



GLOUCESTER-MATHEWS GAZETTE-JOURNAL

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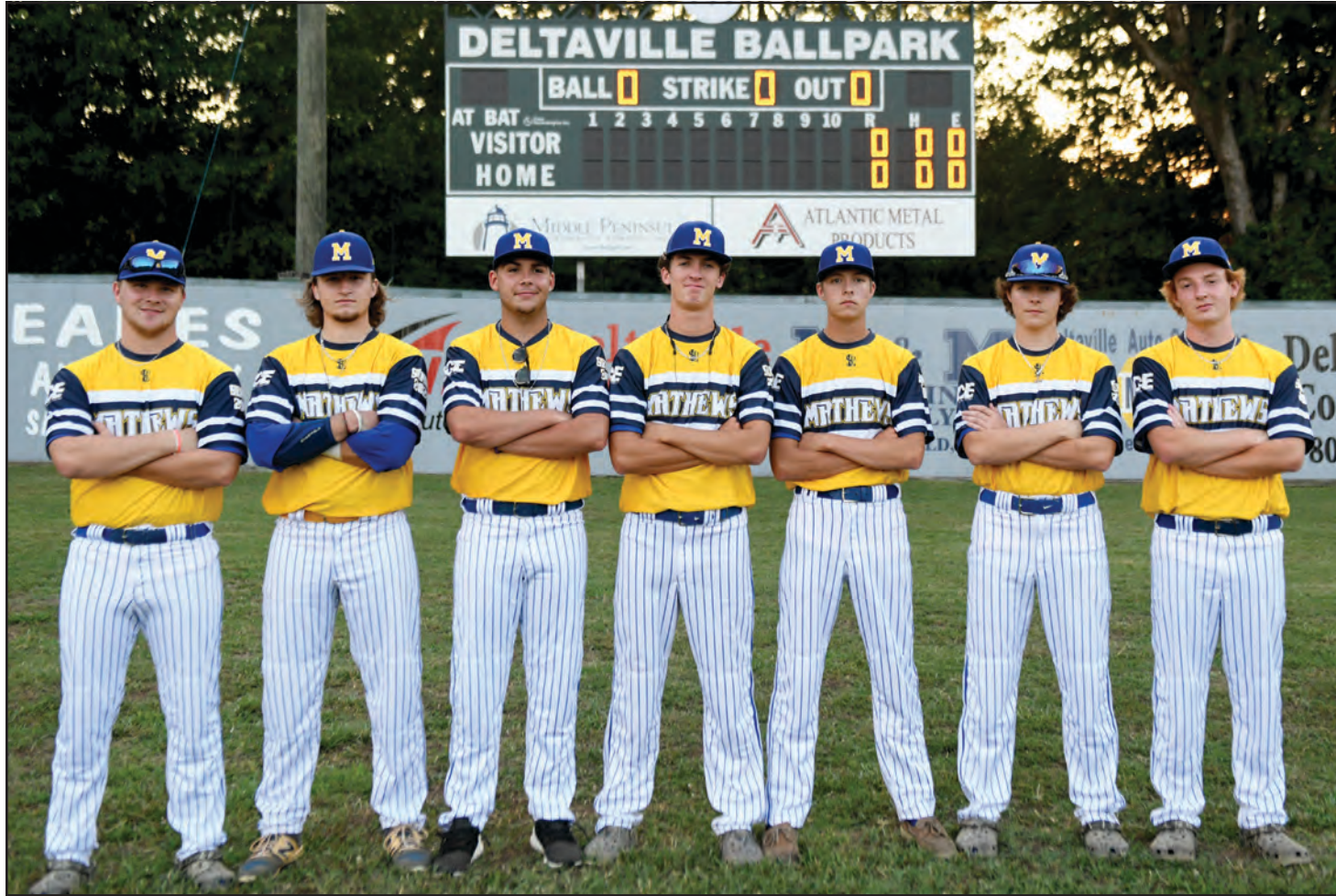


PHOTO BY STEPHEN BLUE

The boys of summer

COVID-19 may have robbed them of their final season of high school baseball, but the Mathews High School seniors got one last time on the diamond Tuesday night. They formed a combined team with Middlesex seniors, taking on a team from King William, Lancaster and West Point high schools at the Deltaville Ballpark. The KW/Lancaster/WP team won, 6-4, but in the end the final score wasn't really that important. The highlight of the night was near the end; only five innings had been played, but the teams had hit the cutoff time of 10 p.m. Initially, the umpires called the game as complete, but it felt like a rock concert with the crowd, players and coaches cheering for one more inning. In the end, the umps relented and let the game go on, prompting the biggest cheer of the night. MHS seniors suiting up one last time in the blue and gold were, from left, Zach Dehoux, Patrick Blake, Christian Williams, Braden Hunley, Chase Lewis, Cole Huff and Logan Strigle.

4 new COVID-19 cases in Gloucester; 1 in Mathews

BY SHERRY HAMILTON

Gloucester County added four new cases of COVID-19 over the past week, for a cumulative total of 49 cases in the county since the coronavirus pandemic first hit in March. Out of those cases, nine people have been hospitalized, and there has been one death.

Three Rivers Health District Director Dr. Richard Williams said that with the virus remaining active in all commu-

nities, "we can expect to see new cases on a continuous basis."

Three cases that had been added to Gloucester as of Monday morning were subsequently deleted from the count, and Williams said that mistakes in data entry occur regularly but are adjusted as necessary to maintain as accurate a count as possible. He said that small database discrepancies and inconsis-

SEE COVID-19 NUMBERS, PAGE 17A

Market Days cancels 2020 festival

BY SHERRY HAMILTON

Mathews Market Days, the popular annual fall festival, is the latest victim of the COVID-19 pandemic.

In a letter shared on social media and the Market Days' website, co-chairs Christine

Johnson and Morgan Hudgins said that the Market Days Committee made the decision to cancel the 2020 event during its monthly meeting last Thursday.

"This has become a sad

SEE MARKET DAYS, PAGE 5A

Offices close Friday for Independence Day

All courts and county offices in Gloucester and Mathews will be closed Friday in observance of Independence Day.

Post offices, DMV Customer Service Centers, and waste facilities will be closed on Saturday, July 4, to celebrate the holiday, while libraries in both counties will be closed Friday, Saturday and Sunday.

ABC stores will be open from noon to 6 p.m. Saturday.

No public fireworks will be held this year in Gloucester, Mathews, Yorktown or Williamsburg due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Second Gloucester Point homicide suspect in custody

BY KIM ROBINS

The Gloucester Sheriff's Office announced Tuesday that the second suspect in a Gloucester Point murder in

May had been taken into custody. The Sheriff's Office responded to Colonial Point Apartments around 1 a.m. on May 15 regarding reports of

gun shots. Arriving on scene, deputies found a man who had been shot lying unconscious in the parking lot and rescue units determined the man was deceased. The vic-

tim was identified as Hezekiah Fauntleroy Jr., a 20-year-old White Stone resident.

Two days later, the GSO

was identified as Hezekiah Fauntleroy Jr., a 20-year-old White Stone resident.

Two days later, the GSO

SEE SUSPECT IN CUSTODY, PAGE 5A

Acreage of condemned waters increases over 12 months

BY ELSA VERBYLA

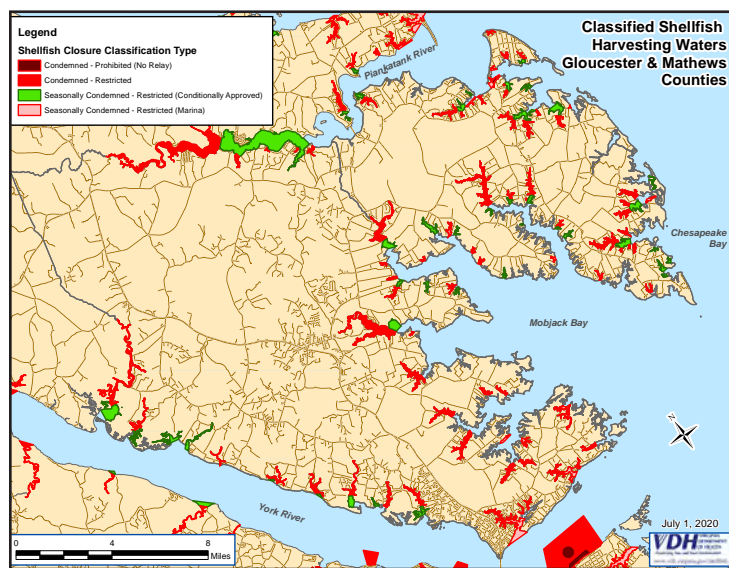
Local acreage in local waterways where shellfish harvesting is not allowed increased from 6,891.1 as of July 1, 2019, to 7,345.2 on July 1, 2020.

Looking back further, the total for that date in 2018 was 5,714.1 acres, according to figures compiled from records in the state's Division of Shellfish Sanitation, an arm of the Virginia Department of Health.

However, large areas of these waters may be opened in cooler months under a conditional approval program. Waterbodies where such approval may be possible in part or whole are marked with an asterisk in the table that accompanies this article. A map showing condemned areas depicts these portions in green.

In a few cases, no area of a waterbody can be opened to harvesting in a preventive measure taken usually due to a sewage treatment plant outfall.

The state takes water samples at least six times a year from bays, creeks, rivers and



VIRGINIA DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH, DIVISION OF SHELLFISH SAFETY

This map prepared by Daniel Powell of the Division of Shellfish Safety shows local waters condemned to shellfish harvest. The areas marked in red are closed year-round; those in green map be opened part of the year.

coves, measuring for the presence of fecal coliform, according to the DSS website. Waters are "condemned" or closed to shellfish harvest when the concentration of fecal coliform exceeds a set standard, DSS said. "Fecal coliform organisms are used as

an indicator of fecal pollution from warm blooded animals and the national standard is a geometric mean of 30 samples not to exceed 14 fecal coliforms per 100 ml of seawater," the site said, noting that this

SEE CONDEMNED WATERS, PAGE 5A



CHARLIE KOENIG / GAZETTE-JOURNAL

A drive-thru testing for the COVID-19 virus was held Monday at Gloucester High School. Here, residents line up in vehicles as they wait their turn to have the nasal swab test. A total of 464 people were tested.

464 tested for COVID-19 at GHS

BY SHERRY HAMILTON

A total of 464 people were tested for the COVID-19 virus during a drive-thru event held on Monday at Gloucester High School.

Dr. Richard Williams, director of the Three Rivers

Health District, said on Tuesday that those conducting the tests were members of a contracted testing team that is specially trained to conduct testing events. They were supported by Three Rivers personnel, the Medical Reserve Corps, and local

law enforcement. The team was at the site all day, Williams said, and didn't exhaust all the 750 test kits that were available.

Results of the tests are usually available within three to

SEE DRIVE-THRU TESTING, PAGE 17A



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Home Improvement

This week's 2020 Summer Home Improvements section takes a look at some renovations, including the ultimate project... New Point Lighthouse.

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Gloucester County enters next phase of office, library openings

In alignment with Gov. Ralph Northam's guidance on Phase 3 re-openings across Virginia, Gloucester County government will begin its next phase of reopening offices to the public on Monday. Currently, offices of the Treasurer, Commissioner of Revenue, Assessor, Registrar, and all offices in the courthouse are open to the public.

County employees stationed in a temporary facility located behind County Office Building #2 (6489 Main Street) will continue to greet customers who wish to transact business with the county departments inside that building.

In an effort to comply with ongoing social distancing protocols outlined in the Governor's Executive Orders, only one customer per department will be permitted inside Building #2; Treasurer's Office cashiering stations will continue to serve the public outside, at windows located on the back side of the temporary office facility.

As part of the reopening, the Gloucester County Library System will offer expanded services to the public with modified hours beginning Monday.

In addition to the curbside service that the main branch of the Gloucester Library (6920 Main Street) has been offering for several weeks, beginning Monday, the branch will open to the public (on a limited basis only) for patrons to use in-house public computers/printers (by reservation only) for one-hour sessions, Monday through Friday from 10 a.m. until 3:30 p.m. Reservations for use of public computers can be made by calling 804-693-2998.

Additionally, the Point Branch (2354 York Crossing Drive) will begin offering curbside service for its cli-

ents on Monday. This service will include pickup of materials patrons have reserved either online or via phone. Curbside service at the Point branch will be available Monday through Friday from 10 a.m. until 4 p.m.; however, no computer reservations will be

accepted at the Point branch at this time. For more information, call 804-642-9790.

To reserve materials for curbside service or for more information on the Gloucester County Public Libraries, visit www.gloucesterva.info/publiclibrary.



PHOTO BY HERBERT FITZGERALD

Happy 4th of July

Wilson Creek Farm owner Herbert Fitzgerald sent along this picture of the boathouse of his Gloucester home, decked out with the American flag, to wish everyone a Happy 4th of July this Saturday.

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Mathews Museum to hold July 4 indoor 'yard sale'

The Mathews Historical Museum will hold a July 4 indoor "yard sale" and outdoor hot dog and chili sale Saturday with proceeds to support museum operations, future

programs, and its mission of preserving and presenting county history.

Located at 200 Main Street, the museum is being organized for future opening in the 1936 building that has previously housed an auto dealership, bowling alley, electronics and appliance store, fabric store and variety store.

The museum will be open from 9:30 a.m. until 1:30 p.m. for sale of new and donated items, a news release said. The \$3 meal of grilled hot dogs and chili with a drink is planned on the sidewalk from 11 a.m.-1:30 p.m.

Masking and social distancing are requested from customers, the release said.

Also in support of the museum, raffle tickets for three baskets will be available at Mathews Farmers' Market. Offerings include an East River boat ride on a dead rise with overnight stay at a Bethel Beach B & B, or a basket full of nautically-themed items, or kayaking for two with an overnight stay at Haiku House on Main Street. Raffle ticket winners will be announced at 1:30 at the museum.



PHOTO BY BECKY BARNHARDT

Book launch

The Mathews County Historical Society held a book launch Saturday for the latest in the "Historic Homes and Properties of Mathews County" series at the Tompkins Cottage Museum. The book, the fourth in a series of five, includes information on 10 historic homes in the county—Auburn, Augustine Diggs House, Augustine F. Hudgins House, Cedar Grove, Gwynnville, Henry Sibley House, Hyco-Haiku House, Isleham, Lilly House, and Seaford. Homeowners able to attend were, from left, Diana McDonald of Lilly House, Sarah and Mary Doss of Isleham, Lynn and Chip Hornsby of Auburn, and Robert Petersen of Augustine F. Hudgins House. Homes are selected for inclusion based on their architectural significance and historic value.



A letter from Windsor Castle

Mary Kathryn Diggs of Port Haywood pulled something special on Monday from the mailbox at the end of her lane: a letter from Windsor Castle. In the letter, Richenda Elton, a lady-in-waiting to Queen Elizabeth II, thanks Diggs, a retired teacher and hospital ship worker, "for your card and the message you sent following Her Majesty's broadcasts to the Nation and the Commonwealth." Diggs heard the queen's address of April 5 regarding the challenges of COVID-19 and said she was inspired by the monarch's leadership and compassion. "I didn't write to get a reply," Diggs said, and that the letter was a great surprise which she will cherish. She plans to have it framed.

Hooper denied bond in federal court

BY SHERRY HAMILTON

William Wellington "Billy" Hooper of Mathews, facing federal charges related to sex offenses with an underage girl, was denied bond last week.

Hooper appealed his ongoing detention in a June 24 hearing, requesting that he be released on bond for health reasons. U.S. District Judge David J. Novak denied the request on the grounds that the weight of the evidence against the defendant is strong, he would be subject to a lengthy period of incarceration if convicted, and he has a prior criminal history.

Hooper is scheduled to be tried in federal court in September, with jury selection on Sept. 4 in the Richmond Courthouse of the U.S. Eastern District Court of Virginia. Opening statements and testimony are scheduled for the following Tuesday, Sept. 8.

Hooper, 53, is charged with one count each of conspiracy and production of child pornography and with two counts of coercion and enticement. If convicted, he faces mandatory minimum sentences of 15 to 30 years on the first two charges and 20 years to life on the second two.

In the judge's order of detention, Novak further states that if Hooper were released, "no condition or combination of conditions of release will reasonably assure the safety of any other person and the community" or "will reasonably assure the defendant's appearance as required."

In a transcript of the testimony during Hooper's original detention hearing, held via Zoom on May 26, U.S. Managing Assistant United States Attorney Howard Zlotnick described a situation in which Hooper allegedly conspired with an adult female to obtain nude photos of a 15-year-old female as well as photos of the girl allegedly performing oral sex on Hooper.

Hooper was originally arrested in Maryland last November after the Mathews County Sheriff's Office conducted an investigation and issued warrants against him on charges of human trafficking, forcible sodomy, solicitation of prostitution of a minor under 16 years of age, two counts of manufacture child pornography, and two counts of use of communications systems to facilitate offenses involving children.

He was extradited to Virginia the following month and indicted on related charges. After a bond hearing in February, he was released on bail by Mathews Circuit Court and remained on home-based detention before being arrested by federal marshals at his home in early May and detained on federal charges.

