

Track, field and educational opportunities expand for Betts

by Lisa Hinton-Valdrighi

What was at first devastating news for Joseph "Tay" Betts quickly turned into a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity for the Radford University junior.

Betts, a 2011 graduate of Lancaster High School, will be forced to give up his track career at Radford University in May when the spring season wraps up. The university announced last month it is dissolving its swimming and diving, field hockey and men's track and field programs. With that news, Betts, who had a full scholarship at the Big South university, had to decide where he'd spend his final year of college.

"They told the team a month ago," said Betts. "They sent us an email and told us to come to a meeting. And honestly, it wasn't even 24 hours before these coaches [from other colleges] started calling."

Betts has been offered full scholarships to Ohio State, Michigan, Baylor,

Oklahoma and Troy University among others. He has narrowed his choices to Ohio State, Michigan and Baylor.

"They're my top three," said Betts. "And I have to let them know my decision in a couple of weeks."

Betts, who also was a baseball and basketball star at LHS, wrapped up his last indoor track season with the Highlanders last weekend in the conference championships. Named the indoor season's scholar/athlete of the year for the conference, Betts took fourth in the 400-meter and ninth in the 200 despite nursing a knee injury.

Betts had reconstructive knee surgery as a Radford freshman, but has injured the other knee, according to his assistant coach Mark White.

White, who left Middlesex High School to work at Radford in 2007, recruited Betts as a sprinter for the Highlanders mens team after Betts won the Group A state championship in the 100-meter as an LHS senior.



Joseph "Tay" Betts

"I look at Tay like a son," said White. "He has worked so hard and overcome

so much to get where he is. When he's not in the trainer's room or the weight room or on the track, he's in the library. That's why he's got the options he's got.

"Tay and I have had a couple emotional moments over this past weekend," said White, his voice cracking. "I want these guys, especially guys like Tay to be taken care of and happy. I want them to be with good coaches and have good support."

Betts is a year away from graduating with a bachelor's in sports administration, with hopes of coaching at the college level.

According to Betts, as soon as Radford announced it was dissolving its track program, the news was posted nationally. In less than a day, he started getting calls from universities across the country with offers.

"I'm getting recruited like in high school but this time by much bigger colleges," said Betts.

According to White, the university made the coaches aware of the cut in programs the same day it notified the athletes.

"We were told, and when I say we, I mean the coaches. We were told about 20 minutes before the kids were," said White, who served as athletic director, football and track coach while at Middlesex. "It's been very difficult having to deal with this and help these kids figure out what they're going to do next. My big thing has been to keep them focused on indoor track and that's been tough with all that's going on around them."

"Tay has worked so hard and we're trying to open up as many doors as we can for him," added White. "He's going to be important to the life of some kids one day and he's going to be an amazing teacher and coach."

Betts is the son of Tiney Waller of Kilmarnock and the late Maurice Waller.

Myers to offer free hitting clinic and strategy talk

Travis Myers will hold a free hitting clinic on Sunday, March 16, at the Cooks Corner Gym in Middlesex County.

Three 45-minute sessions will be offered at 2 p.m., 3 p.m. and 4 p.m. The clinic is sponsored by the Middlesex County Recreation Department and is open to baseball players ages 8-17.

Myers is a former all-state Christ-

church baseball player and Marshall University player. He played on back-to-back state runner-up teams at Christchurch and on the 2009 16-and-under Wood Bat World Champion team.

Along with batting instruction, Myers will share 15 strategies that make great achievers great and how this is important to success in baseball.

To register, call 832-5132.

All-Conference #43 boys teams have local representation

by Lisa Hinton-Valdrighi

Colonial Beach and Washington & Lee claimed the top spots on the All-Conference #43 boys basketball team.

Montie Gould of Colonial Beach was named the conference's player of the year and George Hunter, who led Washington & Lee to the conference tournament championship, was chosen as the coach of the year.

W&L also named Treshaun Brown to the first team and Jeremy Turner to the second team.

Gould also made the first team and Colonial Beach's Keane Foster was named to the second team.

Northumberland named one player to the first team in Wesley Jackson, while Lancaster's Trevon Taylor received second-team honors.

Others named to the first team were Rappahannock's (Warsaw) Marcus Byrd and Essex High's Sterling Hammond.

Those named to the second team included Rappahannock's Kelvonte Ellis and Essex High's DJ Ashlock.

Lancaster had three players receive all-academic recognition including Taylor, James Coleman and Tyrell Henderson. Northumberland's Blake Walker also was named to the all-academic team.

Still in the postseason race, Colonial Beach leads girls All-Conference #43 team

by Lisa Hinton-Valdrighi

State semifinalist Colonial Beach led the picks on the All-Conference #43 girls basketball team and took the top honors with both the player and coach of the year.

Sydni Carey was named the player of the year and Keith Dickerson was chosen by his peers as coach of the year.

The Lady Drifters were the Conference #43 tournament champions and were the runner-up in the Region 1A East tournament. They are scheduled to play Region 1A West champion Honaker at 2:45 p.m. Saturday, March 8, at UVA-Wise. A win there puts Colonial Beach in the state 1A championship on Saturday, March 16, in Richmond.

Carey, who helped shape the Drifters' successful season, was

also named to the all-conference first team along with Colonial Beach teammate Deniya Newman.

Conference runner-up Northumberland filled one spot on the first team in Rajaa Shabazz and named Tylesha Crockett to the second team.

Lancaster's Trenae Henderson also made the first team cut and LHS teammates Sharda Beane and Aaliyah Morris-Lee were named to the second team.

Rappahannock (Warsaw) put Selene Epps on the first team and Cedara Ashton on the second, while Rappahannock County named Kayla Robey to the second team.

Lancaster players receiving all-academic honors are Trenae Henderson and Tala Henderson. Northumberland players named to the all-academic list are Katie Crowther, Shirleya Henry and Shabazz.



Skills assessment is a hit

Coaches size up the talent at the Lancaster County Little League skills assessment day last Saturday at Dream Fields near Kilmarnock. Some 85 major and minor leaguers showed their hitting, catching and throwing skills, including 35 softball and 50 baseball players. The Lancaster County Little League Opening Day is slated April 1. Photos by Lisa Hinton-Valdrighi



Karla Smith got a hit during her turn at bat. Photo by Lisa Hinton-Valdrighi



Coach Tim Reed offers Rachel Taft a few pointers. Photo by Lisa Hinton-Valdrighi

New gymnastics program slated at The Dance Studio

The Dance Studio of Kilmarnock, 26 West Church Street, Kilmarnock, will introduce a gymnastics program into the spring 2014 curriculum.

"The studio is excited to offer this new program to the community," said Katie Jett. "We are also excited to welcome and to introduce

our gymnastics coach, Mrs. Kirsten Knull, to the local area."

Knull was a dancer and competitive gymnast as a child, placing regularly in the top three in the unparallel bars and floor exercises, said Jett. After a break for injury, she came back to competition and earned her varsity letter in gymnastics in high

school.

Most recently, she was a coach for Gymnastics East, a training facility in the Seattle, Wash., area.

Gymnastics classes for ages 4-12, to include tumbling and bar skills, will start March 10. To sign up, contact The Dance Studio at dancekilmarnock.com, or 453-7477.

Flotilla posts boating safety class calendar

U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary Flotilla 33 of Kilmarnock recently announced its Virginia boating safety class schedule.

According to Virginia law, by July 1, 2014, all personal watercraft and boat operators age 45 and younger must successfully complete an approved boating safety class, reported public education staff offi-

cer Walter Montross.

The course will be offered free from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.:

- March 8 and May 10 at the Bank of Lancaster northside, 432 North Main Street, Kilmarnock.

- April 12 and June 14 at the Northumberland County Rescue Squad, 412 Reed Avenue, Reedville.

- July 12, August 9 and Septem-

ber 13 at the Lancaster Community Library, 235 School Street, Kilmarnock.

Private boating safety classes are available for any organization, civic group, business, marina, yacht club, or home owners association, said Montross.

