

# Shore First



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## Treasury of local decoys

New exhibit at Delmarva Discovery Museum in Pocomoke City showcases an area tradition, page 16



The Eastern Shore of Virginia's  
monthly newsmagazine

Published at the beginning  
of each month  
since May 2017

A PUBLICATION  
OF CAPE MEDIA LLC

3257B Main Street  
P.O. Box 47  
Exmore, VA 23350

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COURTESY PHOTOS

Desmand Wessells, left, and Leonel Rodriguez are Project Horizons scholars.

## ESCC Project Horizons students earn engineering scholarships

The Eastern Shore Community College Foundation announces that two of its Project Horizons high school seniors at Northampton High School have been awarded prestigious full scholarships to attend engineering programs at the University of Virginia and Virginia Tech.

Desmand Wessells and Leonel Rodriguez are friends and classmates who encourage each other to do great things and work hard.

Their perseverance has paid off, with support from ESCC Foundation's Project Horizons/Project Discovery Program. Operated through the ESCC Foundation and in partnership with Accomack and Northampton public schools, the program provides mentoring and enrichment opportunities for underserved students in grades 7-12 and a direct pathway to higher education and job opportunities.

This August, Wessells will begin his journey at U.Va.'s School of Engineering as a Gates Scholar, where he will study electrical engineering. Desmand joined Project Horizons in Fall 2023, and has put in many long hours with Program Coordinator Miriam Cornwell, completing college applications, applying for scholarships, and attending a job shadow day at NASA Wallops, as well as other field trips.

Wessells was notified in April that he was one of only 300 students nationwide selected for the prestigious Gates Scholarship. The Gates Scholar-

ship is a generous last-dollar scholarship, ensuring that 100% of tuition, fees, and expenses are paid for four years. The Gates Scholarship also provides an all expenses paid trip to The Gates Scholarship Summer Institute, where students will connect with top professionals in their fields, network, and engage in activities to prepare them for the rigors of college.

"Ms. Miriam really helped me with the application process, and I wouldn't be where I am today without her help through Project Horizons," Wessells said.

Fellow Northampton senior Leonel Rodriguez will enroll in the engineering program at Virginia Tech this fall with a full scholarship through Tech's Presidential Scholarship Initiative. This highly competitive scholarship rewards high achieving first generation college students with a full, renewable scholarship to cover tuition, fees, room, and board for four years. Rodriguez will also receive extra support, faculty mentoring, and other opportunities as a PSI Scholar.

Project Horizons graduates have a strong track record for success. In 2023 all 27 high school Project Horizons seniors graduated from high school. Seven enrolled in four year colleges/universities; 15 enrolled at Eastern Shore Community College; one joined the military, and four went directly into the local workforce.





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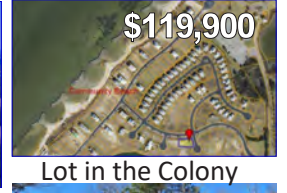
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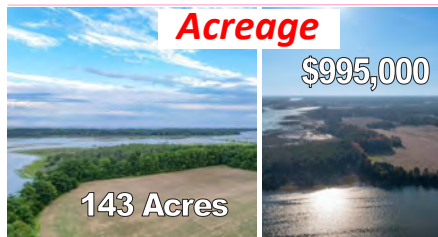
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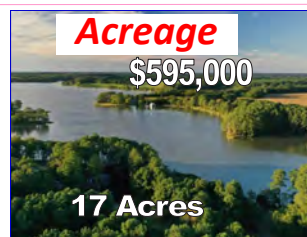


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Information contained herein believed accurate but not warranted.  
Owner/Agent Properties are included in this advertisement





# Musical, film, bands at Arts Enter

“The Fantasticks,” the longest running musical ever, will be presented by Arts Enter at the Historic Palace Theatre in Cape Charles Friday, May 3 through Sunday, May 5.

The play, which opened on Broadway in 1960, presents a saga of youthful exploration, rebellion, and romance.

A compelling story for all generations, “The Fantasticks” delivers the message that although life is complex and full of obstacles, it is possible for people to persevere and find their way.

What makes it so timeless is that people of all ages and situations can take something away from the musical with music by Harvey Schmidt and book and lyrics by Tom Jones. Local actors are playing all of the roles.

Clelia Cardano Sheppard directs the play and Megan Cartwright is the Musical Director. Tickets will be available at the door.

From live stage to utilizing a new state-of-the-art projector and screen purchased by Arts Enter with the help of an Eastern Shore Community Foundation Grant, there will be a free film premiere on May 11 at 7:30 p.m.

David Darg, a resident of Cape Charles, is an Oscar-nominated and Emmy-winning director, cinematographer, film editor, and photographer.

This past year he directed an Eastern Shore crime film based on true events surrounding the Accomack arsons.

On Nov. 12, 2012, an abandoned house on the Eastern Shore of Virginia burned to the ground. For the next five months, night after night, volunteer firefighters responded to conflagrations all over the county. Locals started spreading the word: There was an arsonist in Accomack County.

Darg’s film is a fictional story that recounts the grueling experience of nightly fires that plagued Accomack County. The production involved ma-



COURTESY PHOTO

“The Fantasticks,” the longest running musical ever, will be presented by Arts Enter at the Historic Palace Theatre in Cape Charles Friday, May 3, through Sunday, May 5.

ny Eastern Shore residents as well as Eastern Shore volunteer firefighters and law enforcement and is dedicated to them.

Darg received critical praise for his documentary “Body Team 12,” which garnered him a nomination for an Academy Award at the 88th Oscars.

In addition to his Academy nomi-

nation and Emmy awards for directing, Darg is an Emmy-winning editor having won in 2017 with “Body Team 12” and having been nominated in 2018 with “Fear Us Women.”

In 2020 Darg received the SXSW Adobe editing award for “You Cannot Kill David Arquette.” Darg’s films have won numerous film festival awards

including Tribeca, where he has premiered five documentaries.

Tribute bands have become very popular. People want to hear the songs they loved when they were young and the only way for some of these songs to be heard live is through a tribute band. Arts Enter has caught the fever.

Dancing Dream, an ABBA tribute band, performed in the Historic Palace Theatre in April to a full house of excited ABBA fans. While planning the current season, the Arts Enter Board of Directors decided to add a few popular tribute band titles to the list of performances for the year.

On June 1, Wilder Horses, a Rolling Stones Tribute band, is coming to Cape Charles. The group brings the sights, sounds, and attitude of the original bad boys of rock ‘n’ roll. They have put in their time in the studio rehearsing, recording, preparing costumes, and shooting videos. They have fine-tuned their act to bring the absolute best Rolling Stones Tribute experience.

“Wilder Horses performed at the Palace Theatre within the past five years. What a performance. Their sound was solid and precise. The instrument choices were authentic and really captured the Rolling Stones. We were totally impressed and decided then to have them for another Rock and Roll party,” said MaryAnn Roehm, Arts Enter co-director. The concert is Saturday, June 1, at 7:30 p.m.

The summer season will conclude with a Beach Boys Tribute, Sail On, presented on Saturday, Aug. 3 at 8pm with K Coast as the Presenting Sponsor and Queen Nation, a nationally recognized California tribute band featuring the music of Queen on Saturday, Aug. 31 at 8 p.m.

Visit [www.artsentercapecharles.org](http://www.artsentercapecharles.org) for current information or to purchase tickets.



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SHORE

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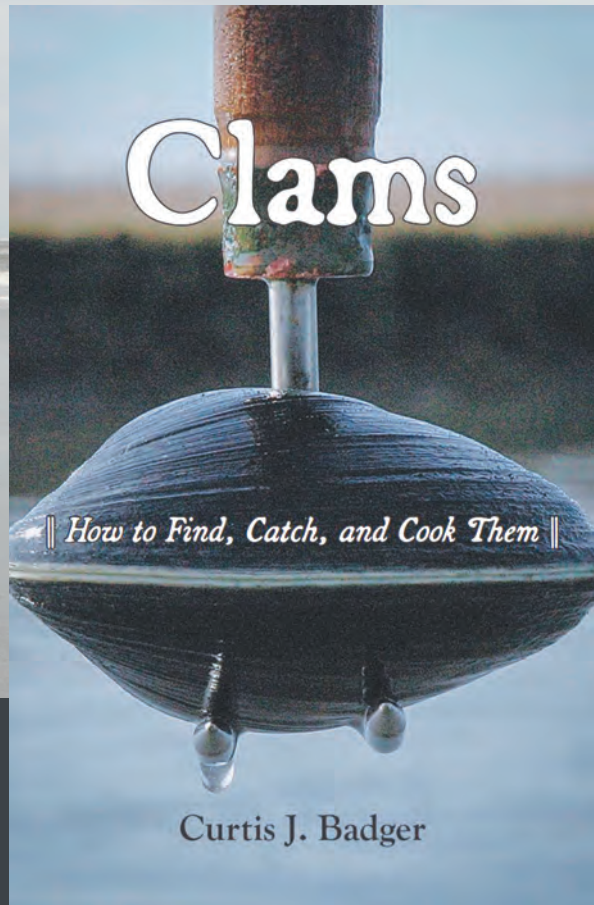
**Nursing 10-wk Classes Begin May 20th!**

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# **YOUR GUIDE TO CLAMS!**

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**BY CURTIS J. BADGER**

*A new revised edition!*

Clams — How to Find, Catch, and Cook Them by Curtis J. Badger was first published in 2002 and has been out of print for about 10 years. A new, revised edition was recently published by Salt Water Media of Berlin, Md. Like the original, the new book leads the reader through the process of finding, catching, and cooking clams. But it also is a book about the places where clams live — the barrier islands, salt marshes, and bays of the seaside.

The new edition also discusses the tremendous growth of clam aquaculture, a tribute to aquaculture pioneer Mike Castagna, and even more clam recipes and cooking tips.

Copies are available from Salt Water Media  
29 Broad Street, Suite 104, Berlin, MD 21811.

Price is \$12.99 plus tax and shipping  
[www.saltwatermedia.com](http://www.saltwatermedia.com)



# Coconut-lime macaroons

## a sweet made for summer days

Do you know the song “Coconut” by Harry Nilsson? We’re talking old school here, kids.

If you haven’t, give it a listen — it’s such a fun song. A song that I can’t help but sing out loud when I’m mixing up these macaroons.

My apologies in advance — it’ll be stuck in your head for a week. One of the lyrics is “put the lime in the coconut and you’ll feel better.”



Laura Davis

Harry was on to something — these little bites are a true taste of summer days, something that I’ve desperately been needing a dose of lately.

Macaroons are kind of an old-fashioned sweet made with egg whites and shredded coconut.

