

Rappahannock Record

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75¢ Volume 99 No. 9

Thursday, December 3, 2015

www.rrecord.com



Kilmarnock illuminates Steptoe's District

Kilmarnock residents, council members and staff gathered November 24 at the Town Hall, 1 North Main Street, to illuminate the town Christmas tree and the Steptoe's District. The annual ceremony also recognized donors of banners and hanging baskets around town. More coverage appears on page A2 . Photo by Renss Greene



White Stone ornament

Lower Northern Neck is represented on the governor's holiday tree

RICHMOND—When the Christmas tree is lighted in the ballroom of the Executive Mansion in Richmond, three handmade ornaments from the lower Northern Neck will hang from its boughs.

The theme for the 2015 tree is “Celebrating Virginia’s Localities” and the Virginia Municipal League and Virginia Association of Counties were asked to assist in collecting ornaments from Virginia’s 38 cities, 191 towns and 95 counties.

White Stone, Kilmarnock and Lancaster answered the call.

The White Stone Town Council decided in September to participate and town manager Patrick Frere delivered the town ornament to the Executive Mansion on November 16.

The ornament, handmade by Ernie George of White Stone, features a 4-inch by 4-inch red crab pot, complete with a float and a blue crab inside, said Frere. Jeff Cherry, owner of Allure Art Center in White Stone, designed a town seal attached to the crab pot.

The Rappahannock Art League, Town of Kilmarnock and Lancaster

County partnered with a contest to pick two ornaments.

“Through a contest, two winning ornaments were selected to represent Kilmarnock and Lancaster County,” said Kilmarnock deputy town manager Susan Cockrell.

Representing Kilmarnock is “Queen of the Holly Realm,” a three-dimensional ornament created by Nancy Hubbard Clark of Kilmarnock. It is a wooden ornament that depicts the Holly Ball Queen, seated on her throne and holding her scepter. Her skirt is made of fabric.

The Lancaster County ornament is a hand-hooked wool oyster, complete with a pearl created by Helene Braatz, also of Kilmarnock. It is a great representation of the symbol of a healthy Chesapeake Bay, said Cockrell.

The Executive Mansion officially opens for the holidays following the lighting of the Capitol Christmas Tree tonight, December 3, with an open house for the public from 6 to 7:30 p.m. The tree will be available to view at that time as well as during four hours throughout the holidays.



Kilmarnock ornament



Lancaster ornament

14 to debut at 120th Holly Ball on December 28

The Holly Ball Committee recently announced the names of 14 young ladies who will be presented at the 120th Holly Ball, beginning at 7 p.m. December 28 at Indian Creek Yacht and Country Club.

The annual Holly Ball, the fund-raising charitable arm supporting The Tidewater Foundation, was pleased to make a variety of contributions in 2015 and to many worthy entities in and around the Northern Neck and Tidewater areas, reported publicity committee member Amy Humphreys.

The committee delights in observing these young ladies embrace a time-honored tradition and mission of preserving a philanthropic legacy of giving back, said Humphreys. The events hosted by the debutantes during the festive holiday season unite these young women and foster a spirit of altruistic advocacy.

They also inspire the formation of new and genuine lifelong friendships among likeminded women who

wholeheartedly endorse returning gifts bestowed upon them to charitable organizations, she said.

Miss Hannah Ellery Kellum of Farnham will reign as Queen of the Holly Realm. Miss Kellum, a student at Christopher Newport University, is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Ralph Gray Barrack Jr. of Farnham and Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Ellery Kellum of Weems.

Debutantes to be presented are Miss Peyton Teal Brady, a student at Christopher Newport University, the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Milo Avery Brady of Colonial Heights; Miss Kallie Marie Carson, a student at Virginia Tech, the daughter of Mr. Scott Bradley Carson of Tappahannock and Mr. and Mrs. David Asher Jones of Tappahannock; and Miss Haley Nicole Dull, a student at Randolph-Macon College, the daughter of Ms. Charlotte George Dull of Kilmarnock and Mr. Richard Barron

14 TO DEBUT, continued on page A2



Lancaster County debutantes, from left, are Corinna Jo Ireland, Haley Nicole Dull, Kyndall Susanne James, Jaclyn Marie Humphreys and Le'Aria Domanique Kelley.

Record now collecting Santa letters

The Rappahannock Record will publish letters to Santa in the December 23 issue.

Deliver letters to the Record office by December 14. If letters are written as a class project, teachers are urged to submit them by December 10.

Letters should be written with a dark pencil or ink and include the child's name, age and hometown. Parents, teachers and others are asked to make certain the letters are legible. Please include the teacher's first and last names with class submissions.

The letters should be short and concise so Santa can read them quickly.

Email letters to editor@rapprecord.com, send to Rappahannock Record, P.O. Box 400, Kilmarnock, VA 22482, fax to 435-2632, or deliver them to the Record office at 27 North Main Street. There is a delivery slot in the front door for after-hours submissions.



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27 N. Main St., P.O. Box 400
Kilmarnock, VA 22482-0400
804-435-1701
Fax: 804-435-2632
www.RRRecord.com

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General Managers
Robert D. Mason Jr., Editor

J.E. Currell, Publisher, 1927-1993

Published weekly except Christmas week at Kilmarnock, Lancaster Co., VA
Periodicals Postage Paid at Kilmarnock, VA 22482 and additional mailing offices.
Postmaster: Send address changes to the Rappahannock Record, P.O. Box 400, Kilmarnock, VA 22482-0400

Subscriptions (payable in advance): \$27 per year in the Northern Neck and Middlesex County; \$37 per year elsewhere. Single copy: \$.75. Visit website for E-edition.

Member: Virginia Press Association and National Newspaper Alliance

Printed on recycled paper.

All items submitted for publication are subject to inclusion in digital or other electronic formats for use in other Rappahannock Record products.

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Kilmarnock holds illumination ceremony

KILMARNOCK—Kilmarnock hosted the sixth illumination of the town Christmas tree and Steptoe's District on November 25.

The ceremony included a reception in the Town Hall, 1 North Main Street, followed by the lighting of the tree streetside.

Mayor Mae Umphlett welcomed council members, staff and citizens to the annual event. Council member Becky Nunn read a list of banners and hanging baskets donated to the town in honor or memory of loved ones.

The 37th annual Kilmarnock Lighted Christmas Parade, sponsored by the Lancaster by the Bay Chamber of Commerce, will be held at 7 p.m. December 11. The theme is "Old Fashioned Christmas."

Pre-parade activities start with music and refreshments along Main Street at 5:30 p.m. Santa will visit children from 5:30 to 6:30 p.m. at Kilmarnock Volunteer Fire Department Firehouse, 71 School Street, Kilmarnock.

Banner recognition

Following is the roll of banner honorees, including the names of those who so honored their loved ones:

In honor of Bertha Bonner who made many holidays beautiful, by Steve Bonner and family.

In memory of C. Irwin Clark III and Charles W. Hubbard Jr., by Nancy Hubbard Clark.

In memory of Mr. and Mrs. John R. Cockrell, by Glenn

Cockrell.

