Accomack To Recoup Sewer Overpayment to Onancock

By Linda Cicoira

Accomack and Onancock officials reached an agreement this week that will credit about $44,000 in fees overpaid by the county due to a defective meter for the Central Accomack Sewer System.

The amount is half what was initially requested by the county for charges paid between March 2017 and September 2018. Since then the county installed a new meter. The money will be credited for future charges, officials said.

Representatives of the two governments have been meeting to discuss the issue since May and determined a split of the bill was fair to both parties. Votes to that effect were made Monday by the town council and Wednesday by county supervisors. John Custis, Onancock’s lawyer, and County Attorney Cela Burge will review the current contract between the two entities so that future mitigations go smoothly.

In another matter, Zane Hadzick, of FEMA (the Federal Emergency Management Agency), presented a plaque to the supervisors to honor the county surpassing minimum standards in locally administering the National Flood Insurance Program. Accomack has a rating of six, which Hadzick said is the highest in any jurisdiction and has saved more than 1,000 flood insurance policy holders $177,576 annually.

The supervisors also agreed to send a letter to Gov. Ralph Northam to ask for funds for Accomack schools to help the schools offer competitive wages to teachers, thereby increasing retention rates. In the Northern Virginia area, 18 school divisions receive the monies. “Accomack County faces many of the same obstacles,” according to agenda documents. “Accomack competes against lower Maryland localities, particularly Worcester County,” where “property values and per capita income are vastly superior.”

An update regarding the Northern Spur Water & Wastewater Project was given by Deputy County Administrator Stewart Hall. It involves extending services from Riverside Shore Memorial Hospital up the road to the Shore Bank building, behind Chesapeake Square Shopping Center to the pond near ANEC. Plans and specs have been written and pending agency reviews will be put to bid in February with bid openings in March. Hall said the project should be completed by the end of 2019.

“It’s going to open doors for that whole area,” Chairman Robert Crockett said. “It’s a huge investment for the county.”

Five of nine members of the Accomack Planning Commission were reappointed. The terms were set to expire at the end of the month. Those who were put back to work were Roy Custis, Lynn Gayle, David Lumgair, James Arnold, and Angela Wingfield.

Karen Emerson, of Onancock, was appointed to the Eastern Shore of Virginia Resource Conservation and Development Council to fill the unexpired term of David Vaughn, who resigned several months ago. The supervisors are still looking for someone to fill another seat that will become vacant when Kenneth Savage’s term expires Jan. 1.

“I believe the best thing available on the Eastern Shore of Virginia is its great environmental resources,” Emerson wrote in an application. “I would like to have an opportunity to help others appreciate what we have.”

Because of term limits, Gina Crockett was not eligible for another stint on the Eastern Shore Community Services Board. Eve Belote, of Melfa, expressed interest and was appointed.

It was also reported that full-time EMS staff were stationed at Melfa, Saxis, and Greenbackville Dec. 3. In addition, work on the county airport runway and lighting rehab project has been completed. The runway re-opened Dec. 7.

Accomack officials were recently notified that property damage during Hurricane Florence did not meet the financial threshold for recovery from FEMA, County Administrator Mike Mason said. The road that washed out at Hillsborough, near Belle Haven, was damaged a couple of days prior to the storm, he said.

Wishing Our Readers and Advertisers All the Joy of the Season.
Merry Christmas!
By Linda Cicoira

The death of Kain Michael Turner, a Northern Arizona University student from Modest Town, is continuing to be investigated by Flagstaff, Ariz., police. The cause and manner of death have not yet been determined by the medical examiner’s office there.

On Dec. 3, Turner’s body was found facedown in about two feet of water in the Rio de Flag canal, near where he was last seen.

A 30-page police report was released to the Eastern Shore Post this week. According to the document, Turner had gone to a sorority semi-formal on the evening of Dec. 2. “He was very intoxicated by the end of the formal, but he went home and changed into clothes to go out to the bars downtown.” At about 1 a.m., he was “kicked out of a bar.”

Turner’s fraternity brothers from the Nu Alpha chapter of Phi Gamma Delta went looking for him the next day after learning of his disappearance. They read on social media about the women who offered to help him. A report of Turner’s disappearance had been made to college police.

Austin Jones, a frat brother, “stated he and his friends were advised by NAU Police to not search for Kain, but they decided that they were going to search for him anyway.” During the search, Jones saw “what he thought was a backpack in the shallow, iced-over creek water. Upon closer inspection, he realized that it was a body, and it matched the description of what Kain was last seen wearing.”

After removing Turner’s body from the water, officers returned to the stream and raked the bottom where they found a wallet containing Turner’s ID, credit cards, photos, a cell phone, a vape, and a receipt from a local grocery store for alcohol Turner had purchased on Dec. 2.

Kristen Carney, of Flagstaff, told police she was downtown with two friends and saw the man she later learned was Turner, walking through shallow creek water. “She told me he looked extremely intoxicated,” an officer wrote. “He got out of the water ... and then tried to jump in a pile of snow, but didn’t make it and instead, he fell into the snow.”

Carney said she tried to help him but he indicated that he didn’t need any assistance. “Kristen noted he was stumbling as he walked away, walking westbound on Phoenix (Avenue).” Many hours later, after seeing a post published online by his friends, she went back to see if he had dropped anything that would help find him. She found nothing.

Another woman, who had been with Carney, said as Turner walked on Phoenix, they followed but lost sight of him near a bus transfer station. A worker from the medical examiner’s office said it was typical for it to take up to six weeks for a cause of death to be determined.

Turner had a black belt in karate and was a star high school wrestler and soccer player at Arcadia High School. His obituary said, “Kain had an infectious zest for life and was a born leader, always there to help those in need without question or complaint.”

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Arizona Authorities Continue To Investigate Death of Shore Native

Two Troopers Recognized by MADD

Two state troopers who are stationed on the Eastern Shore were recently recognized by MADD (Mothers Against Drunk Driving).

Trooper Brandon Tripp and Sr. Trooper Kurt J. Johnson received 2018 MADD Virginia Law Enforcement Awards and were part of a long list of those being honored from across the state by the group this month.
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Northampton Supervisors OK Funding for Auditorium Wall Repair

By Stefanie Jackson

A Northampton budget appropriation request for $33,426 to start immediately needed repairs on the high school's auditorium walls prompted objection from one supervisor Dec. 11.

Northampton schools will combine the funds with $65,116 left over from cafeteria wall repairs made about three years ago, for a total of $98,542, exactly double the bid made by the contractor hired.

Based on past experience with the cafeteria walls, school division staff suspects that once the brick veneer is removed from the auditorium walls, significant damage will be revealed, increasing project costs.

But Supervisor David Fauber said, “We had numerous engineers in there … nobody has pointed this out as being a real problem except for Speight, Marshall, Francis,” the school division’s regular structural engineer. He was referring to engineers who were interviewed to conduct a formal investigation of the high school’s condition.

“I’ve got a real problem with spending $65,000 on one spot in this whole scheme of things,” Fauber said. “If this needs to be done now and if this is twice what the project is really going to cost, then I say let the school board take it out of their maintenance budget and then fix it.”

Superintendent Eddie Lawrence answered, “Mr. Fauber, that is the request we’re making. … I would remind you, humbly, if I could, none of the engineering firms were taken up on top of that building to look at this particular wall. That was not part of the mandatory walkthrough in the request for proposals.”

An April letter to Northampton schools’ Director of Operations Chris Truckner from professional engineer Daniel Speight reported the auditorium walls have bowed eight to 12 inches and need to be repaired to prevent partial collapse.

Speight also said “the entire facility can best be described as fair to poor,” including the original 1954 building and the 1978 addition.

Northampton County’s finance director, John Chandler, views the high school’s woes as a cautionary tale. He recently discovered the courthouse’s nearly 14-year-old HVAC system has been failing for the past year. The building has been using emergency heat since last winter and the air conditioning didn’t work at all on several days over the summer.

The air conditioning was fixed, but it will cost $50,000 or more to repair the heating system, Chandler said.

He said, “I think what’s happened is, this is one of those projects similar to what could happen with the school. They fix what they thought was the problem and then, now there’s another problem, and another problem, and another problem.”

Chandler added the county will need to spend about $30,000 to extend the life of the courthouse roof another five years.

Spencer Murray, chairman of the board of supervisors, lamented the costs and advised staff to check the warranties on the HVAC system and roof.

“This is absolutely ridiculous,” he said. “I cannot believe we can’t build a building in this county that doesn’t last more than 14 years (without) major problems.”

But the county has an undesignated fund balance of about $8.5 million or $9 million saved for such unforeseen expenses, he added.

Fauber also disagreed with Northampton contributing $10,000 to the cost of the Hampton Roads Sanitation District conducting an engineering study to connect the sewer systems in Exmore, Nassawadox, Melfa, and Onancock. Each town will also contribute $10,000 toward the $100,000 study.

“Once this is engineered … is there any hope that it’ll ever be constructed?” he questioned.

Fauber pointed out Northampton previously paid for engineering of sewage projects in both the northern and southern ends of the county, but funding was never obtained.

Murray said the Northampton County Public Service Authority had

(Continued on Page 6)
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RESOLUTION

BE IT RESOLVED by the Northampton County Board of Supervisors, this 11th day of December, 2018, that the regular work session meeting of the Board, scheduled for Monday, December 24, 2018, commencing at 5:00 p.m., in the Board Chambers of the County Administration Building, 16404 Courthouse Road, Eastville, Virginia, be cancelled; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that, following this meeting, the date, time and place of the regular work session meeting of the Northampton County Board of Supervisors shall revert to the 4th Monday of each month, commencing at 5:00 p.m. in the Board Chambers of the County, 16404 Courthouse Road, Eastville, Virginia.

Adopted this 11th day of December, 2018.
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New State and Federal Requirements Bring High School Testing Changes

By Stefanie Jackson

On Tuesday night, the Accomack school board learned about the latest requirements under the state Standards of Accreditation (SOA) and the federal Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA) and the heavy impact those requirements will have on local public schools.

Director of Accountability and Curriculum Sandy Drummond explained that the new SOA mandates only affect high school students and Standards of Learning (SOL) testing as related to graduation requirements.

Students who pass a course and the accompanying SOL test (or another assessment approved by the Virginia Board Of Education) receive what is called a verified credit.

Students who have earned all the verified credits they need to graduate are not required to take any more SOL tests, even if SOL tests are available for the courses they are currently taking.

It's a “completely new way of thinking,” Drummond said.

Eliminating unnecessary testing may seem like a positive outcome, but there's a catch for school staff: they must account for every end-of-course test taken by each student, an exceedingly long and arduous task.

Additionally, if a student unintentionally takes one too many tests, staff must file a testing irregularity report within 24 hours of discovering the discrepancy.

The extra work falls on school testing coordinators.

School board member Gary Reese asked Drummond if that is the reason Gov. Ralph Northam wants Virginia schools to hire more guidance counselors. Accomack school guidance counselors will not be burdened with the extra workload, but hiring more guidance staff would help the division more closely align with Northam’s goal of maintaining a ratio of one guidance counselor for every 250 students in Virginia schools.

The current state average is one guidance counselor for every 425 students. Additionally, if a student unintentionally takes a science SOL, they will need to retake the exam. SOLs are not timed, whereas SOLs are.

Students working toward a standard diploma must earn 26 standard credits and nine verified credits in English, one in math, one in lab science, one in history or social science, and one in any additional course of their choice. Students working toward an advanced diploma must earn two verified credits in English, two in math, two in lab science, two in history or social science, and one in any additional course of their choice.