They’re great because they’re really adaptable to switching up with different flavor combinations.

But to be honest, you’re not going to want to look any further than the addition of the fresh zesty lime.

These macaroons couldn’t be easier to whip together, using just a few simple ingredients.

Since they don’t have a bunch of butter, or oil, or egg yolks, they’re not too bad on the waistline. They’re gluten-free for all you folks looking out for that.

After baking until golden brown, I let them cool and then give a nice drizzle of dark chocolate.

They freeze beautifully it’s nice to have a few on hand to package up as a little treat for someone you love.

This recipe makes a dozen, so if I’m baking for a crowd I’ll often double it.

They always fly out the door at bake sales!



Coconut-lime macaroons are a sweet treat for summer.

PHOTO COURTESY LAURA DAVIS

Laura Davis, of Chincoteague Island, is a food writer and blogger at [www.tideandthyme.com](http://www.tideandthyme.com). Her recipes have been featured on Huffington Post and [www.craftbeer.com](http://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.



# Coconut-lime macaroons

- 3 egg whites
- 1/2 cup sugar
- 1/2 tsp almond extract
- (14 oz) bag sweetened shredded coconut
- zest of 1 lime
- juice of lime
- pinch kosher salt
- semi-sweet chocolate chips
- 1 tsp vegetable shortening

Preheat oven to 350. Line baking sheet with silicone mat or parchment paper. Set aside. Beat egg whites and sugar until combined and nice and frothy, about 2 minutes. Add the almond extract, coconut, lime zest, lime juice, and salt. Mix to combine well.

Using a large cookie (cupcake) scoop, pack the mixture into the scoop using clean hands, leveling off. Place on baking sheet. They won't spread, so no worries on spacing issues.

Bake for about 30 minutes, until golden brown.

Let cool for about an hour. Meanwhile, mix chocolate chips and shortening in a small microwave-safe bowl and nuke for about 1 minute. Remove and stir using a spoon until chocolate finishes melting. Drizzle chocolate over macaroons.

Let chocolate harden before placing in airtight container. Store in freezer for maximum freshness.



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## Stroke/Brain Attack!

- B** **Balance** – Is there a sudden loss of balance or coordination
- E** **Eyes** – Is there a sudden loss of vision in one or both eyes or blurry vision
- F** **Facial Drooping** – Is there sudden weakness in the face
- A** **Arm Weakness** – Is there weakness in an arm or leg
- S** **Speech** – Is there sudden difficulty speaking or slurring of speech
- T** **Time to call 911**



**Call 911** if  
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these  
symptoms!

Talk to your health care provider  
about how to reduce your risk.



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# Remembering the first Eastern Shoremen

When English settlement of Virginia began, the Indians on the Eastern Shore of Virginia numbered about 2,000 people, two “tribes” — or three, de-

pending on how they are classified — who lived in small settlements scattered evenly across the peninsula.

The Eastern Shore Indians lived in villages that were always located conveniently close to water, and today, almost four centuries later, it

sometimes seems as if there must have been an Indian village at virtually every spot along the coastline of the peninsula. Perhaps there was, at one time or another, for the first Eastern Shoremen lived a “transhumant” existence, migrating among several locations as game and fields demanded.

After a couple of years planting one field, they would move to another, taking with them the wooden framework of their “houses” and the mats they used to cover those frames. A day’s work — work performed largely by the women — could find the “village” relocated at a different site. Thus almost any location that was easily accessible to water, high enough to be safe from tide, and inland enough to give protection from storm, could, and probably did, serve as

a “village.”

The southern portion of the Shore, from Cape Charles north to approximately Hungars Creek, was occupied by the Accomacks, who were the first Indians encountered by the English. The Accomacks were related culturally to the Indians across the Bay near Jamestown, spoke the same language as Powhatan, and were at least nominally a part of Powhatan’s “empire,” though they had never actually been invaded or subjugated by that great chief, who lacked the means to wage war across the broad expanse of the Chesapeake.

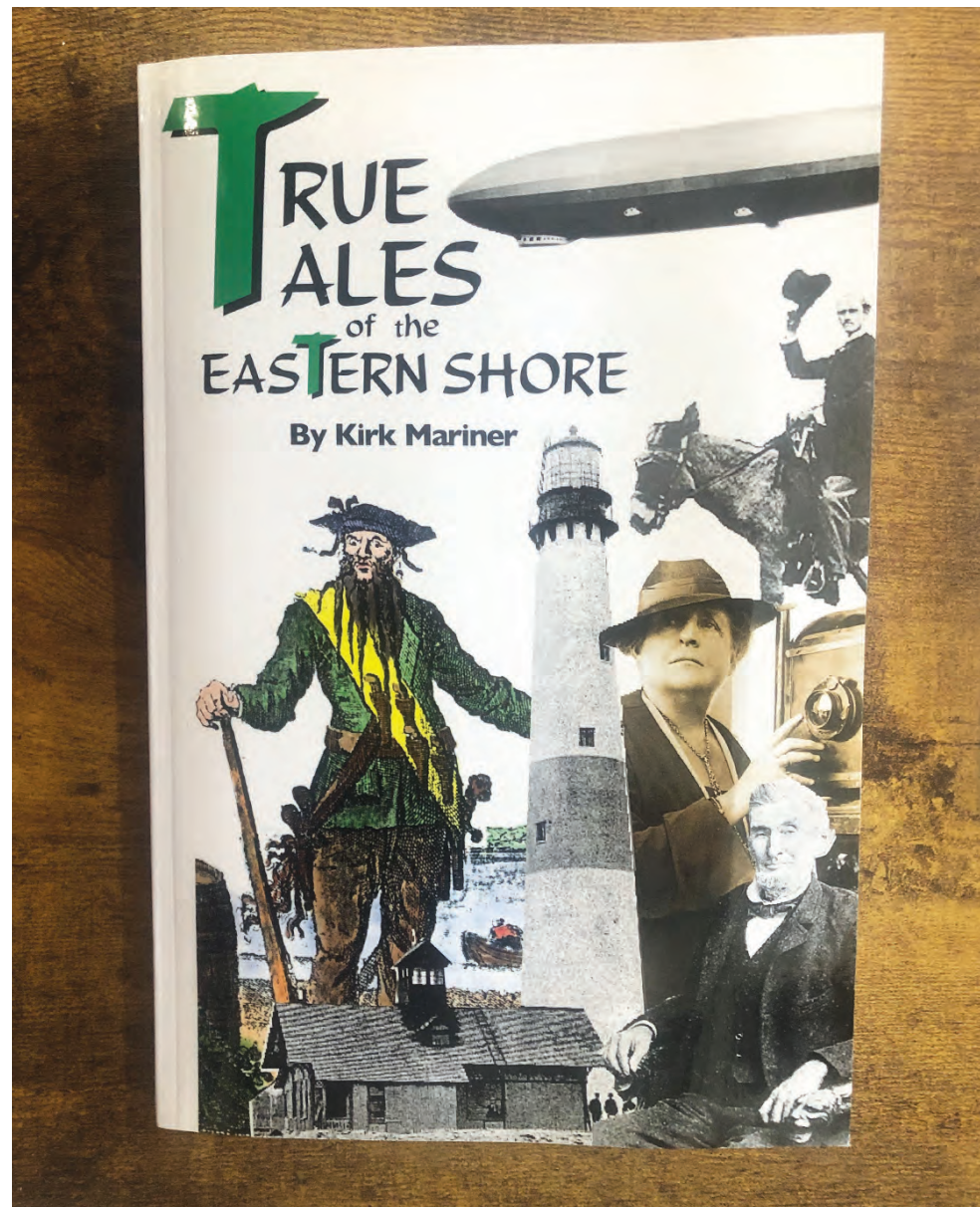
The chief “village” of the Accomacks, from which their name is taken, was located on the banks of King’s Creek in the region of Cheriton and Cape Charles. Here lived the most famous Indian of the Eastern Shore of Virginia, their chief, or “werowance,” whom the English called the “Laughing King.”

Within the territory of the Accomacks were at least two smaller outlying companies. Farther down the peninsula lived the Magothas, near the present village of that name, farther up the peninsula lived the Mattawomans, or Matoones, on Mattawoman Creek north of Eastville. The Mattawomans were the first Indians on the Shore to be displaced by English settlement. Forced out of their home in Old Town Neck, they settled by 1641 in a new location which they called Gingaskin, on the seaside east of Eastville. After moving to this location they were no longer known as the Mattawomans but as the Gingas-

(Continued on page 9)



Kirk Mariner



COURTESY PHOTO

This article is used from “True Tales of the Eastern Shore,” by Kirk Mariner.

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.”



# Mariner

(Continued from page 8)

kins, for the Indians took their names from the locations in which they lived.

North of the Accomacks lived the Occohannocks, who were of the same culture and language; in fact, in 1621 their werowance Kiptopeake was the brother of the "Laughing King."

Some scholars, noting the similarity between the two tribes, list the Occohannocks as a sub-tribe of the Accomacks. However, as far back as 1608 the English always listed the two as separate tribes, and most scholars continue that differentiation.

The Occohannocks take their name from their chief village, which was located on the south bank of Occohannock Creek about three miles west of Exmore. The Indians of a number of other villages, from northern Northampton to upper Accomack, were also considered Occohannocks.

On the seaside the Occohannocks included the Machipongos, who lived at various times in what is now the town of Wachapreague, at "Brownsville" near Nassawadox, and at "Woodlands" across the creek from Brownsville. North of them lived the Matomkins, who had at least two villages in the region stretching from Finney Creek to Parker Creek, Locustville to Pastoria. Above them were the Kickotans, who lived on Hog Neck south of Modest Town.

The Bayside Occohannocks included the Nanduas, also known as the Nassawadox Indians, who lived in Hacks Neck, the Onancocks, who occupied both sides of Onancock Creek but whose

chief village was probably at "Oatlands" near Poplar Cove on the north bank, and the Chesconessex Indians, who lived between Deep Creek and Hunting Creek.

At the northern end of the Shore the English encountered an altogether different tribe of Indians, smaller in stature, more warlike, with a language and culture related not to the Powhantans across the Bay but to the Nanticookes and other tribes farther up the Delmarva Peninsula. These were the Pocomokes, who lived in several waterside locations principally in Maryland. Among them were the Chincoteagues, who lived not on Chincoteague Island but on the mainland opposite it, south of Horntown on Mosquito Creek. Also in Virginia, perhaps, was the principal Pocomoke village, known as Wighcocomoco.

In 1608, when the English first explored the region, it was located on the southern bank of the Pocomoke River, perhaps at or near Pitts Wharf west of New Church. At a later time the Pocomokes moved to the northern side of the river.