July 4th Event!
Join in the fun at the
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Bikers to hold patriotic July 4 parade

Approximately 70 biker veterans from throughout the region will be embarking on a patriotic parade Saturday morning, traveling down Route 17 in Gloucester and Route 105 in Newport News, ending at the Colonial Harbor retirement community in Yorktown to deliver some 4th of July cheer to the residents there.

The two groups will first converge at the Food Lion parking lot on Route 17 in York County by 10 a.m., leav-

ing there around 10:30 to head to the retirement community across the street.

American Legion Riders from Gloucester, Saluda, Denbigh, Newport News and Hampton will be supporting and other groups are welcome. The activity is open to all motorcycle enthusiasts.

The approximately 100 residents of the senior living facility have been quarantined for over four months, and many are veterans or military spouses, according to Sharon

Springer, resident experience coordinator at Colonial Harbor. They will greet the bikers outside, waving flags. There will be a meet and greet after, with precautions taken with face masks and social distancing, Springer said.

"We are asking residents of Gloucester County (and all others) to come out and wave their flags, honk their horns, decorate their cars, and cheer them on, or join in as they make their procession," Springer said.



A scene from a previous Blues, Brews & BBQ Festival in Yorktown. This year's event is planned for Aug. 9.

Online ticket sales resume for Yorktown festival

Online ticket sales have resumed for Yorktown's Blues, Brews & BBQ Festival at www.villageevents.org.

Originally scheduled for

May 2, but postponed in accordance with the governor's order, the event has been rescheduled for Sunday, Aug. 9 from noon to 6 p.m. Tickets are \$30 in advance; \$35 at the door.

Attendees can sample more than 30 different craft beers, feast on barbecue, and listen to some of the best blues musicians in Hampton Roads. The music lineup includes Bobby Blackhat Blues Blast with special guests at 12:30 p.m. and the Michael Clark

Band at 3:30.

A number of regional breweries are participating, including Gloucester's That Damn Mary Brewing Company. There will also be a wine garden with limited tastings. Phil Poteat will provide musical entertainment in the wine garden.

Based on current pandemic conditions, event organizers are making several adjustments to minimize contact points and to help ensure public health safety. All staff members with direct customer contact will wear masks and each person will have his/her temperature taken before beginning work. There will be increased space between vendors, a limit to the number of ticket sales for the event, frequent disinfectant in higher traffic areas, no food sampling, and sanitizing stations placed throughout the festival.

The event is presented by Village Events. Proceeds benefit the York Foundation for Public Education. Additional event information, including details about parking, can be found at www.visitryorktown.org.



Club treasurer Will Hrachovina and president Kenny Skirvin, from left, are on the air for the Middle Peninsula Amateur Radio Club.

Amateur radio club makes 380 contacts during Field Day event at Abingdon Park

The 2020 American Radio Relay League Field Day event held over the weekend was a success in spite of the COVID-19 pandemic and imposed restrictions, the group said.

More than 20 members of the Middle Peninsula Amateur Radio Club participated at the program at Abingdon Park, coming in shifts and taking precautions by wearing masks, maintaining social distancing and using the hand sanitizers provided.

Some chose to operate from home stations using emergency power sources in the true spirit of rapid emergency deployment while many others—due to the recent pandemic rule changes—were allowed to operate using commercial power from home as 1D status for full credit in the contest.

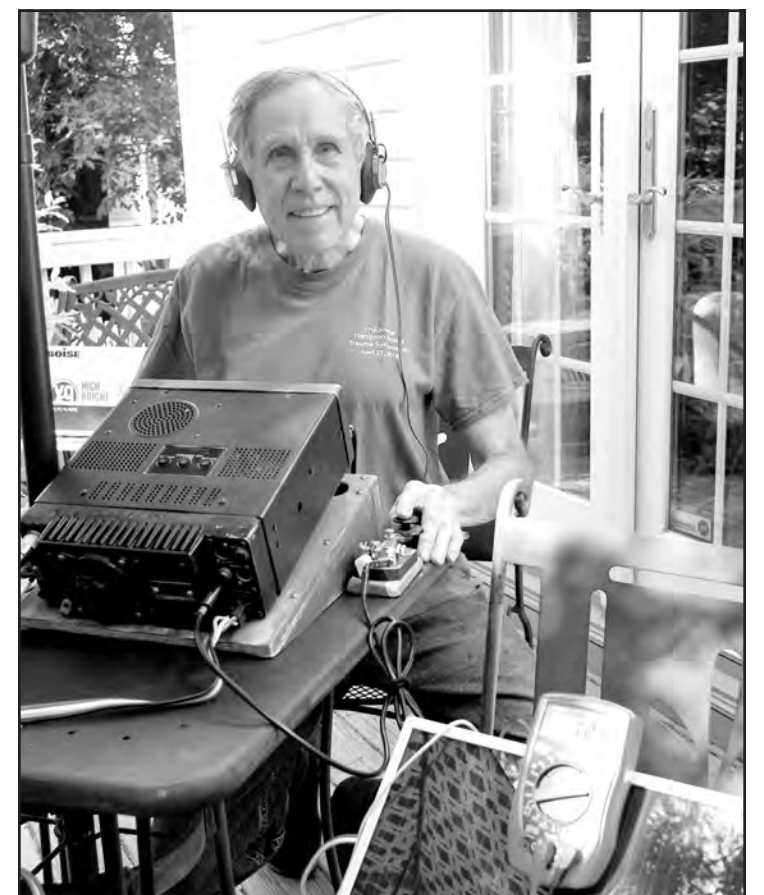
Club members working at the site made 380 contacts on CW, SSB phone and Digital Modes to places as far away as the Republic of Mali in Africa and Argentina along with 40 states and four Canadian provinces. "We likely will hear more reports from the member stations who were operating from home that can add their contacts to the W4H-ZL club score for added contest points," said club spokesperson David L. Justis.

Additional points are earned for operating low power less than five watts, using non-commercial power, making local announcements and follow-up reports, inviting the public and other officials to the site and providing educational materials.

The next club meeting will be held at 7 p.m. Tuesday at the Abingdon Volunteer Fire and Rescue Station 3, 2676 Hayes Road, Hayes. For more information, visit www.mparc.net.

FCC amateur and GROL licensing exams are con-

ducted on the last Saturday of odd-number months at 9 a.m. with CDC COVID-19 recommendations being followed.



David Justis operates from his home on solar power.

YARD SALE
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CONDEMNED ACREAGE OF LOCAL WATERS			
GLOUCESTER COUNTY			
	2020	2019	
Aberdeen Creek*	79.9	79.4	
Back Creek*	59.9	49.1	
Belleville Creek*	24.0	24.0	
Belvins Creek	45.0	36.4	
Bland Creek*	50.6	47.9	
Browns Bay*	31.5	31.5	
Carters Creek*	121.8	121.8	
Cedarbush Creek*	79.1	79.2	
Dancing Creek	23.9	23.9	
Davis Creek*	39.0	39.0	
Elmington Creek	19.3	19.3	
Ferry Creek*	6.7	87.0	
Fox Creek	14.3	14.3	
Free School Creek	23.4	23.4	
Harper Creek	37.6	37.6	
Jones Creek*	38.4	38.4	
Monday Creek	36.9	36.9	
Perrin River (and nearby cove)*	140.6	140.6	
Purtan Creek, Leigh Creek*	72.1	47.9	
Rowes Creek*	29.3	48.1	
Sterling Creek	0.0	24.8	
Sarah's Creek	320.2	311.7	
Severn River NW, Vaughns Creek*	178.4	285.5	
Severn R. SW, Thornton's Cr., Heywood Cr.*	131.7	204.6	
Timberneck Creek*	130.0	140.4	
Toddsbury Creek	12.4	12.4	
Ware River *	498.0	390.2	
Whitaker Creek	22.3	22.3	
Willets Creek*	0.0	80.6	
Wilson Creek	115.3	115.3	
	2381.6	2613.5	
MATHEWS COUNTY			
	2020	2019	
Barn Creek*	30.9	30.9	
Billups Creek*	126.9	126.9	
Blackwater Creek	71.6	0.0	
Borum Creek	19.0	19.0	
Cakes Creek	20.7	0.0	
Cobbs Creek*	71.8	67.9	
Davis Creek	24.7	21.1	
Doctors Creek*	9.4	19.4	
Dyer Creek*	45.1	22.8	
East River, Woodas Creek*	286.1	286.1	
Edwards Creek	22.5	22.5	
Greenmansion Cove*	36.6	36.6	
Hole in the Wall*	26.3	26.3	
Horn Harbor*	235.9	320.5	
Hudgins Creek	10.1	10.1	
Jacks Creek*	13.9	13.9	
Kibble Pond	10.3	10.3	
Lanes Creek*	47.7	47.6	
Milford Haven*	74.8	74.8	
Oakland Creek	19.0	0.0	
Put-In Creek*	95.8	78.1	
Queens Creek, Winder Creek*	157.7	102.9	
Raymond Creek	31.7	0.0	
Sloop Creek	16.0	16.0	
Stoakes Creek*	2.5	2.5	
Stutts Creek, Morris Creek, Callis Creek*	197.8	247.8	
Weston Creek, Tabbs Creek	50.4	16.7	
Winter Harbor*	269.1	371.4	
	2024.3	1992.1	
GLOUCESTER-KING AND QUEEN			
Poropotank River, Morris Bay, Adams Cr.	500.3	381.6	
GLOUCESTER-MATHEWS			
North River	249.7	239.4	
GLOUCESTER-MIDDLESEX			
Piankatank River, Frenchs Creek	2189.3	1665.0	
GRAND TOTAL	7345.2	6891.1	

*All or a portion of the condemned acreage in this waterbody may be conditionally approved for shellfish harvest in cooler months.

SOURCE: VIRGINIA DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

This table shows the areas of local waterways closed to shellfish harvest as of July 1, 2020, and how that area compares to 2019. Figures compiled from data provided by the Virginia Department of Health, Division of Shellfish Safety.

CONDEMNED WATERS

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1A) standard is much tighter than the one of 200 used as the upper limit for swimming.

The Division of Shellfish Safety is part of the Virginia Department of Health, and detailed information for con-

demned areas is available on the DSS website, www.vdh.virginia.gov/environmental-health. Or search for Virginia Division of Shellfish Safety. The site includes explanation of the standards and maps of the condemned water areas.

SUSPECT IN CUSTODY

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1A) said a 16-year-old Hampton resident learned he was wanted in connection with the crime and had turned himself into Hampton police. The teen was charged with first-degree murder in commission of a felony, use of a firearm in commission of a felony, attempted robbery and conspiracy to commit robbery. He is being held in a juvenile detention center.

A second suspect, Destin Dominique Moore of Hampton, remained at large until the GSO announced Tuesday that he had been apprehended in Allegheny, Pennsylvania, on June 8.

Moore, 24, was charged with first-degree murder (as a principal in the second degree), use of a firearm in commission of a felony (as



Destin Moore

a principal in the second degree), attempted robbery and conspiracy to commit robbery. He is currently awaiting extradition back to Virginia.

MARKET DAYS: Popular Mathews festival canceled for 2020

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1A) trend," said the letter. "If we've heard it once, we've heard it a hundred times."

Two factors impacted the committee's decision, said Johnson and Hudgins. The obvious one was the COVID-19 restrictions "that are having ripple effects across the world."

The second, less obvious factor, they said, was financial. Vendor registration is the festival's primary source of income, and as of the date of the decision it was "less than one-third of normal."

"We suspect that many vendors held off because of the

coronavirus," said the letter. "Whatever their reason, there is not sufficient income to cover event expenses."

The two described the discussion surrounding the decision as "rigorous and emotional."

"Every member of the committee wanted to hold Market Days this year," said the letter. "(But) no matter how many ways we looked at it, such as removing one or more event features, changing from two days to one day, adopting the Saturday Farmer's Market format, there was enough risk to make us reconsider."

Hudgins and Morgan said the committee members put aside their personal feelings "to make a judgment call on what we feel is best for the community."

While people will be disappointed with the decision, they said, a decision to move forward with the festival would have been questioned, as well. The fact that many local organizations plan their own fundraisers around Market Days weekend made the cancellation decision even more difficult, they said.

"It is the hope of the Market Days Committee that we can lend our support to another upcoming Mathews County event," said Morgan and Hudgins. "It is also our hope to return to a time when social events and festivals are back on all of our calendars. Just know that the decision was not made lightly or without a great deal of disappointment."

The 2020 Mathews Market Days, which would have been the 46th annual event, had been scheduled for Sept. 11 and 12.

Those with expiring licenses have a little more time to renew

Virginians now have a little longer to get their expiring driver's licenses, state-issued identification cards, and vehicle registrations renewed.

Last week, Gov. Ralph Northam amended his executive directive further extending the validity of credentials issued by the Virginia Department of Motor Vehicles, providing up to an additional 90 days to renew these documents while the DMV contin-

ues the process of reopening its customer service centers.

The amended Executive Directive Seven extends the validity of every driver, vehicle, special identification and driver credential due to expire on or before July 31 for an additional 90 days, not to exceed Oct. 31. This extension is in addition to the prior extension of up to 90 days not to

SEE DMV CREDENTIALS, PAGE 17A

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In Congress, July 4, 1776 A DECLARATION By The Representatives Of The United States Of America, In General Congress Assembled.

WHEN in the Course of human Events, it becomes necessary for one People to dissolve the Political Bands which have connected them with another, and to assume among the Powers of the Earth, the separate and equal Station to which the Laws of Nature and of Nature's God entitle them, a decent Respect to the Opinions of Mankind requires that they should declare the causes which impel them to the Separation.

WE hold these Truths to be self-evident, that all Men are created equal, that they are en-dowed by their Creator with certain unalienable Rights, that among these are Life, Liberty and the Pursuit of Happiness -- That to secure these Rights, Governments are instituted among Men, deriving their just Powers from the Consent of the Governed, that whenever any Form of Government becomes destructive of these Ends, it is the Right of the People to alter or to abolish it, and to institute new Government, laying its Foundation on such Principles, and organizing its Powers in such Form, as to them shall seem most likely to effect their Safety and Happiness. Prudence, indeed, will dictate that Governments long established should not be changed for light and transient Causes; and accordingly all Experience hath shewn, that Mankind are more dis-posed to suffer, while Evils are sufferable, than to right themselves by abolishing the Forms to which they are accustomed. But when a long Train of Abuses and Usurpations, pursuing invariably the same Object, evinces a Design to reduce them under absolute Despotism, it is their Right, it is their Duty, to throw off such Government, and to provide new Guards for their future Security. Such has been the patient Sufferance of these Colonies; and such

is now the Necessity which constrains them to alter their former Systems of Government. The History of the present King of Great-Britain is a History of repeated Injuries and Usurpations, all having in direct Object the Establishment of an absolute Tyranny over these States. To prove this, let Facts be submitted to a candid World.

HE has refused his Assent to Laws, the most wholesome and necessary for the public Good.

HE has forbidden his Governors to pass Laws of immediate and pressing Importance, unless suspended in their Operation till his Assent should be obtained; and when so suspended, he has utterly neglected to attend to them.

HE has refused to pass other Laws for the Accommodation of large Districts of People, unless those People would relinquish the Right of Representation in the Legislature, a Right inestimable to them, and formidable to Tyrants only.

HE has called together Legislative Bodies at Places unusual, uncomfortable, and distant from the Depository of their public Records, for the sole Purpose of fatiguing them into Compliance with his Measures.

HE has dissolved Representative Houses repeatedly, for opposing with manly Firmness his Invasions on the Rights of the People.

HE has refused for a long Time, after such Dissolutions, to cause others to be elected; whereby the Legislative Powers, incapable of the Annihilation, have returned to the People at large for their exercise; the State remaining in the mean time exposed to all the Dangers of Invasion from without, and the Convulsions within.

HE has endeavoured to prevent the Population of these States; for that Purpose obstructing the Laws for

Naturalization of Foreigners; refusing to pass others to encourage their Migrations hither, and raising the Conditions of new Appropriations of Lands.

HE has obstructed the Administration of Justice, by refusing his Assent to Laws for establishing Judiciary Powers.

HE has made Judges dependent on his Will alone, for the Tenure of their Offices, and the Amount and Payment of their Salaries.

HE has erected a Multitude of new Offices, and sent hither Swarms of Officers to harass our People, and eat out their Substance.

HE has kept among us, in Times of Peace, Standing Armies, without the consent of our Legislatures.

HE has affected to render the Military independent of and superior to the Civil Power.

HE has combined with others to subject us to a Jurisdiction foreign to our Constitution, and unacknowledged by our Laws; giving his Assent to their Acts of pretended Legislation:

FOR quartering large Bodies of Armed Troops among us;

FOR protecting them, by a mock Trial, from Punishment for any Murders which they should commit on the Inhabitants of these States:

FOR cutting off our Trade with all Parts of the World:

FOR imposing Taxes on us without our Consent:

FOR depriving us, in many Cases, of the Benefits of Trial by Jury:

FOR transporting us beyond Seas to be tried for pretended Offences:

FOR abolishing the free System of English Laws in a neighbouring Province, establishing therein an arbitrary Government, and enlarging its Boundaries, so as to render it at once an Example and fit Instrument for intro-

ducing the same absolute Rules into these Colonies:

FOR taking away our Charters, abolishing our most valuable Laws, and altering fundamentally the Forms of our Governments:

FOR suspending our own Legislatures, and declaring themselves invested with Power to legislate for us in all Cases whatsoever.