The new testing requirements take effect immediately; letters notifying parents of the changes will be sent home after Christmas break.

School board member George Waldenmaier disagrees with exempting students from exams for any reason.

“At the risk of being boringly redundant, I remain skeptical about exempting students from exams in general. I believe it disadvantages college-bound kids, to go to college where they’re going to live and die by exams, and then we minimize their exam exposure,” he said.

Director of Secondary Education Karen Taylor answered, “And with this policy change, they’re all going to be taking exams now.”

Waldenmaier also said that exempting students from exams influences their “lack of success on AP (advanced placement) tests, where kids are not used to the rigor.”

Taylor asserted that students struggle with AP tests because they are timed, whereas SOLs are not.

ESSA requires all high school students to take at least one science SOL and one math SOL before graduating. Virginia specifies the biology SOL and the Algebra I SOL as the required tests.

This incentivizes students to perform better in biology, because they can no longer rely on another course such as earth science to give them the verified credit in science needed for graduation, Taylor said.

Virginia high school students who entered ninth grade between the 2011-2012 and 2017-2018 school years must earn at least six verified credits to graduate. A student with six verified credits and 22 standard credits earns a standard diploma. A student with 26 standard credits and nine verified credits earns an advanced diploma.

Students working toward a standard diploma must earn two verified credits in English, one in math, one in lab science, one in history or social science, and one in any additional course of their choice.

The new testing requirements take effect immediately; letters notifying parents of the changes will be sent home after Christmas break.
Hallwood Man Sentenced for Assault

A Hallwood man will be sentenced next year for assaulting an Accomack County Public School administrator and a police officer, according to court records.

Thomas Wayne Bowden, 19, of Savannah Road in Hallwood, pleaded guilty to misdemeanor assault and battery of Deputy Mark Anthony Coulbourne and Assistant Principal Shaun O'Shea of Arcadia High School. Sentencing was scheduled for March 21. He was initially charged with felony assault and battery of an officer.

Coulbourne said he was called to the office to deal with an unruly student, the file stated. “I was told by Mr. O’Shea that he was assaulted … When I went to control Bowden, he came behind me and tackled me on a table. Mr. O’Shea had to assist to restrain Bowden as I proceeded to handcuff him.” The incident occurred on April 4.

In another case, Akease Da’Zhonn Downing, 22, of Pratt Lane in Onancock, pleaded guilty to eluding police in connection with a May incident. A pre-crown, pleaded guilty to eluding police in Onan-

Tangier Man Sentenced For Drug Crimes

A Tangier Island man was sentenced Monday in Northampton Circuit Court to five years in prison for a drug crime. All but four months was suspended for possession with intent to distribute marijuana in connection with a Nov. 3, 2017, offense. Sentencing was set for April 8.

Derick Clay Klein, of Cape Charles, was given a three-year suspended sentence for stealing a firearm. He pleaded not guilty in June to the Dec. 5, 2017, charge. Indefinite probation was ordered.

Robert Lee Siddens, of Exmore, will not be prosecuted for a count of unlawful injury of a law enforcement officer on Feb. 24. He pleaded guilty to a misdemeanor count of reckless driving and was fined $380. He also admitted guilt to misdemeanor charges of failure to yield to an emergency vehicle.

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Obituaries

Kathleen Elaine Benson

Ms. Kathleen Elaine Benson departed this world on Dec. 9, 2018. She was born on Dec. 17, 1950, in East Hartford, Conn., the second eldest child of Burnal and Gloria Benson.

From the start, Kathleen (known as Kathy by her friends and family, Mama to her daughters and grandchildren) exhibited a deep love and appreciation for nature which continued throughout her life. Her beloved menagerie over the years included not only rescued dogs and cats, but also parakeets, squirrels, turtles, ducks, geese, chickens, raccoons, and mourning doves. She possessed the deepest shade of a green thumb and could regularly be found happily tending to her thriving flower gardens, veggie gardens, herb gardens, and lustrous array of indoor plants. Every August she loved to gather with her family under the dark of indoor plants. Every August she loved to gather with her family under the dark of indoor plants. Every August she loved to gather with her family under the dark of indoor plants.

Kathy was a rarity in this often hard and cynical world. She possessed a sweet nature and a trusting and loving soul. She was compassionate, sincere, and earnest; opening her heart to every soul she encountered, whether those she knew for years or people she encountered on her daily errands. She had a brilliant wit which delighted all those who knew her. Her eccentric and silly outlook on life was an inspiration to all who knew her.

Kathy is survived by her three daughters, Willow Zieger and her husband, Adam, of Eastville, Robyn Hartley and her husband, Joseph, of Richmond, Va., and Larisa King and her husband, Perry, of Davis, Calif. She frequently expressed pride and love for her daughters, into whom she instilled kindness, open-heartedness, gratitude, and awe for the magical world she brought them into. She also leaves behind her mother, Gloria Benson, of East Hartford, Conn.; three sisters, Karen Tavernier and her husband, Dave, Kim Beaver and her husband, Rick, and Kris Benson, as well as one brother, Keith Benson and his wife, Anna, all of Connecticut. She leaves her five grandchildren, Linsey Otto and her husband, Tyler Thorns, of Virginia Beach, Va., Lily and Noah Hartley of Richmond, Va., and Atticus and Coen King of Davis, Calif.; a great-granddaughter, Luna Thorns, of Virginia Beach, Va.; and her beloved doggy and longtime best friend, Munchkin.

Memorial contributions may be made to the SPCA Eastern Shore, Inc., P.O. Box 164, Onley, VA 23418.

Online condolences may be sent to the family at www.doughtyfuneralhome.com.

Arrangements were made by the Doughty Funeral Home in Exmore.

Janice Elizabeth Bickel

Mrs. Janice Elizabeth Bickel, 84, of Chincoteague Island, passed away on Dec. 16, 2018, at Hartley Hall in Pocomoke City, Md. She was born in Tyrone, Pa. on March 28, 1934, to the late Clair and Millie Phillips Ray Sr.

She was a member of Union Baptist Church and Daughters of Ruth Sunday School Class.

Mrs. Bickel is survived by her son, Kenneth Lee Clark, of Cresson, Pa.; husband, George Bickel, of Snow Hill, Md.; brother, Clair Leroy Ray Jr. and his wife, Leah, of Tyrone, Pa.; and several nieces and nephews.

A graveside service was held on Dec. 19, 2018, at the Daisey Cemetery, Church Street, Chincoteague, with the Rev. Kevin Eley officiating.

Donations may be made to Union Baptist Church, 6365 Church Street, Chincoteague, VA 23336.

Services were entrusted to Salyer Funeral Home Inc. on Chincoteague. Condolences may be made online at www.salyerfh.com.

Patrick C. Boole

Mr. Patrick C. “Buddy” Boole, 86, of Franktown, passed away peacefully on Dec. 13, 2018, at Riverside Shore Memorial Hospital. He is survived by Connie Neff Boole, his devoted wife of 51 years.

Born on May 23, 1932, he was the son of Patrick C. and Margaret Viola Boole. He fought a long courageous battle against polio as a child and became a successful farmer in the Franktown area. He loved horses his entire life and for many years had several horses involved in harness racing. He also enjoyed hunting and fishing. He was a loving Christian and member of Franktown United Methodist Church.

Other than his wife, he is survived by three daughters, Deanna (DeeDee) Boole, Monica (Mimi) Layne and her husband, Douglas, of Franktown, and Patricia “Patti” Royston and her husband, James, of Boyce, Va.; and seven grandchildren, Rebecca Espinosa (Fernando), Joseph Boole, Richard Colona, USCG Fireman Robert Freschi III, Caleigh Freschi, Orie Royston and Emmalee Royston; four sisters, Rose Johnson, of Exmore, Frances Ball, of New York, Margaret “Peggy” Downing, of Franktown, and Dorothy Stauffer (Lynn), of Melfa; and numerous nieces, nephews, and cousins.

He was preceded in death by his parents; his brother, Richard Floyd Boole; and several beloved nieces and nephews.

A funeral service was conducted Dec. 17, 2018, at Franktown United Methodist Church.

In lieu of flowers, the family request donations may be made to ARC Eastern Shore, P.O. Box 626, Exmore, VA 23350, or to the charity of one’s choice.

Dawn Evans Dize

Mrs. Dawn Evans Dize, 79, beloved mayor, longtime councilwoman, and lifelong resident of Onley, passed away peacefully on Sunday, Dec. 16, 2018, with her loving family at her side.

Born June 14, 1939, in Onley, she was the daughter of the late James Twyford Evans and Winnie Core Evans and de- voted wife of the late Richard Wayne Dize Sr. She is survived by her two children, Wayne Dize and wife, Anne, of Onancock, and Cyndi Franklin, of Locustville; brother, Jerry Evans and wife, June, of Onley; nephew, Terry Evans and wife, Julie; niece, Beverly Dize; and great-nephews, Josh Evans and wife, Amanda, and Cody Evans. In addition to her parents and husband, she was preceded by her niece, Holly June Evans.

Following high school, Mrs. Evans began working for Watson Furniture Company, where she remained until she and Dickie started a family. After working various places, including Fashion Eye, while her children were school age, she accepted a position as bookkeeper for the Eastern Shore News, retiring as credit manager for the Daily Times with 42 years of dedicated service to the Gannett Company. As the current mayor of Onley, Mrs. Dize was very passionate about her hometown, also serving more than 18 years on the town council and was a faithful member of the Onley Baptist Church.

Sweet, strong, selfless - words that describe an incredible woman, wife, mother, sister, and friend who will be greatly missed by loved ones and her community.

Funeral services were held at the Onley Baptist Church on Wednesday, Dec. 19, 2018, with the Rev. John Burr officiating.

Memorial contributions may be made to the Riverside Shore Cancer Center, P.O. Box 430, Onancock, VA 23417.

Memory tributes may be shared with the family at www.williamsfuneralhomes.com.

Arrangements were made by the Williams-Onancock Funeral Home.

Benjamin Davis Hutchinson

Mr. Benjamin Davis Hutchinson, 81, husband of Shirley Custis Hutchinson and a resident of Onancock, passed away Wednesday, Dec. 12, 2018, at Riverside Shore Memorial Hospital.

He was born on June 2, 1937, in Davis Wharf, to the late Leonard S. and Elizabeth D. Hutchinson. Mr. Hutchinson graduated from Central High School, attended the University of Virginia, graduated from Goldey-Beacom College, and served in the U.S. Army. Mr. Hutchinson served as finance director for the Acco-
mack County School Board Office, retiring in 1992. He was a member of the Onancock Elks Lodge, B.P.O.E. #1766, Peninsula Tractor Organization, and the original local Antique Automobile Club. He was an avid collector of antique toys, tools, and cars and could be found at most local auctions.

In addition to his wife of 45 years, he is survived by two sons, B. Jeffery Hutchinson (Amy) and David R. Hutchinson (Carrie), all of Melfa; stepdaughter, Polly G. Stern of Exmore; sister, Mary Porter Lumgair (Dave) of Craddockville; grandchildren, Walker F. Stern, Parker C. Stern, Nicholas E. Hutchinson, and N. Evan Brown; nephew, David Lumgair; nieces, Beth Lumgair and Melanie Pruitt; and sister-in-law, Janet Hickman. The family would like to acknowledge the kindness and caring of his caregiver, Michael Harmon.

A funeral service was conducted from the graveside at the Fairview Lawn Cemetery on Dec. 16, 2018, with the Rev. J. Barton Weakley officiating.

