

Shore First

Issue #104031

Morning Edition



Home

The roar of the
the small town
their biggest game
championship. The
feet and the atmos
the hometown team
pared to take the field
was the star quarterback. G
Gus had played football since
kid and had risen through the ran
captain of the Wildcats. He

A Harbor's End clam fritter

With hand-cut fries and hush puppies, Greenbackville waterfront eatery serves a top sandwich, page 10

Shore First

The Eastern Shore of Virginia's
monthly newsmagazine

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of each month
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KIRK MARINER (1943-2017)
CANDY FARLOW (1953-2017)

VISIT

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Shore First | Entertainment calendar

Friday, February 2

- FARMERS MARKET: 10 a.m. to 3 p.m., Parksley Farmers and Artisans Market, 18444 Dunne Ave., Parksley.
- BINGO: 5 p.m. doors open, 6:30 p.m. games begin, Exmore Moose Lodge 683, 15315 Merry Cat Lane, Belle Haven.
- BENEFIT DINNER: 5 to 7 p.m., Great Pocomoke Fair, 2037 Broad St., Pocomoke City. Cheesesteak sub meal, \$10; chicken tender meal, \$8. Call 410-422-9195 to place a pickup order.
- PIZZA FUNDRAISER: 5 to 8 p.m., drive-through pizza fundraiser at New Church Fire and Rescue, New Church. Pepperoni, sausage, or bacon 16-inch pizzas for \$14, or combination pizzas for \$15.
- BINGO: 6 p.m. doors open, 7 p.m. games begin, Chincoteague Volunteer Fire Co. bingo, 5052 Deep Hole Road, Chincoteague Island. \$5 admission, 20 games with \$500 blackout at the end sponsored by Megan Oliver Clarkson, Long & Foster Realtor. Two bingo cards for \$1 with extra cards available for purchase. Food and soda will be for sale. Must be at least 16 years old to attend.
- LIVE MUSIC: 6:30 to 8:30 p.m., The Stingrays live at Fridays at Lemon Tree Gallery, 301 Mason Ave., Cape Charles.

Saturday, February 3

- WINTER BIRD WALK: 9 a.m., winter bird walk at The Nature Conservancy's Brownsville Preserve in Nassawadox. Event is free but reservations are requested by emailing mvanclief@tnc.org or calling 757-414-9227.
- DECOY SHOW: 9 a.m. to 4 p.m., The Oyster Farm at Kings Creek presents the second annual Eastern Shore of Virginia Decoy Show in the Pearl Event Center, 700 Marina Village Circle, Cape Charles.
- CRAFTS, MUSIC: 10 a.m. to noon, Winter Warm-Up with Katie O'Shea of Coastal Knitting Co. at Lemon Tree Gallery, 301 Mason Ave., Cape Charles. The free event will include live music, coffee, hot chocolate, and pastries.
- STORY TIME: 10 a.m., craft and story time with the Chincoteague Bay Field Station at the Eastern Shore of Virginia Regional Library, 24313 Bennett St., Parksley.
- FARMERS MARKET: 10 a.m. to 3 p.m., Parksley Farmers and Artisans Market, 18444 Dunne Ave., Parksley.
- WINGS FUNDRAISER: 11 a.m. to 3 p.m., Zeta Phi Beta Sorority Inc. "Wings and Things" Scholarship Fundraiser at Shorter's Chapel A.M.E. Church, 10228 Bayside Road, Bridgetown. Wings are \$12 and come with one side. For more information contact Ivory Turner at 757-607-7537, Betty Sims Bell at 757-678-2944, Kim Johnson at 757-710-1535, or Subrina Parker at 757-678-6844.
- LIVE MUSIC: 6 to 8 p.m., B.K. and Eddy Dixon at the Great Machipongo Clam Shack, 6468 Lankford Highway, Nassawadox.
- COMEDY SHOW: Doors open at 7 p.m., show begins at 8 p.m., Antoine Scott and Friends at the Historic Palace Theatre, 305 Mason Ave., Cape Charles. Featured on

"Showtime at the Apollo," "TV One," and Bill Bellamy's "Who's Got Jokes?" Tickets are \$30 in advance and \$35 at the door. Tickets can be purchased at Lemon Tree Gallery, Rayfields Pharmacy locations in Cape Charles and Nassawadox, the Book Bin in Onley, and Kendall's Kountry Kitchen in Onley.

Sunday, February 4

- LIVE MUSIC: 1 to 4 p.m., open mic and jam session open to local musicians each Sunday at Cape Charles Brewing Company, 2198 Stone Road, Cape Charles. Free admission.
- LIVE MUSIC: 4 p.m., the 45-member Norfolk State University Concert Choir will perform at Hungars Episcopal Church, 10107 Bayside Road, Machipongo. It is free and open to the public. A free will offering will be accepted to sustain the series in the future.

Monday, February 5

- STORY TIME: Story time anytime, all day at the Eastern Shore of Virginia Regional Library, 24313 Bennett St., Parksley, and the Northampton Free Library, 7745 Bayside Road, Nassawadox.
- GAME DAY: 1 to 4 p.m., Game Day Monday at the Island Theatre Annex, 4074 Main Street. Bring a personal drink or snack. Card and table games available.
- CRAFTS: 10 a.m. to 12:30 p.m., Kids crafts at the Eastern Shore of Virginia Regional Library, 24313 Bennett St., Parksley.
- BINGO: Doors open at 5 p.m., first game at 7 p.m., Onancock Elks Lodge, 22454 Front St., Accomac. Info: 757-787-7750.

Tuesday, February 6

- TECH HELP TUESDAY: All day technology assistance at the Northampton Free Library, 7745 Bayside Road, Nassawadox.
- GAMING: 5 to 6:30 p.m., Teen Gaming Tuesday at the Eastern Shore of Virginia Public Library, 24313 Bennett St., Parksley.
- BINGO: Doors open 6 p.m., first game 7:30 p.m., Cheriton Volunteer Fire Co., 21334 S. Bayside Road, Cheriton.

Wednesday, February 7

- STORY TIME: Story time anytime, all day at the Eastern Shore of Virginia Regional Library, 24313 Bennett St., Parksley, and the Northampton Free Library, 7745 Bayside Road, Nassawadox.
- CLIMATE WORKSHOP: 2 to 4:30 p.m. is the first session; 5:30 to 8 p.m. is the second session. Eastern Shore of Virginia Climate Equity Workshop at Eastern Shore Community College, 29300 Lankford Highway, Melfa.
- CROCHET: 3 to 4 p.m., Crochet Stitch-A-Long at the Eastern Shore of Virginia Public Library, 24313 Bennett St., Parksley.

(Continued on page 14)



Happy Valentine's Day!

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Information contained herein believed accurate but not warranted.
Owner/Agent Properties are included in this advertisement



Little River Band, Firefall headline ChamberFest

BY TED SHOCKLEY

Shore Post

The Little River Band and Firefall, two popular bands from the 1970s and 1980s, will perform on Saturday, May 18, in Cape Charles, at the Eastern Shore of Virginia Chamber of Commerce's ChamberFest, a marketing and networking event in its third year.

ChamberFest will take place in "the old rail yard," a large waterfront property between Cape Charles' business district and the Shanty restaurant, from 3 to 8 p.m.

The announcement was made by Robert Sabbatini, the executive director of the chamber of commerce and the Eastern Shore of Virginia Tourism Commission, on Friday, Jan. 19, live on WESR 103.3FM.

The chamber's website stated tickets are \$75 each plus a \$3 surcharge. Tickets go on sale Monday, Feb. 5, Sabbatini said.

Sabbatini said the location and the season have changed from the first two ChamberFest events, which were held near Onancock. The bands included Molly Hatchett, Sawyer Brown, and Jefferson Starship during the first two years, as well as local musical groups.

"We've had some big acts here," said Sabbatini.

Sabbatini said the new location in Cape Charles provides more space, is closer to the Hampton Roads area, and will feature "the beautiful backdrop of the Chesapeake Bay."

"We think it's just going to be the perfect location," he said.

Moving ChamberFest from the fall to the spring also avoids hurricane season.

"The committee thinks long and hard about hurricane season," said Sabbatini. "We don't want to run into any issues like that."

The Little River Band has sold more than 30 million albums and has had numerous top-20 singles, including "Reminiscing," which reached No. 3 in the late 1970s.

Firefall's biggest single, "You Are the Woman," peaked at No. 9 on the Billboard chart in 1976.

It is Firefall's second performance in the area — the band also performed at the former Upper Deck restaurant in Pocomoke City in 1993.



The Little River Band, above, and Firefall, left, two popular bands from the 1970s and 1980s, will perform on Saturday, May 18, in Cape Charles, at the Eastern Shore of Virginia Chamber of Commerce's ChamberFest, a marketing and networking event in its third year.

COURTESY PHOTOS

CAPE CHARLES, VA

301 MASON AVENUE

FEB
10 | 8:00
PM

VALENTINE
dance party
with the Shoal Shakers

Historic Palace Theatre
\$15/ person
Sweet Treats & Cash Bar

MAR
2 | 7:30
PM

LATIN BALLET
OF VIRGINIA

HISTORIC PALACE THEATRE
ADULTS \$30 | STUDENTS \$15

presenting sponsor RAYFIELD'S
HEALTH AND WELLNESS PHARMACY

APR
5 | 7:30PM
6 | 7:30PM
7 | 3:00PM

Arts Enter Cape Charles presents

ONE-ACT PLAY
FESTIVAL

AT THE HISTORIC PALACE THEATRE | ADULTS \$30 & STUDENTS \$15
APRIL 5 - 7, 2024

APR
20 | 7:30
PM

DANCING DREAM
ABBA TRIBUTE BAND

Historic Palace Theatre
Adults \$30 & Students \$15

Presenting sponsor BUILDERS

757-331-4327 | #SMALLTOWNBIGART

A heart-shaped meatloaf and red velvet cupcakes

Valentine's Day is just around the corner. For me, it's never been a big romantic holiday. Sure, just like any girl, I enjoy pretty red roses and rich indulgent chocolates. However, I honestly look forward to checking off the names on the class Valentine's lists with my little ones and sending in little sweet treats for their friends more than

anything. And of course I enjoy the little things we do as a family to make the day special.

Growing up, my family always had a Valentine's Box. It was a banker's box (or something similar) with a slot cut on the top. My mom covered it in a wrapping paper that we then embellished with hearts and decorations. It usually came out the first week in February and the whole family added treats for everyone.



Laura Davis

It was always so exciting wondering what was inside!

On Valentine's Day we all opened it together and enjoyed our goodies. I've carried this tradition on to my boys and they always really look forward to it. I love it being a family-friendly holiday and it seems like they do, too.

We opt to stay home and make a heart-shaped meatloaf, another tradition I've carried on from my mom. As for a sweet treat, look no further than these classic red velvet cupcakes. I only make them once a year because I tend to stain all my fingers blood red, but it's fun nonetheless!

Leftovers from the meatloaf make phenomenal sandwiches the day after. A gift that keeps on giving is the best kind. Happy Valentine's Day, ESVA! Spring is just around the corner.



PHOTO COURTESY LAURA DAVIS

Classic red velvet cupcakes make a sweet treat for Valentine's Day.

Laura Davis, of Chincoteague Island, is a food writer and blogger at www.tideandthyme.com. Her recipes have been featured on Huffington Post and www.craftbeer.com, among other publications.

She is a frequent guest on WBOC-TV's DelmarvaLife show, where she showcases her culinary talents for viewers. Her work appears monthly in Shore First.

Red velvet cupcakes

- 2 1/2 cups sifted cake flour
- 1 teaspoon baking powder
- 1 teaspoon salt
- 2 tablespoons unsweetened cocoa powder
- 2 oz. red food coloring (two bottles)
- 1/2 cup unsalted butter, softened
- 1 1/2 cups sugar
- 2 eggs, at room temperature
- 1 teaspoon vanilla extract
- 1 cup buttermilk, at room temperature
- 1 teaspoon white vinegar
- 1 teaspoon baking soda

Preheat oven to 350 degrees. Line two 12-cup muffin tins with cupcake papers.

