

HISTORY • REAL ESTATE • FOOD • FUN • ON THE EASTERN SHORE OF VIRGINIA

Shore First

September 2024
Vol. 8, No. 5



VISITING TANGIER ISLAND | Page 4



PERFECT CLAMBAKE PACKETS | Page 18



FREE TAKE ONE

KOLLS \$1.00 EACH
CORN NUGGETS (CORN) \$5.00
FUNNEL CAKE FRIES \$5.00
3 PC. WHITE 1-B2 W \$15.00
3 PC. DARK MEAT \$14.00
9 PC. DARK MEAT \$24.00
Hi "Do" \$2.00 **Conco** \$1.00

TIPS Appreciated

CONTINUING A FRIED CHICKEN TRADITION

Johnny Edwards brings the Tammy & Johnny's touch to his Oak Hall food truck | Page 8

Shore First

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

TELEPHONE: 757-789-7678
FAX: 757-787-7681

JIM RITCH
Publisher

publisher@easternshorepost.com

WILLIAM E. SHOCKLEY III
Editor, General Manager
editor@easternshorepost.com

CONTRIBUTORS

CURTIS BADGER
SARAH BARBAN
LAURA DAVIS
NANCY DRURY DUNCAN
JONI HAMILTON
STEFANIE JACKSON
CAROL VAUGHN
JANET BERNOSKY
BETSY SEYBOLT
MILES LAYTON
RYAN WEBB
KIRK MARINER (1943-2017)
CANDY FARLOW (1953-2017)

VISIT

www.EasternShorePost.com

Shore First | Entertainment calendar

Friday, Sept. 6 | Tasley Visit the No Limits hot dog cart

Who doesn't love a great hot dog? On Friday, Sept. 6, from 11 a.m. to 1:30 p.m., the No Limits Eastern Shore hot dog cart will be open at 24546 Coastal Blvd., Tasley. No Limits is a nonprofit in Tasley that helps adult survivors of brain injuries with day support and other programs. No Limits serves 50 survivors of brain injuries each year. At right, CL Brown serves up two with mustard.



Saturday, Sept. 7 | Cape Charles Fleetwood Mac tribute band

Between appearances in Richmond and Knoxville, Tenn., Tell Me Lies — a Fleetwood Mac tribute band — will be in Cape Charles on Saturday, Sept. 7, beginning at 7 p.m., in Cape Charles Central Park, as part of the Concerts in the Park series. Bring a blanket or a chair. You can attend, or you can, well, go your own way.



Saturday, Sept. 14 | Chincoteague Benefit poker run and block party

The Chincoteague Police Department will host a benefit poker run and block party on Saturday, Sept. 14. The poker run registration is from 9 to 11 a.m. at Rommel Harley-Davidson Delmarva, 2410 N. Salisbury Blvd., Salisbury, Md. The downtown Chincoteague block party will feature live entertainment, an auction, and plenty of motorcycles.



Shore First | Entertainment calendar

Saturday, Sept. 14 | Atlantic Car and truck show

On Saturday, Sept. 14, from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., Atlantic Volunteer Fire Company and Eastern Shore Cruisers will have a car and truck show. There will be food for purchase, a 50/50 raffle, and door prizes. Registration is \$20 or \$15 for members of Eastern Shore Cruisers.



Sunday, Sept. 15 | Machipongo N'ampton choir benefit concert

World-renowned bass-baritone Alvy Powell and soprano Caroline Gibson (in photo) will be joined by Dwayne Clark, fresh from Broadway, in a musical event to benefit Northampton's middle and high school concert choir. It will be held Sunday, Sept. 15, at 4 p.m., at Hungars Episcopal Church, Machipongo. Attendance is free but donations are welcomed.



Saturday, Sept. 14 | Cape Charles Annual Crabby Blues Festival

There will be great music and great food at the 12th annual Crabby Blues Festival, presented by Financial Security Advisory. It will be held on Saturday, Sept. 14, from 2 to 7 p.m., at Cape Charles Central Park. Admission is free. The event is the largest fundraiser for Cape Charles Christian School. The festival offers great family fun for our Eastern Shore community. There will be fresh, off-the-boat crabs as well as other food vendors, live music, a kids area including an array of bounce houses, arts and crafts vendors, and a silent auction.

Saturday, Sept. 28 | Exmore Annual Fall Festival

On Saturday, Sept. 28, from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m., the annual Exmore Fall Festival will be held on Main Street in Exmore. There will be hundreds of artists, artisans, candlemakers, quilters, woodworkers, glassblowers, and talented crafters of all kinds filling the streets of downtown Exmore displaying their unique products. There will be dozens of food trucks and a free open-air concert by the H.M. Johnson Band. The event is free and family-friendly.





SHORE FIRST/MILES LAYTON

Swain Memorial Methodist Church's graveyard features graves that date back to the 1800s on this historic island that was named by Captain John Smith in the early 1600s.

Tangier Island: A testament to a simpler way of life

BY MILES LAYTON
Shore First

Tangier Island is the crown jewel of the Chesapeake Bay and a place where no one is a stranger.

Located more than 12 miles by boat from the mainland at Crisfield, Md., Tangier is a historic fishing village where people come for the crab cakes and stay for the Virginia sunsets.

Measuring less than one square

mile, Tangier comprises three islands connected by small bridges that span a beautiful sea of marshland.

Crabs come and go through the various waterways, so much so that children can catch them in nets by the bridges.

The island's crab-fishing community, historically isolated, has developed an interesting culture and unique dialect.

Villagers live in older homes that have stood the test of time for genera-

Fall is a great time to take the boat to popular Chesapeake Bay Island

tions of watermen. The island features many cemeteries with graves dating back to at least the 1800s.

For bird lovers, the island is home to waterfowl, Snowy Egrets, herons, sandpipers, loons, and many other birds.

Around sunset, oystercatchers cry out as they descend and glide across the bay to catch fish in their beaks.

Unless you own a boat or perhaps an airplane — the island has an airport — you'll need to travel across

the Tangier Sound on a cruise ship or by mailboat.

The cruise ship Steven Thomas departs Crisfield at 12:30 p.m. Wednesday through Sunday — make reservations.

The ship arrives on Tangier around 1:45 p.m. and departs around 4 p.m. to arrive back at Crisfield at 5:15 p.m.

Cruise service is seasonal, so call in advance to make sure the ship will be hoisting the anchor to Tangier's shores, especially if the weather is in question.

See tangierislandcruises.com for more information.

Tickets are \$40 for an overnight round trip, \$35 for a round trip, \$25 for a one-way trip, and \$15 for children aged 7 to 12. Children 6 and younger travel free of charge.

In addition, the mailboat runs six days a week — \$25 for each crossing to the island — leaves Crisfield at 12:30 p.m. and arrives around 1:30 p.m. before departing at 4:30 p.m.

As for places to stay in Tangier, the island offers a wide assortment of short-term rentals and rooms at the Brigadune Inn.

Brigadune's owners, Rob and Barb Baechtel, offer top-notch hospitality for guests who stay in comfortable rooms decorated in a coastal style.

For more information and to make reservations, call 757-891-2580 or reach out to barb.baechtel@gmail.com.

For seafood lovers, stop by Lorraine's Seafood Restaurant for a delicious meal that includes Chesapeake Bay crab, burgers, sandwiches, and an excellent seafood platter that includes a crab cake, soft shell crab, a flounder fillet, jumbo shrimp, and scallops.

If it's a hot day and you crave ice cream, stop by Four Brothers Crabhouse and Ice Cream Deck.

Maybe take a tour of the island that's narrated by one of the local folks who grew up on Tangier, who can tell you about how this village is

(Continued on page 6)



Looking for Prime Eastern Shore Property?

Call Blue Heron Realty Co. for a free copy of our Waterfront Catalog 757-678-5200 or 757-331-4885

Let Blue Heron Help You Find Your Eastern Shore Dream Home!

Beachfront



Spectacular 4 bdrm, 3½ ba Beachfront Home on 5.51 acres with 200 feet of beachfront. Open floor plan w/views galore!

Cape Charles



DUPLEX! 2 very upscale, 4 bedroom, 2½ bath homes. Total of 4,235 sq. ft. in the heart of Cape Charles. Close to Beach & Park. Furnished.

Golf Home



Bay Creek Duplex, 2 bedroom, 2 bath, 2,000 sf with access to Bay Creek's amenities includes beach, pool, etc.

New Construction



4 bdrm, 2 bath Total Living on 1st floor home with open floor plan. Community pool & tennis. Has Boat Slip!

Blue Heron Realty Co.
Best of Virginia Winner
Best of Virginia 5 years in a row!

Waterview Condo



Contemporary, Waterview Studio Condo, in the heart of the Historic District of Cape Charles overlooking the Cape Charles Harbor and the Chesapeake Bay.

Beachfront Lots



Beautiful beachfront 2½ acre lot in very upscale beachfront area offering a mile & a half of very pristine beach. Located just south of Cape Charles.

Willis Wharf



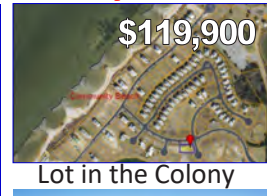
Coastal Living 1 block from water! 3 bedroom, 2 bath Home in waterfront village w/marina accessing Barrier Islands. Original details throughout. Dream kitchen

Historic Home



4 bdrm, 2½ bath, 2,882 sf Brick Colonial Revival home (1937) in Cheriton. Large rooms, high ceilings & historic charm! All on 1.95 acres. Great home!

Bay Creek

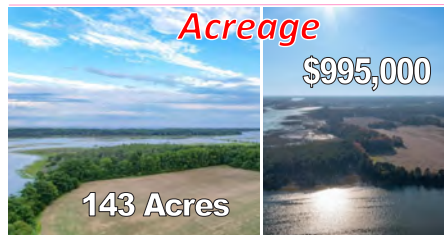


Lot Marina Village East \$75,500

Cape Charles



4 bedrooms 3 baths. 1,728 sq.ft., Built in 2020. Open floor plan. Very near beach! Nice!



Preserve at River's Edge. Pristine 143 acre Waterfront Estate w/meadowlands, woodlands & marshlands. Developed into 23 large lots. Just outside Quinby.



Waterfront Farm perfect for boating, having horses, orchards, vineyards or just enjoying the nature!



.8 acre lot w/spectacular & unobstructed views of the Chesapeake Bay, just south of Cape Charles. Great sunsets!



Beautiful 1.49 acre lot with deeded water access to the Chesapeake Bay. Arlington Plantation is rich in history.



Exquisite Beachfront Estate! 5944 sq.ft, 5 Bdrm 4½ bath home on 4½ acres with 200 feet of prime, private beachfront in Bay Ridge, just south of Cape Charles.



Machipongo Office
7134 Wilsonia Neck Dr.,
Machipongo, VA 23405
757-678-5200

Licensed In Virginia



Cape Charles Office
113 Mason Avenue,
Cape Charles, VA 23310
757-331-4885



Blue Heron Realty Co.

*"Specializing in Prime Properties
On Virginia's Scenic Eastern Shore"*

www.BlueHeronVA.com

800-258-3437 757-678-5200 757-331-4885

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





SHORE FIRST/MILES LAYTON

Tangier has always been a spiritual place ever since Native Americans discovered the island.



SHORE FIRST/MILES LAYTON

In late summer and early fall, the crabs are so plentiful on Tangier that you can carry nets to catch them.