In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to the Michael J. Fox Foundation, Donation Processing, P.O. Box 5014, Hagerstown, MD 21741-5014 (www.michaeljfox.org), or to Riverside Shore Hospice. Interment followed at the Fairview Lawn Cemetery in Onancock.

Memorial tributes may be shared with the family at www.williamsfuneralhomes.com

Arrangements were made by the Williams-Parksley Funeral Home.

Janet Catherine Janos

Mrs. Janet Catherine Janos, 79, wife of Frank Janos and a resident of Onancock, passed away Dec. 22, 2018, at the same residence where he was born on Dec. 19, 1924.

He slept in the same bedroom for all of his life and shared it with his beloved wife, Violet P. Mears, for over 70 years. He was predeceased by his parents, Otho Stewart and Murtle Smith Mears.

Mr. Mears’ life’s work included farming, raising chickens, auctioneering, and consulting in antiquities. He and Mrs. Mears were the proprietors of Barnyard Auction from 1973 to 2000.

As a self-proclaimed antique fanatic, Mr. Mears spent the past few years creating his own museum of agricultural history, where he spent endless hours researching, displaying, and sharing unique items acquired primarily from the Eastern Shore. This “hobby” led him to write his own book entitled “Back in Time with O.W. Mears” earlier this year.

In the 1950s, Mr. Mears became one of the first deer hunters on the Eastern Shore, and this passion remained an important part of his life right up until last month when he and Lennie hunted, and Mr. Mears bagged his last deer.

While his activities varied from time-to-time, two times of the day were rarely missed. Meeting friends at The Club Car each morning held a chance to catch up on the news around town, and just as important, a chance to tell one of his thousands of stories. (Mr. Mears’ stories included an infinite number of details that took his audience from the beginning to the end of each tale, as if the listener were present during the event described.) And then came four o’clock in the afternoon when his best friend Carl Thornton picked him up to go out for coffee. On good days and bad, when Carl arrived, Mr. Mears put on his coat and was out the door.

A man of great passions, Mr. Mears held his family and friends with love, and he never allowed a moment in nature to pass without noticing and expressing gratitude. He was sometimes referred to as a historian of the Eastern Shore, not only because of his storehouse of knowledge but because of his deep abiding love of his home and all that surrounded it.

Other than his wife, he is survived by his son, Otho L. “Lennie” Mears and wife, Suzanne, of Spotsylvania, Va.; grandchildren, Lucy Beadnell and husband, Ray, of Arlington, Va., Katie Pendergraft and husband, Chris, of Charlotte, N.C., Ryan Goodrich and wife, Heather of Richmond, Va., and Adam Goodrich and wife, Jenny, of Elkton, Va.; 13 grandchildren; two sisters-in-law, Sydney Davis, of Salisbury, Md., and Norma Fletcher, of Quinby; brother-in-law Brooks Pruitt and his wife, Sharon, of Onancock; and numerous nieces, nephews and many close friends.

A funeral service was held on Saturday, Dec. 15, at 11 a.m., at Zion Baptist Church in Parksley, with the Rev. Andrew Matthews officiating. Interment was private, and reception followed at the church hall.

Arrangements are by Thornton Funeral Home in Parksley.

To sign the guest book online, visit: www.thorntonfuneralhome.net

Bonnie Lou Perdue

Ms. Bonnie Lou Perdue, 64, of Richmond, Va., passed away at her residence on Sunday, Dec. 9, 2018.

Born Dec. 30, 1953, in Nassawadox, Va., Ms. Perdue was the daughter of Alice Mason Perdue, of Parksley, and the late M.J. Perdue. She was a planning operations administrator and clerk to the Chesterfield County Planning Commission.

In addition to her mother, survivors include her daughter, Lauren Perdue, of Chesterfield, Va.; a brother, M.J. Perdue Jr. and his wife, Candy, of Parksley; and a granddaughter, Brooke Perdue.

Funeral services were conducted from the chapel of the Williams-Parksley Funeral Home on Dec. 17, 2018, with the Rev. Alan Layman officiating. Interment followed at the Fairview Lawn Cemetery in Onancock.

Memorial donations may be made to the Mike J. Fox Foundation, Donation Processing, P.O. Box 5014, Hagerstown, MD 21741-5014.

Online condolences may be sent to the family at www.williamsfuneralhomes.com.

Arrangements were made by the Williams-Parksley Funeral Home.
By Stefanie Jackson

For the sixth time in a row, the National Science Foundation awarded the University of Virginia a six-year grant for its long-term ecological research project spanning 36 years on the Eastern Shore.

The Anheuser-Busch Coastal Research Center, in Oyster, The Nature Conservancy (TNC), and the Virginia Institute of Marine Science (VIMS) are among the organizations cooperating to conduct the ongoing research with the goal of understanding the relationships among the barrier islands, marshes, and coastal bays, said Karen McGlathery, the research project’s director.

For example, the barrier islands are protected by the marshes, which are in turn protected by oyster reefs, she said.

The current research trend represents a major shift since the project began in the 1980s, when each ecological area was studied in isolation.

One of the project’s most significant recent discoveries is that small storms do the most damage, not the big storms like Hurricane Sandy, McGlathery said.

Cora Johnston, director of the Oyster research lab, previously explained gentle waves lapping against the marsh cause more erosion than major storm surge, which covers the marsh, weakening wave action.

Researchers have also found an abundance of invasive seaweed in the seagrass undergoing restoration in the Shore’s coastal bays, but the seaweed is not necessarily a nuisance, because shorebirds are feeding on it, McGlathery said.

The seagrass restoration project, spearheaded by TNC and VIMS, may play an important role in climate change and what McGlathery calls “marine heat waves” — when water temperature highs rise above normal.

Seagrass removes carbon dioxide from the atmosphere at high rates.

The seagrass restoration also improves water quality and increases biodiversity, she said.

McGlathery has studied coastal waters and seagrass from Bermuda to Denmark, so her current position is a natural fit. She has worked on the UVA project since 1996 and has directed it for the last 15 years.

Because TNC provides the Anheuser-Busch Coastal Research Center with the land to study and the lab provides the conservation organization with landscape management resources, McGlathery calls their relationship the “perfect marriage.”
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By Linda Cicone

Otho Washington Mears was born in a house outside of Parksley and lived there his entire 93 years. The auctioneer, historian, and storyteller, and his wife of 70 years, Violet Mears, were a team for decades at their barnyard sales where people gathered to find treasurers, socialize, and eat pound and layer cakes that she made and sold by the slice.

As news of his Dec. 12 death spread across the Eastern Shore late last week, folks from here and across Virginia noted their fondness for Mears and the great loss to the community. Violet Mears declined to speak about her long-time husband as the hurt was too new to bear. But others who loved him had plenty to say about the man whose face would light up with excitement when he told a tale or spoke of an antique hog scale.

Just months ago, Mears was describing Violet Mears’ hunting feats with pride and admiration that painted a picture of her in a clearing, raising up a big gun and getting a shot at a deer.

“To me, Otho was one of a kind — great auctioneer, great joke and storyteller, and just a neat, neat person,” Samuel Updike Jr., of Fredericksburg, wrote on the funeral home’s site. “It was my pleasure to call him friend and to enjoy his stories.”

“I met him when I first moved to Parksley, living across the street from his mother, Myrtle,” wrote Joan Selby, of Chincoteague. “Glad that I got to know him and some of his family. I enjoyed O.W.’s auctions, his stories, and acts of kindness.” He was “a true gentleman and a unique Eastern Shore treasure.”

“If it wasn’t nailed down and he could get money for it, he would sell it,” Lennie Mears said Tuesday of his father. “He was quite the historian. He knew pretty much everything about the Eastern Shore and places where old cemeteries were and places that held the oldest buildings.”

Some of that information was delivered naturally to Otho Mears as his ancestors came here from England around 1650. Bartholomew Mears was a sharecropper who arrived as an indentured servant and rose up to own “a fair amount of land,” Lennie Mears said.

George and Elizabeth Mears, Otho Mears’ grandparents, built the homeplace in 1913. Lennie Mears has George Mears’ shotgun from 1910. “And still in excellent shape. Dad was a keeper of everything old, well, pretty much everything.”

The family is now looking for bronze stars that Otho S. Mears, Lennie Mears’ “Pop-Pop,” was awarded after being gassed twice while taking cover in foxholes in France during World War I. The information was on discharge papers the auctioneer saved. His father “never told a soul,” Lennie Mears said. “I have no idea about it. All my grandfather told me about the war was how much he liked the French women and how much he liked to box.”

That love for sports didn’t flow over to the son. “My dad wasn’t into that at all,” Lennie Mears said. “Probably didn’t watch a football game in his life. He wasn’t interested in that whatsoever. He’d watch old movies and the news at night like ‘Gone With the Wind’ and old westerns.”

“My grandfather started to do this, auctioneering, probably (in the) late ’40s, maybe ’50s. My father didn’t show any enthusiasm about it” at first. “But when you work on a farm, you did whatever you had to do.”

The older man had two sales going in one day and thought the first would be over before the second had begun but it didn’t work out that way and younger Otho Mears was left to finish the first auction.

“He had never done it before,” Lennie Mears said. But when the father returned, someone told him he need not come back as Otho W. Mears was “better than you. After that, my father started practicing and he became quite enamored with it and did auctions everywhere in Delmarva … then he started collecting. He was really into the oldest and most obscure things.”

Lennie Mears’ grandfather got to see two auctions at the Mears’ barnyard location. “Back when I was younger, he had some historic auctions. With all the major (decoy) carvers. Mid-1970s decoys were bringing $1,200 or $1,600 apiece, which was unheard of at the time.”

Lennie Mears didn’t come back to the Shore to live after going away to college. “He (his father) was sort of set in stone here and I was in the modern world learning to do things faster … Only in the last few years, I came to appreciate the older things … He actually retired in 2000. Probably in the mid to late 1990s, he started doing some things outside of the barn — helped other auctioneers. When he closed the barn down that was the most amazing sale of all.” Chester Jackson, of Countryside Auctions, and Zeb Barfield, of ZBB Inc. in Hallwood, worked for Mears.

Otho Mears asked his son to take his pick
before the big sale. He had his eye on a hundred-year-old window from an old post office. Otho Mears had estimated it to be worth $400 or $500. “Put it through, I’ll bid on it,” he told his dad.

“We had the sale at the Owl Restaurant.” Lennie Mears said. “Visiting auctioneers were there. When that window came up for auction, the first bid was $1,000.” He said his father looked at him asking what he wanted. “I shrugged, ‘do what you got to do.’” The window sold for $4,000. Lennie Mears had picked out the Mears Railroad sign he admired.

Lennie Mears said a year or two ago, his dad refused to show any antiques to the American Pickers. “He liked the show until they went to a store in Maryland with three stories, flew through it, and didn’t do him (the owner) justice.”

Carl Thornton, also of Parksley, met Otho Mears when Thornton was about 12 and attended auctions with his mother. “He would take me hunting, which was the love of his life. Of course, I loved auctions … We just continued to be friends and close. Not many holidays or birthday occasions that we weren’t together.” One such occasion was just a couple of days before Mears’ death. For the last 15 to 20 years, until the Royal Farms closed far refurbishing, the two would go there for coffee. “I would pick him up every afternoon at 4 o’clock … My afternoon entertainment. He was an entertainer. Believe me.”

“I learned many, many things from him historically and otherwise,” Thornton said. When they couldn’t go to that store in Nelsonia instead. “He died on Tuesday. And I took him to coffee the Friday before. On Saturday we celebrated Tuesday. And I took him to coffee the Friday before. On Saturday we celebrated Tuesday. And I took him to coffee the Friday before.”