To enroll, contact Montross at wcmontross@aol.com, or 580-2250.



Train set winner

The Deltaville-based Rappahannock River Railroaders recently raffled a New Polar Express train set. From left are winner Eric P. Denninger of Millbrook, N.Y., and 2013 club president Carl Rew. The club thanks everyone that participated, said Rew.

Flotilla 33 seeks members

U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary Flotilla 33 of Kilmarnock is looking for new members to serve their country and their community. Known as America's Volunteer Life Savers, the auxiliary is the uniformed volunteer component of the U.S. Coast Guard, created by an Act of Congress in 1939.

The auxiliary supports the Coast Guard in nearly all of its missions, explained DIR-I director of international affairs Brian McArdle. The organization is a perfect fit for those looking to answer the president's call to service. Membership is open to U.S. citizens, at least age 17 and able to pass

a basic background check. There is no upper age limits or height/weight restrictions, although for operational activities, members must be physically able to perform certain tasks.

Flotilla 33 volunteers serve on safety patrols in local waters, conduct boating education, perform as marine safety officers, stand watch at Coast Guard Station Milford Haven, pursue search and rescue missions, assist the Coast Guard with Homeland Security duties, work with Coast Guard personnel for training and conduct free safety checks for recreational

boaters, said McArdle. They also serve in positions on the division, district, national and international level.

"We are looking for more volunteers to help us in our role of keeping the local waterways and Chesapeake Bay safer for our neighbors and friends," said commander Ed Hind. "We have great training and educational programs for our members and no boating experience is necessary."

The role of the auxiliary is to be a "force multiplier" for the Coast Guard and members perform all Coast Guard missions authorized by Congress except for military action and

law enforcement, said McArdle.

"We have members in our flotilla teaching the active Coast Guard search and rescue, participating in Port Security Task Forces, assisting at the Command Center Training School at Yorktown and even serving on military exercises out of the country, said vice commander Wally Jachimski. "Of course, we have a lot of members that enjoy being out on the water and conducting patrols on the local waters to assist our fellow boaters."

To see what Flotilla 33 is involved in, call Hind at 580-8983, or visit flotilla33.org.

On the hunt: Reported data shows increased deer, bear and turkey harvests

Wildlife biologists with the Virginia Department of Game and Inland Fisheries have compiled preliminary figures for deer, bear, and turkey harvests for the 2013-14 fall/winter hunting seasons.

The deer, bear, and turkey harvests all reflected an increase from the prior year. A poor acorn crop across the state coupled with management actions to meet population objectives all factored into fluctuations in populations and harvest trends.

The harvest figures continue to indicate that good hunting is available across the Commonwealth for these popular game species, according to media relations manager Lee Walker.

White-tailed deer

During the past deer season, 242,734 deer were reported killed by deer hunters in Virginia, reported deer project leader Matt Knox. This total included 106,230 antlered bucks, 20,082 button bucks, 116,304 does (48%), and 118 "unknown" deer. The fall 2013 deer kill total was up 13% from the 215,241 deer reported in 2012. It is also slightly above the last 10-year average of 232,600 (up 4%).

Archers, not including crossbow hunters, killed 15,649 deer. The bow kill comprised 6% of the total deer kill. Crossbows resulted in a deer kill of 11,999, or 5% of the total deer kill. Muzzleloader hunters killed 53,649 deer, or 22% of the total deer kill.

Nearly 186,500 deer (77%) were checked using the Department's telephone and Internet checking systems.

The youth apprentice deer hunting day in September resulted in a deer kill of 2,682, a 36% increase over last year's kill of 1,977 during the youth deer hunting day. This year was the first year where apprentice hunters could also participate on the youth day.

Total deer kill levels were up across all physiographic regions including Tidewater, Southern Piedmont, Northern Piedmont, Southern Mountains and Northern Mountains. Ninety of 97 deer management units (93%) had an increased deer kill total in 2013 over fall 2012. The 13% increase in the deer kill could possibly be related to a broad statewide hard mast failure. Data from previous years in Virginia indicate that when oak acorns are lacking, the deer kill tends to increase.

The Department's primary deer management effort over the past five to 10 years has been to increase the female deer kill over much of the state, especially on private lands. Female deer kill numbers have been at record levels for the past eight consecutive deer seasons. These high and sustained female deer kill levels are intended to eventually lead to a decrease in the statewide deer herd and a decline in total deer kill numbers, said Knox.

Black Bear

A total of 2,312 bears were

harvested in Virginia during the 2013-14 bear hunting seasons, reported bear project leader Jaime Sajecki. Representing the combined kill from youth/apprentice, archery, muzzleloader, and firearms hunters, the 2013-14 harvest was an 8% increase over the prior year's initial reported kill of 2,144 bears and approached the highest recorded bear harvest of 2,325 bears during the 2009-10 seasons.

The archery season resulted in a harvest of 710 bears (31% of total harvest), muzzleloader season resulted in 412 bears (18%) harvested, and the firearms season resulted in 1,080 bears (47%) harvested. Hunters with dogs harvested most of the bears during firearms seasons (58% of the total firearms harvest).

This was the first year youth and apprentice hunters enjoyed a special day of bear hunting on the last Saturday in September. Youth and apprentice hunters harvested 110 bears, 57 of which were harvested using hounds.

Similar to previous years, the overall percent females in the harvest was 43%; as usual, hound hunters harvested the smallest proportion of females. Although bears were harvested in 75 counties/cities throughout the Commonwealth, most of the harvest occurred west of the Blue Ridge (73%).

Mast conditions greatly influence the distribution of harvest among hunting seasons. Years with poor mast production typically result

in archery bear harvests that make up a greater proportion of the total harvest compared to years with good mast production, said Sajecki.

With the fall of 2013 as one of the worst years on record for mast production in Virginia, an archery kill that was 31% of the total harvest was virtually identical to the proportion of bears killed during archery seasons in the seven other worst mast years since 1989 (which averaged 32% of the total harvests), added Sajecki. During years with better mast conditions, the archery harvest typically averages 19% of the total harvest.

Fall Wild Turkey

During the 2013-14 fall turkey season, 5,351 turkeys were harvested, reported forest game bird project leader Gary Norman. The 2013-14 season total was the highest fall harvest reported over the past nine years. This harvest was 21% above last year's reported kill (4,432). The harvest increased 8% in counties west of the Blue Ridge Mountains (WBR) (1,734 vs 1,869). Counties east of the Blue Ridge Mountains (EBR) increased 29% percent (2,698 vs. 3,482). EBR hunters harvested 22 birds per 100 square miles of forest range. The rate was nearly identical in counties WBR where 21 birds were killed per 100 square miles of forest range.

Bedford led all counties with a harvest of 167 birds. Most (93%) of the harvest was reported on private lands.

Approximately 5% of the harvest was on federal lands. The harvest on the George Washington and Jefferson National Forests increased 15% and 11%, respectively.

On the youth apprentice fall turkey hunt day, 50 birds were harvested which is lower than last year (60).

The 2013-14 fall season was the third year where a two-week turkey hunting season was provided in January. The harvest during the January season was 265 birds, a slight increase over the 2012-13 harvest of 245 birds. Many hunters submitted complimentary remarks about the opportunity to hunt in January.

Eleven percent of the state harvest was taken on Thanksgiving Day. In counties EBR more birds were taken the holiday week that included Christmas. In contrast, more birds were taken during the first week of the season in counties WBR.

More hunters chose to check their bird on the phone (65%) than at Game Check Stations (19%) or on the

Department's website (15%).

The increase in the harvest was expected because populations have risen in recent years and because there were poor mast crops across most of the state. The rise in the turkey population has been attributed to above-average reproduction in 2011 and 2013. Juvenile birds typically make up a majority of the fall harvest, so the strong 2013 hatch contributed to the higher fall harvest, said Norman.

Mast crops (primarily acorns) were sparse during the fall season. Birds tend to travel farther with poor mast crops in search of food which oftentimes takes them near or in openings or fields. As a result, their home ranges increase; therefore, birds become more visible and easier to locate. Under these circumstances, hunting harvest rates increase.

