



The creche at St. Francis de Sales Church is illuminated for the season.

Christmas services

Several area churches will hold Christmas Eve and Christmas Day Services, Monday, December 24, and Tuesday, December 25. The public is invited to join local congregations in worhsip. The following churches notified the Record of their plans.

Christmas Eve

- 4 p.m. St. John's Church, Warsaw.
- 5 p.m. Campbell Memorial Presbyterian Church, Weems.
- 5 p.m. Coan Baptist Church, Heathsville.
- 5 p.m. Kilmarnock Baptist Church, Kilmarnock.
- 5 p.m. Saluda Baptist Church, Saluda.
- 5 p.m. St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church, Kilmarnock.
- 5 p.m. St. Francis de Sales Church, Kilmarnock.
- 5 p.m. St. Mary's Whitechapel Episcopal, Lancaster.
- 5:30 p.m. Good Shepherd Lutheran Church, Callao.
- 6 p.m. White Stone Church of the Nazarene, White Stone.
- 6:40 p.m. St. Stephen's Anglican Church, Heathsville.
- 7 p.m. Kilmarnock United Methodist Church, Kilmarnock.
- 7 p.m. Mila United Methodist Church, Mila.
- 7 p.m. St. Francis de Sales Church, Kilmarnock.
- 7:30 p.m. Asbury United Methodist Church, Foxwell.
- 7:30 p.m. Historic White Marsh Church, Brookvale.
- 7:30 p.m. Providence Baptist Church, Miskimon.
- 10 p.m. Lebanon Baptist Church, Alfonso.
- 10:30 p.m. St. John's Church, Warsaw.
- 11 p.m. Trinity Episcopal Church, Lancaster.
- 11 p.m. Kilmarnock United Methodist Church, Kilmarnock.

Christmas Day

- 8 a.m. Zion Church at Lottsburg, Lottsburg.
 - 9 a.m. St. Francis de Sales Church, Kilmarnock.
 - 10 a.m. Farnham Church, Farnham.
 - 11 a.m. St. Francis de Sales Church, Kilmarnock.
- For a more complete listing of church services, see pages B4-7

Christmas-A season of giving

Children from the Northern Neck Montessori School were all smiles as they waved to onlookers at the 34th annual Kilmarnock Lighted Christmas Parade last Friday. The school's float, which showed scenes of how the children contribute to needy organizations and charitable campaigns throughout the year, was among some 110 units in the parade, sponsored by the Lancaster by the Bay Chamber of Commerce and Dominion Virginia Power. More parade coverage appears on page C22 and at RRecord.com. Photo by Lisa Hinton-Valdrighi



Sandy Hook tragedy sparks security reviews in area schools

by Audrey Thomasson

LANCASTER—The Lancaster County sheriff's office stepped up school security this week, posting deputies as a precaution in response to Friday's mass shooting at a Connecticut elementary school. Superintendent Dr. Daniel Lukich on Monday greeted students as they arrived at the primary school.

Northumberland also put deputies on the alert, making periodic checks at the schools. Superintendent Dr. Rebecca Gates spent Monday at the schools to welcome students and assess security needs.

Many elementary school parents elected to forego the bus and took their kids to school, while others did not send them to school at all.

Lancaster

"We decided to be over cautious... because of copy cats," said Sheriff

Ronnie Crockett.

A copy cat shooter is someone who is inspired by a gun massacre and tries to re-create it.

The copy cat phenomenon has already started with news reports of several arrests, including an Indiana man who threatened to set his wife on fire and shoot up an elementary school.

According to Sheriff Crockett, his department responded to a false alarm Sunday at Lancaster Primary School. Some 20 law enforcement officers responded to "possible armed people" at the school after a teacher, who was working in the copy room, called the 911 operator after she overheard someone describing various rooms and locations as potential entry points for an assault.

Other law enforcement teams from Northumberland, state troopers and off-duty officers also responded, blocked off the street and surrounded the school for over two hours, Crockett reported.

"The two people who made the comments came to the sheriffs department later and said 'I think we may have created a problem,'" said Crockett. The "intruders" turned out to be a school employee and her husband, a retired policeman.

"Law enforcement, parents and teachers are scared," said Crockett.

As a precaution, he posted two deputies in each school this week. In addition to securing the facilities, the

deputies assessed security measures at each school and met to strategize response plans, he said

According to Crockett, enhanced security at the schools could include adding metal detectors. Police also are reviewing lock-down procedures at each school and will be holding more response practice drills. Crockett has discussed security with school board chairman Patrick McCranie, a Virginia State Police trooper.

LPS on Monday reported 181 absences out of the 455 students.

"Our thoughts and prayers go out to the students, staff and families of Sandy Hook Elementary School," said LPS principal Dr. Holly Wargo.

Wargo said the school has lock-down procedures similar to those used by Sandy Hook school and were recommended by the Virginia Department of Education.

An outstanding concern is security at the front entrance, which gives visitors direct access to the school. This week, Wargo added a desk and staff member at the front door to direct people to the office but she agreed it was not the best solution to prevent an intruder from entering the facility.

"Safety should always be the number one concern," said Wargo. "With students ages 3 to 9, we must be vigilant in our responsibility.

"We have a number of lock-down procedures in place including when

SECURITY, continued on page A2

Record staff takes next week off

This is the final issue of the Rappahannock Record for 2012. The Record does not publish during Christmas week and the office will be closed for the holidays December 20 through December 27.

The office will reopen at 9 a.m. Friday, December 28, and the first issue of 2013 will appear on Thursday, January 3. Because the office will be closed again on Tuesday, New Year's Day, deadlines for the January 3 paper will be earlier than usual. Display ads should be submitted by 10 a.m. Monday, December 31. Classified ads and news

items are due by noon Monday.

Around the clock, news items may be submitted to editor@RRecord.com and display and classified advertisements may be sent to mail@RRecord.com.

Send postal mail to P.O. Box 400, Kilmarnock, VA 22482; fax items to 435-2632, or submit them by hand through the mail slot on the front door at 27 North Main Street, Kilmarnock.

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year to all of our readers, advertisers and friends.



Holiday tradition continues

Debutantes to be introduced at the 117th Holly Ball, from left, are (front row) Carter Aines, Meghan Anthony, Beatrice Bronner, Carter Clark, Allison Crittenden, Alison Davis, Remy Enoch; (next row) Susan Farmar, Sarah Beth Hall, Taylor Hinson, Diane Kelly, Sarah Kelly and Halle Keyser; (next row) Jacque Maupin, Sydney Moss, Madeline Muse, Taylor O'Bier, Elizabeth Rogers, Melinda Sellew, Ann Sisson and Heather Smith. The Holly Ball will be held at 7 p.m. December 28 at the Indian Creek Yacht and Country Club. Photo by Lisa Hinton-Valdrighi

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- Booth Furniture, C24
- The Box, A3
- Burkes, A3
- Foxy, B2
- Rappahannock Art League, A2
- Ross's Rings & Things, A11
- Show Off, A4
- RW-C, B3



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Obituaries.....B5-6
Opinion.....A6-7

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Schools.....A11

Sports.....A8-10
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Volunteer appreciation

The Steamboat Era Museum celebrated the end of the season with a volunteer appreciation party at the Tides Inn.

School board advised to repair its relationship with county supervisors

by Audrey Thomasson

KILMARNOCK—Retired assistant county administrator Jack Larson appeared before the school board last week to correct what he said is misleading information on the school budget and to advise members to return to a good relationship with supervisors.

"Five or six years ago, relations between the school board and supervisors were very, very low," said Larson, who oversaw the county budget before retiring in July. "You can't get business done in that kind of situation."

Speaking during the public comments section, Larson said four years ago things changed under a new school superintendent. "There was trust, respect and we worked through our differences... and not one single supplemental request came in. That changed last year."

He said it is up to the school board in how that process will go this year.

Referring to superintendent Dan Lukich's repeated public comments that the school budget was cut some \$800,000, Larson said, "The fact is, the budget is \$15 million, just \$28,291 less than the previous year. I feel the comments create the atmosphere we have right now."

Larson said school officials are to blame for a loss of teachers and instructional category funds.

"This school board and administration allocated less money for instruction than was allocated by supervisors," said Larson. "Who should parents question about instructional cuts?" he asked, "the people who cut the allocation or (supervisors)?"

School officials did not respond to Larson's comments.

Security check

continued from page A1

children are in class and other procedures when they change classes or are in the cafeteria," said Wargo. "We hold teacher crisis drills and practice with the students."

Lock-down procedures include a public address alert that requires students to enter the nearest classroom and teachers to lock the doors, block out windows, and secure children away from doors and windows.

Entry into the high school requires visitors to check in at the front office, said principal Dr. Lori Watrous. Hallways are equipped with cameras and the school has a crisis management plan, alert system and lock-down procedures—all practiced with student participation.

"We're all concerned. We want to make sure our students and staff are safe," Watrous said.

Increased security efforts are taking place at the middle school as well, according to principal Kim Hammond.

Absentees increased, although Hammond wasn't sure whether it was a result of Friday's events or the approaching holidays.

She said teachers were assisted by several counselors and psychologists in answering questions from students who heard the news reports over the weekend.

Staff is being very vigilant in checking the security of doors and monitoring cameras that cover hallways and the parking lot, she said. However, the front entrance is open to people bypassing the office and heading to a classroom, which Hammond admitted is a concern.

"Before students arrived, we had a faculty-led remembrance for our teachers...and spoke each child's name," Hammond said. Also, students held a moment of silence and reflection about Friday's events.

Northumberland

Capt. John Beauchamp of the Northumberland County Sheriff's Department said uniformed deputies were stopping

at county schools this week to reassure students of their presence.

He noted some members of the department received training last summer in an "active shooter" class. Additional training drills are planned, said Beauchamp.

Northumberland school superintendent Dr. Rebecca Gates spent Monday visiting faculty and students.

"I was at the elementary school as kids arrived...wearing a Christmas necklace and standing on the ramp with a deputy and welcoming children back to school," said Gates.

Many of the children commented on the necklace. "It was a good way of getting them to focus on Christmas," she said.

Many children in Northumberland's middle and high schools wore Sandy Hook school colors this week, she reported.

Gates and school administrators spent Monday afternoon reviewing security precautions and lock-down procedures. She said the schools follow the state education department's procedures for lock-downs.

"All of our schools have security systems at the front door" that prevent people from entering without checking in at the office, she said. Also, someone is always posted on the sidewalk as students arrive and depart.

There were several recommendations for additional camera monitoring sites and ideas for an "emergency knapsack" in each room to keep students occupied during a lock-down. She later met with some supervisors to discuss their ideas.

"There were a lot of good conversations," said Gates.

Kilmarnock council designates comment period for the mayor

by Audrey Thomasson

KILMARNOCK—The town council on Monday designated comment periods for the mayor and town attorney.

Council member Rebecca Tebbs Nunn introduced a motion permanently amending the agenda to include sections for comments from the mayor and town attorney at the end of the meeting. The motion passed on a 5-0 vote.

Nunn said the change would allow Mayor Raymond Booth a time at the end of each meeting to express his concerns rather than speak during public comments or at other points in the agenda. She said under Robert's Rules of Order, the mayor should not express his opinions during the meeting.

Last month, the mayor read

three prepared statements during the course of the council meeting.

"I'm fine with these special segments, but it won't preclude me from speaking when I want," said Booth. He reminded Nunn that prior to the past election she stated the public comments section was for anyone in the public to speak about any topic not on the agenda.