HE has abdicated Government here, by declaring us out of his Protection and waging War against us.

HE has plundered our Seas, ravaged our Coasts, burnt our Towns, and destroyed the Lives of our People.

HE is, at this Time, transporting large Armies of foreign Mercenaries to complete the Works of Death, Desolation, and Tyranny, already begun with circumstances of Cruelty and Perfidy, scarcely paralleled in the most barbarous Ages, and totally unworthy the Head of a civilized Nation.

HE has constrained our fellow Citizens taken Captive on the high Seas to bear Arms against their Country, to become the Executioners of their Friends and Brethren, or to fall themselves by their Hands.

HE has excited domestic Insurrections amongst us, and has endeavoured to bring on the Inhabitants of our Frontiers, the merciless Indian Savages, whose known Rule of Warfare, is an undistinguished Destruction, of all Ages, Sexes and Conditions.

IN every stage of these Oppressions we have Petitioned for Redress in the most humble Terms: Our repeated Petitions have been answered only by repeated Injury. A Prince, whose Character is thus marked by every act which may define a Tyrant, is unfit to be the Ruler of a free People.

NOR have we been wanting in

Attentions to our British Brethren. We have warned them from Time to Time of Attempts by their Legislature to extend an unwarrantable Jurisdiction over us. We have reminded them of the Circumstances of our Emigration and Settlement here. We have appealed to their native Justice and Magnanimity, and we have conjured them by the Ties of our common Kindred to disavow these Usurpations, which, would inevitably interrupt our Connections and Correspondence. They too have been deaf to the Voice of Justice and of Consanguinity. We must, therefore acquiesce in the Necessity, which denounces our Separation, and hold them, as we hold the rest of Mankind, Enemies in War, in Peace, Friends.

WE, therefore, the Representatives of the UNITED STATES OF AMERICA, in GENERAL CONGRESS, Assembled, appealing to the Supreme Judge of the World for the Rectitude of our Intentions, do, in the Name, and by Authority of the good People of these Colonies, solemnly Publish and Declare, That these United Colonies are, and of Right ought to be, FREE AND INDEPENDENT STATES; that they are absolved from all Allegiance to the British Crown, and that all political Connection between them and the State of Great-Britain, is and ought to be totally dissolved; and that as FREE AND INDEPENDENT STATES, they have full Power to levy War, conclude Peace, contract Alliances, establish Commerce, and to do all other Acts and Things which INDEPENDENT STATES may of right do.

And for the support of this Declaration, with a firm Reliance on the Protection of divine Providence, we mutually pledge to each other our Lives, our Fortunes, and our sacred Honor.

-John Hancock.

GEORGIA,
Button Gwinnett,
Lyman Hall, Geo. Walton.

NORTH-CAROLINA,
Wm. Hooper, Joseph Hewes,
John Penn.

SOUTH-CAROLINA,
Edward Rutledge,
Thos Heyward, Junr.,
Thomas Lynch, Junr.,
Arthur Middleton.

MARYLAND,
Samuel Chase, Wm. Paca,
Thos. Stone, Charles Carroll,
of Carrollton.

VIRGINIA,
George Wythe,
Richard Henry Lee,
Ths. Jefferson,
Benja. Harrison,
Thos. Nelson, Jr.,
Francis Lightfoot Lee,
Carter Braxton.

PENNSYLVANIA,
Robt. Morris,
Benjamin Rush,
Benja. Franklin,
John Morton,
Geo. Clymer, Jas. Smith,
Geo. Taylor, James Wilson,
Geo. Ross.

DELAWARE, Caesar
Rodney, Geo. Read.

NEW-YORK, Wm. Floyd,
Phil. Livingston, Frank
Lewis, Lewis Morris.

NEW-JERSEY,
Richd. Stockton,
Jno. Witherspoon,
Fras. Hopkinson,
John Hart, Abra. Clark.

NEW-HAMPSHIRE,
Josiah Bartlett,
Wm. Whipple,
Matthew Thornton.

MASSACHUSETTS-BAY,
Saml. Adams, John Adams,
Robt. Treat Paine,
Elbridge Gerry.

**RHODE-ISLAND AND
PROVIDENCE,**
C. Step. Hopkins,
William Ellery.

CONNECTICUT,
Roger Sherman, Saml.
Huntington, Wm. Williams,
Oliver Wolcott.

READERS WRITE

How do we achieve peace?

Editor, Gazette-Journal:

"These are the times that try men's souls," wrote Thomas Paine, in "The Crisis, 1776." Our Republic is again experiencing a time of pain and anger, as we contemplate what direction we need to go in "in order to form a more perfect Union," as is stated in the Preamble of our Constitution.

I remember a similar time of emotions running high, the 1960s, indeed, much more turbulent than 2020. The hope of youth was found in John F. Kennedy, elected in 1960, only to leave our often, first-generation college students, in a state of despair in 1963. That was only the beginning of the havoc that encompassed life in the '60s, though. Robert Kennedy and Martin Luther King Jr. were also assassinated in 1968. Meanwhile the Vietnam War (1954-75) and the Draft, caused angst among young people, because many didn't believe in that conflict that ended up taking 4,000-10,000

U.S. deaths, by various estimates.

War of any kind is not kind. Our Civil War lost the lives of 618,222 men: 360,222 from the North and 258,000 from the South, by most recent estimates. The sad part is ... we seem to be still in a state of siege. How do we achieve peace? How do we mend the hurting memories of families who lost their sons in that war? How do we mend the pain of almost 400 years of racial bigotry against blacks starting with the first African slaves that came to our shores at Point Comfort, Virginia, near present-day Fort Monroe? It appears that the recent death of George Floyd in Minneapolis, at the hands of a police officer, plus at least two other incidents captured on cell phone cameras in three weeks, put us over the racial injustice tipping point ... and rightly so. Anyone whose family member experienced any of those tragedies would be outraged ... and so are a lot of other people.

As we move on towards forming a more perfect Union, that we spoke of earli-

er, we all need to embrace the goal to "establish Justice," for all who live in America, be they citizens or immigrants, yet another visionary goal in our Preamble.

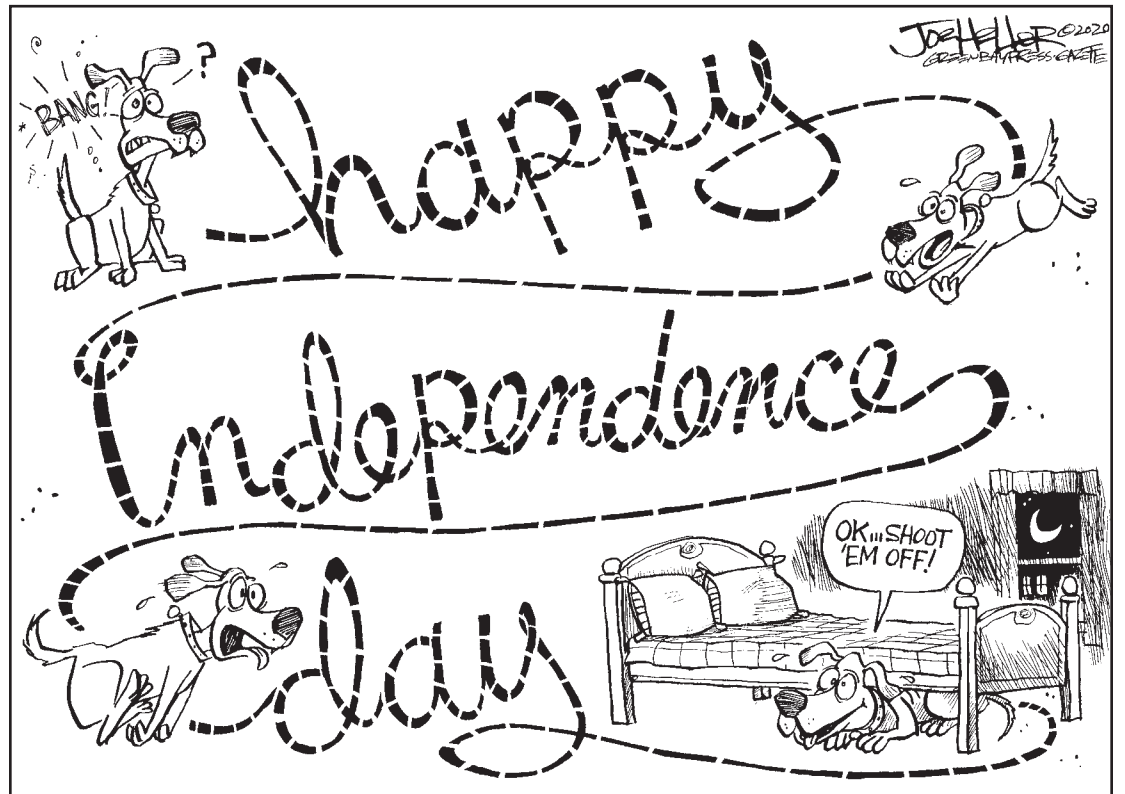
And so, we come to the monuments and statues. I've heard heartfelt words from both camps about this issue. Here in Virginia, we will be given the task of deciding what to do with them at the local level. After visiting the one in the Gloucester Courthouse Circle on this very day, here's my suggestion. Erect an exact replica of the memorial to the Confederate soldiers, in the same location, honoring the fallen Union troops that lost their lives in this terrible war, here in Gloucester. Between the two statues, put a memorial to the Enslaved Africans, that paid a dear price to this country, over many more years, complete with a local marker that tells of Gloucester's role in the Civil War. Then let's move on. We still have much work to do to make this country one we can all be proud of, despite the mistakes we have made in our history.

Nancy Keenan Gloucester, Va.

Need a separate monument for Juneteenth

Editor, Gazette-Journal:

With the way the country is going right now, some simple-minded person places a "Happy Juneteenth" sign in front of a monument honoring Confederate war dead. I had family who fought and some were killed; this is to honor those men. Money was collected and the statue was built to honor our war dead. This person didn't help the



current environment by placing this sign at this location. This just helps to stir things up.

I have no problem with the celebration of Juneteenth. I have no problem with it becoming a legal holiday. But why celebrate that holiday by placing that sign in front of this monument? I hope that someone starts a fund and builds a monument to celebrate Juneteenth.

A civil war is when two groups are trying to rule the same land with their form of government. The South left the Union to become its own country and government. The main reason for this split was that Southerners got tired of paying most of the taxes. If a ship sailed from a southern port and went to Boston and that ship flew a British flag, that cargo was charged a tariff. Also, the

population was growing in the North and they were adding more Congressmen to the House. They were dictating to the Southerners on how they should live and act. One important thing to remember is that it was the Northerners who put "All other people count as 3/5 of a person." This was for counting the population to be counted for the House of Representatives.

Slavery was not the main issue of this war that killed hundreds of thousands. We lost more people in this war than any other. Most Southerners fought to protect their little piece of land. They were fighting once again for freedom.

I support what Melissa Mason, who currently serves on the Mathews County Board of Supervisors, said in a speech: "We must remember

to keep teaching the correct history." I haven't seen the correct history of the War of Northern Aggression for years. So, I hope she pushes this to the board.

Bobby Dobson Cobbs Creek, Va.

A Safe Haven during difficult times

Editor, Gazette-Journal:

We are certainly going through difficult times with the coronavirus, jobs lost, Black Lives Matter protesting, rioting, looting, etc. It's easy for pregnant women to think about having an abortion because they don't want to bring a child into the world now.

Safe Haven is the answer

SEE READERS WRITE, PAGE 7A

READERS WRITE

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 6A)

to that worry. It is a program in all 50 states that allows a woman who has just given birth to give the child to them anonymously with no questions asked. They'll put the child up for adoption. The program gives each pregnant woman eight or nine months to decide whether to keep or give up her child.

The laws are slightly different in each state. In Virginia, you can give the child to an employee at any hospital emergency room or any emergency rescue squad within the first two weeks after the child is born. Search the internet for Safe Haven laws (your state) for more details.

A crisis pregnancy like Care Net is also there to help during the pregnancy. Things can always change for the better during that time.

Safe Haven is an infinitely better choice than abortion.

Robert Boudreaux
Gloucester, Va.

What are the odds?

Editor, Gazette-Journal:

Did you know? "As many as 80 percent of people with COVID-19 aren't aware they have the virus." (Healthline Media, Inc.).

Did you know that one in three people in the U.S. will get diabetes by 2050? (CDC). That is 30 percent of the overall population and, interestingly, 20 percent of those under 20 years old will get it, while 25 percent of those over 55 years of age will develop it.

Did you know that at least one in four of the people you know will develop a cancer? (CDC) This works out to 40 percent of men whose risk of death is above 21 percent, while women's risk of succumbing to cancer is above 18 percent.

Finally, did you know that of the USA's 330,000,000 total population, as of June 28, 2020, the total number of COVID cases were 2,504,175 (CDC). Interestingly, a whoppingly underwhelming total of 125,484 deaths were recorded?

If you talk to your smartphone as I am known to do from time to time, first ask that Chinese wonder to divide 1 by 100. Hopefully you got 0.01. That is 1 percent. There are 100 cents in a dollar. Now, ask it to divide 2,504,175 by the total population number above. It's my guess you'll hear 0.007588. Now ask the phone, mine is named Siri, to divide 125,484 by that same population number. Did she say 0.0003802?

My point is COVID-19 apparently has a very limited reach which kills just 4/100ths of 1 percent of the total population. Refer back to the diabetes and cancer numbers above.

COVID-19, the great disease monster, has done what no nation in the world could do with the war on terrorism. Closed our churches, where the productive taxpaying law-abiding population gathers. It has closed our schools, where our kids should be preparing for their role in the nation's future. And it's closed our restaurants, where we might sit, eat and get a glass of wine.

Meanwhile, in Fairfax, teachers who should be demanding we reopen schools are, instead, demanding the state close them down for the coming year instead!

The U.S. Department of

Letters To The Editor

Letters to the Gazette-Journal on any subject of public interest are always welcome. The newspaper, however, cannot consider for publication a letter which does not carry the writer's signature and address. Letters should also not exceed 200 words. Writers will please include a telephone number where they can be reached during the day. The right is reserved to edit letters.

The Gazette-Journal will not accept letters to Readers Write which comment on articles published in other periodicals. Also, space limitations often prevent publication of thank-you letters.

Commerce now estimates in 2020 the USA economy will drop 7 percent compared to 2019. Meanwhile, the economy of China will steadily grow by 1 percent at the same time.

The Wuhan virus which seems to have come from China has devastated our nation's economy and caused our population to cower in fear of ... what? And it has pent up all the productive energy of our youth to spawn the great riots with their looting and burning of our nation's largest cities.

You don't need a school teacher to do the math for you anymore. Your American created, Chinese manufactured smartphone can do it for you. She can spell too, give you all the answers to a history or geography or physics test. So, if the teachers in Fairfax or other jurisdictions get their demands met, maybe it's the teachers union the cities should consider defunding.

Our leaders need to come out of their fallout shelters and tell the rest of us to do the same. Who'd of thought you could destroy the USA by scaring it to death?

"They who give up essential liberty to obtain a little temporary safety, deserve neither liberty nor safety." — Ben Franklin.

And that's what's truly scary about COVID and the riots we've done it all!

Bill Husztek
Gloucester, Va.

Please wear a mask

Editor, Gazette-Journal:

This letter is an appeal to the citizens of Gloucester County, in this time of the Coronavirus, on behalf of individuals over 60 with underlying conditions such as myself.

It was reported in last week's paper that there are now 47 cases of the virus reported in Gloucester County. This is an increase in cases of nearly 60 percent (17) since the Phase I and Phase II preventive conditions have been lifted!

My appeal is that when you are out shopping you would please wear a mask and practice social distancing so that vulnerable individuals like me, and others, are safer. Clearly, the measures we were all taking, in the past, to prevent the spread of the virus worked but now with the relaxation of the preventive guidelines, the virus is spreading.

Phil Olekszyk
Harcum, Va.

Absolute, unequivocal balderdash

Editor, Gazette-Journal:

An open letter to the Honorable Wittman, Warner and Kaine.

My son-in-law is a fine, religious, family, Navy man who now is, as of June 24th law, unable to attend an indoor religious service without fear of facing a court martial. What now, gentlemen; Military Police prowling the local parish looking for one of their own? Has everyone in this country's government lost their complete senses?

You have parts of this country overrun by unfettered anarchy and tyranny, yet, no one in this government can speak out for those who serve, and who find strength in their service to country and family by attending the church of their choice. Absolute, unequivocal balderdash. What will you do about this? Anything less than a complete reversal of this unlawful degree, and an apology to those who serve, is unacceptable.

With respect,

James Anthony "Jim" Pavik Sr.
Mathews, Va.