Taken together, record-level populations and below-average mast crops contributed to the harvest increase, said Norman.

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

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EVANS BOWLING CENTER RESULTS

Ladies League

D & L Doc n' Divas won two games from Express Auto. Terry Stillman led with the week's highest set—a 366, including games of 115, 100 and 151—the week's highest score.

Beverly Benson bowled a 320 set with games of 119 and 103. Darlene Griffith posted a 316 set, including a 124 game.

For Express Auto, Betsy Babin tallied a 319 set with two games of 114. Marie Piccard rolled a 310 set, including a 124 game. Vivian Callaway had a 303 set, including

a 130 game.

Mary Newton led Tri-Star in two wins over Yeatman's Forklift posting a 327 set with games of 110 and 123. Shone Pacheco bowled a 313 set with games of 109 and 110. Kara George had a 304 set, including a 117 game. Cathy Hoskins had a 109 game.

For Yeatman's, Mary York posted a 334 set with games of 103, 106 and 125. Alma George rolled a 326 set with games of 103 and 133. Val Crosbie had a 109 game. Joan Bowles had a 103 game.

The Corner Restaurant

moved into first place with two wins over R. P. Waller. Betty Evans scored a 114 game. Kathy Taylor had a 110 game. Mary Savalina added a 101 game.

For R. P. Waller, Ola Rae Nash bowled a 301 set with a 126 game. Ann Newsome had a 108 game. Marsha Nash had a 102 game.

Men's Winter League

Week #8 Results	
Teams	Won/Lost
Hammocks	15/9
Evans	14/10
Naturals	12/12

Nobletts	11/13
D&L	11/13
Giffel Boys	9/15
High team game:	
Nobletts, 551; Hammocks,	537.
High team set:	
D&L, 1,444; Hammocks,	1,393.
High individual game:	
Herb Hammock, 168; Don	Powell, 165.
High individual set:	
Curtis Walker, 422; Herman	Gulbranson, 407.
High individual average:	
Gary Hodges, 16; Don	Powell, 115.

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Weekly Tides
Windmill Point – Sunrise & Moon – March 2014

Day	High	Low	Sunrise	Sunset	Moonrise	Moonset
Fri. 3/7	High 3:16 1.2' Low 10:00 0.2' High 3:39 1.1' Low 10:04 0.2'		Sunrise 6:28 Sunset 6:05 Moonset 12:01 Moonrise 10:26			
Sat. 3/8	High 4:12 1.2' Low 10:58 0.3' High 4:35 1.0' Low 11:01 0.2'		Sunrise 6:26 Sunset 6:06 Moonset 12:55 Moonrise 11:13			
Sun. 3/9	High 6:13 1.1' Low 12:58 0.4' High 6:35 1.0'		Sunrise 7:25 Sunset 7:07 Moonset 1:44 Moonrise 1:02			
Mon. 3/10	Low 1:01 0.3' High 7:16 1.1' Low 1:57 0.4' High 7:36 1.0'		Sunrise 7:23 Sunset 7:07 Moonset 3:29 Moonrise 1:54			
Tue. 3/11	Low 2:01 0.2' High 8:15 1.1' Low 2:51 0.3' High 8:32 1.0'		Sunrise 7:22 Sunset 7:08 Moonset 4:10 Moonrise 2:47			
Wed. 3/12	Low 2:57 0.2' High 9:06 1.1' Low 3:39 0.2' High 9:22 1.1'		Sunrise 7:21 Sunset 7:09 Moonset 4:48 Moonrise 3:41			
Thu. 3/13	Low 3:48 0.2' High 9:51 1.2' Low 4:22 0.2' High 10:07 1.2'		Sunrise 7:19 Sunset 7:10 Moonset 5:22 Moonrise 4:37			
Fri. 3/14	Low 4:34 0.1' High 10:32 1.2' Low 5:01 0.1' High 10:47 1.2'		Sunrise 7:18 Sunset 7:11 Moonset 5:55 Moonrise 5:33			

Corrections

	High	Low	Height
Piankatank River, Cherry Pt.	-1:42	-1:44	86%
Great Wicomico River Light	0:30	0:20	75%
Smith Point Light	1:01	0:44	86%

PM times are in boldface type

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Father Boddie Golf Classic is slated May 9

The annual Father John Boddie Memorial Golf Classic will be held May 9 at the Piankatank River Golf Club in Hartfield.

This event, presented by the Catholic Church of the Visitation, Topping, is a four-player captain's choice competition open to all, reported committee member Gary Richardson.

Team prizes will be awarded for first, second, and third place in each flight, said Richardson. Golfers also will compete for individual driving, putting and accuracy prizes.

The entry fee is \$80 per player which includes use of the practice range, golf cart rental, greens fee, on-course beverages and dinner in the Steamboat Restaurant, he said.

Registration will begin at 11:30 a.m. Competition will begin with a shotgun start at 12:30 p.m.

To sign up, call Richardson at 776-0949.

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Port Haywood Hours:
Mon. - Fri. 8 a.m. - 4:30 p.m. Sat. 8 a.m. - 12 p.m. Closed Sun.

Five new exhibitors join waterfowl show

More than 80 artists, carvers, sculptors and photographers will participate in the 35th annual Rappahannock River Waterfowl Show March 15 and 16 at the White Stone firehouse on Chesapeake Drive.

Five new exhibitors will be attending the show this year, said co-director Pat Bruce. The selection process for new artists involves the submission of photos of their work and a biography. The show committee looks for applicants whose work is of the highest quality and who will enhance the show.

Lena Ennis of Newport, N.C., is a commercial artist, also known for her coastal and wildlife paintings. Her work has been selected by many corporations and organizations.

David Aiken of Green Cove Springs, Fla., spends a good part of each year on his boat on the Chesapeake Bay. He is the coauthor of six children's books and has illustrated many more. He is a signature member of the American Society of Marine Artists.

Chris Martin is a decoy carver from Church Hill, Md. While he began carving hunting decoys, at age 13, his carvings are now a bit more



This carving of a miniature green wing teal is the work of Chris Martin, one of the new exhibitors at the Rappahannock River Waterfowl Show. The show will be open to the public from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. March 15 and 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. March 16 at the White Stone firehouse.

decorative. He exhibits at major shows in Maryland and his decoys may be found in hunting rigs and collections around the country.

Bill Collins of Centreville, Md., studied under Madison Mitchell of Havre de Grace, Md. He carves miniature and full-size decoys.

Tom Kramer of Cockeysville, Md., is a model boat builder. His workboats are reminders of the many that plied the waters in this area.

Bradley Jackson of Weathersfield, Vt., is returning

this year after an absence of several years.

Other highlights

People attending the show on Saturday may visit the contest, being held in the Women's Club Building next door to the firehouse, to see the many decoy entries. The contest is administered by the Rappahannock Decoy Carvers Guild, said Bruce.

The Artist of the Year is John Obolewicz of Powhatan, continued Bruce. Visitors to the show throughout the weekend will receive a free

color print.

The Preview Night door prize is a decoy carved by William Bruce of White Stone. The weekend door prize is an original painting by Timothy Leary of Dumfries.

The Best of Show entries in the 2013 Federal Duck Stamp Program will be on display. This special exhibit is from the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, who will also have an exhibit.

The Virginia Waterfowler's Association will again have demonstrations and presentations on a variety of topics relating to wildlife, hunting and decoys, as well as activities for ages 6 and older.

Sponsors of the show are W. F. Booth and Son, Inc. for the show prints, Bank of Lancaster and Bay Trust, Rappahannock Rentals, Lawler Real Estate, Paul Sciacchitano and Welby Saunders of Wells Fargo Advisors, Coloryn Studio, Currie Funeral Home, and Willaby's Catering.

Admission is \$8, which is good for both days. Children younger than age 12 will be admitted free.

The show is sponsored by the White Stone Volunteer Fire Department and all proceeds benefit its operations.