"The public forum is the time to recognize any citizen to talk for three minutes... including me," Booth said, adding that he gave up his gavel to the vice mayor when he made his comments last month.

As an elected official the mayor is not considered part of the public so he should not be participating in that segment, said Nunn.

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Bay Tones on tour

The Northern Neck Bay Tones Barbershop Chorus recently spread Christmas joy and harmony to five area retirement communities, including Farnham Manor (above). Tour stops included The Orchard, The Lancashire, Rappahannock Westminster-Canterbury and The Commonwealth. Under the direction of Matt Rosendahl, the chorus, the Ancient Mariners quartet and soloist Bing Kallas presented a variety of traditional carols and seasonal songs.

Irvington Town Council considers taxation options

by Audrey Thomasson

IRVINGTON—The town council last week began discussions on possible new revenue sources through new taxes. The measure was prompted by Lancaster County’s request that Irvington return \$22,170 in state sales tax overpayments.

“The county treasurer has indicated that the reduced distribution will start immediately, but the amortized payback could begin with the next fiscal year,” reported councilman Dr. Robert Westbrook.

If Irvington agrees to pay \$715 a month for 31 months, while simultaneously receiving a reduced monthly sales tax distribution, Westbrook said the town will suffer a net reduction of \$17,164 per year over the time it will take to pay back the overpayment.

Westbrook proposed four possible revenue sources.

“Increasing the occupancy tax by 1% would increase annual revenue by about \$30,000,” he said. “An increase in the occupancy tax appears to be the easiest remedy to our financial situ-

ation without seeming to inflict any true hardship on those who pay the tax.”

However, he noted Tides Inn general manager Gordon Slatford had expressed disapproval in the increase, but would not object to a real estate tax.

Having revenue come only from an occupancy tax leaves Irvington with the risk of devastating financial losses should the Tides Inn suffer a major catastrophe that forces its closure, Westbrook explained. “It’s putting all our eggs in one basket,” he said.

The town would achieve greater economic stability by creation of a broader revenue base, such as taxes on real estate, personal property, or a Business, Professional and Occupational License (BPOL) tax, he said.

Based on the old real estate assessments, Westbrook estimated \$21,614 in revenue on a 1% tax rate and \$43,228 on a 2% rate. A personal property tax would bring in \$9,663 on a tax rate of 0.10% and \$19,326 on 0.20%.

Revenue from BPOL taxes would not be realized in time to help the town as it begins its pay-

back, he added.

“I’m not in favor of a personal property tax because its easy to get out from under it” by relocating vehicles and boats, said Westbrook. “However, a real estate tax could be the fairest tax as it would apply to all residents equally.

“Our residents might have a greater interest in budget issues... because each property owner would have some skin in the game,” he said.

“About 52% of Irvington’s homes are full-time residences,” said councilman Gene Edmonds. “Everyone who lives here has some ‘skin in the game’” through working or volunteering in community organizations, he said.

It is the part-time residents who make little investment in Irvington, he said.

Councilman Ed Sulick said he was not in favor of a real estate tax. Sulick suggested they discuss whether council should pay the money back to the county at a meeting when a full council is present.

Mayor Rannie Ransone and councilmen Jerry Latell and Wayne Nunnally were not in attendance.

There was some discussion on seeking the advice of legal counsel on the issue of returning the overpayment to the county. With the resignation of Matt Terry as the town’s legal advisor, members discussed finding a replacement to advise them. No decision was reached.

In other business, vice mayor Kathleen Pollard’s motion to appropriate \$1,215 to the Steamboat Era Museum passed on a 4-0 vote.

SHERIFF’S REPORT

Northumberland County Sheriff Charles A. Wilkins this week reported charges against 17 individuals.

Felonies

Kelley M Clark, 28, of Warsaw was charged December 10 with forgery and petit larceny.

Jordon A. Segar, 20, of Lancaster was charged December

11 with distribution of marijuana.

Stanford A Palmer, 61, of Heathsville was charged December 12 with distribution of marijuana.

David P. Clark, 38, of Warsaw was charged December 14 with breaking and entering, eight counts of forgery, six counts of grand larceny and violating a protective order. This subject was arrested by the Richmond County sheriff’s office.

Donnie Ray Cantrell, 49, of Lottsburg was charged December 15 with driving suspended after being declared an habitual offender.

Misdemeanors

A Reedville man, 24, was charged December 4 with possession of marijuana and arrested by the Lancaster County sheriff’s office.

A Callao man, 56, was charged December 8 with failing to vaccinate his dogs and failing to purchase the county tags for said animals.

A Lancaster man, 26, was charged December 10 with failure to appear in the Northumberland County General District Court.

A Callao woman, 27, was charged December 10 with assault and battery.

A Burgess man, 49, was charged December 10 with intimidation of a witness.

A Heathsville man, 31, was charged December 11 with possession of marijuana.

A Topping man, 35, was charged December 11 with a capias to show cause.

A Reedville man, 34, was charged December 12 with assault.

A Reedville woman, 34, was charged December 12 with assault.

A Reedville man, 38, was charged December 12 with violating a protective order.

A Burgess woman, 72, was charged December 12 with giving a police officer a false report.

A Reedville man, 28, was charged December 12 with assault and battery.



Marvin Davenport Jr.

Sheriff seeks information on Davenport

The Northumberland County Sheriff’s Office seeks information on the whereabouts of Marvin Davenport Jr.

Davenport, 21, is described as a black male with black hair and brown eyes. He is 5 feet 6 inches tall and weighs 155 pounds. He has a tattoo on the right side of his neck that says “Empire.”

Davenport is wanted on several felony charges, including two counts of attempted murder, three counts of armed robbery and one count of reckless handling of a firearm.

Sources indicate he has been “hanging out” in the Newport News area and is traveling back and forth from there to Northumberland County.

Report any information regarding Davenport to the Northumberland County Sheriff’s Office at 580-5221.

NEWS BREAK

■ First Aid courses

The Kilmarnock-Lancaster County Volunteer Rescue Squad will offer Basic First Aid and Bloodborne Pathogens classes from 6 to 9 p.m. January 14 and CPR & AED from 6 to 9 p.m. January 23.

Register with Capt. Erik Brown at kilmarnockrescue@yahoo.com, or 435-1474. Classes will be held at the rescue squad building at 61 Harris Road in Kilmarnock.

■ Irvington contest

Tonight’s the night for judges to tour Irvington streets and choose the best decorated homes. Judging starts at 5 p.m.

■ Volunteers needed

American Red Cross chapters serving Lancaster and Northumberland counties seek volunteers to help in all types of disasters, office work, blood drives, events and fundraising. Training will be provided.

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Board meeting goes to the dogs

by Shannon Rice

HEATHSVILLE—The Northumberland board of supervisors moved through most of Thursday’s agenda at a brisk pace, but the final public hearing for the night, to address a request from Phyllis D. Swift to continue operating a commercial kennel, brought the meeting to a slower ending.

Swift has been operating a dog boarding and breeding service, Passion for Pets, for some 10 years.

In October 2007, she applied for a special exceptions permit to operate a commercial kennel. When the application was heard at the December 2007 meeting, Swift mentioned she intended to construct a building to house dogs so the board tabled the request in order to devise some conditions. A decision was tabled again following the June 2008 meeting so the board could gather information on application requirements and determine whether a scale drawing of the proposed building was required. The request was eventually approved in July 2008 with conditions, one of which required that the building be constructed within two years, or the permit would expire.

Zoning administrator W.H. Shirley said he inspected the facility on March 16, 2011, and found Swift was not in compliance with five conditions placed on her permit. They included having more than the approved number of kennels, no evacuation plan, unavailable veterinary records and inadequate supervision and maintenance.

Following the notice of noncompliance, Swift made efforts to meet some of the conditions but not others. The building was never constructed so Swift’s permit expired in October 2012. She was required to re-apply for the permit by November 20, 2012, or to cease and desist operation and remove all dogs from the property within 30 days of receiving the expiration notice.

Swift reapplied and brought the request before the board again on Thursday.

“She’s not asking for permission to construct a building,” explained Swift’s attorney, Susan Rager.

Rager said Swift’s original application was intended as a request to operate a dog boarding business. The proposed endeavor was internally classified as a commercial kennel.

Reading from the Virginia Code, Rager said a commercial dog breeder is defined as “any person who during any 12-month period maintains 30 or more adult female dogs for the primary purpose of the sale of their offspring as companion animals.” Conditions for commercial dog breeding facilities are applicable to those that meet the commercial dog breeder definition, she said.

Rager said Swift maintains 23 dogs for the primary purpose of the sale of their offspring. Rager then asked the board to dismiss the application as non-applicable since she does not meet the threshold of a commercial dog breeder.

However, District 4 supervisor Tommy Tomlin cited the county ordinance that defines a kennel as “a place prepared to house, board, breed and/or sell or otherwise keep or care for dogs or very small animals in return for compensation.”

When Rager questioned whether this definition was applicable to Swift since the building was never constructed, county attorney Leslie Kilduff confirmed that the operation, by definition, is considered a kennel whether or not a building is present.

“Had she not anticipated the need for a building and come before to ask for the special exceptions permit to construct the building, she would still be on Blundon Road in Burgess doing the same thing she’s been doing for 10 years,” said Rager, who then noted that the county should not apply definitions to pre-existing businesses retroactively.

What followed was a barrage of public comments centered on concerns about Swift’s care of the animals and fears of a puppy mill operation.

Cyndi Salesky attended the original public hearing in 2007 and suggested that the building was proposed as a solution to dogs giving birth outside. She then alleged that Swift’s kennels are unclean and unsupervised. She also claimed that the dogs are improperly cared for and not given proper shots.

“If you read her website, the only comments on there are how bad the conditions are. The puppies that are adopted out of there are not socialized,” said Salesky.

Herb Smith, a veterinarian for over 48 years, said he considers any more than two breeding females to be a puppy mill.

Jim Sinclair said the three main concerns of everyone at the original hearing were the welfare of the animals, noise and waste. He said a state of the art facility capable of handling the waste and positioned far away from neighbors to alleviate noise was promised.

“You still have those concerns that I had four and a-half, five years ago,” said Sinclair.

Swift’s neighbor, Don Lee, complained of the noise from Swift’s facility.

“You can’t provide enough attention to the dogs to become socialized and become a part of the family,” said Smith. “If you do approve such an operation, I hope you put lots of constraints and controls on it.”

Barbie Swift, who helps care for the dogs at Passion for Pets, came to her mother’s defense.

“Every dog there has a name and is taken care of,” said Swift. “She’s not really making any money off of this. She’s helping people ... To let

her operate her business for people that love her and love what she does for them would only be the right thing to do.”

Kit Thomas said Swift has repeatedly cared for his family’s pets and has always returned them in good health and happiness.

“I think she has the right to conduct a business,” said Thomas.

“I’ve never been there when the dogs are not supervised or not happy,” said Margaret Talent, one of Swift’s customers.

Swift is currently facing 29 misdemeanor charges for the inadequate space, care, or exercise of animals.

District 3 supervisor Jim Long moved to continue consideration of the request until the February meeting pending the results of Swift’s criminal case on February 4. District 1 supervisor Joe Self seconded the motion which carried in a 5-0 vote.

