



GLOUCESTER-MATHEWS GAZETTE-JOURNAL

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Ramona Carter will begin her new position as Mathews County Administrator on April 4.

Mathews welcomes new administrator

BY SHERRY HAMILTON

The Mathews County Board of Supervisors unanimously appointed Ramona Carter as county administrator following a closed session on Wednesday, March 9.

Carter, who has served as Powhatan County's Director of Public Works for more than six years, will begin her position with Mathews on April 4 at a salary of \$140,000.

Supervisors' chairman Paul Hudgins said that Carter is accustomed to working in a small county and will be good for Mathews. He praised her for her excellent qualifications and personality.

"She's friendly, and you can tell she's going to work well with people, and that's half the job," he said. "I am sure the citizens will be pleased."

Hudgins said that it had been hard on the staff to serve under three different interim administrators, and he said the board is pleased that things can now return to normal.

"She's coming at a good time," he said. "Budget season is about to take off, and she can help."

Carter is engaged to be married in two weeks, and she and her fiancé, Jack Wilson Jr., will be living in Deltaville, where he owns a home. Hudgins said the board did not ask that the couple live in Mathews because board members did not want them to go through the financial hardship of buying a home. However, he said the board made it clear that they wanted Carter to be involved in the community, and she agreed.

Carter, whose last name will change to Wilson soon, has two adult children, a 26-year-old son and a 24-year-old daughter.

In a brief telephone interview, Carter said she was introduced to the Middle Peninsula a little over a year ago, and she fell in love with the people and the natural beauty of the area.

"I'm excited about being a part of the great team in Mathews and about serving the citizens of Mathews County," she said.

Qualifications

Carter comes to Mathews with 25 years of experience in managing, designing, and overseeing utilities projects in both the public and private sector. According to her resume, she has been Powhatan County's Director of Public Works since 2015. She has also served the county as Acting County Administrator. Before that, she served for seven years as Assistant Director of Field Operations for the Western Virginia Water Authority. Prior to coming to Virginia in 2004, she lived and worked in British Columbia, Canada, and Pine Bluff, Arkansas.

A native of Canada, Carter holds a B.Sc. in Civil Engineering from the University of Alberta in Edmonton, Alberta, Canada. She moved to the U.S. in 1998, and in 2014 earned a Masters of Public Administration from Walden University in Maryland. She is a Registered Professional Engineer in Virginia, West Virginia, and Arkansas and has been or currently is a member of a dozen professional or volunteer organizations, including the Virginia Rural Water Association Board, the American Public Works Association, the Allegheny YMCA Projects Committee, and the Arkansas Children's Hospital Fund Raising Committee.

Mathews school board declines to adopt opening prayer at its meetings

BY CHARLIE KOENIG

A proposal to start each Mathews County School Board meeting with a prayer failed to muster enough support to be brought to a vote, as a motion to that effect made by school board member Bobby Dobson failed for lack of a second.

During Tuesday's monthly meeting in the Mathews High School media center, Dobson

put forward something similar to what county supervisors currently do, inviting pastors from county churches on a rotating basis to open each meeting with a prayer.

For residents who don't practice their religion in the county, leaders from those congregations would be invited as well, so long as the speaker is an ordained person with a physical place of

worship, Dobson proposed.

While the other board members seemed in support of prayer generally, they expressed concern that doing so would open up the school division to costly legal challenges. School board vice chair Desmond Smith, who himself is an ordained minister, also objected to the idea that he would have to be led in prayer by a Satanist or Wic-

can (as was the subject of a suit that had been brought against the Chesterfield County School Board). "That part would be a little troubling," he said.

Dobson, who earlier in the meeting had disputed an ACLU claim that prayers "are increasingly likely to drive people apart" by say-

SEE MATHEWS SCHOOLS, PAGE 7A

School board presents BOS with budget update

BY MELANY SLAUGHTER

The Gloucester County School Board presented its capital projects and budget update to the Gloucester Board of Supervisors Tuesday night in the T.C. Walker Education Center Auditorium.

A few citizens expressed

their opinions on the budget during public comment period.

"Every year the same process takes place," said Howard Mowry. "Inflate and then be happy with the end result. The process should be set to what we the taxpayer can afford as established by the composite index. Will the stu-

dent be shortchanged? No. As long as the basic foundations of required subjects are taught..."

The school board presented its capital improvement update, including the Gloucester High School renovation update. The update included the following:

—Schematic Design (100

percent complete);

—Design Development (ongoing now);

—Plan to Bid Temporary Classroom plans (May 2022);

—Plan to Bid GHS Renovation Plans (July/August 2022);

—Start Phase 1 of Project (September 2022), and

SEE JOINT MEETING, PAGE 7A

COVID-19 case rates continue to fall

BY SHERRY HAMILTON

COVID-19 case rates continued to decline locally, statewide, and nationally during the past week.

Gloucester saw just 20 new cases between last Wednesday and this Wednesday, for a total of 7,273 cases since the

beginning of the pandemic. Mathews and Middlesex each added four cases, for totals of 1,425 and 1,800, respectively.

There were no new hospitalizations or deaths in any of the three counties, leaving the totals at: Gloucester—100 hospitalizations and deaths each;

Mathews—32 and 28 each, respectively; and Middlesex—43 and 45.

There were 70 new cases across the Three Rivers Health District in the past week, bringing the total to 27,321 cases since the pandemic began. The district

SEE COVID-19 UPDATE, PAGE 16A

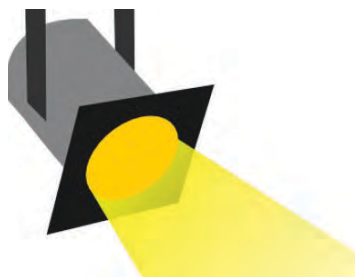
A devoted, modest historian of Gloucester and beyond

BY EMILY BOHANNON
SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT

To say that William "Bill" Lawrence loves history is an understatement.

As a member of the Gloucester Friends of the Museum of History, the Genealogical Society, and the Historical Society, he serves on the boards and is treasurer of both the Genealogical and the Historical societies, as well as serving as a docent at the museum one day a month.

A genuine scholar and history buff, Lawrence is passionate about learning more about Gloucester County and then recording and writing down as much as possible in his retirement years. Hearing Lawrence speak of so many old places in the county is like listening to a bottomless well of information. He has authored numerous books and has co-authored literally scores of others. All of these books showcase the many places in Gloucester that have been or are related to the community's history.



Community Spotlight

In this series, the Gazette-Journal shines the light on residents who are working to make this a better place.

Recently, Lawrence was interested in how many old stores were in the county. He knew there were a lot, but after researching and talking with folks, he found there had been more than 140 old stores through the years.

While he is not into photography, he enjoys looking through old photos of Gloucester and appreciates the many tidbits he can glean from them. The backgrounds of various ones give him

SEE COMMUNITY SPOTLIGHT, PAGE 7A



EMILY BOHANNON / GAZETTE-JOURNAL

Scholar and history buff William "Bill" Lawrence has worked hard to research and preserve Gloucester County's history.

Spring begins Sunday

Spring begins at 11:33 a.m. Sunday, the moment of the vernal equinox. From that point until the fall equinox, the amount of daylight will exceed the hours of darkness in each 24-hour period. Days grow longer until the first day of summer, when the daylight begins a slow retreat until the first day of winter.



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'Hatcheries on wheels'

Oyster Seed Holdings, the Gwynn's Island-based business which cultivates and sells oyster seed, has developed three new "hatcheries on wheels." See story on page 4B.

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Y M C K



Public input sought on biking, walking paths in county

The public is invited to provide input and recommendations on proposed biking and walking paths in Gloucester in an online survey that is part of the second phase in the county's Multimodal Transportation Study that took place last fall.

To complete the online survey, visit www.gloucesterva.info/362/Planning-Zoning.

The project's consultant, Toole Design, compiled a group of recommendations that were submitted during the first phase of the project into a Vision Network Map, which can be viewed when clicking on the survey. Now, the consultant is seeking input on which routes the county should prioritize when seeking funding for the multimodal projects.

Through a grant from Vir-

ginia's Department of Transportation's Office of Intermodal Planning and Investment, Toole Design will use the additional input to develop preliminary concepts for four of the most impactful and favorable routes identified. Following review of the draft concepts, Toole will develop planning-level "Opinions of Probable Cost" for design and construction.

As a result, the county will be better positioned to submit projects for funding with actual design concepts and realistic estimates, a county release stated.

"We are excited about all of the community engagement we received during the first phase of this study," said Anne Ducey-Ortiz, Director of Gloucester's Planning, Zoning and Environmental depart-

ments. "We are looking forward to narrowing down our scope of options through this process so that we can proceed toward the goal of seeing safe multimodal transportation in Gloucester become a reality."

When completing the survey, respondents will be asked to identify their top three choices for projects that they would like to see the county pursue. The segments listed in the drop-down menu for each of the three choices correspond to the numbers shown on the Vision Network Map. For those who encounter trouble with the online survey, top-three choices can be emailed to crizzio@gloucesterva.info or aducey@gloucesterva.info, or submitted via phone at 804-693-1224.



Jigsaw Puzzle Showdown

Gloucester Library in Main Street Center held its Jigsaw Puzzle Showdown last Saturday. Pictured above are winners Josephine Hurd, left, and Stephanie Conley who beat seven other teams by completing a 500-piece jigsaw puzzle in an hour and 20 minutes.

MPARC to take part in Gloucester Collaboration Sunday

In conjunction with The Pocahontas Project and Gloucester County Community Engagement and Public Information, the Middle Peninsula Amateur Radio Club will be participating in the Gloucester Collaboration.

The radio club will begin setting up ham radios at 9 a.m. Sunday beginning at the north end of the Gloucester

Court Circle. The group's goal is to be on the air from noon to 3 p.m.

"Our objective is to communicate with all the existing Gloucester's throughout the world via ham radio communications," according to a release from MPARC. With help from club members, MPARC will attempt to communicate with three different modes of

radio communications.

The first attempt will be using Morse code from noon to 1 p.m. From 1 to 2 p.m., they will be using voice to make calls. The third attempt from 2 to 3 p.m. will involve using digital data modes to reach Gloucester's sister cities around the world. The Middle Peninsula club has contacted ham radio clubs in the other Gloucester's and their amateur radio operators will be listening and returning the group's call.

The public is welcome to come observe and support its effort. MPARC members will be standing by to share their experiences, answer questions and provide insight into amateur radio and how it provides a vital role in the community and around the world.



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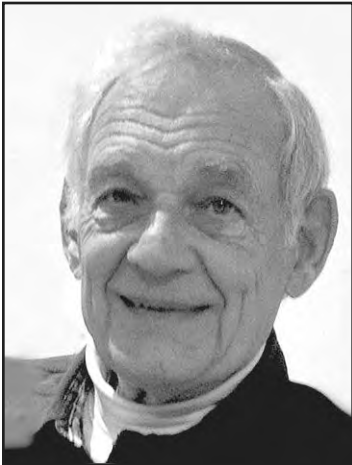
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The Audiology Offices

Don Schum, Ph.D.
Head of Audiology,
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::: Whisper



Pat Lipinski, Kathryn Tatterson and Hunt Thompson, from left, recently joined the Mathews Community Foundation board.



Three new members join Community Foundation board

The Mathews Community Foundation recently welcomed three board members. Pat Lipinski, Kathryn Tatterson and Hunt Thompson will each serve three-year terms. “We are delighted to have these three new members on board,” said Ron Lambert, who has taken the post of chairman of MCF. “Pat, Kathryn and Hunt are each in-

volved in many community activities and adding them to our MCF team will certainly result in even greater successes for the residents of Mathews County. Our theme this year is ‘Let’s Be Extraordinary’ and we’re off to a great start.” Along with Lambert, new MCF officers for 2022 include vice chairman Bill Whitley, treasurer Sandy Wilson and

secretary Brenda Moore. The Mathews Community Foundation, an affiliate of the Community Foundation for a greater Richmond, was established in 1999 and since its inception has contributed over \$5 million to fulfill the mission of improving the quality of life for those living and working in Mathews County.

Supervisors meet Monday, Tuesday

The Mathews County Board of Supervisors has scheduled a special budget work session meeting for 6 p.m. Monday in the historic courthouse on Court Street. The public is invited.

The board’s regular meeting will be held at 6 p.m. Tuesday, also in the historic courthouse. A public hearing will be held on the proposal to reduce the number of voting districts in the county from three to two.

Prior to the regular meeting on Tuesday, the board will convene at 5:30 p.m. for a work session conducted by County Attorney Andrea Erard on the Virginia Conflict of Interest Act.



Charter Night

Mathews Rotary Club president-elect Jack White, at left, welcomed Rep. Rob Wittman (R-Montross) to the club’s annual Charter Night dinner, which was held on Saturday, March 12, at Williams Wharf Landing.

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Lori is a prominent local historian & genealogist and will be discussing

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Volunteers sought to place No Discharge Zone signs

Gloucester's Clean and Green Committee is looking for residents along Sarah Creek and the Perrin River who would like to volunteer to place signage on their docks to notify boaters that those areas are classified as No Discharge Zones. The two waterways were recently designated as NDZs because of impaired shellfish harvesting due to fecal coliform counts.

According to the Virginia Department of Environmental Quality, the establishment of an NDZ has been listed as one of the state's approaches for improving water quality in the Chesapeake Bay region. Being designated as an NDZ means that it is illegal to discharge sewage waste from vessels, even those equipped with sewage treatment devices.

The signs, provided by DEQ, remind boaters that it is state law to use pump-outs to keep the waterways clean. The signs also feature a QR code where boaters can scan the sign with their mobile device and then will be taken to a website showing all nearby marinas with public pump-out capability.

"Having these signs placed along our waterways is a final step in this very important process toward keeping these



Sherry Kosakowski, Gloucester's Clean Community Coordinator, holds a No Discharge Zone sign.

areas clean and sustainable for our fisheries," said Sherry Kosakowski, Gloucester's Clean Community Coordinator. "We appreciate in advance the public's assistance in help-

ing us spread the word."

For more information, or to arrange pick up of a NDZ sign, contact Kosakowski at 804-693-5370 or cleancommunity@gloucesterva.info.



Abingdon officers

Officers leading the Abingdon Ruritan Club in 2022 are, front row, from left, past president Dave Onesty, secretary Dianne Woolley, president Frank Gillerlain, vice president Mary Lou Shepherd, treasurer Ann Dugas; back row, and directors Roger Dick, Chuck Harris, Dave Kyle, Mike Ekdahl and Yvonne Scales.

Four shoreline projects approved

BY TYLER BASS

The Gloucester Wetlands Board, during its March 9 meeting, gave its approval to four proposed shoreline improvement projects.

The first application was from Suzanne and Robert Klein Jr. of Kings Creek Road. The Kleins sought authorization to construct two living shoreline expansions with riprap sills, back fill, spartina and three riprap spurs with backfill. The request was approved unanimously.

Curtis and Naseem Matteson of York Haven Lane requested permission to construct a 17 by 50 foot riprap breakwater, 126 feet of marsh toe sill, 238 feet of marsh toe revetment, a 12 by 30 foot open cell paver boat ramp flanked by riprap and a 20 by 30 foot riprap sill. The project also entails 160 cubic yards of sand with wetland vegetation

be installed. The project was approved with a vote of six in favor; board member Chip Neikirk abstained due to his involvement with the project.

Bonnie Cross of Cross Breeze Lane sought authorization to install 150-linear-foot rock revetment with filter cloth in front of a failing bulkhead. The project was approved unanimously.

George and Cynthia Thomas of Shell Road requested permission to install 120-linear-foot rock sill with filter fabric, sand nourishment, 75 cubic

yards of spartina plantings. The project was approved unanimously.

Following the Wetlands Board meeting, the members reconvened as the Gloucester Chesapeake Bay Preservation and Erosion Commission to hear a request for Michael Pittman of Piankatank Drive.