Tangier Island

(Continued from page 4)

much like life from simpler times, perhaps like that featured in “The Andy Griffith Show;” in Mayberry everyone knows each other and no one is a stranger.

Though no one is ever far from the water’s edge, the beach is located at the southern end of the island.

Take a folding chair, maybe a book, and relax while watching a peaceful sunset without having to endure throngs of tourists that tend to crowd other beaches on the mainland.

Sometimes you can see large naval

or cargo ships in the distance as they travel through the bay.

If you walk up the beach, you may see watermen like Tangier Mayor James “Ooker” Eskridge pulling crab traps into his boat before he motors to his crab shanty.

Toward the tip of the island — a narrow strip of sand shaped much like a fish hook — you can see a large flock of seabirds of all varieties talking about their day and what fish they caught.

No, Tangier is not a resort town with fast-food restaurants and chain stores; instead, it is a time capsule of a working fishing village filled with friendly people who are “living the dream” nestled on an island in the heart of the Chesapeake Bay.



SHORE FIRST/MILES LAYTON

Tangier Island is not a resort town with fast-food restaurants and chain stores, but a time capsule to a historic fishing village where folks embrace a simpler kind of life.

Your Local Boutique Real Estate Company



4 Bed / 3.5 Bath
Onancock, VA
MLS# 54775 **\$1,075,000**



3 Bed / 2 Bath
Chincoteague, VA
MLS# 57729 **\$550,000**



2 Bed / 2 Bath
Onancock, VA
MLS# 59548 **\$285,000**



4 Bed / 2.5 Bath
Greenbackville, VA
MLS# 59597 **\$315,000**



2 Bed / 1 Bath
Chincoteague, VA
MLS# 59706 **\$850,000**



3 Bed / 2.5 Bath
Chincoteague, VA
MLS# 60013 **\$489,000**



2 Bed / 1.5 Bath
Chincoteague, VA
MLS# 60131 **\$288,000**



3 Bed / 1 Bath
Chincoteague, VA
MLS# 60248 **\$289,900**



3 Bed / 2.5 Bath
Greenbackville, VA
MLS# 60307 **\$295,000**



2 Bed / 2 Bath
Greenbackville, VA
MLS# 60381 **\$289,900**



2 Bed / 2.5 Bath
Chincoteague, VA
MLS# 60492 **\$316,900**



2 Bed / 2 Bath
Chincoteague, VA
MLS# 60553 **\$270,000**



2 Bed / 2 Bath
Chincoteague, VA
MLS# 60601 **\$349,000**



2 Bed / 2.5 Bath
Horntown, VA
MLS# 60627 **\$299,000**



3 Bed / 1 Bath
Birdsnest, VA
MLS# 60737 **\$70,000**



3 Bed / 2 Bath
Chincoteague, VA
MLS# 60756 **\$325,000**



2 Bed / 1 Bath
Horntown, VA
MLS# 60769 **\$310,000**



Land Only
Chincoteague, VA
MLS# 61864 **\$129,900**



2 Bed / 3 Bath
Chincoteague, VA
MLS# 61931 **\$950,000**



3 Bed / 2.5 Bath
Onancock, VA
MLS# 61979 **\$199,000**



3 Bed / 2 Bath
Cape Charles, VA
MLS# 61995 **\$395,000**



3 Bed / 2 Bath
Belle Haven, VA
MLS# 61996 **\$380,000**



4 Bed / 3 Bath
Chincoteague, VA
MLS# 61997 **\$1,110,000**



3 Bed / 1 Bath
Sanford, VA
MLS# 62020 **\$69,900**



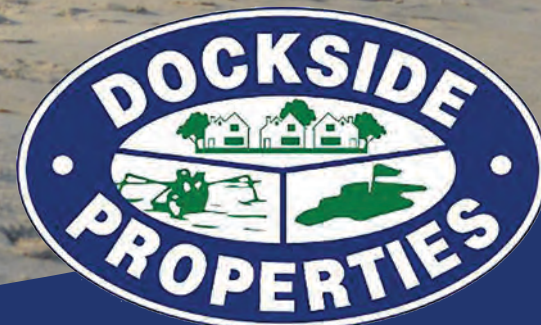
3 Bed / 2 Bath
New Church, VA
MLS# 62052 **\$425,000**



1 Bed / 1 Bath
Chincoteague, VA
MLS# 62053 **\$139,000**



2 Bed / 1 Bath
Horntown, VA
MLS# 60532 **\$185,000**



www.gowithdockside.com

6325 Maddox Boulevard
Chincoteague, VA 23336

757-336-3200
Licensed in Virginia & Maryland



SHORE FIRST/JANET BERNOSKY

At Johnny's Frying Coop in Oak Hall, the recipe for chicken and French fries is taken from the former Tammy and Johnny's in Melfa, which was well-known for its fried chicken.

At Johnny's Frying Coop, the familiar taste of a landmark

Namesake of Melfa eatery opens food truck with his parents' secret recipes

BY JANET BERNOSKY
Shore First

What was considered among the best fried chicken on the Eastern Shore was thought to be lost forever when Ronnie and Shirley Edwards, the proprietors of Tammy and Johnny's restaurant, closed its doors in 2018.

Located in Melfa and named after their children, it began as a take-out spot long before fast-food joints or

convenience stores populated the area, and eventually became an eat-in destination favorite.

It was sorely missed and never forgotten in the hearts of its loyal customers. Today, their son, Johnny Edwards, is serving that delicious fried chicken at his very own food truck.

After the restaurant's closing, Edwards missed doing what he loved — in addition to the customers and friends he made there over the years.

In October 2022, he decided to open

Johnny's Frying Coop, located on U.S. Route 13 near the Oak Hall Post Office on property owned by his good friends, Benny and Karen Hall.

Word spread fast and people flocked to get chicken.

"That first day, we had people standing in line at 7:30 in the morning for our opening at 11," Edwards said.

"One lady even set up her chair with an umbrella to wait for her chicken."

The next day, Edwards had to quickly order another cooker to keep up with the unexpected demand.

He was opening at 11 a.m. and selling out by 1 p.m.

Today, Johnny's Frying Coop is open Wednesday through Saturday, from 10:30 a.m. until 4 p.m., or until sold out.

"We open a bit earlier now to accommodate customers who want their chicken on the way to work," he said.

Although Tammy and Johnny's originally began as a burger joint that later added fried chicken to their menu, the only beef on the Frying Coop's menu is a Nathan's hot dog.

Whether bought by the piece or served in "boats," with white or dark meat, the fried chicken features crispy skin and moist, juicy meat.

What's the secret?

"There are some things I can tell you, and some things I can't," said Edwards.

The chicken, it turns out, is coated in regular all-purpose flour but no fancy seasonings — "nothing special," according to Edwards.

A nod to the past, he fries in cottonseed oil, the same kind that was used at Tammy and Johnny's.

The chicken is brined overnight, which makes it so juicy. However, Edwards won't share what's in the brine.

"That's a secret," he says.

The wing boat, with five wings, is his top seller. All boats are served with French fries, which can also be ordered separately.

These are not just everyday, ordinary fries, however. Extra crunchy because they are double-fried, they also have a texture that makes them extra good.

Edwards won't say why. "That's a secret, too."

He also serves up some tasty sides, like his corn nuggets, which are actually quite sweet, or his popular funnel cake fries.

Everything is served piping hot because it is made to order and worth the wait, especially when it's a bit busy.

(Continued on page 10)

JOIN US FOR THE
FINAL CONCERT OF 2024:

SEPTEMBER 7TH



saturdays
@ 7pm

FREE
CONCERTS
cape charles
central park

WWW.HFA-FESTIVAL.COM



TELL ME LIES
the Fleetwood Mac experience

THANK YOU SPONSORS!





SHORE FIRST/JANET BERNOSKY

A sign tells of the Edwards' chicken tradition.

Fried chicken

(Continued from page 8)

It's also cash only, so make sure you bring some.

Edwards recalled that his first job at his parents' restaurant at age 9 was putting together the chicken boxes for 5 cents each. He liked to then go spend his hard-earned money at Roses, the Onley discount store.

Eventually, he learned to work the grill and the fryer. He held a work-study job at Tammy and Johnny's while a student at Eastern Shore Academy in Hallwood before eventually working there full-time.

Now, his daughter Bailey helps him out taking orders from customers, along with other helpers Melissa, Wendy, Casey, Hailey, and Taylor.

Although Edwards has built his own loyal local customer base, there are others who remember to stop by for his chicken while visiting the area or on vacation, even if it's just once a year.

Folks stopping for the first time are likely to make sure it's not their last.

A nurse stops weekly for a chicken leg she brings to her patient in Salisbury, Md.

A local nursing home patient orders one piece every week.

Some customers drive up weekly from Cape Charles, while others visit more often.

Edwards enjoys talking with all his customers, especially those he hasn't seen for a while, to catch up on what they've been up to.

He also enjoys what he does, crediting much to his parents. Edwards said he learned the business side from his father, while learning about customer relations from his mother.

"The good work ethic I learned from my parents has made my business successful."



SHORE FIRST/JANET BERNOSKY

Johnny Edwards looks from the window of Johnny's Frying Coop in Oak Hall. "The good work ethic I learned from my parents has made my business successful," he said.

301 MASON AVENUE | CAPE CHARLES, VA

SEPT
20 | 6:30
PM



LEMON TREE GALLERY FALL EXHIBITION

Tapestries

Weave the Senses

FEATURED ARTIST DONNA STUFFT

EXHIBITION OPENING RECEPTION
SEPTEMBER 20, 2024 | 6:30PM - 8:30PM
LIVE MUSIC - REFRESHMENTS - CASH BAR

OCT
25 | 7:30PM
26 | 3PM &
27 | 7:30PM
3:00PM

A Play by Tim Firth

CALENDAR GIRLS

is presented by arrangement with Concord Theatricals on behalf of Samuel French, Inc



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

NOV
9 | 7:30
PM

Presenting Sponsor



American EAGLE USA

A Tribute to the Eagles



HISTORIC PALACE THEATRE
ADULTS \$40 & STUDENTS \$15

DEC
21 | 7:30
PM

Arts Enter presents
Virginia Symphony Orchestra

HOLIDAY

B • R • A • S • S



Historic Palace Theatre | Adults \$40 & Students \$15

Presenting Sponsor
Blue Heron Realty

757-331-4327 | #SMALLTOWNBIGART



SHORE FIRST/STEFANIE JACKSON BOWMANN

Jack Smith Jr. plays foosball — also called table soccer. He learned the game at Eastern Shore Community College and has started a group for those who also want to learn it.

Foosball enthusiast invites others to join in the fun

BY STEFANIE JACKSON BOWMANN
Shore First

A local enthusiast of table soccer — commonly known as foosball — is starting a club on the Eastern Shore for his favorite pastime and is seeking loyal members.

When playing foosball, “you can

incorporate a lot of different philosophies of different sports ... and it’s just fun,” said Jack Smith Jr., of Quinby.

Although the table game is based on soccer, it also contains elements of football, tennis, and even basketball, Smith said.

He was introduced to foosball by a

friend, John Nagy, at Eastern Shore Community College in the 1990s, and was instantly hooked.

Nagy usually accompanies Smith on Thursdays when he attends Virginia Beach Foosballers, his regular table soccer club.

For many players, foosball is more than just a hobby. Professional foos-

ball championships are held in some states, with thousands of dollars in prize money for the winners.

The International Table Soccer Federation holds annual or biannual World Championships, which have taken place in locations such as Italy, Germany, and France.