We all need a hand sometimes

Editor, Gazette-Journal:

Giving is easy. Receiving is hard. A case in point: When I was a literacy volunteer 25 years ago, my client was frustrated he was not allowed to give me anything in return. The days his eyes met mine and he said, "I can read" was

payment enough, with interest.

Bay Aging helped us through a rocky patch. We all need a hand sometimes, and we are grateful.

If you need help, ask. Go ahead: make my day.

Deborah Jann
Cobbs Creek, Va.

Everyone has been so kind

Editor, Gazette-Journal:

We want to express our heartfelt thanks to the entire community for the wonderful acts of kindness we have been shown since the fire at our business on June 24. It was the fast thinking of Mr. Michael McDonald who was passing by that was very crucial.

He smelled the smoke as he passed by. After he turned around, he saw smoke. He called 911 and knocked on the windows to alert anyone who might have been in the building. Within six minutes, the first responders were at our business.

We will be forever thankful to the Gloucester Volunteer Fire and Rescue and the Abingdon Volunteer Fire and Rescue Departments. They worked quickly to put out the fire, and they did an excellent job protecting as many things as they could with tarps. The Gloucester Sheriff's Office and VDOT did an outstanding job in rerouting traffic so the fire department could do their job.

We have received so many words of love and kindness. Funeral directors from all over the state and in our community have offered their help. We feel very blessed that we live in a community where everyone cares about each other. Since the fire was contained to the residential part of our building, we are able to continue to serve families. To say that this has been an overwhelming week is an understatement. It is not because of the damage our building suffered that we feel this way, but because of the love and support of our community, family and Virginia Funeral Directors Association friends have shown us. Everyone has been so kind.

We have lots of rebuilding to do from floor to ceiling on three floors. We have so many blessings to count that we can't let this fire define us. We have faith in the Lord above, hope for a brighter tomorrow, and the love of so many wonderful people.

Jerry and Ann Andrews
Andrews Funeral Home and Crematory
Gloucester, Va.

Something special at the museum

Editor, Gazette-Journal:

This Saturday, the nonprofit Mathews Historical Museum will celebrate the 4th with a special event—an outdoor hot dog and chili fest, a sale of new and donated items and a raffle, from 9:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. The hot dog and chili luncheon will be served open air, \$3 per person (adult or child) from 11 a.m. until 1:30 p.m. at the museum, 200 Main Street, Mathews.

The sale will have a number of new and selected resale items including a unique display of products and gifts such as camel saddle bags, oriental rugs, children's toys and much more. All these items have been donated by residents of Mathews County and we thank them for their generosity. At the same time, take a chance on winning one of three fantastic baskets (Kayaking Tour, Nautical, and Sunset Cruise).

All the proceeds of this event go to support the ongoing mission of the Museum and its future programs. Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the museum was unable to have May Faire, which provides the museum with its primary source of funding. I would like to thank the special events committee, chaired by Janet Clark assisted by Diana Swenson, Barbara Bass, Cindy Roman, Paul Hyer and Josie Thorpe, for all their time and hard work in planning and coordinating this event. We look forward to seeing all of you this Saturday at the museum.

John A. Caramia Jr.
Chairman, Board of Directors
Mathews Historical Museum

READERS' SPECIAL

Skinny-dipping at Witchduck Point

BY BOB RUEGSEGER

On July 10, 1706, Grace Sherwood, the famous Witch of Pungo, agreed to do a little skinny-dipping in the Lynnhaven River with the zealous assistance of some of her neighbors. Grace indubitably considered herself lucky—lucky that she lived in Princess Anne County rather than in Salem, Massachusetts.

Seventeenth century's Rebecca Nurse and Sarah Good of Salem would probably have been eager to undergo Grace's trial by water rather than to be burned at the stake or hanged as they were.

While witch hysteria ruled Salem in 1692, Virginians were a little more rational about dealing with allegations of witchcraft.

To discourage "divers dangerous and scandalous accusations," justices of the local court in Lower Norfolk County (later Princess Anne County) declared that anyone who impaired the reputation or brought another's life into question without sufficient proof and adequate witnesses would be liable to "pay one thousand pounds of tobacco" and to draw "further Censure of the Court."

It was obvious that local justices had some serious doubts about the motives of folks that would accuse their neighbors of witchcraft.

Accused of witchcraft by her neighbors, Grace agreed to a trial by water to settle the issue. Originally the water trial was scheduled for July 5, 1705 but was delayed until July 10, 1705 because of a bad storm. Ironically, the judges expressed concern that the inclement weather might threaten Grace's well-being.

The word of the ducking was quickly disseminated, and people from all over the colony arrived en masse at John Harper's Plantation to witness the momentous event. It must have been, without question, the social event of the season in Princess Anne County.

Surviving the "old English Test" was no piece of cake. Theoretically, if a person drowned during a ducking they were innocent of witchcraft; on the other hand, if they floated and survived the test, then they were guilty of witchcraft as charged. Witchcraft was a hanging offense. In essence, trial by water was a no-win proposition.

Even a mental patient in Williamsburg's Public Hospital (1773) would have been able to figure the odds of winning that bet.

Grace was taken to Witchduck Point, stripped naked, and cross-bound. Being cross-bound was actually the opposite of what we call freestyle swimming today. Her left thumb was secured to her right big toe, and her right thumb was fastened to her left big toe. Her person was inspected by the women of the jury to ensure that she had not concealed something to help her escape from her bonds. She was wrapped naked in a blanket and conveyed to a waiting boat. Those who were gathered along the river bank, shouted and ridiculed Grace blatantly. Grace simply smiled because she knew a couple of things that no one else knew.

When the boat reached a location where the water was of sufficient depth, Grace was discharged from the blanket and pitched into the Lynnhaven River.

Two very practical skills saved Grace: she could swim and she could untie knots. As Grace floated in the river, one of the men in the boat, strapped a weighty Bible—probably a King James version—about her neck and pushed her under the water. But Grace shook off the good book, bobbed to the surface, and began swimming. There were more than a few startled faces along the shoreline.

According to Florence Kimberly Turner in "Gateway to the New World: A History of Princess Anne County, Virginia 1607-1824," Grace sang and laughed at the crowd while swimming around the cove. It was reported that everyone enjoyed themselves—even Grace.

After the water ordeal, Grace's body was examined "by five antient Weamen" for teats, spots, or unusual marks on her body. Under oath, the women who examined Grace all affirmed that she was not like them or any other woman that they knew.

Grace, however, was a survivor. She escaped drowning and also escaped the galleys. News of the witchcraft fiasco at Salem, of course, probably had a good deal to do with the latter.



BOB RUEGSEGER PHOTOS

Grace Sherwood remained undaunted and unrepentant before, during, and after her ordeal in Lynnhaven Bay. This monument commemorates her ordeal.

Technically, since she escaped drowning in her trial by water, she was guilty of witchcraft. As a result of her "conviction," Grace stayed in jail for seven long years until she was set free in 1715.

Upon her release, Grace returned to her home and her three sons at a "place known by the name of Muddy Creek" in the "County of Princess Anne." In addition to the land she previously owned, Royal Governor Alexander Spotswood granted Grace an additional 140 acres as compensation for her ordeal.

Unrepentant, and apparently undaunted, Grace Sherwood dwelled quietly at her unpretentious home near Muddy Creek without further incident until her death which occurred sometime between 1733 when her will was dated and 1740 when it was probated at the Princess Anne County Courthouse.

All things considered, Grace Sherwood's adversity with her neighbors had a good deal more to do with human nature and jealousy than with the supernatural.

Some attribute Grace's troubles to simply being a little ahead of her time. At best, she was regarded a little too independent, outspoken, and intelligent by the men folk. At worst, a little too pretty and a little too inclined to be flirtatious with her neighbors' husbands.

It seemed that Grace was given to wearing men's clothing when she saw fit and predisposed to dancing naked in the moonlight. When Elizabeth Hill—Luke Hill's wife—attacked and "barbarously beat" Grace in 1705, it was unclear whether Mistress Hill objected to the moonlight dancing or men's clothing. Perhaps Luke Hill was taking too much notice of his comely, flirtatious neighbor skinny-dipping in the moonlight near Muddy Creek.

The Grace Sherwood affair probably had far more to do with "bewitching" men than with bewitching corn, cattle or cotton.

Even so, a medicine phial commonly called a "witchbottle" was unearthed at an archaeological site on property that once was associated with Thomas Keeling's 1635 land grant. This small jar contained iron nails, brass pins, and a yellow colored substance (probably the residue of human urine) and was buried upside down. "Witchbottles" were intended to counteract the curses and spells cast by witches. The medicine vial uncovered on the Keeling property, perhaps not altogether coincidentally, was less than three miles from the cove where Grace Sherwood was ducked in 1706.

POETIC REFLECTIONS

Bears of Freedom

BY T.A. LEACH, THE GLEBE, MATHEWS, VA.

I met him on the wind, the little bear, his cape askew,

His visage was a fur of brown, stripes of a lighter hue,

His pedagogic prattle burned my ears hard-boiled like egg,

When stretching tall, eyes flaming sharp, upon his small rear legs.

The California flag revealed this guru I had sought,

His knowledge was extensive, his keen mind ablaze with thought,

He flew high on the crest, a

field of white, a noble breed, He taught me math, the art of heat, demanded that I read.

My bear, my friend, our pilot, has long been by my side,

His honor steers me straight, his famed requirements my guide,

But, now, our focus widens as the Nation's flag we see, The one with stripes, a field of blue, and stars that flutter free.

We know this country strong is for the independent bear,

The ones who walk erect, on their rear legs, with fur or hair,

We stride as sweethearts, hand in hand, cast loose, our concord rare,

The freest, the autonomous, the fuzzy-wuzzy pair.

Diversity and difference, dash and daring, backbone send,

From those to us, the Clan of Bear, who do with pluck defend,

The Song of Freedom, valor, of a Constitution lent,

Today we celebrate the birth of this experiment.

Concerts by the Bay hits pause button, not scheduling now

After canceling the last two concerts of its 2019-2020 season, Concerts by the Bay announced that it has "hit pause" and will not be re-scheduling the concerts anytime soon.

Several important concerns limit what they're able to do at this time, said a letter to patrons from organization president Martha Rhodes. First is the availability of the organization's venue, the Harry M. Ward Auditorium at Mathews High School.

Rhodes said that Mathews School Superintendent Nancy Welch had expressed uncertainty about when and under what conditions outside

organizations will be able to use the auditorium. She said Welch had suggested revisiting the issue in three to five months.

"As you are probably aware, school systems must submit detailed plans to the state for how to open safely," said the letter. "The school must follow the CDC guidelines ... As Ms. Welch stated, the strategies that are put in place are still not guaranteed to prevent viral transmission."

Further, said Rhodes, the Phase 3 reopening guidelines described by Gov. Ralph Northam mandate social distancing protocols that "limit the number of subscribers

below a critical level to support the concert series."

Because local businesses are suffering financially, Rhodes said she doesn't anticipate their support this year.

"We feel like we cannot commit to starting a season when we do not have the financial resources or venue to back it up," said Rhodes. "In addition to these concerns we are keenly aware that our patrons are elderly and among the most vulnerable to COVID-19."

Rhodes said there are still many unknowns about the future, but Concerts by the Bay doesn't have the luxury of

waiting to decide until later about the season.

"These last few months have been challenging to all and we desire to move forward to reconnect and enjoy each other and the creativity of life," said Rhodes. "Although there are many unknowns, we are hopeful for the future."

If possible, she said, the canceled concerts will be offered in the spring.

Organization patrons are invited to offer comments, said Rhodes. Information on the group is available at www.concertsbythebay.org.

Weems painter named Bay School Artist of Month

Susan Sills of Weems has been named the Bay School Community Arts Center's Artist of the Month for July. The seven canvas paintings in her exhibit all capture the flora and fauna that inspire her.



"Clyde on that Chair," an acrylic on canvas painting by Susan Sills, is currently on display at the Bay School Community Arts Center on Main Street in Mathews. Sills is the school's July Artist of the Month.

Sills built her home herself, learning to install solar panels, lights, and fans. At one point, she converted her van into a camper and packed up two dogs and seven chickens and traveled to the West Coast and back, hiking and camping all the way. When not painting, she enjoys nature walks with her Azawakh breed dog "Sasha," as well as taking photos, gardening and reading.

Sills will be doing a live video from her home at 11 a.m. on July 14. It will be viewable on the Bay School Facebook page.

Sills's collection of art can be seen online at www.bay-school-arts.com or by visiting the Bay School on Main Street in Mathews.

The Bay School's Americana show, now on display, will run through Aug. 25. It includes iconic people, places and things, folk art, cultural and Americana themed art.

GHS grad writes debut novel: 'Faith, Hope and Baseball'

"Faith, Hope, and Baseball" is the debut novel of Richmond writer Jim Meisner Jr., who graduated from Gloucester High School in 1985.

"I began the story more than 20 years ago as a screenplay when I lived in Iowa," Meisner said in a release. "Iowa has the largest population of Amish west of the Mississippi River, and the kids play a lot of baseball. A postcard of Amish kids playing baseball gave me the story idea."

In the book, Jason is an extraordinary baseball player, but he's also Amish. He must choose between his Amish life and the outside world, knowing that if he leaves, he may never return to the only life he's ever known.

"I worked on the novel periodically over the decades, but when my daughter was born in 2014, I got serious about it," Meisner said. "While I was editing it, I showed the novel to anyone who would read it, and I continued to rewrite it for years. I made changes up

until the month before it was printed."

Meisner was the editor of the North Liberty Leader newspaper in North Liberty, Iowa, and a reporter for Iowa City's KCJJ radio. He also worked in public relations for the Commonwealth of Virginia for 22 years.

Before living in Iowa, Meisner received his undergraduate degree in broadcasting from Virginia Commonwealth University. In 2009, he received his master of divinity degree from the Samuel De-

Witt Proctor School of Theology at Virginia Union University.

"Faith, Hope, and Baseball" is published by Immortal Works, a small press publisher based in Salt Lake City, Utah, that specializes in clean genre fiction for general audiences.

For more about the book, visit www.FaithHopeandBaseball.com. Purchase the book at www.shopimmortalworks.com/bookstore or on Amazon.

Increased use of illegal fireworks anticipated in Virginia this year

The Virginia Department of Fire Programs' State Fire Marshal's Office said this Fourth of July holiday will be significantly different than in years' past—almost all permitted professional fireworks shows have been canceled and as a result, a surge in non-permissible or illegal fireworks may be used in the commonwealth.

"COVID-19 has covered many of our pastimes and traditions with a wet blanket. We anticipate that this Fourth of July, Virginians will take to their own devices to celebrate the holiday in their backyards or neighborhoods," said VDFP Executive Director Michael Reilly. "On top of limited fireworks displays, we're dealing with limitations in how we as-

semble. This formula makes celebrating the Fourth of July holiday logistically complicated."

VDFP's State Fire Marshal's Office serves as the fire code enforcement arm of the state government training agency. In 2019, SFMO confiscated approximately 10,000 non-permissible fireworks that were either sold, used, or in pos-

session. This is five times the number of non-permissible fireworks confiscated in 2018, which was roughly 2,000.

In general, any firework that explodes, moves on the ground or in the air, or shoots a projectile is illegal.

"Fire officials stress the message of leaving fireworks to the professionals' because the professionals obtain permits with the State Fire Marshal's Office or within their respective localities," said VDFP Assistant State Fire Marshal of Special Operations Billy Hux.

Only "permissible fireworks," as defined in the Code of Virginia, can be legally sold, possessed or used within the commonwealth. A list of permissible fireworks can be viewed on the VDFP website. The fireworks listed in this document have been field tested to compare the items to the performance criteria of the American Fireworks Standards Laboratory. Permissible fireworks may also be further limited in different localities. Check local ordinances as well as the Statewide Fire Prevention Code prior to purchasing and utilizing fireworks.

The sale, possession and/or use of any fireworks not classified as permissible is prohibited.

Violations can be prosecuted as a Class 1 Misdemeanor, punishable by a fine not to exceed \$2,500 and/or up to one year in jail. Any illegal fireworks can be confiscated.

Many localities prohibit the sale, possession or use of all fireworks. SFMO started conducting statewide fireworks stand inspections in June and will continue this month, to include July 4th. VDFP Assistant State Fire Marshal of Special Operations Hux added, "SFMO will be assisting state and local partners with the enforcement of the Statewide Fire Prevention Code for permissible and non-permissible fireworks usage throughout the state."

If you do use permissible fireworks, follow these important safety precautions.

—Check local ordinances on the use of fireworks.

—Fireworks can only be used on private property with the consent of the owner.

—Never use fireworks indoors.

—Never use fireworks while under the influence of alcohol or drugs.

—Never allow children to use fireworks.

—Ensure adequate clearance from people, buildings and combustible material.

—Have a garden hose (turned on) or other water source readily available in case of fire.

—Soak spent fireworks in water before placing them in the trash.

—Always follow the manufacturer's instructions.

—Never hold the fireworks in your hands while lighting them.

—Never point fireworks at a person.