BRIDGE RESULTS

Twelve pairs played duplicate bridge February 25 at Hills Quarters.

Winners north/south were first, Edna Forshaw and Penny Marshall; second, Ann Arnold and Hanneke Schaafsma; and third, Robin Perks and Margaret Taylor.

Winners east/west were first, Stephanie Manly and Brown Mobley; second, Tot Winstead and Liz Hargett; and third, Pat Andersen and Barbara Sherupski.

Eight pairs played the Howell at the Woman's Club of White Stone on February 25.

Winners were first, Ilva Doggett and Steve Lowe; second, Alison Holman and Iris Panzetta; and third, Elaine Weekley and Ronnie Gerster.

The next bridge for this group is Wednesday, March 12, at 1 p.m.

Six pairs played the Howell Movement at the Woman's Club of White Stone on February 24.

Winners were first, Dianne Monroe and Babs Murphy; and second, Ginger Klapp and Anne Haynie.

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SPORT SHORTS

Training plan

Belfield Physical Therapy, 4562 Richmond Road, Warsaw, will hold a free information session at 6 p.m. Friday, March 7, for those considering participation in the Naylor's Beach triathlon in June.

Belfield staff will help athletes with a training plan and injury prevention.

Car club

The Memory Lane Car Club will meet at 3 p.m. Sunday, March 9, at the Boys and Girls Club of the Northern Neck, 517 North Main Street, Kilmarnock.

Anyone with an interest in collector vehicles of any type is invited to attend. Ownership of a collector vehicle is not required. To join the club, call 435-6171.

Spay/neuter rebate

The Animal Welfare League of the Northern Neck will offer its 50% spay/neuter rebate program through March 18 to residents of Lancaster, Northumberland, Richmond and Westmoreland counties. The rebate, not to exceed \$50 per animal, applies to dogs and cats for sterilization surgery charges.

Owners make an appointment with the veterinarian of their choice, pay the bill and then send proof of payment (paid bill) to the Animal Welfare League, P.O. Box 975, White Stone, VA 22578, postmarked no later than April 8.

Bird walk

The Northern Neck Audubon Society will conduct a bird walk at 1 p.m. March 10 at Hughlett Point Natural Area Preserve in Northumberland County.

Carpools will leave Grace Episcopal Church in Kilmarnock at 12:30 p.m. Those driving directly should meet at Hughlett Point parking lot at 1 p.m. Walkers should call Frank Schaff at 462-0084, so a return call can be made if the walk is cancelled.

St. Pat's bridge

The annual St. Patrick's Day Dessert Bridge and Game Day will be held at 12:30 p.m. March 14, at De Sales Hall, Kilmarnock. Mahjong, canasta, scrabble, bunco and pinochle players are welcome.

Tables of 4 are \$24. Make checks payable to: Women of St. Francis. To reserve a table, call Lorri Amidon at 462-6140. Send reservation requests and checks to Lorri Amidon, P.O. Box 220, Mollusk, VA 22517.

Dirt track drivers

Virginia Motor Speedway registration is under way for the 2014 season. Divisions include Victory Lap late models, Aaron's pro late models, Truckin Thunder sportsman, Budweiser modifieds and the Collision One limited stock cars.

The track at 4426 Tidewater Trail, Jamaica, opens April 12 with the Aaron's King of the Commonwealth and the National Dirt Racing League. Division competition will begin April 19. For registration forms and a season schedule, go to vamotorspeedway.com, or call 758-1867.

Help wanted

Belle Isle State Park is recruiting for an AmeriCorps member to be part of the team that designs and presents environmental education programs to the public and to work with volunteers. The position begins in April and continues through the end of September.

Members receive a stipend and an educational award. Members over age 55 have the option to give the educational award to a child or grandchild. Contact Charlene Talcott at 462-5030.

Waterfowl Show

The 35th annual Rappahannock River Waterfowl Show will be held March 15 and 16 at the White Stone firehouse. For tickets to the Preview Night Gala March 14 (\$55 per person), call 435-6355, email info@rrws.org, or visit rrws.org. The show features original paintings, decorative carvings, gunning style decoys, folk art style carvings, prints, jewelry, photography, sculptures, door prizes, raffles and complimentary show prints. Admission is \$8; children under 12 admitted free. Hours are 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. March 15 and 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. March 16.

Fishing seminar

Northern Neck Anglers Club treasurer John O'Connor of Manassas is coordinating an NNAC-sponsored Chesapeake Bay Fishing Seminar for members and the public on April 12 at the Boys and Girls Club of the Northern Neck, 517 North Main Street, Kilmarnock.

O'Connor fishes out of Buzard's Point Marina in Reedville aboard Graceful. For seminar information, NNAC member activities and tournaments, or club membership, visit northernneckanglersclub.wordpress.com.

Kilmarnock 5K

Advance registration is open for the Kilmarnock 5K/Kids Fun Run on March 22 at the Kilmarnock Carnival Grounds off Waverly Avenue, Kilmarnock. Race day registration will begin at 6:30 a.m. The 5k race will start at 8 a.m. The Fun Run will follow at 9 a.m.

The event benefits the Northern Neck Montessori School. The 5K fee is \$35 adults, or \$30 ages 17 and younger. The Fun Run fee is \$10. Register at active.com/event_detail.cfm?event_id=2121689, or call Chris Allen at 313-5747, or email run5k@va.metrocast.net.

Conservation Corps

Applications are due April 14 for two summer sessions of the Virginia State Parks Youth Conservation Corps (YCC). The Virginia Department of Conservation and Recreation will notify selected participants by May 1. Sessions are slated June 22 to July 12 and July 20 to August 9.

YCC crew members help with park projects, including wildlife and fisheries habitat improvement, trail and campground construction and restoration, timber and shoreline improvement, and landscape beautification. They receive \$500.

To apply, visit dcd.virginia.gov/state-parks/youth-conservation-corps.shtml, or call 703-583-5497.

Food bank open

The White Stone Baptist Church on May 9 will sponsor the second annual Food Bank Open Golf Tournament to benefit the Northern Neck Food Bank. The tournament will begin with a noon shotgun start at Indian Creek Yacht and Country Club near Kilmarnock. The entry fee is \$75 per person, or \$45 for club members, and includes green fees, cart, catered barbecue dinner and a \$25 tax-deductible contribution per person to the food bank. Register at whitestonebaptistchurch.org, or call 577-0246.

Wine on the fly

The 14th annual Virginia Fly Fishing and Wine Festival will be held April 12 and 13 on the banks of the South River in Waynesboro. Daily admission is \$20.

For advance tickets, merchandise sales, fly fishing class registration, speaker schedule, participating vineyards directions, and accommodations, visit vaflyfishingfestival.org.

Shamrock Shuffle

St. Clare Walker Middle School, 6814 General Puller Highway, Locust Hill, will host Shamrock Shuffle 5K & Leprechaun Fun Run on March 15. Race day packet pickup will begin at 7 a.m., followed by the fun run at 8:30 a.m., the 5k at 9 a.m. and an awards ceremony at 10:30 a.m.

Entry fees are \$15 for the fun run and \$30 for the 5K. Register at rungsiup.com/Race/VA/LocustHill/ShamrockShuffleLebrchaunFunRun, or call 758-2561. Race packets may be picked up from 3 to 6 p.m. March 14 at the school, or 7-8:30 a.m. on race day.

Opening event

The 2014 Virginia Motor Speedway season will open April 12 with the Aaron's King of the Commonwealth event and the first-ever appearance of the National Dirt Racing League (NDRL). Special "fan friendly" tickets for the \$20,000 to win, one-day show are \$35, adults; \$30, seniors; \$25, military; \$15, students; and free, ages 6 and younger. Pit passes will be \$40.

The season schedule includes 12 weeks of Virginia Army National Guard Dirt Series action. Divisions include Victory Lap late models, Aaron's pro late models, Truckin Thunder sportsman, Budweiser modifieds and Collision One limited stock cars. The track is at 4426 Tidewater Trail, Jamaica. The complete schedule is posted at vamotorspeedway.com.