There is a lot of “great sportsmanship” among players, many of whom stay humble even after winning multiple championships, Smith said.

One such player is Brandon Munoz, who has won five or six championships playing foosball on a Tornado, an American-style foosball table, but who visited the Virginia Beach foosball club to hone his skills on a Bonzini, a French-style foosball table.

The Virginia Beach Foosballers welcome newcomers “like you just walked into church,” and they don’t mind sharing their tips and tricks, Smith said.

“Most of the guys are all too willing to help if you ask. ... That’s the one thing about table soccer,” he said.

Smith has started an Eastern Shore foosball club and is looking for members to play regularly.

He plans to host weekly club meetings at his family farm near Parksley, where he keeps a Bonzini table.

Smith inherited the property from his late father, who inspired him to follow his passion for the game, improve his skills, and teach others to play and enjoy foosball.

Before Smith’s father died in March 2020, he confided to his son the things that he had wanted to do in his life but never did because he waited too long.

“Do it now,” Smith’s father told him.

Smith bought a Bonzini foosball table in November 2020.

He has worked hard to sharpen his skills and managed to beat foosball world champion Bruce Nardoci at a tournament in a score of 9-7.

Smith continues to train with coach Steve Johnson and play with partner

(Continued on page 13)

Foosball

(Continued from page 12)

Mark Abraham, and he would like to be invited to join the U.S. team one day.

The game also caught on with Smith's younger daughter, Aubrey, 16, who has won a state title.

Smith is a former street hockey player who also coached youth in the sport. After street hockey took a toll on his body and he quit playing, Smith turned to foosball for recreation.

He hopes to grow interest in the game on the Shore with both adults and youth and provide "a safe place for kids to hang out and play."

It's a positive, fun activity for youth that will help keep them out of trouble and "not drag them down the wrong road," Smith said.

To learn more, join the Facebook group Eastern Shore of Virginia Foosballers, which has over 120 members.

The club typically meets weekly at the Smith farm at 17224 Big Road, Bloxom.



SHORE FIRST/STEFANIE BOWMANN
Jack Smith Jr. enjoys a round of foosball on his personal table.

A colorful advertisement for Sundial Books. The background is a textured blue and yellow. Text includes: "TWO FLOORS OF NEW AND USED BOOKS", "LOCAL & REGIONAL AUTHORS", "LOCAL ART", "CDs & VINYL", "Sundial Books", "4065 MAIN ST CHINCOTEAGUE VA 757-336-5825 SUNDIALBOOKS.NET", "CARDS GIFTS EVENTS", and "shop local". There are illustrations of several books in various colors (blue, green, red, black) stacked on the right side.

A large advertisement for the ESCC Alumni Block Party. The background is blue and yellow. Text includes: "ESCC Friday, October 11 from 5pm-8pm", "Alumni Block Party", "YES! EASTERN SHORE Eastern Shore Community College", "Live Music from Margot & Co.", "Food Trucks", "ESCC Alumni Presentations", "Special Tributes", "Contests, Giveaways & More", "All Friends of ESCC Are Welcome to Attend!", and "Eastern Shore Community College, 29316 Lankford Highway, Melfa, VA 23410 (757)789-1720". There is a photograph of a band performing live music on a stage with a woman singing into a microphone, a man playing a double bass, and another man playing an electric guitar.

Shore First | ESCC school year begins



Mike Long and the Eastern Shore Community College building and grounds department made sure the campus was perfect for students returning for fall.

ESCC PHOTO



In a changing of the guard, pictured are, from left, incoming practical nursing program coordinator Susan Greer with Bonnie Nordstrom and Peggy Bennett, who are retiring, and Terri Long, instructor for the ESCC/TCC RN Program.

ESCC PHOTO

Shore First | ESCC school year begins

Emily Moore welcomes her class back to campus for the semester.

ESCC PHOTO



El Sol Restaurant in Parksley provided students with tacos for lunch.

ESCC PHOTO

Weichert, REALTORS®

Mason-Davis

Independently Owned and Operated

47 Market Street | Onancock, VA | (757) 787-1010 | mason-davis.com | Licensed in VA

MEET OUR FAMILY

Owners & Brokers



Andy Mason Tammy Mason
757-710-8497 757-710-2295

Managing Broker



Jane Bulette
757-710-0319



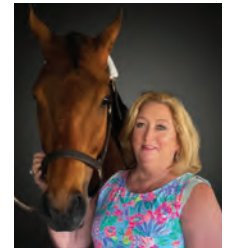
Michael Baril
757-710-5200



Susan Beasley
757-710-1284



Diana Belote
757-709-4972



Christine Berkeley
302-373-2244



Jessica Bernard
757-710-9938



Patrick Daub
757-777-0159



Dana Dillon
804-937-4102



Helen Glenn
757-710-3129



Beth Haines
757-693-2489



Susan Hill
757-710-3816



Leslie Lewis
757-709-8271



Maureen Mackay
757-709-8590



Bunny McLean
757-710-5952



Ian McLean
757-693-2001



Daryl Mitros
845-596-7151



Cindy Nicolls
757-710-2934



Cathy Salamone
631-838-5920



George Schoolfield
757-710-1871



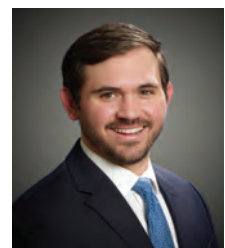
Linda B Spence
757-999-4503



Ryan Stevens
703-328-9712



Catherine Stinson
757-288-4144



Jeremy Ware
908-328-8634



27144 Gladding Rd Bloxom, VA
5 BR/ 5 B
\$1,250,000 MLS#61991
Patrick Daub (757) 777-0159



Waterfront on Burton's Bay
26 Acres Bellevue Cir Locustville, VA
+/-: 26 Acres
\$745,000 MLS#62055
Dana Dillon (804) 937-4102



540 Jefferson Ave Cape Charles, VA
3 BR/ 2 B
\$659,900 MLS#61959
Michael Baril (757) 710-5200



Waterfront on Onancock Creek
15259 Russell Dr Onancock, VA
2 BR/ 2 B
\$599,000 MLS#60280
George Schoolfield (757) 710-1871



Waterfront on Gargatha Creek
18825 Seaside Circle Parksley, VA
3 BR/ 2 B
\$449,000 MLS#60690
Cynthia Nicolls (757) 710-2934



Commercial/Industrial Property
Fruit Stand; Bldg +/-: 10,000 SqFt
3515 Main St Exmore, VA
\$550,000 MLS#62092
Ian Mclean (757) 693-2001
Bunny Mclean (757) 710-5952



Multi-Use Commercial Property
8152 Lankford Hwy Oak Hall
+/-: 7,392 SqFt
\$299,000 MLS#62056
Jessica Bernard (757) 710-9938



Waterfront
20373 Pintail Ln Onancock, VA
3 BR/3 B
\$425,000 MLS#62089
Cathy Salamone (631) 838-5920



26021 Colonial Dr Onley, VA
3 BR/ 2 B
\$389,000 MLS#60811
Susan Beasley (757) 710-1284



Waterfront on Burton's Bay
Lot 1A Bellevue Cir Accomac, VA
+/-: 7 Acres
\$339,000 MLS#59795
Jane K. Bulette (757) 710-0319



28268 Harbor Rd Melfa, VA
3 BR/ 2 B
\$334,900 MLS#60745
Tammy Mason (757) 710-2295



29465 Race Track Rd Melfa, VA
3 BR/ 2 B
\$319,990 MLS#59385
Leslie Lewis (757) 709-8271



Deeded Access To The Chesapeake Bay
11403 Heron Dr Machipongo, VA
\$315,000 MLS#59900
Daryl Ann Mitros (845) 596-7151



12 Joynes St Onancock, VA
4 BR/ 3 B
\$465,000 MLS#59963
Tammy Mason (757) 710-2295



5 Richardson Ave Wachapreague, VA
2 BR/ 1.5 B
\$279,000 MLS#61872
Diana Belote (757) 709-4972



15020 Par Pl Melfa, VA
2 BR/ 2 B
\$278,600 MLS#60799
Linda Baylis Spence (757) 999-4503

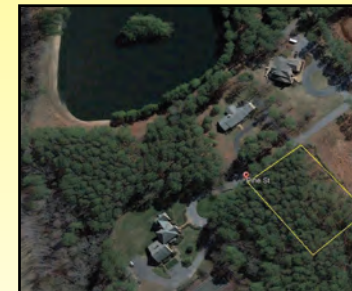


20316 Bradford Rd Melfa, VA
3 BR/ 2 B
\$189,000 MLS#59627
Ian Mclean (757) 693-2001
Bunny Mclean (757) 710-5952

Weichert,
REALTORS

Mason-Davis

Independently Owned & Operated
Licensed in VA



Lot 4 Pine St Onley, VA
+/-: 1.032 Acres
\$25,000 MLS#56987
Maureen Mackay (757) 709-8590



16507 Courthouse Rd Eastville, VA
3 BR/ 2 B
\$2,500/mo. MLS#61980
Catherine D. Stinson (757) 288-4144

47 Market Street | Onancock, VA | 757-787-1010 | mason-davis.com



Clambake packet a perfect way to enjoy a seafood feast

It was a whirlwind summer and we spent most of our time out on the boat, which led into a whirlwind fall with school starting, soccer, and Scouts.

We certainly made the most of it, but now that the weather has finally turned to fallish behavior, I'm excited to be in the kitchen more often.



Laura Davis

However, we still want to enjoy all the deliciousness that “in season” on the Shore has to offer.

I've long been a fan of things prepared in a foil packet — we'll make them quite a bit when out on the boat or camping.

They're easy, tasty, and offer an easy cleanup — a trifecta of awesome-

ness when it comes to dining in the open outdoors.

They are composed of ingredients that are plentiful here in our neck of the woods — tender littleneck clams, shrimp, sweet corn on the cob, baby red potatoes, smoked sausage, and a few lemon slices.

Sealed up in a piece of aluminum foil and tossed on a hot grill, the juices that are released as the items cook are sealed in, creating a perfectly prepared meal.

You could also certainly switch it up with the ingredients. With all those pretty puppy drum and rockfish I've seen coming out of our waters recently, a packet with a fish fillet, and some sliced potatoes and onions would be wonderful.



PHOTO COURTESY LAURA DAVIS

A clambake packet is an easy and delicious way to enjoy the Eastern Shore's bounty.

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

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

The recipe: clambake packets

- 1 1/2 pounds large shrimp, shell-on
- 25 littleneck clams, scrubbed and rinsed
- 12 ounces kielbasa or andouille sausage, sliced about 1-inch thick
- 3 ears corn shucked, cut into 1-inch slices
- 1 1/2 pounds red potatoes, diced
- fresh lemon, sliced
- 1/4 cup olive oil
- 1 Tbsp Old Bay
- kosher salt

Devein shrimp by cutting up the back of the shrimp with a pair of kitchen shears. Remove the vein, but leave the shell on (helps retain moisture). Set aside in a medium bowl.

Prepare your packets by tearing six sheets of aluminum foil, each about 12 inches long. Stack in a pile and assemble ingredients inside.

Divide potatoes, corn, sausage, clams, shrimp, and lemon slices into equal portions in the center of each piece of foil.

Fold up the sides of the packets, adding olive oil, Old Bay, and a sprinkle of salt.

Gently toss to combine. Fold the sides of the foil over the ingredients, bunching and folding until completely sealed.

Heat grill to medium-high heat. Place packets on grill and cook for about 20-25 minutes – until the shrimp are pink and the clams have popped open.