Sift together the cake flour, baking powder, and salt into a medium bowl; set aside.

In a small bowl, mix food coloring and cocoa powder to form a thin paste without lumps; set aside.

In a large bowl, using a hand mixer or stand mixer, beat butter and sugar together until light and fluffy, about three minutes.

Beat in eggs, one at a time, then beat in vanilla and the red cocoa paste, scraping down the bowl with a spatula as you go.

Add one third of the flour mixture to the butter mixture, beat well, then beat in half of the buttermilk.

Beat in another third of flour mixture, then second half of buttermilk.

End with the last third of the flour mixture, beat until well combined, making sure to scrape down the bowl with a spatula.

In a small bowl, mix vinegar and baking soda. Yes, it will fizz!

Add vinegar mixture to the cake batter and stir well to combine. Using an ice cream scoop, fill cupcake cups with cake batter (they should be 2/3 to 3/4 full).

You may not fill all the cups; I ended up with 20 cupcakes. Place muffin tins on the middle rack of a preheated 350 degree oven. Bake for approximately 20-22 minutes, rotating pans halfway through.

Cupcakes are done when a toothpick inserted in the center comes out clean. Check early and don't over bake!

Cool the cupcakes in their tins on a wire rack for 10 minutes then remove and allow to cool completely before frosting. For garnish I like to process one cupcake in a food processor and use the crumbs to sprinkle onto cupcakes.

Cream cheese frosting

- 8 ounces cream cheese
 - 4 ounces butter
 - 3 3/4 cups confectioner's sugar, sifted
 - 1/2 teaspoon vanilla extract
 - 1/8 teaspoon salt
- Cream the butter, cheese, and salt in a stand mixer until light and fluffy. Gradually add the sugar until incorporated, then add the vanilla.

Heart-shaped meatloaf

- 1 tablespoon butter
- 1 medium onion, chopped fine
- 1 rib celery, chopped fine
- 1 large clove garlic, minced
- 1 teaspoon paprika
- 1/3 cup tomato sauce
- 1/2 cup low-sodium chicken broth
- 2 large eggs
- 1 tablespoon soy sauce
- 1 teaspoon Dijon mustard
- 2/3 cup crushed saltines
- 1 1/2 teaspoons table salt
- 2 tablespoons minced fresh parsley leaves
- 1/2 teaspoon ground black pepper
- 1 pound ground chuck
- 1 pound ground sirloin

Glaze

- 1/2 cup ketchup
- 1 teaspoon hot pepper sauce
- 1/2 teaspoon ground coriander
- 1/4 cup cider vinegar
- 3 tablespoons packed light brown sugar

Heat oven to 375 degrees. Spread cheese on plate and place in freezer until ready to use.

Prepare baking sheet — cover a broiler pan or a cookie cooling rack with two layers of foil and punch holes in it so fat can drain. Then put pan or rack in another pan to catch drips and prevent your oven from smoking you out of the house.

Heat butter in a skillet over medium-high heat, add onion and celery and cook, stirring occasionally, until beginning to brown.

Add garlic, and paprika and cook, stirring, until fragrant, about 1 minute. Carefully stir in the tomato sauce, and let thicken and reduce a bit — about 1 minute longer. Transfer mixture to small bowl and set aside to cool.

Whisk broth and eggs in large bowl until combined. Stir in soy sauce, mustard, saltines, parsley, salt, pepper, and onion mixture. Add ground meat; mix gently with hands until thoroughly combined, about 1 minute.

Transfer meat to foil rectangle and shape into a heart-shape. Place in oven and cook for 1 hour before adding glaze.

While meatloaf cooks, combine ingredients for glaze in small saucepan; bring to simmer over medium heat and cook, stirring, until thick and syrupy, about 5 minutes.

Spread half of glaze evenly over cooked meat loaf with rubber spatula; place under broiler and cook until glaze bubbles and begins to brown at edges, about 5 minutes.

Remove meatloaf from oven and spread evenly with remaining glaze; place back under broiler and cook until glaze is again bubbling and beginning to brown, about 5 minutes more. Let meatloaf cool about 20 minutes before slicing.

Mr. Boykin's school at Cherrystone

The big house that stands at the entrance to Cherrystone is "Huntington," built "only" around 1800 and thus hardly old by the standards of this vicinity.

But in this house occurred a lit-



Kirk
Mariner

tle-known chapter in the African American history of the Shore, yet another of those events that make this corner of the peninsula historic.

In 1895 Huntington was owned by William A. Kimberley of Hampton, and in that year he sold it to another Hampton resident named Arthur L. Boykin.

Boykin.

Tall, thin, dark-skinned, distinguished, and well-dressed, Boykin was a graduate of Hampton Institute and was given to wearing the uniform of that school that had been established for Blacks at the close of the Civil War.

It was not as a home but for a school that he purchased Huntington, and for about six years at the turn of the 20th century this historic old ground was the site of the private school that he operated for the African American children of Northampton County.

Modeled after the Hampton Institute, Boykin's school is in one old record called Cheriton High School, and



COURTESY PHOTO

The old house that was the site of Arthur Boykin's school for African American children was photographed from across the creek by Griffin Callahan in the 1890s.

no doubt he envisioned that it would ultimately become a high school. He had first, however, to provide an elementary education, then to graduate students to the high school level.

When the school opened in 1896,

there were about 50 elementary students. Most of them attended daily from home at a cost of \$2 per month, but some of them boarded at the school from Monday through Friday at the cost of \$8 per month.

Hattie Spady taught first and second grade, Nora Bull and Sally Trower the higher grades — they were all local African American women — and "Major" Boykin and his wife Esther rounded out the faculty.

At Boykin's school there were classes in reading, writing, arithmetic, geography, history, English, music, cooking, sewing, carpentry, and a class in Bible every Friday. At daily devotional exercises in the big room the students memorized Biblical passages.

On weekends Sunday school was held in the main room, often attended by parents as well as children. And on Wednesday occurred the "parades" that were the high point of the week, when the Major taught the boys to march and drill.

Huntington was hardly a fancy schoolhouse. Fireplaces in every room provided the only heat. There were few desks and chairs. Students usually sat on church pews rescued from an abandoned Baptist church adjacent to the farm. Blackboards in the dining room were simply boards painted black on which the students wrote with chalk or crayon.

Purchase of textbooks was the responsibility of the students and their parents. "Miss Hattie" often took her students outdoors and taught them from nature from the bridge over the creek at the side entrance to the farm.

Nor was time out of the classroom easy. Boarding students lived upstairs and downstairs in various rooms

(Continued on page 9)

The Rev. Kirk Mariner was an Eastern Shore author, historian, and United Methodist minister whose book, "Off 13: The Eastern Shore of Virginia Guidebook," is an indispensable volume for natives and visitors alike.

Mariner died in 2017. His work appears in Eastern Shore First courtesy of Miona Publications. This story first appeared in his book, "True Tales of the Eastern Shore."

School

(Continued from page 8)

around the house, and some even in the smaller out-buildings on the property. Most of the boarders worked to help pay their way, the boys outside at the many chores around the farm, the girls at cooking, laundry, and cleaning.

Food was prepared in the old kitchen that stood apart from the house in the yard, and with student help was carried into the dining room in the main house. Though Major Boykin enjoyed wearing his, there was no required school uniform. There was not much time for play, but the students made games around the trees and buildings on the old estate, and were known to scamper among the tombstones in the side yard where old Obedience Robins (1600-1662), member of the Governor's Council, lay buried.

Boykin's school was at least unofficially a Baptist project. Its faculty were Baptists, as were most of the families from whom the students came, and the local churches of the African Baptist Association frequently helped with food, money, and supplies.

It is apparent that Boykin began the school with the understanding that the Association would ultimately purchase it from him. The property cost him the hefty sum of \$19,500, to be paid in ten annual installments, and with tuition so low he was necessarily dependent upon local support. However a number of Baptists in the Association were unclear whether Boykin or the Asso-

ciation would own the property once it was paid off, and there developed some degree of resentment between the locals and some of Boykin's Hampton contacts.

By 1902 it was apparent that the anticipated local support would not be forthcoming. When the Association met in the summer of that year there were not sufficient funds to buy the property, and Boykin was already behind in his payments. After much juggling of mortgages, sales of a few lots, and other attempts to keep the project afloat, Boykin abandoned the effort and the school closed. The property was sold back to Kimberley in 1903, and Arthur and Esther Boykin and their two children moved back to Richmond. Their students then had to walk as much as five miles to attend the nearest public school for Blacks on the Cheriton-Oyster road.

The Black Baptists of Northampton were undeterred by the failure of the school. In 1903 George E. Reid, pastor of Cheriton's African Baptist Church and friend of Esther Boykin, led in the incorporation of Tidewater Institute nearby in the little railroad village of Chesapeake. With the support of the local Baptist Association, this school opened in 1907 and for the next 28 years was a major force for education among an entire generation of Northampton's Black population.

Today a state historical marker indicates the site of Tidewater Institute. Its predecessor a few miles to the west is unmarked, and all but forgotten.

Recognize the Signs & Symptoms of a Heart Attack!



- Chest pressure, squeezing, aching or burning
- Shortness of breath
- Anxiety
- Excessive fatigue or weakness
- Pain in the jaw, back or pain that travels down one or both arms
- Feeling of fullness, nausea, vomiting or breaking out in a cold sweat



Call 911
if experiencing these symptoms!



JOIN OUR TEAM

Associate Extension Agent, 4-H Youth Development - Accomack County

Careers at Virginia Tech - (Job no. 528372); work type: Administrative & Professional

The 4-H Youth Development Agent is a professional educator who provides leadership to the local 4-H program and manages its day-to-day operation. 4-H is a community of young people learning leadership, citizenship, and life skills. The mission of 4-H is to develop youth, and adults working with those youth, to realize their full potential and become effective, contributing citizens. Must have a minimum of a Bachelor's Degree (BA or BS) in a relevant discipline from an accredited college or university. A master's degree and promotion to Extension Agent are required no later than the sixth year of employment. Shortlisting of candidates will start after February 16th, 2024 and continue until the position is filled. For questions, contact Janet Spencer - jaashle2@vt.edu

please visit this link and apply online: <http://tinyurl.com/papr98ek>



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RIVERSIDE

riversideonline.com/heart

Buck Boggs: From hoops to verse

So, what does a state champion basketball coach do when he retires from coaching?

He becomes a poet, of course.

I was browsing the stacks recently at the Book Bin in Onley and came



Curtis
Badger

across a slim volume of verse titled simply “Words.”

I began reading the poems and was quickly taken in by them.

They were brief for the most part, uncomplicated, which is a rare trait when it comes to modern poetry, but each one created a mental image or stirred an emotion of some sort.

All had a familiar Eastern Shore feel to them.

The author named on the cover was Custis L. Finney, but listed as publisher was George L. Boggs.

I remembered George Leonard Boggs from high school days. He was better known as Buck Boggs, a tall, lanky, outgoing individual who drove a Triumph TR-3 finished in British Racing Green.

Buck and his TR-3 were regulars on the Forks Grill to Onancock Wharf circuit, a nocturnal process-

sion indulged in by numerous generations of local adolescents.

I gave Buck a call and he confessed that he and Custis L. Finney were one and the same.

Buck taught history and coached basketball at Nandua High School, and he has the distinction of bringing home state championship trophies two years in a row.

Buck took over as head coach in 2000 and won all the marbles in 2002 and 2003.

“We had a very talented team with players who were not only good athletes, but good people,” said Boggs. “Several went on to participate at the next level.”