Pittman sought the authorization encroachment into the 100-foot buffer to build a 20 by 35 foot single-story addition and a 6 by 35 foot deck. The construction was approved unanimously.

Gloucester residents enjoy 20 percent discount on flood insurance

Gloucester residents currently enjoy a 20 percent discount on National Flood Insurance Plan policies thanks to the county's efforts in the Community Rating System, according to an announcement made Monday by the county's Department of Community Engagement and Public Information, the first day of the observance of Virginia Flood Awareness Week.

A major part of the ability of residents to get discounted rates is by encouraging them to be prepared before a flood event occurs. "First and foremost, it is extremely important for folks to determine the flood zone they reside in," said George Bains, Gloucester's Deputy County Administrator.

This can be done easily by visiting www.vaemergency.gov and inputting your address into the interactive map. "This way, when an evacuation is ordered based on these zones, you will know if you need to take the steps to leave your residence," Bains added. Next, it is extremely important to make sure you have a flood insurance policy, even if you're outside of the FEMA flood zone.

"Floodwaters do not care where FEMA draws a line," Bains said. "And low-cost policies are available for homes outside of the 1 percent annual chance floodplain." Other steps residents can take to mitigate loss in the event flooding occurs is to keep ditches and stormwater fea-

tures clean for free-flowing rainwater and receding storm surges; keep important documents and other personal information in a watertight container in a safe location; obtain a building permit before you build to ensure you are building in a proper zone and spread the word to family and neighbors about flood prevention.

"The efforts of Gloucester County staff and its Floodplain Management Committee have qualified residents for these insurance discounts," Bains added. "But the ultimate goal in getting this information out there is to keep our residents and their properties as safe as possible during flooding events and severe weather."

For more information about flooding in Gloucester County, visit www.gloucesterva.info/422/Flood-Information.



PHOTO BY DEAN MARZOLCA

Active shooters

Sgt. Bradley Simmons of the Gloucester County Sheriff's Office addressed the topic of active shooters at the March 14 meeting of the Abingdon Ruritan Club. Simmons gave a brief description and different scenarios of past active shooter cases and then played a six-minute video. After the video, Simmons fielded questions from the audience and a lively discussion followed. "The Ruritans would like to thank the Gloucester County Sheriff's Office and Sheriff Darrell Warren for being proactive on a very current topic," according to a statement from the club.



Fourth Friday

Tommy Leggett, local waterman and oyster grower, will be the featured speaker at the Guinea Heritage Association's Fourth Friday Program, to be held at 6 p.m. on Friday, March 25 at Buck's Store Museum, Bena. He will be talking about "The Chesapeake Bay Oyster Fishery and Oyster Farming: Past, Present, and Future."

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NEXT DOOR NEIGHBORS

USCGC Eagle sails into Norfolk Friday

The 295-foot USCGC Eagle, the flagship of the U.S. Coast Guard, will make its return to the downtown Norfolk waterfront on Friday through Monday, marking the first tall ship visit to the Mermaid City in 2022.

A three-masted barque used as a training vessel for future officers of the United States Coast Guard, the Eagle is the largest tall ship flying the Stars and Stripes and the only active square-rigger in U.S. government service, and one of only two commissioned sailing vessels, along with the USS Constitution.

The Eagle will arrive in Norfolk at approximately 10 a.m. on Friday. The vessel will be open for public tours from noon to 5 p.m. on Friday, and from 11 a.m. to 7 p.m. on

Saturday and Sunday (10-11 a.m. for military members, veterans and first responders). All dates and times are subject to change.

All guests who come onboard for tours are required to wear a mask regardless of vaccination status. Other restrictions include no animals onboard.

The USCGC Eagle is the seventh U.S. Coast Guard cutter to bear the name in a proud line dating to an original Revenue Cutter built in 1792. This Eagle was built in 1936 by the Blohm and Voss Shipyard in Hamburg, Germany, and originally commissioned as Horst Wessel in 1936. Originally operated by Nazi Germany to train cadets for the German Navy, the ship was a reparation for the Unit-



ed States after World War II.

A permanent crew of eight officers and 50 enlisted personnel maintain the ship year round. They provide a strong base of knowledge and sea-

manship for the training of up to 150 cadets or officer candidates at a time.

For more information about the Eagle, visit www.uscga.edu/eagle.

White Stone waterfowl art show to be held this weekend

The 41st annual Rappahannock River Waterfowl Show will be held Saturday and Sunday at the White Stone Volunteer Fire Department firehouse on Route 3 in the Lancaster County community.

A wide variety of wildfowl art including original paintings, prints, decorative carvings, working decoys, folk art carvings, photography, and bronze sculpture, will be available to view and buy. About 45 exhibitors from six states will participate.

Color prints of a new painting by Artist of the Year Wayne Martin of Suffolk will be given away to show visitors. The Preview Night door prize is an original painting by Mary Lou Troutman of Dameron, Maryland. The Preview Night Gala will be held on Friday, (advanced tickets required). The weekend door prize is an original carving by Jeff Fitzhugh of Hurlock, Maryland.

Some of the other exhibitors include Art LaMay of Palm Coast, Florida, Jim Wilson of Yorktown, John Obolowicz of Powhatan, Tim Donovan of Lovettsville, Wayne

Baker of Richmond, Bill Bolin of Midlothian, David Turner of Onley, Jane Partin of South Chesterfield and Mathews, Guy Crittenden of Richmond (formerly of Gloucester), Charles Jobes of Havre de Grace, Maryland, Diane Jackson of Montross, Jim Britton of Reedville, Tim Kuca of Fredericksburg, and Karla Mann of Virginia Beach.

The Rappahannock Carvers Guild will have its annual wildfowl carving contest on Saturday. Judging will begin at 11 a.m. in the White Stone Woman's Club building across the street from the firehouse.

The Virginia Waterfowlers' Association will again have a special area for children ages 6 to 16 to "Paint a Decoy" where children get to paint a decoy duck and take it home.

Sponsors of the show are W.F. Booth and Son, Inc., for the show prints, W.E. Kelum Seafood, Inc., Rappahannock Rentals, Currie Funeral Home, and Willaby's Catering.

Lunch is available both days with oysters, crab and barbecue included on the menu. There is a special area



Artist Guy Crittenden of Richmond (formerly of Gloucester) is one of the artists taking part in the 41st annual Rappahannock River Waterfowl Show on Saturday and Sunday at the White Stone Volunteer Fire Department firehouse. He is shown here during last year's show.

for eating. The show's hours are 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Saturday and 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Sunday.

Admission is \$8 and is good for both days; children under 12 are admitted free with

a paying adult. All proceeds benefit the White Stone Volunteer Fire Department.

For more information visit www.rwrs.org, or email pat-bruce@rrws.org.

LVHS to hold Zoom program on historical architecture

The Lancaster Virginia Historical Society will hold the first program of its 2022 Zooming In On Local History Virtual Speaker Series at 3 o'clock today, Thursday, March 17. Architectural historian Dr. Carl Lounsbury will present, "Historical Architecture: How to Read Virginia's Old Houses."

The lecture will introduce viewers to the fieldwork of analyzing and dating historical structures by examining changes in style, materials, technology, and craftsmanship.

"Dr. Lounsbury will share his expertise about Virginia's building traditions, especially in the Chesapeake and Tidewater region, from stately mansions to modest dwellings," LVHS executive director Karen Hart said. "Using numerous examples and illustrations, he will help us identify typical architectural elements and understand the historical clues they reveal," she said.

The virtual program takes

place via Zoom webinar and is free for LVHS members and \$5 for others. All viewers must register in advance at www.LancasterVaHistory.org or 804-462-7280 no later than noon on the day of the program. After that deadline, people can order an online video recording. In addition to watching at home, people have a new option, in limited numbers, to view the Zoom broadcast on a big screen at the Lancaster Community Library in Kilmarnock.

"The speaker will not be on site, but we will livestream his remote presentation," Hart said. "This is a great opportunity for folks who may have limited internet access or technology experience. Seating is strictly limited to 25 people and must be reserved at the time of registration." LVHS also requires all attendees to wear masks as a continued COVID-19 precaution.

Lounsbury holds a Ph.D. in

American Studies from George Washington University and is an Adjunct Associate Professor of History at William and Mary, where he teaches undergraduate and graduate courses and field schools. He also leads the National Institute of American History and Democracy's Material Culture and Public History Program.

He was previously the Senior Architectural Historian at the Colonial Williamsburg Foundation, retiring in 2016 after a 35-year career there.

Lounsbury's most recent book, "The Material World of Eyre Hall: Revealing Four Centuries of Chesapeake History," was published in 2021.



'Ye Olde Book Shoppe' reopens

Customers and book donations are welcome again after the Northumberland Public Library's "Ye Olde Book Shoppe" reopened in Heathsville on March 9. The building housing the bookshop, which is manned by volunteers and serves as a fundraiser for the library, was damaged when it was struck by a vehicle on Jan. 2. After two months of repairs and refitting, it is once again open for business. Above, Arthur Newman, Library Community Outreach Supervisor, and Jane Blue, Library Director, are relieved to have Ye Olde Book Shoppe back in business. For more information, visit www.nplibraryva.org, or call 804-580-5051.

Local aviation history topic of March 27 talk

A lecture on "Flyboys over Hampton Roads" by Amy Waters Yarsinske will be given at 3 p.m. Sunday, March 27 in York Hall, 301 Main Street, Yorktown.

The lecture is sponsored

by the York County Historical Committee. The speaker will discuss Virginia flyers in the early years of powered flight. Seating is limited, and lecture updates will be available via the event hotline, 757-890-3520.



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VDOT surveying motorists on Route 33 traffic improvements

The Virginia Department of Transportation is inviting the public to participate in an online survey to share their feedback on proposed concepts to promote safety and improve traffic flow on Route 33 (Lewis B. Puller Memorial Highway) in King and Queen County.

In partnership with King and Queen County, the Middle Peninsula Planning District Commission, and other local stakeholders, VDOT is conducting a planning study of the Route 33 corridor between the Lord Delaware Bridge over the Mataponi River at the Town of West Point and Route 14 (Buena Vista Road).

More information about the study and a link to the online survey can be found at www.virginiadot.org/projects/fredericksburg/route_33_corridor_study.asp.

The study team is seeking comment on draft recommendations for transportation improvements. No construction dates are scheduled for the suggested improvements.

Instead, the study is intended to result in project ideas that localities and regional planning organizations can choose to pursue for funding in the future. This study is examining safety issues for motorists and pedestrians, and for other travel modes such as bicyclists and bus riders. It is also analyzing traffic congestion and access spacing issues.

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Our vote is our voice

The trend of American history has been to expand and make easier the basic right of a citizen: voting. The 20th century saw the right to vote expanded to women and to 18-year-olds, while laws and court actions mid-century stripped away Jim Crow provisions that shut out the ballot to many black people.

Before and after

Recently, the Mathews County Historical Society published online a list of the first African American voters in Mathews County, those who registered in 1867, the first year in which they could cast a ballot. The list, with 327 names, can be found on the society's website, mathewscountyhistorical-society.org.

At that time, 327 voters (all male, as women did not yet have the right to cast ballots) accounted for 15 percent of the county's African American population.

It's an enlightening glimpse into the years just after the Civil War, before Jim Crow laws were enacted.

What happened after Jim Crow, specifically the 1902 Virginia Constitution which enacted a poll tax (struck down by the Supreme Court in 1966), and literacy tests which could be administered by a registrar?

We are fortunate to be able to see the result, in a list of the county's registered voters published for some reason in the Mathews Journal on June 16, 1927.

This list shows 1,581 registered voters in Mathews (by that time, men and women could vote). Of these, 1,523 were white, and 58, or 3.7 percent, were black. For perspective, in the 1930 Census, black people comprised 13 percent of the county's population of 7,884 people; and the 58 people registered amounted to 5.6% of the black population.

These contrasting figures: 327 blacks registered in 1867, just 58 registered 60 years later, show the vivid effect of voter suppression laws. This is likely the story of most localities in the South.

The current trend

And today?

We bring up this shameful moment of history as a mirror for some of the voting restrictions being enacted or attempted in states today, a reversal of the long trend toward making it easier to vote.

The Brennan Center (brennancenter.org), formed in 1996 by former law clerks of Supreme Court Justice William J. Brennan Jr., enumerates successful efforts by states that may reduce ballot access. These include shortening the window to apply for a mail ballot, shortening the deadline to deliver mail ballots, imposing increased voter ID requirements, banning snacks and water to voters waiting in line, reducing polling place availability, expanding voter purges, and generally making it harder to vote for many people.

The center said, "Between January 1 and December 7 (2021) at least 19 states passed 34 laws restricting access to voting."

Our democracy is our lifeline to a free and independent society. Voting is the source of our power. It belongs to everyone. The measures to restrict voting, no matter in what guise they take or what excuse is uttered to justify them, have one corrosive, lasting effect: they undermine our democracy.

Resist the restrictions, and elect people who will reverse them. Our vote is our voice.



Details of Chesapeake and Westville districts from the 1927 published list of voters in Mathews.

GLOUCESTER-MATHEWS

GAZETTE-JOURNAL

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Charles E. Koenig | Editor

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READERS WRITE

A loss for residents

Editor, Gazette-Journal:

Thank you, Melany Slaughter, for your recent article, "Planners endorse rezoning request." As a resident of River Club at Twin Island, I felt the article provided a great overview of various viewpoints of our community and the desire of the commission for the developer to work with our HOA to "resolve some of these rough edges."

While I appreciate and respect the role of the Planning Commission, I was confused; more emphasis was not given on the letter signed by 43 residents and conveyed on our behalf by Robin Wyatt. I understand the Planning Commission does not become involved with HOA covenants. However, the development of townhomes does add a financial burden to the HOA by adding two additional alleyways that, by our Declaration of Covenants, we are financially responsible for maintaining. I don't feel that our community should have to bear the extra expense of maintaining alleyways and living with townhomes that do not meet the specification within the very covenants that we each agreed to abide by when purchasing our homes. It seems like a win-win for the developer financially and a loss for the HOA community—the same community who pay HOA dues, and taxes.

I want to thank planning and zoning for all their assistance in answering questions and helping me understand the process. Kudos! You are a great team, and the residents of Gloucester County are fortunate to have your wealth of knowledge and excellent customer service.

Donna Adkins
Hayes, Va.

Postal woes

Editor, Gazette-Journal:

My family started subscribing to the Gazette-Journal in the early '40s. It was the main source of information regarding local politics, schools, steamboat and ferry schedules and other local information of interest in Mathews and Gloucester counties. It was a great paper then and continues to be so today.

My wife and I moved to York County in 1971 and received our Wednesday edition of our paper on Saturday. Now, if we are fortunate, we receive the paper on the following Tuesday. More recently our paper dated Jan. 13, 2022 was received on Jan. 18, 2022. In addition, we received the paper dated Jan. 6 on Jan. 19—one day after the Jan. 13 paper was received! The next paper we received was printed on Jan. 27 and received on Feb. 5.

The first time I visited the Grafton Post Office, I inquired why it was taking six days to get the paper. I was told to contact the Gazette-Journal office as the paper was delivered as soon as it was received at the Grafton Post Office. I contacted the Ga-



zette-Journal and explained my problem. I was informed that the paper was "put in the mail each week on Wednesday evening as always." The paper then went to the main post office in Richmond. They also said they were receiving complaints from other subscribers.

The delivery time has gotten continuously worse. I have visited the Grafton Post Office twice since. I visited once when my delivery took nine days and, in February of 2021 to complain that my last paper delivery was for December, 2020 and I hadn't received the next three editions (to date, I still haven't received those papers!). I spoke with the postmaster once and "the person in charge" the second time. Each time, I was informed that it was a problem in the Richmond Post Office, not the Grafton Office. I requested that my complaint be forwarded to the Richmond Office.

The U.S. Postal Service is totally negligent in performing the task of delivering mail in a timely manner. Their extremely poor execution of performing their required job is totally unacceptable. I am not the only subscriber experiencing the unsatisfactory job they are doing. I have discussed my problem with others living in areas other than Gloucester and Mathews and they are experiencing the same problems.