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From left are recent Kitty Hawk Air Society inductees Tyler Barksdale, Lane Brocklebank, Josh Moore, Caleb Gordon, Frantasia Howard, Shelby Barnett and Dazah Davenport.



From left, retired Lt. Col. Michael Hall presents Lane Brocklebank the Kitty Hawk Air Society recognition certificate.



From left, Kitty Hawk members Beau Nickerson and Brook Reed, armed with ceremonial sabers, prepare to induct this year's newest members.

Kitty Hawk Society inducts new members

The Lancaster High School John C. Gresham JROTC Kitty Hawk Air Society, named in honor of a Lancaster Medal of Honor recipient, recently held its annual Kitty Hawk induction ceremony in the LHS Media Center.

The Kitty Hawk mission is "to uphold academic standards and promote further interest in academic achievement, create a closer and more efficient relationship within the Junior Reserve Officers Training Corps, serve the high school and community, support air-

power in its role in national security, and develop patriotism and good citizenship."

The society welcomed seven new cadets into the JROTC equivalent of the high school's National Honor Society, reported retired Chief Master Sergeant James Wood.

Cadets completed individual and group school and community service projects, memorized multiple KHAS program definitions and recited them verbatim to the instructors, and personally introduced themselves to all

current KHAS members, said Wood.

"Kitty Hawk Air Society members are strong leaders, in and out of JROTC and bring their leadership, academic and community service skills to bear to improve our school, community and nation," he said.

This year's inductees are seniors Josh Moore and Dazah Davenport; juniors Shelby Barnett, Caleb Gordon and Frantasia Howard; and sophomores Lane Brocklebank and Tyler Barksdale.

LHS releases first semester High Honors

Lancaster High School recently announced its first semester High Honors (As and Bs) roll for the 2013-14 academic session.

Freshmen on the honor roll are Dwayne Ball, Prabesh Bhandari, Tyneshia Cox, Mary Frere, Euriqah Henderson, Michael McGrath, Ryan McManus, Deshay Smith, Natalie Smith, Trevor Smith, Robert Stickler, Marytrant Tippet, Jasmyn Tomlin, Ralph Waller and Vilesha Waller.

Sophomores on the honor roll are Lacy Brocklebank, Alexandra Clayton, Emily Haydon, Delaney Headley, Elizabeth Hyde, Emma

Kane, Patrick Kelley, Julia Mahoney, Nancy-Jane McClain, Mikayla Meadows, Abby Nelson, Essence Noel, Samiya Reed, Victoria Saunders, Allison Savoy, Kristen Shipman, Kayleigh Webster, Tyler Williams and Samantha Woodcock.

Juniors on the honor roll are Rachel Arthur, Daisia Nay Ball, Shelby Barnett, Precious Boyd, Tyrell Henderson, Jamie Le, Hyoju-Helene Lee, Emily Lux, Caroline Merryman, Kelley Montgomery, Tristopher Palmer, Braxton Robbins, James Robertson, Joseph Rudolph, Jamea Smith, Justin Washington

and Christian Woolard.

Seniors on the honor roll are Kerstin Allen, Olivia Beck, Shane Chambers, Ronald Cutler, Dazah Davenport, Carli Hanback, Montgomery Hurst, Thomas Hyde, Lauren James, Brittany Jones, Tomasia Kelly, Ronaysha Landon, Demetrick Lee, Justin Lewis and Joshua Moore.

Also, Lysa Nguyen, Benjamin Nickerson, Ven'Toyia Noel, Keyondra Norris, Hannah Richardson, Elizabeth Robertson, Scottie Scott, William Smith, Kenosha Stewart, Katherine Thomas, TreVon Waters and Anesha White.



Feeding the birds

Cynthia Bishop's early childhood class recently made pinecone birdfeeders for the winter birds that visit Lancaster Primary School. The students hung the feeders on a tree in the ABC garden at the school. From left are (front row) Avaiyah Robinson, Isaiah Robinson, ZhyAunna Morris, Tahlia Bibbans, Nelson Brooks, Heaven Carter and Anthony Westermann; (next row) Venieka Muirhead, Brooklyn Smith, Karmyn Davis, Gabriel Gaines and Travis Ball.

Rappahannock Community College awards fall semester 2013 degrees and certificates

Rappahannock Community College recently awarded some 143 degrees and certificates to 118 students graduating at the end of the fall 2013 semester.

The graduates may march in the commencement procession in May, if they wish, according to president Dr. Elizabeth Crowther.

Local graduates include:

- Mollie M. Crisp-Guffey (cum laude), Jeremiah L. Kerns and Peggy L. Straughan of Colonial Beach.

- Sandy L. Ball, Gabriel W. Fearing, Justin D. George, Britany R. Kellum, Eric B. Pass (summa cum laude), Tamara C. Taylor, Tamekia K. Taylor (cum laude) and Samuel B. Terry of Lancaster.

- Carrie M. Cullison, Matthew P. Davis, Heather R. Frazier,

Taylor A. Mason and Gary Zapel (cum laude) of Mathews County.

- Maribel L. Balderas (cum laude), Sarah E. Daniel (cum laude), John B. Eanes, Melissa L. Hall, James E. Hornbeck, Ashley N. Lane (cum laude), Tekia S. Peters, Shannon L. Phelps, Melissa R. Ranger, DeNelle A. Reed, Hannah G. Therrien and Alicia G. Wilder (cum laude) of Middlesex County.

- Sabrina T. Conley, Steven T. Dodson, Virginia C. Mangano, James C. Martin, Joshua F. Olverson and Kathryn E. Taylor (magna cum laude) of Northumberland County.

- Martin Collins (summa cum laude), Darcey D. Crocker (magna cum laude), Jacqueline A. Croxton, Jerry T. Daniel (summa cum laude), Shana L. De Gallerie- Bromley, Trevino

DeLoatch (summa cum laude), James W. Freeman (cum laude), Roger O. Jones, David R. Keatts, Jane H. King (Phi Theta Kappa, summa cum laude), Emily C. Lyth (Phi Theta Kappa, summa cum laude), Marc A. Martinez (summa cum laude), Andrew R. Mitchell, Thomas D. Moore, Jessica A. Mullenax (cum laude), Kenneth M. Scott (magna cum laude), Caitlin B. Thomas, Caitlin B. Thomas, Crist O. Turner (summa cum laude), Thomas E. Turner (summa cum laude) and Garrett J. Withers of Richmond County.

- Matthew G. Chatham, Avis V. Greer, Morgan A. Hescoc, Tara M. Johnson, James S. Latane (Phi Theta Kappa, magna cum laude), Janei R. Mcdowney and Teona L. Monroe of Westmoreland County.

NMS lists its first semester 'B' honors

Northumberland Middle School recently announced the first semester "B" honor roll for the 2013-14 academic session.

Sixth-graders on the honor roll are Britzeida Aleman, Rachel Arroyo-Silva, Rebecca Baker, Nicholas Balderson, Nigeria Ball, Chakirra Brown, Clayton Cash, Joshua Crowell, Ashton Dameron, Chauncey Drake, Ernest Draleau III, Perry Evans, Mark Fletcher, Kayla Gooch, Seth Hayden, Hannah Hayes, Ashleigh Jackson, Harry Lee, Patrick Lewis and Karen Martinez-Vargas.

Also, Rebecca Newsome, Kendra O'Malley, Corey Palubinski, Layah Pruitt, Ann Ransone, Benjamin Sadler, Amme Saunders, Emma Saunders, Sarah Saunders, Joseph Schindler, Alice Sisson, Briana Smith, Madeline Sumner, Adreana Taylor, Autumn Taylor and Eduardo Zarrago.

Seventh-graders on the honor roll are Destiny Amos, A'mya Ball, Sean Basey, Jr., William Cole Basey, Phillip Bingham,

Christopher Bradford, Robert Bradley, Jeffrey Brooks, Brazjae Brown, Erin Burgess, Antquan Carr, Anajah Carter, Guadalupe Castro, Nickolas Chinn, Brandon Chism, Madison Clarke, Tawaron Cockrell, Jazmine Conley, Holly Covell and Jamari Curry.