Thornton talked about Mears’ hog scale collection. “He had all different sizes, from 1,500 pounds on down, and memorabilia.” Mears bought a bear trap once. “He marveled at how it was made. After that, it was my quest to buy a bear trap for myself. Anything he did like that, I had to try to top it. We had so many common interests, it was easy to become a friend and talk on a daily basis. I saw him every day of my life.”

Thornton said Mears also came to the Club Car Cafe in the morning “for coffee and to talk — to solve the world problems.”

“He had all kinds of decoys go through there, Hudsons and Hancock’s, and of course, the auction of Verna Cobb,” said carver Grayson Chesser. “Cobb had all kinds of things from the family that came from Cobb Island … unfinished heads — by Nathan Cobb who was one of the most famous carvers that was — made from holly limbs. Root heads, that was one of the things that he was so famous for. Natural curves that would be really impossible” to duplicate.

“That was a major auction,” said Chesser. “I paid $700 for a stool that had Elkanannah Cobb’s initial in the bottom, underneath of it. They did that with a lot of things they owned before there was a brand. I bought it for somebody else … Lord knows we had good times there.”

Chesser also went hunting with Mears. “He hired me to take him goose hunting one time years and years ago. He was a heck of an auctioneer. He had a great crew too. Violet could make cakes. Otho killed the first deer, a buck in 1947, during the first open season for deer hunting on the Eastern Shore. There were hardly any deer back then. So, before that, there was no deer season.”
By Krystle Bono, Submitted Photos

’Tis the season for giving, and Jacob Parks Personal Training and its gym members came together this past week to help make 35 children’s holiday a little bit brighter.

The gym held a wrapping party over the weekend to put together the many different items that would eventually make it to the adopted families in need. The gifts were delivered Tuesday afternoon to Occohannock Elementary, where the majority of the children attend school.

Left: Owner Jacob Parks (sitting, bottom right) with the members of his gym during the wrapping party last weekend in Cheriton.
Below: Many gifts were delivered Tuesday to OES.
Bottom: Principal Shirley Auguste, presents gym representatives Liz Jones and Helene Doughty with a certificate during the gift drop-off.
By Krystle Bono

Last Thursday, the Yellow Jackets hosted the Chincoteague Ponies and retired the boys to a 84-49 final tally.

Leading the Yellow Jackets in the win were Jawaun Bell and Vonte Coston, who each contributed 15 points. Kasai Clark netted 13 in the win.

Jeremiah Major rebounded the team high with seven, and Bell assisted the most for the Yellow Jackets at 10.

The Ponies leading scorer was Trent Clark, who netted 23 points. Ayden Leonard potted 10.

Clark also assisted the most for Chincoteague, tossing eight, and Braden Watson grabbed five rebounds.

Monday night, Chincoteague suffered a road loss to Wicomico, 79-28. They are scheduled to pick up again Jan. 4 at Crisfield High.

The Ponies fell to Surry County Saturday afternoon in Eastville, 74-54.

Bell paved the way in points for the Yellow Jackets, putting up 16. Corey Smith had the most rebounds, grabbing seven.

Northampton battled Lancaster on their home court Tuesday night in Eastville,retiring the visitors to a 73-68 final count.

Clark led the Yellow Jacket swarm this go-round, hooping 28 points. Bell scored 22 points with 10 assists and Coston posted 18 with eight rebounds and five assists.

The Broadwater Vikings boys team fell to Nansemond-Suffolk Saturday afternoon, 82-43, at the NSA Holiday Classic. They will be back in action after the new year, on Jan. 8, at Portsmouth Christian.

Last Wednesday, the Nandua Warriors defeated the Arcadia Firebirds in Oak Hall by a 51-47 count.

Nandua dropped a 72-36 loss to the Red Devils Monday night at Lancaster.

The Arcadia boys traveled to Snow Hill Monday night, and fell to the Eagles, 68-55. They will be back on the court Jan. 3 to battle the Warriors in Onley.

Nandua fell to Lancaster Monday night, 56-23, in Onley. They are set for a Jan. 3 game in Oak Hall against the Firebirds.

The Broadwater Vikings girls team are set to play Portsmouth Christian Jan. 8 on the road.

Matthews Formally Commits to UMES Baseball

Story and Photo by Krystle Bono

Chincoteague's Todd Matthews said baseball is something he knew he wanted—and needed—to continue to have in his life, and Tuesday afternoon, he formally signed his commitment to play with the Division I University of Maryland Eastern Shore baseball program.

Matthews, a big fan of the Baltimore Orioles, says he had a rough go along the way, having to undergo surgery, which put a damper on his game. He knew after overcoming that, he had to make the most of his recovery, and do whatever it took to continue playing on the next level.

The future Hawk has played ball since he was T-ball aged, and has loved the sport ever since. He mentioned his time playing with the Ponies as being the most memorable.

“I’ve really been stuck with baseball my whole life. My Pop-Pop influenced me to be as good as I can in baseball and has just really helped me out. It’s just been a long and tough run,” reflects Matthews.

Surrounded by his family and friends, Matthews acknowledged the tremendous support he has received, but says his Pop-Pop is especially important to him, and is the main source of his inspiration and motivation to continue playing.

Submitted Photo

Seven Northampton varsity football players were recently selected to the 1A All-Region first and second teams. Kasai Clark was a first team defensive pick. Cresencio Sugia (offense), Josh Splawn (offense and defense), Carlton Smith (offense), Tyrone Cephas (defense), Corey Smith (defense), and Trip Wescoat (defense) were all second team selections. Pictured from left to right: Athletic Director Richard Wilfong, Assistant Principal Charles King, Trip Wescoat, Josh Splawn, Corey Smith, Kasai Clark, Cresencio Sugia, Tyrone Cephas, and Head Coach John Edney. Not pictured is Carlton Smith.
By Krystle Bono

The Nandua Warriors varsity wrestling club defeated Peninsula Catholic, 48-27, and Norfolk Christian Academy, 69-12, Dec. 12 on the road. The boys competed in the King of Beasts tournament last Saturday at Tallwood High School, with Joseph Castiglia placing second, Jaheim Gaskins and David Gastelum earning third, and James Burr bringing home fourth.

The Northampton Yellow Jackets traveled to Norfolk Academy last Saturday to grapple in the Norfolk Academy Invitational, finishing 11th overall in a field of 15 teams.

Individually, Azmani Joseph earned fourth in the 138-pound weight bracket at the Norfolk Invitational last Saturday. Northampton’s Azmani Joseph finished fourth in the 138-pound weight bracket at the Norfolk Invitational last Saturday.

Nandua met Seafor first, and retired them to a score of 51-27.

Warrior Jalik Davis fell to Seafor’s Zachary Johnson in the 138-pound match. Nandua’s 145-pounder, James Burr, topped Tashawn Brooks by fall.

Another Warrior win came in the 152-pound match with Cameron Mears defeating John French by pin.

Nandua’s Gastelum topped Seafor’s Jeremiah Lofton in the 160-pound match, and Warrior teammate Cooper Leighton won the 170-pound battle over Seafor’s David Clagg.

Seafor would claim the 182 and 195-pound matches, with Thane Grimes topping Nandua’s Joseph Teasley and Karlrey Bennefield defeating Damani Baines.

Castiglia claimed the 220-pound battle in favor of the Warriors over Seafor’s Taion Jenkins.

The 285 match went to Seafor’s William Despagne over Nandua’s Gaskins by a decision of 2-1.

Nandua’s Ben Stodghill defeated Daniel Santos by fall in the 106 match.

Joe Prendergast took a forfeit at 113 and Julio Vasquez took one at 120 for the Warriors.

The 126 matchup went in favor of Elton Joseph over Nandua’s Matthew Taylor.

Nandua’s Dylan Ross over Seafor’s Tristan Ruark at 132 by a decision of 8-5.

King’s Fork was next, and the Warriors unleashed another win, 54-24.

Nandua’s Burr topped Dominic Shepherd, of King’s Fork, in the 145 match.

Mears captured the win in the 152 grapple-off for the Warriors over Anthony Bufano.

The 160-pound battle went to Nandua’s Gastelum over Andrew Bender.

Kirk Bond Jr. of King’s Fork grabbed the win over Nandua’s Cooper Leighton in the 170-pound matchup, and King’s Fork struck again in the 182 battle with a win by Leo Wethington over Teasley.

Baines took a forfeit for Nandua in the 195 match, and teammate Castiglia grabbed the same at 220.

The 285 round was a win for Nandua, with Robert Misuna topping Da’Jour Lewis, of King’s Fork, by fall.

Aydan Mcgathey, of King’s Fork, grabbed the 106-pound win over Nandua’s Stodghill.

Nandua’s Prendergast (113), Vasquez (120), and Carlo Balmoria (126) took forfeits in their respective matches.

Alijah Wyatt, of King’s Fork, one-upped Nandua’s Ross by fall in the 132 battle, but the Warriors would come out on top in the last matchup against King’s Fork, with Tyler Green taking the win in the 138-pound faceoff over George Vazquez, 14-12.

Northampton also battled Seafor and King’s Fork; the boys fell 48-21 to Seafor, but defeated King’s Fork, 46-18.

Northampton’s Trenton Johnson defeated Tashawn Brooks by a decision of 12-11 in the 145-pound match to start off the dual against Seafor.

Joseph earned the win over Seafor’s French by a fall time of 1:35 for the Yellow Jackets at 152.

Seafor’s Lofton took the forfeit at 160, but Northampton’s Peart grabbed the 170 match win over Clagg by fall of 1:27.

Grimes earned the win for Seafor over Northampton’s Gavin Brittingham by a fall time of 4:36 at 182.

Seafor would strike again defeating Yellow Jacket Jeremiah Gonzalez-Demers in the 195-pound match.

Seafor’s 220-pounder, Bennefield, topped Northampton’s Josh Splawn, and Despagne pinned Northampton’s Sugia in the 285-pound match.

Santos took a forfeit for Seafor at 106, and the 126 battle would ultimately end up in favor of Seafor’s Joseph over Yellow Jacket Alonzo Capers.

Northampton’s Brandon Odom topped Seafor’s Ruark by a fall time of 1:11 at 132, and Seafor’s 138-pound grapple, Zachary Johnson, took a forfeit to for Northampton’s final matchup.

Peart got things rolling for the Yellow Jackets against King’s Fork with a win in his 170-pound battle over Bond by major decision of 13-0.

The 182 match went to Wethington over Northampton’s Brittingham, and Gonzalez-Demers and Splawn took for-

(Continued on Page 22)
~ Wrestling ~

(Continued From Page 21)

Young angler Gregory Lessard caught a 43.5-pound citation rockfish last week in Northampton County.

Sugia won the 285-pound match over Portes in favor of the Yellow Jackets by a fall time of 2:43.

The 106 match was a forfeit for McGathey of King’s Fork, and the 126 match was forfeited to Northampton’s Capers.

Odom pinned Wyatt of King’s Fork by a fall time of 3:34 in the 132-pound battle.

King’s Fork took the forfeit in the next match, and the 145 match followed, with Johnson pinning Shepherd in 27 seconds to take the victory for the Yellow Jackets.

Northampton’s Joseph finished things off with the 152 match, pinning Bufano in 47 seconds.

The Yellow Jackets were last on the mat against the Warriors, with the rivals going head-to-head for the first time this season. Nandua came out on top, earning the 51-26 victory over Northampton.

Nandua’s Mears won the 152-pound match over Joseph by a 12-7 decision.