Following other hearings, the board authorized:

- John Matthew McShane and The Great Wicomico Oyster Company to establish a commercial aquaculture operation at 191 Bow Wood Drive.
 - Gregory S. Swift to construct a commercial pier at 15 Edwards Lane.
 - Robert W. Nicholas to construct a private storage building on an undeveloped parcel of land in Lottsburg.
 - Jeffrey Hunt to reconstruct two buildings within the seaward 50 feet of the resource protection area buffer on Henry’s Creek at 375 Logan Lodge Road.
 - Ed King to establish a precious metals shop at 14679 Richmond Road in Village.
- Following a closed session, the board voted to hire Dave Bugg on an hourly rate to assist Kilduff in litigation against Blue Ridge Mass Appraisal Services, the firm dismissed for its performance on the county reassessment.

“This is a lot of information gathering and he will assist in that,” said county administrator Kenny Eades.

The board also approved a radio contract with Radio Communications of Virginia in Richmond for a simulcast VHF system at \$900,049.65.

Vice chairman Richard Haynie said the contract is for upgrades to the county radio systems and encompasses the sheriff’s department along with the fire and rescue squads. The upgrade will provide better radio coverage across Northumberland and with surrounding counties.

“It costs a lot, but it’s going to give us much better coverage. There’s a new band length available and we’re trying to take advantage of it,” said Haynie.



COW keeps giving

The Fleet’s Island COW recently chose three charities to support for the Christmas season. From left, Doris Kidwell presents checks to Iris Treakle for the Tangier Island Children’s Library Fund, Lance Barton of the Northern Neck Food Bank receives checks from Carol Kirby and Roger Donaldson of the White Stone Baptist Church Food Pantry receives checks from Cathie Ward.

NEWS BREAK

■ McDonnells launch historic homes website

Gov. and Mrs. McDonnell recently signed a proclamation recognizing 2013 as the Year of the Historic Home and launched historicalhomes.virginia.gov.

The site features information on participating houses around the Commonwealth and tools for citizens to interact with Virginia’s rich cultural history. The McDonnells initiated the effort to recognize the importance of the many historic homes in Virginia as they commemorate the bicentennial of the Executive Mansion.

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Please join Chesapeake Bank and Lancaster By the Bay Chamber of Commerce and shop local this holiday season. Not only will shopping locally save you money, but when the buck stays here, we’re recirculating money in our community to create a stronger and more prosperous local economy.

Live. Shop. Bank.

Cole Charitable Trust gives to community organizations

KILMARNOCK—The Cole Charitable Trust made donations to local organizations totaling \$180,000 in 2012.

Lula and Mason Cole, who enjoyed successful careers and were able to build a substantial amount of wealth, established this foundation by setting up trusts during their lifetime that would pass to a Charitable Foundation at their death, said Chesapeake Trust vice president and trust officer Jean H. Light.

Their desire and intent was to continue with their philanthropic mission for this community for many years to come, said Light.

Chesapeake Trust Company, a wholly-owned subsidiary of Chesapeake Investment Group, working with the Coles’ attorney, Ray Britt, Esquire, helped them through this planning process to ensure their goals would



Representatives of area organizations gather to receive contributions from the Cole Charitable Trust.

be reached, she said.

By establishing this Charitable Trust, the Cole family was able to save a significant amount of money in taxes. This money, in turn, is being used to benefit agencies in the community, said Light.

Chesapeake Trust Company president John Sadler and Light

recently presented contributions to Deborah Cook of Chesapeake Academy, Lindsay Gardner of Lancaster Community Library, Amy Thomas of Lancaster Band Boosters, Judy Harvell of Shirley Perkins Memorial Fund for Animals and Robert Crown of Westmoreland Players.

Also, Jeannie Nelson of

Northern Neck Free Health Clinic, Betty Wirth of Northern Neck CASA, Anne Kloeckner of Rappahannock Legal Services, Margaret Alderson of Rappahannock Art League, Victor Clough of Rappahannock Community College Foundation and Mark Favazza of Lancaster Players.

Also, Lance Barton of Northern Neck Food Bank, Tina Hagan of Rappahannock Foundation for the Arts, Phillip Mumford of Boys & Girls Club of the Northern Neck, Dick Dickson of

Northern Neck Sail and Power Squadron, Craig Kelly of Rappahannock General Hospital, Ellen Yackel of The Haven Shelter and Services Inc. and Joyce Page of Animal Welfare League.

Also, Ed Davis Jr. of Kilmarnock Fire Department, Nan Flynn of Habitat for Humanity, Whiz Harris of Rappahannock Westminster-Canterbury Foundation, Andy Kauders of Smith Point Sea Rescue, Bobby Allison of Historic White Marsh Church and P.T. Atkinson Museum at Hampden Sydney.

“Through these beneficiary organizations we are provided with a better place to work and live,” said Light. “The Coles’ legacy will live on in the support for their community.”

Rappahannock Garden Club celebrates 50th anniversary

KILMARNOCK—Rappahannock Garden Club recently held its 50th Anniversary and Holiday Banquet at Indian Creek Yacht and Country Club. The event highlighted the many successes and achievements over the past 50 years.

Lively piano music played by member Dr. Cheryl Brown Davis filled the room with holiday spirit, according to publicity chairman Margie Redlin. First vice president Sandra Harris and banquet chairman and committee member Edna Earle Mizelle greeted members as they arrived. The committee also included co-chairman Deborah Brooks, president Ann Burgess, Jenny Boyenga, Anne O’Byrant, Cathie Elliott, Judy Ripley, Dr. Davis, Anita Shawver, Bonnie Schaschek, Claudia Holmes and Donna Anderson.

RGC chaplain Barbara Pulling, presented a blessing and members enjoyed a delicious lunch in the beautifully decorated ICYCC dining room, said Redlin. Elegant centerpieces of orchids and holiday greens were created by Boyenga.

Burgess introduced guest of honor Piedmont District president Joann Rawles. Harris introduced former members, Donna Davis, Peggy Lassanske, Chris Bressett, Elaine Weekley, Vickie Harding, Patricia Ramey, Susie Reavill, Blanchette Jones, and emeritus members; Mary Snyder, Alexa McGarth and friend Margaret Curtis.



Most Valuable Gardeners, from left, are (front row) Jennifer Boyenga, Ann Hecht, Susan Edmonds and Sharon Rowe; (next row) Aleta Hoffman, 2012 MVG Deborah Brooks and Sandra Harris.

food gardens chairman Schaschek presented first place to Brooks; second, Ripley; and third, Marty Wilson.

Artistic design chairman Wilson presented first place Brooks; second Hoffman; and third, Boyenga.

President Burgess recognized Boyenga for recently earning National Garden Club Inc. Accredited Life Judge status three years ahead of schedule.

Awards chairman Mary Ellen Swartz presented the Most Valuable Gardener (MVG) to Brooks. She participated in countless projects and committees. She also chairs the newsletter and emails committee which handles all club communications.

Previous MVG recipients

were recognized, including Boyenga, Ann Hecht, Susan Edmonds, Sharon Rowe, Hoffman and Sandra Harris. Perfect attendance awards were given to Brooks, Mary Ann McKay, Ripley and Schaschek.

Harris acknowledged President Burgess for her outstanding leadership.

“Ann’s excellent guidance and commitment generated a very successful year. Community service projects flourished and eight new members joined RGC,” said Harris.

Burgess is also credited with expanding the newsletter and producing the RGC 50th anniversary brochure which spoke of the club’s theme of “Reach Out.”

“We are proud to be a part

of an active club which truly lived out this year’s theme, ‘Reach Out’. Reach out to your friends, your community and your garden. Reach out to nurture, share and love. Reach out to grow and become the best garden club member you can be,” said Burgess. Members responded with a standing ovation.

Harris entertained the club by keeping with the 50th anniversary theme. She dressed in 50s-style poodle skirt, bobby socks and a signature S-initialed blouse. Fifty-type songs had the members clapping and singing along.

Harris’s sense of humor and style had the members laughing and enjoying the afternoon, continued Redlin. The entertainment concluded with the club joining Harris singing, “We Wish you a Merry Christmas.”

RGC extends a special thanks to the staff at ICYCC, Harris’s husband, Jim Harris, for working the entertainment sound system and his ongoing club support, and son, Jamie Harris, for the slide presentation. Thanks also to Cathie Carr, owner of Rappahannock Florist, for her contributions to RGC and Missie Arenson, manager of Seconds Unlimited, for the monthly donation of containers for Flower Power arrangements, and the Earth Store and Farm & Home Supply for their ongoing support.

The Agenda

Local Government News

LANCASTER—The Lancaster board of supervisors will meet at 7 p.m. tonight, December 20, at the county administration building in Lancaster.

A public hearing will be held on the request of James and Janice Nault to enlarge an existing authorized non-conforming structure on a 0.467-acre parcel at 137 Winona Drive near Windmill Point.

Following the December meeting, supervisors will reconvene to conduct the 2013 organizational meeting. They will elect new officers, confirm meeting dates, and make appointments to boards and commissions.

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From our family to yours we wish everyone a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

Thank you,

William H. Crowther, President

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December 24 - Close 3 pm

December 25 - Closed

December 31 - Close 3 pm

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December 31 - Closed

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Fiction or Fact

from Bob's Almanac

by Robert Mason Jr.

Jesus is coming.
This prophecy found in The Holy Bible came to pass.
As it is written in Luke 1:30-37:
“And the angel said unto her, Fear not, Mary: for thou hast found favour with God.
And, behold, thou shalt conceive in thy womb, and bring forth a son, and shalt call his name JESUS.
He shall be great, and shall be called the Son of the Highest: and the Lord God shall give unto him the throne of his father David:
And he shall reign over the house of Jacob for ever; and of his kingdom there shall be no end.
Then said Mary unto the angel, How shall this be, seeing I know not a man?
And the angel answered and said unto her, The Holy Ghost shall come upon thee, and the power of the Highest shall overshadow thee: therefore also that holy thing which shall be born of thee shall be called the Son of God.
And, behold, thy cousin Elisabeth, she hath also conceived a son in her old age: and this is the sixth month with her, who was called barren.
For with God nothing shall be impossible.”
And in Luke 2:4-12:
“And Joseph also went up from Galilee, out of the city of Nazareth, into Judaea, unto the city of David, which is called Bethlehem (because he was of the house and lineage of David);
To be taxed with Mary his espoused wife, being great with child.
And so it was, that, while they were there, the days were accomplished that she should be delivered.
And she brought forth her firstborn son, and wrapped him in swaddling clothes, and laid him in a manger; because there was no room for them in the inn.
And there were in the same country shepherds abiding in the field, keeping watch over their flock by night.
And, lo, the angel of the Lord came upon them, and the glory of the Lord shone round about them: and they were sore afraid.
And the angel said unto them, Fear not: for, behold, I bring you good tidings of great joy, which shall be to all people.
For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Saviour, which is Christ the Lord.
And this shall be a sign unto you; Ye shall find the babe wrapped in swaddling clothes, lying in a manger.”
The Bible also says Jesus will be returning to earth some day.
Are you ready?
The key phrase here is: “For with God nothing shall be impossible.”