Also, Mary Davis, Sean Davis, Kendric Dobyms, Alexandra English, Brendan Farmer, Izaak Hagy, Alex Hodges, India Hodges, Tija Hunter, Moira Hurlow, Rachel Jackson, Jessica Jenkins, Jean Jett, Amiya Kent, Hannah Loving, Rachel Lowery, Emily McYoung, Kalea Muse, Annie Newsome, Milexus Newton, Jonea Noel, Mackenzie Osborne and Jaheim Owens.

Also, Nathan Parker, Latoya Patrick, Annsley Pugh, Re'Mya Redmond, Alexia Rock, Jackson Rogers, Collin Saunders, Jer'Najha Smith, Brantley Swift, DeJour Taylor, Jacob Trice, CinSere Turner, Jerry Turner III, Selena Tyson, Timothy VanLandingham, Natalie

Webb, Laura Westberg, Peyton Wilmer and Nicholas Zelaya.

Eighth-graders on the honor roll are Rachael Acheson, Jesus Acosta, Hannah Allison, Robert Allison, Shannon Baker, Destiny Basey, Rashad Bea, John Brewer Jr., Katherine Brunneault, Nyajah Carter, Shannon Chapman, Collin Chinn, Wesley Clarke, Alissa Combs-Fina, Aniya Cottrell, Cinceir Croxton, Cynthia Davis, Kyndal Dawson, Joshua Dodson, Haley Eubank, Kiley Filipovic, Noah Hamilton and Christian Headley.

Also, Broheim Jackson, Mackenzie Kent, Denzel Mitchell, Hannah Mitchell, Haley Newsome, Zoe Nonnemacker, Carolina Orrantia, Kimberly Palka, Mark Ranson, Chase Reynolds, Ashley Roberts, Austin Robinson, Justin Rock, Jasmyne Ross, Earl Scott, Malaysia Shine, Enfniti Smith, Lauren Suchan, Marcia Swann, Zachary Swift, Joseth Tarleton, Tiffany Taylor, Jermal Thompson, Robert Thirft III, Hamani Veney and Morgan Wilson.

NES posts its first semester 'AB' honor roll

Northumberland Elementary School recently announced its first semester

"AB" honor roll for the 2013-14 academic session.

Second-graders on the honor roll are Haleigh Allison, Harmyni Ball, Nathalie Biddlecomb, Sarah Burgess, Trystian Burton, Laura Canter, Luis Cisneros-Avina, Xavion Coleman, Ethan Collins, Olivia Crowther, Haley Diggs, Kyle Dobyms, McKenna Dooley, Aaliyah Dublin, Lawrence George, and Anthony Gregory.

Also, Mikayla Hayden, Joline Haynie, Sarah Haynie, Shelby Headley, Heaven Kenner, David Lankford, Milton Laws, Christopher Nava, Caroline Neale, Tamia Newton, Dezmin Palmer, Rachel Rice, Marissa Robinson, Joseph Stargell, Kristen Warwick, Kathryn Weary, J'vian Williams and Ryleigh Woolard.

Third-graders on the honor roll are Cristian Arroyo-Silva, Keith Ball, Emily Branen, Allison Brenner, Deja Brown, Tyasia Brown, Ashton Burns, Paris Chinn, Asziria Colbert, Dynesti Cottrell, Emma Dameron, Diego Diaz-Zamora, Ethan Downie,

Destiny Farrell, Oscar Gamez, Tyler Green, Gavyn, Hathaway, Sydney Hayes, Mary Logan Hill and Joseph Hinson.

Also, Johnae Jackson, Kaleb James, Joseph Jett, Quinton Jones, Courtney Kline, Jacob Lanuza, Jazmine Mina, Corrie Minor, Haylie Mitchell, Brady Mullins, Christian Newton, Leslie O'Bier, Madeline Oliff, Samaria Owens, Garic Reger, Alona Reynolds, Tristan Scates, Jameson Scott, Camdin Sisk, Karla Smith, Sean Taylor, Harrison Williams, Aleigha Withers and Shane Withers.

Fourth-graders on the honor roll are Cristal Acosta, Joshua Aleman, Kaydn Anderson, Destani Blackwell, Aniyah Brown, Shane Bryant, Shyanne Bulson, Mia Bundy, Robert Clarke, Victoria Douglas, Brookelynn Farrell, Chase Fisher, Madison Garrity, Gracianne Hall, T'Kyia Hall and Jessica Haynie.

Also, Kemyah Johnson, Layla Johnson, Michael Jones, Bailey Lewis, Maia Maan, Brock Martin, Thomas Neale, Jacob Neff, Hunter Newsome, Samantha Newton, Najiyah Noel, Leah Oliff, Dylan Packett, Skyler

Pearson, Elizabeth Perkins, William Reger, Brooke Roberts and Connor Robertson.

Also, Julia Saville, Tanaya Seldon, Jersey Smith, Luke Swann, Aden Swisher, Caleb Tarmon, Dezmond Taylor, Amaya Thomas, Christopher Timberlake, Mackenzie Vanlandingham, Bradly Viers, Brendan Walker, Austin Wallace, Amaryon West, Sara Wilson, Joseph Wise and Rodrigo Zavala-Medina.

Fifth-graders on the honor roll are Anaya Ball, Shelby Basye, Anselv Booth, Emily Burgess, Naveah Carter, Amaya Crabbe, Parker Deihl, Michael Duke, April Gilliam, Laura Hall, Lawrence Jett, Kevin Keeve, Kande Laws, Trenton Liner, Megan Livesay, Isabel Lopez, Tyler Mann, Samarie McCrae and Nicholas Mothershead.

Also, Kareem Peterson, Kiara Plummer, Lauren Rahn, Emily Rice, Taylor Rice, Briana Siddall, Emma Sisson, Shelby Smithart, Jalen Thompson, John Myers Vanlandingham, Hailey Wallace, Brianna Williams, Elle Williams, Spencer Wojtach and Shelby Wood.

SCHOOL REPORT

■ What if?

The Northumberland Public Library, 7204 Northumberland Highway, Heathsville, recently announced two upcoming What if... Wednesday events for home-schooled youth. To register for the ongoing program, contact children's librarian Jan Bates, 580-5051, or jbates@nplva.org.

At 1 p.m. March 12, a field trip is planned to an alpaca farm. Directions will be emailed to regular participants. At 2 p.m. March 19, library director Alice Cooper will discuss Mars.

PALS to host 'Pinocchio'

Chesapeake Academy, 107 Steamboat Drive, Irvington, will host a PALS Program Wednesday, March 12. Theater IV of Richmond will present "Pinocchio."

Designed for children age 3 through grade 4, the one-hour performance will begin at 9:30

a.m. Reservations are required; call 438-5575.

PALS events are sponsored by the Wiley Foundation, the Rappahannock Foundation for the Arts, and Target Stores with support from the Virginia Commission for the Arts, said head of school Deborah Cook.

LANCASTER COUNTY SCHOOL BOARD BUDGET PUBLIC HEARING

Monday, March 17, 2014
6:30 p.m.

Lancaster Middle School
Media Center

Authorized by Lancaster County School Board



Mark Hollingsworth displays The Dog and Oyster Vineyard's recent award winners.

Hollingsworth wins four silver medals at 2014 Governor's Cup

The Dog and Oyster Vineyard, 170 White Fences Drive, Irvington, continues to amaze wine competition judges. Winegrower and co-owner Mark Hollingsworth recently captured more medals.

Gov. Terry McAuliffe last week announced The Dog and Oyster won four silver medals at the 2014 Governor's Cup.

The Dog and Oyster's award-winning wines are the 2012 Oyster White (Chardonnay), 2012 Pearl (Vidal Blanc), 2012 Rosie (Rose') and 2012 Merlot.