In memory of J. Emory Currell, The Rappahannock Record, by Bettie Lee Gaskins.

In memory of W. Francis Davis, by Ann and Sherry Gill.

In memory of our father, G.C. Dawson, by Danny, Carolyn, Helen Marie and Geneva.

In memory of Dr. Broadus Gravatt and Mrs. Dimple Gravatt, by Emerson Gravatt.

In memory of Dr. Melvin B. Lamberth Jr., by Mrs. Melvin B. Lamberth Jr. and family.

In memory of our beloved parents, Mr. and Mrs. Foster Lee, who taught us the importance of faith in God and a strong work ethic, by Lee's Restaurant: Gerry, Bill and Steve.

In memory of Tucker McLaughlin, by Martha McLaughlin.

In memory of Charles H. Milton, by Carolyn Delano.

In memory of James and Rosalyn Nelson, Pat Lawler.

In memory of Garland and Dorothy Lee Norris, by Raymond and Sharon Booth.

In memory of Michael Tebbis Nunn, by Albert and Rebecca Nunn.

In memory of John "Sandy" Quillan, by Helen, Gladys and Chase.

In memory of L.P. Schools Sr., by Cindy Schools Collins and family.

In memory of Marilyn B. Smith, by Dr. Curtis H. Smith.

In memory of Stuart and Laura



Peyton James Jones got his start in public life as this year's tree lighting emcee even before being born. From left are expectant parents public works manager P.J. Jones and Jessica Jones.

Tebbs, from Lee and Becky.

In memory of David Trent, by Carol Fletcher and the family.

In memory of E.E. and Marie Trent, by children and grandchildren.

In memory of Ryan Wilcox, by mother and dad. In memory of Scotty Jones, by Julia Lynn Jones.

In memory of John A. Kessler, by Catherine S. Kessler (now deceased) and sons.

In memory of Henri B. Chase Jr. and Margaret George Chase, by Admiral and Mrs. Henri B. Chase III.

In memory of Joe Non-nemacker, by Mary Anne Non-nemacker.

In memory of Will Shepherd, by Pat Shepherd and his loving family.

In memory of Mr. and Mrs. George W. Noblett Jr., by Molly N. Stephens and Sally N. Heyer.

In memory of Fred H. Swaffin III, by Charlotte and the Swaffin family.

In memory of Colonel and Mrs. William A. Nunn Jr., by Spike and Becky Nunn.

In memory of Ann Louise Bruse, wife of James C. Bruse and mother of Sue Ann and the Rev. James C. Bruse and in memory of James George Bruse, by Rev. James C. Bruse.

In memory of Elizabeth Rice Folger, by Pam (deceased) and Bill Keen.

In honor of the Shelton family, by Carole B. Shelton.

In memory of Meredith McKenney and Margaret McKenney, by Dr. Jimmie and Joan McKenney.

In memory of H.R. "Peck" Humphreys Jr., by Anita Cook and the Humphreys family.

In memory of G. R. Dunton Jr., by Margaret Gerrity.

In memory of Mike Che-

noweth, with love from Pat Chenoweth (deceased).

In memory of Eugene Garnett Mercer Jr. and Frances Smither Mercer, by Suzanne Mercer Bellows.

In memory of Tommy and Virginia Lee Sisson, by their daughter Joan Breeding.

In memory of Fletcher Brown Jr. and Marion P. Brown (better known as Ma), by Fletcher and Joyce Brown III.

In memory of Ben Hubbard, by Anne and David Cheek.

In memory of Frank McGinnes, by Anne and David Cheek.

In memory of Stanley Slate and Western Auto, by his daughters Sherry Slate Lawrence and Sue Slate Donaldson.

In memory of John C. Bellows Jr., by Suzanne Mercer Bellows.

In memory of Mr. and Mrs. John Henry Wayman and Bettie Currell Smither Wayman, by Suzanne Mercer Bellows.

In memory of Robert E. Crowther Jr. and Ruth Mitchell Crowther, by Robert E. Crowther III.

In loving memory of Top and Emma Mae Purcell, by Mae Umphlett and Tammy Crandall and family.

In memory of Edward J. Davis, Mayor of Kilmarnock, 1978-2002, by Peggy Davis.

In memory of Paul and Pauline

Neff, owners of the Ben Franklin in Kilmarnock, by Ann H. Cheek.

In memory of "Miss Millie" Mildred Jodrey, by Sylvia Saunders.

In memory of Howard R. Straughan Jr. and Joy C. Straughan for their devotion to Kilmarnock and their community, by the Kilmarnock Town Council.

In memory of Margaret Ann Saunders, by Tom, Sandy and Ann Saunders.

In memory of Henry and Marianne Bedell, by Mike Bedell.

Hanging baskets

Following is a list recognizing those who donated to the hanging basket campaign:

In memory of "Windsor Bonner," (our little dog that died in 2012) a little Kilmarnock celebrity to everyone that came to Kilmarnock Antique Gallery, by Steve Bonner and family.

In memory of Dr. A. Broadus Gravatt, by Emerson Gravatt (3-year sponsor).

In memory of Fred and Dorthy T. Burke, founders of Burke's Fine Jewelry, by Fred and Karen Burke (3-year sponsors).

In memory of Connie Davis Booth for her years of business in Kilmarnock, by Sue and Roger Donaldson.

In Memory of J. Emory Currell, by the Rappahannock Record (3-year sponsors).

Rappahannock Hang Ups, by Cindy Pittman (3-year sponsors). Clark B. Hall.

Jean LeBaron, my gift to the town.

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Water tower gets a facelift

Eric Henn, a professional muralist from Ohio, flashes a victory sign from atop a lift in Reedville after painting a bunker on the Reedville water tower. The Greater Reedville Association, led by water tower committee chairman P.D. O'Keefe, raised around \$10,000 for the water tower facelift. The design was donated by Matt Smith, chief executive officer of the advertising and social media firm SmithGifford. Photo by P.D. O'Keefe

Gallicchio found not guilty of rape

by Audrey Thomasson

LANCASTER—A former garden center employee was found not guilty on charges of rape following a day-long jury trial Monday in Lancaster County Circuit Court.

A jury of 10 women and two men reached the verdict after deliberating for one hour and 15 minutes.

Robert Gallicchio, 67, was acquitted of the crime that allegedly took place at his home on Chesapeake Drive in White Stone in August 2012. It was his second acquittal on felony sexual assault charges in seven months. In May, he was convicted on a lesser charge of misdemeanor assault and battery of an unrelated victim.

The complaining witness in the case testified her relationship with the defendant was “strictly platonic. He was a fellow veteran,” she said.

She told the court she was invited to the defendant’s house for dinner, but that she saw no evidence that food was being prepared. She and the defendant shared a couple of beers before Gallicchio produced a pipe of marijuana which she said tasted

“very strange...minty.”

“I’ve never tasted anything like that in my life,” she said. She couldn’t say whether the defendant smoked from the pipe.