As of now, no corrective action has been taken to correct or improve the delivery service. It leaves one to believe the postal service doesn't care. Their attitude and continued increased cost for postal services could lead to a private company taking over for the USPS. No job or service is irreplaceable. All I am asking for is my Gazette-Journal to be delivered in a timely manner. It was in the past. Why not now?

C.E. Raye Respress
Grafton, Va.

Pushing an agenda

Editor, Gazette-Journal:

A group of 80+ year-old politicians with absolutely no scruples are using the tragedy in Ukraine to push their climate agenda in the

United States. Inflation is at a 40-year high and Ukraine has been invaded by Russia. Both are directly connected to the energy policies of the Biden administration.

On day one in office, Biden canceled the permits for the Keystone KL pipeline and disallowed new exploration and recovery of our oil reserves here in the United States. Energy is the base ingredient of everything else we buy. When the price of oil goes up, so do all other prices.

We are now negotiating with autocratic regimes in Venezuela and Iran to buy their oil so they can continue to oppress their people and, in Iran's case, fund terror and pay for the killing of people in Yemen because of Iran's proxy war with Saudi Arabia. Apparently, one of the first casualties of dementia is one's conscience, and these 80-year-old multi-millionaires pursue their agenda with unflinching ruthlessness, hurting average American citizens while enriching terrorists. The price of oil would drop to \$70 a barrel within 45 days if we resumed full production.

Let's not forget that after canceling the Keystone Pipeline, Biden gave his approval and removed sanctions on the Nord Stream 2 pipeline carrying natural gas from Russia to Germany and the EU. President Zelenskyy of Ukraine said that the war in Ukraine never would have started if the sanctions on this pipeline had not been removed.

Do not be deceived by the propaganda coming out of Washington, D.C. All of the biggest problems we are facing right now are due solely to the foolish energy policies of the Biden administration, aided and abetted by a bunch of 80-year-old ideologues who have grown rich on insider trading during their 30 years in Washington.

I implore anyone who reads this letter that if your Senator or Congressperson has been in D.C. for 20 years or longer and is no longer able to articulate positions clearly, please vote for someone else. The country desperately needs some new ideas.

Keith Ellenberger
Hallieford, Va.

Ukraine's suffering has a wide reach

Editor, Gazette-Journal:

The death and suffering we watch happening in Ukraine every day seems so remote, almost enough to make it seem unreal. The inhumanity of the horrors inflicted on a civilian population are grim reminders of another European war where another despot killed millions to satisfy his greed for power and control. That war too seems impossible to imagine.

The only term appropriate for today's bloodshed is genocide. And the fighting, the eviction of mothers and children from their homes, the separation from loved ones and the removal of sick and indigent patients from hospitals and nursing homes continues without remorse from a conquering nation's overpowering force.

All of this devastation and fear and worry extend far beyond the borders of Ukraine. Yes, all of these conditions affect some of our Mathews newcomer neighbors who have immediate family and other relatives still trapped there and hoping to escape. Fortunately, so far, they have been able to at least speak with them by phone as the days have passed. Our neighbors offer daily prayers for their family's safe escape and possible reuniting. We hope for that same result.

The need for so many basic necessities, including food, medicine, shelter and clothing, grows daily. While we cannot be there to personally offer aid and assistance, there are several reputable organizations that do so. Visit this website (www.ukrainianmuseum.org/220302_donate_StandWithUkraine.html) to find the names of a few such entities supplied by Ula Ilnitzy. She and Olha Palych would both appreciate any contribution you would be comfortable making. Thank you for your support.

Tim and Susan Hill
Mathews, Va.

SEE READERS WRITE, PAGE 7A

POETIC REFLECTIONS

Ukraine

BY JOE STIES, BAVON, VA.

How can the world stand watch and fail to see
The horrors that await the faint of heart?
We act with words, with sanctions and with hope
That the aggressor will pause and then retreat.

Far from the fury of the battle's din
We strategize, consult with allied lands.
We agonize that should we intervene,
Our country too would pay a price in blood.

And yet, our failure now to stand and fight,
Will lead emboldened adversaries on
To other lands and new invasions launched.
Look closely at Ukraine to show the way.

Watch as that country's patriots fight to save

Their homes, their land, their country's heritage.
They stand as one, their love of freedom strong,
Stand with them now in spirit and in prayer
And pray for peace and freedom everywhere.

Uncertain tomorrows

BY WILLIAM P. CLAYBORNE JR., GLOUCESTER, VA.

War, an insanity that has plagued mankind
Since the days of Caesar, since the beginning of time
Leaving a trail of blood and a path of sorrow
Making it reality, of an uncertain tomorrow.

Great men of peace have lived and died, apparently in vain
Because the threat of world destruction, still remains
Though war is evil, but sometimes a must
It is often a craving of power, born of hatred and distrust.

In reality war is a passion—a quest for dominance, of the strong over the weak

In spite of the havoc, and the suffering it wreaks
As days go by, and history unfolds
Man has yet to achieve a lasting peace, our lifelong goal.

Freedom, a dream nurtured by the sacrifices of our ancestors
A dream achieved, but not promised—as the threat of future wars festers
Rivers and oceans, once a spectrum of tranquility and peace
Now harbor means of great destruction, on surfaces and beneath

A land so great, a mass of many civilizations
Is now under siege, from the threat of self-annihilation
Though humanity has somewhat recovered from wars of the past
Mankind's next great war, may well be its last.

To the people of Ukraine ... humanity stands with you.

COMMUNITY SPOTLIGHT: *Bill Lawrence has a passion for Gloucester history*

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1A)

perspective as to where certain buildings were and their structure, size, and changes that may have been made. Often buildings are lost or in a wooded area that is difficult to access.

One of his favorite old buildings was the home of his great-aunt Grace Smith who was married to B.B. Roane, longtime clerk of Gloucester's Circuit Court. That building is located on Main Street between the Masonic Lodge and Grace Covenant Presbyterian Church. That house had been located on the site of the former SunTrust Bank building (now Truist) and was moved in 1911 to its current location. It had served as the old tele-

phone operators' building, he said.

Genealogist Roane Hunt of Gloucester nominated Bill to the Gloucester Historical Committee after they had worked on a project to have the land tax and property tax records scanned. These covered the years from 1782 to 1870. This is quite useful since the county's deeds had been lost in at least two fires over the years, Lawrence said. His first book was putting together information on the museum simply to be able to answer questions for visitors on the building itself. As a docent, he answers questions about museum exhibits and conducts tours as requested.

Carol Steele, current Act-

ing County Administrator, nominated Lawrence in 2014 for the prestigious individual Award of Merit from the American Association of States and Local History. "It's impossible to capture the time and effort Bill has donated and his dedication to the collection and preservation of history and the impact he has made," Steele said. "People from Gloucester and miles beyond are able to read and understand more about our county's and the country's early history.

"Bill is a soft-spoken gentleman who is modest and works quietly without people realizing his gifts," she continued. "We chose not to tell him about this nomination as we

knew he would discourage us from nominating him. His modesty, sincerity and work ethic complement his accomplishments that we appreciate so much."

The Gloucester Historical Society gives scholarships annually to students who live in and/or have a connection to Gloucester. Currently a PhD student scholarship recipient is working on old schools of Gloucester. This effort, it is hoped, will lead to a book on the schools of Gloucester.

Lawrence earned his undergraduate degree at North Carolina State University in nuclear engineering and worked at the Surry Nuclear Power Plant for two years. However, after buying land at the old

home place and having to travel 85 miles to work, he decided he wanted to teach at Rappahannock Community College which was then just getting started. Since a master's degree was required, he attended William and Mary where he received his M.S. in Applied Science, Computer Specialization. His teaching career (1972-2004) included professor of math and computer skills in the 1980s in a one-room lab. He retired from RCC in 2004.

Lawrence grew up in Hampton but had many connections to Gloucester from early on. Besides his great-uncle by marriage, B.B. Roane who served as Gloucester's clerk of the Circuit Court for 56 years,

his cousin Peter W. Smith Jr. was the county treasurer, and cousins Emma and Ada Cox ran the old Botetourt Hotel. His grandfather's brother, Alton Lindsay, born and raised at Belroi, was the superintendent of the Hampton schools where Lawrence attended. His great-great-grandfather, Peter W. Smith Sr., bought the island in 1867 where Bill now lives, and the Mount Pleasant farm in 1870 on what is now the T.C. Walker Education Center.

Bill and his wife Carol built their home in Zanoní on L's Island in the Ware River. There they raised their children Emily and Will near grandparents, aunts, uncles and cousins. The L comes from the family names, all of whom are either Lawrence or Lindsay.

The foundation for the first road to L's Island was originally large pine trees buried in the mud. "You know, they don't rot when buried in mud," Lawrence said. Next, over 1,000 railroad ties were purchased for 10 cents apiece and hauled for 25 cents each from Cheatham Annex to build a corduroy road. Finally, sand and dirt were put down to complete the project. It's still the current road.

Lawrence writes his books for the benefit of the museum. The profits go to the Friends of the Museum. He receives no compensation for his work.

He said it's always great to find "new" items, new/old pieces of interest to include in "The Family Tree Searcher," a publication of the Gloucester Genealogical Society. This booklet is published semi-annually and is available online. He encourages anyone to look up the booklet and check the latest new/old facts on Gloucester.

When asked what he would want his community and its citizens to know, he states without hesitation, "The love for Gloucester history."

It is surely his passion.

MATHEWS SCHOOLS: *No action taken on beginning meetings with prayer*

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1A)

ing that prayer brings people together, replied to Smith that he could just walk out if he objected.

Dobson said that, in his interpretation of the Constitution, that "nowhere in what I just read is separation of church and state." The Constitution, he said, makes no law respecting an establishment of religion, or the free exercise of thereof. "Not allowing prayer, in my opinion, would be unconstitutional," he continued.

School board member John Priest recounted an experi-

ence from his days coaching soccer at Mathews High School. He said he had been approached by members who wanted to have a team prayer. Priest consulted then-MHS principal John Lanford and superintendent Harry Ward to get their opinions. They told him, he said, that the student-athletes could have a prayer so long as Priest didn't conduct it and he wasn't present.

Being in "a position of authority ... we cannot present the view that we are supporting one particular religion over another," Priest said.

"It's not my objection to the prayer," he continued. "It's my

objection to what we're opening up ourselves to," referring to possible legal ramifications.

"I think having a prayer for this meeting and this board is a good thing," Dobson said, to ask God for guidance to "show us the right way." He called the decision by the Chesterfield County board not to allow the Wiccan to give her prayer at their meeting "stupidity." It's all the same thing, he said, "we're all praying to a higher being."

Several school board members brought up the differences between school board meetings and those of other governing bodies; that school boards are an extension of the school division itself and, as such, subject to school regulations, with a prayer giving the appearance of endorsing or promoting religion.

During the public comment period at the start of Tuesday's meeting, several residents spoke out in favor of beginning the meetings with a prayer. Sharon Frye of Port Haywood called the threat of being sued "bullying" and "fearmongering." "You represent us, We the People," she said.

Peter Machen of Foster pointed out that generals like George Washington and Stonewall Jackson were devout men who prayed often. "If great generals can pray before battles, why can't we pray before a school board meeting," the young Machen asked.

Speaking against instituting a prayer, Sheila Crowley of Port Haywood said "we are a country that has chosen to have freedom of religion" and that by having the school board begin its meetings with a public prayer is "start(ing) down a slippery slope." She said that board members should reflect on their purpose, and on the issues of the day, "but I think you can do that with a moment of silence."

classrooms, encompassing both the Virginia Preschool Initiative and Early Childhood Special Education. The students are either identified through the special education process, typically developing peers or classified as economically disadvantaged.

Personnel action

Following a closed meeting, the school board approved several personnel action, most notably the retirement of MES physical education teacher Pat Moughon, who is stepping down after 41 years with the division. The board also approved the resignations of Thomas Hunter Middle School teachers Karen Lloyd and Morgan Farmer, approved the appointment of MES teacher Jennifer Doss and MHS teacher Jeremy Clark beginning with the 2022-2023 school year, approved the coaching maintenance appointment of Wes Griffith for the soccer field and the field during the summer, and three volunteer coaching appointments—William Berg (soccer), James Wood (JV softball) and Lauren Hurst (tennis).

Preschool

At the start of Tuesday's meeting, Virginia Sanford, the division's Director of Special Education, Mathews Elementary School principal Cindy Gray, preschool teacher Trish Morgan and MES school counselor Katie Howlett gave a presentation on the school division's preschool program.

At present, there are 29 preschool students in three

JOINT MEETING

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1A)

—Anticipated Final Completion (24-30 months).

Budget update

Dr. Walter Clemons, division superintendent, and Troy Andersen, chair of the school board, presented on the school's budget update.

One important point of the budget is the additional transportation and facilities costs due to inflation. The school board presented fuel increas-

es for the transportation department (recommended budget of \$100,000) as well as increases in utilities (recommended budget of \$200,000).

The next budget work session for the school board will be at 6 p.m. next Thursday, March 24, in the T.C. Walker Education Center Auditorium. At this meeting, the school board is set to approve its budget.

READERS WRITE |

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 6A)

Give me a break!

Editor, Gazette-Journal:

"Biden is weak" ("The Big Picture," March 10 Readers Write). Give me a break! Trump tried to destroy NATO to appease his hero, Putin. Trump abandoned the Kurds to Putin's puppet Erdogan. Trump withdrew from the Iranian nuclear treaty and they started up their program again. Trump abandoned our bases in Syria to Putin. Trump stopped our military exercises in South Korea to appease Kim for a "love letter."

We withdrew from Afghanistan because Trump agreed to let the Taliban take over the country. Trump was willing to abandon Ukraine for dirt on Hunter Biden. He would surely turn his back now if he were president when Putin invaded Ukraine.

Trump had Americans teargassed so he could have a photo-op holding a Bible upside down in front of a church he never attended. Trump told his followers on Jan. 6 he would go with them to the Capitol. But instead he retreated to the safety of the White House to watch what he wrought.

President Biden has the strength to assemble a coalition to stand up to Putin and support Ukraine.

Trump said Putin is a genius.

Ted Broderson
Mathews, Va.

Tuchman's Law and U.S. involvement

Editor, Gazette-Journal:

"The fact of being reported multiplies the apparent extent of any deplorable development by five-to-tenfold."

Tuchman's Law has been defined as a psychological principle of "perceptual readiness" or "subjective

probability." Which means when you keep repeating terrible photos of the suffering masses of Ukrainians, you increase the probability of the U.S. being in a head-to-head fight with the Russians.

If we do for any reason or excuse, we will pull the entire world into a nuclear war. We won't need TV cameras to bring us scenes of devastation and horror. Nor of disease and pestilence. We will be able to walk into Gloucester and see the ruins of our pleasant Ville. But on the bright side, most of us may be killed the first day.

There is no technicality in Vladimir Putin's mind which would allow us to get involved in his exercise to regain total control in Ukraine without the risk of nuclear world war. And a thousand CNN pundits saying it won't will not make a jot of difference. Your grandmother telling you it's a terrible thing means nothing. Nancy Pelosi, Mitch McConnell, Mr. Biden all on TV either.

He has put up a sign. "U.S. and NATO stay out, this is my sphere of influence." And who in his right mind wants to win such a war? "Stay out! Or Die!"

Barbara Tuchman is the author of "The Guns of August" and how the world got sucked into WWI.

Bill Husztek
Gloucester, Va.

Thanks for the coverage

Editor, Gazette-Journal:

This is in reference to the article, "Shockwaves of war." A sincere thank you to the Gazette-Journal for your coverage of the war in Ukraine and, in particular, thank you for publicizing my family's plight.

Joseph M. (Mike) Senyk
Cobbs Creek, Va.