PHOTO COURTESY LAURA DAVIS

Laura Davis holds up her bags of clams and oysters for the perfect packet

**“Shore pride
in every
pick-up”**

**DAVIS
DISPOSAL**

Offering commercial waste
receptacles, roll-off containers
and residential services
on Virginia’s Eastern Shore
and Pocomoke City, Md

TRASH LIFE

PAINTER, VA | www.davisdisposal.esva.net
CALL 757-442-7979

**LOCALLY
OWNED AND
OPERATED**

**RECYCLING
12-15 TONS OF
CARDBOARD
EACH WEEK**

**H&H
PHARMACY**

**SEE US FOR YOUR
CHINCOTEAGUE GIFTS!**

Caring for You Since 1929

**CHINCOTEAGUE
ISLAND
757-336-3115
Mon-Sat 9-7
Visit our
gift shop!**

HHPHARMACY.NET

Learn the importance of prioritizing self-care

As a mindset and motivational coach, I help women prioritize their self-care.

I learned the importance of self-care the hard way a few years ago when I was feeling depressed, exhausted, and discouraged.

I wasn't taking care of myself well and I was using food and alcohol as a crutch to comfort and

numb my feelings because of what I was going through.

It was one of the most difficult times in my life — two of my best friends were failing at the same time: My mom, who was diagnosed with dementia, and a close friend, who was dying from pancreatic cancer.

The problem was I didn't know how to get out of my own way.

I was unable to do hard things because making changes felt vulnerable and I

didn't have the strength to get better.

I knew my habits were holding me back but I couldn't move forward. It was a vicious cycle.

I was visiting my mother regularly and that was taking a lot out of me. But when my friend invited me to see her, I knew I wanted to make that happen.

It was kind of surreal because as I was driving to her beautifully decorated house in Cambridge, Mass., I was remembering how we had celebrated her storybook wedding just a few years earlier.

It was the kind of wedding that was in an Italian villa in Tuscany, with a seven-course meal, dancing under the moonlight — I mean it was amazing. I never could have imagined that I would be sitting in her living room seven years later to see her for the last time.



Betsy Seybolt

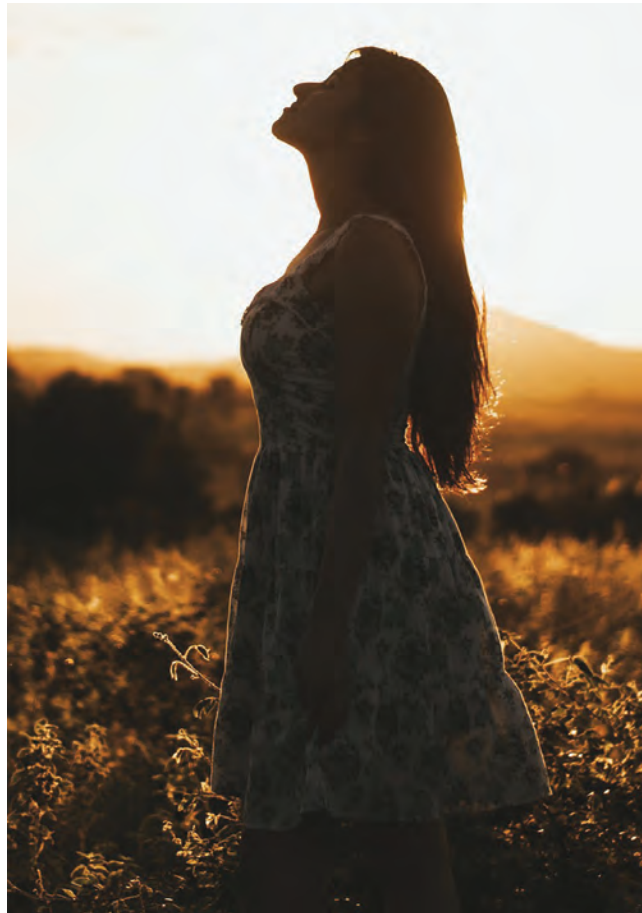


PHOTO COURTESY PIXABAY

Betsy Seybolt: You can prioritize yourself while you take care of others without feeling guilty.

I was so touched that she visited with me when she was so sick. I felt her pain when she winced and readjusted the tube in her side.

She gave me the most wonderful gift. We reminisced about some of our happiest and most remarkable times together — 20 years of friendship.

When she died, it became very clear to me that life was precious. And it was crystal clear when my mother passed two and a half years later.

On Jan. 1, 2022, I made a big mindset shift. I had gone out the night before, on New Year's Eve, and drank way too much.

That was the final straw for me. I decided to commit to change. I was no longer going to use alcohol as a crutch.

I was ready for real and lasting change. I read every book and followed every influencer who espoused positivity. It was time to get out of my depression.

When I began a gratitude practice that year, I could feel my depression lift. I became excited and curious about my life.

I spoke to a friend about her coaching career and then I signed up for two courses that were running at the same time.

I took an amazing self-development course and an empowering coaching certification for women, and the synergy helped me change my life.

I began doing the work, improving my habits, getting into shape, and I began a morning routine to set me up for the day.

I had learned the importance of prioritizing my self and my self-care.

Fast forward to the end of that year and I was feeling euphoric. I was thinking: "I can't believe it. Everything is aligned. I'm pursuing my dreams!"

Although I had been coaching friends and family for decades, I went all-in and became a certified coaching specialist to help other women go through health, mindset, and any other challenges that came their way.

I was clear about my purpose and how to help other people without losing myself in the process.

I know so many people today are taking care of

(Continued on page 21)

Betsy Seybolt is a mindset and motivational coach who lives in Accomack County. Her advice and suggestions will be printed monthly in Shore First.

Her online course called "Self-Care Essentials" begins on Sept. 30. For more information, visit www.betsyseybolt.com

Seybolt

(Continued from page 20)

their parents, their spouses, their children, and other family members and it is easy to set your needs aside.

But I can tell you from experience that it is your responsibility to take some time just for yourself or it will

lead to burnout.

You can shift your thinking to prioritize yourself so you can finally do the things you've wanted to do for years and get more out of life.

Don't be like me and wait 20 years before you pursue your passion. You can prioritize yourself while you take care of others without feeling guilty.

CAPE CHARLES CHRISTIAN SCHOOL

CALL NOW TO SCHEDULE YOUR TOUR!

Experience the **JOY** of Learning!

MONDAYS-THURSDAYS
3:15-6:00PM

OPEN HOUSE
by appointment

COME LEARN ABOUT:

- SMALL CLASSES
- MISSION WORK
- FIELD TRIPS
- SCHOLARSHIPS AVAILABLE
- COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIPS
- EXPERIENTIAL LEARNING
- ENRICHING ACADEMIC FOCUS

Multiple payment plan options

237 TAZEWELL AVENUE, CAPE CHARLES, VA 23310
CALL 757-331-1717 OR EMAIL DEBBIE@CCCSVA.ORG



Our **COMMITMENT** to you...

- Being your **PARTNER** on your health care journey.
- Providing **COMPREHENSIVE** care designed around you.
- Bringing **INNOVATIVE** medical technology & services to our communities.
- Striving for **EXCELLENCE** & exceeding expectations.

Your Health. Your Journey. Our Commitment.

Family & Internal Medicine | Specialty Care & Services
Award-Winning Hospitals & Facilities
Neonatal Intensive Care | Level II Trauma Care
24/7 Mental & Behavioral Health | Senior Living | At Home Services

riversideonline.com/medical-services

Francis Makemie, Presbyterian founder

An elderly woman died near Jenkins Bridge in 1788, and a part of her will read:

“I give the two pictures of father and mother to Samuel Wilson.”

If these two antique pictures were still in existence today, they would not be merely valuable but priceless.



Kirk
Mariner

For the woman who owned them was Anne Makemie Holden, and the father and mother that they depicted were none other than Francis Makemie (1635?-1708), the “Father of American Presbyterianism,” and his wife, Naomi Anderson Makemie.

In 1680 the Presbyterians of Scotland received an appeal from William Stevens, who lived in what is now Worcester County, Md., for a Presbyterian minister to come to the

Eastern Shore.

The call inspired young Irish-born Francis Makemie to enter the ministry. He was ordained in 1682, booked passage to America in 1683, and after several years in which he pursued various business interests, settled in Accomack County in 1687.

Makemie chose Onancock as his home, married Naomi Anderson of that town, and with the backing of her affluent father became a successful tradesman and landowner.

Business was his main pursuit (it took him to Barbados in the West Indies for six years) and ministry a sideline until in 1699 he registered as a minister — the second “dissenter” to do so in Virginia — and began holding services at his two residences in Onancock and on Holden’s Creek in upper Accomack County.



SHORE FIRST/SARAH BARBAN

The statue of Francis Makemie stands in Accomack behind the church bearing his name.

He built no church but became the pastor of Rehoboth in Maryland, the church just across the line that had called for a minister back in 1680.

In 1706 Makemie was instrumental in organizing the first presbytery in America, and he served as its moderator at its first meeting in Philadelphia. Shortly thereafter he undertook a preaching tour to the North, promoting the new denomination, when in 1707 he was catapulted into prominence by being arrested in New York for preaching without a license.

His trial was highly publicized, and his acquittal is seen to this day as a landmark decision in the evolution of religious liberty in America. Bad

health soon forced him to return home, and there in 1708 he died at his home on Holden’s Creek.

Where and when in this busy life the portraits of Makemie and his wife were painted is not known — perhaps in Philadelphia or New York after he had become financially secure.

Almost nothing is known about the paintings. In his daughter’s will they sound like a matched set, and the reminiscences of those who saw them suggest that they were in color, so they may have been oil paintings.

Makemie died in 1708, so if his portrait were painted from life it was undoubtedly almost a century old by the time of his daughter’s death in 1788.

Samuel Wilson, who inherited the pictures, lived in Somerset County, owned land in Accomack County, and was a friend and fellow Presbyterian of Mrs. Holden.

From his family the portraits passed into the hands of Stephen Bloomer Balch, a Presbyterian minister who served in Snow Hill. In retirement Balch moved to Georgetown, the oldest section of Washington, D.C., and there in his home the two portraits hung among an extensive collection of books and papers until one night in 1831 Balch’s house caught fire, and he and his wife barely managed to escape with their lives.

Among the treasures that went up in flames was the only known true likeness of Francis Makemie.

Two artists later drew from their imaginations to produce “likenesses” of Makemie. The first was Henry Alexander Ogden (1856-1936), a Philadelphia-born artist and illustrator who specialized in the drawing of military uniforms. Ogden painted Makemie’s most celebrated moment: his appearance before Lord Cornbury in New York during the celebrated trial of 1707.

The painting, a watercolor, hangs today in the

(Continued on page 23)

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 first appeared in his book, “True Tales of the Eastern Shore.”

Makemie

(Continued from page 22)

Presbyterian Historical Society in Philadelphia. It has been frequently reproduced, and in 1982 the Irish government reproduced it fully a million times when it became the basis for Makemie's portrait on a postage stamp.

Alexander Stirling Calder (1870-1945), a sculptor from a family of sculptors (he followed his father into the field, and his son Alexander Calder became world famous for his "mobile" sculptures), produced another likeness of Makemie for the facade of the Witherspoon Building in Philadelphia, erected in 1896.

Like Ogden's painting, Calder's statute is now at the Presbyterian Historical Society. It too has been reproduced, much less often but much more familiarly for the peninsula, for it is the basis for the two Makemie monuments on the Eastern Shore of Virginia.