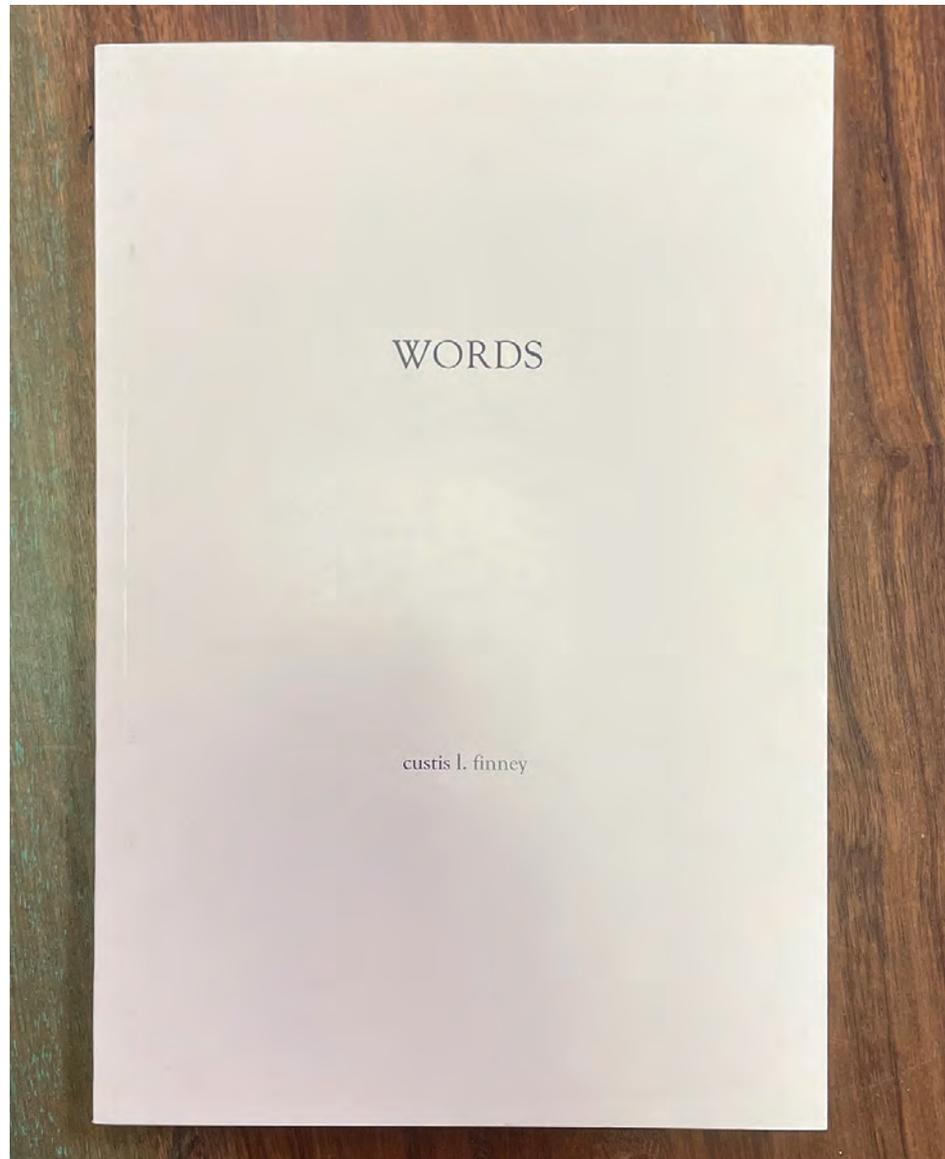
Few people were aware that in addition to coaching a local team to multiple state titles, Buck was also a poet, and it started when he was a teenager at Onancock High School.

“Gwendolyn Kellam and I used to write poems to each other in school,” he said.

“Whenever I had something on my mind, I would write a poem about it. One time my mother wanted me to cut down some weeds in our yard, and I didn’t want to do it. I thought the weeds were beautiful, and they deserved to live. But I did what she told me and cut them, and then I wrote a poem about it.”

The poem, “Ode to a weed I cut down,” written when Buck was 18 years old, is included in the

(Continued on page 11)



COURTESY PHOTO

“Words,” a book of poetry, is published under the name Custis L. Finney.

Curtis J. Badger is a Delmarva native who majored in English at Salisbury University and, with the exception of four years traveling as a U.S. Air Force photojournalist, has enjoyed a career photographing and writing about his native coast. His books include “Salt Tide: Cycles and Currents of Life Along the Coast,” “Bellevue Farm: Exploring Virginia’s Coastal Countryside,” and many others. He lives in Accomack County.

Boggs

(Continued from page 10)

collection.

Buck began writing poems when he was in school, but he put poetry aside during the years he coached basketball.

"A lot of people don't realize it, but coaching is a very creative process," he says.

"You are dealing with strategy, with personalities, and you need to come up with fresh ideas and thoughts. Basketball required all my creative energy during the years I was coaching."

Buck retired from teaching and coaching in 2008 after spending 38 years in the classroom and he soon returned to putting his thoughts into verse.

He wrote "Words," and followed that with another collection titled "Sometimes."

The books were published by Wa-

terford Printing in Exmore. Profits go to the Eastern Shore Literacy Council.

Buck's poems are like impressionist paintings, they create a visual reality using a minimum of detail.

The title "Words" is especially appropriate, in that each word seems to play a role in the verse; none are wasted, each word has its part to play. Most of the poems are about local people and places, and about things like gardening and being on the water. And Buck couldn't resist adding one about a subject especially dear to him:

*one last glimpse
of a scoreboard's dying glow
a haunting remnant
of a roaring crowd
in a hallowed hall
now bleacher silent.*

Death By Chocolate event planned on Chincoteague Island

The Historic Main Street Merchants Association of Chincoteague presents the 18th annual Death By Chocolate, a free island-wide chocolate lovers event, on Friday, Feb. 16, from 3 to 7 p.m., and Saturday, Feb. 17., from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Players complete a playing card while enjoying a chocolate treat at each participating business and are entered to win prizes upon completion.

Visit The Historic Main Street Merchants on Facebook or www.ChincoteagueMerchants.com for more details.



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Looking back on the Shore

The rich history of the Eastern Shore includes a very unpleasant chapter. In the early days, much of the land was divided into large plantations. Acres of sprawling farmland yielded a variety of crops; the farms were primarily operated with slave labor. Many African American families resided in substandard housing somewhere on the property. There are numerous stories of hope and courage from this trying period.



Barry Mears

In the 1780s, a young Black man by the name of Harry Hosier was born into slavery.

Mr. Hosier gained freedom from slavery and promptly entered the ministry. He preached about hardships, perseverance, and hope. His inspiring messages encouraged Francis Asbury and Thomas Cole to invite the young reverend to preach alongside them to predominantly White congregations. His message of racial equality broke many boundaries and opened the door for many other African Americans to succeed.

In the mid-19th century, the Civil War was raging, and slavery became a hotly debated topic. Thankfully, politicians in Washington, D.C., began to pass legislation to end the inhumane practice. Many slave owners had begun the process of voluntarily leaving the business, while others would fight to the death to uphold

it. The evil was defeated in January 1863. President Abraham Lincoln declared that a document he called the Emancipation Proclamation would free all slaves. However, slavery did not cease on the Eastern Shore or elsewhere. There were local holdouts who refused to obey the order. Many more political debates ensued over the subject of slavery. The Eastern Shore would abolish slavery on April 11, 1864, nearly a year and a half after Lincoln signed the Proclamation. The primary hardship for Black citizens is they had been deprived of a good education. There were trailblazers that paved the way for new beginnings. Dr. Thomas Nelson Baker,



"Living Shoreborn," by Barry Mears

born as a slave in Eastville in 1860, would use the experience of his humble beginnings to do great things for education. His mother began teaching him the sentences and letters she had learned as a child. She knew that a good education was the key to climbing from poverty.

Due to the family's newfound independence, Baker could attend better schools across the bay. He knew that teaching was his calling. He obtained his Ph.D. in Philosophy from Yale University in 1903, and what remarkable insight and perspective he must have had.

Another outstanding educator was Mary Nottingham Smith. She was born in Northampton County in 1882 and spent the majority of her career working for the Accomack County School system. She was instrumental in persuading teachers to move to rural areas and establish schools. Obtaining textbooks and supplies was difficult enough, but Mary Nottingham Smith's commitment could not be overstated. Her work in the field of education was memorialized when a new school was built bearing her name. There are countless numbers of people that benefited from her devotion.

I was fortunate enough to grow up in a school system that had long been desegregated. As I began researching the history of the Eastern Shore, I recognized that I had a great deal of admiration for the people who battled for racial equality. I didn't realize it at the time, but some of the most important people in my life might not have gotten the opportunities they did if not for those brave souls. One of the most influential teachers in my

life was Jack Johnson. He was an art teacher by trade, but he was much more to his students. He prepared us for more than simply painting and pottery; his wisdom provided us with an outstanding head start in life. If nothing else, we learned that a tragic part in our history paved the way for the success of many teachers, nurses, doctors, clergy, and business owners, and we are fortunate to have them. I visited such a business with my grandfather.

Samuel D. Outlaw was a local blacksmith in Onancock. Pop was always fitting his livestock with new adornments. Mr. Outlaw was a master of his craft, custom forging objects to his customers' needs. Farmers and watermen alike were loyal clients. He received his degree in 1925 and started Onancock's only blacksmith shop in 1927. He worked there until closing in 1991. Mr. Outlaw was a legend on the Eastern Shore, and his greatest love was his church, where he served for 46 years as Bethel AME Church Clerk. His tenure as Sunday School Superintendent lasted for 58 years. Samuel D. Outlaw, a prominent businessman, was a founding member of the Eastern Shore Building and Loan Association. I remember him as a kind and soft-spoken gentleman that made a huge impact on this community.

His work has close ties to some of the most historic events of the 20th century. The Keller Fair first came about in the 1880s. In the early days, the Fair was a way to exhibit farm products. The Turlington Camp Grounds was the place where many of the items were displayed. The event

(Continued on page 13)

Barry Mears is the author of "Living Shoreborn," which was edited by his daughter, Kamryn Mears, and published in 2023. He is also the founder of the popular Shoreborn Facebook page, which delves daily into the history and culture of the Eastern Shore of Virginia. Passages from his popular book, which is sold all over the Eastern Shore, will be printed monthly in Shore First. Mears said the name "Shoreborn" actually came from a family member who during conversations quipped as an affirmation, "as sure as you're born."

Shoreborn

(Continued from page 12)

was organized by a farmer's society called Grangers. When the young colts were shown to the crowd, many of the attendees voiced their displeasure. The controversy arose as a result of some people's opposition to horse racing. The Grangers went to work looking for nearby land to pursue a new location. They were successful in their endeavors, and they built what was known as "Grange Hall." They immediately went to work to construct a half-mile race track. James E. Mears chronicled many of these events in his writings. The new establishment was called the "Eastern Shore Agricultural Fair," and it was here that "Keller Fair" was born. According to Mears, a large grandstand was constructed for housing the spectators. As the fair's appeal spread to Shore residents, new attractions were added; this was an incredible venue for vendors to display their products. Back then, word-of-mouth was the only form of adver-

tising. This prompted chefs, bakers, and canners to bring their best items to sample.

The popularity of the fair and all the festivities inspired an entirely new sense of fashion. Those attending the horse races were dressed with impeccable style. The ladies were elegant and charming from head to toe, while men looked dapper in their new suits, top hats, and gold cufflinks. In Keller, Virginia, a new trend in horse racing apparel emerged. In the summer, the Eastern Shore sun is relentless, and gnats may ruin a pleasant day. To combat both, the ladies wore large brimmed hats adorned with anything rumored to repel an insect. This tradition would spread across the sport.

You may have seen such a hat at the Kentucky Derby. There were several categories for horse racing on the Shore because it was so popular. One of the most popular was the "Sulky" races. This was a wooden cart on wheels attached to the back of the horse. Instead of riding horseback, the jockey was in the cart, encouraging the animal to run faster.