Co-owner Dudley Pattenon noted this was Hollingsworth's first opportunity at making wine and this his first Governor's Cup.

Out of 258 wineries in Virginia, The Dog and Oyster's medal performance put it in the "top 30" when one includes the 16 gold medal winners and 13 others who won four or more silvers, said Pattenon.

"What makes this honor even more remarkable is unlike many of the other big winners, Mark is this vineyard's self-taught winegrower and not a winemaker hired from the outside," said Pattenon.

Also of significance, The Dog and Oyster grapes were 100% estate grown Irvington grapes—not grapes purchased from other vineyards, he said.

The Dog and Oyster, being so new, did not have the opportunity to bottle age its Merlot for the ultimate taste while all of the others had bottle-aged

their bold reds one to four or more years, added Pattenon. The Merlot did make it to the final round; and, scored as high as 95 points with one of the judges.

Let's just say there will be a limited offering of the 2012 Dog and Oyster Merlot this year because the decision has been made to bottle age most of it for another one to two years and resubmit it to a future Governor's Cup and other competitions, added Pattenon.

"This is one of those wines you buy to hold," said Hollingsworth.

Quick to note that it is the custom among vineyards and wineries to seek each other out for advice and help, Hollingsworth said The Dog and Oyster has a special relationship with Paul and Katie Krop of Good Luck Cellars where wine making equipment is shared and where he also serves as vineyard manager.

The Dog and Oyster's medal accumulation in its first competitive year totals eight silver and six bronze from 16 submissions to three of America's top competitions, The San Francisco International, The Atlantic Seaboard, the Grand Harvest and, Virginia's best, The Governor's Cup.

The vineyard is open to the public from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. Friday, Saturday and Sunday. Starting Thursday, April 3, it will be open from 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. five days a week.

Rappahannock General earns Advanced Certification for Primary Stroke Centers

The Joint Commission, in conjunction with The American Heart Association/American Stroke Association, recently recognized Rappahannock General Hospital in Kilmarnock with Advanced Certification for Primary Stroke Centers.

Achievement of Primary Stroke Center Certification signifies an organization's dedication to fostering better outcomes for patients. RGH's Primary Stroke Center Certification has demonstrated that its program meets critical elements of performance to achieve long-term success in improving outcomes for stroke patients.

RGH underwent a rigorous on-site review in January 2014. A Joint Commission expert reviewed RGH's compliance with the requirements for The Joint Commission's Disease-Specific Care Certification program as well as primary stroke center requirements, such as collecting Joint Commission core measure data and using it for performance improvement activities.

"In achieving Joint Commission advanced certification, Rappahannock General Hospital has demonstrated its commitment to the highest level of care for its stroke patients," said Jean Range, M.S., R.N., C.P.H.Q. executive director, Disease-Specific Care Certification, The Joint

Commission. "Certification is a voluntary process and The Joint Commission commends RGH for successfully undertaking this challenge to elevate its standard of care and instill confidence in the community it serves."

RGH is the first hospital in the Northern Neck and Middle Peninsula to achieve this certification. Developed in collaboration with the American Stroke Association and launched in 2003, The Joint Commission's Primary Stroke Center Certification program is based on the Brain Attack Coalition's "Recommendations for the Establishment of Primary Stroke Centers." Certification is available only to stroke programs in Joint Commission-accredited acute care hospitals.

"RGH is thoroughly committed to providing our patients the highest quality stroke care centered on current scientific research to ensure continued improvement in treatment," said president and chief executive officer James M. Holmes Jr. "In addition to our Joint Commission accreditation, the Primary Stroke Center Certification has given us the opportunity to highlight the exceptional stroke care we provide for our patients, and help us improve care overall for our community."

The RGH team accepted the challenge to become a Primary Stroke Center by applying the most up-to-date standards of care to stroke patients. "Every department has undergone specific stroke training, as it applies to their specialty. It truly has been a team effort," said vice president of nursing Ann Gumina. "This is a big step forward for stroke care in our community as early intervention, treatment and availability of specialist consults will provide the best possible outcome for stroke patients."

Rappahannock General will be able to display The Joint Commission's Gold Seal of Approval® and the American Heart Association Heart-Check mark for their Advanced Certification for Primary Stroke Centers. Displaying the seal and Heart-Check mark signifies that RGH is providing the "next generation of stroke or heart failure care," and will help patients easily identify this facility as one of quality that has surpassed numerous goals in the treatment of stroke.

"This is such an honor, in particular for a small, rural hospital, and we're excited to have this evidence of the hard work that our team puts into delivering excellent care to our community," said Gumina.



Escaping the cold

A host of Northern Neck friends and neighbors recently enjoyed a reprieve from winter's cold with a Caribbean cruise. From Kilmarnock, they boarded a bus to Baltimore, where they caught the Royal Caribbean's Grandeur of the Sea for a 10-day cruise. Ports of call included Cozumel, Grand Cayman and Jamaica. Arrangements were made by Adventure Travel in Kilmarnock.

Ware joins investment group

Chesapeake Investment Group, an independent wealth and trust management firm, recently announced the hiring of Richard L. Ware, CFA, as its new chief investment officer.

Within this role, Ware will oversee asset management for individual, family and institutional clients, lead the firm's investment team, and enhance Chesapeake's investment process and strategy.

Ware brings to Chesapeake Investment Group more than 30 years of investment and wealth management experience. Most recently, he was senior vice president and equity manager

for The Trust Company of Virginia in Richmond, where he worked for over 13 years.

He has been a chartered financial analyst for almost 15 years and is the current president of the CFA Society of Virginia.

"We are extremely pleased to welcome Richard to our team," said president John Sadler. "He shares our firm's commitment to providing customized client service and his extensive investment and wealth management experience will bolster our already highly credentialed and knowledgeable team."

Ware earned a bachelor's in

mathematics and economics from Hampden-Sydney College in 1981, and a master's in business administration with concentration in finance from the College of William and Mary in 1983.

"I look forward to helping enhance the wealth management process at Chesapeake Investment Group and working with the great team and wonderful clients," said Ware.

Book shares history of local families

Former local educator Mary Jones Day recently released *Bogey Neck Road: The Roots Are Still Growing*, exploring the history of African American families who lived in the Northern Neck after the abolition of slavery, from the 1900s to the present.

This historical, nonfiction book reveals the struggles and survival of eight generations of African-American families who settled in the small, rural community of Bogey Neck, said Day.

Along with detailed accounting of events and activities centered in their community during those early years, she meticulously describes personal stories of family members and their difficulties in providing for their families, educating their children, and surviving other challenges.

From 11 original settlers have spawned eight generations of citizens who have made outstanding contributions to the community, the Commonwealth, and country, she said.

The book is available directly from Day at mmjd40@gmail.com.

Conference to focus on global opportunities

A representative of Canada's new trade office in Washington will meet with Virginia agribusinesses during the sixth annual Governor's Conference on Agricultural Trade.

Those appointments are just one option for Virginia farmers and agribusiness professionals interested in learning about export opportunities at the March 6 and 7 event in Richmond.

Trade representatives from Japan, Vietnam, Panama and

the European Union have been invited to talk about Virginia agricultural trade with their countries and how trade partnerships can be strengthened. Additionally, Gov. Terry McAuliffe will address his plans to make Virginia the East Coast capital for exported farm goods and will announce total figures for Virginia's 2013 agricultural exports.

"This conference is an excellent chance for farmers and others associated with Virginia's agricultural industry to learn

more about export opportunities and to network with representatives of countries interested in trading with us," said Virginia Farm Bureau Federation commodity marketing director Spencer Neale.

Farm Bureau is among the conference organizers, including the Virginia Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services, and the Virginia Port Authority and Virginia Tech's Department of Agriculture and Applied Economics.

BUSINESS BRIEFS

■ Home parade

The Lancaster by the Bay Chamber of Commerce seeks participation in the third annual Parade of Homes by the Bay on May 30 and 31. The event will be held from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. on May 30, and 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. on May 31.