In 1908 a statue to Makemie was dedicated on the site of Makemie's home near Sanford in upper Accomack County. The statue bears no signature, and in all the materials printed about Makemie and his Eastern Shore monument no mention is made of the artist who produced it.

It seems likely that the Presbyterians simply hired a stonecutter to copy the Calder statue, and that the Accomack County version is not the work of a master sculptor but of a tradesman, perhaps a carver of tombstones.

Sarah B. Smith, the Onancock-born sculptor who restored the statue in 1984, points out its uneven workmanship: a head carved with more skill than the rest of the statue, differing sleeve styles, a disparity in the size of the two hands (somewhat but not fully eliminated by Smith's restoration). Though the design is Calder's, the work is that of an unknown, and lesser, artist.

In 1984 this statue, having suffered from neglect and vandalism

at its original site on Holden's Creek, was moved to Accomac and restored, and since that year has stood behind Makemie Presbyterian Church in that town. The pedestal on which it stood at Holden's Creek, and in 2001 it received a new statue, cast in bronze from the older stone version.

There is one curious similarity in the two modern depictions of Makemie. In both Ogden's painting and Calder's statue the pose that Makemie strikes is virtually the same. In each, he holds a Bible in his right hand and, as if left-handed, with his left reaches upward to point or to bless. In each work also, more to be expected, he wears the "Geneva robe," black with white tabs at the neck.

Are these similarities by coincidence or design? Neither artist, certainly, could have consulted the lost portrait that showed Makemie as he really looked, for Ogden was born 25 years and Calder 39 years after it went up in flames. But either or both of them could have consulted with those who had seen it.

One person who remembered the lost portrait was the daughter of Stephen Balch, and the Eastern Shore author Littleton P. Bowen interviewed her before he published his book "The Days of Makemie" in 1885. Half a century after the loss of the portrait she could still remember the face in it: "the intellectual forehead crowned with brown locks, the fair complexion, the expressive blue eyes and mien of a true Irish gentleman" in a Geneva gown. Did she remember also a pose — left hand raised, right hand holding a Bible — in which an earlier artist had painted Makemie as he really looked?

Today Francis Makemie raises his hand — the left one — over the old monument grounds and over a safer location in Accomac behind the church that bears his name. It has been centuries since anyone could say with certainty what this renowned resident of the Shore looked like, but the man if not the face is far from forgotten on the Eastern Shore of Virginia.

Average savings of \$500*
is just one phone call away.

Switch to State Farm Car Insurance.

Give us a call to get a quote, and start saving today.



Bart Holland III
7352 Lankford Highway
Nassawadox, VA 23413
Bus: 757-442-9011



JT Holland
10219 Rogers Drive
Nassawadox, VA 23413
Bus: 757-442-6100

Like a good neighbor, State Farm is there.®



State Farm

statefarm.com®

1005001

*Average annual per household savings based on a national 2012 survey of new policyholders who reported savings by switching to State Farm.

State Farm Mutual Automobile Insurance Company, State Farm Indemnity Company - Bloomington, IL

Before the rockets, there was the Wallops Neck Goosery

The NASA facility at Wallops today is widely recognized as a major player in America's space program.

The main base at Wallops started life as a U.S. Naval Air Station during World War II, and when the war ended, the main base and nearby Wallops Island became involved in the nascent field of rocketry.



Curtis Badger

But before the rockets, and before the war, Wallops Neck was involved in an industry that provided comfort and rest for thousands of Americans.

In the 1880s Wallops became home to the Wallops Neck Goosery, a farm located near Wattsville where the Industry Down and Quilting Company of Philadelphia raised white geese, whose feathers and down would be slept upon by thousands.

The goosery began operation in May 1883 when the Philadelphia corporation bought a farm in Wallops Neck from C.T. Taylor, who lived west of Wallops in Jollys Neck.

The corporation constructed facilities to house 1,700 geese on the farm.

According to the Peninsula Enterprise, the corporation paid \$5,000 for the land, making Mr. Taylor a wealthy man.

The goosery was a boon for local grain farmers as well, who provided corn for the flock of geese.

In 1884 the Peninsula Enterprise reported that the company had recently spent \$1,000 among local farmers, and still was looking for more corn.

"Some of our people think that if this thing continues, corn bread will be scarce," quipped a writer for the newspaper.



FILE PHOTO

Now known for rockets like this one, Wallops was once known for the Wallops Neck Goosery.

The seller of the land, Cornelius T. Taylor, had moved to Jollys Neck some years earlier from Hacks Neck, where he had had some serious run-ins with the army during the Civil War.

Mr. Taylor operated a store in Hacks Neck, but his business was shut down early in the war when he was suspected of working with the Hacks Neck blockade runners who were smuggling goods across the bay to supply the Confederate army.

He once applied to be postmaster at Pungoteague but was turned down because of his suspected relationship with blockade runners.

In turning down the application, General Hen-

ry Lockwood wrote: "I regard Mr. Taylor at Pungoteague so deeply implicated in attempting to run the blockade that I closed his store more than a year ago."

Wallops was named for John Wallop, who patented 1,700 acres of land in the late 17th century. His land included much of what today is Wallops Neck and Wallops Island.

Wallop was one of the early planter/mariners of the Eastern Shore, who, with his sons, grew crops and had a fleet of ships to deliver them to ports along the East Coast and the Caribbean islands.

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.

Presenting sponsors help the arts thrive

By taking the time to visit art galleries and museums, attend concerts and shows, purchase art or handmade items, or volunteer at an arts organization, you are making sure that the artistic talent and vision of our community is appreciated and supported.

Arts Enter, the Historic Palace Theatre, and the Lemon Tree Gallery all support the art scene in Cape Charles.

The expression “Small Town, Big Art,” has been woven into the mindset of the visionaries who have continued to create and produce the arts in Cape Charles.

Keeping the arts alive is not as simple as it seems. While a full theater might initially appear to indicate huge financial success, the reality is that it can't be done merely through ticket sales.

Arts Enter needs presenting sponsors as well as other community support. With a full theater schedule planned, securing sponsors is essential. The traditional Virginia Symphony Orchestra Holiday Brass, theatrical productions including *Calendar Girls* and *Cinderella* and several tribute bands including *The Eagles*, *Dave Matthews*, *Chicago*, and *The Beatles* are all on the 2024-25 schedule.

What is a presenting sponsor? Any business or individual who wishes to invest in the arts in a proactive way has the opportunity to be featured and recognized in all marketing for the title event while providing significant financial support for the sponsored production.

Other benefits include 15 tickets to the performance and a pre-show VIP reception, mention in all social and print media leading up to the event including a full-page color ad in the Broadway-style glossy color season playbill.

Arts Enter Cape Charles is honored to announce its first three presenting sponsors for the 2024-25 season:



SUBMITTED IMAGE

Arts Enter, the Historic Palace Theatre, and the Lemon Tree Gallery all support the art scene in Cape Charles.

Chesapeake Properties, Blue Heron Realty, and Hotel Cape Charles. All three have provided continual support over the last two decades.

The dream of a lower Eastern Shore art center became a reality in 1997 when Clelia Cardano Sheppard and a small group of art enthusiasts created Arts Enter Cape Charles.

Under the direction of London-born actress and playwright, Sheila Mullin Cardano, Arts Enter's theater season flourished with memorable productions such as “*Magia*,” “*Once Upon a Time*,” and “*Piece of Eden*.”

The Historic Palace Theatre, located in the heart of our coastal, Victorian railroad town and in a state of disrepair, was purchased by the non-profit in 1998 and the arduous task of restoration began. The Stage Door Gallery opened in 2007, the only art

gallery in Cape Charles at the time.

With an ever-expanding classroom, Arts Enter partnered with local public schools thanks to the 21st Century and No Child Left Behind grants. Soon after, Arts Enter became an integral part of the Cape Charles Christian School curriculum. Local public school students came by the busloads for day-time performances. The anticipated field trips helped nurture new artists and art-appreciators.

Arts Enter's mission was to provide music, art, theater, dance, and all aspects of the fine and performing arts to our small rural community and encourage participation in the theater and gallery events. Our collaboration with public and private schools continues. The financial crisis of 2008 caused Arts Enter to face the ubiquitous challenges of sustaining

the arts in a struggling economy but nevertheless, Arts Enter survived. A pivotal moment in the Arts Enter history was the prestigious Our Town grant awarded in 2013 by the National Endowment for the Arts.

A large component of the grant supported the Harbor for the Arts Festival, which morphed into the Concerts in the Park and Experimental Film Virginia, which is now referred to as *Films That Move*. Executive Director Clelia Cardano Sheppard and Co-Director Mary Ann Roehm resigned from managing Arts Enter in 2015.

However, in early 2018, executive positions returned to Clelia and Mary Ann and they continued to embrace Arts Enter's educational and performance responsibilities for children, adults and the entire community.

In 2021, the organization received a prestigious matching grant from the Eastern Shore Community Foundation for the purchase of state-of-the-art technical equipment that improves the quality of programming. The COVID-19 pandemic was disruptive but Arts Enter has recovered and is proud to present an exciting full season in 2024-25.

On the evening of Friday, Sept. 20, at 6:30 p.m. the public is welcome to enjoy the new work displayed that will be showing until March.

The Lemon Tree Gallery represents over 75 local and regional artists. The show is titled *Tapestries...Weave the Senses* and features several works by Donna Stufft. Donna started quilting 40 years ago.

She explores “surface design” techniques in fiber and incorporates them into her quilts, resulting in “Art Quilts”... quilted wall hangings that from a distance look like traditional painted art. Live music and a cash bar will enhance the evening.

100 years ago
September 1924

New school houses completed in Accomack County

Some of the most modern up-to-date school buildings in Virginia have recently been completed in Accomack County.

The Onancock High School is a beautiful brick building located on the banks of the Onancock River. The 13 acres of school grounds are being landscaped and beautified by H.C. Gravenor.

Belle Haven High School at Belle Haven, pronounced as one of the most attractive, complete, and comfortable buildings on the Eastern Shore, is a new T-shaped, modern building, furnished and equipped in every particular with a splendid auditorium and rooms for two additional teachers when needed.

The Chincoteague High School is a model two-story brick building.

At Keller the school was rebuilt and remodeled and a heating plant was installed.

The Cashville Grammar School — four rooms and an auditorium — has recently been completed. It is on the plan of the Onancock building and is one of the most pleasing, useful, and comfortable rural schools to be found.

The New Church school has been remodeled and additions have been built.

The patrons have given most substantial financial aid and great credit is due to Superintendent G.G. Joynes, during whose term of office there has been much building and improvement of school conditions.