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Calendar

(Continued from page 2)

■ **RABIES CLINIC:** 5 to 6 p.m., rabies clinic sponsored by the Pocomoke Animal Hospital to be held at the Exmore Moose Lodge, 15315 Merry Cat Lane, Belle Haven. Enter at back of the facility across from the tennis courts. The cost is \$5 per vaccine and is cash only. All cats must be in a carrier and all dogs must be on a leash. Proof of current vaccine is required to be eligible for a three-year vaccine.

■ **WINE WEDNESDAY:** 5 to 7 p.m., Wine Wednesday at Historic Onancock School, 6 College Ave., Onancock, featuring wine, chocolate, art, shopping, and more.

■ **BINGO:** Doors open at 6 p.m., first game 7:30 p.m., Painter Volunteer Fire Co., 17116 Wayside Drive, Painter.

■ **LIVE MUSIC:** 6 to 9 p.m., First Wednesday Open Mic Night at the Great Machipongo Clam Shack, 6468 Lankford Highway, Nassawadox.

Thursday, February 8

■ **SENIOR EXERCISE:** 10 a.m., Community Senior Exercise Program, at the Powelton Presbyterian Church, Wachapreague.

■ **CARD PARTY:** 11 a.m., the Eastern Shore of Virginia Chapter of the National Society of the Daughters of the American Revolution will have a card and game party fundraiser at the Island House Restaurant, Wachapreague. The \$40 admission includes lunch. A silent auction will be held. Proceeds support the scholarship fund for graduating seniors. RSVP at 757-442-4709.

■ **CREATIVE WRITING:** 5 p.m., Teen Creative Writing at the Eastern Shore of Virginia Public Library, 24313 Bennett St., Parksley.

■ **LECTURE:** 6 to 7 p.m., Gerald Boyd will give a lecture on the Samuel D. Outlaw Blacksmith Shop in Onancock at the Eastern Shore of Virginia Public Library, 24313 Bennett St., Parksley.

■ **INTERNATIONAL MOVIE:** 7 p.m., “Radical,” presented by the Roseland Cinema and Entertainment Center at the Roseland Theatre, Onancock. Tickets are \$8 for single show and \$25 for the season. Free for teachers and school administrators.

Friday, February 9

■ **BINGO:** 5 p.m. doors open, 6:30 p.m. games begin, Exmore Moose Lodge 683, 15315 Merry Cat Lane, Belle Haven.

■ **SECOND FRIDAY ART STROLL:** 5 to

8 p.m., sponsored by the Onancock Business and Civic Association. Businesses and restaurants will be open late with specials.

■ **HISTORICAL TALK:** 6 p.m., Jenean Hall will discuss her new book, “Another Day: More Stories from the Early Colonial Records of Virginia’s Eastern Shore,” at Ker Place, 69 Market St., Onancock.

■ **LIVE MUSIC:** 6:30 to 8:30 p.m., Paul Brion live at Fridays at Lemon Tree Gallery, 301 Mason Ave., Cape Charles.

Saturday, February 10

■ **YOGA:** 10 to 11 a.m., kids’ yoga at the Eastern Shore of Virginia Public Library, 24313 Bennett St., Parksley.

■ **FARMERS MARKET:** 10 a.m. to 3 p.m., Parksley Farmers and Artisans Market, 18444 Dunne Ave., Parksley.

■ **LIVE MUSIC:** 6 to 8 p.m., The Lowlanders — Celtic delight at the Great Machipongo Clam Shack, 6468 Lankford Highway, Nassawadox.

■ **LIVE MUSIC:** 7 p.m., Cheriton native Alvy Powell, who performed for nine U.S. presidents, will perform show tunes from “Porgy and Bess” and other Broadway selections as part of the Historic Cokesbury Church and Cultural Center’s Free Concert Series at 13 Market St. Donations are welcomed.

■ **LIVE MUSIC:** 7 to 9 p.m., Alex Holt at ESO Arts Center, Belle Haven. Tickets are \$20 in advance or \$25 at the door. Visit www.esoartscenter.org for tickets.

■ **LIVE MUSIC:** 8 p.m., Valentine’s Dance Party with the Soul Shakers at the Historic Palace Theatre, Cape Charles. Admission is \$15. Cash bar.

Sunday, February 11

■ **GAME DAY WINGS:** Noon to 4 p.m., Eastville Volunteer Fire Department game day wings. Four pounds of wings for \$25. Call or text 757-678-6939 to order.

■ **LIVE MUSIC:** 1 to 4 p.m., open mic and jam session open to local musicians each Sunday at Cape Charles Brewing Company, 2198 Stone Road, Cape Charles. Free admission.

■ **INTERNATIONAL MOVIE:** 2 p.m., “Radical,” presented by the Roseland Cinema and Entertainment Center at the Roseland Theatre, Onancock. Tickets are \$8 for single show and \$25 for the season. Free for teachers and school administrators.

Monday, February 12

■ **STORY TIME:** Story time anytime, all day at the Eastern Shore of Virginia Region-

al Library, 24313 Bennett St., Parksley, and the Northampton Free Library, 7745 Bayside Road, Nassawadox.

■ **CRAFTS:** 10 a.m. to 12:30 a.m., kids’ crafts at the Eastern Shore of Virginia Regional Library, 24313 Bennett St., Parksley.

■ **GAME DAY:** 1 to 4 p.m., Game Day Monday at the Island Theatre Annex, 4074 Main Street. Bring a personal drink or snack. Card and table games available.

■ **BINGO:** Doors open at 5 p.m., first game at 7 p.m., Onancock Elks Lodge, 22454 Front St., Accomac. Info: 757-787-7750.

Tuesday, February 13

■ **TECH HELP TUESDAY:** All day technology assistance at the Northampton Free Library, 7745 Bayside Road, Nassawadox.

■ **NATURE WALK:** 8 a.m. at the Ned S. Brinkley Nature Preserve, 20001 Seaside Road, Cape Charles. Free of charge. Call 610-500-9971 for more information. Presented by the Eastern Shore Bird Club.

■ **BREAKFAST:** 8:30 to 10 a.m., the American Legion Post 159, Chincoteague, is having a Veterans Café for all veterans and currently serving military on the second Tuesday of each month at 4023 Main St., Chincoteague.

■ **MEETING:** 9 a.m., the Eastern Shore Community Services will hold its regular monthly board meeting at the administration office. 24233 Lankford Highway, Tasley.

■ **CRAFTS:** 1 to 3 p.m., Hooks and Needles craft group at Powelton Presbyterian Church, Wachapreague.

■ **GAMING:** 5 to 6:30 p.m., Teen Gaming Tuesday at the Eastern Shore of Virginia Regional Library, 24313 Bennett St., Parksley.

■ **MOVIE:** 5 to 6 p.m., “Gatherings,” will be shown during Barrier Island Movie Night at the Eastern Shore of Virginia Public Library, 24313 Bennett St., Parksley.

■ **BENEFIT DINNER:** 5 to 7 p.m., Capeville United Methodist Church will have an all-you-can-eat pancake supper, including pancakes, eggs, sausage, scrapple, baked apples, coffee, and juice. The cost is \$10 for adults and \$5 for children. Tickets are sold at the door and in advance. Call Pat Scott for tickets at 757-678-6742.

■ **BENEFIT DINNER:** 5 to 7 p.m., Pocomoke City Samaritan Shelter’s 11th annual Shrove Tuesday Pancake Dinner at the Pocomoke Elks Lodge, 1944 Worcester Highway, Pocomoke City. Tickets are \$12 for adults, \$6 for children age 3 to 6, and admission is free for children age 3 and younger. The menu is pancakes, sausage,

apples, scrambled eggs, sausage gravy, biscuits, and beverage. Tickets can be purchased at the shelter, Market Street Deli, First Shore Federal, The Christmas Sweets, and Enchanted Florist. Call 443-944-3889 for more information.

■ **BINGO:** Doors open 6 p.m., first game 7:30 p.m., Cheriton Volunteer Fire Co., 21334 S. Bayside Road, Cheriton.

Wednesday, February 14

■ **STORY TIME:** Story time anytime, all day at the Eastern Shore of Virginia Regional Library, 24313 Bennett St., Parksley, and the Northampton Free Library, 7745 Bayside Road, Nassawadox.

■ **DRAWING:** The Pocomoke Area Chamber of Commerce is raffling a Valentine’s gift basket valued at more than \$300 to help raise funds for the Costen House Museum, the Delmarva Discovery Center, and the Samaritan Shelter. Raffle tickets are four for \$10. The drawing will be held Feb. 14. Purchase tickets at The Christmas Sweet, 129 Market St., Pocomoke City or by emailing pocomokechamber@gmail.com.

■ **LUNCHEON:** Noon, Pocomoke Area Chamber of Commerce General Membership Luncheon at the Market Street Deli, 1206 Market St., Pocomoke City. The guest speaker is Lauren Cooper of The Cricket Center. The cost for lunch is \$13, which includes the meal and beverage. Cash or credit cards will be accepted at the door. A meet-and-greet begins at 11:30 a.m.

■ **BINGO:** Doors open at 6 p.m., first game 7:30 p.m., Painter Volunteer Fire Co., 17116 Wayside Drive, Painter.

■ **LIVE MUSIC AND DINNER:** 6 p.m., dinner and “Songs from the Heart,” by Jennifer Hope Wills and Todd Crosby, at the Mar-Va Theater Performing Arts Center, Pocomoke City. Tickets are \$75. Cost for the live music, which begins at 7:30 p.m., is \$25. Visit www.marvatheater.com

Thursday, February 15

■ **SENIOR EXERCISE:** 10 a.m., Community Senior Exercise Program, at the Powelton Presbyterian Church, Wachapreague.

■ **CHAMBER MEETING:** 10 a.m., Chincoteague Chamber of Commerce Annual General Membership Meeting at the Chincoteague Center, 6155 Community Drive. Light fare will be catered by Channel Bass Inn and Restaurant. The event will be sponsored by the Virginia Spaceport Authority.

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Calendar

(Continued from page 14)

The featured speaker will be Dave Pierce, director, NASA Wallops Flight Facility. RSVP by Feb. 12 for planning purposes to joanne@chincoteaguechamber.com

■ **PROGRAM:** 5 to 6 p.m., STEM Night (bird identification) at the Eastern Shore of Virginia Regional Library, 24313 Bennett St., Parksley.

■ **BEDTIME STORY:** 6 to 7 p.m., at the the Northampton Free Library, 7745 Bayside Road, Nassawadox.

Friday, February 16

■ **FARMERS MARKET:** 10 a.m. to 3 p.m., Parksley Farmers and Artisans Market, 18444 Dunne Ave., Parksley.

■ **BINGO:** 5 p.m. doors open, 6:30 p.m. games begin, Exmore Moose Lodge 683, 15315 Merry Cat Lane, Belle Haven.

■ **LIVE MUSIC:** 6:30 to 8:30 p.m., T&T, Terry Flynn and Tim Hunt, live at Fridays at Lemon Tree Gallery, 301 Mason Ave., Cape Charles.

■ **THEATRICAL PERFORMANCE:** 7 p.m., Chincoteague Island Theatre Company presents Agatha Christie's "Murder on the Orient Express." Adapted for the stage by Ken Ludwig and directed by Lexi Hubb. Held at 6309 Church St., Chincoteague.

Tickets are \$15 each at www.chincoteague-ca.org

■ **THEATRICAL PERFORMANCE:** 8 p.m., "Crumbs From The Table of Joy," featuring Nichanna Gholson-Dennis, Maliyah Kellam, James Rich, Aja Ruffin, and Madison Herold, at The North Street Playhouse, 34 Market St., Onancock. Tickets are \$25 for adults and seniors and \$10 for students. See www.northstreetplayhouse.org

Saturday, February 17

■ **FARMERS MARKET:** 10 a.m. to 3 p.m., Parksley Farmers and Artisans Market, 18444 Dunne Ave., Parksley.

■ **STORY:** 10:30 a.m., Hometown heroes story time with Kathy Custis at the Eastern Shore of Virginia Public Library, 24313 Bennett St., Parksley.