Workers need to stick together

Editor, Gazette-Journal:

I am writing in response to the article titled, "Supervisors move ahead with budget process; 3 cent tax rate considered" in the March 10 issue of your newspaper. In this tax raise, Gloucester County is looking to improve employees' wages to keep their employees from leaving to another county.

This is implying that employees in Gloucester County would rather leave their community where they have formed relationships and many even have family ties in pursuit of higher wages in neighboring counties. These employees that are leaving are losing their connection to our society and the communities in Gloucester County they have previously depended on.

In this community, the workers are not banning together and forcing higher wages. Instead, they are leaving and finding it elsewhere. If the workers powered together, they would probably be able to demand higher wages than offered to them now, but instead they are fragmenting the power they could have by leaving. I believe workers would be happier in this community if they were willing to work together and demand more profits from their work.

Elaina Ward
Hayes, Va.

Education, not indoctrination

Editor, Gazette-Journal:

After reading Ms. Fletcher and Mr. Knupp's letters of March 3 ("A climate of distrust" and "Who will teach our kids?" Readers Write),

all I can say is Thank God for Governor Youngkin.

Realizing that our education system was not providing a recourse for parents concerned with the curriculum and related issues (treatment of "transgender" students, etc.), he instituted a tip line as an extension of the checks and balances principle, allowing parents a means to rein in a school district that has gone over the line from education to indoctrination.

No teacher who is teaching the prescribed curriculum need worry about a complaint, as it will be examined by a board weighted in favor of the teacher. However, if the curriculum is shown to be at fault, or the teacher/district has decided to go over the line, then the matter shall be dealt with.

Mr. Knupp says, "Can teachers be fired for the truth?" Well, Mr. Knupp, who is the arbiter of the truth? Shall we turn over the upbringing of our children to the teachers' unions, removing the parents from the equation? Should we turn our educational system into one of indoctrination? Mr. Knupp speaks of "aggressive" parents; what I suspect he's referring to are parents passionate in the desire to see their children educated without indoctrination and frustrated when facing a wall of educator arrogance.

God bless those parents who are willing to stand up for their children, as I know it isn't easy. Our family fled another state after six years of constant conflict with a school district over our insistence that our sons be raised according to our beliefs. Anyone who wants the whole story can stop me on the street and I'll tell them. Parental involvement is

essential in assuring our children the best education available, even if that steps on the toes of some progressives and teacher unions. Involvement in PTAs, reading the curriculum, voting in school board elections (where your vote does matter), and, if necessary, using the governor's tip line, will insure that our youth are educated, not indoctrinated.

Capt. M.A. Truscott, USMM
Onemo, Va.

Thanks, Tim Ulsaker

Editor, Gazette-Journal:

My name is Peter Wells—a rowing coach for Vassar College, Poughkeepsie, N.Y.

Two weeks ago, I was in a serious situation: We were down one rowing coach for our training trip to South Carolina.

I contacted over 20 college and club rowing coaches on the Eastern Seaboard and one coach responded to my request to coach for nine days with our Vassar student/athletes. That coach was your very own Tim Ulsaker of Mobjack Rowing of Mathews.

I met Tim this summer when we coached the High-Performance Boys at U.S. Rowing's Olympic Development Program. Tim is a wonderful human being and an incredible rowing coach.

Tim excelled at our training camp; all the students appreciated his coaching insights and manner; so much so, several gave him a huge hug on departure.

Mathews and Mobjack has a great person leading the rowing program there in Tim.

I hope we can make this an annual event for Tim to travel south to help us also improve and grow as he has done for Mobjack Rowing

and your community for many years.

Thanks, Tim Ulsaker!

Peter S. Wells
Vassar College Crew
Poughkeepsie, N.Y.

Much more than a meal

Editor, Gazette-Journal:

This month, Bay Aging is celebrating a very special March for Meals, honoring the 50th anniversary of the Older Americans Act Nutrition Program—the federal legislation that helps support programs like Meals on Wheels.

Bay Aging's unique community make-up allows us to deliver a holistic approach to care. Not only are older adults receiving a meal, but they also see a friendly face to check up on their needs and provide much welcomed socialization. They also have the support of Bay Aging's staff to provide any other needed social, medical, or transportation supports and referrals.

In fact, 99 percent of Bay Aging's meal recipients feel the program has improved their quality of life. Volunteers, who deliver so much more than a meal, ensure that older adults' inability to go to the grocery store doesn't mean they will go hungry.

You have the power to brighten the lives of older adults by giving just a little bit of your time or treasure. To volunteer, contact Ken Rogers at 804-758-8853 or krogers@bayaging.org. To make a financial gift, please visit <https://bayaging.org/support/> and click "DONATE." Be a hero for our community's older adults!

Kathy E. Vesley
President & CEO, Bay Aging
Urbanna, Va.

THE ARTS

2 Artist in Residence events this weekend

Two guests of Arts on Main's Artist in Residence program are holding public events this weekend in Gloucester.

Nora Murphy

Author and fiber artist Nora Murphy will give a performance, "COUNTERCLOCKWISE: An Irish Celebration to Welcome Spring," at 6 p.m. Saturday at John's Point Landing in Naxera. It is free and open to the public.

A fifth generation Irish-American, Murphy explores Native American genocide and pathways for healing in her book, "White Birch, Red Hawthorne," and is currently writing a novel that explores ancient Irish ways to live in closer connection with the earth and one another. She will be in Gloucester through March 30.

Marcie Rendon

Author Marcie Rendon will read from one of her books at 1:30 p.m. Sunday in front of the Pocahontas mural at Gloucester Library, Main Street Center.

A citizen of the White Earth Nation, Rendon is a writer across many genres. She is included in Oprah Magazine's 2020 list of 31 Native American authors to read, and she is the recipient of Minnesota's 2020 McKnight Distinguished Artist Award.

Rendon's Cash, Blackbear series includes "Girl Gone



Marcie Rendon

Missing," which was nominated for the 2020 Sue Graf-ton Memorial Award, and "Murder on the Red River," which won the 2018 Pinckley Women's Crime Novel Award. The third novel in the series, "Sinister Graves," is scheduled for publication in October. Rendon also writes plays and children's books.

The creative mind of Rav-ing Native Theater, Rendon curated Twin Cities Public Television's "Art Is ... CreativeNativeResilience" in 2019. In 2017, she received the Loft's Spoken Word Im-mersion Fellowship in con-junction with Diego Vazquez for their work with incar-cerated women.

Book Parade in Williamsburg next Saturday

Chesapeake Bay Writers will hold a Book Parade from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. on Saturday, March 26, at Midtown Row Clubhouse, 221 Monticello Avenue, Williamsburg. It is free and open to the public.

The event will showcase the books written by the organization's authors, with guests invited to stroll through the "parade," discover new books, and meet the writers, said a press release.

Both readers and aspiring writers will have the opportunity to discover new interests or reawaken old ones, said CBW President Sonja McGiboney in the release, adding that the writ-

ers themselves will be able to network and get tips from other authors.

"Many genres will be represented," she said, "and CBW writers will be on hand to answer questions about the creative process, publishing, and writing."

Thus far, about 15 writers with 80 titles in 17 genres have registered for the event, said McGiboney.

For more information, email CBWreply@gmail.com or call McGiboney at 757-871-5085. For a preview of some of the books that will be available for purchase, visit chesapeakebaywriters.org.

C.H. Players to present 'Beauty and the Beast Jr.'

Disney's "Beauty and the Beast Jr." will be presented by the Court House Players March 25-27 at Thomas Hunter Middle School in Mathews. Show times are at 7 p.m. Friday, 3 p.m. and 7 p.m. Saturday, and 3 p.m. Sunday.

Based on both the original Broadway production and the Academy Award-winning motion picture "Beauty and the Beast," the junior version of this beloved musical tells a story of tolerance and transformation, and it includes familiar songs made popular by the original production.

This classic "tale as old as time" tells the story of Belle, a young woman in a provincial town, and the Beast, who is really a young prince trapped under the spell of an enchantress. It is a favorite of children and adults everywhere.

Cast members include Heather Hopkins as Belle, Jayden Emerson as the Beast, and Mathea Anderson as Maurice.

Enchanted castle residents are Peyton Emerson as Lumiere, Catherine King as Cogsworth, Ella Hensley as Mrs. Potts, Kyrsten Emerson as Mme. De La Grande Bouche, Cora Rowe as Babette, and Celestia Altman as Chip.

Angry townspeople are Calem Fleming as Gaston, Hunter Owens as Monsieur D'Arque, and Emma Layton as Lefou.

Narrators are Ellie Adams, Violet Adams, Eileen Hall and Jocelyn Magee.

Other cast members are Deacon Adams, Trinity Brown, Rainey Evans, Wren Gauthier, Emma Hautz, Kimmie Hautz, Andrew King, Allean Rowe, Faith Scott, Emma Smith, Nora Walke and Josephine Williams.

Adult tickets are \$10, students \$5. Tickets are available in advance online at www.courthouseplayers.org or at the following box office locations: Office Supply on Main Street, Gloucester; Franktronics on Route 17, Hayes; Golden Creations, Route 17, Gloucester Point; and Mathews Pharmacy, Buckley Hall Road, Mathews. Tickets will also be available at the door if supplies last.

Shows tonight, Friday and Saturday at Flat Iron

Flat Iron Crossroads has a busy week, with three shows scheduled over three nights, Thursday through Saturday.

Poisoned Dwarf

Poisoned Dwarf will perform at 7:30 tonight to celebrate St. Patrick's Day. This five-member Celtic music group plays innovative renditions of traditional Irish and Scottish music on acoustic instruments, said a press release. The instruments they use to accompany their lyrical vocals include whistles, violin, guitar, percussion, and Uilleann pipes. They have performed at a wide variety of venues, from highland festivals to theaters, and from churches to pubs.

Doors open at 6:30 p.m. with the FIX Bar and AR Smokehouse food truck. Tickets are \$15 at www.flatironcrossroads.com.

Skyla Burrell Blues Band

On Friday, Flat Iron welcomes The Skyla Burrell Blues Band to the stage at 6:30 p.m. This full-time traveling blues band is known for its high-energy electric blues. Band leader Skyla Burrell formed her first band at the age of 13 and has been a working musician ever since. After working her way up and down Southern California as a teenager and young adult, she relocated to the East Coast in her early 20s and co-formed her current



BLWARD PHOTOGRAPHY LLC

The Skyla Burrell Blues Band will perform at 6:30 p.m. on Friday, March 18, at Flat Iron Crossroads in Gloucester.

band. She sings, writes, and plays the guitar and piano.

Doors open at 5:30 p.m. with Positive Pizza food truck and the FIX Bar. Tickets are \$20 at www.flatironcrossroads.com.

The Currys and The Tidewinders

The Currys will headline a show that begins at 5:30 p.m. Saturday with an opening by The Tidewinders.

A Charlottesville-based band, The Currys features vocalist/guitarist Tommy Curry, his brother Jimmy Curry (vocals and guitar), and their cousin Galen Curry (vocals and bass).

The band cut its teeth playing the oyster bars and listening rooms of the Florida Panhandle and has written and released three

full-length albums, "Follow," "West of Here" and "This Side of the Glass." The albums have been praised variously for their "infectious" songwriting (PopMatters), and their three-part family harmonies that "provide the organic, lived-in feel of roots music."

The Tidewinders, a local favorite, plays hard-driving bluegrass, poignant ballads, and classic favorites, featuring the banjo, fiddle, mandolin, guitar, dobro, and bass.

Doors open at 4:30 p.m. with Coast Thirst food truck and the FIX Bar. Tickets are \$20 at www.flatironcrossroads.com. All three shows are available as a package deal for \$44, a 20 percent discount.

Talk tonight on American sculpture

Margaret Hancock of Richmond, owner of Margaret Hancock Studio, will address the Middle Peninsula Fine Arts Association at 8 o'clock tonight, Thursday, March 17. Her topic will be "In the Round: American Sculpture."

The meeting will be held at Arts on Main, Gloucester.

Hancock curates art exhibitions and educational programming for a variety of institutions, a release

said. She holds a master of education degree from the University of Virginia, and a bachelor's in art history from Duke University. She was formerly Director of Programs and Curator for the Virginia Center for Architecture. Her resume also includes the Savannah College of Art and Design, the National Trust for Historic Preservation, and an internship with the National Gallery of Art.



Most Promising

Harmony Mitchell, a student at Abingdon Elementary School, was the winner of the Renate Bumgarner Most Promising Young Artist Award during the recent Phoenix Art Show, held at Gloucester Library, Main Street Center. She received a certificate and a ribbon.

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Alisa Bohon, Artistic Director

OBITUARIES

GEORGE CALVIN ATHERTON JR.



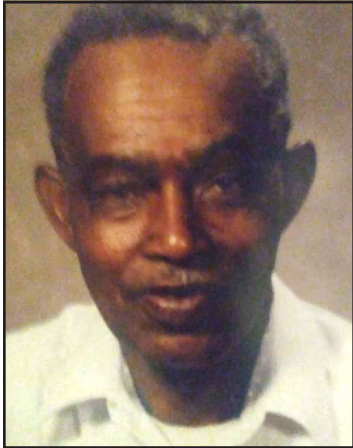
George Calvin Atherton Jr., 66, of Cobbs Creek, Virginia, passed away on Wednesday, March 9, 2022. He was an excellent carpenter, worked on a tugboat, and loved fishing. Calvin loved the Dolphins football team, NASCAR (especially Dale Earnhardt), his wife, son and family.

He was preceded in death by his mother and father, Calvin and Nell Atherton, and a brother, Dale Atherton.

He is survived by his wife, Mildred Atherton; son, Joey Atherton (Grace); a brother, Allen Atherton; a sister, Linda Robertson (Bill); step-children, Keith Armistead, Troy Armistead and Amy Armistead; step-grandchildren, Aaron Forrest, Kyle Shipley and Tanner Sears; a nephew, A.J. Atherton, and his beloved cats, "Fred" and "Fluffy."

The family received friends on Saturday, March 12, 2022, from 5-7 p.m. at Faulkner Funeral Homes, Foster-Faulkner Chapel, Mathews, Virginia. A funeral service was held on Sunday, March 13, 2022, at 2 p.m. in the funeral home chapel. Burial followed in H. C. Smithers Memorial Cemetery, Hudgins, Virginia.

WILLIAM ANDREW BILLUPS



William Andrew Billups, 91, of North, died on Thursday, March 10, 2022.

He was a native of Mathews County and a member of Rising Valley Baptist Church and was retired from Huntington Ingalls Industries, formerly Newport News Shipyard and Dry Dock, after 32 years of service.

Survivors include four sons, Lloyd and Craig Billups of North, Ronald and Wendell Billups of Hartfield; a step-son, Ramon Costa of Gloucester; seven daughters, Leah Lockley and Patricia Hodges of Locust Hill, Grace Coleman of Saluda, Peggy Billups of Hartfield, Valerie Scott of North, LaVerne Ackes of Hudgins, and Ivory Smith of Port Haywood; one brother, Maryus Billups Jr.; four sisters, Mary Savage and Annie B. Paige of Gloucester, Marsie Brewton and Frances Perry of Hampton; 25 grandchildren; 96 great-grandchildren, and 24 great-great-grandchildren.

He was preceded in death by parents, Maryus V. and Mary N. Billups; wife, Bertha M. Billups; brothers, Ernest, John, Emerson and Raymond Billups; sisters, Marion Seay, Bessie Latimore and Gladys Banks, and two grandchildren.

The family received friends from 6-8 p.m. Tuesday at J.K. Redmond Funeral Home, Shacklefords. A graveside service was held at 1 p.m. Wednesday, March 16, at Rising Valley Baptist Church, James Store, conducted by the Rev. Darry O. Echols.

Memorial contributions may be made to Riverside Walter Reed Hospice.