Focal Point



Waxing moon over Elva C

Photo by Ray Reuter

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

YOUR LETTERS

Nothing is not an option

The Connecticut massacre defies description. It takes your breath away. It is every parent’s nightmare. Actions to prevent the slaughter of innocent children and adults cannot wait—the time is now for calm, non-partisan thinking and action.
There are things we can do in the Northern Neck. We cannot allow our elected officials to run and hide from the needed, candid conversation. We must make increased mental health a basic part of the solution.
Virginia has suffered two school shootings. Yet, in many respects our schools are no safer than before April 17, 2007. We need to talk calmly. We need to reject violence in every form. But we elect an official arrested for domestic abuse, some have bumper stickers—“locked and loaded,” others scream and yell breaking up political discussions.
Elected officials often won’t communicate with the family of a school-shooting victim; specifically, Rep. Robert Wittman and Del. Margaret Ransone. Since the murder of our daughter-in-law, I have spent considerable money and time to help make our schools safer. I have written two books addressing the subject and I am co-writing another with the Virginia Tech families.
I have written both Wittman and Ransone with questions and comments on school safety. Both have at least two families with members who have been killed or wounded on college campuses—but that

apparently counts for nothing. Ransone simply never answers. Wittman either never answers or his office obfuscates. Defending the Second Amendment and keeping guns out of the hands of the dangerously mentally ill are not mutually exclusive.
If the politicians won’t even talk about what needs to be done to prevent mass murders—nothing will be done.
Nothing is not an option—the slaughter of 20 beautiful little children and six wonderful adults is proof.
David Cariens, Kilmarnock

Fairfields VFD responds

As the holidays started encroaching upon us here in the Northern Neck, I was setting our alarm for the evening as I do every night. My hand slipped, hit a button of which I did not know about and it activated a beep.
I called the alarm company, told them what my alarm was indicating and was advised to touch the same button which would cancel the “beep.” I did that and reset the alarm, evidently not fast enough, as there was a loud banging on the door. I was rattled, asking who was there, the answer, “the fire department.”
I quickly reset the alarm and opened the door to a group of gentlemen dressed in gear and ready for action with axes in their hands. They asked about the fire. I shook my head with confusion and invited them in. They scanned the area with their eyes and a few of them went in different directions outside while I apologized and explained what I had done, unknowingly calling the fire department.
The phone rang, it was the alarm company and I handed the phone to the fireman closest to me and he talked with them. After deciding there was no fire inside or outside, they explained that I had hit a button which summoned the fire department. I apologized to them again and felt really stupid for making that mistake, as I understood how busy they were and they did not need someone making more work for them for nothing.
The firemen were very calm, courteous and helpful and we are “very grateful” that there was no fire and “grateful” to know that we here in the Northern Neck have such a professional group of “Volunteer Firefighters” ready to answer any emergency whenever someone is in need.
We are very happy to have such professionals looking after us here in the Reedville community.
Fran Chattin, Reedville

YESTERYEAR

(Reprints from the December 20, 1912, issue of the Virginia Citizen)

Santa Claus Letters

Dear Old Santa-I am a little boy two years old. Please bring me a little red wagon, box of carpenter tools, pair of gloves and lots of nice candy’s and oranges. I will be a good little boy till Xmas.
Your little boy,
G. Stanley Lewis
Ottoman, Va.
P. S. don’t forget Eer and bring her a doll.

Dear Santa Claus-I am a little girl nine years old and real good. So please bring me a jointed doll, doll trunk, lots of goodies and anything else you see fit for a little girl my age.
Your little girl,
Irva B. Lewis
Ottoman, Va.

Dear Santa-Please bring me a ball, a wagon and some goodies. And I will be a good little boy until Xmas.
Bye, Bye,
George Hammonds
Irvington, Va.

Dear Santa-Please bring me a pair of gloves and a doll baby and some goodies.
From Lula Hammonds
Irvington, Va.

Dear Santa-Please bring me a doll baby, and some goodies. And I will be a good girl until Xmas.
Bye, Bye
Maggie Hammonds
Irvington, Va.

Dear Santa-Please bring me a mouth organ, horn, two packages of firecrackers, pair of gloves, baseball, drum, some candy, nuts, oranges. I will be a good little boy until Christmas.
Isaac Marsh
Weems, Va.

My Dear Santa-I am a little boy seven years old and I want you to please bring me a mouth organ and a pistol and a suit of clothes. I will go to bed soon and try to be a good boy until Christmas. Be sure to come without fail and bring all the good things you can.
I am as ever your true little boy,
Edwin Barrack
Nuttsville, Va.

Crisp News

President Taft will not go to Cincinnati and practice law when he leaves the White House, but has agreed to accept a professorship in the Yale Law School.

The Holly Ball

Handsomely engraved invitations, bearing the following, have been issued for the Holly Ball:
“Her Royal Highness, Queen Julia, Empress of the Holly Realm, requests the pleasure of her loyal subjects at the Holly Festival, to be held in the Castle of Kilmarnock on the night of Thursday, December the twenty-sixth, nineteen hundred and twelve. George Carter, Minister to the Queen.”

The Holly Ball is an annual event, and is considered the leading social function of the year in Lancaster County.
(Transcribed by Stephen A. Redd, volunteer of the Mary Ball Washington Museum and Library)



Do you remember?

Many folks in the community hold fond memories of the Holly Ball. From left, this photo from 1970 shows Nancy Hubbard McGinnes, George W. Noblett, Norrine Bryant, Katherine Harding Chase and Elizabeth Pembroke Chase, said Kilmarnock Museum president Carroll Lee Ashburn. “Do you remember?” is a community service of the Kilmarnock Museum.

Excerpts

by Henry Lane Hull

At the suggestion of my good wife, the topic of this column is the Year in Review—in the Barnyard. The big news on that front has been the arrival of Gladys, the lovely maiden goose, who is the “arranged wife” of Lou, the most gentlemanly gander anyone ever could meet. Of course, to qualify, I must say that he is gentlemanly towards human ladies and gentlemen, but can be quite assertive towards fellow animals, especially when it comes to mealtime.
Initially, we feared that they might not get along, as she was quite stand-offish, refusing to eat with him, and feeling herself very much alone. She also did not say anything, which was blatantly obvious in comparison with his loquacity. Appetite can do wonders in such a scenario.
After only a couple of days, she decided that if she were going to survive, adaptation to surroundings was the key. Thus, she began getting her own fair share of the servings. She learned to assert herself, aggressively informing the roosters they were farther down on the pecking line, that is, that they were to eat after she had finished.
Now she and Lou dine together in total harmony.

Truly, on the farm we live in a peaceable kingdom. As Christmas dawns and we start a New Year, may the world replicate the harmony of nature as people everywhere seek peace in their lives.

Nearly two years ago when I brought home a new batch of chicks, in addition to the dozen Domineckers, which were one day old, I got two Bantam Silkies, which fortuitously turned out to be a rooster and hen. They were about a month old, and much larger than the Dominecker chicks, but as time marched along and all of them grew, the chicks came to overshadow the Banties, somewhat reversing the pecking order.
I say somewhat because the Banties do not hoist a white feather, and can maintain themselves in a quasi-Lilliputian setting. The hen is a nice little animal, who delivers her own egg every day, whereas some of the Domi-

neckers take the day off. Hers is about two-thirds the size of the Domineckers’s, and of a distinctly lighter shade of brown. It is ideal for use in recipes that call for smaller eggs.
The bachelor pad of roosters do their own thing, so to speak, sharing quarters, and chatting with the Dominecker hens on the other side of the pen. They do not fight with each other, and put forth mellifluous melodies each morning, sometimes beginning as early as 4 a.m. The three Australorps are the largest, followed by the three Domineckers, the Aracuna, and the smallest, the Silver Dorking, who lives on his own, and prefers his own food, for which he forages around the yard. He also roosts alone at night, and is the fastest on his feet. Some people are just plain anti-social.
The two Nubian goats keep the place clean by eating every sprout that pops out of the ground. We did not get them a buck suitor this year, and the two of them exhibit their own “butting” order. Cuddles, who is not particularly affectionate, but then names can be deceiving, insists on being first. Her niece, Abigail, also not as loving as her late mother, Floppy, usually gives in to the domineering aunt. Thus, she requires a degree of special

attention when one distributes their daily ration of grain.
Before we got Lily, the Welsh Corgi, I knew that the breed belongs to the herding category, but in this case a picture is indeed worth a thousand words. She and her daughter on their own like to keep all the animals in what they perceive to be their proper order. They do not hurt them, but enjoy letting them know where they want them.
Most particularly, Blackie, our ancient mixture, who now has poor vision and almost no hearing, or selective hearing, often will not pay attention when called. But as soon as we speak her name, Lily and her daughter, Maggie, run to wherever she is and start barking in her ear until she rouses herself and comes. I say that Blackie’s hearing is selective, because whenever I shake the biscuit box, regardless of where she is, she hears it and comes for her treat.
Truly, on the farm we live in a peaceable kingdom. As Christmas dawns and we start a New Year, may the world replicate the harmony of nature as people everywhere seek peace in their lives.
Merry Christmas and Happy New Year to All!

YOUR LETTERS

Conventions versus primaries

With regard to a letter, “Republicans reorganize as independents” last week.

The writer’s major reason for resigning as chairman of the Northumberland Republican committee apparently was the state party’s decision to hold a convention, not a primary, arguing that conventions disenfranchise military voters and exclude independents and conservative Democrats.

Neither approach is perfect. The question is, which is best?

In Virginia, incumbents can choose the path to re-nomination. They almost always choose a primary. Why?

Incumbents have greater name recognition, connection with the party establishment, and access to money. Unless independently wealthy and well-known, this greatly disadvantages challengers.

Primaries are necessarily waged largely with slogans and imagery. Opportunities to probe candidates on issues, principles and ideas are few. Also, because Virginia does not require voters to register a party affiliation, Democrats can vote in Republican prima-

ries and it behooves them to support the weakest potential opponent.

On the other hand, conventions are a much more level playing field for challengers and newcomers and allow deeper probing of a candidate’s ideas, principles and character, for the candidate must sell him or herself to the delegates over an intense period and those delegates are not party hacks but volunteers from the local committees.

What about “disenfranchising” absentee military and non-Republicans? A party’s purpose is to embody and advance its principles. Inviting people who don’t share the principles to help select candidates to represent the party’s values is like letting the Cowboys help select players for the Redskins.

While a primary gives absent military a voice in candidate selection, their distance further hampers making principled choices because of the inherent limitations of a primary.

It is not an accident that members of the establishment or good old boy network in a party almost invariably prefer a primary.

Edgar Doleman,
Heathsville

Outlaw automatic weapons and help the mentally ill

How many more shootings with semi-automatic weapons must we tolerate before the public wakes up and says, “No more sales of semi-automatic weapons?”

Children ages 5-14 in America are 13 times more likely to be murdered with guns as children in other countries. This is shameful. Perhaps we need another movement like MADD.

There is endless profiling of the people who go out and do this and not enough talk about gun control. This neglect is yet another example of so many politicians being fearful of the National Rifle Association. Politicians need the support of citizens and we need a movement that will drive them to deal with gun control in a sensible way. Automatic weapons have nothing to do with the sport of hunting or target practice. I feel sure the founding fathers never meant or envisioned the second amendment coming to this.

I can hear one argument now: “It is not the guns; it is the mentally sick people.” How to help the mentally ill is another problem we refuse to address. We need to have sensible gun control, make

background checks on people and begin to address the problem of children who because of their mental health end up so unhappy and anti-social that they feel the need to hurt others.

If we had a congress that really worked we could take care of the gun control part very quickly. Good luck!

Mary Lloyd Lay,
Irvington

Parents must take responsibility

Many were distressed to read the front page of last week’s paper about the unchecked misbehavior in our schools. A letter written by a person who attended the meeting stated “there is some good and exciting learning taking place.”