■ **PROGRAM:** 5 to 6 p.m., STEM activity (bird identification) at the Northampton Free Library, 7745 Seaside Road, Nassawadox.

■ **THEATRICAL PERFORMANCE:** 7 p.m., Chincoteague Island Theatre Company presents Agatha Christie's "Murder on the Orient Express." Adapted for the stage

by Ken Ludwig and directed by Lexi Hubb. Held at 6309 Church St., Chincoteague.

Tickets are \$15 each at www.chincoteague-ca.org

■ **LIVE MUSIC:** 6 to 8 p.m., Alex Holt at the Great Machipongo Clam Shack, 6468 Lankford Highway, Nassawadox.

■ **LIVE MUSIC:** 7 p.m., "Harlem Nights" at Giddens' Do-Drop Inn, 8204 Bayford Road, Weirwood. Featuring Melinda and the Speakeasies and The Down 'N' Outs Band. A heavy rotation of hors d'oeuvres will be served. Cash bar. \$25 tickets can be purchased at Rayfield's Pharmacy locations in Cape Charles and Nassawadox, and at the Book Bin in Onley.

■ **THEATRICAL PERFORMANCE:** 8 p.m., "Crumbs From The Table of Joy," featuring Nichanna Gholson-Dennis, Maliyah Kellam, James Rich, Aja Ruffin, and Madison Herold, at The North Street Playhouse, 34 Market St., Onancock. Tickets are \$25 for adults and seniors and \$10 for students. See www.northstreetplayhouse.org

Sunday, February 18

■ **SPECIAL EVENT:** 11 a.m., St. Luke A.M.E. Church, Locustville, will present "A World Without African People," during the morning service. The event focuses on inventions and contributions of African-Americans past and present. The Rev. Pamela Watford is the pastor.

■ **LIVE MUSIC:** 1 to 4 p.m., open mic and jam session open to local musicians each Sunday at Cape Charles Brewing Company, 2198 Stone Road, Cape Charles. Free admission.

■ **HYMN SING:** 2 p.m., the Community Church of God and Belle Haven United Methodist Church will have a hymn sing entitled, "Spreadin' the Gospel," at 35446 Belle Haven Road. A covered dish supper will follow.

■ **THEATRICAL PERFORMANCE:** 2:30 p.m., "Crumbs From The Table of Joy," featuring Nichanna Gholson-Dennis, Maliyah Kellam, James Rich, Aja Ruffin, and Madison Herold, at The North Street Playhouse, 34 Market St., Onancock. Tickets are \$25 for adults and seniors and \$10 for students. See www.northstreetplayhouse.org

■ **THEATRICAL PERFORMANCE:** 7 p.m., Chincoteague Island Theatre Company presents Agatha Christie's "Murder on the Orient Express." Adapted for the stage by Ken Ludwig and directed by Lexi Hubb. Held at 6309 Church St., Chincoteague. Tickets are \$15 each at [\[ca.org\]\(http://www.chincoteague-ca.org\)](http://www.chincoteague-</p></div><div data-bbox=)

Monday, February 19

■ **GAME DAY:** 1 to 4 p.m., Game Day Monday at the Island Theatre Annex, 4074 Main Street. Bring a personal drink or snack. Card and table games available.

■ **BINGO:** Doors open at 5 p.m., first game at 7 p.m., Onancock Elks Lodge, 22454 Front St., Accomac. Info: 757-787-7750.

■ **OPEN HOUSE:** 6 p.m., the Chincoteague Garden Club will be having an open house for potential new members at the Island Theater Annex on Main Street. Come learn about Garden Club projects and exchange information with other gardening enthusiasts. Light refreshments will be served.

■ **LIVE MUSIC:** 6 to 8 p.m., Melinda and The Speakeasies at the Blarney Stone Pub, 10 North St., Onancock.

Tuesday, February 20

■ **BINGO:** Doors open 6 p.m., first game 7:30 p.m., Cheriton Volunteer Fire Co., 21334 S. Bayside Road, Cheriton.

■ **BOOK DISCUSSION:** 6 to 7 p.m., Arthur Fournier will discuss his recent book, "Hope Makes Us Live! Hope Makes Us Die!" at the Eastern Shore Regional Library in Parksley.

Wednesday, February 21

■ **BINGO:** Doors open at 6 p.m., first game 7:30 p.m., Painter Volunteer Fire Co., 17116 Wayside Drive, Painter.

Thursday, February 22

■ **SENIOR EXERCISE:** 10 a.m., Community Senior Exercise Program, at the Powelton Presbyterian Church, Wachapreague.

■ **THEATRICAL PERFORMANCE:** 8 p.m., "Crumbs From The Table of Joy," featuring Nichanna Gholson-Dennis, Maliyah Kellam, James Rich, Aja Ruffin, and Madison Herold, at The North Street Playhouse, 34 Market St., Onancock. Tickets are \$25 for adults and seniors and \$10 for students. See www.northstreetplayhouse.com

Friday, February 23

■ **FARMERS MARKET:** 10 a.m. to 3 p.m., Parksley Farmers and Artisans Market, 18444 Dunne Ave., Parksley.

■ **BBQ AND BREWS:** 4 to 8 p.m., The public is invited to the BBQ and Brews kickoff for Freezin' for a Reason, which will be held at Cape Charles Brewing

Company. The BBQ and Brews costs \$50 per person and \$21 for attendees under 21. There will be craft brews, wine, barbecue, clam chowder, and live music. The special guest is the Phun Doctors.

■ **BINGO:** 5 p.m. doors open, 6:30 p.m. games begin, Exmore Moose Lodge 683, 15315 Merry Cat Lane, Belle Haven.

■ **LIVE MUSIC:** 6:30 to 8:30 p.m., Heinz and the Red Bird live at Fridays at Lemon Tree Gallery, 301 Mason Ave., Cape Charles.

■ **THEATRICAL PERFORMANCE:** 7 p.m., Chincoteague Island Theatre Company presents Agatha Christie's "Murder on the Orient Express." Adapted for the stage by Ken Ludwig and directed by Lexi Hubb. Held at 6309 Church St., Chincoteague.

Tickets are \$15 each at www.chincoteague-ca.org

■ **COMEDY SHOW:** 7 to 9 p.m., The Mar-Va presents "The Ivy League of Comedy," including Moody McCarthy, Karen Ber-green, and Shaun Eli, at the Mar-Va Theater Performing Arts Center in Pocomoke City.

Tickets are \$30. Visit www.marvatheater.com

■ **THEATRICAL PERFORMANCE:** 8 p.m., "Crumbs From The Table of Joy," featuring Nichanna Gholson-Dennis, Maliyah Kellam, James Rich, Aja Ruffin, and Madison Herold, at The North Street Playhouse, 34 Market St., Onancock. Tickets are \$25 for adults and seniors and \$10 for students. See www.northstreetplayhouse.com

Saturday, February 24

■ **FARMERS MARKET:** 10 a.m. to 3 p.m., Parksley Farmers and Artisans Market, 18444 Dunne Ave., Parksley.

■ **ART WALK:** 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., Eastern Shore Community College will hold its Indoor Winter Art Walk in the college's main academic building, 29316 Lankford Highway, Melfa. Enjoy two floors of local artists and crafters, food, and live music.

■ **FUNDRAISER:** Noon, Eastern Shore of Virginia Habitat for Humanity will hold its annual Freezin' for a Reason' at the Cape Charles beachfront. Call 757-442-4687 for more information. The celebrity dipper is Beth Sharpley, owner of Coastline Chemical and a member of the Eastern Shore of Virginia Chamber of Commerce and the Eastern Shore Madrigals.

■ **LIVE MUSIC:** 6 to 8 p.m., Melinda and The Speakeasies at the Great Machipongo Clam Shack, 6468 Lankford Highway, Nassawadox.

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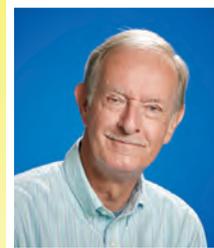
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Year-round seafood favorites at the water's edge

BY TED SHOCKLEY

Shore First

There is an allure to eating seafood at the water's edge — especially if the seafood is expertly prepared and the restaurant serving it is next to a working harbor.

But the location is only part of the draw of Harbor's End, the accurately named eatery at 2118 Harbor Drive in Greenbackville.

The food — homemade and handmade, using family recipes — features the cravable simplicity of traditional Eastern Shore cuisine at reasonable prices.

The single-fried oysters were crunchy on the outside and tender on the inside. The clam fritter was a tasty rendition of a time-honored local favorite.

The hand-cut fries, made from Dublin Farms potatoes grown nearby, had a boardwalk tastiness. Save a trip to Ocean City and head to Greenbackville instead.

Stephanie Downing, the restaurant's can-do owner, opened 11 months ago and has remained open all winter — some Eastern Shore restaurants close during the colder months.

The offseason is a good time to visit. During the evenings in summer's high season, "we had waiting lists," said Downing, who grew up on Chincoteague and worked at a number of eateries on the island.

In recent years, she decided to open her own place, saying that if she worked hard for others, "I might as well do it for myself."

The former restaurant at the site had closed and the restaurant's owner had donated the structure to the Greenbackville Volunteer Fire Department.

Just over a year ago, the firefighters awarded Downing the lease.

The fire department cleaned and remodeled the space and Downing made it into a restaurant. The whole place is spotless.

Downing attributes the food's quality to Deitrick Downing, who smokes all the meat, hand-breads



A clam fritter sandwich at Harbor's End in Greenbackville comes with a side of hand-cut fries from local potatoes. This order also includes a side of hush puppies.

SHORE FIRST/TED SHOCKLEY

(Continued on page 19)

Harbor's End

(Continued from page 18)

the seafood, and gives the menu its Eastern Shore authenticity.

"I couldn't do it without him," she said. "The crab cakes are his grandmother's recipe. We get everything fresh and local."

The menu includes oysters, scallops, a fish of the day, steak, and pork chops. From the smoker comes a half-chicken, half-rack of ribs, and smoked brisket.

Soups, seafood sandwiches, and baskets round out the menu.

One of the constants at Harbor's End is longtime waitress Nancy Romig, who worked for two previous restaurants in the same building.

People love the food. Stephanie Downing loves the customers.

"It's beautiful here," she said.

■ Reach Harbor's End at 757-990-4200. February hours are Sunday, Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday, from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m., and Friday and Saturday from 11 a.m. to 8 p.m.



SHORE FIRST/TED SHOCKLEY

A fried oyster basket at Harbor's End in Greenbackville comes with a side of hand-cut fries from local potatoes.

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Elegant new shop promotes old-fashioned letter writing

BY TED SHOCKLEY

Shore First

Has technology and email made letter-writing a lost art?

A new shop in Onancock is ensuring the art isn't lost forever.

Manuscript Fine Stationery, located in Studio 101 in the Historic Onancock School, caters to those who participate in the time-honored tradition of sending elegant, handwritten letters.

"I figured I'd come from the other side and encourage people to create more handwriting," said Stephanie Smith.

"Writing by hand forces you to slow down and think about what you are saying."

The shop stocks stationery items from a bygone era, like equipment for wax sealing envelopes with a custom stamp.

It also sells paperweights, fine stationery, and Blackwing pencils — what some call the best writing utensil in the world.

Blackwing pencils feature smooth-writing lead of different degrees of softness.

Among her offerings are letters that fold into envelopes — which are then sealed with wax for delivery.

"I've been pleasantly surprised by how many people have come in," she said.

Some of her customers say the letter-writing supplies remind them of their childhood and their grandparents' way of communication.

"Most people want to bring it back and get back into it," she said of the tradition.

Smith also operates Bayside Transcriptions, a document transcription service for individuals and businesses.

She is adept at reading some of the colonial writing found in documents of yesteryear and translating them for families and keepsakes.

Winter hours at the shop are Thursday and Friday from 1 to 4 p.m. and Saturday from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Store hours also can be made by appointment by calling 757-387-9956.