The parade of homes will feature properties in various categories including stick built, modular, remodels, additions and interior/exterior designs. Vendors will be paired with presenters and will act as co-hosts of the homes. Vendors involved with home building, home improvement, decorating and landscaping are needed. Interested builders and vendors can contact Cindi Huey at 435-6092, or info@lan-casterva.com.

■ Veterans representative

The Virginia Employment Commission will host a veterans' representative from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. March 6, 11 and 13 at the VEC Workforce Center at 14243 Historyland Highway in Warsaw. All veterans and their families are welcome to discuss employment assistance. Ask about VEC's "Priority of Service" to veterans.



Around the tip and home again

A group of Irvington and Weems residents recently returned from a cruise around the tip of South America aboard the Golden Princess. They sailed from Valparaiso, Chile, to Buenos Aires, Argentina, traveling through the Straits of Magellan, the Beagle Channel and around Cape Horn. At the Chef's Table from left are (front row) Julia Putney Brandt, Kate Raffetto, Lilliane Merrill, Evelyn Miranda and Jill Worth; (next row) Bill Brandt, maitre d' hotel Giuseppe Gelmini, Michael Merrill, Paul Ferguson, Larry Worth and executive chef John Convery. The Chef's Table is a formal event for one table only on the two-week cruise. It includes a tour of the galley with participants wearing white chef's coats. Trip arrangements were handled by Island Travel in Irvington.

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Kilmarnock

BUSINESS BRIEFS

Job workshops

Upcoming Virginia Employment Commission workshops include Assessment of Skills at 10 a.m. March 11, and Budgeting/Personal Finance at 3 p.m. on March 13.

The workshops will be held at the VEC Workforce Center, 14243 Historyland Highway, Warsaw, unless otherwise noted.

Silent auction

Aimee's Angels will host an event to benefit MDA from 5:30 to 8:30 p.m. March 26 at the White Stone Church of the Nazarene, 57 Whisk Drive, White Stone. The event will include entertainment, a soup and salad bar, information and a silent auction.

Sponsors to date are The White Stone Church of the Nazarene, Rappahannock General Hospital, The Northern Neck Family YMCA, Dehnert, Clarke, & Co., Willaby's Catering, Indian Creek Yacht and Country Club, Visiting Angels and Tri-Star Supermarket. To become a sponsor, or donate an item for the auction, contact Lois Pinel at gandleenterprises@hotmail.com, or 438-5566.

Marketing plan

The University of Mary Washington Small Business Development Center (SBDC) Warsaw office will offer a Marketing Plan workshop from 1 to 3 p.m. Tuesday, March 11, at Rappahannock Community College Kilmarnock Center, 447 North Main Street, Kilmarnock.

The fee is \$20. The registration deadline is March 7. Call Bonnie Haywood at 333-0286, or email bhaywood@umw.edu, or jcorpnew@umw.edu.

Open house

Pure n' Simple Family Chiropractic, 279 North Main Street, Kilmarnock, will host an open house and workshop at 10 a.m. March 8.

Call 435-2273 to reserve a space. Attendees will receive a free copy of the book, *Being Awesome*, by Dr. Matt Shifflett.



Ken Benza



Chris Scanlan



John Aperdoorn



Roxanne Moubray

More merchants get on board Grace Yard Sale

Merchants continue to support the Grace Church Yard Sale with generous donations, according to Judy Ripley. The "Who in the World" campaign gives 100% of the sales directly back to the community.

The annual yard sale will be held from 8 a.m. to noon May 3 at Camp Kekoka, 1083 Boys Camp Road, Kilmarnock, reported Judy Ripley.

Recent merchants contributing items include Ken Benza of Get it Fixed Here, Chris Scanlan of X-Treme Power Sports, John Aperdoorn of Sears and Roxanne Moubray of Kilmarnock Lettering.

To donate items, call Ripley at 462-7233. For pickup, call Jim Spangler at 436-4656.

Job Corp

The Virginia Employment Commission will host a Job Corp counselor at 10 a.m. March 12 at the VEC Workforce Center at 14243 Historyland Highway in Warsaw.

Job Corp's mission is to inspire young adults to become productive and empower them with skills to sustain employment. Those ages 16 to 24 are urged to come find out more about free job training opportunities.

Up speed

MetroCast Business Services (MBS) recently announced new faster speed for its modem-based Internet service. With the latest boost in speed, MBS Professional Business Internet customers now receive speeds up to 60 Mbps x 6 Mbps.

The 2014 speed for Professional Business Internet is now double its 2012 speed (with no increase in cost), and is nearly 40 times faster than a standard T1 line.

Eastern Virginia Bankshares Inc. releases fourth quarter and year end 2013 results

Eastern Virginia Bankshares Inc. recently reported results of operations for the three and 12 months ending December 31, 2013.

Net income available to common shareholders during the three months ended December 31, was \$1.9 million, or \$0.11 per diluted share, compared to net income of \$554,000, or \$0.09 per diluted share during the same period of 2012.

For the three months ended December 31, the company reported net income of \$2.3 million, an increase of \$1.3 million over the net income of \$929,000 reported for the same period of 2012.

Net loss available to common shareholders during the 12 months ended December 31, was (\$4.1) million, or (\$0.45) per diluted share, compared to net income of \$2.0 million, or \$0.32 per diluted share during the same period of 2012. For the 12 months ended December 31, the company reported a net loss of (\$2.6) million, a decrease of \$6.1 million over the net income of \$3.5 million reported for the same period of 2012.

The company's results for the 12 months ended December 31 were significantly impacted by an extraordinary loss on the extinguishment of long-term Federal Home Loan Bank advances. While the prepayment of these advances negatively affected the company's reported results for the period it significantly improved the company's financial position and net interest margin on a going forward basis.

For the three and 12 months ended December 31, the difference between net income (loss) and net income (loss) available to common shareholders is the effective dividend to the holders of the Company's Series A Preferred Stock.

The return on average assets ("ROA") and return on average common shareholders' equity ("ROE"), on an annualized basis, for the three months ended December 31, 2013 were 0.73% and 8.60%, respectively compared to 0.21% and

2.94%, respectively for the three months ended December 31, 2012.

For the 12 months ended December 31, ROA and ROE were (0.39%) and (4.98%), respectively compared to 0.18% and 2.66%, respectively for the same period in 2012.

"I am very pleased to report not only a 143% increase in net income during the fourth quarter of 2013, as compared to the same period one year earlier, but our highest quarterly net income since the first quarter of 2008," said president and chief executive officer Joe Shearin. "The improvement in our overall financial position is the result of our continued focus on our strategic plan, including improving our asset quality and strengthening our balance sheet through the execution of previously disclosed strategic initiatives. The results of our decision to prepay our long-term Federal Home Loan Bank advances during the third quarter of 2013 aligned with expectations as our fourth quarter net interest margin increased by 65 basis points and 32 basis points when compared to the second and third quarter of

2013."

Shearin further commented, "The announcement of these results culminates what has been a very successful and exciting year for us. As a company, we successfully completed some significant goals we set for this year including the closing of a \$45.0 million private placement with affiliates of Castle Creek Capital Partners and GCP Capital Partners and certain other institutional investors, the closing of a \$5.0 million rights offering to existing shareholders, the continued improvement in our loan and asset quality metrics with year over year reductions in nonperforming and classified assets, the prepayment of our higher rate long-term Federal Home Loan Bank advances and the termination of our formal written agreement.

"As we look to 2014, we plan to continue evaluating and implementing deliberate strategies to further strengthen our financial condition, and we will use our strategic and financial flexibility to focus on growth and opportunities to increase the value of our company."

JEWELRY FACTS

BY ROSS CHRISTIANSEN



Aquamarine, one of the birthstones for March, is characterized by pure sky-blue, or greenish-blue color, very similar to the tint of sea water. This explains the derivation of its name and the old saying that this stone, when placed in the sea, becomes invisible.

In rings, pins, brooches or pendants, aquamarines are lovely. For quality gemstones including exquisite diamond engagement sets, be sure to see our selection.

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