Local Government News

WHITE STONE—Town council will meet at 7 p.m. Thursday, March 6, in the Town Hall, 433 Rappahannock Drive, White Stone.

According to town manager Patrick Frere, there are no public hearings or presentations on the agenda. However, council will schedule a second budget work session for the fiscal year 2015 budget.

Frere will present what was discussed at the first work session and review revenues and expenditures in the current budget.

Council also will hear committee reports, along with reports from Frere and police chief Cliff Dawson.

LOTTSBURG—The Northumberland school board will hold a closed executive session at 1 p.m. Thursday, March 6, at the School Administration Building, 2172 Northumberland Highway, Lottsburg.

The school board cited Virginia law allowing closed sessions to consult with legal counsel. Superintendent Dr. Rebecca Gates declined further comment on the reason for the meeting.

KILMARNOCK—The planning commission for Kilmarnock will hold a public hearing on the updated comprehensive plan Monday, March 10. The commission will meet at 6 p.m. at Town Hall, 1 North Main Street, Kilmarnock.

The commission also will discuss the capital improvement plan, according to planning and zoning director Marshall Sebra.

"Sidewalks have been the biggest discussion item this year," Sebra said.

LOTTSBURG—The Northumberland school board will meet at 6 p.m. Monday, March 10, at the School Administration Building, 2172 Northumberland Highway, Lottsburg.

The school board will hear recognition of the middle and high school bands, the girls basketball team, and the volleyball team.

Assistant superintendent Dale Wittler will update the board on the number of extra instructional hours remaining before Northumberland schools will need to extend the school year.

The board also will take action to authorize an overnight trip for the NHS softball team, a trip to Spain, and a Beta Club convention weekend trip.

HEATHSVILLE—The Northumberland board of supervisors will conduct two public hearings Thursday, March 13. The board will convene at 5 p.m. in the Courts Building, 39 Judicial Place, Heathsville. Hearings will begin at 7 p.m.

A hearing will be held on a request from Brian Belfield of Belfield Physical Therapy to operate a physical therapy center at 161555 Northumberland Highway near Burgess.

There also will be a hearing on a request from Bethany Baptist Church and Bart Morrison of the Hickory Ground Foundation to operate a private school at 16256 Richmond Road near Callao.

LANCASTER—County supervisors will hold a work session on the fiscal year 2014-15 county budget at 4:30 p.m. March 19. The meeting will be held in the County Administration Building, 8311 Mary Ball Road, Lancaster.

The session will be the only opportunity for representatives of agencies, organizations and county departments to personally explain their requests for county funding.

Reagan Day Dinner slated for March 16

The Lancaster County Republican Committee's 17th annual Reagan Day Dinner will be March 16 at Indian Creek Yacht and Country Club near Kilmarnock.

Dr. Lee Edwards, Distinguished Fellow in Conservative Thought at the Heritage Foundation, will be the keynote speaker. Rep. Rob Wittman will serve as master of ceremonies.

The event will begin with a social hour at 5:30 p.m. A buffet dinner will be served at 7 p.m.

"We invite Republicans



Dr. Lee Edwards

from throughout the Northern Neck to join us on March 16 for an exciting evening of good politics and good food," said event chairman Joan Blackstone, who was succeeded as chairman of the local party by Susan Clingan of Kilmarnock, at a mass meeting February 18.

Dr. Edwards is the author of more than 15 books, covering biographies of President Ronald Reagan, Sen. Barry Goldwater, Attorney General Edwin Meese III and William F. Buckley Jr. He also is the author of *The*

Conservative Revolution: The Movement that Remade America.

He was one of the founders of Young Americans for Freedom in 1960, director of information for the Goldwater for President campaign in 1964 and founding director of the Institute of Political Journalism at Georgetown University.

Dr. Edwards is an adjunct professor of politics at Catholic University of America. He has a doctorate in world politics from Catholic University and a bachelor's in

English from Duke University. He lives in Alexandria with his wife, Anne.

"We have extended invitations to the dinner to all of the candidates for the Republican nomination for the U.S. Senate," added Blackstone. "We look forward to a night of spirited speeches."

The dinner fee is \$50 per person. To make a reservation, send a check payable to the Lancaster County Republican Committee to LCRC, P.O. Box 1215, Kilmarnock, VA 22482, or call Blackstone, 435-6464.

Del. Ransone

continued from page A6

trillion in debt. It does not have the money to meet current obligations, let alone the costs of Medicaid Expansion. Holding Virginia's budget hostage to implement ObamaCare's Medicaid Expansion is wrong and the governor and his allies need to stop playing politics and pass a clean budget.

I wanted to clarify any misconceptions that people may have regarding Medicaid vs. Medicare, as we are ONLY discussing Medicaid in Virginia.

Medicare is managed by the federal government. Medicare spending is expected to reach \$528 billion for fiscal year

2010, or 13% of all federal spending. The only larger categories of federal spending are Social Security and defense.

Patients pay part of Medicare costs through deductibles for hospital and other costs. Small monthly premiums are required for non-hospital coverage. Medicare provides health insurance to people over 65 primarily, whatever their income; and serves younger disabled people and dialysis patients.

Medicaid is administered by the states, however all rules and services must be approved by the federal government. The Virginia Medicaid program is

administered by the Virginia Department of Medical Assistance Services.

All rules and services must also be approved at the state level and each state Medicaid program is different. Each state submits a "State Plan for Medical Assistance" to Washington for federal approval. Medicaid programs are funded jointly by states and the federal government.

Individuals are low income to qualify for Medicaid and in Virginia they must also be either aged, blind, disabled, pregnant, a child, or a parent/caretaker of a child.

Free tree: Flowering dogwood

Join the Arbor Day Foundation in March 2014 and receive 10 free white flowering dogwood trees.

"White flowering dogwoods will add beauty to your home throughout the year," said John Rosenow, founder and chief executive of the Arbor Day Foundation. "Dogwoods are known for their showy spring flowers, scarlet autumn foliage and red berries that attract songbirds during winter."

The trees will be shipped postpaid with enclosed planting instructions at the right time for planting between March 1 and May 31.

The 6- to 12-inch trees are guaranteed to grow or they will be replaced free.

Arbor Day Foundation members also receive a subscription to Arbor Day, the foundation's bimonthly publication, and The Tree Book, which contains information about tree planting and care.

To join the foundation and receive the free trees, send a \$10 contribution to TEN FREE DOGWOOD TREES, Arbor Day Foundation, 100 Arbor Avenue, Nebraska City, NE 68410, by March 30, or visit arborday.org/march.

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