Stephanie Smith stands in her new shop, called Manuscript Fine Stationery, which is located in Studio 101 in the Historic Onancock School. The shop caters to those who participate in the time-honored tradition of sending elegant, handwritten letters.

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Alma Latina, the Latin Ballet of Virginia, coming to Cape Charles

What would the world be without the mix of cultures? How could we live without dance and music? How can we exist without people of all colors and shapes?

Arts Enter Cape Charles, which is at home in the art-deco Historic Palace Theatre, is pleased to present the Latin Ballet of Virginia on Saturday evening, March 2, at 7:30 p.m.

LBV is a professional dance company and school of dance providing multicultural dance programs, instruction, and performances to enrich and connect communities through Latin/Hispanic cultural dance experiences with a commitment to education, diversity, and accessibility.

Founded in 1997 in Richmond under the direction of Ana Ines King, a native of Colombia, the Company is Central Virginia's pre-eminent Hispanic dance company, performing throughout Virginia and at select venues in North and South America.

From the passionate fury of flamenco to tango's forbidden heat, the polished elegance of classical ballet to the earthen power of modern dance, the Latin Ballet of Virginia uses the expressive beauty of movement to weave the tales and traditions that are the heart and soul of Hispanic culture.

The Latin Ballet of Virginia combines technical excellence with a soulful depth of emotion and an unwavering commitment to education, diversity, and accessibility.

Latin Ballet of Virginia's Artistic Director is Marisol Betancourt Sotolongo, and the music is orchestrated by Kevin Davis and Band Caribe Ensemble.

Formed in 1984 by native New Yorker Kevin Davis, the ensemble presents an unforgettable sound consisting of soulful singing and salsa rhythms. Master percussionist and singer Kevin Davis studied in Puerto Rico, the Dominican Republic, and Jamaica. He has performed nationally and internationally, gaining awards in Salsa Festivals in Colombia, South America.

Band Caribe is a Latin Soul Celebration! Kevin

(Continued on page 23)



COURTESY PHOTO

Arts Enter Cape Charles, which is at home in the art-deco Historic Palace Theatre, is pleased to present the Latin Ballet of Virginia on Saturday evening, March 2, at 7:30 p.m.

Alma Latina

(Continued from page 22)

Davis and Band Caribe provide a great blend of Latin American, Caribbean Rhythms, Blues, Soul, and Motown music punctuated by driving percussion.

The band brings the colors of the Caribbean, its crystal blue waters, the tropical sands, and the balmy breezes of the Caribbean Islands.

Celebrating the rhythms that influenced the music, dance, and history of Latin America, Alma Latina honors the native essence of Hispanic culture, how this spirit has found expression through times of oppression, and how it has triumphed in our modern global society.

Some of the selections presented include: De Donde Vengo, (Where I Am Coming From), which explores the Roots of Latino American Culture (Native, African, Spanish, Caribbean); La Madrina, of African origins, which touches an important part of Cuban folklore and religion; and Mariposas Y Libelulas (Butterflies and Dragonflies), which is inspired by the colorful Towns of Latino America.

This selection includes the steel drums that originated in Trinidad, in the West Indies, in the 20th century.

The Latin Ballet performance is sponsored in part by the Virginia Commission for the Arts. The presenting sponsor is Rayfield's Pharmacy. Rayfield's has been a long-standing supporter of Arts Enter.

Arts Enter Cape Charles is a nonprofit fine and performing art center that was created in 1997. Classes in all disciplines such as dance, drama, music, and the visual arts are available and continue to inspire children and adults of all ages to get involved in the exciting life on stage and behind the wings.

Arts Enter has a full theatre season and this Spring will include a Valentine's Dance Party on Feb. 10, a One Act Play Festival and an ABBA Tribute in April, and a production of the long running Broadway hit The Fantasticks in May. Tickets are available online at www.artsentercapecharles.org calling the Lemon Tree Gallery at 757-331-4327, or at the door.



COURTESY PHOTO

Arts Enter Cape Charles, which is at home in the art-deco Historic Palace Theatre, is pleased to present the Latin Ballet of Virginia on Saturday evening, March 2, at 7:30 p.m.

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Shore First | ESCC Foundation Oyster Roast



COURTESY PHOTO

Guests enjoyed the springlike temperatures outside under the tent with the option of dining in the Great Hall of ESCC Workforce Development.



COURTESY PHOTO

ESCC Phi Theta Kappa members and advisors worked the event serving guests.



COURTESY PHOTO

Eastern Shore oysters were the main event along with delicious chowder.



COURTESY PHOTO

Guests were treated to a wide selection of silent auction items donated by area businesses and individuals.

Obituary



Susan Ann "Sue" Dickey

A welcome home party was held on the evening of Dec. 13, 2023, and Mrs. Susan Ann "Sue" Dickey (née Flathau) was the guest of honor. No doubt she was received by Jesus with much jubilation and then immediately went to drag Bill out on the divine dance floor.

This heavenly reunion was surely better than any of the countless parties she had planned on Earth: more enjoyable than any surprise birthday party or holiday feast, more fun than the get-togethers in Bill's office while the Grand Haven Coast Guard parade passed by below, better than the bacchanalian New Year's Eve bashes in the basement, and even surpassing the Madeira Beach boat parade parties for which she would decorate the house and dock, get out the special Christmas dishes, and bake hundreds of cookies (carefully hidden from the marauding hands of Bill and the girls). For this party in Heaven, she didn't have to lock her little brothers out of the house to clean up, nor did she have to send out hand-crafted invitations, plan a menu and games, or wash dishes afterward!

Of course born on a holiday, Sue arrived New Year's Day in 1941 to John Carl "Jack" and Geraldine "Peggy" Flathau in Battle Creek, Mich. She spent the next eight decades displaying her fun personality, whether working as a roller-skating carhop, driving her Corvette with the top down (the car's, not hers), or embarrassing the heck out of her daughters by practicing for her belly-dancing classes in a skimpy costume in front of the living room windows.

She loved to dance and knew all the steps to the Cha-Cha Slide, the Macarena, and more.

Sue's dance partner for life was William Robert "Bill" Dickey; from their wedding on September 1, 1962, until his death in 2021, Bill mostly tolerated his wife's gregariousness and is probably once again awkwardly holding her hand while she literally dances circles around him. Sue was the consummate entertainer, but would also happily trade a big, boisterous party for a quiet evening of competitive and argumentative Scrabble or Monopoly with just a few people.

But Sue was not all fun and games: she was a hard worker, too. She honed her leadership and conflict resolution skills raising her daughters and managing Bill's life law practice in Grand Haven, Mich. and then in Seminole, Fla. A career in human resources naturally followed, with people paying her to tell them what to do. While working full-time and active in HR peer associations, she also finished her college degree and proudly graduated (with distinction) at age 56.

Sue rose through the ranks at Allied Specialty Insurance, Inc. until she became their vice president, a position from which she finally retired so that she could spend more time having fun with Bill. Together they roamed the country in their RV, traveled the world on cruise ships, and especially, spent time with their beloved grandsons.

After Bill's passing in 2021, she moved to Cape Charles to be near her daughter, Karen, where she made a new squad of friends and quickly became everybody's favorite church lady. Despite not feeling well, she was on her way to her grandson's wedding

in Guatemala but only made it as far as her other daughter's house in Fort Wayne, Ind. During her short hospital stay, she maintained her sense of humor, telling both Karla and Karen that each was her favorite child and asking visitors to go away because she felt that she could not be properly hospitable while wearing only a hospital gown.

She was preceded in death by her husband, Bill; her brother, John Carl Flathau II; as well as her parents and others. Sue is probably organizing a committee of angels and directing some heavenly projects, getting every detail ready for the time when she will give a warm welcome to her daughters, Karla (Ignacio) Avila and Karen (Chris) Willis; grandsons, John Carlos Avila, Christopher (Briana) Willis, William Roberto (Kaleela) Avila, Kevin Willis, and Colvin Willis; brother, Brent (Doryan) Flathau; and many dear family members and friends who miss her terribly.

All friends, family, and any strangers who happen to be nearby are invited to a celebration of Sue's life at Capeville United Methodist Church in Cape Charles on Saturday, Feb. 10 at 11:30 a.m., with a party following the service.

Sue was passionate about the mission of her church to improve the lives of those living on the Shore. In lieu of flowers, the family asks that donations be sent in her memory to Capeville UMC, c/o H.H. Scott, 4301 Capeville Drive, Cape Charles, VA 23310.

She will be interred next to Bill at Fort Custer National Cemetery in Battle Creek, Mich. (with another celebration, of course) in the spring; more details will follow.

PAID ADVERTISEMENT

100 years ago
February 1924

Boiler bursts; school closes

More than 400 school children at the Cape Charles High School were rushed out of the building into a blinding snowstorm yesterday, without wraps or overshoes, when an explosion of the heating plant boiler shook the entire structure. There were no casualties.

For a time it seemed that the building was on fire. After a quick examination by Professor Dehaven, however, it was found there was no danger of fire.

The school children were sent home and it may be 30 days before school will again be opened.

— *The Covington Virginian*

Night fire threatens to raze Chincoteague

Destruction of the entire town of Chincoteague, Va., was threatened for a time last night by a fire which occurred in the midst of a snow and hail storm. Only the direction of the wind, blowing out across Chincoteague Bay, saved the place, it was reported.

Several valuable structures in the business section were razed, however, before the blaze was brought under control. This was accomplished by the Pocomoke City fire department, which had been summoned hastily when the fire began to spread. The Chincoteague chemical apparatus broke down in the emergency and calls were sent for outside help.

Large quantities of seafood awaiting shipment were burned when the flames destroyed the freight station of the Pennsylvania Railroad. All the other buildings destroyed were owned by Daniel J. Whealton, of Philadelphia. These were the Norfolk Barrel Company, where the blaze originated; the large department store of the Belote-Lewis Company; a machine shop; and the offices and shucking house of the Whealton Oyster Company.

— *The Baltimore Sun*

Pocomoke fire breaks out while firemen fight flames in Chincoteague

Fire, believed to have been of incendiary origin, broke out in the business district of Pocomoke City on Clark Avenue shortly before midnight last night while the town's apparatus was 16 miles away helping fight a blaze that destroyed a large part of the island town of Chincoteague, on the Eastern Shore of Virginia.

Departments from Salisbury, Princess Anne, and Snow Hill were rushed here and checked the blaze after it had wrecked the store of George Evans and damaged two other buildings. The lumber yard of Young & Son was threatened.

The nightwatchman of the Evans store emptied his revolver at two men seen fleeing from the store shortly before the fire broke out. Their identity is not known.

The fire at Chincoteague, which swept a block along the waterfront and did damage estimated at \$300,000 was discovered about 9 o'clock. An appeal for aid was made, and the Pocomoke department responded.

That fire under control, the apparatus was laboring back in a heavy snow storm, when the fire here broke out. The department arrived after the blaze had been checked by apparatus from other towns.

The fire here caught the town almost unprotected and before the one chemical engine that remained and neighboring apparatus could be put into action it had gained considerable headway. Bucket brigades were organized.

The Snow Hill department, also summoned to Chincoteague, had just returned when it was called here.

Chincoteague's loss, due to the almost prohibitive insurance rates because of its isolated location, will be heavy. A barrel factory, railroad wharves, Delot & Bros., a merchandise store of three stories and large quantities of oysters awaiting shipment to Baltimore were destroyed.

The city's 5,000 inhabitants gathered helplessly to watch their meager apparatus, one engine and a bucket brigade, fight the flames while departments from Snow Hill, 30 miles away, and Pocomoke, 16 miles away, rushed to the rescue.

Much of the destroyed property is owned by Daniel T. Whealton, of Philadelphia, who received reports of the fire from Salisbury.

— *The Evening Sun*

Two killed in row at dance, third person injured

Two persons are dead and another is seriously injured as a result of a shooting affray at a dance at Bay View, two miles from Cape Charles, early yesterday morning.

Joseph Doughty, who is charged with the shooting, escaped and is still at liberty.