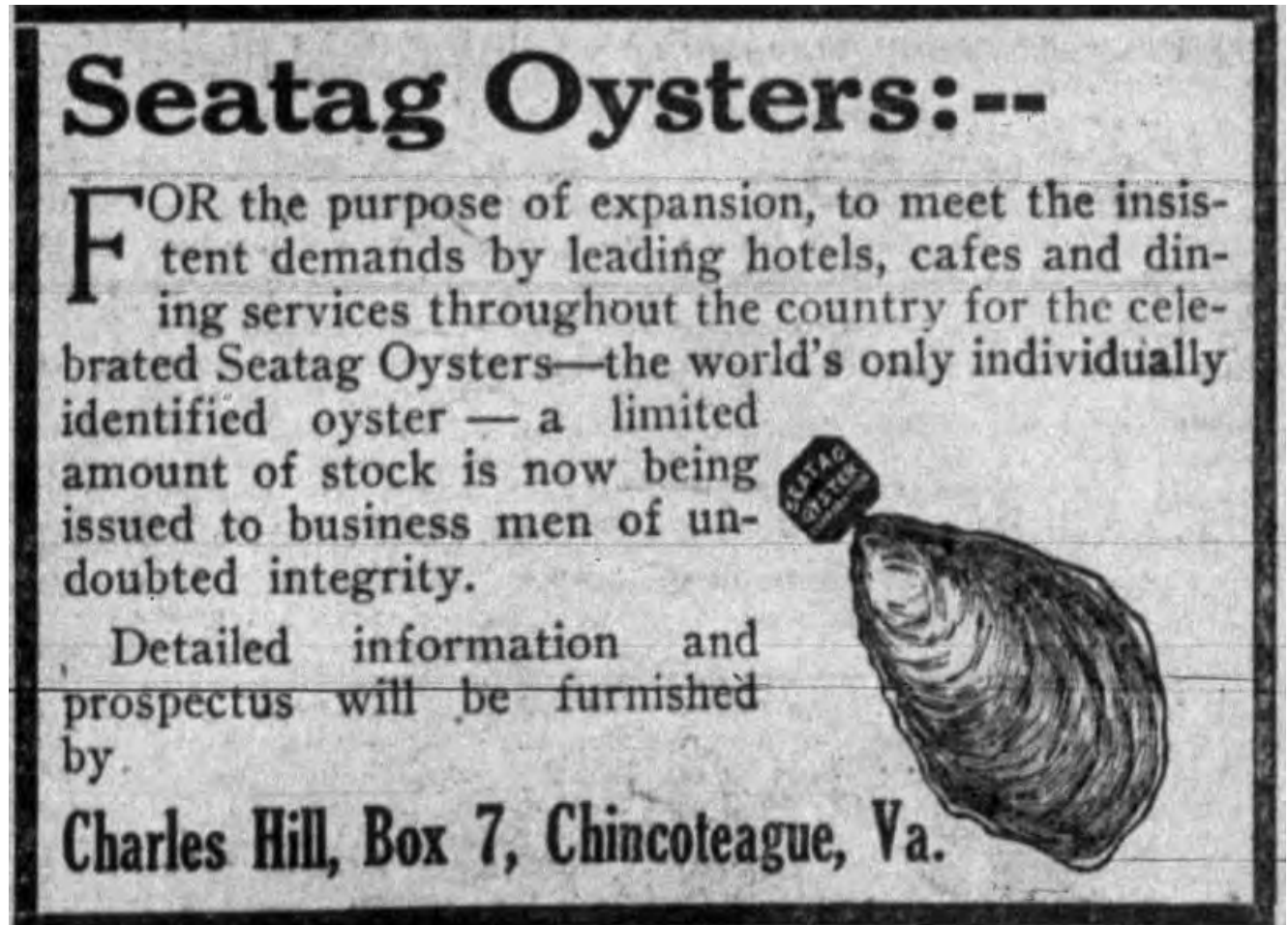
In 1922, under Superintendent Joynes, the first rural consolidation in Accomack was made at Hunting Creek. The problem now in Accomack is that of high school consolidation. This is receiving serious consideration by all the school officials.

— *Ledger-Star*

Cape Charles rate case is on docket

Oct. 15 has been set by the State Corporation Commission as the date for hearing a complaint lodged by the Norfolk-Portsmouth Freight Traffic Commission against the Pennsylvania Railroad, charging that excessive and unreasonable rates are charged on ferriage of automobiles between Norfolk and Cape Charles.

The freight traffic commission is acting in the interest of motor car and truck owners who complain that the high rate charged for carrying automobiles



Seatag Oysters:--

FOR the purpose of expansion, to meet the insistent demands by leading hotels, cafes and dining services throughout the country for the celebrated Seatag Oysters—the world's only individually identified oyster — a limited amount of stock is now being issued to business men of undoubted integrity.

Detailed information and prospectus will be furnished by

Charles Hill, Box 7, Chincoteague, Va.

FILE PHOTO

This ad ran in *The Virginian-Pilot* on Sunday, Sept. 7, 1924.

between this city and Cape Charles makes the cost of doing business with the Eastern Shore section by motor almost prohibitive.

The credit men, the Tidewater Automobile Association, and various other business organizations in the Tidewater section, and the Richmond Chamber of Commerce are supporting the freight traffic body in the complaint.

— *The Roanoke Times*

Northampton men plan cotton crops

For the first time in the history of the Eastern Shore, cotton will be grown next year on a commercial basis in Northampton County, with between 200 and 500 acres planted, according to six of the more progressive farmers of the county who are behind the movement in the interest of cutting potato production, which, according to growers, has been carried on at a loss for the past three years.

Messrs. George T. Jarvis, T.P. Bell, R.S.

Floyd, W.C. Floyd, R.H. Jacobs, and J.S. Dunton Sr. are the men who formulated the idea, and after consulting officials of the Eastern Cottonseed Oil Company, of Norfolk, each pledged himself to grow from five to 10 acres of cotton the coming year and to solicit the county with a view of securing farmers who will pledge themselves to grow cotton next spring.

It is thought there will be no difficulty in getting pledges from a majority of the growers to give cotton a tryout by planting a few acres.

The Eastern Cottonseed Oil Company has agreed to furnish the seed and handle the crop. The concern has also arranged with the Farmers' Experimental Station at Norfolk to send a representative to the Shore who will speak to the farmers at different intervals during the winter months on growing and harvesting cotton, and with this educational campaign, together with the fertile soil of the county, it is thought cotton may become one of Northampton's principal crops within a few years.

— *The Baltimore Sun*

(Continued on page 27)

Yesteryears

(Continued from page 26)

Federal Court names receiver for West shows

J.R. Marks was appointed as the receiver for the West Bright Light Shows, the carnival company which showed at Tasley Fair, on petition of Harry O. Staples, of Scranton, Pa., filed in the U.S. District Court, Norfolk. The appointment was made by Judge Edmund Waddill Jr. in the absence of Judge D. Lawrence Kroner. The order also restrains Frank West, of Greensboro, N.C., his agents or attorneys from interfering in any way with the operation of the carnival.

The petition set out that West owes Staples \$3,600 and that in order to carry out the program of the carnival and prevent losses to the 100 or more persons engaged, that it was necessary for a receiver to take over the shows immediately. West was in jail at Accomac as an accessory to the murder of Ralph Roach at Tasley Fair Grounds Thursday night of the Fair at the time the above action was taken. He has since been admitted to bail.

On Aug. 15, W.J. Roach, administrator of the estate of Ralph Roach, brought suit for \$10,000 damages and filed a petition in attachment against the carnival property. Process was issued, but no bond was given, and a levy was made but the carnival property was not seized and remained in the defendant's constructive possession. The Pennsylvania Railroad was made co-defendant in the proceedings.

Value of the carnival property is placed at \$100,000, but it was stated that it would not yield over \$25,000 on a forced sale. The defendant's property is said to be subject to a \$30,000 mortgage, and Staples insisted that the appointment of a receiver was necessary to the conduct of the business and the preservation of the property and the only way in which his claim for \$3,600 may be made safe.

The receiver having given bond in Federal Court, the Carnival equipment was automatically released from the attachment against it in the county and was taken away from Tasley to Marion. The Roach suit against the West Shows is still pending in the circuit court of this county.

— *The Daily Times*

Thieves are busy in Accomack County

Burglaries and petty thefts at various points in upper Accomack County during the past few weeks are causing indignation among not only those who are the victims but among other businessmen and householders.

The store of R.S. Stant, at Sinnickson, was robbed in a peculiarly bold manner. Three men entered the place and called for cigarettes, and while two of them engaged the attention of the storekeeper as he supplied them, the other stole the money box containing considerable cash, postal funds, Liberty Bonds, and other valuable papers.

The robbery was discovered within a few minutes after the men had left, but up to date, no trace of them has been secured nor is an arrest expected.

Three weeks ago the store of C. Baylis at Silva was entered and robbed, and up to the present time, officers have not heard of any of the thieves being apprehended.

In many cases, the storekeepers must rely upon private detective service for protection, and the quick and reliable work of the Branch Agency and its dogs have more than repaid the expense of the service. But all the storekeepers cannot afford to carry the burglary insurance that service such as this entails, but the knowledge that they are so protected seems to act as a deterrent to would-be thieves.

— *The Daily Times*

75 years ago September 1949

Eastern Shore transit system sold to Red Star

The purchase of the Eastern Shore Transit System by Red Star Motor Coaches, Inc., of Salisbury, was announced here today.

Eastern Shore operates a fleet of 12 buses between Salisbury and Cape Charles, and between Salisbury and Chincoteague via Snow Hill, Princess Anne, and Pocomoke City, all in Maryland.

Edgar T. Bennett, vice president and general manager of Red Star, said the present Eastern Shore schedules will remain unchanged until a survey of the routes is made. New equipment is planned for the Virginia runs, he added.

VIRGINIA FERRY CORP.		CAPE CHARLES FERRY	
Effective August 1st, 1949			
EVERY 90 MINUTES			
Eastern Standard Time			
Subject To Change Without Notice			
CROSSING TIME 1 1/4 HOURS			
Leave Little Creek, Va. (Near Norfolk)		Leave Cape Charles, Va.	
3:30	A. M.	3:00	A. M.
5:00	A. M.	5:45	A. M.
6:30	A. M.	7:15	A. M.
8:00	A. M.	8:45	A. M.
9:30	A. M.	10:15	A. M.
11:00	A. M.	11:45	A. M.
12:30	P. M.	1:15	P. M.
2:00	P. M.	2:45	P. M.
3:30	P. M.	4:15	P. M.
5:00	P. M.	5:45	P. M.
6:30	P. M.	7:15	P. M.
8:00	P. M.	8:45	P. M.
9:30	P. M.	10:15	P. M.
11:00	P. M.	11:45	P. M.

All trips carry passengers, passenger cars and commercial vehicles of all types.

Bus connections are maintained by the Norfolk Southern Bus Company from Union Bus Terminal, Norfolk. Phone 24881 for bus schedule.

FILE PHOTO

This ad ran in the Ledger-Star on Thursday, Sept. 1, 1949.

The purchase price by which Red Star purchased all the common stock of Eastern Shore was not disclosed. Red Star will operate in Virginia under the name of Red Star Motor Coaches, Inc., of Virginia.

Acquisition of the Virginia line gives Red Star routes throughout the Delmarva Peninsula, with Philadelphia as the northernmost terminal. It also operates from the Shore into Baltimore and Washington, D.C.

The Red Star fleet is composed of 59 buses.

— *The Virginian-Pilot*

(Continued on page 28)

Yesteryears

(Continued from page 27)

Wagner victor in ring match

Clyde Wagner, claimant of the Eastern Shore AAU middleweight crown, outboxed George Clark, of Baltimore, last night in a speedy three-round windup at the Chincoteague Naval Air Station before more than 1,000 spectators.

The classy bluejacket, who dished out a convincing drubbing to Don Parkinson last week, beat his rival to the punch continually with a steady tempo of counterpunching.

Wagner, weighing in at 158, was one pound heavier than Clark.

Johnny Emory, 210, dusky Easton heavyweight, extended his undefeated string to eight straight, winning a three-round nod over Harry Williams, 200, of Chincoteague. Emory cut the sailor's eye in the second round and piled up enough points from that point on to gain the verdict.