She told Gallicchio she was hungry, so the two went into the kitchen where she said she began feeling “light-headed, off.” The last thing she remembered was leaning up against the kitchen table. She woke up at 4:44 a.m., naked and in bed with Gallicchio next to her. She quickly left.

Commonwealth’s Attorney Robert Cunningham argued that the woman at no time gave her consent to have sex. A former boyfriend testified that she called him for help early that morning and was hysterical. They contacted the sheriff’s department to report she may have been sexually assaulted. Lancaster investigators took her to St. Mary’s Hospital in Richmond for a sexual assault examination.

Investigator Bryan O’Bier testified that Gallicchio cooperated with a police search of his home later that same day. He read a long list of prescription drugs found in the home.

“This is every man’s night-

mare,” said defense attorney Jeffrey Matthews. “A rape that did not happen.”

Matthews argued that Gallicchio’s accuser was “...setting it up to make her ex-boyfriend jealous,” that there was no evidence of date-rapе drugs in her system and that the sex was consensual. He successfully prevented an expert witness on date rape drugs from testifying for the Commonwealth, saying no facts were entered into evidence that would support the theory, therefore, the testimony “...lets the jury run rampant.”

Judge Harry T. Taliaferro III agreed, saying testimony on date rape drugs by Dr. James Hutchings, a forensic toxicologist for the state, would be “too speculative.”

Gallicchio was the only witness for the defense. He stated he did not give his accuser any drugs, that at no time was she incoherent and that the sex was consensual.

Circuit Court Clerk Diane Mumford read the not guilty verdict at 6:15 p.m. At the request of the Commonwealth, Judge Taliaferro polled the jury on their decision. He dismissed Gallicchio’s bond and set him free.

Sheriff Wilkins issues scam alert

HEATHSVILLE—The Northumberland County Sheriff’s Office has been flooded with complaints of aggressive and threatening phone calls by criminals impersonating IRS agents.

Callers threaten police arrest, deportation, law suits, license revocation and other tactics to get money and personal identification information illegally, said Sheriff Chuck Wilkins.

One complainant was instructed to immediately go to Walmart and purchase a money gram for \$4,000 and to call back with the card numbers to avoid

arrest. The scammers are able to alter their caller identification to appear to be from the IRS and also make it difficult to trace, said Sheriff Wilkins.

The IRS lists the following warning signs:

- Demands for immediate payment.
- No chance to question or appeal the amount claimed to be owed.
- Requirements for specific payment means such as prepaid debit cards.
- Requests for credit or debit card numbers over the phone.

- Threats to call police to have folks arrested for no payment.

Citizens receiving such calls should report the incident to the Treasury Inspector General, 1-800-366-4484, or tigtga.gov.

Those who are unsure or know they owe should call the IRS, 1-800-829-1040.

Those who have sent money or given personal information or have been threatened physical harm should immediately call the sheriff’s office, 580-5221, or 911 if it is an emergency.

For more information visit irs.gov, or northumberlandsheriff.net.

SEA RESCUE REPORT

Smith Point Sea Rescue vice president Jim Bullard reported crews responded to the following calls for assistance in November:

November 9: At 11:30 a.m., a Reedville resident reported that his 32-foot Carver cabin cruiser was sinking at his dock. A rescue crew on duty in Reedville responded by truck with two pumps. They were able to re-float and secure the boat. Time on call, 1.5 hours.

November 11: At 8:20 a.m., the captain of a 32-foot Beneteau sailboat reported that his engine would not start. Rescue III was dispatched from Olverson’s Marina to Glebe Creek at Highland Point. The crew towed the vessel to White Point Marina for repairs. Time on call, 4 hours.

November 15: At 6:15 p.m., a distress call was received from the captain of a 42-foot Beneteau sailboat tangled in a gill net and unable to move. Rescue I was dispatched

from Reedville and found the vessel two miles east of the #2 buoy in the Great Wicomico River. Unable to cut him loose in the dark, the crew was able to tow the sailboat to Jennings Boatyard with the net still tangled in the rudder. Time on call, 3 hours.

November 22: At 10 a.m., the Northumberland County Sheriff reported the captain of a 30-foot sailboat with two people and a dog aboard in trouble in the mouth of the Potomac. He had lost his tiller and could not steer. Rescue I departed Reedville in high winds and rough seas. The crew searched but could not find the sailboat.

The captain later reported that he was able to craft a temporary tiller from material onboard and was able to motor into the Little Wicomico River and land at Cockrell’s Marine Railway. Seas became so rough that Rescue I also took shelter overnight in the Little Wicomico. Time on call, 24 hours.

Smith Point Sea Rescue can be reached on channel 16 or by calling 911. Rescue I and II are based on the Great Wicomico River and Rescue III is on Lodge Creek off the Yeocomico River.

Correction

Among the Tidewater Foundation’s community contributions recently mentioned in a news release and subsequent correction, a Scout troop was misidentified. Cub Scout Troop 222 was the recipient of the recent contribution.

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NEWS
BREAK

■ **Hometown Heroes**

The Town of Kilmarnock recently announced the return of “Celebrating Hometown Heroes.” Additional orders are now being taken for 2016. On display from Memorial Day weekend to Labor Day, each red, white and blue banner will honor a veteran, showing a photo, name and branch of service.

Each banner is \$100 and will hang in locations along Main Street. The photographs must be provided in electronic format. An order form may be found at kilmarnockva.com, or contact deputy town manager-community development Susan Cockrell at susancockrell@kilmarnockva.com, or 435-1552, ext. 25. The deadline is April 1, 2016.

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SHERIFFS’ REPORTS

Lancaster County Sheriff Ronnie Crockett reported charges against nine individuals for November 16 through December 1.

Felonies

Calvin J. Jackson, 32, of the 500 block of Nuttsville Road was charged November 19 with misdemeanor destruction of property; aggravated malicious wounding, abduction and kidnapping, breaking and entering with the intent to commit a felony while armed (all felonies); and misdemeanor violation of a protective order. He also was charged November 20 with felony eluding police in a Gloucester County case.

James H. Woodson, 54, of the 8000 block of River Road, was charged November 20 with felony probation/parole violation.

Shakeen D. Walker, 21, of Gas-kins Road was charged November 25 with felony probation violation.

Misdemeanors

A Carlson Road man, 30, was charged November 16 with contempt of court.

A Weems Road man, 20, was charged November 16 with reckless driving and operating an unregistered vehicle.

A Pine Drive man, 66, was charged November 21 with assault and battery.

A Carlson Road man, 25, was charged November 22 with reckless driving (20 mph over the speed limit), drunk driving, unreasonable refusal to submit to a blood/breath test second offense, carrying a concealed weapon, possession of marijuana, and expired state vehicle registration.

A River Road man, 61, was charged November 22 with destruction of property.

A Heron Drive man, 55, was charged November 27 on a Northumberland County charge of assault and battery.

Activity report

November 16: Staff responded to a trespass complaint on Johns Neck Road, to the Ottoman area on a complaint of a cable installation work crew being a hazard to motorists (deputy found that caution signs were in place to warn motorists), and to a domestic disturbance on Peirces Road.