Regrettably, some of the learning is bad because the culprits suffer no negative consequences and they may engender misplaced respect for bravado. In turn, this leads to violent adult behavior in some cases. So if we routinely accept misbehavior in school, it may spill over into the rest of our community. Sadly, the administrators apparently don’t deal with events as they occur and, worse, don’t report them to parents or the school board. Clearly, there has to be a forceful chain to deal with each event including report-

ing and remedial action.

Clearly, as the referenced letter points out, parents must take responsibility for their children’s actions, and also we must have alternative schooling for repeat culprits so the rest of the students can do their lessons and learn good citizenship.

Sam Marshall,
White Stone

Feeling safer

Sheriff Ronnie Crockett and all of the deputies responded quickly to the potential crisis that took place Sunday afternoon.

After Friday’s incident, the situation that took place at Lancaster Primary School is understandable.

All of our law enforcement are to be commended for their work. But what the sheriff’s department did went a step beyond. On Monday as I drove my 12-year-old daughter to school, she spotted the sheriff’s car sitting in the parking lot at Chesapeake Academy.

A smile lit up across her face, she sighed in relief and said, “That’s good, a sheriff’s car.” It is my understanding there was a presence at every school in the county. Children and parents can feel a little safer.

L. Bryan McClain,
Pastor, WSUMC

Peace on Earth

The current unrest, murders, heresies, sedition and strife are not only signs of our times, but are the prophesied and expected ends resulting from attempts to remove God from all areas of our lives.

We are witnessing the breakdown of a desperate world that, left to its present course, is destined to become more so.

Conversely, joy is for lovers of Christ, not only a way of life, but a posture from which all of the meaning of life is pursued. A life with Christ embodies simplicity and sublimity, and is filled with a sense of awe and astonishment. It is an exaltation to be found nowhere else in all the world.

Joy to the world, the Lord is come for us. It is even his opinion that we are worth that great price he paid. Who then are we to attempt to make it of none affect?

God’s solution as to the remedy for our sick, hurting world is Jesus who was “manifested to take away our sins and to destroy the works of the devil,” 1 John 3. If we seek him wholeheartedly, he will be found by us. Friends, that is joy unspeakable.

Hilda Page,
White Stone

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EVANS BOWLING CENTER RESULTS

Ladies League

D&L Doc n' Divas won two games from Davis Auto. Terry Stillman bowled a 385 set, the year's highest set to date, to include games of 102, 132 and 151, the week's highest score. Linda Lake rolled a 324 set with games of 124 and 104. Beverly Benson had a 308 set with games of 117 and 103.

For Davis Auto, Marie Piccard bowled a 325 set with games of 112, 103 and 110. Vivian Callaway had a 100 game.

Yeatman's Forklift remained in first place with two wins over Tri-Star. Alma George bowled a 318 set with games of 100 and 123. Val Crosbie had a 102 game and Mary York a 100 game.

For Tri-Star, Kara George rolled a 309 set with games of 107 and 106. Cathy Hoskins had a 122 game. Mary Newton had a 101 game.

The Corner Restaurant won two games from R. P. Waller when all four bowlers each scored a 325-plus set. Gayle Conrad had a 340, with games of 117 and 135. Betty Evans had a 339, with games of 126 and 119. Mary Savalina had a 334, with games of 107, 104 and 123. Donna Thomas had a 325, with a 135 game.

R. P. Waller's Marsha Nash rolled a 330 set with games of 109, 114 and 107. Jean Reynolds scored a 300 set, with a 120 game. Dee Atkins rolled

games of 102 and 108. Ola Rae Nash had a 100 game.

Men's League, Week 11

First, D&L, 18-16; second, Hammocks, 17-16; third, Naturals, 17-16; fourth, Evans, 16-17; fifth, Noblett's, 16-17; and sixth, Creek Boys, 15-18.

High team game, first, Naturals, 501; second, Evans, 496.

High team set, first, Naturals, 1,496; second, Evans, 1,401.

High individual game, first, Don Powell, 167; second, Ernie George, 163.

High individual set, first, Powell, 443; second, George, 391.

High individual average, Powell, 121.



Lancaster's Shane Chambers locks in a hold and puts his Franklin High opponent's shoulders to the mat for a pin in the Lancaster Duals last Saturday morning. Photo by Lisa Hinton-Valdrighi

Hosting Lancaster places second in wrestling duals

by Lisa Hinton-Valdrighi

Lancaster High School's wrestlers finished as the runner-up in their first home match of the season last Saturday.

The Devils hosted Grafton, Tabb, Franklin, Arcadia, Northumberland, Middlesex and King William in the Lancaster Duals team tournament at the middle school in Kilmarnock.

Group AA Tabb won the tournament with Lancaster finishing second and King William third.

Lancaster's Brad Smith, Sam Friday, Shane Chambers and Kai Antonio all won gold, while Kenique Stewart, Colton Hayden, Thomas Hyde and Sam Bouis took silver. Winning a bronze medal for the Devils were Steven Cox, Joey Sanford and Beau Nickerson.



Lancaster's Thomas Hyde wraps up his Franklin opponent, who was trying to break Hyde's hold during the Lancaster Duals. Photo by Lisa Hinton-Valdrighi



Lancaster High junior varsity boys basketball team members, from left, are (front row) Darrien Doggett, DaVante Stewart, Shyheim Noel, Rasul Henderson and Jonathan Towles; (next row) Marco Logan, Taylor Woolard, Tyrell Henderson, Jovani Robinson, Jordan Hodges and Trevon Henderson. Photo by Lisa Hinton-Valdrighi

JV Devils build an 8-0 win streak

by Lisa Hinton-Valdrighi

Lancaster's JV basketball team is still undefeated three weeks into the season.

The Red Devils beat King & Queen, 54-25, last Friday to improve to 8-0 after three weeks of non-district play.

Darrien Doggett, Lancaster's freshman guard, led all scorers with 12 points. Doggett hit two of three three-point attempts.

Sophomore Devante Stewart contributed eight points, had six assists and four steals. Stewart is

one of two sophomores in new head coach Craig Heath's starting five. Along with Stewart, he brings back sophomore forward Tyrell Henderson, who led Lancaster with 12 points, nine rebounds and three assists in a 63-25 whipping of Mathews last week. Stewart had a double-double with 10 points and 10 rebounds against the Blue Devils.

In an earlier game with Mathews two weeks ago, Henderson scored 23 points, had 11 rebounds and seven steals.

Doggett is also in the starting lineup along with freshman forward Marco Logan and freshman center Trevon Henderson. Logan came away as the big scorer in a 51-36 win over Middlesex last week with 18 points and seven rebounds. He also led with 16 points and eight rebounds in a 54-35 rout of West Point two weeks ago.

Coming off the bench to play guard for Heath this season will be sophomore Jonathan Towles and freshman Shyheim Noel. Playing forward will be sophomore Taylor Woolard and freshman Rasul Henderson. Relieving Tr. Henderson at center will be sophomore Jordan Hodges and freshman Jovani Robinson.

The JV Devils will have a two-week holiday and return to the court January 8 for their Northern Neck District opener at Washington & Lee.

"Everyone stepped up their performance to try to win a trophy for coach [Craig] Oren on his return," said assistant coach Sam Terry. "Colton Hayden, in particular, wrestled extremely tough in spite of fighting the stomach flu. We couldn't have taken second without Sam Bouis substituting for Danny McGrath and Beau Nickerson substituting for Grant Long."

"Steven Cox, one of our freshmen, got his first pin of the season and our experienced wrestlers stayed true to form," he added. "Considering how many regional opponents we face, it was a very satisfying tournament."

In head-to-head competition, Lancaster beat Grafton, 72-18, and defeated Franklin, 66-12. The Devils also downed Arcadia, 54-12, and edged King

William, 39-34. Lancaster's only team loss of the day came to Tabb, 54-27.

Two weeks ago, Lancaster traveled to Lafayette High School for the Ram Cup. Arranged as an individual tournament rather than a team or dual tournament, the Ram Cup also included teams from Benedictine, Bishop Ireton, Essex, Mathews, Chancellorsville, Norfolk Academy, Grafton, Jamestown, Southampton and host Lafayette.

Lancaster had five wrestlers in the finals and three others win bronze medals.

The Devils finished fourth in



A Franklin wrestler can't escape the grip of Lancaster's Sam Friday. Photo by Lisa Hinton-Valdrighi

team scoring and were edged out by five points by Group AA Jamestown.



Brian Manetz and crew display a nice catch aboard Liquid Assets II with Capt. Billy Pipkin.

The Fishing Line

by Capt. Billy Pipkin

Fishing was good again this week and promises to improve as more fish enter the bay waters from the ocean. The water temperature is holding steady at 49 degrees locally.

The warm weather this week should tend to hold fish in place rather than bring more from the northern states. We truly need a solid cold front to hit above Maryland and push more bait and rockfish down into our region. Although we do have a fair number of rockfish in the bay at this time, the schools of menhaden have been sparsely scattered throughout.

With Maryland's bay waters off limits at this time, anglers are limited to the Potomac River and Virginia's bay and tributaries until year's end.

Anglers have found varied success, with large specimens up to 45 pounds mixed in with an average of very respectable

20- to 30-pound fish. The shipping channel from Smith Point down to Buoy 62 has been holding plenty of fish with a nice shot of them coming up the bay from the Cape Charles area as well.

Tangier Sound is holding a mix of bait and big fish, but with the recent strong west winds, the bait and fish have been pulled to our western side of the channel. This is evident in the fact that the lower Rappahannock and Potomac rivers are experiencing an influx of large stripers at this time.

The vast array of lures that anglers are purchasing boggles my mind. My best advice to you is to "keep it simple." The two colors of choice are chartreuse and white and combinations thereof. Umbrella rigs with two parachute drops work well as does the simple but proven double drop rig with a 3- to

4-ounce lure trailing a heavier 6- to 20-ounce version of the same. A double-hooked nine-inch shad behind a hairy parachute has been my ace in the hole.

As we enjoy this Christmas holiday and the final week of the Virginia rockfish season, let us give priority to our families and give thanks to God for all of the gifts that he has afforded us all. Amidst all of the presents and parties let's not forget the real reason for the season. Jesus is God's greatest gift of all to the world. When the tinsel and holly is put away, he wants to keep his place in our hearts.

Good luck fishing this week and until next time.... Fair Winds. Capt. Billy Pipkin owns and operates Ingram Bay Marina and Capt. Billy's Charters near Wicomico Church at the mouth of the Great Wicomico River. 580-7292 www.ingrambaymarina.com.