It is charged that the shooting was started by Doughty when Lucy Hodnit stepped on his toe while dancing. Doughty slapped her. The girl's brother, Joseph Hodnit, resented this. Doughty shoved him through the door and shot him through the heart. Hodnit died instantly. The girl followed her brother into the yard, where two bullets from Doughty's pistol killed her it is charged. Carrie Solomon was shot through the hip. She will recover.

— *Ledger-Star*

Judge upholds blue law

Only restaurant keepers may sell ice cream to their customers on Sundays without violating the so-called blue law, according to a decision rendered by Judge N. B. Wescott in Northampton Circuit Court at Eastville, Va.

It was on July 10 of last year that George P. Smith, manager of the Sterling Inn, Cape Charles, through his attorneys, appealed the decision of Mayor A. F. Dize to the Circuit Court, when he was found guilty of selling ice cream on Sunday. A fine of \$25 and costs was imposed by the Mayor. Since then restaurants and ice cream parlors have been supplying their trade with the delicacy on Sundays pending the decision of the Circuit Court.

— *Worcester Democrat and the Ledger Enterprise*

Leap year weddings are few in Northampton Co.

Northampton county girls are not profiting by the opportunities afforded by leap year, according to records in the office of the county clerk at Eastville, which show that nine more couples were licensed to marry during the first 50 days of 1923 than were licensed in the same period of this year. Either the girls are not taking advantage of leap year, or the men are shy.

(Continued on page 27)

Yesteryears

(Continued from page 26)

Only 11 marriage licenses were issued in Northampton county for the first 50 days of this year, while 20 were issued for the same period of 1923.

— *Ledger-Star*

Accomac postmaster speaks in favor of bills now before Congress

The business of being a third or fourth-class postmaster will be made much more attractive by congressional approval of bills introduced in both Senate and House and providing an allowance of rent, heat and light, in the case of third-class offices, and of a more liberal allowance for clerical hire at third-class offices.

These measures are being advocated by the National League of District Postmasters, of which W. G. Stevenson, postmaster at Accomac, is Virginia's representative on the executive committee.

Commenting on the need for the government to deal more liberally with small postoffices, Mr. Stevenson said that the growth of parcel post business had thrown such an additional burden on the third and fourth-class postmaster that the game was hardly worth the candle.

"The old system of allowances for such postmasters was based on the assumption that, as most such offices were located in stores, the postal position was valuable to a merchant because it drew trade to his place of business," explained Mr. Stevenson. "That may have been true before the day of parcel post but now the small postoffices have become a clearing house for mail order business and a merchant gets little trade from the postoffice, while the work connected with the position of postmaster has increased enormously."

Hearings on the twin bills, according to Mr. Stevenson, will be held before the House and Senate postoffice committees this week. A joint hearing was requested by the National League of District Postmasters, but was refused.

— *Ledger-Star*

Northampton prohibition agent makes good record

Twenty-five illicit stills have been destroyed, 4,500 gallons of mash and twenty-one gallons of whiskey confiscated and twelve men arrested by Arthur Rayfield, Northampton county prohibition agent, since his appointment last July. Mr. Rayfield lives at Cobbs, five miles north of Cape Charles.

— *Ledger-Star*

May have Rotary club in town of Cape Charles next

Plans for the installation of a Rotary club in Cape Charles are under way and Secretary John Weymouth, of the Hampton Club, has been designated by the international president to organize the new club at once. It is understood that the Hampton club will go to Cape Charles to institute the club as soon as the organization is ready to receive it. Secretary Weymouth has already made a trip to Cape Charles and from his observations that section is going to have one of the best and liveliest Rotary organizations in the Old Dominion in a short time.

District Governor Franklin Lenz, of Newport News, is anxious to see Cape Charles join the ranks of Rotarians and is lending his efforts to Mr. Weymouth in that direction.

— *Daily Press*

Silver loving cup is awarded to Miss Wise

Miss Katherine Tankard Wise, of Capeville High School, is the winner of the silver loving cup given by the Northampton County Chapter, D.A.R., for the best essay written on "Virginia Under the Royal Governors."

Miss Wise, who is a ninth grade pupil of Capeville High School, is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Walter T. Wise, of Capeville, this county. This is the third prize won by Miss Wise this school term.

D. W. Peters, county superintendent of school, will make the presentation at Capeville school this evening. J. Brooks Mapp, of Keller, will make the presentation address.

— *Ledger-Star*

Many school children are treated in clinics

The dental clinics which have been in progress both in Accomac and Northampton counties at the various schools since the first of the year under the direction of the department of mouth hygiene, State Board of Health, have been reaching children in the rural sections of the peninsula who otherwise would be neglected.

More than 2,000 dental treatments have been accomplished so far by the two doctors assigned to this work by the State Board of Health on the Shore.

— *Ledger-Star*

75 years ago
February 1949

Shore magician drives car blindfolded in Pocomoke City

Driving through a Saturday crowd using both eyes taxes the resources of most drivers. But not Jimmy Snow, Salisbury magician.

In a borrowed car with four thicknesses of black cloth as blindfold, Mr. Snow drove easily through the streets of Pocomoke City.

He stopped at three red lights and used the horn to warn an approaching motorist.

The Police Chief Arthur Brittingham and John Yaggi, vice-president of the Pocomoke Lions Club, who accompanied him, the ride was a strange one.

Mr. Snow informed the two men that he had driven 5,000 miles in this fashion without a mishap.

Next Monday and Tuesday nights the local Lions Club is sponsoring Mr. Snow and company with their feats of magic at the Marva Theatre.

Proceeds from the two performances will be added to the recreational fund in providing a swimming pool for the youth of Pocomoke City.

— *The Daily Times*

Eastern Shore counties tested for blueberries

BLACKSBURG — A cooperative project will get under way this Spring in the Eastern Shore counties of Accomack and Northampton to test the possibility of growing blueberries commercially there.

(Continued on page 28)

Yesteryears

(Continued from page 27)

This was announced here by H. Bruce Aroian, associate horticulturist for Virginia Agricultural Extension Service. Aroian and Robert C. Moore, assistant horticulturist for the Agricultural Experiment Station here are the project leaders.

The Extension Service and Experiment Station here and Virginia Truck Experiment Station near Norfolk are the co-operating agencies in the project, along with John H. Dulany and Son, Exmore fruit processing firm, which has made funds available for the work.

County Agents Roy U. Nottingham of Northampton and William A. Matthews of Accomack are now making arrangement with farmers who will take part in the project by planting blueberries early this Spring, Aroian said.

He continued that the project will not only try to determine if growing blueberries on a commercial scale is practical and profitable but will also try to learn what varieties and cultural practices are best suited to the area.

He said conditions on the Eastern Shore and in other areas of Eastern Virginia appear to be similar to those in commercial blueberry areas of New Jersey and North Carolina.

Among the features which make the area seem suitable, he added, are a desirable soil type with a high water table and location near water which protects the crop from late Spring frosts.

A similar project to test the practicality of growing strawberries on a commercial scale in the Crozet area of Albemarle County also is about to begin, Aroian said.

Cooperating agencies in the 10-acre project are the Extension Service and the Crozet Cold Storage Corporation. Leaders are Aroian, Assistant Albemarle County Farm Agent Hugh Henderson and E. H. Bane, Crozet general manager.

Aroian pointed out that in both the Eastern Shore and Albemarle projects, ready markets in the form of fruit processing firms are located nearby.

— *Ledger Star*

300 attend dance at Chincoteague base

The Valentine's Day Dance Friday at the naval station attracted approximately 300. It was held in the Recreation Hall.

Twenty student nurses from Peninsula General Hospital, Salisbury, were present.

Miss Seana Mills of Delmar and Airman Charles Montalbano were winners of the jitterbug contest. Miss Betty Johnson of Salisbury and Aviation Machinist's Mate 2-c John E. Roche were chosen best waltzers.

A buffet supper was served at the 11 p.m. intermission. Music was provided by Sid Fields and his Blue Serenaders from Salisbury.

— *The Daily Times*

Dr. William D. Williams buried in Northampton

Dr. William D. Williams, 85, prominent Northamptonian, died unexpectedly Saturday night at his home on Plum Street. Dr. Williams, who had been in failing health for the past year, had gone to his room early in the evening and had apparently suffered a cerebral hemorrhage from which he died almost instantly about 10 o'clock.

Funeral services were conducted at 11 o'clock this morning from the graveside at Lower Northampton Baptist Church. Dr. H. H. Hemming of Cape Charles Baptist Church was assisted by Dr. Clayton O. Tuttle of Trinity Methodist Church. Pall bearers were W. L. Williams, of Norfolk; John D. Roberts, S. C. Churn, M. S. Wilson, J. V. Moore, Dr. E. T. Stevens, J. G. Waddell, and William N. Thomas.

William Daniel Williams, a descendant of Northampton's oldest families, was born at "Eyreville," the son of the late William Nottingham and Virginia Fitchett Williams. He was educated in the private schools of this county, and was graduated from the Baltimore College of Dental Surgery. He retired in 1938 after 50 years in the practice of his profession.

In 1891 he married Miss Nannie Bet Nottingham, also of Northampton County, and of this union there survives a daughter, Mrs. Francis C. Thomas, with whom Dr. Williams made his home. Mrs. Williams died in 1892.

Prominent in fraternal circles throughout Virginia, Dr. Williams was a 32nd Degree Mason, a former member of Khedive Temple A.O.N.M.S., and of "The Ancients of Philadelphia," the latter organization composed of those who had been Masons 50 years. Due to ill health Dr. Williams resigned his membership in Masonic organizations and in the Cape Charles Rotary Club, of which he was a charter member, about a year ago.

In addition to his daughter he is survived by a grandson, William F. Thomas, of Culpeper; two nieces, Mrs. Southey Spady, of Salisbury, Md., and Mrs.

Read R. White, of Bay View; two nephews, Bryant Williams, of Cheriton, and Wilkins L. Williams, of Norfolk; and a number of great nieces and nephews.

— *Ledger Star*

Old steamer leaves Shore on last trip across Bay

Time, a tug, and a caterpillar tractor have erased a familiar Eastern Shore landmark.

The "Governor Emerson Harrington," a vessel renowned to the Chesapeake Bay and Shore rivers, has made its last trip across the bay.

The lumber in the superstructure was sold weeks ago to a local concern. The fixtures were bought by the Veterans of Foreign Wars here to help furnish a new post home. Now the hull rests in Baltimore to be converted into a garbage scow or scrapped for metal.

A colorful history surrounds this vessel. In 1937 it made its last of numerous trips under its own power from the Claibourne-Annapolis ferry slip to Pocomoke City.

A local business man, C. K. Duncan, took over ownership in 1937 converting it to a floating hotel. It was stripped of its engines.

The 16 staterooms and dining room were redecorated and refurnished. Sailors no longer trod the planking. Instead "landlubbers" came aboard for banquets and club meetings.

The late Governor Emerson Harrington was a guest at one banquet attended by more than 250 persons.

The ship was leased to many owners before being sold outright to Everett Smith in 1940.

The new owner moved the boat once more to Annapolis, where it sat out the war still as a floating hotel. When the government took over the Annapolis waterfront during the war, the vessel had no more guests.

In 1946 she returned again to Pocomoke City and a new owner, Roscoe Bailey. She now became a restaurant and night club. But the upper decks were leaking badly and the whole structure was in need of repair.

No more buyers came her way. Its popularity as a restaurant waned and the scrap heap called.

— *The Daily Times*

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Yesteryears

(Continued from page 28)

50 years ago
February 1974

Woman, 67, drowns off Chincoteague

The body of a 67-year-old Chincoteague woman was discovered in the East Side Channel between Assateague and Chincoteague this past week.

According to Coast Guard reports, the body was spotted by crewmen of a ship owned by the Thomas Reed Fish Co. out of Chincoteague.

The body was recovered shortly after noon on Thursday.

A spokesman for the sheriff identified the victim as Lucy Hopkins and said that the medical examiner termed the death as accidental drowning.