November 17: Staff responded to a trespass complaint in the 2300 block of Regina Road (man’s wallet found on the property), and to a domestic disturbance in the 2500 block of Morattico Road (child custody argument between grandparents).

November 18: Staff referred to the Federal Aviation Administration a Saltwater Drive resident who had a complaint about a low-flying aircraft; responded to a possible disturbance involving a dismissed employee, to a single-vehicle traffic crash near Mary Ball and Goodluck roads, to the Lancaster County Health Department on a citizen’s complaint of phone calls not being answered (telephone line problem reported to the state agency), to a possible burglary on Shore View Drive (no damage/loss reported), to a burglary complaint in the 300 block of Chesapeake Drive (civil incident), to an attempted burglary on Grand Villa Drive (entry door destroyed; \$600 loss), to an assault in the 900 block of Morattico Road (arrest reported on Nov. 19); and received a complaint of a suspicious person in the employee parking lot at Walmart.

November 19: Staff responded to a suspicious person complaint behind a White Stone area convenience store (subject was napping in a parked car), to a trespass complaint on Paynes Creek Road, to a report from an off-duty Gloucester deputy of an intoxicated subject at a White Stone area convenience store (subject was gone on arrival; a delayed hit received 5 days later on the described license plate indicated it was stolen from Middlesex County), and to the 1100 block of Devils Bottom Road on a complaint of a wanted person repeatedly driving by the home looking for another subject (subject could not be located); attempted to locate in the Weems area a commercial vehicle that was leaking a large amount of oil as reported by a citizen; received a larceny report from a Gaines Road resident (Toyo Monitor heater; \$2,024 loss), a construction fraud report from an Old Orchard Drive resident (\$2,900

loss), an attempted fraud complaint from an Ottoman Ferry Road resident (complainant posted an item for sale on Craigslist; received a check for more than twice the sale price with instructions to refund the overpayment by check; no financial loss involved), and from a Bald Eagle Drive resident a complaint of annoying telephone calls.

November 20: Staff responded to the 2800 block of Crawfords Corner Road on a complaint of a disabled vehicle being parked on the highway (vehicle was gone on arrival), to a suspicious person complaint on South Main Street (subject was waiting for a ride from Northumberland County), to an attempted fraud complaint made by a Lovers Lane resident (complainant discovered his/her credit card statement open in the mailbox; credit card company was notified; no financial loss reported), to a suspicious person complaint in the 4400 block of Mary Ball Road (subject making temporary vehicle repair), to a minor vehicle crash on private property on North Main Street (driver’s and insurance information exchanged between the parties); encountered a vehicle fire on Hickory Hill Lane; notified Virginia Department of Transportation (VDOT) of a large game carcass being a traffic hazard near Merry Point and Buzzards Neck roads; received a burglary report from an Ottoman Ferry Road resident (exterior door; \$200 damages), received a complaint of a vehicle failing to stop for a school bus that was discharging students in the 6700 block of Mary Ball Road, and received a larceny complaint from the 1800 block of Windmill Point Road (complainant recovered the money on Nov. 21 and declined to prosecute).

November 21: Staff responded to a domestic disturbance in the 2900 block of Lara Road (dementia patient involved; no disturbance), to the 1100 block of Irvington Road on a report of a vehicle striking a propane tank and causing a gas leak, to the 7500 block of River Road on a complaint of unknown persons repeatedly ringing the doorbell, to a domestic disturbance on Woods Drive, to a domestic disturbance/destruction of property complaint in the 900 block of Griffins Landing Road (storm door; \$50 damages), and with emergency medical services (EMS) to a call on Ditchley Road; received a walk-in complaint of an assault (arrest reported above); encountered an abandoned vehicle parked on Rappahannock Drive (owner was contacted and the vehicle was removed); and notified the game warden of a trespass by hunters complaint on Bar Point Road.

November 22: Staff responded to a domestic disturbance in the 2500 block of Irvington Road; checked on the well-being of a Weems area resident who did not report to work as expected (no emergency services needed; subject left word that he/she would be late coming in); that message was not passed on); to a disturbance call at a funeral service on Merry Point Road involving a female who sprayed something that damaged the clothing of a male, and with Virginia State Police to a single-vehicle traffic crash in the 1600 block of Goodluck Road; and notified the game warden of a trespass by hunting complaint on River Bluff Road. VDOT of an 18-inch pothole repair needed in the 1700 block of Windmill Point Road, and Richmond County authorities of a domestic assault call on Cedar Grove Road.

November 23: Staff responded to a domestic disturbance in the 16500 block of Mary Ball Road, and to a mother/adult daughter domestic disturbance on Griffins Landing Road; assisted EMS in the 9800 block of Mary Ball Road; notified VDOT of a traffic light repair needed at South Main Street and Irvington Road; removed a ladder from the Robert O. Norris Jr. Memorial Bridge (numerous motorists’ complaints received); and received a walk-in complaint of credit card fraud (\$100 loss with additional losses possible).

November 24: Staff assisted Kilmarnock Police Department (KPD) with checking a North Main Street business when an open door was discovered about 1 a.m.; and responded to Lancaster Middle School on a

juvenile bullying complaint, to a suspicious person complaint in Lively (area checked; described person was not found), with KPD to a juvenile behavioral complaint on Dilvers Road, to a domestic assault call in the 300 block of Nuttsville Road, and to a domestic disturbance on Sandlin Drive.

November 25: Staff responded to a hunting complaint in the 300 block of Deepwater Drive (lawfully engaged duck hunting), with EMS to a medical emergency call on Old Saint Johns Road, to Ottoman Ferry Road on a motorist’s report of young children fighting, to a White Stone area convenience store on a report of an intoxicated person (EMS dispatched), and to a domestic disturbance in the 1700 block of Morattico Road; and received multiple reports of a power outage in the Lancaster area.

November 26: No reportable calls for service.

November 27: Staff responded to a mailbox vandalism complaint on Golden Tale Lane, to The Lane on a Reedville resident’s complaint of discovering the location of stolen property (the located property was determined not to have been stolen), to Lovers Lane for an assault by telephone threat complaint (prank call involved); received a walk-in complaint of an unusual item found; destroyed an injured game animal in the roadway on Slabtown Road.

November 28: Staff responded to a noise violation complaint on Kellum Drive, to a trespass complaint in the 600 block of Christ Church Road (domestic situation involved; subject gone on arrival), and to a trespass complaint on Southport Lane; received a residential burglary report from a Washington Street resident (Orion 32” TV; \$150 loss), and a larceny report from a Hale Drive resident (2004 Carolina skiff with Johnson 25 hp outboard motor; \$4,100 loss); and checked on the well-being of an Old Orchard Road resident at the request of a concerned citizen (no emergency services needed).