Gastelum took a forfeit in the next round, and Northampton’s Peart topped Hickman by pin in 36 seconds.

Nandua’s Teasley grabbed the 182 win over Brittingham by a fall time of 1:07, and Baines topped Yellow Jacket Gonzalez-Demers by fall of 1:09 at 195.

The 220 match went to Northampton’s Splawn over Castiglia, and the 285 battle was won by Yellow Jacket Sugia over Misuna by fall of 2:53.

Stodghill, Prendergast, and Vasquez grabbed forfeits at 106, 113, and 120, respectively, for the Warriors.

Northampton’s Capers topped Balmoria by tech fall at 126, and teammate Odem earned the 132 win for the Yellow Jackets over Ross by fall of 2:38.

Nandua’s Davis nabbed the forfeit at 138, and the 145 match went to Nandua’s Burr over Northampton’s Johnson by a fall time of 3:27.

Broadwater’s William Wehner also participated, winning by major decision over Seaford’s Santos, 14-0, by major decision of 8-0 over Nandua’s Stodghill, and by fall over McGathey, of King’s Fork, in 56 seconds.

The Nandua Warriors and Arcadia Firebirds will compete in the Parkside Holiday Tournament in Salisbury this weekend. The Yellow Jackets are back in action Dec. 28, at Great Bridge for the Colon E. Baker Classic.

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Submitted Photo

Lessard Lands Citation

Young angler Gregory Lessard caught a 43.5-pound citation rockfish last week in Northampton County.
Team Earning Stripes (Captain Greg Allmen, with team members Chad Parks, Mike Lewis, and Richard Buscher) placed seventh overall in the rockfish shootout.

Team Sho-Nuf with members (from L-R): Kenny Mills, Bill Doughty, and Clinton Lessard, placed second in the biggest fish category of the tournament, landing a 50.7-pound rock.
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<td>H 7:19 a.m. L 1:34 p.m.</td>
<td>H 8:08 a.m. L 2:24 p.m.</td>
<td>H 8:59 a.m. L 3:14 p.m.</td>
<td>H 9:50 a.m. L 4:05 p.m.</td>
<td>H 10:42 a.m. L 4:58 p.m.</td>
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Last Week's Answers

PASTIMES

Super Crossword

ACROSS
55 Spheres
56 Cliff nests
57 Seized
58 Part of CD
59 Thieves in
61 Actor Amaz
62 Jazz writer
63 Lone mountain
64 Nary a scull
65 Sliver gray
67 Silver of film
68 Special air
69 Fight against
70 Rendezvous
71 Hated hit for Peter
72 Very bad grade
73 Rodent
76 Squeezed (out)
77 Fishing boat
78 Chevy now called the
79 Sonic
80 Tune for two
81 Ulterior motives
82 Idylls
83 Inflating
84 Franklin of soul music
85 Ames’ home
86 Series with Agent 99
87 The eyes
91 Middle name of Poe
92 “I”
93 Hairstyle
94 Outrage
95 Vocabulary
96 Outrage
97 Battery terminal
98 Manhattan
99 Massive fight
100 Revelation
101 TiVo is one
102 For short
103 Slinging thing
104 Actress Page
105 T. — (big
circle)
106 Petty sniveler
107 Old vore
108 Small plane
109 Shrink for plane
110 Calm
111 Colorado’s
112 Sylvee
113 Silver of film
114 Special air
115 Fight against
116 Rendezvous
117 Hated hit for Peter
118 Very bad grade
119 Rodent

DOWN
1 Turned white
2 Stirred from sleep
3 Poet bird
4 Ideology
5 That woman
6 — tired
7 Musician
8 Sch. in
9 Father of
102 Breaking the
103 Silence

SUDOKU

Weekly SUDOKU by Linda Thistle

DIFFICULTY THIS WEEK: ★★★★☆

Place a number in the empty boxes in such a way that each row across, each column down and each small 9-box square contains all of the numbers from one to nine.
Winners of Delegate Bloxom’s Christmas Art Contest

Ashlyn Mears,
Grade 3,
Shore Christian Academy

Jack Conrad,
Grade 3,
Broadwater Academy

Genesis Gonzalez-Bartolon,
Grade 1,
Metompkin Elementary School

Yaritza Lopez-Mendez,
Grade 5,
Kegotank Elementary School

Honorable Mention
Charlotte Tyler, Grade 4, Broadwater Academy
Rheya Patel, Grade 5, Shore Christian Academy

Merry Christmas from Rob, Lou, Blaire, Madison, and Brant Bloxom
Paid for by Elect Bloxom for Delegate

'Tis Better To Give Than To Receive, Say Eastern Shore Post Readers

By Linda Cicoira

Most folks in Accomack and Northampton counties would rather give than receive during Christmastime, according to a survey conducted last week by the Eastern Shore Post. They use bags and paper wrap when readying their gifts, miss their mothers who have passed away, and enjoy getting together with family and friends on Dec. 25.

One hundred percent of those who answered the questionnaires said they call the jolly gift delivery man “Santa.”

“I am a giver every day, not just (during) the holiday season,” wrote Michael Stephano, of Cashville. He has fond memories of going fishing during the week of Christmas and of taking a ride with his father in the 1970s.

“We visited friends of his and my siblings in various New England college towns,” Stephano said. “We dodged the Christmas parade at home and hit the road.” This year, Stephano asked Santa for peace. His favorite Christmas song isn’t from the usual picks. “I remember albums at Christmas time. Elton John (and) ‘Yellow Brick Road come to mind.”

Nikki (Shawna) Davis, of Acconac, said if she could spend Christmas with anyone it would be her late mother, Evelyn M. “Sis” Davis, who died two years ago. “A mother’s love at Christmas is unexplainable,” she wrote. “It’s that mother-daughter, mother-granddaughter thing.”

The best present that Davis ever received that didn’t have a price tag was “love.” This year, she asked Santa for health and happiness. Davis leaves cookies out for the jolly man. She uses gift wrap and bags to prepare her gifts and likes both giving and receiving presents. Her favorite Christmas memories involve large family get-togethers. She picked “Happy Holidays,” sung by the Whispers, as her favorite Christmas song.

Johnson’s favorite Christmas memory is “riding around on Christmas night checking out Christmas lights and decorations across the Shore.” She would choose Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. if she could spend Christmas Day with anyone in the world. The reason — “To hear him speak on how to remain passionate in the midst of challenges.” This year, Johnson asked Santa for Uggs boots. Her favorite Christmas song is “Silent Night.”

“Seeing my grandson’s joy at getting a puppy” was the best Christmas present she ever received that didn’t cost anything. She uses both bags and gift wrap for the dozens of people to whom she gives gifts. “Giving is by far my favorite,” she wrote.

She usually leaves chocolate chip and sugar cookies for Santa. “Plus, in more recent years, my grandson says we have to leave apples for the reindeer.” Anthony LoFaso, of Onancock, has the happy memory of being seven and waking up to a brand new 26-inch bicycle on Christmas morning. His favorite Christmas song is “O Come, O Come, Emmanuel,” a Christian hymn for Advent and Christmas. The best present that didn’t have a price tag was “having an elderly gentleman, whom we called, ‘The Major,’ have Christmas dinner with us.”

LoFaso chooses wrapping presents over using gift bags. “I like to give gifts that I know people will appreciate and I like receiving gifts that show people put some thought and love into it.”

“My father had his own business when I was growing up,” wrote Robert Doughty, of South Chesconessex. “We could always tell if he made a lot of money that year by what was under the tree Christmas morning.” One year, “We got up and it looked like half of the Sears & Roebuck catalog was under the tree.”

Doughty would choose Shelby Foote to spend Christmas with if he could pick anyone. “His knowledge and story-telling about the Civil War were legendary.” The best Christmas present was when his “mother came home two days before Christmas” after having major surgery. “I much prefer giving to receiving,” Doughty said. He also chose
“Deck the Halls” by Mannheim Steamroller as his favorite Christmas tune.

Doug Hollingsworth, of Painter, prefers gift wrap to bags for presents. He would always pick his family to spend Christmas with and chose “Jingle Bells” as his favorite holiday song. Sometimes he leaves beer out for Santa.

Kimberly Perry, of Greenbush, remembers “waking up super early on Christmas morning, after Santa left presents. My sisters would take the presents and put them against heaters and try to pull the tape and peek at the presents. It did not work so well, not like we planned anyway.”

She would like to spend another Christmas with her grandparents. Perry asked Santa for maternity clothes, Christmas with her mother.

January and we all miss her so much.” Burton, director of the Eastern Shore Public Library, asked Santa for “a new regional library.” Her favorite Christmas Carol is “O Holy Night.” The best present is spending the day off with her children.

“My family re-uses wrapping paper each year, trying to see how many Christmases a piece can be ping paper each year, trying to see how many Christmases a piece can be reused,” wrote Burton. “Yes, we used to save and reuse icicles as well … We always left Santa a grilled cheese and glass of milk. I later learned it was because my Dad had worked all day at the hospital and needed nourishment before putting the toys together and having to get up and be on call the next day.”

Angie H. Crutchley, of Exmore, had a hard time naming one Christmas memory. “When I was a teenager, in the 90s, there was a great big snow/ice storm. We were snowed in for days. I loved the coziness of that and spending time with mom playing with our presents.” She picks her mother and her husband, Doug, for her Christmas companions. She asked Santa for “cold hard cash” his year. Crutchley’s favorite song is “Rudolph, the Red-Nosed Reindeer.”

“Everyone can be as noble as they want … I LOVE getting presents,” she wrote.

“There’s no shame in my game. Presents are exciting because of the mystery. I love surprises … but seriously, I just love the dinners and laughter I have with the family.”

Beverly Lynch, of Painter, remem-

(Continued on Page 30)
bers getting a pony for Christmas. She hates Christmas songs, hasn’t asked Santa for anything, and wraps and bags presents.

Sally Tuttle, of Wachapreague, longs for her mother’s cookies, “Cherry Winks.” If she could choose any Christmas guests, it would be “my whole family past and present.” Tuttle asked Santa for a new light for her foyer. Her favorite Christmas song is “Silent Night.” She wraps and puts gifts in bags and believes giving is better than receiving.

Carrie Jacobson, also of Wachapreague, said her favorite Christmas memory is “attending a midnight service with my husband, years ago, in Connecticut. The church was small and plain, and there weren’t many people there, but we sang and prayed, and I remember feeling strongly a feeling of celebration of the birth of Christ.” She would love to spend Christmas with her mother. “She has passed, but she loved Christmas more than anyone, took a delight in the whole thing, from the spiritual to the commercial to the decorative. Our house always looked lovely, we always had a crazy number of great presents and piles of fabulous food, and the spirit of the season, somehow, too.”

Jacobson has asked Santa for a new roof. “Ours is leaking.” Her favorite Christmas song is the Roches’ version of “Good King Wenceslas.” The best present was “when my husband, Peter, made me great pins and earrings … The pins are shaped like fish, and the earrings are like the flies he ties for fishing.” She wraps her presents. “My favorite thing is finding or making the right, great gift. My second favorite is receiving.”

Denise Bowden, of Chincoteague, remembers “paying off my grandmother’s furniture from Feldman Bros. one Christmas. She cried and cried over that and my heart felt so good to be able to help her out. I miss her so very much.” She wishes she could spend Christmas with her late dad. “He made Christmas so special every year. I miss his big Christmas breakfast that he would make for us.” Bowden asked Santa for health and happiness this year. Her favorite song is “Silver Bells.” “Seeing my loved ones’ faces this time of year is the best gift ever,” she said. “I detest bagging but sometimes it’s necessary. Giving is ‘definitely’ what she loves doing.”