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VIVIAN MARILYN DEAL BURNETTE



Vivian Marilyn Deal Burnette, 91, passed away on the morning of Saturday, June 27, 2020.

She was preceded in death by her husband of 54 years, Donald Burnette; parents, Charlie and Verna West Deal. Also preceded in death by her brothers, Braxton Deal and Samuel Deal; sister, Ethel Hurley, and nephew, Gene Hurley.

She is survived by her sons, David (Dave) Burnette (Jana) of Gloucester, Steven Burnette (Joice) of Mathews; grandchildren, Sarah Sweet (Michael) of Suffolk, Paul Burnette of Mathews, Leslie Blanks (David) of Mathews, Ryan Hogue (Allison) of St. Johns, Florida; five great-grandchildren; sister-in-law, Delores Robins of Richmond, and many lifelong neighbors and friends she loved dearly.

She was a lifelong resident of Gloucester, spending many years as a beautician at The Old Village Beauty Shop and Sanders Nursing Home. In her later years, she made hair cutting/beautician house calls. She never missed an opportunity to get her scissors and comb in a head of hair she felt needed her attention. She loved her church, her family, bowling, yard sales, playing cards, Bingo, canning, baking cakes, crabbing, and gardening. She was a lovely lady who rarely met a stranger. She will forever be missed and live on in our hearts and memories. God has gained another angel. Rest in peace, Mom.

A special thank-you to her caregivers at Riverside Convalescent Center, Saluda.

Memorial donations in her memory may be made to your favorite charity.

A graveside service will be held at Severn Church, Naxera, on Monday, July 6, 2020, at 10 a.m. Services will be conducted by the Rev. Bill West.

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

ROSALIE M.V. CUMBEE



Rosalie M.V. Cumbee, 77, of Gloucester Point, passed away peacefully in her sleep on Friday, June 19, 2020, in the Manor Care Nursing Facility, Richmond, where she resided for six months.

Rosalie was born June 6, 1943 in Delhi, New York, to William Joseph and Virginia Hansen Vogel. She was the youngest of three children. Rosalie was the loving wife of James S. Cumbee. She was preceded in death by her parents, formerly of New Bern, North Carolina.

Rosalie received her B.S. and M.S. degrees in Biology from East Carolina University and her Ph.D. in Marine Science from the College of William and Mary. She worked at the Chesapeake Biological Laboratory in Solomons, Maryland, and was affiliated with the Virginia Institute of Marine Science in Gloucester Point. Rosalie most recently worked at Respite Care in Williamsburg. There she shared love of family and nature, her story-telling skills, love of literature and poetry, and heartfelt compassion with those who needed a word of encouragement or a tender hand to hold.

She leaves behind her husband, James S. Cumbee, Gloucester Point; sister, Marcelle V. Cherou (Chris), Poinciana, Florida, and brother, William C. Vogel (Dorothy), New Bern, North Carolina. Also surviving her are a loving niece, Theresa M. Kilmer, Richmond; three nephews, Phillip Kilmer (Debbie), Billy Vogel and Louis Vogel, all of New Bern, N.C.; a brother-in-law, David Cumbee, Wilmington, North Carolina.

The family would like to extend our gratitude to her niece, Terri Kilmer, who was a loving caregiver, as well as the staff of Manor Care Nursing Home for their attentiveness and care.

Memorials may be made in Rosalie's name to Abingdon Episcopal Church or to the charity of your choice.

A memorial service is planned for Oct. 10, 2020 at 11 a.m. at her home church, Abingdon Episcopal, Gloucester, Virginia.

DONALD FRANKLIN DUNSTON

Donald Franklin Dunston, 81, of Hayes, died Tuesday, June 30, 2020.

Funeral arrangements are pending at this time. Andrews Funeral Home & Crematory, Gloucester, is in charge of arrangements.

JOHN WILLIAM HUDGINS



John William Hudgins, 87, of Gloucester, went to be with the Lord on Sunday evening, June 28, 2020.

He was preceded in death by his daughter, Sylvia. He is survived by his wife of 30 years, Ruth Hudgins; 12 children, Dolly, Ann, Tammy, Linda, Valerie, Gwendolyn, Bryant, John, Allen, Howard, George, Eric, and numerous grandchildren.

Visitation will be held at Carter Funeral Home-Denbigh Chapel on Monday, July 6, 2020, at 10 a.m., followed by the service at 11 a.m.



JAMES RILEY HENRY

James Riley Henry, 71, of Gloucester, passed away peacefully at home surrounded by family on Monday, June 8, 2020.

Jim was born May 16, 1949 in Dayton, Ohio, to Countess and Charles Henry. After graduating from Vandalia Butler High School in 1967, he enlisted in the U.S. Army. He served in Vietnam before reenlisting to service at several posts overseas. His favorite post was Fort Eustis where he met his wife, Karen whom he would marry on June 1, 1974 and spend the next 46 years with.

Jim was preceded in death by both of his parents. He is survived by his wife, Karen Henry of Gloucester; son, Scott Henry and wife Sherri of Dallas, Texas; daughter, Traci Edwards and husband Steve of Newport News; grandchildren, Brandon Henry of Hampton, Ella Edwards of Newport News, Jacob Henry and Colin Henry of Dallas, Texas. Jim is also survived by his brother, Raymond Henry and wife Judy of Troy, Ohio, as well as nephew, Mike, niece, Tammy and niece, Nicole.

After retiring from the military in 1987, Jim went on to work a couple jobs; however, by far his favorite job was at Ampro Shipyard in Weems. Jim felt at home on the water and helping the fishermen and casual captains maintain their boats. He always spoke warmly of them and his boss, Lynn Kellum and her husband Tommy. Jim also carried a strong love for animals that was apparent in the way he helped take care of every animal he found that needed help.

A memorial service will be held Saturday, July 11, 2020, at 3 p.m. at Andrews Funeral Home located at 7192 Main Street, Gloucester, and will be open to all those who would like to attend.

THOMAS GERALD HUDGINS



Thomas Gerald Hudgins, lovingly known as "Pop-Pop," 81, of Beaverlette, passed away after a long illness on Saturday, June 27, 2020.

He was an Army veteran and drove tractor-trailers cross-country for 40 years for Amory Seafood of Hampton and Abilene Motor Express of Petersburg.

He is survived by his wife of 60 years, Rosemary Hudgins; his children, Brenda, Gerald "Bubba" (Pam), and Tommy (Mart); his brothers, Wade Hudgins and Dickie Burroughs; his grandchildren, Ashley, Becca, Benjamin, and Carrie, and his great-granddaughter, Kaylee. He was predeceased by his brother, Dalton; his son, Steven, and his granddaughter, Sarah.

A private family service will be held at a later date. Andrews Funeral Home is assisting the family with the arrangements.

JUNE ANNE KOEPPEN



June Anne Koeppen of Hayes, passed away at the age of 91 on Thursday, June 25, 2020, at Riverside Walter Reed Hospital.

Mrs. Koeppen was a devoted wife for 67 years and a loving mother, grandmother and great-grandmother, she was also a devout Catholic having served the Catholic Diocese in New York for many years; she enjoyed watching old westerns, reading and traveling; however, her family always came first.

Husband, Arthur P. Koeppen and a son, Stephen J. Koeppen preceded her in death. She is survived by a son, Michael Koeppen (Kim); grandson, Matthew Koeppen (Kate), and three great-grandsons.

A graveside service was held at 10 a.m. on Tuesday, June 30, 2020, in Rosewell Memorial Garden Cemetery conducted by Father Gregory Kandt.

In memory of our loved one, contributions may be made to St. Jude Children's Hospital, P.O. Box 50, Memphis, Tenn. 38101.

Services under the direction of Hogg Funeral Home.

WALTER RANDOLPH NORWOOD



Walter Randolph Norwood, age 70, of Hayes, died on Wednesday, June 24, 2020, at Riverside Regional Medical Center surrounded by his family.

Randy began his employment with Ball Corporation at its Williamsburg plant in the 1970s and traveled both nationally and internationally, retiring from the company's manufacturing group in Denver, Colorado, after 42 years. He loved fishing, cars, NASCAR racing, and Corvettes.

Mother, Marie Hicks; stepmother, Edna Norwood, and grandson, John Hisey, preceded him in death. Randy is survived by his loving wife, Brenda; daughter, Laura Hisey (Hank); son, Rusty Norwood (Tina); granddaughter, Lydia Hisey Chambers (Jonathan); father, Walter Norwood Sr.; siblings, Debbie Ward (Julian), Darlene Peyton (Alvin), Walter Norwood Jr. (Loretta), Scott Hicks, as well as a host of nieces and nephews.

The family will receive friends at Hogg Funeral Home on Thursday, July 2, 2020, from 6-7 p.m. Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, masks are required. Inurnment will be private. Services under the direction of Hogg Funeral Home.

BETTY G. LEIGH



Betty G. Leigh, 86, died peacefully on June 30, 2020 at her home on Aberdeen Creek in Gloucester. She was preceded in death by her parents, Franklin and Irene German of Dutton, and her brother, Donald German.

Betty is survived and loved by her husband of 66 years, Thomas Fred Leigh, and her three children, Teresa Leigh-Zimmerman (Tom), Cathy Walters (John), and David Leigh (Sandy). Her grandchildren and their spouses and great-grandchildren brought her great

joy. She also leaves behind her brother, Milton German (Gloria); her sister-in-law, Linda German, and a large extended family.

Betty was mostly a stay at home mom, and some might remember her smile from her working at Rich's Supermarket, Roses, Wallace Foods, and Fitchett's Hardware. She always thought of others first, especially Fred and her children. She and Fred enjoyed many trips together and time spent with family at Nags Head. A calm boat ride and reading a good book were also a part of her life. She was of the Baptist faith.

A graveside service, officiated by the Rev. Mike Gray, will be held at Rosewell Memorial Garden Cemetery on Sunday at 1 p.m. The family asks that attendees will responsibly wear masks and follow social distancing guidelines.

In lieu of flowers, donations can be made to Gloucester Volunteer Fire and Rescue Squad, P.O. Box 1417, Gloucester, Va. 23061.

The family would like to give a special thanks to her caregivers for their loving care for the past two years.

Services under the direction of Hogg Funeral Home.

BARBARA JOAN LINDSEY



Our beautiful butterfly, Barbara Joan Lindsey of Wicomico, flew away to meet her Savior Jesus on Tuesday, June 23, 2020. "A Symbol of Hope...A butterfly lights beside us like a sunbeam and for a brief moment its glory and beauty belong to our world but then it flies again and though we wish it could have stayed...we feel lucky to have seen it."

-Unknown.

Joan was born in Washington, D.C., in the spring of 1943. She touched many lives from where she lived, to her travels near and far; from the Panama Canal Zone to Alaska, she always left her sweet spirit with those she met.

Heavenly, she joins her parents, Doyle and Sue Ambrose; sons, Andrew Lindsey and Jerry Lindsey; a sister, Barbara Ambrose; grandchildren, Tracy Lindsey Garlo, and Lonnie Lindsey. She is survived by her daughters, Rebecca Lindsey of Kernersville, North Carolina, Teresa Lindsey Altemus (John) of Wicomico, Patty Lindsey Wolpert (Todd) of Norfolk, and Shannen Lindsey Jenkins of Wicomico; son, Joe M. Lindsey Jr. (Dale) of Westville, Florida; a daughter-in-law, Leona Lindsey, Westville; sister, Rosie Wells (Bill) of Wellsville, Ohio; a cousin, Larry Bucklew (Debbi) Morgantown, West Virginia; grandchildren, Kimberly, Melissa, Ryan, Kyle, Kolin, Donna and Kylie; great-grandchildren, Donovan, Isaac, Kinley, Noah and Marti. There are many more who lovingly called her Nana, grandma and friend.

The family will receive friends at Hogg Funeral Home on Thursday, July 2, 2020, from 10-11:30 a.m., with a graveside service at noon, in Providence Baptist Church Cemetery, 3501 Providence Road, Hayes, Va. 23072. From God's garden where she sits among the fragrant flowers, she reminds us all, "Have a butterfly day!"

Services under the direction of Hogg Funeral Home.

SUSAN DIANNE LOFURNO



Susan Dianne Lofurno, 65, a beloved wife, mother, grandmother, and friend to many, was called home on June 24, 2020, to help the Lord in keeping his financial records balanced.

She was born in Halifax, North Carolina, May 15, 1955, but raised a Hampton girl, graduating from Hampton High School in 1974.

She was preceded in death by her parents, Jo Ann Willis and William David Green Jr. and a host of fur-babies. She is survived by her husband of 46 years, Michael Lofurno;

two daughters, Carly Lofurno Reader (Daniel) and Jessica Lofurno Dutton (Seth). She was a proud Nana and Grandma D to her five grandchildren, Braedon and Dew Willett, and Ashlyn, Cameron, and Sydney Reader.

Dianne was a lifelong resident of Virginia and a Gloucester resident for 44 years, where she spent most of her career as a Full Charge Bookkeeper for Gloucester High School. Prior to that, she spent some time with VIMS and William and Mary. Dianne was the epitome of a matriarch who loved her family unconditionally. She never turned down a good motorcycle ride with our dad or an afternoon watching Westerns and she always found joy in that first morning cup of coffee. She will be remembered for her sage advice, kindness to others, and her giving spirit.

A very special thank-you to the nurses and staff at Riverside Peninsula Cancer Center for their compassion and gentle care of our mother.

In lieu of flowers, donations can be made in her memory to Shiner's Hospitals for Children. Andrews Funeral Home & Crematory is in charge of arrangements, which will be later decided.

continued ON PAGE 10A



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OBITUARIES

continued FROM PAGE 9A

JAY FULTON PAINTER



Jay Fulton Painter, 64, of Gwynn, passed away on Friday, June 26, 2020. He worked full-time at Lowe's in Gloucester for nearly 16 years, helping customers in the hardware and tools department. His time there and the friends he made while working held a very special place in his heart.

Jay is survived by his children, Jamie, Patrick and Michael Painter; his work family at Lowe's, and also numerous friends and customers.

The family received friends on Wednesday, July 1, 2020, from 6-8 p.m. at Faulkner Funeral Homes, Foster-Faulkner Chapel, Mathews. Graveside services will be held at 11 a.m., Thursday, July 2, 2020, at Gwynn's Island Cemetery, Gwynn.

Please be advised that current state-mandated guidelines will apply to all in attendance, including social distancing and appropriate face covering. We sincerely appreciate your understanding.

NORRIS RICHARDSON

Norris Richardson of Mathews, died Tuesday, June 30, 2020.

Faulkner Funeral Homes, Foster-Faulkner Chapel, Mathews, is assisting the family.

CARD OF THANKS

BROWNLEY--The family of Steve Brownley thanks family, friends, and church family, for their many acts of kindness during Steve's illness and passing. Our thanks for the prayers, food, flowers, calls, and cards. The support from the Riverside Cancer Center, Home Health Care and Riverside Walter Reed Hospice, how blessed we were to have this special help, love and care. May God bless each and every one of you.

With love,
Violet and Family

North resident dies in RTV accident

Walter Martens Strieter, 75, of North, died as a result of injuries he suffered in a two-vehicle accident early Saturday evening in Mathews County, according to Sgt. Michelle Anaya from the Virginia State Police.

At approximately 5:40 p.m., the VSP was called to the accident on Route 14, eastbound approximately 3/4 of a mile east of Route 3. A 2007 Toyota Tundra was traveling eastbound on Route 14, ran off the road right and struck a Kubota RTV (rough terrain vehicle), which was being operated by Strieter.

Strieter was taken to Riverside Walter Reed Hospital, where he later died of his injuries. The driver of the Toyota Tundra was charged with reckless driving.

This was the first traffic fatality in Mathews in 2020.

WALTER M. STRIETER

Walter M. Strieter of North, died Saturday, June 27, 2020. Faulkner Funeral Home, Foster-Faulkner Chapel, Mathews, is assisting the family.

KATHLEEN SWEeley



Kathleen Sweeley, 67, died at her home in York County on June 29, 2020, surrounded by her loving family.

Kathy, as she was known by her family and friends, retired after 31 years with Master Cleaners, Williamsburg. Kathy enjoyed her crafts and baking. Her passion was the wonderful times she spent with her family, especially being "Mamaw" to her precious grandchildren, Nathan and Madison. She was at every event for them, cheering and being their constant support of love and showing how proud she

was of them. She truly was a woman who knew what unconditional love meant. Every memory of Kathy will be cherished each and every day for the rest of our lives.

She was preceded in death by her son, Michael Sweeley Jr., and brother, Hugh "Butch" Ryan. She is survived by her loving daughter, Michelle S. Gross (Brian); grandson, Nathan Wayne Gross, and granddaughter, Madison Nicole Gross. She is also survived by siblings, Dale Prosser (Barry), Michael Ryan (Vicki), John "Gibby" Ryan (Sarah), Lori McKay (Jim) and many nieces and nephews.

Services will be private. In memory of our beloved "Mamaw," please consider contributions to the American Cancer Society, c/o Nancy Dransfield, 7274 Joseph Lewis Road, Hayes, Va. 23072.

Services under the direction of Hogg Funeral Home.

JESSIE COLUMBUS WEST JR.