BERTHA ELAINE GREENE BLAMEY



Bertha Elaine Greene Blamey, 80, passed away in the loving arms of her Lord and Savior Jesus Christ on Friday, March 4, 2022, at Ahava Healthcare in Clarks-ville, Tennessee. Bertha was born on June 15, 1941, in Gloucester County, Va. She was the daughter of the late Stanley R. Greene Sr. and Jennie W. Greene who raised a family of nine children of which Bertha was the third. In her early years, Bertha was employed by Eastern State Hospital, Williamsburg, Virginia. Bertha was a member of the Degree of Pocahontas, the women's affiliate of the Improved Order of Red Men. She was preceded in death by her husband, Sgt. William "Bill" Blamey; brothers, Stanley R. Greene Jr., Ellis E. Greene (Mavis). She leaves her loving memories to be cherished by her daughter, Jennifer Thomas (Indiana); her sisters, Virginia Harrison (Woody) of Mechanicsville, Margaret Harris (Ben) of Gloucester, Helen Robinson (Wayne) of Williamsburg, and Sandra Loveland (David) of Gloucester; brothers, Dennis Greene (Annette) of Gloucester, and Timothy Greene of Gloucester. She is also survived by two grandchildren, Jordan Laplant and Jenna Laplant; two great-grandchildren, Brantley Laplant, Marcina Melton and sister-in-law, Bernice Greene. In addition, her life was made very special by William "Bill" Johnston, a devoted companion. The family will receive friends at Hogg Funeral Home on Saturday, March 19, 2022, from 12:30-1:30 p.m., with a graveside service to follow at Rosewell Memorial Gardens Cemetery, conducted by Pastor Arthur Wolz, beginning at 2 o'clock.

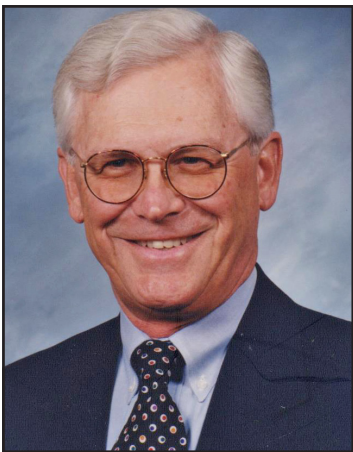
Services under the direction of Hogg Funeral Home.

LANK RANDOLPH BROWN SR.



Lank Randolph Brown Sr., age 76, of Hayes, passed away at his home on Tuesday, March 8, 2022, with his family by his side. He was preceded in death by his parents, Thomas Odell Brown and Annie Elizabeth West Brown, and his siblings, Virginia Brown, Billy Brown, and Mary Lee Horsley. Lank is survived by his loving wife, Ruby; children, Lisa Ayers, Sylvia Britton, and Susie Robins; 13 grandchildren, and a host of great-grandchildren. Siblings, Paul Brown, EllaMae Holloway, Odell Brown, and Joyce Nelson survive him as well. The family received friends at Hogg Funeral Home, on Wednesday, March 16, 2022, from 11-11:45 a.m., with a service, conducted by Pastor Arthur Wolz, following at 12 p.m. Inurnment will be private. In Lank's memory, contributions may be made to Riverside Walter Reed Hospice, 7358 Main Street, Gloucester, Va. 23061 or to Abingdon Volunteer Rescue Squad, P.O. Box 9, Bena, Va. 23018. Services under the direction of Hogg Funeral Home and Crematory.

ROBERT S. BOWLES



It is with great sadness that the family of Robert S. Bowles, 78, announces his passing on March 7, 2022. He died peacefully in his sleep at UVA Hospital in Charlottesville, Va., of a hemorrhagic stroke.

Robert was born on July 5, 1943 in Martinsville, Va., the eldest of four siblings born to Stanley Wilson and Carlyne Reynolds Bowles. He had a wonderful childhood and spent his early years on the family farm training and showing Tennessee Walking Horses. He loved to hunt and fish, but as a young adult he found his passion in boating, especially racing his sailboat, his pride and joy.

He lived and was educated in Martinsville where he had a full and active life in both business and civic associations. He was part of a family commercial contracting company until he retired to Smith Mountain Lake and later to his favorite place in "God's Country," Gloucester, Va.

Robert is survived by his wife of 56 years, Marianne Mendel Bowles; his daughter, Catherine Bowles Applestein; son, Robert Trent Bowles and wife Amy; his five grandchildren, Reid and Stuart Applestein, and Taylor, Fielding and Abby Bowles.

Robert was the epitome of a true "Southern Gentleman," always polite, kind, and generous to others. His gentle manner and devotion to those who loved him will always be cherished.

A memorial service will be held at Ware Episcopal Church, Gloucester, at 3 p.m. Saturday, March 26, 2022.

A reception will be held immediately after at the family home, Lochawe, 8653 Dundee Lane, Gloucester, Va.

In lieu of flowers, tributes would be appreciated if made to a local charity of one's choice or to the Ware Church Building Fund, P.O. Box 616, Gloucester, Va. 23061.

WILLIAM 'CATBIRD' EDWARD CREWE SR.



William "Catbird" Edward Crewe Sr. of Hayes, died on Saturday, March 12, 2022. William, or "Catbird" as he was known to all, was born on Oct. 18, 1946 to Irvin and Jessie Clements Crewe. "Catbird" spent his years as a waterman, and was a legend of his time. He never met a stranger and would talk about the old times anywhere he went. "Catbird" was preceded in death by his parents; siblings, Chester and Ronald. "Catbird" is survived by his loving wife, Patricia; son, William E. Crewe Jr.; siblings, Jimmy and Mary Casey; as well as furry friend, "Abbie." At the request of the family, there will be no services at this time. In memory of "Catbird," contributions may be made to Riverside Walter Reed Hospice, 7359 Main Street, Gloucester, Va. 23061. Arrangements under the direction of Hogg Funeral Home & Crematory.

DAREL J. GRAHAM



Darel J. Graham, 73, of Mathews County, Va., passed away peacefully at home on March 12, 2022, surrounded by loved ones.

Darel was best known to family and friends as Momma, Nana Darel and Miss Darel. Darel spent many years working as the Assistant Manager of The Islander on Gwynn's Island. Anyone that knew her could tell you that other than her love for her family and friends, one of her greatest joys was time spent in the kitchen. Whether that was preparing for banquets and private events at the restaurant back in the day or experimenting in her own kitchen; even when she was unable to cook for herself, she would still pull out a recipe or write it down from memory and have family prepare it. Darel also loved to crochet, and she enjoyed making blankets which she would give to special people in her life.

Darel is survived by her daughter, Bonnie Hamilton (David), Gloucester, Va.; a granddaughter, Candace N. Bunting (fiancé Robert Cain), Gloucester; a step-grandson, A.J. Hamilton (Sarah); stepchildren, Ralph L. Graham (Jodie) and their extended families, Augusta, Ga.; Robin Clements (Timothy) and their extended families, Newport News, Va.; sister, Susan Patterson, Las Vegas, Nevada; an aunt, Shirley Foster and numerous cousins. Darel was preceded in death by her parents, Russell and Hilda Arasim; her husband, Lester M. Graham, and son, William S. Edwards Jr. "Fudgie."

The family will receive friends on Thursday, March 17, 2022, at the funeral home from 1-2 p.m., with funeral services starting at 2 o'clock. Burial will be in Gwynn's Island Cemetery.

The family would like to extend their deepest thanks to her amazing caregivers: Laura Garrett, Brenda Hudgins, Conception Tello, Angie Jenkins-Hollis, as well as her Riverside Hospice staff and Sentara Home Health staff.

Memorial donations can be made to Gloucester Volunteer Fire & Rescue, P.O. Box 1417, Gloucester, Va. 23061, or to Mathews Volunteer Rescue Squad, 94 Cricket Hill Road, Hudgins, Va. 23076.

Andrews Funeral Home & Crematory, Gloucester, is in charge of arrangements.

Gloucester Point Cemetery
Please remove the fall & Christmas arrangements you desire to keep by March 21. We will be cleaning the cemetery in preparation for spring/Easter season and grass cutting. Any questions or concerns, call Bernard Robins at 804-642-6412 or Milton Hudgins at 804-642-5622.

GEORGE G. HELLIESEN



George G. Helliesen, 78, passed away on Monday, March 14, 2022, at the Riverside Convalescent Center-Mathews. He was born in Norfolk, Va., on April 15, 1943 to George L. and E. Elizabeth Hudgins Helliesen. He is survived by his wife, Mary; niece, Kristi Helliesen Guichard; cousins, Gloria Hudgins Haywood and Carolyn Hudgins Pugh of Mathews, Robert Helliesen of Berkeley, California, and Scott Helliesen of Teaneck, New Jersey. He was predeceased by his parents and adopted sister, Patricia Helliesen LeBlanc. George attended first grade at Lee-Jackson Elementary in Mathews and subsequently spent his summers in Peary at the home of his grandparents, Capt. Clifford and Madge Kirk Hudgins. He graduated from Newport News High School in 1961, a proud Typhoon. He earned Bachelor's and Master's of Science Degrees in Speech Pathology and Audiology at Western Michigan University in Kalamazoo, Michigan. From 1970 to 1973, he taught at Radford College where he played a major role in developing their Speech Pathology & Audiology program. After returning to the Gloucester/Mathews area, George was a Speech Therapist for Hampton City Schools. From 1978 to 1985, he served as the Regional Director of Special Education for the Northern Neck and retired in 1998, after 13 years as Director of Special Education for Gloucester County Public Schools. George enjoyed boating, flying remote control planes, RV travel and his dogs. He wrote two books on stuttering and stuttering therapy during his retirement. Dementia and his declining health never completely took away his wry sense of humor. He had a good life. He became a resident of Riverside Convalescent Center-Mathews in May 2019. There is no way to repay the nurses, aides, support staff and administration for their kindness and dedication. We are also indebted to the caregivers of Riverside Hospice. A private burial will be held at St. Paul Annex Cemetery in Susan, Va. Faulkner Funeral Homes, Foster-Faulkner Chapel, Mathews, Virginia, is assisting the family. Donations in George's memory can be made to the Gloucester-Mathews Humane Society, P.O. Box 385, Gloucester, Va. 23061.

GLORIA OGDEN HUDGINS



Gloria Ogden Hudgins, formerly of Hayes, died March 5, 2022 in Connecticut.

She was born in Norfolk, raised in Mathews County, and worked as a cashier for Safeway and Farm Fresh. She was a member of the Bethlehem United Methodist Church, Bena.

Her husband, Bobby Hudgins, and sister, Claudette Phillips, preceded her in death.

Survivors include her daughter, Dianne Elie; two grandchildren; two great-grandchildren; a stepdaughter, Cheryl Gibson; a stepson, Ronnie Hudgins, and four step-grandchildren.

The family received friends Tuesday, March 15, 2022, from 10:30-11:30 a.m. at Hogg Funeral Home, followed by a graveside service at noon in Rosewell Memorial Gardens Cemetery, conducted by the Rev. Carol Bookwalter.

Memorial contributions may be given to Bethlehem United Methodist Church, P.O. Box 185, Bena, Va. 23018.

LAURA HUDNALL



Laura Hudnall, age 87, of Hayes, went peacefully to be with the Lord on Saturday, March 12, 2022, with her family by her side. Laura is survived by her loving husband of 46 years, Jimmy; children, Ed (Rhonda) Hudnall, John (Pat) Hudnall, Debbie (Joel) Emerson, and Timmy Hudnall. She is also survived by seven grandchildren and 19 great-grandchildren; brother, Brian Warren, and sister, Brenda (David) Lee. Laura was a faithful member of Beech Grove Baptist Church, where she often enjoyed attending Sunday services with her family. She will always be remembered for hosting family gatherings at her house, and always welcoming any extras. Laura loved to bake, especially for the holidays, when she was surrounded by those she loved and who loved her dearly. Laura will always be remembered for her giving heart, she enjoyed shopping and giving to others. The family will receive friends at Beech Grove Baptist Church on Friday, March 18, 2022, from 10-11 a.m. with a funeral service, conducted by the Rev. Dr. Richard Croxton, to begin at 11 o'clock. Interment will take place in the church cemetery. The family welcomes friends to the church social hall directly after the service for fellowship. In memory of Laura, contributions may be made to Beech Grove Baptist Church, P.O. Box 468, White Marsh, Va. 23183.

Services under the direction of Hogg Funeral Home.

(CONTINUED ON PAGE 10A)

CARD OF THANKS

We would like to thank everyone who thought of us after the passing of William Franklin Smith. Your cards, calls, visits, food, flowers and donations were appreciated at this difficult and sad time. Sincerely, Marilee, Linda, Sharon, Larry, Ricky and families

OBITUARIES

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 9A)

LARRY LYNN NELSON



Larry Lynn Nelson was born on December 13, 1941 in Beaver Creek Township, Hamilton County, Illinois. He passed away peacefully on March 14, 2022 at his home in Moon, Mathews County, Virginia. Larry was 80 years old.

Larry was the eldest son of Millage Lee Nelson and Helen Berniece Wisley. In 1947, his parents purchased a 40-acre farm south of Wayne City, Illinois, where Larry was raised. He was named valedictorian of Wayne City High School at age 16; he

started college at age 16 and received his bachelor's degree from Southern Illinois University in 1962. Larry then attended Purdue University and received a master's degree in 1964 and later his Ph.D. in Agricultural Economics.

From the late 1960s to the late 1980s, Larry ran his own business designing, programming, and selling computerized Management Information and Planning Systems to both small and large companies in the U.S. and Canada. During the 1970s, he was a contributor to the World Book Encyclopedia Year Book. In the late 1980s, Larry sold his business to one of his clients and worked in their Information Systems department where he managed up to 75 programmers and oversaw the implementation of a multimillion-dollar Enterprise Resource Planning system. Prior to retiring in 2008, Larry managed a team of business analysts and a team of trainers with the responsibility of being the link between Information Systems and the Business Units.

On February 27, 1960, he married Betty Jean Freeland in Sims, Wayne County, Illinois. They had four children who Larry said were his greatest accomplishment. Left to deeply grieve his loss are daughters, Cheryl (Mondher), Carmen (Andrew), Connie (Mike); son, Craig; grandchildren, Matthew, Ryan, Callum, Garrett, Ramzi, Betty, Alexander, Alex, Ruby; great-grandchildren, Bella, Charlotte, Wade, Braylee, Bastian; brother, Stanley (Marilyn); sister, Karen; nephew, Brian; niece, Kathy; cousins, Richard and Sheila, and many friends. Andrews Funeral Home & Crematory is in charge of arrangements.

BARBARA G. PAULINO

Barbara G. Paulino of Gloucester, died at her home on Tuesday, March 15, 2022.

Full obituary to follow. See www.hoggfh.com for more information.

Services under the direction of Hogg Funeral Home, Gloucester Point.

ROXIE MAE STAMPER



Roxie Mae Stamper, 79, of Gloucester, died on Sunday, March 6, 2022.

She was born in Hudson, N.C., and was preceded in death by her parents, Virgie Mae and Ransom Samuel Davenport; brothers, Floyd, Ward and Dale Davenport; sister, Lois Davenport Blackwelder and twin sisters who died at birth.

Survivors include her husband of 52½ years, Tommy Ralph Stamper; her children, Sherry Diane Brown of Ashkum, Ill., Penny Lee McCombs of Rutherfordton,

N.C., Tracy Lynn Simmons, Leisa Dawn Stamper, and Thomas Fulton Stamper of Gloucester; sister, Mamie Violet Cannon of Lenoir, N.C.; five grandchildren, and five great-grandchildren.

She went to shoe school and was a professional corrective shoe fitter having worked for Hofheimer's and Thalhimers. She had also worked in management at Roses Department Store, Gloucester.

A funeral service was held at 1 p.m. Saturday, March 12 in Hogg Funeral Home, Gloucester Point, with entombment at Windsor Gardens Cemetery, Dutton.

MARCIA WOODBURY THOMAS



Marcia Woodbury Thomas, 66, of Gloucester, Virginia, passed away peacefully on March 12, 2022.

She was born to parents, Richard "Dick" and Mary Woodbury.

She graduated from Arundel High School in Crofton, Md., in 1973. She went on to study at Atlantic Christian College in Wilson, N.C. where she earned a B.A. with concentration in Education.