Judy Hunt, of Captain’s Cove, has great memories of her family gathering to play games at Christmas. Her favorite song is “Let There Be Peace on Earth.” The best present she ever received that didn’t cost anything was “a gingerbread ornament my daughter made in kindergarten.” She likes “giving.”

Nicki Tiffany, of Cape Charles, remembers singing carols with her family. Her favorite song is “Mary, Have You Heard?” The best no-cost gift was a surprise visit by some faraway family members. She wraps her presents and loves giving.

David Martin, of Onancock, has favorite Christmas memories from when his sons were toddlers. He would always choose to be with family for the holiday “because I love them.” He asked Santa for another year of life. Martin’s favorite Christmas song is “Santa Is Back In Town” sung by Elvis Presley. He wraps presents he grows — loofahs.

Diana M. Davis, of Craddockville, remembers “little things, driving to Wachapreague with my face pressed against the window to see the stars, my grandmother’s three-tiered candy dish, her silver tree, Daddy putting the lights on the tree and fussing, Mama and Daddy’s party on the 24th, which was always a blast, Gran’s pile of tiny packages, the children and I making cookies, my husband giving me 30 minutes to pick the perfect tree cuz the football game was coming on, being with my loved ones, a candlelight service, reading the Bible, Luke to the kids, and John, on Christmas Eve.”

The artist asked Santa for watercolor paper this year. Her favorite song is “O Holy Night.” The best present was “hugs and my grandmother’s loaded eggnog — but they did not drink.”

Davis calls the jolly man who gives presents, Bill Schmidt. She is referring...
to the local artist who paints on oyster shells that he gives away. Davis bags her presents. She said, “Eating cookies,” when asked if she would rather give or receive presents.

One year, on Dec. 23, the first child of Bruce MacMaster Jr., of Onley, was born. So it is a favorite Christmas memory. He asked for health and prosperity for his children and grandchildren. MacMaster’s favorite song is “O Holy Night.” He prefers giving.

For Stefanie Jackson, of Pungoteague, a vivid memory was a couple of years ago when it was so warm they had to turn on the air conditioning on Christmas Day opening presents in shorts and T-shirts. “If I could spend Christmas Day with anyone in the world, it would be my husband and two kids, because they mean the world to me.”

“We always remember the one time ever that it snowed on Christmas Day,” said Krystle Bono, of Cape Charles. “It just made the day so Christmas-y feeling, if that makes sense. I think I was middle-school aged. I’d also always remember my daughter’s first ‘real’ Christmas when she was old enough to know what was going on and could open her presents. That was the best. … Children just add a whole new element to the meaning of Christmas.”

Bono’s daughter, Bella, “canceled” her entire wish list after the family’s dog died recently. Instead, she requested “a miniature schnauzer puppy. She has been having a hard time because not only does she miss our dog terribly, but she said the house feels so empty … I’ve asked Santa to leave a little extra funds under the tree so I can get one after the New Year.”

“We leave milk and cookies” for Santa, Bono said. “We always make the peanut butter cookies with Hershey kisses on top, as well as chocolate chip and sugar cookies every Christmas Eve” for Santa.

Sharyn McQuaid, of Melfa, picked “Silent Night” and “Away in the Manger” for her favorite songs. “Although I have no problem with ‘Baby, It’s Cold Outside’ and think the people who are astounded by its non-politically correct importuning have not listened to the lyrics of a multitude of contemporary music. ‘Baby’ is endearing by comparison.”

“I wrap, but Santa does not,” she continued. “I have wrapped lidded boxes that I have used for years.”

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**Club Car Cafe**

**New Year’s Eve**

- Roasted Beef Tenderloin
- Lobster Tail
- Asparagus
- Loaded Mashed Potatoes
- Homemade Cheesecake

$24.99 PER PERSON

David Pruitt in the Lounge

Make your reservations NOW!!!

---

**Siemens Digital Hearing Aids at Great Prices!**

- **$995** In-The-Canal
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- **$1195** Open Fit

We service all brands of hearing aids and do not charge for any service that can be done in our office no matter where it was purchased.

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**VDOT**

**Virginia Department of Transportation**

**Route 707 (Wagram Road/Dunns Swamp Road) Culvert Replacement Accomack County**

Willingness to Hold a Design Public Hearing

Find out about the proposed plans to replace a culvert on Route 707 (Wagram Road/Dunns Swamp Road) over Pitts Creek in Accomack County. The Virginia Department of Transportation (VDOT) is proposing to replace the single-barrel aluminum culvert with a new, single-span concrete box bridge.

Review the proposed project plans and the National Environmental Policy Act document in the form of a Programmatic Categorical Exclusion (PCE) at VDOT’s Hampton Roads District Office located at 7511 Burbage Drive, Suffolk, VA 23435, 757-965-3000, 800-367-7632, TTY/TDD 711. You may also review the project information at VDOT’s Accomac Residency Office located at 23096 Courthouse Avenue, Accomac, Virginia 23301, 757-787-5856. Please call ahead to ensure the availability of appropriate personnel to answer your questions.

If your concerns cannot be satisfied, VDOT is willing to hold a public hearing. You may request that a public hearing be held by sending a written request to Mr. Jesse Allen, Virginia Department of Transportation, 7511 Burbage Drive, Suffolk, VA 23435 on or prior to January 3, 2019. If a request for a public hearing is received, notice of date, time and place of the hearing will be posted.

VDOT ensures nondiscrimination and equal employment in all programs and activities in accordance with Title VI and Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964. For more information or special assistance for persons with disabilities or limited English proficiency, contact VDOT’s Civil Rights Division at 757-956-3000 or TTY/TDD 711.
Santa Trades Cookies for Seafood in New Local Book
By Stefanie Jackson

Santa is sick of cookies this year, but not to worry, one local child will not rest until he finds some delectable Eastern Shore seafood to leave out for the big guy on Christmas Eve.

“Santa’s Sick of Cookies” is the first published book of Eastern Shore native and Northampton schools’ Division Teacher Mentor Karen Foley.

Foley treated students and parents to a reading of her new children’s story followed by a book sale and signing at Pungoteague Elementary School’s Title I night on Dec. 13.

In the story, a little boy’s mind wanders up and down the Shore’s working waterfront towns, from Chincoteague to Bayford, wondering what type of seafood he will find for Santa.

The answer is a secret, served with Tabasco sauce.

Foley was inspired to write “Santa’s Sick of Cookies” by a shopping trip across the Chesapeake Bay where she found herself in the children’s section of the Barnes and Noble surrounded by books plastered with images of Santa and dozens of Christmas cookies.

He must get sick of cookies, Foley thought. She wondered what would happen if a child wanted to leave Santa something else for a Christmas Eve snack. The idea simmered in her mind all the way home, she said.

It took just one weekend to draft the story. Since it was her first book, and the story is based on the Eastern Shore, Foley decided to submit it to a regional publisher.

Even dealing with smaller publishers, Foley was faced with a lot of competition. “It’s a gamble” trying to get a book published, she said. The publisher that accepted her work, Belle Isle Books, chooses only 35 out of 900 manuscripts per year, she said.

Foley wanted the illustrations to be colorful, whimsical, bold, and fun, but “not too realistic,” she said.

She chose illustrator Jessica Gibson from a list provided by the publisher. Even though Gibson is from Detroit, Foley felt Gibson’s style fit the story and its setting.

Foley, who currently resides in Eastville, reflected on why so many local authors write about their Eastern Shore home instead of fantasies or fairy tales.

“The Eastern Shore is unique,” she answered. “The teachers, the area, and the people are all a part of me.”

It also goes back to writing about what and who you know, Foley said. She chose Willis Wharf as the story’s setting.

Photos by Stefanie Jackson


(Continued on Page 33)
~Santa~

(Continued From Page 32)

setting because that’s where her father’s family is from. Like Willis Wharf, the other places name-dropped in the narrative are known for their aquaculture, the industry in which her son works.

She understands that a lot of kids on the Shore “just can’t wait to see the big, wide world,” and her story serves as a little reminder of what their home has to offer. “I love it here,” Foley said.

Foley’s career before writing her story included 18 years as a middle school English teacher. She earned her National Board Certification and became an assistant principal at Northampton Middle School before becoming Northampton’s division teacher mentor.

Her decision to become a teacher and writer was influenced by her father, educator George Young, who was the superintendent of Northampton schools for 20 years and recently became the first inductee into the Northampton High School Hall of Fame.

Foley said there are “more stories in me,” and she’s already planning a sequel to her Santa tale for next year. She also wants to write a story set on Hog Island.

Foley likes writing Eastern Shore-themed stories because local kids can relate to the setting. She wants to encourage kids to read for pleasure, not just to pass a multiple choice test. Her goal with her books is to give children the “joy of reading.”

Sheriff’s Office Delivers Toys To Tangier

Captain Todd Wessells of the Accomack County Sheriff’s Office hands a bicycle to Accomack Commonwealth’s Attorney Spencer Morgan just before a trip to Tangier to deliver toys collected in the sheriff’s annual toy drive. Looking on is Deputy Tom Willett.

Start the New Year With a Walk in the Park

It has been said that whatever you do on New Year’s Day, you will do throughout the year. How about starting the year with a walk in Kiptopeke State Park?

All state parks will offer free parking all day, while the first 100 visitors to each park will receive a special bumper sticker.

Two contests give visitors two opportunities to win gift certificates valued at up to $500. For complete contest details, visit https://vasp.fun/2019firstdayhikes.

Ranger Stan Osmolenski will lead a 1.5 to 2-hour hike through Kiptopeke at 9 a.m. and 2 p.m., beginning at picnic shelter #1 by the first parking lot.

Start the new year off with a great nature walk and enjoying your state park!
**Kids’ Puzzle Page**

**Kids’ Maze**

```
                 Q
                X
               Z
              W
             S
           T
          R
         P
     U
    N
   D
 C
B
A
```

**Scramblers**

Unscramble the words below to form four ordinary words. Then set the blank letters to form the mystery word to complete the gag.

- Burdened
- Switch
- Tored
- Aix

**Today's Word**

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**Snowflakes**

by Japheth Light

There are 13 black hexagons in the puzzle. Place the numbers 1 - 6 around each of them. No number can be repeated in any partial hexagon shape along the border of the puzzle.

```
  3
  4      5
  1      2
  6
  5
  3
  4
```

**Riddle Card**

1. How do locomotives hear?
2. What nut is like a sneeze?
3. What fish is definitely out of place?
4. What can be right but never wrong?
5. Why is the letter "N" like a pig?

**Junior Whirl**

by Charles Barry Townsend

A Par Five Puzzle!

Solve these five word puzzles and win the Junior Whirl Word Opener! In this type of puzzle, you are given a word that must be changed into another word in a series of moves. During each move, you must change one letter in the previous word so as to form a new word. In our example, we changed PUTT to SINK in four moves. See if you can change the following five words in four moves.

- 1. HAND to PICK
- 2. JUTE to MILL
- 3. SLIP to KNOT
- 4. MILE to POST
- 5. SLOB to NEAT

**Puzzles4Kids** by Helene Hovanec

**Crisscross – The Holiday Season**

Each word will fit into one spot in the grid. Use the starting letters as a guide and fit each word into its spot. All words will be used, so cross off each one after you put it into the grid.