November 29: Staff responded to a motorist’s complaint of a pedestrian drinking in public and interfering with traffic near Mary Ball and White Chapel roads (subject was carrying a non-alcoholic beverage and was looking for an item lost along the road), with KPD to the area of Old Fairgrounds Way on a report of a possible suicidal person (subject located in the Weems area; no emergency services needed), and to a traffic crash near Mary Ball Road and Simmons Lane; received a complaint of a protective order violation (complainant to meet with the magistrate on Nov. 30); and checked on the well-being of a Johns Neck Road resident at the request of a concerned citizen (no emergency services needed).

November 30: Staff received a larceny report from Tabernacle Lane (20’ extension ladder; \$30 loss), a walk-in complaint of fraud (subject applied for an online loan; received an “approval” call but ultimately was “required to obtain money” totaling \$700 in “Money Grams” and “forward the account information” to the lender; fraud report filed), a larceny complaint from a White Stone area rental company (complainant declined to prosecute at this time), and a reckless driving complaint in the Lancaster area; responded to a larceny complaint in the 200 block of Newtown Road (no criminal incident; subject ordered two items, with one being delivered and the other yet to be shipped), to a reported single-vehicle traffic crash at Mary Ball and Regina roads (subject drove car into the ditch; second report received that a two-vehicle traffic crash was involved; fire and rescue dispatched but cancelled when no crash located); and notified VDOT of a game animal carcass that needed to be removed from Taylors Creek Road.

December 1: Staff responded to the 700 block of Nuttsville Road on a report of gun fire striking a residence (no damages or source of gun fire located). The sheriff’s staff also conducted 29 traffic stops, issued 11 summonses, assisted eight motorists, recorded 14 deer strike accidents, handled two calls for traffic control, investigated 13 building

alarms, processed two mental health orders, logged 14 inmate transports, received 23 E911 hangup calls and fielded two calls for animal control service.

Fire calls

Kilmarnock Volunteer Fire Department responded to separate traffic crashes in the 300 block of North Main Street, near Mary Ball and Goodluck roads, in the 1600 block of Goodluck Road, and near Mary Ball Road and Simmons Lane.

KVFD also responded to a propane tank struck by a vehicle/gas leak in the 1100 block of Irvington Road, with Upper Lancaster VFD to a vehicle fire on Hickory Hill Lane, and with White Stone VFD to a structure fire in the 800 block of Mosquito Point Drive.

Upper Lancaster VFD also responded to a furnace fire on Daniel Drive.

Northumberland Sheriff Chuck Wilkins this week reported charges against five individuals.

Felonies

Christopher Tyrone Jones, 26, of Kinsale was charged November 30 with grand larceny. The Essex County Sheriff’s Office served the warrant.

Misdemeanors

A Callao man, 56, was charged November 26 with assault and battery of a family member. The Westmoreland County Sheriff’s Office served the warrant.

A Weems man, 55, was charged November 27 with assault and battery. The Lancaster County Sheriff’s Office served the warrant.

A Reedville woman, 73, was charged November 28 with assault.

A Farnham man, 30, was charged November 29 with assault and battery of a family member and preventing communication through a wireless device. The Richmond County Sheriff’s Office served the warrants.



Pampered Chef & Longaberger Christmas Open House

Dec. 4, 5 & 6 10 a.m. - 8 p.m.

734 Academic Lane Heathsville in front of North'd Elem.

Everyone cooks! Pampered Chef makes cooking quick, easy and healthy! Come see it all!

Longaberger Baskets, Wrought Iron & Pottery

Need a liner or protector? Bring your basket!

Cash & Carry (Door Prizes & Refreshments)
Free Shipping on orders
804-580-6978 Cell 804-761-6268

Golden Village Christmas

at Historic Rice’s Hotel / Hughlett’s Tavern

Saturday, Dec. 5 • 10 a.m. - 2 p.m.



A Celebration of Christmastide

Unique Gift Ideas • Lunch • Ye ‘Ol Bake Shop • \$1 Children’s Shopping Area • Fresh Greenery • Photos with Santa (11am - 1pm) • Carolling • Holiday Surprises

Located just off Route 360 in Heathsville behind the old Courthouse. For more information, visit RHHTFoundationinc.org, or call 804-580-3377.



LET IT SNOW

Tastes Of The Northern Neck at The 18th Annual Lighting Of The Trees Cocktail Party

Alley Cafe & Sports Bar

Anna’s Italian Restaurant

Bluewater Seafood & Deli

Bon Secours/Rappahannock General Hospital

Carried Away Cuisine

Car Wash Cafe

Commonwealth Assisted Living, Kilmarnock

Country Cottage Ice Cream & Chocolate Factory

Dixie Deli Sandwich Shop

Eckhard’s Restaurant

Great Fortune Chinese Restaurant

Historic Lancaster Tavern

Indian Creek Yacht & Country Club

Indian Creek Yacht & Country Club Pickleball Team

John Boy’s Backyard BBQ

KC’s Crabs & Cues

Los Patrones Mexican Restaurant

Newsome’s Restaurant

Rappahannock Westminster–Canterbury River Market

Sal’s Italian Restaurant

Terrie’s Place

The Crazy Crab

The Local

Tommy’s

Tri Star Supermarket

Willabys Cafe & Catering

Festival Of The Trees Schedule

Friday, December 4, 2015, 6:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m.

Lighting of the Trees cocktail party featuring Tastes of the Northern Neck, and a fine selection of exceptional wines

\$60/person, free babysitting available

Dress - Holiday Dressy-Casual

Saturday, December 5, 8:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.

Silent Auction Entries, open to community

No Charge

Sunday, December 6, 11:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.

Silent Auction Entries, open to community

Music by Irvington Baptist Youth Choir 12:30 p.m.

No Charge

Bidding ends at 2:00 p.m.

Cookie, Cocoa and Caroling 2:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m.

Call for tickets \$60

NORTHERN NECK FAMILY YMCA – 804 435 0223

Link offers training class for coaches

Kilmarnock Holiday Lighting Contest returns

KILMARNOCK—The Link reached a milestone recently when eight people completed training to be a personal coach.

The Link hopes to offer any client who desires it the one-to-one services of a personal coach who can help the client set and reach goals, reported Judy Thomson, moderator of the communications committee. Coaches will be one of many resources The Link offers its clients to help them achieve self-sufficiency.

About a year ago, the board of directors decided to expand the agency’s services by offering personal coaches who could empower clients to follow through on their self-reliance plans, continued Thomson. The plan calls for the coaches to work one-to-one with clients, and offer encouragement, provide guidance and connect the client to other local resources.

Earlier this year, the Link-appropriate coach training curriculum was developed by Rappahannock Community College’s Workforce Development Program, after consultation with Link representatives. Four two-hour training sessions resulted, covering the topics of communication skills, conflict management, the role of the coach, and the dynamics of the coaching relationship. RCC also provided the instructors.

Financial support for developing the coaching program was provided by a grant from the Robert B. Lantz Foundation, she said.

“One of the goals of The Link



From left are (front row) Alice Walker and Stacey Evans; (next row) Edna Davenport, Tom Coye, Bessie Wiggins, Carole Sutton, Barbara Cain, Judy Thomson and Vashti Jones.

is to help people improve the quality of their lives through the acquisition of skills and knowledge that promote self-reliance and self-sufficiency,” said board president Tom Coye. “We feel that a personal coach can provide a vital service in encouraging a client to set, and attain, new

goals.”