Varsity boys basketball			
Lancaster 64, King & Queen 34			
King William 43, Lancaster 40			
JV boys basketball			
Lancaster 46, King William 33			

Lancaster 54, King & Queen 25		Match scores
Wrestling		Lancaster 72, Grafton 18
Lancaster Duals		Lancaster 66, Franklin 12
1. Tabb		Lancaster 54, Arcadia 12
2. Lancaster		Tabb 54, Lancaster 27
3. King William		Lancaster 39, King William 34

SCOREBOARD



Weekly Tides

Windmill Point – Sunrise & Moon - December, 2012

Fri. 12/21	High 5:25 1.1' Low 12:05 0.2' High 5:47 1.0'	Sunrise 7:17 Sunset 4:51 Moonset 1:06 Moonrise 12:32
Sat. 12/22	Low 12:08 0.1' High 6:23 1.1' Low 1:05 0.2' High 6:42 1.0'	Sunrise 7:17 Sunset 4:51 Moonset 2:04 Moonrise 1:04
Sun. 12/23	Low 1:00 0.1' High 7:17 1.2' Low 1:59 0.2' High 7:35 1.0'	Sunrise 7:18 Sunset 4:52 Moonset 3:01 Moonrise 1:39
Mon. 12/24	Low 1:50 0.1' High 8:07 1.2' Low 2:49 0.2' High 8:23 1.0'	Sunrise 7:18 Sunset 4:52 Moonset 3:56 Moonrise 2:17

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

PM times are in boldface type



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Nice catch
Sammy Wood of White Stone displays a 40-pound, 9-ounce, 47.5-inch-long striped bass he caught December 9 in the middle of the Chesapeake Bay. The fish was weighed at the Tackle Shop at J&W Seafood in Deltaville.

YMCA NEWS

Adult indoor soccer
The Northern Neck Family YMCA in Kilmarnock will host adult indoor “pick-up” soccer matches from 5 to 7 p.m. Fridays through January 25. Members play free, others pay \$10 per Friday.
Athletic shoes and shin guards are highly recommended. Contact Dave at the YMCA at 39 William B. Graham Court in Kilmarnock, or call 435-0223.

Girls’ volleyball
LHS coach Dave Zeiler will lead a girls volleyball program for ages 7-12 at 5:45 p.m. and ages 13-18 at 6:45 p.m. on Tuesdays January 8 through February 26. The fee is \$20 for members and \$30 for others. Register at the YMCA, or call 435-0223.

Youth basketball
Registration continues for Youth Super Sports basketball. Divisions include ages 4-5, 6-8, 9-11, and 12-14. Fees are \$55 for members and \$70 for others. The season starts January 3 and concludes March 2.
Volunteer coaches will be needed. Training, skills progressions, and practice sessions will be provided. The Northern Neck Family YMCA will provide each player with a uniform jersey, shorts and socks. Register or volunteer at the YMCA, or call 435-0223.

Swimming lessons
Registration is underway for youth swimming lessons for ages 3-5 and 6-12. Classes begin January 2 and continue through January 23.
Beginner and intermediate lessons are slated at the YMCA indoor pool at 5 and 5:30 p.m. Mondays and Wednesdays. The fee is \$22 for members and \$53 for others. Advanced lessons are slated at 6 p.m. The fee is \$27 for members and \$57 for others. Register at the YMCA, or call 435-0223.

Holiday camp
Holiday Camp for children ages 5-12 will be offered from 7:30 a.m. to 6 p.m. December 20, 21, 26, 27, and 28. Each day will be themed with different activities including bowling, VCU women’s basketball game, swimming, movies, games and crafts.
The fee is \$19 per day for members and \$23 for others. Register at the YMCA, or contact Brandon Johnson at 436-7598, or bjohnson@peninsulaymca.org.

BRIDGE RESULTS

Five tables of duplicate bridge were in play December 12 at the Woman’s Club of White Stone.
Winners north/south were first, Virginia Adair and Jane Bunnell; and second, Shirley Crockett and Elaine Weekley.
Winners east/west were first, Betsy Paul and Tom Doyle; and second, Arden Durham and Cynthia Birdsall.
The next bridge for this group is Thursday, December 20, at 1 p.m.

Belle Isle to conduct three First Day Hikes

Belle Isle State Park will conduct three First Day Hikes January 1, according to chief ranger Charlene Talcott. All hikes will begin at the Camp Store.
At 2 p.m., dogs and their owners will hike together with Talcott and Blue, the “bark ranger.” Dog and cat food will be collected for the Animal Welfare League. Samples of trail mix formulated for dogs will be given away. All dogs must be friendly and on a six-foot leash.

At 2:15 p.m., Carol Hammer will take participants through a variety of habitats and give pointers to enhance nature photography. Hammer is an award-winning photographer whose work has been published in several venues. Bring a camera.

At 2:30 p.m., Master Naturalists Ellis Squires and Earline Walker will lead a hike highlighting winter plants and animals, including a bald eagle’s nest. Squires and Walker have led several popular walks in the Northern Neck.

A \$3 per car parking fee applies.
Dress for the weather and wear sturdy footwear, said Talcott. Warm up after the hike with a cup of hot chocolate, apple cider, or coffee.

Virginia State Parks, managed by the Department of Conservation and Recreation, will offer special hiking opportunities in all 35 state parks on New Year’s Day as part of America’s State Parks First Day Hikes initiative. America’s State Parks is an alliance of state park systems in all 50 states working to strengthen the importance of more than 6,000 state parks across the nation.

For more information about Virginia State Parks activities and amenities or to make a reservation for one of the more than 1,800 campsites or 300 climate-controlled cabins, call the Virginia State Parks Reservation Center at 800-933-7275, or visit virginiastateparks.gov.



Successful hunt
Duke Brown displays a 196-pound buck he took in the Lively area. The 7-point rack measured 25 1/2 inches across.



From left are Richmond County Family YMCA branch manager Philip Belfield, Dominion Virginia Power external affairs manager Jen Kostyniuk and Northumberland County Family YMCA branch executive Cristian Shirilla.

Power company supports YMCAs

The Northumberland County and Richmond County Family YMCAs recently received a \$4,500 donation from the Dominion Foundation, the philanthropic arm of Dominion Resources.
Youth who want to participate in sports or after-school child care at the Northumberland Family YMCA, but whose families can’t afford the regular fees, will receive financial assistance supported through the Dominion Virginia Power gift.
In Richmond County, the gift supports YMCA programs for older adults, including day trips, social events and group exercise classes.



Daisies, Brownies and Jr. Girl Scouts with troop leaders (above) recently held a family cookout.

Girl Scouts hold family cookout

Kilmarnock Girl Scout Troop 368 recently held a family cookout night and bonfire at YMCA Resident Camp, Camp Kekoka at the end of Boys Camp Road near

Kilmarnock, reported Liz Allen.
Boy Scout Troop 200 also attended and held a flag ceremony for the group, said Allen.

The camp, on the shores of Indian Creek, was the perfect setting for singing traditional Girl Scout songs, roasting hotdogs, and making s’mores, she said.

SPORTS SHORTS

■ **Model railroad**
The Northern Neck Railroad annual model railroad exhibit will be displayed at the Reedville Fishermen’s Museum at 504 Main Street in Reedville through January 13, except Christmas and New Year’s eve and day.
The fee is \$5 for adults and \$3 for seniors, children ages 12 and younger and members free. Hours are 10:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Fridays through Sundays

■ **Youth wrestling**
The Northern Neck Wrestling Club (NNWC) is enrolling for wrestling for all Northern Neck kids in grades one through eight. Training is held on Tuesdays and Thursdays and the season continues through March.
To register, visit a training session from 6 to 7:30 p.m. at the NNWC facility

on Dodlyt Road behind the old Northumberland High School in Heathsville, or call coach Steven Hanks at 370-2191. The fee is \$110; USA Wrestling members pay \$75.

■ **Golf cart raffle**
The Upper Lancaster Volunteer Fire Department is raffling a 2004 Club Car golf cart. Tickets are \$10 each. Proceeds will benefit the ULVFD. For tickets, call 462-5404, or drop by the Lively firehouse from 9 a.m. to noon on Saturdays.
A drawing will be held following the ULVFD all-you-can-eat shrimp and oyster dinner from 4 to 7 p.m. January 26. Doors will open at 3:30 p.m. Dinner tickets are \$30 each; call the same number, or drop by the firehouse.

■ **Master’s raffle**
The Boys & Girls Club of the Northern Neck is raffling a package of two tickets to the final practice round of the 2013 Masters Tournament and entrance to the Par 3 Tournament at the Augusta National Country Club April 10. A drawing will be held on, or before March 1. Tickets will be delivered in March.
The raffle tickets are \$100 each. Tickets may be purchased at Golden Eagle, King Carter, Indian Creek, Quinton Oaks and Hobbs Hole golf courses, Noblett Appliance, The Sports Centre, Lamberth Building Materials, Main Street Pharmacy, Boys & Girls Club, or bgcnn.com.

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Devils whip Tigers, 64-34

by Lisa Hinton-Valdrighi
Lancaster’s varsity boys basketball team continued on its unbeaten trek, doubling King & Queen’s tally last Friday with a lopsided 64-34 victory.
Ricky Gibson and Tyler Colding led Lancaster’s scorers with a combined 35 points. Gibson scored 20 points. Colding hit three three-pointers and scored 15.
The Red Devils led by five at the end of the first quarter and then blew the game open with a 22-4 run in the second quarter to go up 37-14 at the half. The Devils put up another seven unanswered in the third to put the game out of reach.
Lancaster will take a two-week holiday and resume play on Tuesday, January 8, with its Northern Neck District opener at Washington & Lee.

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Dominion Virginia Power employees Keith Homza, Cathy Vick and Jeff Long clear a section of a trail.

Trail restoration progresses at Voorhees Natural Preserve

The beautiful views and trails at the Voorhees Natural Preserve at Oak Grove in Westmoreland County will remain closed over the holidays, but it's a giant step closer to opening, thanks to a little help from some friends, according to Dominion Virginia Power media/community relations manager Bonita B. Harris.

As part of Dominion's annual "Putting Our Energy to Work for the Environment" program, 15 employees joined volunteers from the Nature Conservancy and the Student Conservation Organization, said Harris. They spent several hours restoring trails, rebuilding a marshland bridge and installing erosion barriers.

Hurricanes Irene and Sandy destroyed many of the preserve's trails and made impassable a 300-foot-long bridge that spans tidal marshes, said Harris. The 729 acres is home

to bald eagles and many other species.

The preserve is scheduled to re-open in the spring.

The Dominion Foundation, Dominion Virginia Power's philanthropic arm, provided \$2,500 for materials and supplies to complete the work, added Harris.



Mike Bartos, a Dominion Virginia Power retiree, hangs a trail marker.



From left are Wardell Carter, Jean Nelson, Carroll Ashburn, Margaret Nost, Tom Gosse, Sissy Crowther, Connie Deagle and Joe Curry.

Rotary spotlights its award winners

The Northern Neck Rotary Club recently honored the alumni of its annual Community Service Awards.

For 11 years the Northern Neck Rotary has recognized and honored a member of the Lancaster or Northumberland community who exemplifies service through leadership, hard work, and giving to benefit the quality of life of those in need and the quality of life in the Northern Neck, reported Rotary member Kim McManus.

They were recognized for living the Rotary Motto "Service above Self." Each of them said that "it's not about me, it's about my program."

However, as Rotary member Roy Cameron noted, "In a real way it is about these individuals without whom their organizations would not be as viable or indeed may not exist today."

At the Rotary breakfast November 28, eight alums were surprised with a plaque bearing their names to further declare and remember their good works to the community, said McManus. The plaque was enshrined at Lee's Restaurant in Kilmarnock where the Rotary meets weekly on Wednesdays for breakfast meetings.

Among award winners:

- Joe Curry was recognized for his outstanding service through the Interfaith Service Council serving Lancaster and Northumberland counties.
- Carroll Ashburn was and is the face of so many activities in the area. His service to the youth program at Dreamfields, keeper of treasure at the Kilmarnock Museum,

and organizer of the Kilmarnock Christmas Parade are but a few the ways he serves the community.