During her college studies she met the love of her life, Kenneth "Ski" Joseph Thomas, and they were wed in 1981.

Ski and Marcia settled in Gloucester where Marcia worked as a teacher serving the community for the deaf and hard of hearing in Gloucester Public Schools for 34 years until her retirement in 2017. During much of that time she also held a concurrent instructor position with Rappahannock Community College.

In her free time she enjoyed gardening, traveling, and spending time with family including her eight grandchildren.

Marcia is survived by her son, Tyler Thomas and his wife Rachel and their four children of Kodiak, Alaska; her daughter, Kate Schartz and her husband Brandon and their four children of Charlottesville, Va.; her sister, Gail Turner and her husband Meade of Tilghman Island, Md.

She was predeceased by her parents, Dick and Mary Woodbury, and her husband, Kenneth "Ski" Thomas.

The family has entrusted the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints of Gloucester (on Short Lane) with the arrangements. A funeral is scheduled for March 17, 2022 at 3 p.m. at the church with Bishop Nathan Mitchell to preside. Refreshments to follow.

Donations in memory of Marcia Thomas can be made to the Gloucester Educational Foundation, c/o Office of Superintendent, 6099 T.C. Walker Road, Gloucester, Va. 23061.

THOMAS MAXWELL WALKER



Thomas Maxwell Walker of Hayes, died of natural causes at his home on Tuesday, March 8, 2022, at the age of 56. Tom is survived by his wife, Frances; father, Phillip, and sister, Vicki. He was preceded in death by his mother, Patricia Walker.

Tom was born on May 31, 1965 in Portsmouth, Virginia. He was a graduate of Gloucester High School in 1983 and the Newport News Shipyard Apprentice School where he received a diploma as a machinist.

Tom went on to work at NASA and retired in July 2021. Tom was an outdoorsman who loved hunting, fishing, racing, and camping with family and friends. The family received friends on Sunday, March 13, 2022, from 4:30-6 p.m. at Hogg Funeral Home. A celebration of life service will be held at Grafton Christian Church, 109 Brick Church Road, Yorktown, Virginia 23692 on Saturday, March 19, 2022, from 11 a.m.-1 p.m. Inurnment will be private. Memorial contributions may be made to Abingdon Volunteer Rescue Squad, at P.O. Box 9, Bena, Va. 23018. Services under the direction of Hogg Funeral Home.

Black to give genealogy talk at Gloucester Library

The Gloucester Genealogical Society of Virginia will meet at 10 a.m. on Friday, March 25, in the Community Room of Gloucester Library, Main Street Center. The meeting is free and open to the public.

The GGSV program this month will feature Mathews-based professional genealogist and family historian Lori Jackson Black. In addition to owning and operating LJB Professional Genealogy & Research Services in Mathews, Black serves on the Board of Directors of The Fairfield Foundation in Gloucester and is the founder and president of Preservation Mathews, Inc.

She will share with the group information about websites, tips and suggestions for researching family history and genealogy online and also give pointers on avoiding misdirected research. For more information on Black and her work can be found at www.lorijacksonblack.com.

Emergency allotments continue for SNAP

Virginia's Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) will again release emergency allotments of benefits to eligible households this month. Benefits will be automatically loaded to recipients' Electronic Benefits Transfer cards Wednesday, March 16.

The emergency allotments raise existing SNAP households' monthly benefit amount to the maximum allowable based on household size, ranging from \$250 for an individual up to \$1,504 for a family of eight, with \$188 for each additional family member after that.

The enhanced SNAP benefit

is made available through a public health emergency declaration that requires government agencies to request an extension of emergency allotment issuances on a month-to-month basis. Accordingly, the status of future emergency allotment benefits will be determined by this monthly approval process.

SNAP participants with questions related to their benefits are encouraged to contact their local department of social services or visit CommonHelp at commonhelp.virginia.gov to access account information. For more information regarding SNAP, how to apply, and other assistance

programs, visit dss.virginia.gov/benefit.

For streamlined access to other critical and actionable resources from 2-1-1 Virginia, CommonHelp, and other state and federal agencies, visit COVID.Virginia.gov/app to download the COVID-19 Virginia Resources mobile app.

Olive Branch United Methodist Men's Corned Beef & Cabbage Dinner

will be held
Friday, March 18, 2022 • 5-7 p.m.
at the church
10833 Harcum Rd., Gloucester, VA 23061
(Rt. 606)

Carry-out meals only

Call 804-693-3299 or 804-694-8259
to reserve your meal/meals

There is no charge but a love offering will be accepted to support the United Methodist Men's community work during the year! Thanks for your support!

COMING EVENTS

THURSDAY

SOCIAL SERVICES: The Gloucester County Social Services Board will meet at 7:30 this morning in the Social Services conference room.

FRIDAY

DAR: The Cricket Hill Chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution will meet at 2 p.m. Friday at 121 Morgan's Lane, New Point, the home of Rebecca Morgan. The focus of Friday's program will be Women's History Month. For more information, contact Colanne Bunting at lanie23035@gmail.com.

SATURDAY

YARD SALE: The Auxiliary of American Legion Post #75 will hold an indoor yard sale from 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. Saturday at post headquarters, 5849 American Legion Way, Gloucester. Food and drink will be available for purchase. Cash and debit/credit cards will be accepted. Proceeds benefit the organization's ongoing philanthropic efforts.

MUSICAL: The Moose Family Players will present "The Sound of Music" this weekend, with performances at 3 p.m. and 7 p.m. Saturday and 3 p.m. Sunday. The show will be held at the Moose Lodge building, located off Route 17 south of Gloucester Court House. Tickets (\$10 for adults; \$5 for children and students with ID) will be sold at the door, Office Supply in Gloucester and Golden Creations.

TUESDAY

SUPERVISORS: The Mathews County Board of Supervisors will meet at 6 p.m. Tuesday in the historic courthouse on Court Street.

QUILTERS: The River Country Quilters Guild will meet at 6:30 p.m. Tuesday at Grace Covenant Presbyterian Church, 6470 Main Street, Gloucester. This month's topic is "These are a Few of My Favorite Things." Those attending are asked to bring in up to three tools or other items that may not necessarily meant for use in quilting, but they are in your sewing room. Be prepared to tell how they are used in sewing and quilting. All interest levels and quilters are welcome to attend.

BZA: The Gloucester Board of Zoning Appeals will meet at 7 p.m. Tuesday in the colonial courthouse on Main Street.

WEDNESDAY

SUPERVISORS: The Gloucester Board of Supervisors will hold public hearing on the county budget and tax rates for Fiscal Year 2023 at 7 p.m. on Wednesday, March 23, at T.C. Walker Education Center.

IN MEMORIAM



In memory of
Deacon S. Wendell Paige

July 7, 1941 ~ March 18, 2018

Gone but not forgotten.

Wife, Pauline
Children, Wendy & Langston
Sister, Regina and
granddaughter, Zakayi

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Blue and Gold Banquet

Cub Scout Pack 175, Gloucester, had its Blue and Gold Banquet on Feb. 24. Here, Cub Master Devyn Middlebrook leads the pack in the Scout Oath during the opening ceremony. From the Wolves Den color guard presenting the flags are Dixie Lemons and Scarlett Sucher, from left.



Candygram fundraiser

The Student Council Association at Peasley Middle School held a Valentine's Day candygram fundraiser and was able to make monetary donations in the amount of \$100 each to the local GUEST program and the Gloucester-Mathews Humane Society. Pictured above are SCA members, front row from left, Allison Smith, Brody Sanford, Merissa Shoener, Aiden Nix, Noah Theoy; middle row, Summer Day, Lexi Spangler, Bailey Kittrell, Carodie Walker, Isabella Brodsky, Daniel Wells; back row, Isabella Miller, teacher Stephanie Sowers, Eleanor Patterson, Aubrey Simpson, Emmalynn Hemphill, Paula Ochoa-Zepeda, Lisa Jones, Teagan Wamsley, teacher DeDe Driver and GUEST representative Yvonda Roberts-Whitfield.

CCS to hold open house April 11

Christchurch School, a private school located in Middlesex County, will hold an open house at 9:30 a.m. on Monday, April 11, for families and students interested in either day school or boarding opportunities. Guests will tour the campus, eat lunch, and meet teachers, coaches and students. They will be able to learn about the school's sports programs, performing arts, outdoor programming, college counseling, student leadership, the Learning

Skills Program, makerspace, national championship sailing program, oyster program, class Immersion Trips, global education program, the financial aid process, and more. Those who would like to can register for afternoon interviews. Interested families can complete the online registration form at www.christchurchschool.org/admission/visit or call 804-758-2306, ext. 122.

Retired educators to meet

The Gloucester Retired Educators Association will hold its spring in-person meeting at 11 a.m. next Thursday, March 24, at the DAV Hall, 6265 Professional Drive, Gloucester. The program will be on the National Alliance on Mental Illness and will be presented by Peggy Newsome, lead affiliate of the Tidewater unit. For more information, contact Nancy Keenan at 804-815-4370 or nkeenan49@gmail.com.

Governor's School students named to Director's List

Several Gloucester and Mathews High School students were named to the first-semester Director's List at the Chesapeake Bay Governor's School for the 2021-2022 academic year. The honor is awarded to students who have earned a 3.6 GPA or better in the term in their CBGS coursework. Local students in the Class of 2022 named to the list were Daniella Asnicar, Carson Brown, Brenna Hendrix, Joice Small and Dylan White. Members of the Class of 2023 on the list included Savannah Hartlove, Ethan Hudgins, Wilton Hudgins, Faith Lewis, Joshua Mayer and Makaela Tilley. Members of the Class of 2024 named to the list were Zoe Camp, Andrew Greve, Ailin Harpole, Mary Hospodar and Madeline Miller.

Ware announces honor rolls

Ware Academy recently announced its honor rolls for the second trimester of the 2021-2022 school year. Students who earn honors have a grade point average of 3.5-3.79. Students who earn high honors have a GPA of 3.8-4.0. Named to the honors roll were Carly Moss, Bentlea Lawrence, Zoey Gardiner, Brody Marshall, Hannah Harris, Mia Paton, Katelyn Carnes, Xander Powell, Fenton Scott, Adeline Smith, Cara Moss, Eliza Fitzgerald and Lydia Gardiner. Named to the high honors roll were Jaclyn Callis, Sammie Ames, Hannah Lambert, Rylee Buck, Noah Chambers, Sydney Latoski, Kyle Hudson, Henry Fleet, Charli Miltenberger, Callie Penick, Lillian Williams, Sienna Rowe, Gunnar Marston, Barbara Smith and Macon Kissman.

Personnel appointments approved in Gloucester

The Gloucester School Board made several personnel appointments during its March 8 regular monthly meeting at the T.C. Walker Education Center. Kathryn Bowen of Mathews, was appointed to a speech language pathologist position at Bethel Elementary School, effective March 14; Melissa Torres of Hayes, was appointed to a cafeteria assistant manager position at

Gloucester High School, effective March 14; and Alexis Holland of Newport News, was appointed to a kindergarten teacher position at Bethel, effective March 28. Approved substitute appointees include Jenna Walsh, Cindy Lanning, Keyeta DuNomes, Sarah Potter, Abbey Martin, Cassie Hudgins and Victoria Smith. The board also approved resignations from Peter Perez

(special education teacher at Abingdon Elementary School), effective July 1; Jennifer Doss (grade four teacher at Achilles Elementary School), effective July 1; Patricia Flannery (librarian at Petworth Elementary School), effective July 1; Rachel Musick (paraprofessional at Petworth), effective July 1; Kimberly Menges (paraprofessional at Bethel), effective June 15; Victoria Smith (cafeteria worker at Bethel), effective Feb. 24; and Dexter Parzanese (game manager at GHS), effective for the spring season. Retirements were also accepted at last Thursday night's board meeting; Christy Hunt (health and physical education teacher at Peasley Middle School), effective July 1; Tammie Spivey (science teacher at Bethel), effective July 1; Donne Witt (school counselor at Peasley), effective July 1; Rebecca Jenkins and Theresa Bailey (bus drivers), effective July 1; and Patty Dial (administrative associate), effective July 1. Reassignments for Edward Muddiman (custodian at Abingdon to custodian at Peasley, date effective to be determined) and Karen Searcy (custodian to assistant custodial foreman at Botetourt, effective March 1) were also approved.

SCHOOL BRIEFS

Jordan L'Heureux of Gloucester, graduated from Troy University with a Master of Science in Management degree during the fall semester.

Michael Ziegenfuss of Hayes, was named to the fall 2021 dean's list at Radford University. Students must have 12 semester hours of graded coursework, earn a grade point average of at least 3.4 for all courses not graded on a pass-fail basis, obtain no grade lower than a C, and have no incomplete grades to receive this academic recognition.



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SPORTS

MHS girls open season with come-from-behind win

To open its 2022 season, the Mathews High School softball team defeated Essex in a thrilling, come-from-behind win on the road Tuesday, 5-2.

Trailing 2-0 in the top of the seventh inning with two outs and a runner on base, Olivia Coons doubled to left field and Lainie Wilson singled to tie the game and send it into extra innings.

In the top of the eighth, Reese Brock scored on a squeeze bunt to give Mathews the lead and two sacrifices scored the last two Devil runs. Emily West pitched all eight innings for Mathews for the win, striking out three, walking two and giving up one earned run. Christiana Wood had a stand-out day at the plate, with a double and single.

The varsity girls are scheduled to have their home opener today against Washington and Lee. The JV girls will begin their season on the road against W&L at Montross. Both games are due to start at 5 p.m.

Devils shut out Trojans, 3-0

BY THOMAS HUBBARD

The Mathews Blue Devil baseball team kicked off its season Tuesday, shutting out the Essex Trojans, 3-0. Senior Daniel Moughon pitched 6 2/3 scoreless innings, with junior Dawson Adams closing out the win.

Junior Aidan West led off for the Devils, going 1-4 with a single, followed by Adams also going 1-4 with a single and also reaching on errors twice. Senior Brady Wright went 2-4 with two doubles, followed by junior Will Jackson who went 1-4 with a single, also reaching base after being hit by a pitch and an intentional walk.

Next, sophomore Timmy Dehoux went 0-4 but reached on walk on his last at bat. Moughon went 0-4 but reached by a fielder's choice. Senior Richie Hogge went 1-4 with a single, his last at bat. Sophomore Noah Wright reached base three times on two walks and being hit by a pitch. Finally junior Ethan Hudgins went 1-4 with a single, his first at bat. West and fellow junior Thomas Hubbard each had a stolen base.

The varsity baseball team will have its home opener at 5 o'clock today against Washington and Lee, with the JV squad traveling to Montross. On Tuesday, the Devils head to Middlesex to face Christchurch School.



MELANY SLAUGHTER / GAZETTE-JOURNAL

The Gloucester High School varsity softball team defeated the Hampton Crabbers, 27-0, during its season opener at home Tuesday night. Pictured above is Sadie Bowden at bat for Gloucester.

GHS softball defeats Crabbers in season opener

BY MELANY SLAUGHTER

In its first regular game of the season, the Gloucester High School varsity softball team defeated the Hampton High Crabbers, 27-0, Tuesday night at home.

GHS pitcher Jayanna Richards pitched a complete game, striking out 13 batters in five innings. She also had two doubles and five RBIs during her first game with Gloucester.

Hailey Hardaway had two

hits, including a first-inning home run and also had five RBIs. Samantha Carlton added three hits while Kaia Hutton contributed two hits in three at bats.

In total, GHS had 15 hits and were also aided by eight

Crabber errors.

The GHS softball team is scheduled to travel to Hampton tonight and to Churchland Friday. All games have a 4:30 p.m. start time.



Gloucester Dukes player Liam Wamsley works to keep the attack going against the Crabbers during the boys' 8-1 win over Hampton High School.



Joelle Forrest takes on a defender in the Lady Dukes' 8-0 win over the Crabbers of Hampton High School. Forrest scored twice against Hampton and recorded two assists.