The Indians of the Eastern Shore did not long survive the arrival of the white man. Less than a century after English settlement began, the Native Americans who had numbered in the thousands on the Virginia portion of the Delmarva Peninsula were reduced to a "mere remnant," gathered into eight small villages of just a handful of people apiece. Though war and violence played its part in the eradication of the original inhabitants, it was for the most part disease that carried them away.

## Boys and Girls Club sets summer program

The Eastern Shore Boys and Girls Club has announced its Summer Program beginning June 17 and running through Aug. 23, Monday to Friday from 7:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.

Registration will be first come, first served. The weekly fee is \$55 for ages 5 to 12 with a \$25 registration fee. The membership fee for ages 13 to 18

is \$20 with a registration fee of \$25. If teens come before noon, then the weekly fee will be charged.

Youth ages 5 to 12 must provide a copy of birth certificate, shot record, and physical.

The program includes daily meals, field trips, games, technology, fine arts, education, and sports.

For more information, call 757-302-0323, email [easternshorefrontdesk@bgcseva.org](mailto:easternshorefrontdesk@bgcseva.org) or go to [www.bgcseva.org](http://www.bgcseva.org)

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# Six events that forever changed the Eastern Shore

The history and culture of Virginia's Eastern Shore have been shaped by many different events, most of which dealt with travel and commerce. These factors determined where we

lived, how we conducted business, and how humans interacted with the landscape.

Six events forever shaped life on the Shore, and our peninsula would have been radically different had they not happened.

First, public transportation began when the first steamships began operating in the bay in 1813, and in 1838 the Shore got its first steamship line when the "Virginia" stopped at what is now Harborton on its Baltimore-to-Norfolk runs.

This was a watershed event for the rural peninsula. The railroad would not come for nearly half a century, so steamships provided local people with a dependable and comparatively rapid connection with the outside world.

This connection linked the Shore with northern cities, and travel and trade stimulated business and communication.

Every creek had a harbor or wharf from which produce was shipped and

goods from the city received.

Second, the NYP&N Railroad opened in 1884, and although the railroad and the steamships competed for business for years, the railroad eventually won out, especially when the introduction of refrigerated cars made it possible to get fresh seafood and produce to New York markets overnight.

The railroad spawned the Eastern Shore of Virginia Produce Exchange and the Shore became one of the largest producers of white potatoes and sweet potatoes in the nation.

The focus of travel, commerce, and residency gradually shifted from harbors and wharfs to railroad towns along the spine of the Shore.

Third, the Chesapeake Bay Bridge-Tunnel opened 60 years ago, and the bridge-tunnel had the same effect on the railroad that the railroad had on the steamships. Highway travel gradually supplanted rail travel.

The bridge-tunnel greatly added to the burden of U.S. Route 13, an event that was likely unexpected, or minimalized, when highway planners sought to re-route and widen the highway to prepare for an era when interstate travelers would outnumber local commuters.

Bypasses were built around some towns but not others.

After 60 years, Route 13 remains in some places dangerously close to residential communities and driveways.

Four, the forerunner of NASA was

established at Wallops in the years following World War II.

Wallops has become a major employer, and as space exploration and satellite communication have become leading industries around the world, even bigger things can be expected.

Forgive me for saying this, but for Wallops, the sky is the limit.

Five, in the early 1970s a New York developer bought three barrier islands in Northampton County and announced plans for a major resort community.

This was a polarizing moment that forced local people to make a choice.

Do we want intensive resort development in the manner of Virginia Beach, or do we want to maintain a rural way of life that centers on agriculture, seafood, nature, and non-invasive tourism?

The Nature Conservancy, then a small land conservation nonprofit, forced the issue by buying land adjacent to the proposed development and advocating for protecting the islands in their natural state.

The islands of the Eastern Shore were the only remaining undeveloped coastal ecosystem on the mid-Atlantic.

The Conservancy eventually purchased around 35,000 acres of islands, marshes, and adjacent mainland, and in doing so set the tone for land use on the Shore.

The develop-versus-preserve de-

bate was essentially settled, and the Shore's current economy seems balanced on a healthy combination of agriculture, horticulture, tourism, rocket science, aquaculture, the poultry industry, and real estate.

The sixth event was chronologically the first, and possibly had the most profound effect.

In 1614 the English colony at James City was near collapse. Settlers were starving to death, dying of disease, and the future of the outpost was bleak.

In 1613 explorers had discovered a source of salt on Smith Island, and in a last-ditch effort leaders dispatched a group of men to an encampment on the tip of the peninsula called Dale's Gift.

The mission was to catch fish and other seafood to feed the colony and to use salt from Smith Island to preserve food for times when things were scarce.

Salt and fish from the Eastern Shore in large measure were the lifeline of the James City settlement.

Had it not been for Dale's Gift, salt from Smith Island, and fish from the waters of the Eastern Shore, the English settlement at James City very likely would have failed.

James City would have been Virginia's Lost Colony, and instead of English being our native tongue, I might today be writing these words in Spanish — or perhaps Dutch.



Curtis Badger

---

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.



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# Delmarva is known for its fresh seafood

You don't have to be Shoreborn to know that Delmarva is known around the world for its abundance of fresh seafood.

We have the Atlantic Ocean and the Chesapeake Bay in our backyard. The blue



Barry Mears

crab is one of the most popular items on the menu; these tasty creatures live in a perfect environment and reside on all sides of the Eastern Shore.

The male of the species is known as "Jimmy," and the females are known as "Sooks."

Crab potting is the most common method of catching these hard crabs. Baited pots are thrown overboard in the hopes that some wayward travelers will stop by for a free meal.

Most fishermen check the pots daily. The little ones return to the water as the adults are harvested.

Trot lining was a method used in the early days of crab harvesting, in which a weighted line was submerged with an attached bait on display every few feet.

As the boat moves forward, the watermen skillfully raise the line to the surface. With the aid of a dip net, each crab that is hanging on the bait is retrieved and placed into a basket — a very labor intensive process. Some traditionalists continue to follow this method.

In the past, dredging was used to har-

vest crabs during the winter. This was a practice that involved scraping the muddy bottom and scooping up the dormant crabs. Modern regulations outlawed this harvesting method.

The Eastern Shore hard crab season starts in March. Veteran watermen like Joe Stalgaitis, Donnie Kilmon, and Ricky Parks set out their pots in the creeks by the sea. This is usually the first spot the bottom crawlers emerge from their murky winter abode.

Early in the season, catches may be scarce. In an industry built on supply and demand, the price of a scarce commodity can go sky-high.

For the die-hard crab lover, there is no premium too high. In the early spring, a bushel of crabs can easily cost \$200 to \$300. Restaurants and patrons wait in line to get their hands on the first run of crabs.

There will be disagreements about how to clean, serve, and eat a blue crab. I guarantee that any baysider or seaside you ask will gladly share their thoughts on the topic. It all begins with a single question: "Backs On" or "Backs Off?"

For those unfamiliar, crabs are steamed alive in a large pot. Some claim that leaving the hardshell on the crab during cooking helps seal in the flavor, while others say it is significantly less work.

The people on the other side of the issue say that the little extra work pays off. These chefs remove the hard shell just before steaming.

A simple garden hose is used to flush out all the "dead men" and "mustard." This

(Continued on page 13)



COURTESY PHOTO

This article is used from "Living Shoreborn," by Barry Mears.

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)

method offers far less mess at the table and allows the seasoning to penetrate the entire crab.

No matter where you stand on the debate, I think we can all agree that we love steamed crabs. However, the controversy does not end there; there's also the age-old dispute over the perfect seafood seasoning, which will require a bit of a Shoreborn history lesson.

The story starts half a world away in Germany. Gustav Brunn, a young spice maker, was busy perfecting new recipes. Most of Brunn's seasonings were used in sausage. He started to enjoy some success when circumstances changed his fate.

Early in the 20th century, tensions in Europe grew, forcing Gustav and his family to immigrate to the United States. Gustav Brunn landed on the Shores of Baltimore, Md. He quickly set up shop and returned to doing what he loved. In those days, there weren't that many sausage makers in the United States.

That didn't deter Gustav from working on his spices. Locals discovered another use for Brunn spices. In 1940, he perfected his con-

coction, which would go on to fame, fortune, and the seafood industry.

You may have heard of it, perhaps you have used it. Gustav named it "Old Bay" after the waters that greeted him at his new home.

This tongue-tingler is my go-to condiment for everything from french fries to chicken wings. If you believe that the Great Spice Debate has been put to rest, hold onto your hat.

A gentleman by the name of Stringle might be in disagreement. Shortly after Gustav and his family arrived, James Ozzle Stringle and his wife, Dorothy, moved from the small island village of Tangier to the large city of Baltimore. James, a waterman by trade, was also very familiar with seafood.

Many people will claim that Stringle is responsible for the best seafood seasoning ever invented. Shortly after Old Bay gained popularity, his recipe was perfected on Pratt Street in Baltimore. The name, J.O. Seasoning, was named by none other than Mr. James himself. When comparing the two people will make a hard line in the sand. I believe I can bring us back together with some vinegar, melted butter, and an ice cold beverage.

## COMMUNITY



SUBMITTED PHOTO

Northampton County Daughters of the American Revolution members Cara Burton, left, and Kathy Lehman clean a state historical marker recognizing Northampton County's Courthouse history. The chapter participated in the 2024 National Historical Marker Day by cleaning markers in Eastville and Franktown.

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# Area wildfowl decoy exhibit features local carvers

BY JANET BERNOSKY

Shore First

Works created by renowned area decoy carvers, including from the Eastern Shore of Virginia, are on long-term display in an exhibit at the Delmarva Discovery Museum in Pocomoke City thanks to a partnership agreement with Salisbury University's Museum of Eastern Shore Culture.

The exhibit, "Decoys of the Eastern Shore: The Eastern Shore's Original Wildlife Art," officially opened to the public with a ribbon-cutting ceremony and reception held on April 19.

"It's such an honor to have these decoys on display and many thanks to the Museum of Eastern Shore Culture for entrusting them to us," said Christy Gordon, executive director of the Delmarva Discovery Museum.

More than 40 decoys, carvings, and other forms of wildfowl art will remain on long-term loan on a rotating basis, she said.

Gordon worked with members of the Delmarva Discovery Decoy Heritage Committee, as well as staff at the MESC, to select pieces that represented carvers, both past and present, specifically from Maryland's Lower Shore and Virginia's Eastern Shore in the exhibit.

Works by Lemuel and Stephen Ward, Grayson Chesser, Bennett Scott, Lloyd Tyler, Delbert "Cigar" Daisy, Bobby Umphlett, Herb Watson, Miles Hancock, and Ira Hudson are among those on display.