3 Letters
- ELF
- LOG
- PIE
- TAG

4 Letters
- FOOD
- GIFT
- NOEL
- SNOW
- TRIP
- YULE

5 Letters
- DECOR
- FEAST
- PAGEANT
- SINGING
- STICKER

6 Letters
- EGGNOG
- SLEIGH
- TINSEL
- TURKEY
- WINTER

7 Letters
- PAGEANT
- SINGING
- STICKER

8 Letters
- GOODWILL
- OCCasion

**Alpha Math Puzzle**

Can you solve this AlphaMath puzzle before our order comes? You must replace the letters in the menu with the digits 1, 2, 3, 5, 6, 7, 8 and 9 so that you have a correct addition problem. The same letters get the same digits.

```
HAM
PUNK
SINK
```

```
```

**Seven Words Puzzle**

In the word square at the right, we’ve removed six of the letters to spell out the word "DECODE." See if you can replace these letters in the squares so that you will have four 3-letter words across and three 4-letter words down. The time limit is 60 seconds.

Answers: (Across: top row) Dan, odd, pod, odd, man; (Down: left column) AM, DE, EN, AD, NA, DN; (Down: center column) AM, EN, DE, AD, NA, DN; (Down: right column) AM, EN, DE, AD, NA, DN.
FRUITY CAKE

From Linda Cicoira’s Kitchen

Preheat oven to 350 degrees.
Add dry ingredients from your favorite butter cake recipe or Duncan Hines butter cake mix to a large mixing bowl.
Add:
3/4 cup juice from a can of pineapple
1 cup crushed pineapple
3 eggs
A half-stick of softened butter
Beat well.
Using a food processor:
Pulverize a small bag of sliced almonds and a handful or two of coconut. Add to mix but do not continue to beat.
Slightly pulverize a handful or two of frozen cherries, coat with flour and add to mix.
Pulverize half of a small container of candied pineapple or the whole container, if you love sugar. Add to mix.
Add 1 or 2 oz. dried cranberries.
Gently stir all ingredients by hand and fill two greased loaf pans with the mixture. Bake for 25 minutes or until golden brown.

The perfect treats for Santa and his elves.
Rudolph and the reindeers love them, too.

GREEN CHRISTMAS TREE SPRITZ COOKIES

The Ones Cara Burton’s Mother Was Famous For

Pressed Cookie Spritz

| 1/2 cup butter | 1 teaspoon vanilla |
| 1/2 cup margarine | 1 tablespoon light cream |
| 2/3 cup sugar | 2 1/4 cups flour |
| 2 egg yolks | 1/8 teaspoon salt |

Northampton High School Names Students and Teacher of Month for November

Northampton High School announced its students and teacher of the month for November.

Teacher of the Month is Denise Topping, pictured above left with NHS Assistant Principal and CTE Coordinator Dr. Charles King and NHS Principal Mike Myers.

Students of the Month and staff are pictured at right (back row, from left) NHS Assistant Principal Heather Marsh, Cameron Glennon, Heather DeMarino, Charlotte Henderson, Vonte Coston, and Kasai Clark; (front row, from left) Jazmina Manley, Briona Feltes, and Principal Mike Myers.

NHS STEM Project Winners

Northampton High School student Conner Henderson won the STEM (science, technology, engineering, and math) zip line challenge in his trig class taught by math teacher Sandra Lewis. Students had to set up a zip line in class and modify a cup to carry a marble down the zip line. At the end of the zip line students had to drop the marble out of the cup to hit a target. Conner's marble hit the target three times in three attempts.

Calculus students Ramiro Alejandro and Eduardo Mateo Hernandez won the challenge in their class.
Holiday Events Calendar

- Dec. 21: 5-8 p.m.–Festive Fridays: Harbor String Quartet, Santa & Mrs. Claus–Cape Charles
- Dec. 21: 6-8 p.m.–The Snow Queen & King Visit–Lemon Tree Gallery, Cape Charles–Free Hot Chocolate And Cookies
- Dec. 21: 7 p.m.–$5 Movie Night: “A Christmas Carol”–Island Theatre, Chincoteague
- Dec. 21: 8 p.m.–Movie Night: “National Lampoon’s Christmas Vacation”–Historic Palace Theater, 305 Mason Ave., Cape Charles–Free
- Dec. 22: 2 p.m.–Community Pre-Christmas Dinner–Antioch Baptist Church, Treherneville
- Dec. 23: 9:30 a.m.–Christmas Cantata–Assawoman Methodist Church, Atlantic
- Dec. 23: 10:30 a.m.–Children’s Christmas Program–Pungoteague Community Church–Christmas Caroling At 5 p.m. Will Begin At The Church
- Dec. 23: 11:30 a.m.–Christmas Cantata–Downing’s Methodist Church, Oak Hall
- Dec. 24: 11 a.m.–Christmas Eve Service–Smith Chapel UMC, Quinby
- Dec. 24: 6 p.m.–Christmas Eve Candlelight Service–Trinity UMC, Cape Charles
- Dec. 24: 6 p.m.–Greenbackville Charge Christmas Eve Candlelight Service–Union UMC, Greenbackville
- Dec. 24: 7 p.m.–Christmas Eve Service–Downing’s UMC, Oak Hall
- Dec. 24: 9 p.m.–Christmas Eve Service–Cradockville UMC
- Dec. 31: 9 p.m.–Midnight Muskrat Dive–Northside Park, Ocean City, Md.

Times may vary. Please check with venue.
### Merry Christmas from all of us at the Eastern Shore Post!

**FRIDAY DEC. 21**
- 6 p.m. - Celebrate Recovery Group mtg. - Onancock Baptist Church
- 7 p.m. - Life Teach Series - Rachel/Leah Covenant Ministries Center - 787-2486
- 7:30 p.m. - Bingo - Exmore Moose Lodge, Belle Haven

**SATURDAY DEC. 22**
- 2-4 p.m. - Empowering Girls’ Group - ESTACI, Exmore - 757-656-3460

**MONDAY DEC. 24**
- 1-3 p.m. - Community Bingo - Chincoteague Cultural Alliance, 6309 Church St., Chincoteague
- 1-4 p.m. - CIAO Presents Gameplay Monday - Theatre Annex, Chincoteague
- 5-6 p.m. - Al-Anon mtg. - Holy Trinity Episcopal Church, Onancock
- 6 p.m. - Accomack Cty. NAACP mtg. - Abba’s House, Mary N. Smith Cultural Ctr., Accomac - 757-709-3753
- 6 p.m. - Bingo - Elks Lodge, Tasley
- 6:30 p.m. - Cub Scout Pack 300 mtg. - Grace UMC, Parksley
- 6:30-8:30 p.m. - Free English for Speakers of Other Languages - Metompkin Elementary School, Parksley - 789-1761
- 7 p.m. - AA mtg. - Christ Episcopal Church, Eastville

**MONDAY DEC. 25**
**TUESDAY DEC. 25**
**WEDNESDAY DEC. 26**
- 7:45 a.m. - Kiwanis Club of Accomack mtg. - Sage Diner, Onley
- 9:45 a.m. - Veterans’ Employment Representative Avail. - ESCC, Melfa - no appt. needed
- 10 a.m.-2 p.m. - Veterans’ Employment Representative Avail. - ESCC, Melfa - no appt. needed
- 10:30-11:30 a.m. - Overeaters Anonymous mtg. - Rock Church, Onley - 757-655-4834
- 11 a.m.-1 p.m. - Soup Kitchen - Corner Stone Seventh Day Adventist Church, 3431 Main St., Exmore
- 5-7 p.m. - Soup Kitchen & Clothes Closet - Grace and Truth Ministries, 19 Boundary Ave., Onancock - Donations: 789-5369
- 5:30-6:30 p.m. - Free Meals for the Hungry - Epworth UMC, 4158 Seaside Rd., Exmore - 442-6391
- 6-7 p.m. - Prayer Line Open - St. Matthew’s Church, Onley - Call 665-7403, 387-7021 or 894-1521 w/prayer requests
- 6:30-8:30 p.m. - Free English for Speakers of Other Languages - Metompkin Elementary School, Parksley - 789-1761
- 7 p.m. - AA & Al-Anon mtgs. - Franktown UMC
- 7:30 p.m. - Bingo - Painter VFC

**THURSDAY DEC. 27**
- 9:30 a.m. - 1 p.m. - Veterans’ Employment Representative Avail. - Chincoteague Town Office - no appt. needed
- 10:30 a.m. - Story Time - Cape Charles Memorial Library
- 5:30 p.m. - Shore Losers mtg. - Drummondtown Baptist Church, Accomac - $1/wk.
- 5:30 p.m. - TOPS VA-550 mtg. - Zion Baptist Church, Parksley - 787-7099
- 6-8:30 p.m. - GED Class - ESCC, Class A-51, Melfa
- 6:30 p.m. - Kiwanis Club mtg. - St. Andrew’s Catholic Church, Chincoteague
- 6:30 p.m. - Al-Anon. mtg. - Trinity UMC, Cape Charles
- 7 p.m. - Celebrate Recovery Group mtg. - Chincoteague Church of God, 5252 Woodland Dr.
- 7 p.m. - AA mtg. - Painter Garrison UMC
- 7 p.m. - NA mtg. - Painter Garrison UMC
- 7 p.m. - AA mtg. - Christ UMC, 6253 Church St., Chincoteague
**INVITATION FOR BID - PORTABLE WASH UNIT**

Invitation for Bid (IFB)

Issue Date: December 14, 2018 IFB #: STAR121418

Title: Portable Vehicle Wash Unit

Issuing Agency: Star Transit

21250 Cooperative Way Tasley, VA 23441

Initial Period of Contract:

Star Transit (Star) is seeking bids for one tethered portable vehicle wash unit. Bids can be received by mail or hand delivery to 21250 Cooperative Way Tasley, VA 23441 until 2:00 p.m. January 25, 2019. Submitted bids will be considered lowest and best price and should include all fees, labor and materials. Star Transit is exempt from all sales tax related to this procurement.

Star Transit reserves the right to reject any and all bids. If beneficial, Star Transit may award contracts to bidders for the item mentioned below. All bidders and products must abide by the following FTA clauses (see attachment).

Note: Star Transit does not discriminate against faith-based organizations in accordance with the Code of Virginia (2.2-4343.1D) or against any bidder because of race, religion, color, sex, national origin, age, disability, or any other basis prohibited by state law relating to discrimination in employment.

All Inquiries For Information Should Be Directed to Bill Moore 757-787-8322 bill@mystartransit.org

mystartransit.org

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**LOST PET: Reward for Flynn**

3-year-old neutered male, 80 lbs., brown and white springer spaniel.

**CALL:**

757-787-0901 or 757-630-5427.

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**Therapeutic Interventions, Inc.**

**Now Hiring**

Therapeutic Interventions, Inc. is seeking qualified individuals for their Office Manager/Administrative Assistant position serving the Eastern Shore area. Work experience required.

**Duties include:**

- Must be able to provide great customer service
- Must be proficient with Microsoft Office
- Must be skilled in the use of all office equipment
- Must possess organizational and office management skills
- Must possess record keeping skills
- Must have excellent verbal and written communication skills
- Must be able to multi-task effectively
- Must be able to lift 40lbs
- Must be able to take direction from various supervisors

Position is a full-time position and includes a full benefits package.

To apply send resume to: abuscher@therapeuticinterventions.com

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**In Loving Memory of**

**Etta (Granny) MacDowell**

Those we love remain with us, for love itself lives on. Cherished memories never fade, because one loved is gone. Those we love can never be, more than a thought apart, for as long as there’s a memory, they live on in our heart.

**Love,**

Your Children

---

**In Memory**

Merry Christmas in Heaven Ray...