— *The Daily Times*

Former Chincoteague woman wins clam eating contest

A trim, 120-pound entrant who said she came from the clam country of Chincoteague Island became winner of the women's division of this shore resort's fifth annual clam eating contest.

Mrs. Edna Shreaves, 28, who now lives at Brigantine, out-ate four opponents by downing 90 clams in 20 minutes yesterday.

The winner, recipient of a \$25 savings bond, said that when she lived on Chincoteague Island she thought nothing of "eating 40 or 50 clams before going to bed at night."

In the men's division, 52-year-old, 230-pound Israel Weintraub, perennial winner from Atlantic City, ate 151 Cherrystone clams in 20 minutes to retain his title.

— *The Daily Times*

Store clerk on Tangier killed as he rides bicycle

Lawrence Dize, about 39, was in Accomack County jail today, booked on suspicion of murdering Alfred L. Crockett, 32, here yesterday.

E. Almer Ames, Accomack commonwealth's attorney, said Dize was in custody and had admitted to

A CONTENTED PAIR



Mr. and Mrs.—Yes, both of them have all their dry cleaning done here—and they're 100% contented with the results.

Phone Our Nearest Office:
 Salisbury _____ 2-1111
 Crisfield _____ 254
 Berlin _____ 222
 Onancock _____ 222-W4

Color-Brite
 DYE-RESISTANT

Sunshine
 LAUNDRY
 DRY CLEANING
...make everything SPARKLE

SALISBURY CRISFIELD BERLIN

"The home of laundry that's sparkling white—and the famous Dry Cleaning that's Color-Brite"

FILE PHOTO

This ad ran in *The Daily Times* on Wednesday, Sept. 28, 1949.

shooting Crockett in front of an ice cream parlor on this tiny Chesapeake Bay island south of Crisfield.

Five shots ripped through the quiet afternoon here and young Crockett, father of an 11-year-old girl, fell from his bicycle. He was a clerk in the Williams and Wheatley general store.

Crockett's wife, a registered nurse, was on duty in McCready Memorial Hospital in Crisfield when she was notified of her husband's death.

Grimly, she made the 14-mile crossing by boat from the Maryland mainland to Tangier in the company of the undertaker, Durward Q. Covington, of Crisfield.

Ames said Dize was taken to Accomac by Tangier Town Officer Ray Crockett, who was not an immediate relative of the dead man. The shooting occurred about 1 p.m.

The commonwealth's attorney said the Tangier officer turned over to him a .32 caliber pistol, which

Dize said was the weapon used.

After interrogating Dize, Ames said the prisoner gave no reason for the shooting, and there was no argument. Ames plans to question several eyewitnesses.

Ames said he was investigating a rumor that the pair had been involved in an argument in a pool room about three years ago.

Accomack Sheriff George Hope quoted Dize as saying, "there was a little trouble between me and him about four years ago, and some since."

Dize also was quoted as saying "the devil told me to kill."

Dize's mother died less than a week ago.

It was the first time in nearly 25 years that this three-mile long island had had such a tragedy.

Still on the books as unsolved is the slaying of a town policeman who was shot to death through an open window as he stood in a store.

A few weeks ago, however, this island skyrocketed into the headlines. Not far offshore, a former Crisfield police officer was shot to death in his boat near Smith Island.

David A. Acree, Virginia Fisheries Department deputy, was later exonerated of murder in the shooting of Earl Lee Nelson, the ex-policeman, by an Accomack County grand jury. Acree claimed the gun went off in a struggle while he was making an arrest. A murder warrant for Acree is on file in Maryland, however. Maryland claimed the shooting took place within the Free State's boundary. Virginia steadfastly contended it took place in the Old Dominion.

Today tight-lipped friends of Crockett were visiting the home of his parents, Mr. and Mrs. John Lawrence Crockett, where his body is.

Funeral arrangements have not been completed. The undertaker said the funeral will take place either Saturday or Sunday.

Crockett's daughter is named Carolyn Nancy. His wife is Mrs. Nina Ray Crockett. He has two brothers, Ray, of Tangier, and Norman, of Hampton.

In World War II, Crockett served with the Merchant Marines. He was a member of the Independent Order of Red Men on this island.

Covington said five bullets penetrated his body. One of them passed through the back and into the heart, another hit him in the thigh, and the other three went into the back, he said.

Ames said he planned to question Dize again. The prosecutor said Dize's answers to questions when he first arrived in Accomac were not coherent. A motive for the shooting was still not known.

— *The Daily Times*

(Continued on page 29)

Yesteryears

(Continued from page 28)

Six new cases of polio show up in Virginia

Six new cases of polio have been reported in Virginia, bringing the total number of cases in Virginia this year to 236.

The State Health Department reports two persons in Augusta County, a 12-year-old boy and a 45-year-old woman, down with the sickness.

Other cases reported by the communicable disease division include a four-year-old Accomack County boy, a nine-year-old Henrico County girl, an eight-year-old Nelson County girl, and a 10-year-old Richmond girl.

The department says 372 cases had been reported by this time last year throughout the state.

— *The Daily Review*

50 years ago
September 1974

Federal land given for parks

The Ford administration announced Thursday the transfer of four parcels of federal land in Virginia for use as local parks and recreation areas.

The parcels to be transferred are: Cape Charles Air Force station in Northampton County, 60 acres valued at \$30,000 to Northampton; Federal Reformatory in Petersburg, four acres valued at \$4,000 to the city of Hopewell; Ft. Lee, 32 acres listed at \$290,000 to Prince George County; and the Naval Research Laboratory, Hybla Valley site, Fairfax County, 1,262 acres at \$10 million, to Fairfax County.

— *Richmond Times-Dispatch*

Board expansion request studied

No action has been taken on a request to the Northampton County Board of Supervisors that its number be increased from three to six.

Mrs. Ellen Parsons, of Cape Charles, told the board that she feels the county needs three more supervisors to add to the three it now has.

Mrs. Parsons said, "We all know that the business of the county has grown and is continuing to grow. To determine the future of Northampton County, I propose

that the increase in number of supervisors be given serious consideration."

J.T. Holland, Franktown District supervisor, pointed out that if three more are elected, it would mean an increase in the county budget of \$48,000 to \$50,000 every four years plus expenses.

The board discussed the possibility of conducting a survey to determine the feeling of the voters in increasing the number of supervisors. However, no concrete decision was reached in regards to this matter.

Harry L. Yeaman, resident engineer of the State Highway Department, presented the secondary roads system budget for fiscal year 1974 to 1975. The budget and total amount of \$645,483 were unanimously approved by the board.

Congressman Thomas M. Downing from Virginia's First District visited with the board. He thanked it for the spirit of cooperation during the 16 years he had been in office. He commented that he would be unopposed in this year's election but said, "I assure you that will not dampen my eagerness to represent Northampton County."

— *The Daily Times*

Virginia health facility may get fed funds

Health officials said that 50% of the capital funds needed for the construction of a proposed outpatient facility at the Northampton-Accomack Memorial Hospital can be made available through federal sources.

R.A. Cramer, hospital administrator, and Dr. Belle D. Fears, health director for the Eastern Shore, recently discussed the outpatient care concept with Robert D. Ham, who is director of the Bureau of Hospitals and Nursing Services Facilities of the Virginia Department of Health.

Following the discussion, Cramer said, "We were virtually assured that federal funds would be available by the first of the year."

Cramer said the medical staff at the hospital has endorsed the concept and meetings are scheduled with the hospital board of directors and with the county boards of supervisors for the purpose of explaining preliminary plans.

Cramer continued that if the outpatient facility is to become a reality, it will be necessary for Northampton and Accomack counties to subsidize not only the capital funds but also the funds for the operation of the facility.

The initial concept calls for the development of the combination of the outpatient care facility with the hospital's emergency care unit. The program would be jointly operated by the hospital and the Health



FILE PHOTO

This ad ran in *The Daily Times* on Sunday, Sept. 8, 1974.

Department. The proposed building would be attached to the existing building and would have a staff of physicians on duty 24 hours a day.

Cramer stated that the hospital emergency room is overrun with patients, especially during weekends, and it is believed that by combining the two facilities, the result will be that of more efficient care for all.

Earlier this summer, Cramer said that as it is now the emergency room often serves a non-emergency function, one that could be served by an outpatient care program.

— *The Daily Times*

School selected for evaluation

Exmore-Willis Wharf Elementary School has been selected as one of 20 elementary schools in Virginia to participate in a program of elementary school evaluation for the 1974 to 1975 term.

The staff applied to the Division of Elementary Education and was notified by Bernard R. Taylor, director, that Exmore had been selected, according to Perry Whitley, principal, and George Willis Young, division superintendent.

The Division of Elementary Education will offer a program of elementary school evaluation using the elementary school evaluative criteria developed by the National Study of School

(Continued on page 30)

Yesteryears

(Continued from page 29)

Evaluation.

The criteria is the result of a three-year project that involved hundreds of elementary schools across the nation. It is similar in format to the junior high school evaluative criteria for secondary schools.

The evaluative process at the elementary school level involves a self-study to be carried out by the faculty of the individual school. The purpose of the self-study is to improve the quality of the school's program through: self-evaluation, introspection, and comprehensive examination of what is happening to children.

"We are delighted to have been selected to participate in this program and we feel this will afford a real opportunity to continue to improve and expand the instructional programs in our public schools," Mr. Young said.

Mr. Whitley will participate in a two-day workshop during September in preparation for the evaluation.

This is the second consecutive year that one of Northampton's elementary schools has been selected to participate in this program. Cherriton Primary is in the second year of its program and will be visited by a committee during the spring.

Young said that "participation in this program is part of the division's overall evaluation program designed to improve the instructional programs."

The Northampton Junior and Senior High Schools are in various stages of evaluation and both are members of the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools.

— *The Daily Times*

Chincoteague refuge had 670,000

The Chincoteague National Wildlife Refuge attracted 670,000 visitors from Memorial Day to Labor Day this year.

The refuge reported this was an 11.5% increase over the number for summer 1973.

The recent energy crisis seems not to have affected summer use, but it did account for a sharp decline in visitation here in early 1974. From January through August 1973, there were 832,000 visitors, which for those months in 1974 the number was 835,672, an increase of 3,372, or less than one-half

of a percent.

Summer brings a different program of management on the refuge. For example, use of the area is monitored by electronic counters at various access sites, which have consistently shown increases of daily use over the past several years.

Visitors have also become more appreciative of the refuge and its wildlife. The interpretive programs to provide visitors with information about the refuge have been filled throughout the summer, especially the tours "Wildlife Safari" and "Sunset Cruise."

Bicycle use increased, accounting for up to 6% of the recorded vehicle entrances.

The ocean beach remained a highlight of summer activities. The 10-mile-long Wild Beach area saw more hikers and shell hunters this summer, as well as more family groups seeking relative solitude for a day's sunning and swimming.

A section of beach is reserved for fishing, and there was a haul this summer of trout, bluefish, and flounder.

The 5-mile Hook area, curving southward to enclose Toms Cove, also absorbed more use, with additional vehicle parking being designated along the spur road. Wading and digging for clams also increased in popularity, to say nothing of the hours spent in pursuit of blue crabs.

— *The Evening Sun*

25 years ago September 1999

Storm creates wave of vacancies

As Hurricane Dennis did his week-long dance off the North Carolina coast, he also stepped on the toes of area businesses that were counting on making big money over the Labor Day weekend — the last blast of summer.