"The Museum of Eastern Shore Culture is so happy to partner with the Delmarva Discovery Museum and make significant works from the Ward Brothers Collection available for the public to see," said Raye-Valion Gillette, folklife specialist and museum curator.

Formerly known as the Ward Museum of Wildfowl Art, the Museum of Eastern Shore Culture retains one of the largest collections of waterfowl art in the world.

The Delmarva Discovery Center is located at 2 Market St., Pocomoke City.

Visit [www.delmarvadiscoverycenter.org](http://www.delmarvadiscoverycenter.org)



EASTERN SHORE POST/JANET BERNOSKY

These two decoy carvings by Miles Hancock are on display at the Delmarva Discovery Museum.





**Christy Gordon, left, of the Delmarva Discovery Museum, and Raye-Valion Gillette, of the Museum of Eastern Shore Culture, share a moment at the opening reception. The exhibit, “Decoys of the Eastern Shore: The Eastern Shore’s Original Wildlife Art,” officially opened to the public with a ribbon-cutting ceremony and reception held on April 19 at the Delmarva Discovery Museum in Pocomoke City.**

EASTERN SHORE POST/JANET BERNOSKY



**Pocomoke City Councilman C. L. Marshall, left, poses with decoy carvers (from left) Herb Watson, Bennett Scott, and Grayson Chesser. Marshall is also on the Delmarva Discovery Decoy Heritage Committee and the museum’s board of directors.**

EASTERN SHORE POST/JANET BERNOSKY



# Roy Ballard talks about origins of Indiantown disc golf

BY RYAN WEBB  
Shore First

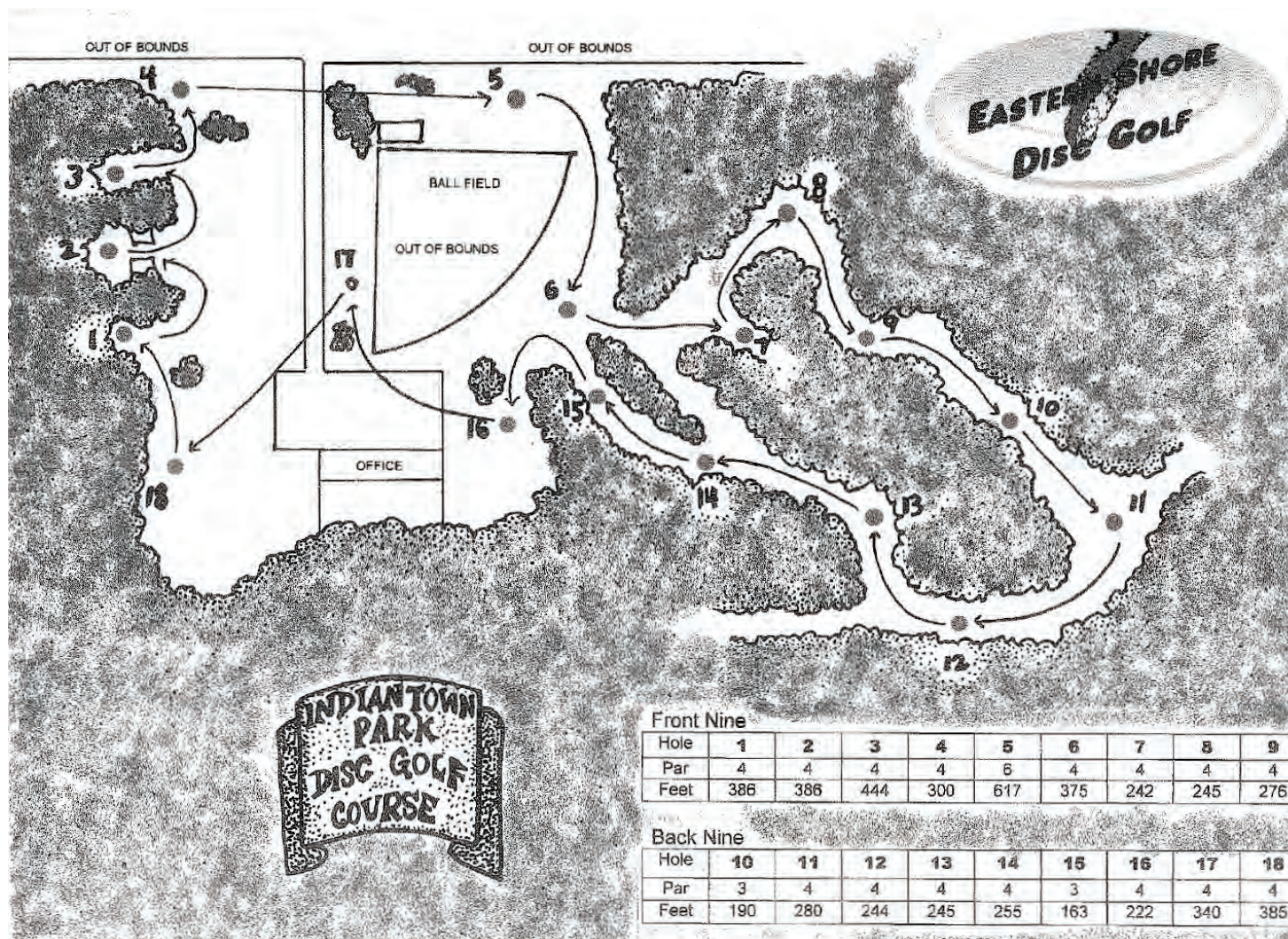
I recently had the opportunity to sit down and talk disc golf with Roy Ballard, longtime Eastern Shore Disc Golf Club member, tournament director, and local course designer. According to Ballard, the origin of disc golf on the Shore can be traced back to one man — the late Bob Bisker.

Bisker grew up in Salisbury, Md., and earned degrees from Clemson University in the 1970s, when he was first introduced to the sport. It was Bisker — who had a course named Dogwood Meadows at his home in Franktown — who first presented the idea for a disc golf course at Indiantown Park to Northampton County’s Parks and Recreation Department.

Bisker designed the original layout for an 18-hole course at Indiantown in 2002. Instead of the modern disc golf baskets on the course today, the prototype course used 50-gallon blue water barrels that were cut in half and set on the ground. When these makeshift targets were replaced by official baskets, they were repurposed as trash cans on each hole.

As someone who has played countless rounds of disc golf at Indiantown, it’s interesting to see the original vision and how the course has evolved over the years.

Many of the holes are in different locations altogether today, but some baskets are in nearly the same locations as the original course, though the hole numbers are now different.



Roy Ballard has an original layout of the Indiantown Park Disc Golf Course.

IMAGE COURTESY ROY BALLARD

For example, the original tee box and basket for hole 5, which crosses the gravel road, are now used for Innova hole 9. The original holes 7 through 15 were laid out along the path of the former Ropes & Initiatives Course (known colloquially as

the obstacle course). Nowadays in that same space on the north side of the park are holes 10 through 18 on the Innova 18.

Another big change from the original course has to do with scoring. Bisker’s original course featured 15

par-4s, a par-3, and a par-6. Today, of the 36 holes at Indiantown, only two are par-4s (though I would argue that Murray 3 could be a par-4). The rest are par-3s.

The ESDGC was established in  
(Continued on page 19)



# Disc golf

(Continued from page 18)

2004, which was also the first year that an Ice Bowl, a local disc golf tournament organized by the club that is held in the winter to raise money for the local food bank, was held. The 15th Ice Bowl was held this past March, and the event has raised over \$7,500 since its inception. Ballard joined the club in 2005 and played his first round of disc golf in the second Ice Bowl.

One of the players in Ballard's group was Captain Mike "Snap" Conger, one of the first Professional Disc Golf Association members. When players become members of the PDGA, they are assigned a number. Conger, a friend of "Steady" Ed Headrick — the inventor of the modern disc golf basket and founding member of the PDGA — is PDGA member #60. To put that in perspective, as of April 2023 there were 255,048 registered members of the PDGA.

The first Pro-Am tournament at Indiantown was called Highnoon at Indiantown and was held on August 13, 2005. Brian Schweberger, a professional from North Carolina who recently achieved

his 404th career tournament win, played in the tournament and placed third in the professional division. But another name on the official results page really caught my eye. Ben Askren, former professional mixed martial artist, professional boxer, Olympic wrestler, and disc golf enthusiast placed second in the mixed amateur intermediate division.

Ballard also has played a role in expanding the Shore's offering of public courses. He and Mark Sinclair first approached the Historic Onancock School board of directors about setting up a temporary course on the same day as a music event at the school. They got approval from the board, and people played during the event. The sport was well received by event-goers, and two other temporary courses were set up during events before the permanent 9-hole course was installed on the school grounds.

When Accomack County's Department of Parks and Recreation acquired Sawmill Park in Accomack, Ballard met with Wayne Burton to establish a beginner-friendly 9-hole course there. The course, designed by Ballard, is about two years old.

Ballard still has his first disc — an Aviar putter.

Nowadays he doesn't play as much due to the installation of a heart defibrillator, but his preferred course is Indiantown — where it all began. He has many treasured memories at the course, such as playing in Ice Bowls with his two sons, John and Wilson. Wilson, Ballard's younger son, is actually one of my friends who introduced me to the sport back in 2011.

According to Ballard, anyone can get good at disc golf — it's all about technique. To those who might be on the fence about picking up the sport, he said, "Don't dismiss it because you don't understand it. You'll never know if you'll like it or whether you'll be good if you don't try it."

If you're interested in learning more about disc golf or think you might like to give it a try, check out the ESDGC on Facebook by searching "ESVA DGC."

The club welcomes players of all skill levels, and its main goal is to grow the sport on the Eastern Shore by introducing new players to disc golf and teaching them how to play. The club also holds monthly tournaments on the third Sunday of each month at courses on the Shore. Grab some discs, a friend (or several), and start playing today.

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# A century of service: history of Cape Charles Rotary Club

**BY METTY VARGAS PELLICER**

Special to Shore First

In the picturesque town of Cape Charles, a legacy of service, fellowship, and community impact began on May 15, 1924. Founded by 15 visionary individuals, the Rotary Club of Cape Charles emerged as a beacon of positive change.

As it marks its centennial year, this historic club stands proudly as the oldest Rotary Club on the Eastern Shore, having reached a remarkable milestone of 100 years of unwavering dedication to service.

## Founding and early years (1924 to 1934)

One hundred years is an achievement by any standards, and the Cape Charles Rotary Club achieves that venerable age when it celebrates its charter on May 15, 2024. This is the story of how it began.