Jessie Columbus West Jr., age 65, of Port Haywood, died at Riverside Regional Medical Center on April 23, 2020.

He was preceded in death by his parents, Jessie C. West Sr. and Alvia "Chody" West, and brother, William Anthony West. He retired from the Gloucester County Sheriff's Office.

He is survived by his wife, Betsy F. West; son, Shane West; daughter, Mindy McCann (Luke); sister, Angela Foster (Richard), and a host of extended family.

Jessie is forever in our hearts. Please join us at 6276 Jarvis Point Lane, Gloucester, on July 11, 2020 at 1:30 p.m.

Due to COVID-19, social distancing is encouraged.

Yorktown museum to hold Liberty Celebration

The American Revolution Museum at Yorktown reopened last week, with new safety protocols and social-distancing procedures. This Fourth of July, the museum will salute the 244th anniversary of the Declaration with its Liberty Celebration.

From 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. Saturday, visitors can enjoy interpretive programs, artillery demonstrations and learn about the challenges that faced our nation's founders.

"Liberty Celebration," supported in part by the Jamestown-Yorktown Foundation, Inc. Annual Fund, is included with museum admission: \$15.25 for adults, \$7.75 for youth ages 6-12 and free for children under age 6.

'Forgotten Soldier' exhibit reopens for limited time

The "Forgotten Soldier: African Americans in the Revolutionary War" special exhibition at the American Revolution Museum at Yorktown reopened on June 24 for an extended two-week showing through Wednesday, July 8.

"Forgotten Soldier" explores the personal stories of enslaved and free African Americans on both sides of the American Revolution and illuminates the difficult choices and risks faced by African Americans during a revolutionary time in history and the varied and indispensable roles they played during the war and beyond, a release stated.

The exhibition features artifacts and rare documents, most notably the American "Inspection Roll of Negroes No. 1" and the British "Book of Negroes," on loan from the U.S. National Archives in Washington, D.C., and The

National Archives (Public Record Office), Kew, London, England, reunited for the first time since 1783. The American and the British ledgers record the names of approximately 3,000 African-American men, women, and children who escaped to British lines during the war in hopes of obtaining their freedom.

The exhibition also features an original work by Titus Kaphar, an American contemporary artist and 2018 MacArthur Fellow whose work reconfigures subjects in art history, often reinserting African Americans into familiar narratives of the past. Surrounded by 18th-century stories of African-American soldiers before, during and after the Revolution, Kaphar's three-dimensional sculpture, titled "Forgotten Soldier," invites visitors to "shift their gaze" or look at history through a new lens to contemplate these soldiers

often overlooked in historical accounts. His paintings and sculptures have garnered a national spotlight in exhibits and have graced the cover of Time magazine twice; once in 2014 and most recently this month. The project is in partnership with the Williamsburg Contemporary Art Center.

Other significant loans on exhibit for a short time are: Dunmore's Proclamation of 1775 from the Albert and Shirley Small Special Collections Library, University of Virginia. The document by Lord Dunmore, the last royal governor of Virginia, promised freedom to all enslaved African Americans owned by rebelling Patriots, if they would serve and bear arms with loyalty to Great Britain.

For more information about "Forgotten Soldier," visit historyisfun.org/forgotten-soldier.

Supervisors to consider cell tower lease agreements

BY TYLER BASS

The Gloucester Board of Supervisors will return to in-person meetings this Tuesday at 7 p.m. The meeting will be held in the T.C. Walker Education Center auditorium and will include a public hearing to consider tower lease agreements between Gloucester County and Celco Partnership.

Celco would be doing business as Verizon Wireless for a five-year lease agreement, placing equipment on the Beehive Drive transmission tower and the Bellehaven Drive water tower. In exchange for the space, Gloucester would receive a total of \$41,600 annually for both towers.

The equipment would increase the cell service in the areas where the towers are located. A concern for the lease expressed by several

supervisors was the possibility of its interfering with future broadband development. The representative from Celco said that other companies would be able to lease space at other elevations if their equipment does not interfere with Verizon's.

Also on the agenda is a continued discussion of CARES Act funding. There is a chance that some of the funds can be used for COVID-19 related expenditures for the 2020 presidential election.

Though the meeting will be in person, Gloucester residents will still have the ability to submit citizen comments by mail or online as they have been doing for the past few months. However, the phone lines that were used to record voicemails for comments are no longer active.

PUBLIC CALENDAR

TUESDAY

COMMUNITY POLICY: The Gloucester County Community Policy and Management team will meet at 12:30 p.m. Tuesday via electronic means.

EDA: The Mathews County Economic Development Authority will meet at 4 p.m. Tuesday in the historic courthouse on Court Street.

SUPERVISORS: The Gloucester County Board of Supervisors will meet at 7 p.m. Tuesday at T.C. Walker Education Center. This will be the first in-person meeting of the Board of Supervisors has had since the shutdown.

WEDNESDAY

WETLANDS: The Gloucester County Wetlands Board and Chesapeake Bay Preservation & Erosion Commission will meet to take applications for shoreline erosion projects at 7 p.m. on Wednesday, July 8, in the colonial courthouse.

NEXT THURSDAY

PLANNING COMMISSION: The Gloucester County Planning Commission will meet at 7 p.m. next Thursday, July 9, at the T.C. Walker Education Center.

IN MEMORIAM



In Memory of
Jared Tyler Hudgins
March 28, 1985 - July 3, 2005

I found a picture of you
One that I had not seen in a while
I held it gently in my hands
Lost for a moment in your smile

I found a card from you
Written in your own special way
I held it gently in my hands
Lost for the moment in that day

Memories, sweet gifts from you
To allow my heart a breath
To let me be lost for a moment
To remember life not just death.

-Author unknown

Love, Mom, Dad, and Tara

In memory of
Harry Woodrow Atwell Sr.
Oct. 7, 1943 - July 5, 2017

Happy Birthday!

You've been gone for three years, seems like yesterday that you left. We miss you and love you so much. You will be in our hearts forever. Wife, Lucy and children, grandchildren & great-grandchildren



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Mathews County Superintendent of Schools Nancy Welch, center, accepts a pair of checks totaling \$25,000 to support the division's Summer Food Service Program. Making the presentation were MCF vice chairman Ron Lambert and Margaret Nost, Regional Affiliate Director of the Community Foundation of Greater Richmond, of which the MCF is a part. Lambert praised the Mathews Women's Giving Circle for contributing the lion's share of the emergency donation.

Mathews school board closes books on 2019-2020

BY CHARLIE KOENIG

The Mathews County School Board closed the financial books on the 2019-2020 school year during a special end-of-year meeting Tuesday morning in the Mathews High School media center.

Superintendent of Schools Nancy Welch reviewed the expenditures and revenues for the budget year that ended on June 30. Out of a budget of more than \$15.5 million, there is only \$109,765.89 that expected to remain as leeway for auditing purposes.

"That's our wiggle room," Welch said, "and that is very, very tight."

As of June 27, the school division paid out \$14,235,808.34 with estimated accruals in July and August of \$1,282,847.80 for expenses incurred during the current year. Once all the bills have been paid, any money left in the FY 2019-2020 budget reverts to the county.

School board member Jeanice Sadler suggested that supervisors be asked for some or all of the approximately \$100,000 remaining to be used for additional athletic department funds, once the fiscal year's accounts are settled. The topic of athletics came up later during Tuesday's meeting, with school board member Desmond Smith asking about the status of the upcoming sports season in light of COVID-19.

Welch replied that no decision has been made by the Virginia High School League yet, but she said that precautions surrounding the virus will likely result in additional expense as far as transporta-

tion for the teams, with more buses having to be used for away games. School board chairman John Priest also pointed out that athletic departments are dependent upon gate revenues to pay expenses, and restrictions placed on that source of revenue.

In other actions, the school board approved a number of new and revised policies, including one that spells out the procedure when law enforcement officers are at a school to interrogate a student. In that instance, the officer shall first report to the main office and the principal be notified of the request. The student's parents and the principal or his or her designee may be present for the interrogation if requested by the student. In any case, the parent or guardian will be notified as soon as practical that their child was interrogated by law enforcement.

Following a closed session, the board approved the resignation of MHS science teacher Betsy Little for the 2020-2021 school year.

Also following the closed session, Priest announced that he will not be accepting a salary as a school board member for the coming year. Priest said that in light of many people losing their jobs, and with him and his wife receiving \$2,400 in federal stimulus payments, he decided he would like to donate his salary back to the school district.

In final comments, Sadler praised the work that Welch has been doing to get ready for the coming school year.

"You are doing an exceptional job. I don't envy your position at all," Sadler told the superintendent. "I'd like to second that," Smith added.

Welch is continuing to develop plans for the fall reopening of school and will be reviewing the data from a community online survey that ended on June 30.

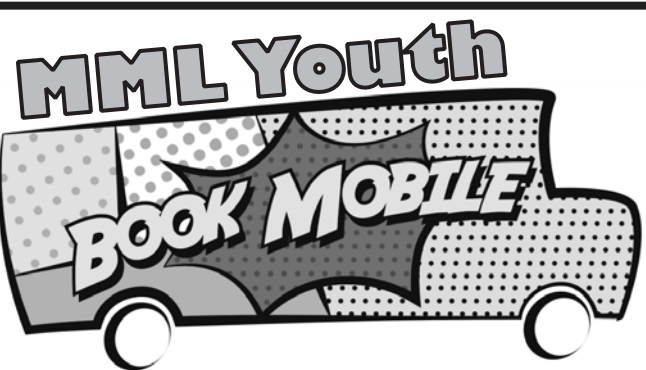
Summer Food Service Program

Prior to the start of Tuesday's meeting, Welch participated in a presentation with two members of the Mathews Community Foundation which had awarded a \$25,000 emergency grant in support of the school division's Summer Food Service Program.

Much of the money for the grant came from the Mathews Women's Giving Circle. Hosted by the Mathews Community Foundation, the Giving Circle seeks to support the well-being of women and families in the county.

The summer meals program will provide 50 days of breakfast and lunch to approximately 275 Mathews County students. Meals will be provided to all children without charge, on a first-come, first-served basis. Pickup will be held at the Mathews High School bus loop from 10:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. weekdays, with delivery upon request.

The school board will hold its annual retreat from 9 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. on Thursday, July 16 in the Thomas Hunter Middle School multipurpose room. The board's next regular monthly meeting will be held at 6 p.m. on the following Tuesday, July 21, in the MHS media center.



Mathews Memorial Library is launching a book mobile program for young readers running July 9-August 27. On Thursdays from 10:00-12:00, the book mobile will make stops throughout Mathews bringing books out of the library and into the community.

July 9 & 23; August 6 & 20

- 10-10:30** Gwynn's Island Civic Center
- 10:45-11:15** Mathews YMCA
- 11:30-12** Cobbs Creek Post Office

July 16 & 30; August 13 & 27

- 10-10:30** Bethel United Methodist Church
- 10:45-11:15** Port Haywood Post Office
- 11:30-12** Beulah United Methodist Church

804-725-5747 | www.mathewslibrary.org

Books provided by the Friends of Mathews Memorial Library

VIMS hosts 'Summer On the Bay Online' through August

Students can explore and learn about the Chesapeake Bay this summer through "Summer On the Bay Online," hosted by the Virginia Institute of Marine Science.

Join educators from the Chesapeake Bay National Estuarine Research Reserve (CBNERR) online every week from June 15-Aug. 31 to learn about estuaries, macroinvertebrates, dissection and more.

CBNERR educators will post a video for each topic, plus other resources like craft projects, online simulations and experiments students can do at home. There may even be some virtual field trips throughout the summer.

Materials will be mostly appropriate for elementary and middle school students, but can be adapted for high school students. The program is open to all, free of charge. Students can connect with education staff to ask questions, tell them what you've made or just say "Hi."

Check the Summer On the Bay webpage at www.vims.edu/cbnerr/summer-on-bay or the CBNERR Facebook page each week for the newest activities.

CCS to hold virtual open house

Christchurch School will host a Virtual Open House on Monday, July 27 for all who are interested. If you or someone you know would like to attend, contact the Middlesex County private school's Admission Office for more information, or sign up to receive online to receive information at www.christchurchschool.org/virtual-open-house-registration.

The school is also hosting weekly Friday morning "Coffee with Admission" Zoom sessions throughout the summer for anyone with questions.

The Admission Office remains open full-time, and is available for inquiries at 804-758-2306 ext. 122 and admissions@christchurchschool.org.

Printed with Soy Ink

Kindergarten Registration

Mathews County Public Schools will hold a "drive through" kindergarten registration for the 2020-2021 school year on July 13 from 10:00-12:00 and July 15 from 5:00-7:00 in the Lee-Jackson Elementary School parking lot. Eligible children must be 5 years of age on or before September 30, 2020. Parents will be required to fill out a Mathews County Public Schools' registration form, provide their driver's license and provide an original birth certificate for the child. Also required for registration is evidence of residency and a physical examination by a licensed physician and evidence of immunization. These documents can be faxed or emailed prior to the first day of school.

Staff will be on hand to deliver paperwork to vehicles and to collect the completed registration forms and documents as the school is closed to visitors at this time due to Covid-19. Parents/guardians can call the school if no one is present in the parking lot upon arrival.

Questions concerning registration should be directed to Lee Jackson Elementary School, (804)725-2580. Documents can be faxed to (804)725-3428.

Mathews County Public Schools is participating in the Summer Food Service Program. Meals will be provided to all children regardless of race, color, national origin, sex, age or disability, and there will be no discrimination in the course of the meal service. Meals will be provided, on a first-come, first-served basis, at the sites and times as follows:

*Pick up in the Mathews High School Bus Loop
Monday-Friday 10:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. Delivery by request.*

In accordance with Federal civil rights law and U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) civil rights regulations and policies, the USDA, its Agencies, offices, and employees, and institutions participating in or administering USDA programs are prohibited from discriminating based on race, color, national origin, sex, religious creed, disability, age, political beliefs, or reprisal or retaliation for prior civil rights activity in any program or activity conducted or funded by USDA.

Persons with disabilities who require alternative means of communication for program information (e.g., Braille, large print, audiotape, American Sign Language, etc.) should contact the Agency (State or local) where they applied for benefits. Individuals who are deaf, hard of hearing or have speech disabilities may contact USDA through the Federal Relay Service at (800) 877-8339. Additionally, program information may be made available in languages other than English.

To file a program complaint of discrimination, complete the USDA Program Discrimination Complaint Form (AD-3027) found online at: How to File a Complaint, and at any USDA office, or write a letter addressed to USDA and provide in the letter all of the information requested in the form. To request a copy of the complaint form, call (866) 632-9992. Submit your completed form or letter to USDA by:

- (1) mail: U.S. Department of Agriculture
Office of the Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights
1400 Independence Avenue, SW, Washington, D.C. 20250-9410
- (2) fax: (202) 690-7442; or
- (3) email: program.intake@usda.gov.

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Join us in congratulating our scholarship winner!

Kathryn Mew, a 2020 graduate of Mathews High School, was selected by the trustees of Mathews Memorial Library to receive an academic scholarship award. Kathryn will be attending the University of Richmond.



The Mathews Memorial Library Endowment Fund was established to encourage and support individuals choosing to pursue a career in library science or related fields. Additional information can be obtained by contacting the library at 804.725.5747

Honor rolls announced Thomas Hunter Middle

Thomas Hunter Middle School recently released its honor roll for the entire 2019-2020 school year. Students receiving all As were:

Fifth graders—Chase Ambrose, Kaitlyn Ball, Savannah Bass, Jayden Boyd, Shanell Conrow, Braden Cooper, Ivar Golden, Adam Greve, Addison Griffith, Charles Hyde, James McDevitt, Robert Owens, Asher Raub, Lilyana Respress, Jordan Sadeg, Zachary Salvadori, Zora Sawyer, Harmony Smith, Samuel Tomcany, Brandon Webb, Peyton West and Matthew Williams.

Sixth graders—Carys Casper, Elizabeth Congrove, Hannah Davis, Lyla Duff, James Gray III, Felicity Hartlove, John Hospodar, Sterling Hudgins Jr., Kaitlin Kidd, Hannah McBurney, Ivan Schaible, Nora Suthard, Kacey Walker, Ella Ward and Anna West.

Seventh graders—Baylee Bell, Kristin Blake, Shaleigh Conrow, Austin Davis, Gabrielle Dehnert, Grayson Griffith, Genesis Marroquin, Katherine Murphy, Patrick Norris, John Shaw and Suki Zheng.

Eighth graders—Alexandra Bass, Zoe Camp, Andrew Greve, Mary Hospodar, Emilee Jarvis, Autumn Jenkins, Madeline Miller, Annalise Morse and Sarah Moughon.