- Doug Monroe was recognized for his efforts on behalf of Virginia Quality Life. The organization provided the campus and buildings for the Northern Neck Free Health Clinic, the Northern Neck Family YMCA, Rappahannock General Hospital Rehab Center, American Red Cross/River Counties Chapter and the YMCA/Wiley Child Development Center.
- Jean Nelson is the executive director the free health clinic. Her tireless efforts were a driving force in growing a small program to a complete health service organization providing quality health care for those in need.
- Connie Deagle is the nurse manager of the RGH Cancer Center. She goes above and beyond in leading a group of staff who raise significant funds to help indigent patients not only to pay for life saving drugs but also with those living necessities made more complicated and less affordable due to their illness.
- Tom Gosse served tirelessly on many Northern Neck service boards and initiatives providing leadership during the organizational and growing phases creating needed services with particular emphasis on the youth. Because of his efforts the organizations remain viable today.
- Dr. "Rocky" Tingle was recognized for setting the example as a country doctor. Even with modern advances and in a time when most

Speedway adds pro late model division

Officials at Virginia Motor Speedway in Jamaica recently announce the Fastrak Pro Late Models have been added to the Virginia Army National Guard Dirt Series for the 2013 season.

The new division will join the Victory Lap Late Models, Truckin Thunder Sportsman, Budweiser Modifieds and the Collision One Limited Stock divisions in action each week.

"Stan Lester and his staff at Fastrak have developed a proven and track tested product that we feel will enhance our racing at Virginia Motor Speedway and also give competitors a cost effective way to go late model racing," said track owner Bill Sawyer.

For 2013 the pro late models will compete in a race within a race as they will be paired with the track's very successful late mode division.

Both divisions will race at the same time with there being a winner each week.

"I can't say how happy I am to have Virginia Motor Speedway sign on as our newest Fastrak Pro Late Model sanctioned track, the facility is one of the finest in the country and I look forward to building on the tremendous relationship we have with the speedway forged through our Ultimate Super Late Model Series," said Fastrak Companies International owner and founder Stan Lester.

The speedway is accepting registrations for the 2013 season. The top 20 in each class from 2012 will have their number saved until February 15 when all numbers will become first come first served. Competitors can obtain a form at vamosportspeedway.com or 758-1867.

CLUB GOLF

King Carter men

King Carter Golf Club men's play day winners for December 10 were first, Carroll Craig; second, Andy Kauders; and third, (tie) Klaus Schaschek and Jon Baer. Winners for December 12 were first, Bruce Adams; second, Schaschek; and third, (tie) Steve Craig and Tony Sica. Winners for December 14 were first, Steve Criag; second, Butch Miller; and third, (tie) Sica and Schaschek.

Quinton Oaks men

The Quinton Oaks Senior Men's League first flight winners for December 11 were first, Judd Richards; second, (tie) Cabot Caskie, Don Mat-

thews and David Mitchell. Second flight winners were first, Marion Dongieux; second, Larry Lumley; and third, (tie) Norman Hammer and Rich Sellman.



Rappahannock Record
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HealthLine: Holiday Survival Guide to Keep the Weight Off

Content provided by Jennifer Miller, Rappahannock General Hospital registered dietitian

1. Before parties, drink a tall glass of water or enjoy a small snack, 100 calories or less, to help curb hunger so you don't go overboard with the party food.
2. Don't bring home leftovers from parties or dinners.
3. Give yourself a break this year and bake less. Remove temptation by having fewer baked goods around during the holiday.
4. Try to fill half the space on your plate with vegetables and them before starches and proteins.
5. Make fruit desserts. Using fresh fruit in your holiday desserts can help you get essential nutrients and fiber, while cutting back on excess calories and fat.
6. Substitute healthy ingredients in your cooking.
7. Limit alcohol intake. If you choose to drink, stick with a low calorie beer, or use diet sodas and light juices as mixers.
8. Take a walk.
9. Be proactive. Don't wait until the New Year to make

- a resolution. Start now and set a simple goal of a five-pound weight loss, or maintaining current weight.
 10. Find a friend who would like to lose weight and support each other through the holidays.
 11. Be active. Have fun and celebrate the holidays in a way that is most meaningful to you, which for a lot of people is spending time with friends and family. Instead of a meal, try planning other parties, events and activities. Twister anyone?
 12. Don't stress out if you go overboard over the holiday. It's not the end of the world, as long as you're mindful of controlled healthy eating and getting enough exercise throughout the rest of the year.
- For information about medical procedures available in Kilmarnock and the surrounding areas, physician information, specialty classes, and community resources available in our area call the RGH HealthLine 435-8010.

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From left are (front row) John McDermott of Gloucester County, Jesse Phelps of Middlesex County, Alex Anderson of Mathews County and Sarah Lacombe of Gloucester County; (next row) Devin Ball of Westmoreland County, Chris Kuykendall of Northumberland County, Tina Kidd of Richmond County and Kurt Schwindt of Gloucester County.

Culinary arts students stage 'Hunger Games'

On December 6, Rappahannock Community College's culinary arts students took their final exam to a public forum with a "Hunger Games" presentation open to all RCC students, staff, and faculty.

Eight budding chefs created several desserts which were then awarded to the audience

by a drawing. They created pumpkin bread pudding with spicy apple caramel sauce, lemon tart with a mint and raspberry coulis, triple chocolate mini-cakes with creme anglais and vanilla mousse cheesecake.

Chef Hatley Bright, culinary arts program coordina-

tor and instructor, said she selected dessert preparation as part of the final exam because it was an area in which the students had little prior experience.

At the conclusion of the "Games," Bright's class received certificates recognizing their participation.

RCC Education Foundation launches 'Opportunity 2013!'

In its mission to provide the most affordable way for area residents to improve their lives through education, Rappahannock Community College helps individuals get valuable training for a better job, earn a career certificate, or achieve an associate degree either as a stand-alone credential or as preparation for a bachelor's.

With state funding for community colleges dropping and tuition costs rising, more people are looking for financial aid and scholarship awards before enrolling. To meet this need, the RCC Educational Foundation (RCC/EFI) recently launched its annual giving campaign, "Opportunity 2013!"

"As you carefully consider where you will invest your

dollars this year, please think first of 'Opportunity 2013!'" said RCC president Elizabeth H. "Sissy" Crowther. "Since 2006, the college has enrolled 54% more credit students, doubled its nursing enrollments, established new programs, and automatically transferred students under its 38 guaranteed admission agreements with four-year universities.

"With similar vigor, RCC's Workforce Development Centers have served thousands of individuals and area businesses—such as our 14 school systems, local health and finance companies, and Canon Virginia—with customized classes," continued Dr. Crowther. "We have fully renovated both campuses and

opened sites in Kilmarnock and New Kent." Concludes Crowther, "We are utilizing your investment beautifully."

"Your gift to 'Opportunity 2013!' can also benefit you by lowering your taxes," said RCC/EFI executive director Victor Clough. A gift of stock shares (if owned by you for more than a year) qualifies for the same deduction as a cash gift, while avoiding tax on the capital gain and preserving your cash for other uses.

"Opportunity 2013!" has the goal of raising more than \$60,000 before its closing date of April 30, 2013. Contributions can be made at Rappahannock.edu, or make checks payable to RCC/EFI and mail to P.O. Box 923, Warsaw, VA 22572.

High school representatives attend learning session at RCC

Recent meetings at Rappahannock Community College in Glens and in Warsaw allowed RCC administrators to share information with area high school principals and counselors about dual enrollment and other educational opportunities the college makes available.

RCC vice president of instruction and student development

Dr. Donna Alexander welcomed the guests—with support from president Dr. Elizabeth Crowther in Warsaw. RCC dean of student development Anne Kornegay led moderated a panel discussion on guaranteed admission agreements, with special reference to RCC's 38 agreements with four-year schools. Panelists were Regenia Hill, the regional director and site director of Old Dominion University's distance learning program; Katreena Arnold, an academic advisor from Mary Baldwin College; Seth Sykes, the associate vice provost of academic services at Virginia Commonwealth University; and Charles Tate, the University of Mary Washington's assistant dean of admissions.

After a break for lunch, Kornegay explained the process of placement testing in Virginia. RCC dual enrollment coordinator Petie Norris outlined the benefits of the dual enrollment program and explained some of RCC's academic policies and procedures.

In Warsaw, Colonial Beach High School was represented by Clint Runyan and Michelle Wells; Essex High by Shannon Bryant; King and Queen Central High by Vera Steward; King George High by Kristine Hill and Robin Mitchell; King William High by Tracey Martin and Jennifer Perry; Lancaster High by Jamie Bradd, Barbara Smith, and Lori Watrous; Mathews High by Leslie Hunley; Northumberland by Jacqueline Samuel; Rappahannock High by Jesse Boyd and Lexi Brown; and St. Margaret's School by Sheri Gross.

In Glens, Charles City High School was represented by Melanie Ann Piercy; Chesapeake Bay Governor's School, Diane Pollard; Chrischurch School, Elana

Roseberry; Gloucester High, Layton Beverage, Matthew Lord and Kathleen Zannette; King and Queen Central High, Bernard Davis and Vera Steward; King William High, Stacey Johnson; Mathews High, Katelyn Dodge, Albert Green and Renee Johnson; Middlesex High, Anne Baltrusaitis, Michael Cromartie and Kathy Page; New Kent High, Yvonne Jones and Jennifer Smethurst; Northern Neck Technical Center, Deborah Hughes; Northumberland High, David Dixon and Brian Zobel; Washington and Lee High, Carmen Crisco and Andrea Roane; and West Point High, Jillanna Daniel, Mark Dorsey and Linda Minor.



Alumni play Santa

Shirley Davis of the Bank Lancaster accepts toys from Norm Smith, president of the Lower Northern Neck Alumni Chapter of the College of William and Mary, for their Golden Santa program. The toys were donated by chapter members at their recent holiday party.

SCHOOL REPORTS

■ Essay contest

The Virginia State Bar (VSB) recently announced its annual Law in Society essay contest. High school students are invited to submit essays by February 13 for a chance to win the competition and cash prizes. Contest rules are posted at vsb.org/site/public/law-in-society/.

The contest asks students to imagine they are a legislative aide and write a law that addresses the following:

"Recent news reports have detailed attempts by students to intimidate or torment teachers with disparaging Internet postings. Some of these postings include fake web sites and profiles, false accusations of inappropriate behavior, or attempts to encourage other students to join in disruptive actions aimed at a teacher. Your job as a legislative aide is to draft a law that would make such postings illegal and then write a report to a General Assembly committee advocating for the law. In your report you should anticipate the arguments of those who oppose the law and address those arguments."

■ Music scholarships

Lions Club will host the Bland Music Scholarship competition at 2 p.m. February 3 at Rappahannock Westminster-Canterbury (RW-C). The Lions of Virginia Bland Music Scholarship Foundation Inc. provides performing opportunities as well as scholarships to gifted music students.

As much as \$18,000 is provided to finalists for college tuition, music lessons, summer music programs or other music education endeavors. To register, call Pam Kidwell at 436-1905.

■ Nurse aides

Seven students recently completed the course requirements for Rappahannock Community College's Warsaw Campus nurse aide program. Graduates were Pamela Coleman, Micole Dabney, Sherika Turner and Shannon Morris of Essex County and LaTasha Lucas, Blondell Rosier and Stephanie Dirolf of Colonial Beach.