On February 13, 1924, at the urging of Rotary Club International, and with the sponsorship of Hampton Rotary Club, 15 prominent businessmen and professionals from Cape Charles met at the Farmer's and Merchant Bank offices to discuss organizing a Cape Charles Rotary Club.

In April of the same year, they elected their first set of officers, and, with the support of the Hampton Rotary Club secretary John Waymouth, their application was submitted to Frank Lanz, the President of Newport News Rotary Club who was then the Area District Governor.

Cape Charles Rotary Club's appli-

cation was then forwarded to Rotary International which issued the Rotary International Rotary Club Charter # 1772 to Cape Charles Rotary Club on May 15, 1924.

At its inaugural Dinner celebration the following month, held on Friday June 13, 1924, at the Athletic Club Room of the Pennsylvania & Norfolk Railroad, 15 charter members were inducted as well as its slate of officers, with Guy L. Webster as its first President and David W. Peters the first Secretary. The other charter members were Porter Allen, W. D. Williams, J. Warren Topping, Otto Lowe, J. R. Parsons, James W. Wilson, James M. Lynch, John T. Borum, Frank C. Fitzhugh, Roscoe Jones, George P. Smith, Mallory H. Taylor, and Upshur Wilson.

These founding members, driven by a sense of responsibility to their community, embarked on a journey that would focus on community welfare, local projects, and fostering international goodwill.

If the date of the Club's inauguration on Friday, the 13th of June, is considered a bad omen by some, the club's existence as the oldest Rotary Club on the Eastern Shore has proven the fallacy of such beliefs.

The induction ceremony was witnessed by hundreds of Rotarians who came aboard a special ferry for the occasion. They arrived at 4 p.m. the day before the ceremony and made the return trip across the bay at 10 pm the following evening.

It was the biggest event held by the Club in Cape Charles with guests coming from Rotary Clubs in Hampton, Newport News, Norfolk, and

Portsmouth.

After its inception, the club's unique meeting place every Friday was shipboard on the ferry PRR Pennsylvania as it docked at noon at Cape Charles Harbor. The time it took to make the turnaround for its return trip to Old Point and Norfolk was sufficient for the members to have a fine lunch in its elegant dining room, conduct its program, and enjoy some fellowship. Their invited speakers often were distinguished members of the community such as the governor of Virginia.

In December 1924, the Rotary Club, through its President Guy L. Webster along with J. L. Restein, Trainmaster of the PRR and N Railroad, negotiated on behalf of Northampton County to obtain the Eastern Shore Baseball League franchise to bring baseball to the Patton Field in Cape Charles.

The next year it held its annual induction of officers at the dining room of the Eastville Inn, a stag affair which inducted Porter Allen as President.

The following year, the club hosted its most brilliant affair yet in the Annual Ladies Ball, with covers laid out for 150 guests at the Athletic Club room of the PRR and N Railroad and music from a five-piece band and entertainment from a Negro Quartet with party favors for everyone prepared by the hosts, Rotary president W D Williams, and various officers.

In May 1927, three years after its formation, it held a big organizing meeting to give birth to two new Charters simultaneously. It inducted 30 new members to form the Ex-

more Rotary Club serving the Lower Northampton areas of Belle Haven, Franktown, Willis Wharf, Nassawadox, and Exmore, and the Onancock Rotary Club serving Parksley, Onley, Onancock, and Accomac. The Cape Charles Rotary Club membership expanded to 50 members.

The club installation dinner at the Chesapeake Hotel in 1937 of J. L. Restein as President for 1937-1938 was notable in the fact that the speaker invited by outgoing President Frank Parsons, Jr. was Thomas Dixon, of Raleigh, N.C., nationally known author, lecturer and playwright, and a former resident of Cape Charles. He had become famous for his book, "The Clansman," which became a best seller in 1905.

He lived in Cape Charles for only two years, in 1894-1896, but he was promptly elected to become a member of the Town Council for 2 years, and he became part-owner of the town newspaper "The Headlight".

He lived at the Honeysuckle Lodge, 629 Tazewell Ave., which was the former residence of successive train superintendents, and he commuted on the trains every week to deliver his sermon as a minister in New York.

He adapted his book, "The Clansman," onto the stage, and it played to a packed audience in Cape Charles in 1908. It required a special run of the trains to transport the audience from all over the Eastern Shore. Later, it became the basis of the blockbuster silent movie, Birth of a Nation, by D W Griffith, which held its Eastern Shore premiere at the Strand Theater in Nassawadox in 1917. The book and

(Continued on page 21)



# Rotary

(Continued from page 20)

the movie glorified the Ku Klux Klan, and many of his writings expressed his belief in White Supremacy. When he returned to Cape Charles in 1933, he was already a well-known lecturer. It was standing room only at the high school when he gave his lecture, “This Country of Ours.”

The club’s commitment to service endured even in the face of challenges posed by the tumultuous events of the mid-20th century. The Rotary Club of Cape Charles continued its mission then, adapting to wartime restrictions and economic fluctuations. Dr. Raymond Pinchbeck, dean of the University of Richmond, was the principal speaker at one of its regular meetings, at that time held after dinner at the Beach Casino tearoom on Friday evenings. Dr. Pinchbeck spoke about “The Economic Effect of War.”

In 1949 the Club celebrated its 25th Silver anniversary at the Chesapeake Hotel in Cape Charles, where it inducted Willis S. Parsons as its president.

The spirit of resilience that defined this era would lay the groundwork for decades of impactful service.

## Expanding horizons (1960s to 1980s)

As Cape Charles evolved, so did the Rotary Club’s initiatives. The 1960s and 1970s witnessed a broadening of the club’s reach, as it embraced new projects in education, healthcare, and community development.

The club’s commitment to youth engagement led to the establishment of scholarships and mentorship programs, reflecting its deep-rooted belief in nurturing the potential of the next generation.

In August 1969, it was cited as a 200% Foundation Club by Rotary International. The first Foundation awards scholarship for student study abroad was granted to Burleigh T. Wilkins of Bridgetown who went to Cambridge in England to study Chemical Engineering.

On Thanksgiving 1963, the club

hosted Ms. Williams of Wales, a Rotary Scholar studying at George Washington University, while she visited Cape Charles.

In 1974 it celebrated its 50th Golden Anniversary at the America House.

## Modernization and global outreach (1990s to 2010s)

With the turn of the millennium, the Rotary Club of Cape Charles embraced technological advancements and innovative approaches to service. It chartered its third Club by helping organize the Melfa Rotary Club in 1993.

Global initiatives took center stage, as the club participated in Rotary International projects, contributing to eradicating diseases, promoting literacy, and facilitating clean water access in distant corners of the world.

At its 75th Anniversary dinner meeting in 1999, aboard the Spirit of Norfolk sailing on Chesapeake Bay, it recognized ten members as new PHFs. Paul Harris Fellows are members who have contributed \$1000 to the Rotary Foundation, the charitable arm of Rotary International. The Foundation supports programs globally such as Polio Plus, which was launched by Rotary International in 1985 and aimed at eradicating polio globally. This period marked a chapter of impactful change beyond local borders as members generously supported the Rotary Foundation with regular fundraising efforts such as participation in the purple Pinkie program and the Gift Giving Tuesdays program.

The club’s charter did not specifically mention race in its criteria for membership (it did specify males), but its membership consisted exclusively of white males until Rotary International issued a ruling in 1982 saying it would revoke a Club’s Charter if it refused to accept African American members. This was after a protest called national attention to a club in N.C., which voted to continue its 1913 charter of specifically admitting only white males to its membership.

In 1996, Rotary Club of Cape Charles member Tommy Long spon-

sored Tom Godwin, who was a member of the City Council at the time, to become the first African American member of the Cape Charles Rotary Club.

Tom, who remains an Active Member to this day, tells us that he tried to bring in other African Americans, but he was unsuccessful in recruiting any at the time. He feels that in the Jim Crow era most African Americans were still distrustful and afraid to get involved with white establishments.

Women were not admitted as members of our club until after Rotary International passed legislation in 1987 permitting their admission — this was after the U.S. Supreme Court had ruled in March 1987 that Rotary could not exclude female members.

The club first admitted Dawn Goldstein, the Eastern Shore School Superintendent, and shortly after they elected her as their first female President in 1993-1994.

Member Mark Clarke recalls that Dawn was blackballed at first — some members were just too uncomfortable with her presence. However, she was an assertive woman, and she held an important position as Superintendent of Schools for Northampton County, so she subsequently prevailed, paving an easier way for other women. Norma Spencer was admitted later and became President in 2001-2002. Cela Burge, who was President in 2003-2004, recalls that for a long time it was just the three of them who were female members until Hollye Carpenter joined and subsequently became President in 2005-2006, as did Beverly Harper in 2006-2007 and Glenda Miller in 2007-2008. The most recent woman president was Monica Bridgforth who served in 2015-2016.

All these women brought new energy into the club and made it more inclusive of all members from different backgrounds and occupations. They also tried to bring in younger members, including Wayne Bell who was admitted and later became President in 2008-2009.

Wayne was a young, accomplished African American who was another excellent addition to the club. After him other African Americans joined, mostly brought in by Bill Payne, who has been a very active member and has served three terms as our President,

in 2018, 2021 and 2022.

Bill Payne continues to be involved in many Rotary projects, often almost single handedly maintaining long-term Club projects such as the holiday Salvation Army bell ringing, the local Boy’s and Girl’s Clubs, the Rotaract Clubs, the New Roots Youth Garden Initiative, the annual Backpack and School Supply drive, the Dictionary Program for all 3rd Graders in our county, and more.

After Bill became a member, several other African Americans joined the Club, including Robert Church, Diane Dawson, Stan Plowden, Reggie Widgeon, Jackie Chatmon, and Betty Bibbins. Tom Godwin recalls that early on he considered himself to be a token member and experienced some condescension among the older white members, but today he feels that Rotary has sincerely changed its attitude towards his race and that acceptance is based on merit and the capability and willingness to do “Service above Self” rather than skin color.

Cela recalls that the requirement of attendance at meetings was strict at one time, and members had to make up for missed meetings, even though it was difficult for many who were working full-time to make most of the weekly meetings at 12:15 pm. The practice of periodically holding meetings in the evening was started then.

Cela also recalls that there was a policy of limiting membership to one member per profession, so there was one doctor, one lawyer, etc., although there were several farmers who held other important and influential positions in the community which allowed them to belong.

She further recalls that the highlight of the social events were the Christmas parties held at Old Castle, the home of the Hubbards at Savage Neck. Cela recalls that Cliff Thibadeux sponsored her, having badgered her for a long time until he wore her out and she finally relented. She also recalls that she was one of the younger members, along with Mark Clark and Ralph Dodd, and that they felt surrounded by a bunch of old white guys who liked to socialize with each other and who called themselves the “Eat, Play and Burp Club.”