The following students were named to the A/B honor roll for the academic year:

Fifth graders—Izayia Altman, Tristan Barnes, Kilia Beavers, Lily Bell, Xxiver Bittner, Isaiah Booker, Vanessa Boyd, Johnathon Carnegie, Cydney Chilton, Dakota Cook, Kaitlin Gilliss, Jacob Green, David Harper, Samson Hartlove, Jacob Heimerich, Emma Hinsin, Caitlen Hudgins, Lori Hudgins, Lauren Johnson, Nyla-Marie Jones, Maddison Lowe, Cristian Miranda, Samuel Miranda, Jesse Monastyrly, James Morgan, Franklin Morse, Hayden Owens, Eleanor Patterson, Mason Perry, Jackson Rowe, Aaliyah Smith-Boone, Henry Sowers, Aimen

Suthard, John Vaziouracis, Roan Weber, Christian West, Gavin Williams, Chloe Winters and Julian Woodlen.

Sixth graders—Aidan Ashberry, Sebastian Bittner, Christopher Buchanan, Bryce Clarke, Emily Coons, Sean Craven, Tristan Downs, Holly Durbin, Adam Dustin, Toby Eskins, Nickolas Fomin, Nicholas Gandee, Rayann Helbig, Elias Hidalgo, Kristen Hudgins, Lilliana Humbles, Robert Hunley, Gustavo Jaquez Valdivia, Jonathan Jenkins, Isaac Johnson, Brayden Larson, Addison Morgan, Evelyn Newsome, Gavin Patrick, Abigail Ramsey, Emily Richardson, Emma Skaza, André Smith Jr., Kimball Starcher III, Morgan Stearns, Avery Thomas, Jayda Thomas, Sophia Verner and Leona Walker.

Seventh graders—Lindsay Coons, Jordyn Cosby, Caleb Deagle, Lillian DeForge, Hailey Denkinger, Lydia Hinsin, Haley Hoell, Carrie Hudgins, Marissa Hudgins, David James, Jerrell Johnson, Layla McBurney, Jacklynn Ottarson, Greenlee Owens, Promise Parlett, Addison Tisdale, Riley Tripp and Olivia Wilton.

Eighth graders—Jasmine Ashberry, Elijah Bates, Savannah Collins, Emerson Duff, Claire Kramer, Gabrielle Lewis, Coleman Pritchett, Emily Rosadino, Laura Rowe, Saniya Smith, Lauren Strigle, William Stroud and Clay Walker.

GHS grads receive major scholarships

Members of the Gloucester High School Class of 2020 have reported receiving the following scholarships and awards as they prepare to further their educations. The awards were announced as follows:

Alyssa Askew: \$1,000 Burger King Scholarship and \$2,000 Dominion Energy Credit Union Scholarship;

Evelyn Austin: \$2,000 VCU Emerging Leaders Program Scholarship and \$3,000 VCU Virginia Merit Award Scholarship;

Erin Bell: U.S. Naval Academy, \$220,000;

Macey Berg: \$1,000 Rappahannock Community College Scholarship;

Olivia Cohn: U.S. Coast Guard Academy, \$280,000; Mackenzie Crites-McDon-

ald: \$1,000 RCC Scholarship; Ashley Dickerson: \$1,000 RCC Scholarship;

Kylie Frush: \$74,000 Eastern Mennonite University Academic Scholarship;

Caela Gilsinan: \$25,000 in grants from the College of William and Mary;

Dasia Gray: \$1,000 RCC Scholarship;

Destiny Grace Morales: \$1,000 RCC Scholarship;

Andrew Reynolds: \$9,000 Regent University Founders Merit Scholarship; \$2,000 Regent University Honors College Scholarship, and \$1,000 Regent University Scholars Weekend Recognition Award;

Savannah Rose: \$10,190 from the Marion Military Institute for one year of prep studies, and U.S. Coast Guard Academy, \$280,000;

Lauren Rudisill: \$1,000 RCC Scholarship;

Kylee Simpson: \$1,000 RCC Scholarship; Lokelani Smith: \$3,500 Baldwin Wallace University Award; \$5,000 Baldwin Wallace Come Live the Experience Grant, and \$15,000 Fellows Scholarship;

MacKenzie Sullivan: \$103,000 from Berry College in Georgia;

Elianna Tirado: \$28,000 Hollins Scholar Award, and \$2,370 Hollins University Grant;

Laura Tobin: \$20,000 Meredith Merit Scholarship, \$6,600 Donor Supported Grant, and \$5,000 PepsiCo Foundation ExCel Award Scholarship;

Mary Waclow: \$5,000 RCC Scholarship;

Zane Musick-Williams: \$296,000 Cornell University Grant;

Alyssa Yarka: \$25,000 Horatio Alger Scholarship.



Be Responsible. Don't Drink & Drive

Don't risk your life or the life of someone else. If you plan on drinking, plan ahead and choose a designated driver or call a taxi service for a ride home.

These local businesses wish you a happy, healthy and safe Fourth of July:

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www.gazettejournal.net

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SCHOOL BRIEFS

Allison Kladler of Gloucester, has been named to the president's list at Coastal Carolina University in Conway, South Carolina, where she is majoring in marine science. The recognition requires a grade point average of 4.0.

Isabella Morande of Hayes, has been named to the spring semester dean's list at Shenandoah University where she is majoring in criminology and criminal justice. The recognition requires a grade point average of at least 3.50.

Rebekah Scheidegger of Gloucester, has been named to the spring 2020 dean's list at Cedarville University in Ohio. The recognition requires a minimum of 12 credit hours and a grade point average of 3.75 or higher for the semester.

Shelby Taylor of Gloucester, graduated from James Madison University this spring with a bachelor in fine arts degree in architectural design. She was also named to the 2020 spring semester dean's list which requires

a grade point average of between 3.5 and 3.899. Taylor has been accepted to Cornell University's Master of Architecture program with an advanced placement, which reduces the program from 3½ to 2½ years. Taylor has a passion for sustainable architecture and development and plans to pursue employment and projects in that field upon completing her studies at Cornell. She is working at York River Oyster Company this summer to save money for her move to Ithaca, New

York, in the fall. She is the daughter of Ron and Kerry Taylor of Gloucester.



Shelby Taylor

Amanda Boivin of Hayes, has been named to the 2020 spring semester president's list at James Madison University where she is majoring in English. The recognition requires at least 12 graded credit hours and a grade point average of 3.9 or above for the semester.

The following local students were named to the 2020 spring semester dean's list at JMU, which requires 12 graded credit hours and a GPA of between 3.5 and 3.899: **Kaitlyn Chaffin**, **Alissa Adickes**,

Ellis Finney, **Autumn Burgess**, **Afton Thayer** and **Jacob Nunn**, all of Gloucester; **Lauren Crossley** of Hayes; **Ashley Hudgins** and **Madeline Brown** of Hudgins, and **Addison Boyer** of Mathews.



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		<p>Hayes AUTO SALES 804-642-0098 www.hayesautosales.com</p>



GHS seniors receive large number of local scholarships

The following local scholarship awards to members of the Gloucester High School Class of 2020 have been announced by GHS:

Bayleigh Albert: \$500 Abingdon Episcopal Church Men's Club Bob Pollock Scholarship and \$1,000 Gloucester Sheriff's Office D.A.R.E. Scholarship;
 Julia Anderson: \$4,000 Dr. Jean Elizabeth Pugh Scholarship;
 Alyssa Askew: \$375 CTE Advisory Council Scholarship;
 Shauna Bailey: \$500 Gloucester Sheriff's Office Deputies for Education Scholarship;
 Macey Berg: \$2,000 Abingdon Ruritan Club Scholarship and \$1,500 Gloucester-Mathews Farm Bureau's Larry N. Oliver Memorial Scholarship;
 Carson Brooks: \$1,000 Amos G. West Memorial Scholarship;
 Aidan Collier: \$4,000 Cook Foundation Fine Arts Scholarship; \$1,000 Bethel Elementary School Scholarship; \$2,000 Adam Stephen Neely Scholarship and \$500 Peasley Middle School Scholarship;
 Audrey Conner: \$1,000 Gloucester Master Gardeners Scholarship;

Kristin Del Corso: \$500 Page Middle School Scholarship;
 Ashley Dickerson: \$1,000 Gloucester Point Rotary Club Scholarship;
 Kylie Frush: \$1,000 Marshland Expeditions Scholarship;
 Austin Gauthier: \$500 Gloucester Kiwanis Club Scholarship;
 Elizabeth Gill: \$1,000 Joyce Bascombe Memorial Scholarship; \$1,000 Gloucester Point Rotary Club Scholarship and \$4,000 Cook Foundation Fine Arts Scholarship;
 Caela Gilsinan: \$1,000 Soil and Water Conservation Association Scholarship;
 Colin Goetz: \$500 Gloucester Sheriff's Office Deputies for Education Scholarship and \$500 Gloucester-Mathews Gazette-Journal Excellence in English Scholarship;
 Caitlyn Green: \$4,000 Dr. Jean Elizabeth Pugh Scholarship and \$500 Petsworth Elementary School Scholarship;
 Lauren Hall: \$500 Abingdon Elementary School and PTO Scholarship;
 Diana Harwood: \$4,000 Dr. Jean Elizabeth Pugh Scholarship; \$1,000 Gloucester Point Rotary Club Scholarship; \$1,000 H. Maude Booker Memorial Scholarship and \$1,000 Gloucester Sheriff's Office

Deputies for Education Scholarship;
 Matthew Haydon: \$375 CTE Advisory Council Scholarship;
 Daniel Hook: \$500 Guinea Heritage Association C.B. Rowe Memorial Scholarship and \$1,000 Gloucester-Mathews Farm Bureau Scholarship;
 Hunter-Paige Johnson: \$500 Bellamy United Methodist Church Scholarship;
 Makenna Keyes: \$500 Guinea Heritage Association Scholarship;
 Isaiah Lester: \$250 Bill Hudgins Automotive Scholarship;
 Charles McKeller: \$4,000 Dr. Jean Elizabeth Pugh Scholarship; \$1,000 Gloucester Master Gardeners Scholarship; \$1,000 Mary Driver Robinson Scholarship and \$1,000 Amos G. West Memorial Scholarship;
 Ainsley Miller: \$1,000 GHS Athletic Booster Club Scholarship and \$250 Bill Hudgins Automotive Scholarship;
 Kathryn Neikirk: \$3,000 Gloucester Sheriff's Office D.A.R.E. Scholarship; \$700 Abingdon Ruritan Club Scholarship; \$2,000 Abingdon Episcopal Church Men's Club Bob Pollock Scholarship; \$500

Gloucester Field Hockey Club Scholarship; \$1,000 Martha Elizabeth Hogge Memorial Scholarship; \$2,000 Betty and Turnley Todd Educational Foundation Scholarship and \$500 Page Middle School PTA Scholarship;
 Daryn Olsen: \$1,000 Dirk R. Rhodes Memorial Scholarship;
 Eleanor Pohorence: \$1,000 Martha Borden Memorial Scholarship;
 Christopher Potter: \$2,000 Betty and Turnley Todd Educational Foundation Scholarship;
 Olivia Rich: \$4,000 Dr. Jean Elizabeth Pugh Scholarship; \$500 Peasley Middle School Scholarship; \$1,000 Shop With A Cop Bob Harder Scholarship; \$1,000 Robert W. Orrell scholarship and \$500 Gloucester Band Boosters Michael Haury Scholarship;
 Alexandria Riva: \$500 Short Lane Ice Cream Company Scholarship and \$1,000 Gloucester Point Rotary Club Scholarship;
 Nicholas Robbins: \$500 Guinea Heritage Association Mac Sisson Technical Scholarship;
 Margaret Ronan: \$1,000 Abingdon Woman's Club Scholarship; \$5,000 Arena

Stone Memorial Scholarship; \$500 Gloucester Kiwanis Club Scholarship and \$1,000 Gloucester Retired Educators Association Carris Harris Scholarship;
 Faith Ronquest: \$1,000 Etta Lewis Anderton Scholarship;
 Lauren Rudisill: \$1,000 Ann Burruss Memorial Scholarship;
 Alyssa Smith: \$1,000 Dukes Touchdown Club Scholarship;
 Mackenzie Smith: \$1,000 GHS Athletic Booster Club Scholarship;
 Cassidy Taggart: \$1,000 Botetourt Masonic Lodge Doswell Dutton Scholarship; \$750 Gloucester Sheriff's Office Deputies for Education Scholarship and \$2,000 Gloucester Sheriff's Office D.A.R.E. Scholarship;
 Margaret Teagle: \$1,000 Botetourt Masonic Lodge Doswell Dutton Scholarship; \$500 Bellamy United Methodist Church Scholarship and \$1,000 Amos G. West Memorial Scholarship;
 Laura Tobin: \$1,000 Amos G. West Memorial Scholarship;
 Mary Vaughan: \$500 Abingdon Elementary School Staff Scholarship;
 Mary Waclou: \$1,000 Gloucester Retired Educators Scholarship; \$1,000

Gloucester Point Rotary Club Scholarship; \$1,000 Gloucester Sheriff's Office D.A.R.E. Scholarship; \$500 Bellamy United Methodist Church Scholarship and \$1,000 Amos G. West Memorial Scholarship;
 Taylor West: \$1,000 Gloucester Retired Educators Association Carris Harris Scholarship;
 Hailey Williams: \$1,000 Gloucester Retired Educators Association Carris Harris Scholarship; \$500 Gloucester Education Association Scholarship; \$750 Page Middle School Choral Boosters Alumni Scholarship; \$1,000 Amos G. West Memorial Scholarship and \$1,000 Gloucester Band Boosters Elaine Sydney Scholarship;
 Farren Winter: \$4,000 Cook Foundation Fine Arts Scholarship; \$1,000 Mullins Edmonds Athletic Scholarship; \$4,000 Abingdon Ruritan Club Scholarship; \$1,000 Amos G. West Memorial Scholarship; \$2,500 David and Gay Byrd Achievement Scholarship \$500 Gloucester Choral Booster Club Scholarship; \$500 Gloucester Field Hockey Club Scholarship and \$500 Bellamy United Methodist Church Scholarship.

RCC prepares for fall semester

Rappahannock Community College's fall semester begins Aug. 24, but the coming academic year will look a lot different from years past, with many of the classes being offered online, the college announced last week.

"All of us are eager to return to our campuses and see each other in person, but we also know that the health and safety of our students, faculty, and staff come first," RCC president Dr. Shannon L. Kennedy said. "Much remains uncertain about the impact COVID-19 will have on us this fall, so in our plans, RCC recognizes that conditions will likely change throughout the semester."

All RCC courses will have a Canvas online presence to support its students, and most will be offered in one of its approved distance learning formats with the majority online either as a course that can be accessed by students at any time or a course via Zoom where students will attend class at the same time with the instructor.

Students attending courses that require the use of RCC facilities for hands-on instruction will either return to a campus or another RCC-designated site for the required training (e.g., Diesel, Engineering Technology, HVAC, Nursing, science labs and Workforce Development (Machining, Welding, CDL).

The fall 2020 schedule will be updated to reflect any changes in delivery modes and registered students will be notified. Computer labs and libraries will be open to limited numbers of student users to provide necessary services while maintaining

appropriate social distancing. The majority of student services will continue to be delivered remotely and there will be no campus events, either for students, employees or external organizations, until further notice.

Individuals who exhibit any of the symptoms of the coronavirus, or who have had direct exposure to someone testing positive for COVID-19 or who have traveled to areas meeting CDC criteria for self-quarantine, will be required to undergo a 14-day self-isolation period.

RCC announced that it is taking these steps to support the health and wellness of the college community. The college will continue to offer telework options for its employees who can perform the essential functions of their jobs remotely, particularly those at higher risk of developing a severe illness from COVID-19.

All students and employees will be required to complete

"Return to Campus" training before returning to RCC's campuses, centers or sites. Face coverings are required for all individuals on its campuses or sites while such precautions continue to be recommended by public health restrictions.

The school will develop a protocol to monitor health conditions to detect infection, and there will be increased cleaning and disinfection of highly trafficked areas, with the periodic closing of spaces for extended periods of time for deep cleaning.

RCC's fall 2020 semester will conclude on Dec. 11.

"I trust everyone to promote and exhibit safe behaviors as decreasing the spread of the virus is a shared responsibility," Kennedy said. "We have an obligation to each other to help reduce the spread and stop any resurgence of COVID-19."

Wittman, Rashid begin discussions on Congressional debate schedule

Now that the candidates are set for November's 1st Congressional District election, incumbent Rep. Rob Wittman (R-Montross) has extended an offer to his Democratic challenger, Qasim Rashid, to participate in a pair of nonpartisan debates.

Rashid, who defeated Vangie Williams in a June 23 primary to be the Democratic Party standard bearer, has replied that he would like to have a series of six debates held around the district.

"I believe it is important to offer constituents of the First District an opportunity to hear our competing visions for the future presented side-by-side and in our own words as they prepare to cast their ballots in November," the letter from Wittman to Rashid reads. "It is no secret that this historic 2020 election cycle is

expected to be riddled with partisan bickering and misleading attacks that too often mar our political system. It is also my sincere hope that our campaigns will rebuff this trend and conduct ourselves in a positive manner that will reflect favorably on the citizens of Virginia's First District."

Wittman said that "I look forward to the prospect of an open, honest and spirited discussion of the issues facing Virginia's First Congressional District and our nation."