“The training helped me to understand that people are in poverty not because they want to be, but because they have not been taught how to overcome poverty,” said Bessie Wiggins, who completed the training. “I am glad that I will have an opportunity to

be one of the persons to share the information we were taught with Link clients.”

“As a screener for The Link, I hoped that the training would enhance my interview skills and assist me in developing good self-sufficiency plans for our clients that future coaches would find workable,” said Carole Sutton, a retired social worker. “The training more than met my expectations.”

Link administrator Stacey Evans will now begin matching coaches with clients, said Thomson. It is expected that a coach might work with more than one client.

Evans also will monitor the progress of the coaching relationships, said Thomson. The Link will continue its current program of follow-up calls to clients to check on their progress with self-reliance plans and to determine how effective The Link’s services have been.

Several persons already have signed up to participate in the second coach-training program. To register for the training, call Vashti Jones, 480-0394.

KILMARNOCK—The Town of Kilmarnock recently announced that the Holiday Lighting Contest is back again this year and is open to all residents and commercial businesses within the town.

“We are happy to announce that the lighting contest has returned,” said deputy town manager Susan Cockrell. “Kilmarnock’s residents and businesses do such a great job of decorating for the holidays.”

Homes or businesses must be registered by December 9 at the Town Hall, 1 North Main Street, Kilmarnock. Registration forms are available at kilmarnockva.com/community-news, or can be picked up at the town hall, said Cockrell. There is no cost to participate and registering ensures that the judges are taken to the participating locations.

Participants must be ready for judging at 7 p.m. December 13, she said. All participating locations, whether business or residential, must be visible from public roads.

Winners will be chosen based on the best use of lighting, creativity of the lights and originality of the display, said Cockrell.

First-, second- and third-place winners will receive a “bragging rights” sign for their yard and an award certificate. Winners will be announced by Mayor Mae Umphlett at the December 21 town council meeting.

NEWS
BREAK

■ **Irvington judging**

In the Town of Irvington, home and business Christmas decorations will be judged during the week of December 7, beginning on the night of Tuesday, December 8. The judging will occur after 6 p.m.

The Agenda

Local Government News

WHITE STONE—The **town council** wants input from businesses and other stake holders in a downtown revitalization project.

Council will hold a “kickoff” meeting or informational session about the project tonight, December 3. The meeting will begin at 7 p.m. at the White Stone Town Office, 433 Rappahannock Drive, White Stone.

The meeting is a requirement of the Community Development Block Grant Planning Grant application process, said town manager Patrick Frere. Several public meetings are required as part of the grant application process. A town management team meeting and a White Stone Business Association meeting will precede the council meeting.

“So we should have a good turnout for this,” said Frere.

The downtown revitalization project is Phase II of a three-phase White Stone make-over. Council is in the early stages of the grant application process for Phase II.

In other business, Frere will report on a residential rehabilitation and public sewer project as well as the possible purchase of the old White Stone school building. Both are ongoing projects seeking grant funding.

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

COLONIAL BEACH—The **Potomac River Fisheries Commission** will meet at 9 a.m. Friday, December 4, at PRFC headquarters, 222 Taylor Street, Colonial Beach.

A public hearing will be held on proposals to establish an assistant license in the public oyster fishery, to allow unlimited, unlicensed crew members and/or possess up to 15 licenses per licensee for the hook and line fishery, to repeal senior license fees for commercial licenses, to address prepayable offenses and a uniform fine schedule, to allow striped bass tags to be transferred through the Hook and Line Tag Exchange Program, to identify that a crew member is entitled to a share of the harvest in the Oyster Management Reserve Program (OMRP), to allow a participant to purchase a helper license at any time for the OMRP and to include a helper as part of the OMRP.

Agenda items include reports on the crab and oyster harvests, and the annual oyster survey. The commission will adopt orders to establish the 2016 recreational and commercial striped bass seasons, gear and size limits as well as other finfish species.



Shopping locally puts you on the “nice” list.

Get your shopping shoes on for 3rd Thursday, December 17th.



Join Chesapeake Bank and shop locally 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 local economy. Just go to blog.chesbank.com to see the list of participating 3rd Thursday businesses. Print out your list and start shopping. And let’s keep it local.



Offices in the Northern Neck, Middle Peninsula, Williamsburg and Richmond 800-434-1181 blog.chesbank.com

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Fiction or Fact

from Bob’s Almanac

by Robert Mason Jr.

Ho, ho, ho.
Just like Haven Gillespie and John Frederick Coots wrote:
“You better watch out
You better not cry
Better not pout
I’m telling you why
Santa Claus is coming to town.”
Santa will visit the Northern Neck Rotary Christmas Tree Lot, 81 South Main Street, Kilmarnock Friday, December 4.
On Saturday, December 5, he’ll make a stops at Golden Village Christmas at Rice’s Hotel/ Hughlett’s Tavern, 73 Monument Place, Heathsville; a luncheon at American Legion Post 86, 882 Waverly Avenue, Kilmarnock; and Christmas in Kinsale at the Kinsale Museum, 449 Kinsale Road, Kinsale.
He’ll also arrive by fire truck to meet with children on the Village Green for White Stone’s Winter Wonderland and drop in following a Tree Lighting Service at Wicomico UMC, 5060 duPont Memorial Highway, Wicomico Church.
On Sunday, December 6, Santa will spend the afternoon in Warsaw meeting children and participating in a parade.
On Friday, December 11, he will spend the evening with children at the KVFD firehouse, 71 School Street, Kilmarnock, and follow up the 37th annual Kilmarnock Lighted Christmas Parade.
Santa will visit Reedville aboard the Elva C. on Saturday, December 12, at the Reedville Fishermen’s Museum dock on Cockrell’s Creek, 504 Main Street, Reedville.
He’ll also pose for selfies at the Middlesex Christmas Bazaar at Freeshade Community Center, 1544 Regent Road, Syringa.
On Sunday, December 7, Santa will join the Lively parade and meet with children at the ULVFD firehouse.
Meanwhile, children have the opportunity to convince him they’ve been nice in a letter.
The Rappahannock Record will publish letters to Santa in the December 23 issue.
Deliver letters to the Record office by December 14. Teachers are urged to submit them by December 10.
Letters should be written with a dark pencil or ink and include the child’s name, age and hometown. Parents, teachers and others are asked to make certain the letters are legible.
The letters should be short and concise so Santa can read them quickly.
Email letters to editor@rapprecord.com, send to Rappahannock Record, P.O. Box 400, Kilmarnock, VA 22482, fax to 435-2632, or deliver them to the Record office at 27 North Main Street. There is a delivery slot in the front door for after-hours submissions.