(Continued on page 22)



# Rotary

(Continued from page 21)

It is noteworthy, that among the service projects initiated during Cela Burge's presidency, the Cape Charles Rotary Club, along with the other Eastern Shore Rotary Clubs, helped to raise funds to establish the Shore Cancer Center, the first such center on The Shore.

For a few years, the Cape Charles Club was mostly a tight group of older white males, who were prominent and influential members of the community, which engaged itself in mostly local projects, supporting them financially but not actually becoming actively involved.

This changed when it engaged in the project helping New Roots Youth Garden, which was initiated by the club during John Burdiss' first term as President in 2011. In fact, our Rotary District recognized this as a community project worthy of a District Grant.

This transformed a blighted area of town into a beautiful garden which has become a laboratory for youth to learn hands-on about plants and growing vegetables as well as about ecology and climate change. The club continues to be involved in the garden by donating money and encouraging members to volunteer to help our youth from spring planting until harvest.

In 2018 the three Eastern Shore clubs (Onancock, Exmore, and Cape Charles) presented to New Roots another District Grant check for \$12,000, to help with refurbishing the plant stand, replacing the fencing, and installing concrete slabs around the farmstand.

The presentation ceremony was presided over by District 7600 area Governor Susan Zachensky Walthall and Bill Murphy, then Area Asst. Governor and a former President of the Cape Charles Rotary Club.

Another notable service the Cape Charles Club began to provide was its sponsorship of public forums for candidates running for public office in Cape Charles. This began in May 2014, and it has continued for every election since then, thereby providing all local voters the chance to get to know the

candidates for Mayor and the Town Council.

The club secures the venue, contacts each candidate to get their commitment to attend, plans the event providing the structure of the schedule and a neutral moderator, and supplies a few questions while providing an opportunity for members of the audience to submit their own.

The year 2014 was also notable when it received its first EREY (Every Rotarian Every Year) Award from the District (this is earned by a club in which every member contributes at least \$100 to the Rotary Foundation that year).

The Club has earned this award yearly since then. The club also earned the Presidential Citation Award with Distinction (given to a club which has fulfilled a series of the requirements including participation in numerous local projects) and Paul Strong received the Outstanding President Award, given to only 10 Presidents in our Rotary District 7600, which has 66 local clubs. Through Paul's presidency, the club became more organized by adopting a number of policies and procedures which improved its structure and function.

In February 2015, primarily resulting from the efforts of Bill Payne, the club began a partnership with the Boys and Girls Club of the Eastern Shore by providing them technological support via a District Grant for purchasing new computers. We also provided mentorship to the Eastern Shore youth to help prepare them for college and/or job application. By sponsoring a career day and other workshops, and most importantly by sharing our members' experience and knowledge with them, we hopefully made an impact on their choices in life and their preparation for success.

Rotarians Bill Murphy and Bill Payne also sought to energize and inspire young leaders through service and to encourage them to become responsible global citizens by organizing 2 Interact clubs on the Eastern Shore. Broadwater Academy Interact Club was chartered in 2014, and Northampton High School Interact Club started in 2018, both with Cape Charles Rotary Club's sponsorship.

Our Club still supports these Interact clubs in many ways, from support-

ing their attendance at RYLA (Rotary Youth Leadership Awards, which are weekend gatherings of students where they learn leadership skills) to providing them access to our members' skills and expertise along with our club's monetary donations to their projects.

One of the most ambitious projects launched by our Rotary club has been the Walking Tour of the Invisible History of African Americans in Cape Charles, which was proposed in 2021 and spearheaded primarily by Metty Pellicer with the help of Tom Godwin, the first Black member of our club.

The Invisible History Committee, which had been appointed to develop this project, applied for a grant from the Virginia Humanities (part of the University of Virginia) and a grant in the amount of \$9,800 was awarded in April 2022. Members of the club had already worked hard to obtain oral histories, permanently recorded on video, from many of the descendants of the early African American residents of Cape Charles, some of whom dated back to the town's founding in 1886. The grant money then allowed the Committee to hire a consultant to do additional background historical research for the project and help the Committee to put together a tour consisting of 12 Black historical sites in Cape Charles along with individual histories of each site.

This tour tells the story of the separate and vibrant community of African Americans which existed in Cape Charles during the era of Jim Crow, but which has never been documented in the town's history prior to this. By shining some light on this part of life in Cape Charles, its current residents will now know how this segment of the town's population has contributed to the present reality of the town and our African American residents and their descendants will now know how their ancestors made an impact on their town and their current lives. This important and ongoing project is expected to continue to evolve as time passes. For more information, see [www.invizhistory.org](http://www.invizhistory.org).

## Club fundraisers

The Club's effort to fund our proj-

ects reflects the member's commitment to service following the four-way test of the things Rotarians think, say, or do: 1. Is It the Truth? 2. Is It Fair to All Concerned? 3. Will It Build Good Will and Better Friendships? 4. Will It Be Beneficial to All Concerned? And we chose to add a fifth 5. Will it be fun?

Introduced by Bill Stramm in his presidency in 2010, the Happy Dollars segment during each meeting had become an enduring continuously run fundraiser where each member could have the floor at the meeting to share whatever he chooses, such as a visit from one's grandchildren, or ones' celebration of a life event, or simply to have the floor to tease another member, a long-standing good-natured joust between friends, where they alone could follow what's going on.

Then there was the 50/50 Raffle at each meeting, where oftentimes the winner would donate the money prize back to the Rotary, until it was replaced by the current Card Jackpot game: Queen of Hearts.

The most successful and well-known fundraising effort of the Club is its Bi-annual Crab Cake Sales held before the July 4 and Thanksgiving holidays.

The Cape Charles Rotary Club is renowned for its 100% crab meat, no filler, crab cakes. Since the 1980's, the service organization has sold crab cakes to support its mission – "Service above Self". In the beginning, crab cake sandwiches were prepared in a donated pop-up tent trailer that was converted into a sales stand.

Rotarians Rick Hubbard, Grant Robbins and Cliff Thibodeaux led the trailer conversion effort. However, no one goes to market without a killer recipe. Another Rotarian, Paul Watson, Chip and Bill's father, owned a Cheriton restaurant called "Paul's". The original crab cake recipe is attributed to Paul, but Sherman Stairs, often the lead cook, recalled the original recipe was contributed by Mary Barns of Cape Charles.

Regardless, this fundraising tradition was launched, and the community became accustomed to the Rotary selling crab cake sandwiches, with all the condiments, at holiday celebrations

(Continued on page 23)



# Rotary

(Continued from page 22)

and other community events. While the experience was rewarding, it was hard work and sales were modest.

Furthermore, the health department frowned upon the cooking arrangement, and the “crank-up” camper had become a maintenance issue. Driven by necessity, around the turn of the century, the Club realized it would be more successful if it sold uncooked crab cakes to its friends and neighbors. As anticipated, production and sales greatly increased.

The “cook them yourself” model was a fundraising success. Enter former Rotarian, Ann Sayers, who oversaw crab cake production during and many years after her active Rotary service. She “tweaked” the original recipe; however, fillers have never been used. In 2015, the product was further enhanced when Panko crumbs replaced the traditional recipe’s cracker meal coating.

# Centennial celebration

Today, on its centennial anniversary, the Rotary Club of Cape Charles stands as a testament to the power of enduring ideals. For a century, its members have upheld the values of service, integrity, and fellowship, leaving an indelible mark on the town they call home.

Its service initiatives, such as the quarterly highway clean-up of Stone Road, restoration of the railway caboose at the Cape Charles Museum, the holiday ringing of the bell for the Salvation Army, the annual distribution of dictionaries to Northampton County 3rd graders coordinated by Tom Godwin, and our annual campaign to donate school supplies for needy children, are ongoing commitments.

The Rotary also supports community projects via monetary donations from \$150-\$4000 to the Kiptopeke Elementary School, Camp Fragile Hearts, the Boy’s and Girl’s Clubs of the Eastern Shore, Smart



Beginnings, New Roots Youth Garden, Rise From Hunger, Main Street Festive Fridays, Citizens for Central Park, the Barrier Island Center, the Cape Charles Museum, Cape Charles Historical Society, Habitat for Humanity, Eastern Shore Food Bank, ESVA Chamber of Commerce, Arts Enter Cape Charles, the ES Coalition Against Domestic Violence, the Rosenthal School Restoration Initiative, and various other community

organizations.

It also volunteers time to help with event set-ups, parking, painting and other services. In 2019, for example, Robert Church single-handedly restored all of Eastville’s fire hydrants with the help of funds from the club to cover the materials. Through all these activities and more, our club clearly embodies the spirit of Rotary International’s motto, “Service Above Self.”

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100 years ago  
May 1924

## Accomack farmer killed in wind and hail storm

John H. Parks, farmer of Accomack County, was killed late today in an electric storm which damaged crops and buildings of this section estimated at over \$200,000. Parks was caught between two beams of his barn when it was demolished by winds which attained the velocity of a tornado. The storm was accompanied by cloud bursts and a heavy downpour of hail stones, said to have been nearly as large as hen eggs. The strawberry crop, which was at the peak of movement, was apparently completely destroyed by the hail and rain and constitutes the greatest loss, though other crops suffered and many buildings were wiped out.

— *The Virginian Pilot*

## Suffolk Rotarians to help install Cape Charles club

The Rotary Club held its regular weekly meeting yesterday afternoon at the Presbyterian church house with J.E. West, president, presiding. J.C. West Jr., John Phillips, G.A. Harris and Rev. F.B. Oglesby were appointed delegates to the meeting of the Virginia Historic Highway to be held in Lynchburg June 21.

G.A. Harris was appointed a committee to arrange for a delegation to attend the installation of the Cape Charles club on June 6.

The next meeting will be held in Oxford M.E. church. Visitors present were Rotarians Ned Maupin and Paul Hanbury of Portsmouth, Withers Woolford of New York, John Cecil of Richmond, W.R. Taleth of Norfolk, R.L. Woodward Jr. and Maj. M.W. Joyner.

— *Ledger Star*

## Chincoteague fights to keep freight depot

Being considerably aroused over the action of the Pennsylvania Railroad, which has recently petitioned the Virginia State Corporation Commission asking authority to abandon its freight station at Chincoteague and to discontinue its freight service to and from Franklin City, after May 15, a mass meeting of the citizens of the island was held in the school auditorium last week at which time plans were formulated

to fight the plans of the railroad company.

At the meeting, money was subscribed to employ State Senator Warner Ames, J. Harry Rew and Mapp and Mapp to represent the interests of the island at the hearing before the State Corporation Commission, May 8.