— *The Daily Times*

Firehouse at Pocomoke City to be renovated

The Pocomoke Mayor and City Council signed a contract this week for an estimated \$115,000 renovation project on the city firehouse.

City manager John Yankus said Mayhew Whayland, a Salisbury construction firm was contracted to do the job.

The renovation of the building will be mainly in the kitchen and dining room of the fire hall. Some structural repairs are also planned in other parts of the building. Air conditioning is slated for inclusion in the meeting room.

According to Yankus, the city is hoping to finance most of the renovation through the Farmer's Home Administration.

— *The Daily Times*

Grant given to Cape Charles

The Economic Development Administration, U.S. Department of Commerce, has awarded a \$400,000 grant to the town of Cape Charles on Virginia's Eastern Shore to help provide improved port facilities along the Virginia shore.

The funds will be used to improve bulkhead and wharfing facilities for the fishing vessels calling at

Cape Charles to unload clams and other seafood.

— *Richmond Times-Dispatch*

'Shore' branch abandonment recommended

Transportation Secretary Claude S. Brinegar's report on the reorganization of rail service in the Northeast and Midwest recommends the termination of Eastern Shore rail freight service from the Maryland line to Cape Charles.

Service is provided now by a branch of the Penn Central.

"Cape Charles generated only 13 carloads per day in 1972, and this traffic was diffused throughout the zone," the report said. "Connections from the only adjacent zones — Salisbury, Md., to the north and Norfolk to the south [via float operations] cannot be justified by the very small volume of traffic."

Preston C. Shannon, chairman of the State Corporation Commission, said the regulatory agency will seek to prevent the abandonment of rail service on the Eastern Shore.

"I don't believe the data before the Department of Transportation on the Eastern Shore line tells the whole story," the commissioner said. "This area of Virginia has a good growth potential, and it seems especially inappropriate to suggest abandonment of rail transport while we are in the midst of an energy crisis."

However, the study said, before the United States Railway Association accepts the recommendation, it should review the most recent data on rail traffic in the area, since the 1972 figures were the last available. The railway association was created by an act of Congress "to plan and finance the restructuring of this ailing rail system."

In the exhaustive study, which came to three volumes of statistics and graphs, a task force of experts estimated that of the 3,895 miles of railroads in Virginia 275 are "potentially excess" because they are redundant or have a very low volume of traffic.

In this category, the study cites in the Norfolk area lines from Lynnhaven to Virginia Beach and from Providence to Northwest; and in the Winchester area, from Warrenton to Calverton, from Strasburg to Broad Run and from Strasburg Junction to Timberville.

Because bankrupt railroads don't operate in their zones, no analysis of excess rail lines was made for Richmond, Fredericksburg, Newport News, Petersburg, Charlottesville, Staunton, Roanoke, Lynch-

burg, and Radford.

In recommending competing rail service for areas with high volume traffic — defined in most cases as at least eight trainloads each way each day — the report said such competition should be considered:

n From Bristol to Norfolk

n From Norfolk to Beckley, W.Va., Bristol, Chicago, Detroit, Gary, Ind., Pittsburgh and St. Louis.

The Transportation Department study said that Bristol and Elkton City should receive special consideration in any major reorganization plan because they constitute a "major gateway for interregional rail movement."

— *Richmond Times-Dispatch*

Coast Guard rescues boat

The Coast Guard was called in to assist an 82-foot fishing vessel which ran aground in the Chincoteague Channel twice Wednesday night, Chincoteague Group Headquarters reported today.

Officials said the fishing vessel "Blue Run" ran aground in the channel approximately 50 yards from the Coast Guard station at approximately 8 p.m. during low tide. The Coast Guard pulled the boat free, but it ran aground again during the low waters, authorities reported. At 11:15 p.m. the boat was able to float free by itself on a rising tide.

The "Blue Run," which is owned by William Grand of New York City, and operated by James Mills of Chincoteague, docked at the Chincoteague Fish Docks. No one was reported hurt nor was the boat damaged, according to Coast Guard reports.

— *The Daily Times*

Man sought in shooting at Pocomoke motel

A man, who was injured by gunshot wounds of the face and hand early today at the Twin Towers Motel, south of Pocomoke, was listed in satisfactory condition at Peninsula General Hospital.

Police gave the man's name as Albert Palmer Kellam, 46, of Chincoteague, Va. A search was still being conducted for the man who fired the shots.

The victim told police that a man forced him at gunpoint to transport him from Virginia into Maryland. Kellam said they stopped at the Twin Towers Motel and while inside the restaurant he (Kellam) attempted to escape by throwing a cup of coffee into the suspect's face.

Kellam said at this time the man pulled a revolver from his waist and fired one shot at him striking him in the face. A spokesman at Peninsula General Hospital

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Yesteryears

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said Kellam sustained pellet wounds not only in his face but also his right eye and left thumb.

Following the shooting, the suspect fled on foot. He was last seen fleeing the Twin Towers parking lot across a wooded area and into a swamp. A canine unit and State Police was well as the Worcester County sheriff's office conducted a search for several hours but were unable to locate the suspect.

He was described as being about 22 years old, six-foot-one-inch tall, short black hair, wearing dark clothing and having a .22 caliber revolver.

— *The Daily Times*

25 years ago
February 1999

Real estate, development boom reawakens Cape Charles

More than a century after two railroad men from up north put the place on the map — literally — the future is beginning to look a lot like the past in this bay-front town near the southern tip of Delmarva.

“For Sale” signs are sprouting on residential and commercial properties, and newcomers are snapping up second homes, investment properties, and rentals so fast that local real estate agents can barely keep up.

There's not a block among the perfectly square 644 lots laid out in 1883 by New York, Pennsylvania & Norfolk Railroad executive William L. Scott that hasn't attracted interest.

Isolated for years by a \$10 one-way toll to make the 30- to 40- minute trek across the Chesapeake Bay Bridge-Tunnel to Norfolk, Virginia Beach, and other Hampton Roads cities, the southernmost town on the Delmarva Peninsula is no longer a secret.

Cape Charles' pristine Chesapeake Bay beach and stately late-Victorian homes are drawing increasing numbers of well-heeled investors looking for weekend getaways, says Kim Starr, a New Jersey native who first came to Virginia's Eastern Shore 15 years ago.

— *The Baltimore Sun*

Reverend recalls Negro League

The Rev. Charles Mapp, of Hare Valley, looks like a baseball pitcher — tall, thin and blessed with long, strong fingers.

While most people know Mapp as a former Accomack County teacher and an articulate pastor at a Cheriton church, Mapp was a pitcher for most of the 1940s and '50s — a professional right-handed hurler playing a game that, like society, had long been segregated.

Mapp, 71, fondly remembers those days—including the time he went head-to-head against Satchell Paige, one of professional baseball's legends, during Mapp's tenure with a barnstorming team.

Mapp's team, the Indianapolis Clowns, had once been a member of the old Negro League. After the league faded, the Clowns and the New York Black Yankees — another former Negro League squad — had been purchased and toured the country, playing each other as well as regional squads.

One year, after the major league season ended, Paige and Brooklyn Dodger greats Don Newcome and Roy Campanella were members of an all-black traveling team that played against the Clowns.

Paige, the future hall of famer, started for one team. Mapp, the future science teacher, started for the other.

“And Satch made me look like a schoolboy,” said Mapp with a chuckle. “That guy had some awesome pitches. He was exceptional. I had never seen a pitcher like him.”

— *The Daily Times*

House speaker visits Northampton sheriff

J. Dennis Hastert, R-Ill., Speaker of the U.S. House of Representatives, recently toured Northampton County for two days with Sheriff Walter Wayne Bradford and a group of local citizens.

“I consider it an honor to have been able to spend two days assisting in the visit,” Bradford said. “It was a special pleasure to have him come to see and learn about Northampton County.”

Hastert, a resident of Illinois' 14th Congressional District, has been a member of the House since 1986. Before becoming Speaker of the House, Hastert served as Chief Deputy Majority Whip, Chairman of the House Government Reform and Oversight Committee's National Security, International Affairs and Criminal Justice Subcommittee, and as a member of the House Commerce Committee.

“He is a really nice, down-to-earth guy,” Bradford said. “I thoroughly enjoyed my time with the Speaker and with his chief of staff, Scott Palmer, who accompanied him on the trip.”

Bradford confirmed that he had been contacted by the Capitol Police prior to Hastert's visit to assist with security.

Hastert has presented legislation in Congress to reform the budget process, balance the federal budget, and cut government waste. As a crusader for the environment, Hastert's most notable work includes preserving groundwater standards.

Groundwater standards are a big concern for Northampton and Accomack counties, low-level lands known to retain water. Both counties are seeking federal funding through U.S. Department of Agriculture for improving the quality of drinking water and correcting sewage problems.

— *The Daily Times*

Disc golf events slated

The Eastern Shore of Virginia Disc Golf Club is hosting a glow-in-the-dark disc golf round at the Historic Onancock School, 6 College Ave., Onancock on Saturday, Feb. 3.

The entry fee is \$5, with an optional donation of \$1 for the ace pot. The event begins at 6 p.m. Players must check in by 5:55 p.m. The player with the lowest score after 18 holes will be declared the winner.

The 2024 Ice Bowl at Indiantown Park, 7399 Indiantown Road, Eastville will take place on Saturday, March 2, at 10 a.m. This disc golf event raises money for the Foodbank of the Eastern Shore. The entry fee is \$20. There will be a basket raffle, a disc raffle, prizes for class winners, and the return of the chili cook-off.

The Pancake Parley III, a Professional Disc Golf Association C-tier tournament, hosted by William Smith Jr., is scheduled for Saturday, March 9, at 9:15 a.m. at the Lynwood Forrest Disc Golf Course, 5524 Seaside Road, Exmore. Players must register in advance; registration closes at 8 p.m. on March 8.

For more information on these events, join the ESVADGC group on Facebook.

Times are getting tight. She needs a milk cow.

Times are getting tight.

The price of gas is through the roof and the cost of milk has me longing for a cow in my backyard.

But not to worry. I can apparently afford anything I want.

Why, this week alone, I've received two "pre-approved" credit cards with astronomical limits — not to mention all those "convenience checks."

I guess I should be pleased my credit is so good.

Instead, I find myself wishing that the credit companies would stop tempting me — and save a few trees in the process.

I really don't need any more credit cards. I mean, the last one I got I applied for while in Disney World simply to get the freebies they were dispensing.

I haven't even peeled the activation strip off that one and already I'm getting offers to upgrade my Tinker Bell VISA.

I am going to hold onto it, though, since I'm afraid it might eventually take a little Disney Magic to keep the old wolf from the door.

I don't mean to complain, for I realize that I am indeed blessed. I and mine have everything we need — and most of what we want.

Still, with today's prices, one must carefully watch one's budget — something that is much easier said than done.

For example, I'd just left home the other morning when I realized I had left some lights on.

I quickly tried to figure what the cost of the electric usage would be

when compared to the cost of the extra gas I would burn if I were to go back home to turn them off.

About the time I realized I couldn't come close to figuring that out without at least paper and pencil, I realized I also had left my cell phone home, so I burned the gas.

And then there is the issue of the grocery bill — and milk is only a part of that equation.

The formula I have to use in determining my food budget includes a factor of one teenage boy in residence, with an exponent of four more on weekends, divided into cases of sodas and mountains of chips.

Add in a couple of family dinners per week and you have a grocery store tab approaching the national debt.

I can take comfort in the fact that I've saved over \$1,000 since I quit smoking over a year ago.

Now, if I can give up chocolate, there should be another \$2,000 or so in the savings column, but I won't allocate those funds just yet.

Right now, I'm trying to decide what to do with the check I'll be getting from the IRS as part of President Bush's "economic stimulus package."

From what I understand, the feds are hoping we all spend that money on new goods or services in order to jump-start the economy.

I guess I'll go shopping, since it would be downright unpatriotic to do anything else.

Anybody know where I can shop for a good milk cow?



Candy Farlow