Focal Point



Autumn sunrise over Taylor’s Creek

Photo by Harriet Fishburne

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

YOUR LETTERS

Climate change is political science

President Obama is attending the summit in Paris to address the global concern about “climate change.”
During his recent trip to Alaska, he referred to two receding glaciers as examples of “climate change.” His use of the term “climate change” means, pretty much exclusively, that the principle cause of our global warming is due to human activity, caused by increasing co2 level, mostly related to fossil fuel usage.
However, both weather satellites show no additional warming for the past 18+ years.
One of the two Alaskan glaciers, “Exit,” has been receding since about 1750, a century before co2 level began to increase and two centuries before co2 could have possibly had any noticeable impact on temperature. Both Obama and the major news media ignored that half dozen other Alaskan glaciers, including “Hubbard” and “Taku,” are advancing.
The alarmists will not be happy until no glaciers are receding. But that would imply the planet is likely entering its next ice age. Over the past 1.3 million years there have been 13 ice ages, average duration 90,000 years, each followed by an interglacial, average duration 10,000 years.
The concern about a flooded New York City by 2100, ignores the fact that sea level annual rate of rise has been dropping for the past several thousand years, and is now at 1 to 2mm per year. (1 mm = 4/100 of one inch, so in 100 years, if the rate doesn’t continue to diminish, sea level will have risen 4 to 8 inches.)
Think about what happened just 12,000 years ago. There was a mile high glacier covering the big Apple, beginning to melt, after being parked there for tens of thousands of years.
Science has now become political science.

Denis Ables, Mollusk

Time to get your house in order

It’s not unusual for me to wake every night around 3 a.m. What was unusual the night before Thanksgiving was what can only be described as a download of urgency and immediacy of what lays in store for America.
I saw all of these pieces come together; the smuggling of Islamic terrorists into our country, the billions of rounds of hollow point bullets and firearms given to every branch of our government. The military armaments “donated” to sheriff departments and police stations as though being pre-positioned all across the country, much like the pre-positioning of massive armaments in Iraq that Obama made available to his newly trained ISIS. I am convinced these weapons and equipment will be made available to Obama’s insurgents when the “call” is made.
I felt “terror.” The Bible warns of these days, judgment for a nation yet to be discovered or named.
Jeremiah 51:7-14 describes America perfectly. A reprobate nation once founded for the Glory of God, now putrid with corruption and sin. Read it and weep...

- 11, Make bright the arrows; gather the shields: the Lord hath raised up the spirit of the kings of the Medes: for his device is against Babylon, to destroy it; because it is the vengeance of the Lord, the vengeance of his temple.
- 12, Set up the standard upon the walls of Babylon, make the watch strong, set up the watchmen, prepare the ambushes: for the Lord hath both devised and done that which he spake against the inhabitants of Babylon.
- 13, O thou that dwellest upon many waters, abundant in treasures, thine end is come, and the measure of thy covetousness.
- 14, The Lord of hosts hath sworn by himself, saying, Surely I will fill thee with men, as with caterpillars; and they shall lift up a shout against thee.

Catherine Crabill, Irvington

Your ‘thanks giving’ Letters

Thanks for supporting the meal program

I just checked Webster’s Unabridged Dictionary, and as I suspected, there aren’t enough words on all the pages to thank the participants in this year’s Thanksgiving Meal Program at Campbell Memorial Presbyterian Church in Weems, its 36th year of involvement.
To deliver meals to 129 meal recipients, a church has to be full of excited, anticipatory, generous parishioners.

Perils of rust

If your boat lift is at least 20 years old, you may want to examine the galvanized bolts that hold the motors and brackets to dock posts.
One Saturday morning, my 25-foot Sea Ray fishing boat bow was still on the front lift but the stern was in the water at about a 45° angle. The galvanized bolts that held the outside bracket on the rear outside pole had rusted inside the salt-treated dock pole and the weight of my boat broke both rusted galvanized bolts at the same time.
When repairing the lift, we examined the bolts that had failed. They did not appear rusted on the outside, but had almost rusted entirely inside the pole.
My boat has a 427 Chevy Mercusier Crusader motor and Mercury outdrive. I don’t know how far my outdrive was under water over night. When I was able to get my boat off the lift I

didn’t have any sea water in the boat. Unfortunately, I didn’t check the motor for water. The baffles and muffler risers were not enough to keep the water out of my engine.
I don’t know what effect this kind of lift failure would have on an outboard engine because they have sealed hoods. If you suspect your motor has been under water for some time, you need to check the motor thoroughly. It doesn’t take long for salt water to destroy an engine.
If you have a concern about the condition of your lift, check the bolts that hold the mechanisms and brackets on the dock poles. Replace them with a good grade of stainless steel bolts.
If the high tides from hurricanes and nor’easters go over your motors, you have only a short time, a day or two, to dismount, take apart, clean and service them, or they will need to be replaced.

Russell Davis, Kilmarnock



Environmental hazard

“Who is responsible for this and what will be done about it?” asks Ellie Davis of Kilmarnock. “It was very disturbing today when I took a walk along Apple Grove Road and saw where someone had disposed of eight tires. They had been thrown over the side of the road and into the creek area.” The location is between Cobbs Hall Road and Dividing Creek Lane, Kilmarnock, in Northumberland County. The neighborhood tries to keep the roadside clean of trash. One neighbor has called and reported this to The Department of Transportation. They have put it on their agenda list. The stream flows into Dividing Creek to the Chesapeake Bay.

We are doubly blessed with their being marvelous cooks. However, the ease with which all this came together could not have been without the generosity and kindness of Betty, Genita, Dot and Jane at Rappahannock Westminster-Canterbury; Kelly at The Sandpiper Restaurant; Francine at Tri-Star; and White Stone Baptist Church, which provided a meal for a later day.
Thanks to all the volunteers who noted where they could be the most help, and jumped in without being asked; the visitors who discovered how rewarding and fun Thanksgiv-

ing morn can be; and to the deliverers, who got to see the joy on the recipients’ faces.
Grid Michal, for Campbell Memorial Presbyterian Church, Weems
Family is thankful
The Wohleking’s this year are thankful for a loving God, a healthy family, and a wonderful community.
Bianca Wohleking, Kilmarnock

NOTE: The above letters of ‘thanks giving’ arrived after last week’s early deadline.