The shippers of the island state that Chincoteague is the largest shipping point south of Wilmington, Del., that approximately \$1,000,000 was collected last year by the transportation companies on freight and express shipments and that the business is increasing each year and also that the Chincoteague Toll Road and Bridge Company, which the railroad officials claim can better serve the island than the ferry, was not built for the heavy traffic of seafood shipments, but was only to accommodate passenger automobiles and light trucks.

At the hearing in Richmond next Thursday, the Island will not only be represented by the lawyers, but also by a large delegation of businessmen from the town.

— *Ledger Star*

## Newspaper merger made in Accomac

An important merger in the newspaper business has been consummated on the Eastern Shore of Virginia, whereby the Accomack News Publishing Company, a corporation doing business at Onancock, Va., and the Eastern Shore News, published at Cape Charles, were consolidated under one management with offices at Onancock and at Cape Charles.

In the union of the two publications, J.W. Wilson, J. Warren Topping and Eber V. Downes, all of Northampton County, Va., together with the original directors of the Accomack News, become directors of the new organization, which will in all probability be known as the News Publishing Company, Inc., of Onancock and Cape Charles. John T. Borum, secretary and general manager of the Accomack News, will act in the same capacity for both papers.

The separate editions of the two papers will continue, retaining the individual points of each that have appealed to the subscribers, and at the same time, inaugurating new and attractive features as time and opportunity may offer.

No doubt this will be of great benefit to both Onancock and Cape Charles. The men at the head of the Accomack News are progressive and capable and will give great service to both places.

The Democrat has purchased a part of the comparatively new equipment of the Cape Charles paper.

— *The Worcester Democrat*

75 years ago  
May 1949

## John A. Byrd dies; was train dispatcher

John Anderson Byrd, 74, died late Monday at the Memorial Hospital, Nassawadox, following a brief illness. He had been in failing health for some time but had not been confined to his bed until Saturday.

Funeral services were conducted this afternoon from the residence of Mr. Byrd's son, John A. Byrd Jr., with the Rev. Edwin R. Carter Jr. officiating. Members of the Masonic fraternity participated in the service and interment was in Pocomoke City, Md.

Mr. Byrd, who retired last November as train dispatcher after 35 years of service with the Pennsylvania Railroad, was prominent in social and fraternal circles here, having made his home in Cape Charles since 1895.

Born in Accomack County, near Bloxom, May 2, 1875, the son of the late John O. and Arinthia E. Bloxom Byrd, he entered the service of the Pennsylvania Railroad at Parksley in 1893. Coming to Cape Charles as dispatch copier, he resigned in 1901, accepting a position as telegraph operator with the Southern Railway in Alexandria. Later that year he was promoted to extra train dispatcher on the Manassas Division and the old Washington & Ohio Division. That same year Mr. Byrd accepted a position with the Southern Railway in Washington, where he remained until 1902 at which date he returned to Cape Charles, where he remained until his death.

Mr. Byrd's wife, Mrs. Carolyn Morse Byrd, died in February 1926.

Prominent in Masonic circles, he had been a member of Evergreen Lodge No. 105, A.F. & A.M., Royal Arch Chapter No. 12, Chesapeake Commandery No. 28, and Khedive Temple, A.A.O.N.M.S., Norfolk. He was a member of Emmanuel Episcopal Church.

Surviving are a son, John A. Byrd Jr., and a grandson, John Anderson Byrd, 3d.

— *Ledger-Star*

## Unidentified plane sought off coast

Navy and Coast Guard aircraft scanned the Atlantic Ocean off Chincoteague today for an unidentified plane believed to have crashed at sea.

The Chincoteague naval air station reported it received a distress signal from a plane shortly before 2 p.m.

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## Yesteryears

(Continued from page 24)

Several naval planes were ordered to start searching and one of them reported shortly afterward it had sighted a small section of a plane's tail assembly on the ocean 22 miles southeast of the Chincoteague air station.

A Coast Guard search plane from Elizabeth City, N.C., sighted an oil slick in the same area.

A fifth naval district spokesman said the crashed aircraft "apparently was not a navy plane."

— *Danville Register and Bee*

## Mrs. Phelps, Cape Charles poetess, dies

Mrs. Elizabeth Maxwell Eaton Phelps, wife of Colonel Wilbur M. Phelps, died Wednesday at the home of her sister, Mrs. John S. MacMath.

A funeral service will be conducted at 3 p.m. Friday at the residence, with interment in Cape Charles Cemetery.

Mrs. Phelps, a native of Washington, was married to Colonel Phelps in 1898. She made her home in Staunton until about two years ago when she moved to Fort Pierce, Fla. Colonel and Mrs. Phelps have been making their home in Cape Charles since early this year.

Mrs. Phelps was well known as a poet, having had a number of her works published in the New York Times, Virginia Commonwealth, Good Housekeeping, and other periodicals.

Surviving are Mrs. Phelps' husband; a sister, Mrs. John S. MacMath; two brothers, Volney Eaton, of West Palm Beach, Fla., and Warner M. Eaton, of Washington; a sister-in-law, Mrs. Herbert Mitchell, of Hyattsville, Md.; and a number of nieces and nephews.

— *Richmond Times Dispatch*

## Child strangles at Chincoteague

The seven-month-old son of a petty officer at the Chincoteague Auxiliary Naval Air Station strangled to death while his mother was searching for an older sister.

Dr. Gilbert A. Webb, physician at the station, said Eugene Dale Faust, son of Petty Officer and Mrs. Lee Erskine Faust, strangled Wednesday when he slipped in his highchair and caught his neck on the chair's feeding tray.

Mrs. Faust had just stepped out of the house for several minutes to call for her daughter, Marilyn,

two years old. When she came back, she discovered the accident. She took the child immediately across the street to the Navy dispensary but all efforts to revive him failed.

The family took the body to Pittsburgh, Pa., today for burial.

Officer Faust is attached to the AT-3 flight crew here. The family had lived here only several months.

— *The Daily Times*

## Tuck to speak Thursday at Cheriton event

Highlighted by an address by Governor Tuck, the program has been completed for the Firemen's Day festivities here Thursday. His address is scheduled for 3:15 p.m.

Activities will begin at 10 a.m. with registration of firemen at the Fire House. At 1 p.m. there will be a parade with fire companies from Cape Charles to Pocomoke invited to participate. Already signifying their intentions to participate are Chincoteague, Parksley, the Community Fire Company of Exmore, Eastville, and Cape Charles, and the Naval Auxiliary Air Station.

Boy Scouts from Eastville, Cape Charles, and Cheriton also will be present.

After the parade, the Cheriton firemen and the Cheriton school will stage a softball game.

A band concert and display of equipment will follow the address by Governor Tuck.

Supper will be served from 2 p.m. by the ladies' auxiliary of Cheriton Fire Company, which is sponsoring the event.

— *The Virginian-Pilot*

50 years ago  
May 1974

## Simon & Garfunkel replace Elgar and Alice Cooper

The traditional strains of "Pomp and Circumstance" will be replaced with the "Sounds of Silence" next Wednesday at the Chincoteague High School graduation ceremonies.

The selection of Simon and Garfunkel's "Sounds of Silence" was a compromise between school officials and graduating seniors, who wanted Alice Cooper's "School's Out" as their recessional.

Before the compromise was reached, the seniors had considered a music-less walk from the school,

located on Virginia's Eastern Shore.

Senior class president Gail Walker said the seniors considered announcing on graduation night, "we were denied the song of our choice, so we leave Chincoteague High School in silence."

As it is, she said, "Sounds of Silence" is "symbolic of our fight."

Principal Thomas Phillips and school board trustee J.D. Pennewell said the Alice Cooper song was inappropriate.

The song's lyrics include:

"We got no class, we got no principles, we got no innocence ... school's out forever, school's been blown to pieces" and "we can't salute 'cause we can't find the flag, and if that don't suit, that's a drag."

Miss Walker said it was the flag reference that evoked Pennewell's ire.

"He said that anybody that has a country has a flag," she said. "We tried to explain what Alice Cooper meant by it. He means that young people today do not have a flag that represents their feelings."

She said Pennewell told class representatives that "if this is what the senior class wants to hear, maybe the senior class needs to be re-evaluated."

He suggested a Bach or Beethoven composition as an alternative to "Pomp and Circumstance," Miss Walker said, adding, "just for the record, nobody in the school can play any of their works."

— *Danville Register and Bee*

## Man held in shooting of Va. deputy

An Accomack County Sheriff's Deputy was shot in the stomach Wednesday night while investigating a disturbance. An Oak Hall man has been taken into custody and charged in connection with the incident. Virginia State Police, however, are still searching for the weapon.

According to a spokesman for the Sheriff's Department, Pretlow "Ike" Savage, 49, Oak Hall, was taken into custody approximately one hour after Deputy James Fisher was shot.

Fisher was investigating a routine complaint at 8:30 p.m. While talking with the complainant, Johnny Savage of Oak Hall, shots were fired out of a nearby woods. Fisher, who was standing by his car, was wounded in the stomach before he could get in his car and get away. Johnny Savage was standing in the doorway of his home and couldn't be seen from the wooded area.

Virginia State Police and sheriff's deputies were called to the scene where a search began for the assailant.

Pretlow Savage was located in the area by police. Savage is in the Accomack County Jail pending

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## Yesteryears

(Continued from page 25)

arraignment.

Deputy Fisher was treated at the Northampton - Accomack Memorial Hospital for shotgun wounds and released in satisfactory condition.

— *The Daily Times*

25 years ago  
May 1999

### Shore Bank elects three new officers

Shore Bank announced its board of directors recently elected three new officers of the bank.

Martha H. James, Anne H.J. Dize, and Kathy Warren were all elected to the office of assistant vice president of the bank.

James started her career in the Exmore branch in 1984 and serves in the position of branch supervisor.

Size began with the bank in the original office in Accomack in 1988 and is currently the branch supervisor in the main office branch in Onley.

Warren began her career in Onley in 1989 and has since moved to Shore Bank in Salisbury. She serves as head teller in the Downtown Plaza branch and is responsible for training new employees on deposit products and systems.

— *The Daily Times*

### Former cop pleads guilty in heist

A former Cape Charles police officer pleaded guilty Monday to the July 1998 robbery of a Crestar Bank in Cheriton.

Van Collins, 25, pleaded guilty to four charges — two counts of robbing Crestar tellers, and one count each of placing a fake bomb and stealing a police car to escape.

He pleaded not guilty to three firearms charges. No sentencing date has been set, though he could receive a life sentence.