GHS soccer teams dominate Hampton

BY TYLER BASS

The Gloucester Dukes' varsity soccer teams came to play season home openers against Hampton High School. Both the boys and girls took down the Crabbers by putting up eight points. Only the Hampton boys' team managed to

score a goal against the dominant performances from the Dukes.

Boys

Both Kohlby Wilson and Andrew Teagle scored a pair of goals against Hampton in the 8-1 win. Cayden Brumm, A.J. Goller, Kegan Winter and Alex Hogge each

scored once. Hogge, Wilson and Brumm also recorded an assist each. Sam Cook, Aaron Miller, Ceasar Nieto and Dylan Herron also recorded assists.

Goalie Jesse Manheim recorded eight saves.

Girls

Caroline Merchant record-

ed an impressive four goals and two assists against Hampton. Joelle Forrest scored twice on the Crabbers and record two assists. Cori Morgan and Emily Castillo score one goal each. Taylor Brown recorded one assist.

Racing returns to VMS on April 9

Virginia Motor Speedway will return to weekly racing on Saturday, April 9. The Middlesex County half-mile speed plant will feature

races in the Victory Lap Pro Late Model, Truckin' Thunder Sportsman, Budweiser Modified, and Collision One Limited Stock Car divisions.

Competitor gates for Saturday, April 9 will open at noon for inspection and registration, with spectator gates opening at 5 p.m. On-track activities will begin at 5:30 p.m. for practice/hot laps.

The speedway is currently accepting registrations for the 2022 season. Visit the speedway's website to download and print off the forms. Competitors are encouraged to fill out the registration form in advance to speed up opening

day.

Admission price is \$12 for adults, \$10 for seniors (60+), \$8 military (active-duty/retired with proper ID), \$6 for students (ages 13-17). Children 12 and under are admitted free. Pit passes are \$25.

Bill Sawyer's Virginia Motor Speedway is located on Route 17, eight miles north of Saluda. Race fans can go to www.vamotorspeedway.com to view the complete schedule of Virginia Motor Speedway's 2022 season, find detailed event information, get the latest news, and get full ticket and camping information.

WEATHER

These readings were compiled at the Buchanan Weather Station at Gwynn.

DATE	MAX	MIN	Prec.	Wind
03/08	64	41	0	24nw
03/09	48	41	1.37	21wnw
03/10	46	36	0	23nw
03/11	54	32	0.07	14ssw
03/12	54	37	1.50	49nw
03/13	43	24	0	28nw
03/14	57	30	0	16wsW

Summary

The National Weather Service, Wakefield predicts rain in our area Thursday, with a break in the wet weather expected during the day Friday until raining again that night into Saturday. Later Saturday the skies should clear up and stay sunny throughout Sunday. Temperatures for Sunday will stay in the mid 60s.

LOCAL TIDES

Mobjack Bay, East River Entrance			
	HIGH	LOW	
Thursday	2:02 a.m.	8:55 a.m.	
3/10	2:29 p.m.	8:36 p.m.	
Friday	3:01 a.m.	9:57 a.m.	
3/11	3:32 p.m.	9:38 p.m.	
Saturday	4:13 a.m.	10:56 a.m.	
3/12	4:42 p.m.	10:40 p.m.	
Sunday	6:19 a.m.		
3/13	6:40 p.m.	12:47 p.m.	
Monday	7:10 a.m.	12:37 a.m.	
3/14	7:29 p.m.	1:33 p.m.	
Tuesday	7:55 a.m.	1:29 p.m.	
3/15	8:14 p.m.	2:15 p.m.	
Wednesday	8:36 a.m.	2:17 a.m.	
3/16	8:55 p.m.	2:53 p.m.	

Tide adjustments at other points:

York River, Tue Marsh Light—Subtract 5 minutes.
York River, Yorktown—Add 5 minutes.
York River, Almondsville—Add 1 hour, 5 minutes.
York River, Entrance to Perrin River—Add 1 minute.
Brown's Bay—Subtract 7 minutes.
S.W. Branch Severn River—Add 4 minutes.
Ware River—Subtract 4 minutes.
North River—Subtract 4 minutes.
New Point Comfort—Subtract 1 minute.
Plankatank River, Cherry Point—Add 1 hour.
Plankatank River, Dixie—Add 1 hour, 33 minutes.
Urbanna—Add 2 hours, 50 minutes.

THE SUN THIS WEEK

	Sunrise	Sunset
3/10	6:24 a.m.	6:08 p.m.
3/11	6:22 a.m.	6:09 p.m.
3/12	6:21 a.m.	6:10 p.m.
3/13	7:19 a.m.	7:11 p.m.
3/14	7:18 a.m.	7:12 p.m.
3/15	7:16 a.m.	7:13 p.m.
3/16	7:15 a.m.	7:14 p.m.

THE MOON THIS WEEK

	Moonrise	Moonset
3/10	10:55 a.m.	1:20 a.m.
3/11	11:40 a.m.	2:16 a.m.
3/12	12:33 p.m.	3:08 a.m.
3/13	2:30 p.m.	4:55 a.m.
3/14	3:31 p.m.	5:35 a.m.
3/15	4:35 p.m.	6:11 a.m.
3/16	5:39 p.m.	6:43 a.m.

MARCH MOON PHASES

New moon	3/2
First quarter	3/10
Full moon	3/18
Last quarter	3/24

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Registration still open for Educational Foundation 3K/8K

Registration is still open for the Chesapeake Bank/Chesapeake Wealth Management Gloucester Educational Foundation 3K and 8K Run/Walk, which will be held on Saturday, March 26, at Gloucester High School.

The 8K will begin at 9:30 a.m.

and the 3K at 9:40. Proceeds benefit the Gloucester Educational Foundation's Teacher of the Year recognition and the mini-grant program.

Registration is available online through Wednesday, March 23 at <https://runsing-up.com/gcef3k8k5k> and also

on race day at the GHS auxiliary gym beginning at 8:15 a.m. A virtual 5K option is also available. For more information, contact Carol Dehoux at 804-693-1425 or cdehoux@gc.k12.va.us or visit <https://gets.gc.k12.va.us/gcps-educational-foundation>.

Registration open for Tappahannock fishing tournament

Register now for the Tappahannock Rotary Club's 18th annual Rappahannock River "Big Croaker" Tournament, which will be held on Saturday, June 11.

Fishing will take place between the bridges at Tappahannock and White Stone from

7 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Boat entry fee is \$135 before May 1 and \$175 after that date. There will be thousands of dollars in prizes possible to win. All proceeds of this event will benefit charitable causes.

To learn more and to register, visit www.bigcroaker.com.

Any questions can be answered by Wright Andrews, public information officer for the tournament, who can be contacted by phone at 202-441-6012 or by email at wandrews@andrews-dclaw.com.

It's All About Sports

GLOUCESTER HIGH SCHOOL SPRING SPORTS SCHEDULE



GIRLS' & BOYS' SOCCER

3/4	Scrim - Grafton	Girls-JV/V	Away 5:30 & 7
3/8	Scrim - Tabb	Boys-JV/V	Away 5 & 6:30
		Girls-JV/V	Home 5 & 6:30
3/10	Scrim - Grafton	Boys-JV/V	Home 5 & 6:30
3/15	Hampton	Girls/Boys-V	Home 5 & 7
		Girls/Boys-JV	Away 4 & 5:30
3/17	York	Girls-JV/V	Away 5:30 & 7
3/18	Lafayette	Boys-JV/V	Away 5:30 & 7
		Girls-V	Home 5:30
3/22	Bethel	Girls/Boys-V	Away 4 & 5:30
		Girls/Boys-JV	Home 4 & 5:30
3/25	New Kent	Boys-JV/V	Away 5:30 & 7
		Girls-JV/V	Home 5 & 7
3/29	Kecoughtan	Girls/BoysV	Away 4: 5:30
		Boys-JV	Away 4:30
4/12	Woodside	Girls/BoysV	Home 5 & 7
		Girls-V/JV	Away 4 & 5:30
4/18	Essex	Girls/Boys-V	Home 5 & 7
4/19	Heritage	Girls/BoysV	Away 4 & 5:30
4/21	Poquoson	Girls/BoysV	Home 5 & 7
		Girls/Boys JV	Away 5:30 & 7
4/26	Denbigh	Girls/Boys-V	Home 5 & 7
		Boys-JV	Home 4:30
4/28	Norview	Girls/Boys-V	Home 5 & 7
5/3	Menchville	Girls/Boys-V	Home 5 & 7
		Girls/Boys-JV	Away 4 & 5:30
5/10	Warwick	Girls/Boys-V	Away 4 & 5:30
		Girls/Boys-JV	Home 4 & 5:30
5/11	West Point	Boys-JV/V	Away 5:30 & 7
		Girls-JV/V	Home 5 & 7
5/17	Phoebus	Girls-V	Away 4
		Boys-V	Away 5:30

TBA Regional Tournament

TBA State Tournament

Varsity Away start times Girls 4 p.m. Boys 5:30 p.m. unless noted.
Varsity Home start times Girls 5 p.m. Boys 7 p.m. unless noted.



SOFTBALL AND BASEBALL

3/5	Scrim - Warhill	BB Away	11:00
3/8	SB-Scrim-York	Var Away	4:00
3/11	SB-Scrim-York	Var Home	4:00
3/11	Scrim- New Kent	BB Home	4:00
3/15	Hampton	Home	4:30
3/17	Hampton	Away	4:30
3/18	Churchland	SB Away	4:30
3/21	Essex	BB Home	4:30
3/22	Bethel	Away	4:30
3/24	Bethel	Home	4:30
3/29	Kecoughtan	Away	4:30
3/31	Kecoughtan	Home	4:30
4/1	SB - Manor	Away	4:30
4/12	Woodside	BB Home	4:30
4/13	Woodside	SB Home	4:30
4/14	Woodside	Away	4:30
4/18	BB Grafton	Home	4:30
4/20	Heritage	Var Away	4:30
4/22	Heritage	Var Home	4:30
4/26	Denbigh	Home^	4:30
4/28	Denbigh	Away^	4:30
5/3	Menchville	Home	4:30
5/5	Menchville	Away	4:30
5/10	Warwick	Away*	4:30
5/12	Warwick	Home*	4:30
5/17	Phoebus	Away	4:30
5/19	Phoebus	Home	4:30

TBA Regionals TBA

TBA State TBA

BB-Baseball only games. SS-Softball only games

JV @ Opposite location unless noted

^NO JV Baseball game

*Softball vs Warwick @ Riverside Elementary

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WRESTLING

12/1	Glo & Her	Phoebus	6:00pm
12/15	Den & Wood	Gloucester	6:00pm
12/22 & 23	Toys for Tots	Ocean Lakes	TBA
1/5	Ham & Kec	Gloucester	6:00pm
1/8	Invite	Mathews	TBA
1/12	War & Beth	Gloucester	6:00pm
1/19	Menchville	Menchville	6:00pm
1/26	Glo & Den	Menchville	6:00pm
	Region	Nansemond River	TBA
	States	TBA	



TRACK AND FIELD

2/25-26	TBA	Todd	Conn-Madden
4/2	TBA	New Kent	All American Classic
4/13	3 pm	Todd	10 PD Teams
4/16	TBA	James River HS	Invite
4/20	3 pm	GHS	10 PD Teams
4/27	3 pm	Todd	10 PD Teams
4/30	TBA	GHS	GHS Classic
5/4	3 pm	GHS	10 PD Teams
5/5-6	TBA	Todd	Woodside Classic
5/20-21	TBA	GHS	5B Region
6/3-4	TBA	Todd	5 State Meet



GIRLS' TENNIS

3/15	Grafton	Away	4:30
3/17	Mathews	Home	3:30
3/22	Hampton	Away	3:30
3/24	Bethel	Away	3:30
3/29	Kecoughtan	Away	3:30
3/30	Poquoson	Away	4:00
4/12	New Kent	Home	4:00
4/14	Woodside	Home	3:30
4/21	Heritage	Home	3:30
4/25	Kecoughtan	Home	3:30
4/28	Denbigh	Home	3:30
5/5	Menchville	Home	3:30
5/12	Warwick	Away	3:30
5/17	Phoebus	Home	3:30
5/19	Regional Tournament	Huntington	
TBA	State Tournament	Huntington	



SPRING 2022

All About Sports

MATHEWS

HIGH SCHOOL SPRING SPORTS SCHEDULES

OUTDOOR TRACK

March 17	Boys' Varsity Charles City, King & Queen Central, Rappahannock	4:30	Away
	Girls' Varsity Charles City, King & Queen Central, Rappahannock	4:30	Away
March 24	Boys' Varsity Middlesex, Charles City County, Essex	4:30	Away
	Girls' Varsity Middlesex, Charles City County, Essex	4:30	Away
March 26	Boys' Varsity Invitational Charles City County	9:00	Away
	Girls' Varsity Invitational Charles City County	9:00	Away
April 14	Boys' Varsity Northumberland, King & Queen, Central Washington & Lee	4:00	Away
	Girls' Varsity Northumberland, King & Queen, Central Washington & Lee	4:00	Away
April 19	Boys' Varsity West Point, King & Queen Central, Lancaster	4:30	Away
	Girls' Varsity West Point, King & Queen Central, Lancaster	4:30	Away
April 28	Boys' Varsity King William, Carver College and Careet Academy, Essex	4:30	Away
	Girls' Varsity King William, Carver College and Careet Academy, Essex	4:30	Away
April 30	Boys' Varsity Classic - Gloucester	8:00	Away
	Girls' Varsity Classic - Gloucester	8:00	Away
May 3	Boys' Varsity West Point, Carver College & Career Academy, Washington & Lee	4:30	Away
	Girls' Varsity West Point, Carver College & Career Academy, Washington & Lee	4:30	Away
May 7	Boys' Varsity Invitational - West Point	9:00	Away
	Girls' Varsity Invitational - West Point	9:00	Away
May 12	Boys' Varsity King William, King & Queen Central, Northumberland	4:30	Away
	Girls' Varsity King William, King & Queen Central, Northumberland	4:30	Away
May 19	Boys' Varsity District Tournament	TBD	Away
	Girls' Varsity District Tournament	TBD	Away
May 26	Boys' Varsity Region Tournament	TBD	Away
	Girls' Varsity Region Tournament	TBD	Away
June 3	Boys' Varsity State Tournament	TBD	Away
	Girls' Varsity State Tournament	TBD	Away
June 4	Boys' Varsity State Tournament	TBD	Away
	Girls' Varsity State Tournament	TBD	Away

GIRLS' TENNIS

March 17	Gloucester	Away	4:00
March 21	Lancaster	Home	4:00
March 23	Rappahannock	Away	4:00
March 28	Essex	Home	4:00
March 30	Northampton	Away	4:00
April 4	West Point	Home	4:00
April 13	Middlesex	Away	4:00
April 18	Northumberland	Away	4:00
April 20	Lancaster	Away	4:00
April 25	Rappahannock	Home	4:00
April 27	Essex	Away	4:00
May 2	Northumberland	Home	4:00
May 4	West Point	Away	4:00
May 9	Middlesex	Home	4:30
May 11	Northumberland	Home	4:00
May 23	Region Tournament	Away	TBA
May 24	Region Tournament	Away	TBA
May 25	Region Tournament	Away	TBA
May 26	Region Tournament	Home	1:00
May 27	Region Tournament	Home	1:00

CREW

March 26	Scrimmage, Williams Wharf	TBD	TBD
April 2	Walter Mess Regatta	8:00	Away
April 16	Scrimmage Against Albemarle High School	TBD	TBD
April 23	Ryz Obuchowicz Regatta	8:00	Away
April 30	Al Urquia Regatta	8:00	Away
May 7	Scrimmage, Williams Wharf	TBD	Home
May 14	VA State Rowing Championships	8:50	Away
May 19-21	Stotesbury Championship Regatta		TBD

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Saluda, VA 804-758-2315
Marks-Bristow Chapel
Tappahannock, VA 804-443-2210