Excerpts

by Henry Lane Hull

Last Friday the Elder B.E. and I traveled over to my Good Wife’s hometown of Chestertown, Maryland, on the Eastern Shore. Our purpose was to collect an old chest and a dovetailed wooden grain bin that had been in her family for generations. The pieces had been in the stewardship of her brother, Tim, and his wife, Beth, since the parents had died some years ago.
Tim is a sentimental sort like unto myself, and he wanted the pieces to remain in the custody of the family. He and Beth had sold their magnificent home overlooking the entire harbor of the Chester River, and were moving to a smaller Victorian home, built in 1881, in the center of the town.
Many people downsize, although in their case, I was amazed that they were making the move at an age that I passed long ago. Leaving me even more agog was their finality in making long-term decisions. Many years earlier they had bought the home to be able to enjoy the water at a time when they and their children could be active participants in the river traffic in front of them.
All of that period came to a crashing termination with Hurricane Isabel’s leveling of the home in 2003. Fortunately, all of the damage

Every guest reacts in a similar manner, namely that this couple, neither of whom is a home nor a landscape architect, could conceive and carry out such an inspiring plan, all by themselves.

was to things, and the family remained unhurt. Beth and Tim are enormously resourceful individuals, and they immediately set out to rebuild on the lot with its sweeping views.
Pulling together, they produced a spectacular structure with an attention to detail that was virtually scientific. They chose re-sawn oak flooring that was over 200 years old, and repetitive motifs of leaded and colored glass reminiscent of Frank Lloyd Wright’s Usonian designs. The heart of the public space was a stone chimney rising two storeys. From a second-floor open passageway, the view of the Chester River is expansive, but equally eye-catching was the landscaping they per-

sonally installed down to its shore. The setting gave fresh meaning to Hyacinth Bucket’s (pronounced “Bouquet”) reference to “riparian entertainments.”
In that respect the culmination of all their planning and focus rested in the garden. Their plantings would put a modern-day Claude Monet in an Impressionistic nirvana. Each plant sits attuned to its role in the overall design. The neighborhood has no curbs, hence I must say from “driveside,” rather than from curbside, to waterside, strolling along every bud and blossom commands the visitor’s focus.
The plants have responded to the devoted care they have received by growing to their fullest potential, each complementing a great oak that is the property’s sole agricultural survivor from Isabel. The Black-eyed Susans are the largest I ever have seen, demonstrating that the species truly deserves to be the Maryland State Flower.
The flow from the detail of the house to that of the yard unites in the assortment of houseplants that bring the outdoors indoors, and vice versa. Every guest reacts in a similar manner, namely that this couple, neither of whom is a home nor a landscape architect,

could conceive and carry out such an inspiring plan, all by themselves.
Now, perhaps of even greater magnitude, is that they can leave it, both acknowledging that the gardening phase of their lives stands completed and terminated. General Sherman could learn the real meaning of his “Pledge” by speaking with Beth and Tim about taking an irreversible position. Tim says that he began gardening at the age of 11, and that epoch has come to its close. In addition to the two pieces of furniture, they also gave us their pruners, tomato stakes, several exquisite houseplants, and an assortment of household tools. Indeed, they have crossed the Rubicon.
After the year’s rental, they plan to acquire a 42-foot boat and begin cruising the Chesapeake and its tributaries, as well as taking some longer ventures. Concerned that they are going to miss the gardening, despite the firmness of their resolve, I have offered to find them dockage off the Great Wicomico in order that they could re-experience the fun of working with the soil, in our yard, that is. I also have committed, or should I say “volunteered,” my Good Wife to preparing culinary delights to encourage them to accept the offer.



Do you remember?

This circa 1970s image shows a miniature Lancaster High School Marching Band. The artifact was made by Gladys Ashburn (Mrs. Zach Ashburn) and donated to the the “real” LHS band, said Kilmarnock Museum president Carroll Lee Ashburn. “Do you remember?” is a public service of the Kilmarnock Museum.

YOUR LETTERS

Recital praises

The Thanksgiving week-end recital at Good Luck Cellars with George Warren, pianist, and Amanda Laborete, cellist, was well worth hearing. These two young students from the Eastman School of Music in Rochester, N.Y., gave polished performances. George Warren focused on the French impressionists Debussy and Ravel, blending his technical mastery with

attention to the subtleties of the music. He and Ms. Laborete varied the program for their appreciative audience with non-impressionist favorites including Saint-Saens’s “The Swan” and the Irish folk song “Danny Boy.” George Warren plans to return to the Northern Neck in December, so watch the calendar and don’t miss this rising star.

Maggie Lyons,
Callao

Democrats to reorganize

In accordance with the Lancaster County Democratic Committee (LCDC) bylaws, the committee will hold a biennial reorganization meeting, or caucus, at 6:30 p.m. December 7 at Anna’s Pizza, 150 Old Fair Grounds Way, Kilmarnock. Following the reorganization,

new officers will be elected to serve two-year terms, said chairman Bob Prescott. The caucus will be held in conjunction with the annual holiday party. Contributions for food and refreshments will be collected at the event, said Prescott.

NAACP to meet December 7

The Lancaster County NAACP will meet at 7 p.m. Monday, December 7, at the Lancaster Community Library, 235 School Street, Kilmarnock. This is the last meeting for 2015, said Lloyd N. Hill. All committees are asked to give a year-end report. The funds from the saving jars are to be turned in. Refreshments will be served following the meeting.



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Because You Are Polite . . . Let’s Talk Manners

by Ginger Philbrick

A short while ago, I sent a donation to a charity in memory of a friend. I never received word from the friend’s family that they received it. However, the family placed a card of thanks in the newspaper, apparently feeling that was sufficient to show gratitude. This was not the first time I had not received a more personal response (although I certainly never give to get thanks) and I am wondering if this method of expressing appreciation is acceptable these days.


Tired of Rudeness, White Stone
Dear Tired,
Although a note of thanks printed in the paper is an acceptable show of gratitude, it is not a replacement for more personal responses to those who reached out with condolences. One reason is that a newspaper piece is quite unlikely to be seen by all who gave support. Flowers, handwritten notes of condolence (even if the note is written on a pre-printed sympathy card) mass cards, donations to charities, and acts of kindness such as providing food, pall bearers and ushers should all be acknowledged in writing. A pre-printed card with only a signature does not require a response. This may well seem an overwhelming task for one who is grieving, but they need not undertake it alone. A family member or very close friend may be asked to help. Another option, if words or time fail you, is to write a two-sentence message on the bottom of the notes most funeral homes furnish. Be kind to yourself, though. No one should find fault with a genuine thank-you note even two months after the funeral. After my mother’s passing, I found that writing the thank-you notes a few at a time when I felt like it helped me to grieve in a gentle way. I took time to relish the favors done and sentiments expressed and be truly grateful for those who supported me during that difficult time. Isn’t the memory of the life of the person who is deceased worth the respect, dignity and gratitude a handwritten thank-you conveys? Ginger Philbrick is the owner of Because You Are Polite.... LLC. You are invited to e-mail your manners questions to her and she will respond as time and space allow. You may contact her at youarepolite1@verizon.net and visit her website at becauseyouarepolite.com. RSVP!

NOTICE

Lancaster Square & Chesapeake Commons
Parking Lots Will Be Closed
Next Friday, Dec. 11, at 6:45pm
No Entrance/Exit To Main Street Until
8:00 pm For Christmas Parade

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Lancashire Convalescent & Rehabilitation Center, a division of Virginia Health Services, proudly announces the addition of Shirley Dodson McAdoo, Adult Nurse Practitioner to our clinical team. Ms. McAdoo received her license from VCU Health College of Virginia.

She has an extensive background working with geriatric patients and possesses a vast knowledge base in cardiac care. She is the primary care Nurse Practitioner for Lancashire Convalescent and Rehabilitation .

Ms. McAdoo has already proven to be a great addition to the Lancashire clinical team. She provides enthusiastic and compassionate care to the residents of our facility and enables us to provide the highest quality care to our community.

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