The Christmas tree took effort, to put it up today. And ornaments got wet from tears, I shed most every day. I never will get used to this, you being gone from me. It’s changed the way I look at life; it’s changed our family. And so I’ll try to focus on the day we’ll be together. And I’ll continue missing you and loving you forever and forever.

---

**Connie Morrison,**

We are so proud of you for the success of your newspaper.

**Love,**

R and M
Northampton County is accepting applications for a full-time Code Compliance and Building Inspector. The essential function of this position is to enforce violations for abandoned cars, grass complaints, dangerous structures, and solid waste and perform building inspections. Performs customer service related to above duties and enforcement of municipal codes.

Requires high school diploma or GED, supplemented by trade, apprentice, or vocational school programs in one or more building construction disciplines, and experience as a property maintenance inspector, building inspector or in one or more areas in the construction field; or equivalent combination of education and experience.

Requires valid Virginia Driver’s License.

Excellent communication skills are essential. The minimum salary for this position is $36,118 plus benefits.

Please refer to Northampton County’s website online for further job descriptions, requirements and county’s application form. Please submit completed County application form with cover letter to Human Resources, P. O. Box 66, Eastville, VA 23347 by January 18, 2018. Northampton County is an EOE.

Northampton County is accepting applications for a full-time Zoning Administrator. The essential function of the position is to enforce zoning ordinances and is responsible for knowledge and enforcement of County zoning ordinances, related inspections, and preparing reports.

Conducts inspections for compliance with County zoning ordinances; resolves non-compliance issues. Serves as Subdivision Agent.

Requires Bachelor’s degree in public administration or a closely related field.

Requires valid Virginia Driver’s License and a Virginia Association of Zoning Officials’ certification.

Excellent communication skills are essential. The minimum salary for this position is $48,400 plus benefits.

Please submit completed County application form with cover letter to Human Resources by email by December 21, 2018. Northampton County is an EOE.

Accomack County is currently recruiting for a full-time Deputy Clerk I position in the Commissioner of Revenue’s office. The position is responsible for performing a variety of clerical and customer service duties for the Commissioner of the Revenue’s Office. Employees in this classification perform skilled clerical work. Duties involve assisting taxpayers with questions concerning their accounts, data entry, file maintenance, and processing corrected assessments, routine abatements and refunds.

Minimum qualifications are high school diploma or GED; supplemented by vocational/technical training in business or secretarial science; supplemented by one (1) to three (3) years previous experience and/or training involving administrative, clerical or data input work; or an equivalent combination of education, training, and experience. Preferred qualifications: bilingual capabilities; three to five years of experience in real estate, tax prep or banking work environment.

Satisfactory completion of a background check and pre-employment drug screen are required prior to employment. Job description and details are available online: https://www.co.accomack.va.us/home. Review of applications will begin Thursday, January 3, 2019.

Accomack County is committed to an inclusive and diverse workforce.

Accomack County is currently recruiting for a full-time Deputy Clerk I position in the Commissioner of Revenue’s office. The position is responsible for performing a variety of clerical and customer service duties for the Commissioner of the Revenue’s Office. Employees in this classification perform skilled clerical work. Duties involve assisting taxpayers with questions concerning their accounts, data entry, file maintenance, and processing corrected assessments, routine abatements and refunds.

Minimum qualifications are high school diploma or GED; supplemented by vocational/technical training in business or secretarial science; supplemented by one (1) to three (3) years previous experience and/or training involving administrative, clerical or data input work; or an equivalent combination of education, training, and experience. Preferred qualifications: bilingual capabilities; three to five years of experience in real estate, tax prep or banking work environment.

Satisfactory completion of a background check and pre-employment drug screen are required prior to employment. Job description and details are available online: https://www.co.accomack.va.us/home. Review of applications will begin Thursday, January 3, 2019.

Accomack County is committed to an inclusive and diverse workforce.
Accomack County Sheriff’s Office is accepting applications for a part-time Dental Hygienist and part-time receptionist. Please send your resume to 93murphy@comcast.net.

FT-BROADBAND INSTALLER: Experience preferred. Applicants are required to have a valid driver’s license, and a willingness to work outside, climb ladders, work with public and be able to lift equipment. Pay: $16.50 per hour.

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Accomack County is recruiting for a full-time Appraiser. The Eastern Shore Community Services Board is seeking candidates for the following positions:

- Residential Counselor
- Mental Health Facility Technician
- Residential Aide (CSAC required)
- Emergency Services Clinician
- Mental Health Facility Technician
- Part-time Driver
- Residential Counselor

For more information or to apply, please visit the ESCSB’s website at www.escsb.org.

The Eastern Shore Community Services Board is seeking candidates for the following positions:

- Senior Clinician/Clinician
- Developmental Disabilities Aide (PCAs & CNAs welcome)
- Substance Abuse Outpatient Clinician (CSAC required)
- Emergency Services Clinician
- Mental Health Facility Technician
- Part-time Driver
- Residential Counselor

For more information or to apply, please visit the ESCSB’s website at www.escsb.org.

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NOTICE OF OYSTER GROUND APPLICATION
Matthew A. Freeze, (2018154) has applied for approximately 1 ++ acres of oyster planting ground in Nassawadox Creek situated in Northampton City/County and described as follows: North By: MLW, East By: James App #2017183, Northside App #2018041, South By: Vacant, West By: Vacant, Lat/Long: N37-28.7818 W75-56.5297
Send written comments or concerns to: Marine Resources Commission, Engineering/Surveying Department, 2600 Washington Ave., 3rd Floor, Newport News, VA 23607
For more specific application location information call (757)247-2230.

NOTICE OF OYSTER GROUND APPLICATION
Kathryn Sterling, (2018151) has applied for approximately 4 ++ acres of oyster planting ground in Millstone Creek situated in Accomack City/County and described as follows: North By: Vacant, East By: MLW Vacant, South By: MLW Vacant, West By: Vacant, Lat/Long: N37-34.3418 W75-39.7779
Send written comments or concerns to: Marine Resources Commission, Engineering/Surveying Department, 2600 Washington Ave., 3rd Floor, Newport News, VA 23607
For more specific application location information call (757)247-2230.

NOTICE OF OYSTER GROUND APPLICATION
Kathryn Sterling, (2018152) has applied for approximately 2 ++ acres of oyster planting ground in Horseshoe Lead situated in Accomack City/County and described as follows: North By: MLW, East By: Vacant, South By: Vacant, West By: MLW, Lat/Long: N37-33.2561 W75-38.9604
Send written comments or concerns to: Marine Resources Commission, Engineering/Surveying Department, 2600 Washington Ave., 3rd Floor, Newport News, VA 23607
For more specific application location information call (757)247-2230.

NOTICE OF OYSTER GROUND APPLICATION
Burke F. Mccahill, (2018153) has applied for approximately 4 ++ acres of oyster planting ground in Occohannock Creek situated in Accomack City/County and described as follows: North By: MLW, East By: Vacant, South By: Northampton PG #1, West By: Vacant, Fruit, JF #19665, Lat/Long: N37-33.313 Lat/Long: W75-35.1340
Notes: Subject to SAV
Send written comments or concerns to: Marine Resources Commission, Engineering/Surveying Department, 2600 Washington Ave., 3rd Floor, Newport News, VA 23607
For more specific application location information call (757)247-2230.

NOTICE OF OYSTER GROUND APPLICATION
AARU, INC., Trading as Oceanway Market, 24328 Lankford Hwy., Tasley, Accomack County, Virginia 23441
The above establishment is applying to the VIRGINIA ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGE CONTROL (ABC) AUTHORITY for a Wine and Beer Off Premises license to sell or manufacture alcoholic beverages.
Janki Patel, Director
NOTE: Objections to the issuance of this license must be submitted to ABC no later than 30 days from the publishing date of the first of two required newspaper legal notices. Objections should be registered at www.abcvirginia.gov or 800-552-3200.
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This precious animal is available for adoption at the SPCA in Onley. Stop by today to give a pet a forever home!
Post Op-Ed Page

Dear Editor:

To all of our community partners, Northampton Salvation Army, faith based groups, volunteers and individual donors, who give of themselves and resources to make Christmas a little brighter for children and seniors in Northampton County, we say thank you.

Words sometimes fall short of expressing the difference that you make in the lives of others. On behalf of the board of directors and staff at Northampton Department of Social Services, we wish you and your loved ones a very merry Christmas and hope for a wonderful new year.

Mozella Francis, Director, Northampton Social Services

December 21, 2018 • Eastern Shore Post • 47

By Linda Cicoira

The holidays can cause a lot of stress and depression for a variety of reasons. Money and missing loved ones are biggies. The experts from the Mayo Clinic say there are things we can do to avoid or ease the feelings of despair.

“If someone close to you has recently died or you can’t be with loved ones, realize that it’s normal to feel sadness and grief,” staff at the clinic suggested. “It’s OK to take time to cry or express your feelings. You can’t force yourself to be happy just because it’s the holiday season.”

Try reaching out when feeling lonely or isolated. “Seek community, religious or other social events. They can offer support and companionship. Volunteering your time to help others also is a good way to lift your spirits and broaden your friendships.”

The clinic also reminded us to be realistic. “The holidays don’t have to be perfect or just like last year. As families change and grow, traditions and rituals often change … choose a few to hold on to, and be open to creating new ones. For example, if your adult children can’t come to your house, find new ways to celebrate together, such as sharing pictures, emails, or videos.”

Here’s a good one: “Set aside differences … until a more appropriate time for discussion … and be understanding if others get upset or distressed when something goes awry. Chances are they’re feeling the effects of holiday stress and depression, too.”

Stick to a budget when spending for presents. Ugh! I hate that one. Try donating “to a charity in someone’s name, give homemade gifts, and start a family gift exchange.”

“Plan ahead,” the clinic people said. Well, there goes my plan, which is to never plan. I like taking life as it comes.

“Set aside specific days for shopping, baking, visiting friends, and other activities,” the clinic staff agreed. “Plan your menus and then make your shopping list. That’ll help prevent last-minute scrambling to buy forgotten ingredients. And make sure to line up help for party prep and cleanup.”

“Learn to say no.” Yes! Don’t overeat, get plenty of sleep, and exercise during the holiday season. Hello? Am I the only one thinking this is a little unrealistic? See paragraph four. The sweets are staring at me. I’ve got a lot to do and no time.

“Take a breather.” Well, shopping does that for me but I realize that doesn’t do it for everyone. The clinic suggested talking a walk at night and stargazing, listening to soothing music, getting a massage, or reading a book. Hey, we’ll have suggestions for that last one in our annual book survey in an upcoming edition. Yippee!

“Seek professional help if you need it,” the clinic stated. “Despite your best efforts, you may find yourself feeling persistently sad or anxious, plagued by physical complaints, unable to sleep, irritable and hopeless, and unable to face routine chores. If these feelings last for a while, talk to your doctor or a mental health professional.”

Despite that we are almost in the year 2019, there is still a stigma about getting professional help. It’s wrong not to seek help.

And last but not least, “Take control of the holidays. Don’t let the holidays become something you dread. Instead, take steps to prevent the stress and depression.” They suggested learning to recognize your triggers like financial pressures or personal demands before you have a meltdown. Great idea!

I vote for positive thinking in the effort to find peace and joy all the time. But it’s not that simple or easy. “Research has shown that when people focused more on kindness and other good works, they not only felt happier but also developed a stronger ability to fight off disease.” Now that’s a big, big Yippee! Have a calm and relaxing holiday season and thanks for reading the Eastern Shore Post.