New classes will be organizing soon, contact nurse aide program director Karen Taliaferro at 333-6875, or ktaliaferro@rappahannock.edu.

■ Nurturing program

The Middle Peninsula Northern Neck Community Services Board Prevention Services Division will conduct a 15-week educational series of the Nurturing Parenting Program for Parents and their Children ages 5-11 years. The classes will be held in Lancaster County from 6 to 8:30 p.m. Thursdays, January 10, through April 23.

The program is designed to increase family communication, cooperation, closeness and respect. Parents and children will meet separately and together. The registration deadline is January 17. For class location, call 642-5402, or 1-888-773-8550.

■ Poultry clinic

All current 4-H Club members are invited to a Poultry Clinic from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. January 12 at Hillcrest Baptist Church at 11342 Hillcrest Road in Mechanicsville. A \$5 fee, payable at the door, includes lunch. Pre-register by January 4. Call 746-1908.

Guest speakers include Westmoreland County Livestock 4-H Club member Joey Griffin, who will present "Breed Genetics for Game Bantams."

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Dawn DeShay Mosley

Mosley earns master's degree

Dawn Mosley of Richmond graduated December 8 from Virginia Commonwealth University with a master's from the School of Allied Health in rehabilitation counseling.

Mosley graduated in 2006 with a major in psychology. She is a 2002 graduate of Lancaster High School.

She is the daughter of Hilda Thomas of Mollusk and Clarence Thomas of Kilmarnock. She and her husband have made Richmond their home.



A tradition of sharing

Some 41 years ago, Allison's Ace Hardware opened its doors to serve the Northern Neck's hardware needs. The very next Christmas, the store started a tradition of giving back and sharing with the community. From left, Mary Stalnaker and Jane Bryant are among the Ace employees who will make home visits this Christmas season to deliver holiday bags filled with food, fruit and special items to area friends.

BUSINESS BRIEFS

■ Ribbon-cutting

EVb, a community bank serving commercial and personal banking customers in Eastern Virginia for more than a century, will host a ribbon-cutting ceremony Tuesday, January 8, to celebrate the opening of a new Colonial Heights branch at 3012 Boulevard.

The event is scheduled to begin at 10 a.m. and local residents are urged to attend, said EVB president and chief executive officer Joe A. Shearin. Many local business and civic leaders who took part in the development of the new branch have also been invited.

■ DMV Center closed

All Virginia Department of Motor Vehicles full-service customer service centers will be closed for the Christmas holiday December 22 through 26. Customer services centers will reopen Thursday, December 27.

DMV offices also will be closed for the New Year's holiday December 31 and January 1. DMV offices will reopen January 2, 2013.

■ Job workshops

Upcoming Virginia Employment Commission workshops include Health, Nutrition and Budgeting at 2 p.m. December 20.

The workshops will be held at the VEC Workforce Center at 14243 Historyland Highway in Warsaw.

■ Top ranking

Virginia has climbed to the top rank in regulatory environment for business in the annual Forbes "Best States for Business" survey released this month. The survey cited Virginia's "strong incentive offerings" and "business friendly government policies."

Virginia's overall rank among "Best States for Business" was #2, coming in among the top 5 states in half of the categories considered in the annual study and in the top half of states in all categories.

■ NARFE meeting

The Northern Neck Chapter 1823 of the National Active and Retired Federal Employees (NARFE) Association will meet at 1 p.m. January 8 at Cobham Park Baptist Church at 120 Islington Road in Warsaw.

Kay Hawkins will present "Exercise for a Long Life." Current, former and retired federal employees, spouses and survivor annuitants are invited. The executive board will meet at noon.

■ Stay informed

Follow Virginia Farm Bureau on social networks. Become a farm follower—keep up with Virginia's largest farm advocacy group at twitter.com/VaFarmBureau, facebook.com/VaFarmBureau, and youtube.com/VaFarmBureau.



Brent Heath

Bulb farm contributes to projects

Brent Heath of Brent and Becky's Bulbs donated large quantities of bulbs for two projects in the Northern Neck.

Bulbs were given for the Gloria Goodman Athletic Field gardens at Dreamfields and for the Blue Star memorial garden in Lancaster, said Master Gardener Judy Ripley.

The expansive Gloria Goodman gardens are in the process of being revamped by the junior scouts of Troop 3202.

"This troop has been revamping the large entrance gardens for the last year," said Ripley, a member of the Rappahannock Garden Club which has assisted in this process.

According to Ripley, the girls were given instruction in landscape design and have been working their way through cleaning out the vastly overgrown gardens and are reorganizing the plant material. The large numbers of bulbs will be planted by the troop before Christmas.

Bulbs also were donated by Heath for the Blue Star Memorial garden at Trinity Episcopal Church. The garden on Route 3, renamed the Blue Star Memorial Highway, is a project of the Rappahannock Garden Club and has expanded to include shrubs, grasses and spring flowering bulbs.

Blue Star Memorials are a Federated Garden Club project to honor those who have served and are currently serving in the defense of the country.

Fisheries commission takes action to tighten net on menhaden catch

BALTIMORE—The Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission (ASMFC) last Friday approved Amendment 2 to the Interstate Fishery Management Plan for Atlantic Menhaden.

The amendment establishes a 170,800 metric ton total allowable catch (TAC) by both the reduction fishery, conducted by Omega Protein in Reedville, and the bait fisheries, conducted by other third parties, beginning in 2013 and continuing until completion of, and board action on, the next benchmark stock assessment, scheduled for 2014.

The TAC represents a 20% reduction from the average of landings from 2009-11 and an approximately 25% reduction from 2011 levels.

The board also adopted new biological reference points for biomass based on maximum spawning potential (MSP), with the goal of increasing abundance, spawning stock biomass, and menhaden availability as a forage species.

"Through the selection of the MSP-based reference points, beginning with adoption of Addendum V in 2011 and continuing today, the board has made a conscious decision to address the ecosystem services provided by Atlantic

menhaden," said chairman Louis Daniel of North Carolina.

"Given the stock is experiencing overfishing and is most likely overfished based on the newly adopted reference points, it was incumbent upon the board to reduce landings in order to ensure the long-term sustainability of the resource and the fisheries that depend on it," he said.

"Omega Protein has been fishing these Atlantic waters for a century and no one is more interested in the sustainability of the resource than we are. However, we are disappointed by the ASMFC's decision to adopt these harvest reductions," said Bret D. Scholtes, chief executive officer of Omega Protein, in a news release. "There is significant scientific consensus that the most recent assessment of the Atlantic menhaden stock has a negative bias that underestimates the population. We therefore believe these measures are premature, if not wholly unnecessary."

"Omega Protein remains committed to participating in future management actions," he said, "and remains hopeful for a more science-based decision making process that preserves both the menhaden resource and the working

communities whose economies are sustained by the menhaden fishery."

Omega is one of the Northern Neck's largest employers.

The new amendment allocates the TAC on a state-by-state basis based on landings history of the fishery from 2009-2011; allocation will be revisited three years after implementation. Further, it reduces the Chesapeake Bay reduction fishery harvest cap by 20% (this is an adjustment of cap which was in place since 2006).

The ASMFC action must be adopted by the individual states and the matter will come before the Virginia General Assembly next month.

States will be required to close their fisheries when the state-specific portion of the TAC has been reached; any overages must be paid back the following year.

The amendment includes provisions to allow for the transfer of quota between states and a bycatch allowance of 6,000 pounds for non-directed fisheries that are operating after a state TAC has been landed.

The amendment also establishes requirements for timely reporting and improved biological monitoring.

Program will provide training for marine tourism

The Chesapeake Heritage Program will provide training for watermen currently conducting tours for visitors, including one day at the Reedville Fishermen's Museum, and one on-water day in the spring, she said. At the conclusion of the program, the watermen will receive a certificate of completion from RCC.

Training will be provided at no cost to the participants and will be developed by Coastal Heritage Alliance and Rappahannock Community College, said Northern Neck Tourism Commission (NNTC) tourism coordinator Lisa Hull. The pilot program is limited to 12 participants. Applications will be accepted through January 1, and are available at nnpdc.org, or call 333-1919.

The pilot program will take place in February in Kilmarnock and consist of three days

of classroom instruction by watermen currently conducting tours for visitors, including one day at the Reedville Fishermen's Museum, and one on-water day in the spring, she said. At the conclusion of the program, the watermen will receive a certificate of completion from RCC.

Other organizations involved in producing the pilot program include the Northern Neck Planning District Commission, Northern Neck Chesapeake Bay Region Partnership, Chesapeake Environmental Communications and the Virginia Watermen's Association.

In addition to a desire to share the watermen's experience, participants must pos-

sess a current commercial fishing license, have no pending or outstanding violations with the Virginia Marine Resources Commission and ownership or unrestricted access to a vessel large enough to take tours of four or more people, said Hull.

To assist the watermen in informing the traveling public

of this new tourism product, NNTC has been awarded a Marketing Leverage Grant by the Virginia Tourism Corporation for \$10,000. To undertake an advertising campaign in the spring, she said. With training and advertising, watermen completing the program will be well-positioned to provide on-water tours to visitors.

SCC okays water rates

Following a 10-month review, the Virginia State Corporation Commission (SCC) has issued an order that approves new rates for Virginia American Water's 58,000 customers in the City of Alexandria, the City of Hopewell, a portion of Prince George County in the Hopewell District, a portion of Prince William County, and the Eastern District service area in and around Virginia's Northern Neck.

The need for a rate increase is based primarily on an estimated \$12.8 million in infrastructure improvements the utility has made since 2010 to enhance water service, according to president William Walsh. These improvements include water main replacement/reinforcement projects in the Alexandria, Hopewell and Prince William County service districts

as well as equipment purchases and replacement in the Eastern District.

As permitted by the SCC, on July 12, Virginia American Water put into effect the rates it proposed when it filed the rate request in February. The rates approved by the SCC are lower than those requested. As a result, Virginia American Water customers will see a lower rate on their next water bills. In addition, Virginia American Water will refund the difference in the rate charged since July 12, plus interest, through a credit on customers' bills.

New rates effective immediately in the Eastern District, based on a bi-monthly average of 8,000 gallons, total \$123.06, an increase of \$14.62 every two months.



Santa visits RGH

Santa and his helpers recently visited Rappahannock General Hospital patients and employees. From left are Mrs. Claus, the Christmas Elf, Dr. June Daffeh and Santa.

Property rights amendment will take effect on January 1

For private property rights advocates in Virginia, the wait is almost over. An amendment to the state Constitution approved by voters November 6 will take effect January 1, 2013.

"We've placed property rights where they belong, and that's in the Constitution of Virginia," said Trey Davis, assistant director of governmental relations for Virginia Farm Bureau Federation.

Farm Bureau was an active supporter of the amendment, which is intended to prevent the abuse of eminent domain in taking privately owned land. The amendment has four components, the most significant of which is an assurance that private property cannot be taken unless it is for a legitimate public use.

"It can't be just to increase tax revenue or for economic development," said Davis.

The amendment also ensures that land cannot be taken without just compensation to the owner, and that no more property is taken than is necessary.

Farm Bureau worked with a coalition of landowner rights and private property rights advocates to promote the amendment to state lawmakers and then to voters. On November 27, Gov. Bob McDonnell toasted Farm Bureau producer members with Virginia sparkling cider at the VFBF annual convention to celebrate the amendment's approval.

"I don't think it would have happened without the efforts of Farm Bureau," said Gov. McDonnell.

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