"Everybody canceled in droves," said Bob Rittenhouse, of Rittenhouse Motor Lodge in Cape Charles. "There's nothing, nobody out there."

Most of his guests stop on their way to North Carolina's Outer Banks, where Dennis has been flooding roads, crumbling houses, and scoring beaches since Sunday.

Rittenhouse, who has been in business since 1952, said he has seen numerous Labor Days, good and bad. He rated this one "awful."

Tangier Island has been "a ghost town," said Clair Lott, of Lott's Arts & Things.

"It's very quiet, no tour boats," she said. "All the motels and bed and breakfasts have vacancies.

Usually this is a very busy week."

Lott was one of a few business owners on the island who stayed open, though she wasn't worried.

"We always have a good fall," she said.

William Crockett, of Crockett & Son Seafood in Exmore, said sales were significantly down this week compared to previous years. Crockett also said he bought only 15% to 20% of the number of crabs he normally does.

"I don't know a seaside crabber who can get to his pots because the tides are all over the place and the strong winds," said Crockett. "Only some watermen on the creeks can get out."

Crockett sells crab meat from Chincoteague to Cape Charles and across the bay.

"Of course the resorts are emptier because of the storm, but if it gets nicer for Saturday and Sunday, it'll be a big fiasco," he said. "They won't have any crabs."

Farmers, who worked all summer through a drought, suffered less than most Eastern Shore businesses during the hurricane.

"It hasn't done anything for us, good or bad," said Northampton County Extension Agent Fred Diem. "If it were to turn around and dump 10 to 15 inches of rain, then we'd have real damage."

Said Randy Lewis, of Island House Restaurant, Wachapreague Motel, and Captain Zed's Bait and Tackle and Marina: "I've been drinking coffee and talking to myself for the last eight days."

He said the storm's threat had been devastating to business.

"These were the last two really big weekends of the season," he said. "Things slowed down last Thursday when they started talking about the hurricane on the news. People started canceling then."

Though the storm mostly has dissipated, Lewis said the weekend likely would be shot.

"The streets are rolled up in town," he said. "Everybody's hibernating."

— *The Daily Times*

Cotton production in Old Dominion may hit all-time record

Farmers are planting more cotton in the Old Dominion, and Virginia may break its all-time yield and production records.

"If the yield forecast of 819 pounds per acre is realized, this will be a record year for cotton production in Virginia," said Steven Manheimer, state statistician for the Virginia Agriculture Statistics Service. The statewide yield in 1997 was 659 pounds per acre.

(Continued on page 31)

Yesteryears

(Continued from page 30)

Cotton can endure dry weather better than most crops. That attribute has been vital this year since the mid-Atlantic region is undergoing its worst drought since the 1930s.

Cotton acreage in Virginia has increased from 92,000 acres in 1998 to 109,000 this year, said Kevin Harding, agricultural statistician for VASS. Production for 1999 in Virginia is expected to reach 186,000 bales, an increase of 28% over 1998. The previous record-high production was in 1996, when 159,000 bales were produced.

On Virginia's Eastern Shore, which is made up of Northampton and Accomack counties, acreage jumped from 3,101 in 1998 to 7,000 this year. This is partly because the cotton gin began operation on the Eastern Shore early in 1999, encouraging growers to plant cotton instead of corn or soybeans.

"The gin has been the best thing in the world for growing cotton around here," said Carter Magette, who planted 700 acres in Northampton County this year. That's 200 more than last year. The gin has saved Magette \$7,000 in hauling expenses from last year.

With a toll-free phone call to the harvest hotline, cotton growers can now hear a state cotton specialist report customized for Virginia each week on crucial factors affecting the cotton harvest. The free service from Rhone Poulenc Agro is available 24 hours a day. The number is 1-888-477-2476 and the report is on the internet at www.finishcotton.com

Cotton is grown commercially in Accomack, Charles City, Northampton, Northumberland, Brunswick, Dinwiddie, Greensville, Isle of Wight, Prince George, Southampton, Surrey, and Sussex counties and in Suffolk.

— *The Kenbridge-Victoria Dispatch*

Lee Mont: Tales from a once-lively community

Sitting on the worn bench in Willie Willett's store, Morris Satchell, 4, battled the hiccups. And Fletcher Allen said he had just the cure. He walked up to the youngster and said, "Boo!" Then he fell over, dead. That was about 1945. It cured the hiccups, said Satchell's mother,

Lorraine.

It's a memory she recalls often when she looks at the blue-painted building in the heart of Lee Mont. No longer a country store, it is the home and studio of artist Bill Collins, a landmark decorated with Eastern Shore folk art scenes. It is also where Collins teaches "git-tar" lessons.

It's the last business in town now that his brother-in-law, Nate Willett, has just about closed the doors of his shop, the last country store in the village.

Folks call the place a town, though it struggles to even reach village status. But in the late 1800s, Lee Mont held the promise of becoming the Salisbury of Virginia's Eastern Shore.

In those days the community was known as Woodstock and had a monopoly on local business as there was no Parksley, now a neighbor just two miles away. When Woodstock applied for its own post office, the government told the community it had to change its name to avoid confusion with another town of the same name. So, legend has it, in light of the Yankee government's policy, the Southern town offered Lee Mont in honor of Gen. Robert E. Lee. And it's been Lee Mont since, pronounced by natives as "lee mall-ont."

There's something exciting, colorful in the air about the place. Yet all that's here is a few homes, a fading store, and Collins' splash of color and art. And there's the old former post office, one of the smallest in the state when it closed a few years ago.

For 38 years as postmaster, Satchell practically lived in the tiny building. Now 74, Satchell said she put on the pounds over the years after licking thousands of stamps.

Of all the secrets, confessions, and intimate details she heard over four decades, what remains with her was the fight in the tiny room between two women. A wife accused the other of having an affair with her husband and in seconds, Satchell said, the two were rolling on the floor, hair curlers flying through the air amid shouting and screaming. Patrons pulled the two apart and left Satchell to sweep up clumps of hair.

Satchell was born here, the daughter of a sharecropper at a time when the neighborhood of 60 residents or so were well-acquainted with each other. Those who didn't farm worked on the water. But all, she said, found themselves struggling to survive near poverty.

"We never went hungry, but I remember how

I cried the day I took one egg to the store (valued at a penny) and broke it before I got there. You could buy something for a penny back then," Satchell said.

Near the old country store stood Lee Mont's most famous landmark, one of the largest churches in the county, she said, the old Lee Mont Methodist Protestant "Harmony" Church — until one fateful day in April 1938.

Sexton John Pryor had been to the church that Sunday morning to get the furnace roaring, but he hadn't been back home long enough to enjoy his breakfast until he heard men "hollerin' 'the church is on fire.'"

A fire apparently started in a cracked chimney and within minutes the old dry building was ablaze, but not before men grabbed a few pews and trappings. The fire was so big, Satchell said, smoke could be seen from any point in the county.

Sidney Sherwood and wife, Gladys, of near Hunting Creek, remember the day well. They were to have been married that afternoon after the two eloped in Pocomoke City.

"That morning I put on my good suit of clothes, then someone hollered, 'Fire, fire! The church is on fire!' I took off a-runnin' and pulled stuff out. So I was a sight when we got done," Sherwood said, and because the suit was the only one he owned, the wedding was postponed to the following Sunday.

Though he lived just a mile or two away from Lee Mont as a boy, he remembers the excitement of when one of the three stores installed electric lights.

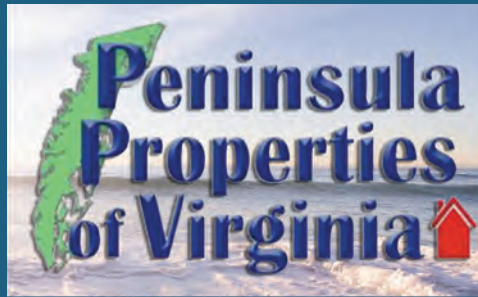
"We used to walk out there every night to see the lights," he said. "There were no lights like that nowhere around, and if we saw an automobile coming at night, we'd run to the doors and windows and see these two lights a-comin.'"

And, said his wife, whenever an airplane droned overhead, the occupants of houses emptied into the yard and fields to see the miracle of flight. "When an airplane came over, that was a big day," she said.

Descendants of the old families here take pride in their community being older than the big town of Parksley. And there's an equal amount of pleasure in knowing the church that was once here was once so important to the area.

Nevermind the neighborhood is watered down with "come heres," there's still enough of the old guard to carry the heritage banner high.

— *The Daily Times*



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

Visit us: www.pprofva.com



**9358 BRANCH LANE
NASSAWADOX
MLS 60628 \$379,000**

This is the Eastern Shore's Finest Traditional style "Farmette." Situated on five acres. Wholesome and loving care revealed throughout. New updates at every glance, including an expansive new deck, new well, fresh paint throughout, new hot water heater, and of course, the quintessential "Red Barn" revealing ultimate functional utility (boat/tools, stable/horse space, chicken/ducks/geese-endless potential. Locational perfection configured by open space just on edge of Town yet proximate to the best of the Eastern Shore's services and amenities.

JASON RESTEIN 757-620-1532



**6468 LANKFORD HIGHWAY
NASSAWADOX
MLS 57862 \$1,400,000**

After 25 financially rewarding years, the owners of The Great Machipongo Clam Shack are retiring. Extremely popular restaurant with six acres on major East Coast (Maine to Florida) corridor. Up to 23,000 vehicles pass every day. Reliable, competent staff and manager who want to stay. Fabulous food, WIFI, liquor license. The seafood market offers fresh and frozen seafoods and online ordering. Also steaks, soups, even alligator. Eat here or fill a destination shack cooler. Intriguing gift shop with gourmet grocery, wines, clothes. The Clam Shack has a very popular stage offers live music. Some musical equipment conveys. Top-of-the-line culinary equipment. Very successful and popular restaurant. Be your own boss.

SCHUYLER V.V. HURLBUT
757-710-9576

**4243 ADRON STREET
EXMORE
MLS 61938 \$155,500**



Buying your first home or downsizing? This cozy bungalow is the place for you. Priced below recently appraised \$160,000. This home is located close to public boat ramp and shopping. Lovely 2 bedroom cottage with large backyard, good-sized rooms, eat-in kitchen. Lots of extras: large walk-in shower, ceramic tile bathroom floor, high end kitchen appliances, ceiling fans, under cabinet task lighting, and tile backsplash in kitchen. Excellent wifi in area. Security system present but not used by current owner. Room dimensions approximate. Driveway on left. Buyer's choice- Seller offering \$2,500 towards closing costs or as carpet/paint allowance payable at closing.

JEN SIEGRIST 757-313-2627



**35431 OCCOHANNOCK DR
BELLE HAVEN
MLS 60761 \$425,000
SOLD AUGUST 19**



**24234 MARY ST.
PARKSLEY
MLS 60347 \$299,000**



**3183 MAIN ST, EXMORE
MLS 59823 \$284,900**



**LOT 2 BAYSIDE RD
FRANKTOWN
MLS 55076 \$70,000
SOLD AUGUST 23**



**7 KERR ST, ONANCOCK
MLS 60786 \$425,000
SOLD JULY 31**



Fall is upon us providing incredible weather here on the shore and this is an ideal time to book one of our vacation rentals. Some of our properties offer weekend 2 and 3 day packages and even longer stays of up to 6 months or more.

For more information please contact JEN SIEGRIST, Property Manager (PM CERTIFIED), REALTOR at 757.313.2627 email jensiegrist@verizon.net.