Commonwealth's Attorney Bruce Jones detailed how Collins robbed the bank, wiggled free of handcuffs after he was caught and with a stolen police car led police on a high-speed chase through Nasawadox.

Collins was wearing a ski mask and used a police-issued .45-caliber pistol when he entered the

bank, jumped on the counter, and placed what he claimed was a motion-activated bomb on the counter, Jones said.

He said Collins took \$24,900 from two tellers and threatened everyone in the bank, saying he knew their families and children. A bank manager watched Collins drive away in a car that was later spotted by police. Collins was captured and handcuffed, but he convinced police to loosen the cuffs, freed his hands, and escaped in the police car. He led police on a high-speed chase on U.S. Route 13 before crashing in Hare Valley.

The money was recovered in January and Virginia highway workers on a roadside found a pistol similar to the one used in the robbery. It was identified as belonging to the Cape Charles Police Department.

Collins was a Cape Charles officer from February 1997 until June 1998, when he resigned while on indefinite suspension from the department for undisclosed reasons.

Jones said "a fair amount of planning" went into Collins' heist. According to Jones, bank surveillance cameras caught Collins spray painting over lenses hours before the robbery. In addition, Collins called 911 to report an accident in Silver Beach to divert policemen around the time of the robbery, he said.

— *The Daily Times*

### Officials lose jobs after Florida junket

The mayor, town manager, and police chief of Chincoteague lost their jobs for skipping most of a hurricane conference in Florida and running up big bar and restaurant tabs, at taxpayer expense, on a side trip to Key West.

Accomack County Circuit Judge Wescott Jacobs suspended Mayor Harry Stanley Thornton pending trial on allegations that he misused town money on and before the trip.

Later Friday, the island's Town Council voted 4-2 to fire Police Chief Willis Dize. And they voted unanimously to accept the resignation of Town Manager Stewart Baker.

"We're a step closer to good government here," said town resident Charles Kambarn, whose Freedom of Information Act request uncovered lavish spending on the Florida trip.

Several weeks ago, Thornton publicly admitted that the trio left the National Hurricane Conference in Orlando to visit a friend in Key West. Credit card receipts showed that they spent town money freely, picking up the check for group dinners and drinks.

Their spending spree totaled about \$3,000, in-

cluding expenses for the conference they didn't attend.

Since then, Chincoteague citizens have been in an uproar. Some demanded that the officials be removed. Others remained loyal to their leaders.

Thursday night, council members met with Dize and Baker in an executive session that lasted more than six hours, until 2:30 a.m.

Hundreds of islanders crowded the Chincoteague Civic Center to hear their decision on Friday.

The crowd applauded when Vice Mayor Jack Tarr read Baker's letter of resignation.

Then the town secretary read the council's letter saying Dize was being fired because of the "untold embarrassment" the scandal had caused the town.

Dize, the only one of the three accused officials to attend Friday's meeting, said he will fight the dismissal in court.

"I think I probably deserve some punishment, but I think this is too far," he said.

— *The Daily Press*

### Accomack attorney to challenge Norment

An Accomack attorney is challenging Republican incumbent Tommy Norment for his state Senate seat.

Lynwood W. Lewis Jr. has announced he will seek the Democratic nomination for the 3rd District seat. Lewis, 37, is the only challenger to file for the Democratic caucus to be held in James City on Thursday night.

Lewis has practiced law for 11 years. He is a member of the Vincent, Northam & Lewis law firm and a member of the Eastern Shore of Virginia Chamber of Commerce and the Onancock Rotary Club.

Though chairman of the Accomack Democratic Committee, Lewis has never held public office. Calls to Lewis' law office were not returned.

— *The Virginia Gazette*

### Accomack names best teacher

Deborah Merrill will tell you her illusions about teachers were shattered in the fifth grade when she overheard her teacher say to a classroom aide, "I'm glad it's payday."

"I was devastated," says the 46-year-old Parksley Middle School teacher. "I had had teachers all my life who had really enjoyed teaching. I didn't know they got paid for it. I thought they did it because they loved it."

(Continued on page 27)



## Yesteryears

(Continued from page 26)

Merrill may have gotten over the shock of learning that teachers were not volunteers, but she never did forget the way many of her former teachers loved their jobs.

So when Merrill happened into a teaching job at Mary Nottingham Smith 23 years ago, when a substitute teaching position turned full-time, she carried the loving memories of her many teachers with her into the classroom.

A few weeks ago Merrill was acknowledged for her joy as well as her dedication and her hard work when she was named Accomack County Teacher of

the Year.

When she looks back on how it came to be, she just shakes her head and laughs, something Merrill seems to do spontaneously and often.

She laughs in part because teaching was not in her career plans.

“I had no intention to teach,” explains the North Carolina native and University of North Carolina graduate. “I planned to be a vet. My plans had everything to do with animals and nothing to do with children.”

Her animal science degree brought her to the Shore when she got a job at Perdue doing quality control work. Newly married and wanting to spend more time with her husband, the long and crazy hours prompted her to put in a substitute teaching application with Accomack County.

When a science teacher at Mary N. Smith became ill, Merrill was called in to substitute full-time. That job became a 13-year stint at the school. The last 10 have been spent at Parksley Middle School, where Merrill has taught mostly sixth grade science.

“I can’t graduate. I can’t seem to get out of middle school,” the lively Merrill jokes. “I thought I’d work my way up, but it never happened. I never wanted to leave.”

Instead, she dug in and brought earth and environmental science to life. In the fall her classes spend five days with the Chesapeake Bay Foundation studying the waters that surround the Eastern Shore.

— *The Daily Times*

## Little River Band and Firefall to perform at ChamberFest

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 went on sale Monday, Feb. 5.

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.

## Public electric vehicle charger pilot program comes to three Shore towns

A&N Innovative Solutions, a subsidiary of A&N Electric Cooperative, is establishing a public electric vehicle charger pilot program in three Eastern Shore towns.

Innovative Solutions is partnering with the cooperative’s power supplier, Old Dominion Electric Cooperative, to install two single-port, tandem pole-mounted chargers in Chincoteague, Onancock, and Cape Charles. The units are level 2 electric vehicle chargers.

The chargers in Chincoteague and Onancock are installed and are now live. Innovative Solutions plans to install the Cape Charles chargers prior to the end of this year.

The pilot phase will help test the local market and gather data on charger use, load profiling, general operations, and ongoing maintenance needs.

“A&N Innovative Solutions is

excited to help support a local community need with this public EV charger initiative,” said Innovative Solutions spokesperson Jay Diem. “We’re looking forward to learning more about what the public EV charging landscape will look like through this pilot phase.”

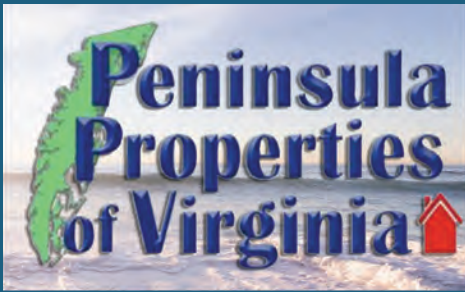
The initial rate to charge at one of the units will be 45 cents per kWh with an additional \$1.50 per hour parking fee.

The EV chargers in the pilot have been mounted on utility poles about 10 feet from ground level. To use a charger, an EV driver will scan a QR code placed below the unit, which will lower the charging port to allow for vehicle charging.

The level 2 chargers will allow a vehicle to charge between 18-28 miles of range per hour.

They have been strategically located close to restaurants, shopping, and other amenities.





# Featuring the dual coasts of Virginia's Eastern Shore

28404 Woodland Ave. Suite B, Melfa, Virginia 23410

Call to Sell or Purchase property: 757-787-2618

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## 5457 BAYFORD ROAD, FRANKTOWN

A VERY RARE OPPORTUNITY to own this exceptional waterfront home. 3bedrms, 4.5 baths of elegance. Upon entering, you are greeted with a stunning water view, brick fireplaces, 3/4" maple wood floors. The kitchen is open and airy, one of a kind New Raenna mosaic over the stove and Labrodorite countertops. Dining room features a brick fireplace, natural slate flooring. The study/guestroom features a beautiful murphy bed with sofa. The upstairs loft features a fireplace (can be gas) and full bath. The primary suite features a fireplace, an en suite bath with heated marble floors, Bisazza "Salome" mosaic tiled steam room. All bathrooms are tiled. Dock w/ covered boat lift. 43'9"x41'9" Pole barn with heated/cooled workshop, large enough for your RV. The guest suite offers a complete apartment.



**NEW LISTING**



**CHRISTINE FLYE**

(C) (757) 286-3569 | [ehsinc@aol.com](mailto:ehsinc@aol.com)

MLS#60285

**\$2,650,000**

## 0 CHURCH NECK RD, MACHIPONGO

Mother Nature and Father Time have been working together for centuries to create this spectacular 5+ acre waterfront property. Own your own Nature Preserve. With 3 tax maps it is possible to build 3 houses, rather than 1 on 20 acres which county requires. Elevation of 18' offers glorious views around 1000' sandy shoreline. Oysters, mussels, crabs, fish, deer & shore birds invite you to enjoy the good life here on pristine, private Westerhouse Creek. One of the most fabulous views on The Shore. Lightly wooded with old growth trees hardwoods, pines, hollies, dogwood & more. Located just several miles north of Cape Charles. Virginia Beach an easy drive. Privacy abounds on this rare property. Chatham Vineyard 4 miles. 1623 Church. Historic property. Call to view.



**SCHUYLER V V HURLBUT**

(C) (757) 710-9576 | [schuyler7000@gmail.com](mailto:schuyler7000@gmail.com)

MLS#60034

**\$599,000**

## 24234 MARY ST., PARKSLEY



**NEW LISTING**

Parksley: "Homeplace" as it was so lovingly named when built circa 1903, is an elegant brick Victorian on 3 town lots. Quality craftsmanship abounds in this BRICK 3bdrm 1.5bath home. The foyer greets you with hardwood floors. The "parlor" has THE ORIGINAL mantle with fireplace and built-in bookcases. All rooms downstairs have crown molding, chair rail, gorgeous inlay wood flooring and POCKET DOORS. Upstairs you will find all LARGE bedrooms with hardwood floors, and crown molding. A floored attic, basement, screened side porch, brick walkways, water feature, TRANE heatpumps (2), 50year roof, septic new in 2013, HUGE barn/garage with brick flooring and loft, paved driveway. Alley access. Walk to the playground, Farmers market. This home has so much to offer. MUST SEE to appreciate.

**CHRISTINE FLYE**

(C) (757) 286-3569 | [ehsinc@aol.com](mailto:ehsinc@aol.com)

MLS#60347

**\$350,000**