BOYS' SOCCER

March 16	Lancaster	Home V	6:00
March 18	Rappahannock	Home JV	5:30
	Rappahannock	Home V	7:00
March 23	King William	Home JV	5:30
	King William	Home V	7:00
March 25	Northumberland	Away JV	5:30
	Northumberland	Away V	7:00
March 28	West Point	Away JV	5:30
	West Point	Away V	7:00
March 30	Middlesex	Home JV	5:30
	Middlesex	Home V	7:00
April 13	Northumberland	Home JV	5:30
	Northumberland	Home V	7:00
April 25	King William	Away JV	5:30
	King William	Away V	7:00
April 27	West Point	Home JV	5:30
	West Point	Home V	7:00
May 2	Middlesex	Away JV	5:30
	Middlesex	Away V	7:00
May 9	Lancaster	Away V	7:00
May 16	Varsity District Tournament	Away V	6:00
May 18	Varisty District Tournament	Away V	6:00
May 26	Varsity Region Tournament	Away V	6:00
May 31	Varsity Region Tournament	Away V	6:00
June 2	Varsity Region Tournament	Away V	6:00
June 7	Varsity State Tournament	Away V	6:00
June 10	Varsity State Tournament	Away V	6:00
June 11	Varsity State Tournament	Away V	6:00

BASEBALL

March 8	Team scrimmage	Away JV	
March 11	Bruton scrimmage	Away V	4:30
March 15	Essex	Home V	5:00
	Essex	Away JV	5:00
March 17	Washington & Lee	Home V	5:00
	Washington & Lee	Away JV	5:00
March 22	Christchurch	Away V	4:00
March 26	Washington & Lee	Away V	5:00
	Washington & Lee	Home JV	5:00
March 29	Christchurch	Home V	5:00
March 31	V Wells Fargo Tournament vs. Lancaster		6:30
	JV Wells Fargo Tournament vs. Lancaster		6:30
April 2	V Wells Fargo Tournament vs. Nandua		11:00
	JV Wells Fargo Tournament vs. Rapp.		11:00
April 5	Northumberland	Home V	5:00
	Northumberland	Away JV	5:00
April 8	Northumberland	Away V	5:00
	Northumberland	Home JV	5:00
April 12	*King William	Away V	5:00
	King William	Home JV	5:00
April 14	King & Queen	Home V	5:00
April 15	Essex	Away V	5:00
	Essex	Home JV	5:00
April 19	Charles City	Home V	5:00
April 21	West Point	Away V	5:00
	West Point	Home JV	5:00
April 26	Middlesex (JV/V DH)	Home V	4-7
	Middlesex (JV/V DH)	Home JV	4:00
April 28	King William	Home V	5:00
	King William	Away JV	5:00
May 3	*King & Queen	Away V	5:00
May 5	*Charles City	Away V	5:00
May 10	West Point Senior Night	Home V	5:00
	West Point	Away JV	5:00
May 13	*Middlesex (JV/V DH)	Away V	4-7
	Middlesex (JV/V DH)	Away JV	4:00
May 17	District Tournament Semi	High seed	5:00
May 19	District Tournament Finals	High seed	5:00
May 21	Region 1A Quarterfinals	TBA	5:00
May 31	Region 1A Semifinals	TBA	5:00
June 2	Region 1A Finals	TBA	5:00
June 7	State Quarterfinals	TBA	5:00
June 10	State Semifinals	TBA	TBA
June 11	State Finals	TBA	TBA

*Denotes District Games

SOFTBALL

March 11	Bruton scrimmage	Away V	4:30
March 15	Essex	Home V	5:00
	Essex	Away JV	5:00
March 17	Essex	Home V	5:00
	Essex	Away JV	5:00
March 26	Washington & Lee	Away V	5:00
	Washington & Lee	Home JV	1:00
March 31	JV Wells Fargo Tournament vs. Lancaster		4:00
April 1	V Wells Fargo Tournament vs. Rapp.		4:00
	V Wells Fargo Tournament vs. SHA		4:30
April 2	V Wells Fargo Tournament vs. TBD		TBA
April 5	Northumberland	Home V	5:00
	Northumberland	Away JV	5:00
April 8	Northumberland	Away V	5:00
	Northumberland	Home JV	5:00
April 12	King William	Away V	5:00
	King William	Home JV	5:00
April 14	King & Queen	Home V	5:00
April 15	Essex	Away V	5:00
	Essex	Home JV	5:00
April 18	Poquoson	Away JV	5:00
April 19	Charles City	Home V	5:00
April 21	West Point	Away V	5:00
April 26	Middlesex (JV/V DH)	Home V	4-7
	Middlesex (JV/V DH)	Home JV	4:00
April 28	King William	Home V	5:00
	King William	Away JV	5:00
May 2	Lafayette	Away V	4:30
	Poquoson	Home JV	5:00
May 3	King & Queen	Away V	5:00
May 5	Charles City	Away V	5:00
May 10	West Point Senior Night	Home V	5:00
May 13	Middlesex (JV/V DH)	Home V	4-7
	Middlesex (JV/V DH)	Home JV	4:00
May 17	District Tournament	High seed	5:00
May 19	District Tournament	High seed	5:00
May 26	Region 1A Quarterfinals	TBA	TBA
May 31	Region 1A Semifinals	TBA	TBA
June 2	Region 1A Finals	TBA	TBA
June 7	State Quarterfinals	TBA	TBA
June 10	State Semifinals	TBA	TBA
June 11	State Finals	TBA	TBA

The impact of your lifesaving friendship

BY CAITLIN DONNELLY
COMMUNICATIONS & DEVELOPMENT COORDINATOR
GLOUCESTER-MATHEWS HUMANE SOCIETY

The Gloucester-Mathews Humane Society's animal welfare programs and services help thousands of pets and families every year. Collectively, we have the ability to ensure GMHS remains a beacon of hope and safe harbor for all those in need. Each pet has their own story, and we would like to share a few of those with you.

"Kelly," a senior cat with diabetes, spent 236 days in GMHS's care. She became a staff favorite as she was the most affectionate feline ever. In our care, she was always in the mood for some cuddles and pets. Thanks to the reach of social media, Kelly found her forever family in North

Carolina and is now living her best life. She gets to spend her senior years happy and healthy in her forever home. You could not ask for a happier chapter for her story.

Two-year-old "Lynelle" was transferred into GMHS from another local shelter. Her whole body would wiggle with excitement when she saw you. During her intake exam, this affectionate dog tested positive for heartworm disease. Lynelle and all dogs who test positive at GMHS or Gloucester County Animal Control are treated for heartworms through our Help for Hearts program. Lynelle has completed her heartworm treatment and met her perfect match. This cuddly canine will now have the opportunity to lead a long and healthy life with her family.

The shelter's Highway to Home program transports pets from GMHS to adoption-guaranteed agency partners. Most of these partners are located in the northeast U.S. and are home to communi-



"Lynelle" came to the Gloucester-Mathews Humane Society suffering from heartworm disease. She was treated and met her adopter, Martha Knight. Lynelle is just one of the many lives that have been saved and transformed through the GMHS Help for Hearts program.

ties with a great demand for adoptable pets and few local homeless pets. When a pet from GMHS goes to one of our trusted partners, they average less than one week in the new shelter before being adopted. We work with our partners to help place homeless pets in areas where adoption demands are high and rescues have space.

One such pet who has recently been adopted through this successful program is "Socks," a senior boxer who had been looking to make his heart connection for several months. Within days at his new rescue, he met his per-

fect match. Thank you to all of our GMHS staff, volunteers and donors for making these heart connections possible.

GMHS is grateful to have friends and lifesaving partners like you. Your support—and the many forms it takes—makes our mission to save and transforms the lives of pets in need possible. Thank you for sharing your heart for homeless pets with GMHS.



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As we start our new adventure, we at Sandy Creek Pet Resort truly appreciate your business the last 20 years, and we're so grateful for the trust you've placed in us.

We wish Donna McPherson, the new owner, all the best.

John and Suzanne Holt




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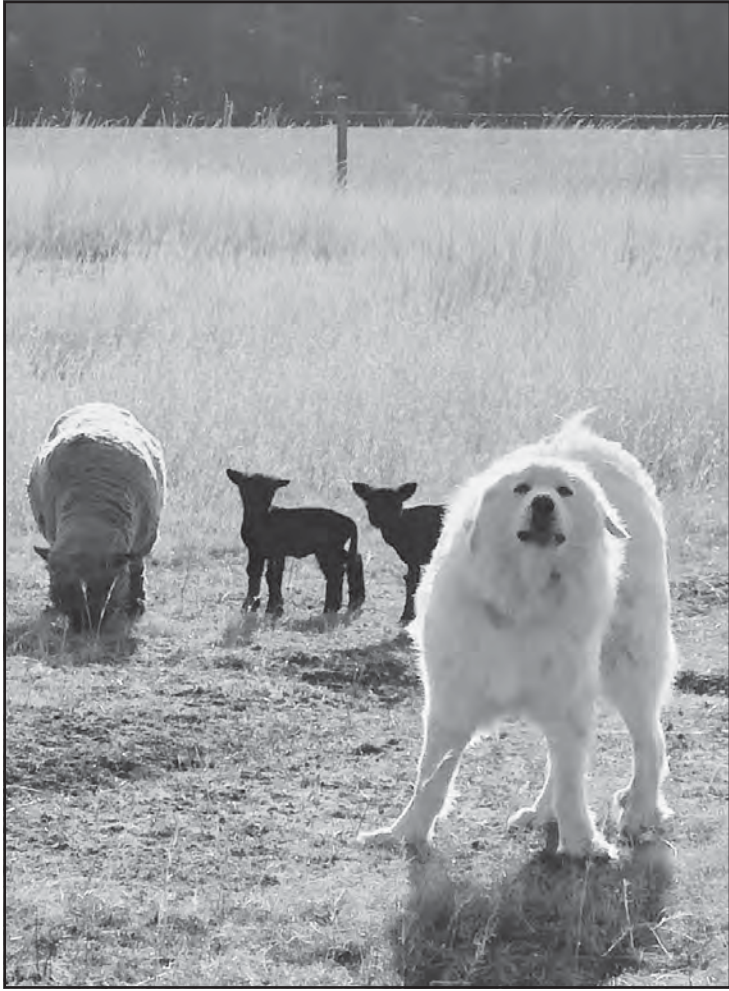


PHOTO BY LINDA TJOSEM

Keeping watch

This is one of three Great Pyrenees that guard sheep and goats in a pasture on Glass Road, Hayes. As you can see, there is new life on the farm. This dog has a big bark, but he is actually quite friendly. The farmer is always happy to let those passing by see and pet his animals.



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COVID-19 UPDATE: *Just 20 new cases in Gloucester last week; 4 each in Mathews, Middlesex*

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1A)
saw three new hospitalizations, for a total of 663, and five additional deaths, for a total of 402.

Statewide, there were 5,906 new cases, for a total of 1,656,187 cases over the past two years. There were 424 new hospitalizations and 226 deaths statewide this past week, for totals of 48,188 and 19,356, respectively.

Nationally, case rates were less than 40,000 per day over

a seven-day average, according to a press release from Dr. Richard Williams, medical director of the Three Rivers Health District.

With the nation “in a much better place than we were two years ago,” collective protection mandates are ending, he said, and “we can now choose to effectively protect ourselves as individuals, guided by COVID-19 exposure risk and personal risk for severity of disease.” All of this is possible

because there is good access to vaccines, said Williams, along with effective personal protective equipment, effective therapeutics, higher levels of immunity, and increasing access to testing.

Booster messages

The Virginia Department of Health has a new program to send text and voice messages to residents to remind them they are eligible for free booster shots against COVID-19, said a separate press release.

The program began Wednesday.

Those eligible will receive a message saying: “Virginia Department of Health records indicate you are eligible for a Booster COVID-19 vaccine. To schedule an appointment visit <https://vase.vdh.virginia.gov> or call 804-815-4191 or 877-829-4682.”

Individuals do not need to wait for notification to get a vaccine booster, said a press release. Anyone receiving a

message who is not due for a vaccine should call VDH at 877-VAX-IN-VA (877-829- 4682) to make sure their record is up to date. TTY users should call 7-1-1.

For more information, visit www.vdh.virginia.gov/covid-19-vaccine or www.vdh.virginia.gov/three-rivers.

Vaccinations available

The Gloucester Health Department will have a vaccine clinic from 10 a.m. to noon next Thursday, March 24, at

the department in the Main Street Center on Main Street. The Moderna vaccine will be available for ages 18 and older and the Pfizer vaccine will be available for ages five and older. Boosters will be available, as well.

Testing

The Middlesex Health Department is offering testing by appointment only every Wednesday throughout March. To make an appointment, call 804-815-4191.

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Werowocomoco intern named 2022 Corpsmember of the Year

Kalen Anderson, former Appalachian Conservation Corps' Werowocomoco project intern, will be recognized by The Corps Network, the National Association of Service and Conservations Corps, as a 2022 Corpsmember of the Year. Four awards are granted nationwide.

The Corps Network presents the Corpsmember of the Year Award on an annual basis to young adults chosen from among the approximately 25,000 individuals who serve in member organizations of The Corps Network every year.

The Corpsmembers of the Year are young people who, through their term of service in a Corps, have demonstrated personal growth, outstanding leadership skills, and a sincere commitment to helping their community. All winners of the Corpsmember of the Year Award are nominated by their Corps.

During his stint at Werowocomoco, Anderson exemplified these qualities, a release stated. As a member of the Nansemond Tribe, Anderson used his water quality training to contribute to his tribe's work with the Nanticoke Watershed Alliance on oyster bed recovery projects on the Nansemond River.

The Werowocomoco internship project is a collaboration between federal land management agencies, conservation service corps and Native communities. The National Park Service is collaborating with



Kalen Anderson, former Appalachian Conservation Corps' Werowocomoco project intern, has been selected as a 2022 Corpsmember of the Year.

seven tribal partners—the Rappahannock, Upper Mattaponi, Mattaponi, Pamunkey, Nansemond, Chickahominy Eastern Division, and Chickahominy—to learn more about Werowocomoco, incorporate it into the NPS system, and accurately and respectfully interpret it for future visitors. The Werowocomoco project interns work with the NPS during their service terms, learning about all aspects of park management.

Anderson hopes to continue his relationship with AmeriCorps and the NPS and apply the education awards he has earned during his service terms to obtain a bachelor's degree.

"The skills and relationships I have built so far from being

a Corps member can transfer to any career endeavor I may have in the future," said Anderson. "I want to become an Indigenous Environmental Specialist to contribute and help local tribes work on environmental programs and projects after I graduate."

The four 2022 Corpsmember of Year awardees will be honored at The Corps Network's annual national conference, taking place virtually April 4-6. The theme for the event is, "We are the Civilian Climate Corps: a CCC for a New Generation." For more information about the conference, visit corpsnetwork.org/ conference. For more information about the Appalachian Conservation Corps, visit appalachiancc.org.

Dragon Run nature walk to be held Sunday

The Friends of Dragon Run will celebrate the first day of spring—this Sunday, March 20—with a nature walk. The nature walk begins at 1 p.m. and ends at 3.

Nature experts Jeff Wright, Dr. Kevin Howe and Teta Kain will lead small groups of participants on a walk through the Revere and Williams tracts at FODR's Big Island

site. Big Island serves as the put-in and take-out location for many of FODR's paddle trips.

Participants will see spring ephemerals (early blooming plants such as may apples and bloodroot), butterflies, and dragon flies, and will see and hear migratory songbirds and a host of frogs. This hike offers an opportunity for

those who don't want to kayak the Dragon to experience it on land as it transitions from winter to spring.

A scavenger hunt will be available for both children and adults. Participants will be treated to hot chocolate, hot cider, and cookies after the hike. This event is free, but registration is required. Go to DragonRun.org to sign up.

SPECIAL EVENT INVITATION Coping Techniques for Caregivers



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