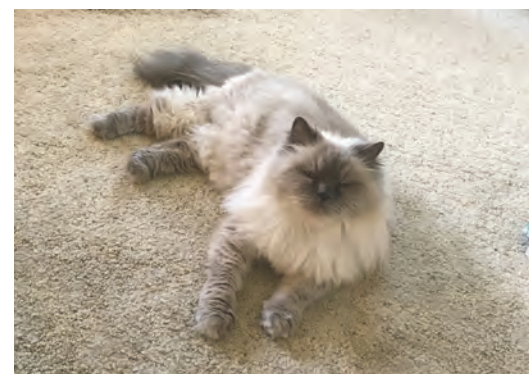
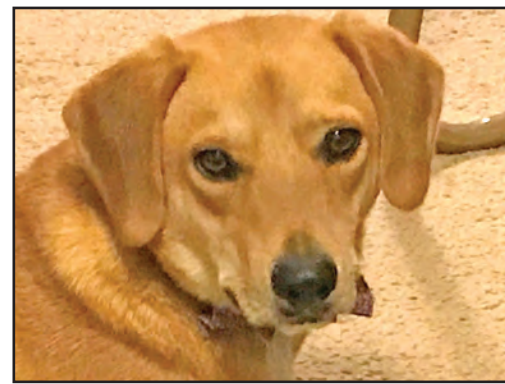
"We learned about Rep. Wittman's letter and debate requests to us via his public Facebook post," Dale Wolf of Rashid's campaign replied. "We found it interesting that he condemned 'partisan attacks' but said nothing when President Trump promoted 'the only good Democrat is a dead Democrat' statement—

even when we respectfully asked him to uphold civility and condemn the President's violent statement."

"Once we receive Rep. Wittman's mailed letter we will have a more formal response to his debate requests," Wolf said. "However at this juncture we can make it clear that two debates isn't nearly enough to fully address the needs of the constituents of the 1st District. In listening to the needs of our constituents, we will formally request six debates held around the district, discussing the issues that are important to voters. This will better ensure transparency and accessibility to every constituent in our district, particularly during this pandemic, and particularly for the nearly 100,000 constituents who still do not have broadband internet access."

2020 Official Rules:

1. The Gazette-Journal Photography contest is strictly for amateur photographers. Any photograph taken after January 1, 2019 is eligible.
2. Include information on coupon below. Entries may be emailed to rsouth@gazettejournal.net, brought to our offices or mailed to the Gazette-Journal.
3. Entrants by their entry agree the Gazette-Journal may publish their pictures for local promotion of the contest.
4. Employees of the Gazette-Journal and their immediate family members are not eligible to enter the contest. For the purpose of this contest, immediate family means anyone residing in the same household.
5. Entries must be suitable for publication in a community newspaper.
6. One entry per photographer.
7. Photos will become property of the Gazette-Journal and will not be returned.
8. First place winner wins a gift certificate of your choice to any advertiser in the pet section.



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I have read the competition rules and affirm that this entry is in compliance with them.

Signature of Entrant _____

Deadline for entries is July 24 and the winners will be announced Aug. 6.



Scholarship

Farren Winter, a member of the Gloucester High School Class of 2020, received a \$1,000 Garland K. Keeling Memorial Scholarship from the Hampton Roads Chapter of the Virginia Credit Union League.

Deltas win in ninth-inning comeback, split weekend series

BY STEPHEN BLUE

Last weekend was one of improvement for the Deltaville Deltas. Consecutively, they lost, tied, and won their three game series, capping the weekend with a ninth-inning comeback victory on Sunday afternoon against the Richmond El Heaters.

Thursday night's loss to the Mechanicsville 101s was not a league contest. The team sits with a record of 2-1-1 overall, and 1-0-1 in league play, in a tie for third place in the National Adult Baseball Association Richmond league.

Deltaville returns home on Saturday night for a July 4 showdown with the Tappanahannock Tides at 7:30. On Monday, the Deltas travel back to Richmond for a 7 p.m. matchup with the Richmond Mets.

Mechanicsville 11, Deltas 2

The Deltas got off to a hot first-inning start, but the pitchers of the Mechanicsville 101s doused the home team's bats for the final eight innings and cruised to an 11-2 victory over Deltaville on Thursday night.

The action started quickly in the bottom of the first, with Travis Crump and Alexander Crittenden reaching base and scoring on back-to-back base hits from Ryan Pastirik and Tyler West to give Deltaville an early 2-0 lead. Unfortunately for the home team, that would be the most the offense could muster against the highly talented roster of Mechanicsville.

The 101s plated three runs in the second inning to take a 3-2 lead, and took advantage of a series of defensive errors and walks in the 3rd inning to plate three more runs, extending their lead to 6-2.

Deltaville pitcher Jason

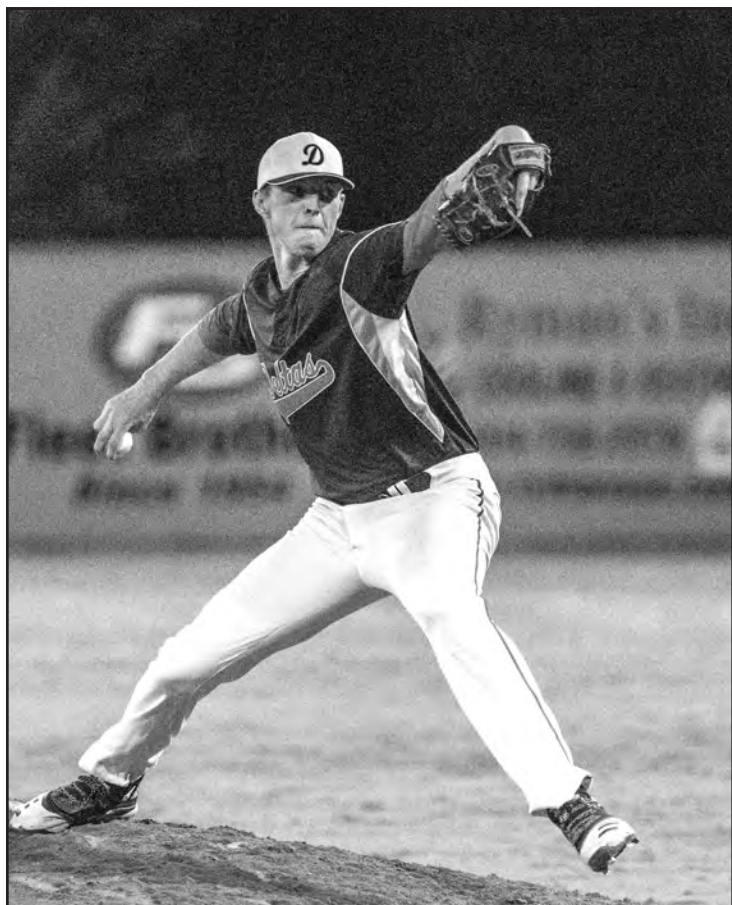


PHOTO BY STEPHEN BLUE

Wood stymied the hot-hitting Mechanicsville 101s for three innings of relief work, striking out six in the process.



PHOTO BY STEPHEN BLUE

Wood stymied the hot-hitting Mechanicsville 101s for three innings of relief work, striking out six in the process.

Wood stymied the 101s offense for the next few innings, but a solo shot in the seventh and a three more runs in the 8th off walks and errors negated any hopes for a late-inning comeback.

Tyler Winegrad was the starting pitcher and was charged with the loss, pitching just 1 2/3 innings before being removed for injury. Sisson and Wood were joined by Cole Stamm and Spencer Crittenden in relief, with Wood leading the effort with six strikeouts and just one earned run over three innings.

Deltas 7, Team Woody 7

Baseball isn't supposed to end in ties, but due to time constraints on many of the league's metropolitan fields, the Richmond NABA has a league-wide "no new inning after three hours" rule. That rule cut short a classic back-and-forth matchup between 2019's top two teams on Saturday night.

Richmond Team Woody scored a pair of runs in the top of the ninth inning to even the score at 7-7, and the time limit rule prevented any extra innings being played.

The game was full of exciting score swings. Travis Crump and Ryan Wiggins led off the bottom of the 1st inning with back-to-back hits, and RBI hits from Colby Roberts, Jacob Houston, and Scott Crump put the Deltas on top 4-0.

Team Woody rebounded with a run in the second and four more runs in the third to take a 5-4 lead. The score remained there until the bottom of the fifth when Deltaville retook the lead thanks to RBIs from Roberts and S. Crump once again.

Roberts' three hits and four RBIs led all hitters. No pitching decision was charged in

the sixth, scoring T. Crump to give Deltaville a two-run advantage.

Undaunted, Team Woody did not back down, plating two runs in the ninth to tie the game. Roberts managed a two-out hit for the Deltas in the bottom of the ninth but a hot shot up the middle that might have scored him was knocked down by the pitcher's ankle, and after the put-out was made the game ended in a tie.

Roberts' three hits and four RBIs led all hitters. No pitching decision was charged in

the tie. Nicky Wohleking led four Deltas pitchers on the stat sheet with 4 2/3 innings of relief, allowing just one run while striking out four.

Deltas 5, El Heaters 3

On Sunday afternoon in Richmond, a pitchers' duel broke out between Deltaville's Jay Moore and Richmond's Justin Bishop. The game ended in more ninth-inning theatrics, this time in favor of Deltaville team, which scored three runs to take the lead and win by the score of 5-3.

Moore pitched into the sixth inning, yielding a lone run in the fourth inning that gave Richmond a 1-0 lead for the majority of the afternoon. The Deltas finally got to Bishop in the seventh when Alexander Crittenden reached base, advanced on a sacrifice bunt by Colby Roberts, and scored on a sacrifice fly from Jacob Houston.

Richmond fired back with a two-run single in the bottom of the seventh, and Deltaville responded in the eighth with a run off the bat of Ryan Wiggins, who knocked in Tyler Wood.

In the ninth, down 3-2, it was time for Deltaville to have a comeback. Roberts singled to lead off the inning, advanced to third, and scored the tying run by stealing home on a wild pitch. Spencer Crittenden and Houston both reached base, and an infield single by S. Crump scored the go-ahead run.

Moore's solid start on the mound ended before the Deltas took the lead, and the pitching win was credited to S. Crittenden, who pitched 3 1/3 innings of solid relief. Offensively, Tyler West and Houston paced the Deltas hit sheet, with two hits apiece.

Friends of Dragon Run to hold short paddle season over three July weekends

The Friends of Dragon Run's Board of Directors has approved a short summer

paddle season during mid-July. Based on CDC and Virginia guidelines, a number

of special precautions will be in place in response to the COVID-19 pandemic.

At all times while on land, crew and guests must wear masks (during equipment fitting, launch and takeout). "If you are not willing or able to wear a mask, please do not make a reservation," a release stated.

The season will be held July 10-13, 17-20 and 24-27. If there is sufficient demand for reservations, the Friends of the Dragon Run will consider adding two Thursdays (July 16 and 23).

Group size is limited for the upcoming paddle season—six guests maximum for each paddle.

There will be a different route this year, with a round-trip course to avoid having to carpool guests and crew back to where they left their cars. Participants will drive to and launch from private property on the Dragon Run, paddle downstream for

about 1.5 hours just past the new eagle's nest, then turn around and paddle upstream for about 1.5 hours, and take out at the same property. "This paddle will be a bit more strenuous than our usual route," the release stated.

Participants are asked to arrive at the launch/takeout by 8:15 a.m. in order to be on the water by 9 to avoid the hottest part of the day.

Prior to each paddle, the kayaks, paddles and life vests will be sanitized. The porta-potties will be sprayed with a sanitizing solution.

To comply with social distancing requirements, guests will be asked to move between marked stations in staggered fashion to get fitted with vests, kayaks, and any other equipment. On the water, the smaller group size and different route will allow

the Friends of the Dragon Run to avoid tight clusters, and the paddlers will pass through only a few gated beaver dams.

There will be no use of individual radios or headsets or earpieces. The paddlers will not stop for an extended group lunch break, but will make several short stops for participants to hydrate, so bring water and snacks.

A link to SignUp Genius will be on the organization's website (www.dragonrun.org). A suggested donation of \$50 will reserve a seat on the selected day. Refunds will be offered in case the trip is canceled due to bad weather, if a paddler is feeling ill, or is unable to comply with the COVID-19 precautions.

For more information, email President@dragonrun.org.

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'Operation Dry Water' campaign designed to stop boating under influence

This weekend, the Virginia Department of Wildlife Resources (formerly Department of Game and Inland Fisheries), in partnership with the National Association of State Boating Law Administrators and the U.S. Coast Guard, will be participating in the national Operation Dry Water heightened awareness and enforcement weekend.

The July 4 holiday means time on the water for boaters across the United States.

With the increase in boater activity on the water, there is also an increase in the number of boating incidents and fatalities that take place during this time.

DWR's Conservation Police Officers will be on heightened alert for boat operators that are under the influence. Beginning Friday and continuing through the holiday weekend, CPOs will also be working to increase public awareness of the

dangers of boating under the influence of alcohol or drugs, for both operators and passengers.

Boaters will notice an overall increase in officer patrols on the water, a DWR release stated. The combined efforts of the participating law enforcement agencies will result in the removal of impaired operators from the nation's waterways,

SEE BOATING, PAGE 16A

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No festival, but Marshall, Sanders win Gwynn's Island 'By Appointment' run

The Gwynn's Island "By Appointment" four-mile run held Saturday by Vir-

ginia Tidewater Trailrunners brought home Douglas Marshall as the top runner.

Marshall, 46, finished the course in 24:53.6. Ian Nakayama, 22, had the

second best time in 29:42.4; and Thomas Light, 52, was third in 31:47.5

Sarah Sanders was the top female runner. Sanders, 38, finished seventh overall out of 17 runners, in 35:39.2. Second- and third-place female runners were Amy Mulholland, 53, in 35:42.1; and Amanda Hall, 44, in 36:34.0.

This run is usually part of the Gwynn's Island Festival. While the festival was canceled this year because of COVID-19, the run's organizers set up safety protocols and went ahead with the competition.



Douglas Marshall, left, won the "By Appointment" four-mile race on Gwynn's Island on Saturday, and Sarah Sanders, right, was top female runner.

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Local anglers pulling in citation catches

Cobia, red drum and speckled trout have netted citations for a number of local anglers in recent weeks.

Cobia season opened June 1 and as usual, York Spit Light has produced a number of the citation fish. The minimum size for a cobia citation is 55 pounds, or 50 inches for a catch-and-release citation. A cobia caught in Virginia waters must be at least 40 inches long to be put in the cooler.

Among cobia citations issued as of June 24, reported in the weekly vasaltwaterjournal.com, was one for a 57-pound, 11-ounce fish caught June 4 at York Spit by

Cassie Rilee of Gloucester, casting lures;

Red drum continue to produce large fish. This species is eligible for a release citation only, for fish measuring at least 46 inches in length. In Virginia, only red drum measuring 18 to 26 inches can be kept.

Receiving red drum citations were the following:

Carter Cooke of Hudgins, 48-inch fish caught June 6 while casting lures at York Spit;

Jason Hall of Mathews, 48-inch fish caught June 6 while casting lures at York Spit;

Paul L. Reynolds of Hayes, 50-inch fish caught June 3 in-

shore, just off Virginia Beach, while casting lures;

Jeananne Reynolds of Hayes, 48-inch fish caught June 3 inshore while casting lures off Virginia Beach, and

Michael Keith Mallon of Hayes, 52-inch fish caught May 31 in the lower York River while casting lures.

Speckled Trout
 Large speckled trout are bringing home citations for local anglers as well. For a citation, a speck must weigh five pounds or measure 24 inches. The minimum keeper size is 14 inches.

Citation winners for speckled trout have included:

Alan W. Moe of Hudgins, a

6-pound, 9-ounce fish caught June 7 while casting lures in the Piankatank River;

James H. Marshall Jr. of Gloucester, a 5-pound, 1-ounce fish caught June 6 while casting lures in the Ware River;

Herbert Haywood of Dutton, a 7-pound, 2-ounce fish caught June 6 while casting lures in Mobjack Bay;

Brian Hogge of Gloucester, a 5-pound, 10-ounce fish caught June 4 while casting lures in Ware River, and

Maurice Leone of Gloucester, a 6-pound, 1-ounce fish caught June 2 while jigging in the Ware River.

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Wes Strong Croaker Tournament to be held Aug. 8

The second annual Wes Strong Croaker Tournament will be held Saturday, Aug. 8, from Dare Marina and Yacht Sales in Yorktown.

The tournament is named

for Wes Pak, a young man who died at age 12 from neuroblastoma. A poster announcing the competition said he dreamed of becoming a marine biologist, to help others and the environment.

Funds raised from the tournament will benefit the Wes Strong Foundation which, its website wesstrong.org says,

has "a passion to change the views of the world and fight for the children who battle on a daily basis with the monster known as childhood cancer."

The tournament entry fee is \$30 per person, with cash prizes planned.

For more information, visit wesstrongfishing2020.eventbrite.com.

Spot tournament to benefit GHS scholarship fund

Mark your calendars for Saturday, Sept. 19, the date of the third annual Amos G. West Spot Fish Tournament.

The annual event benefits the Amos G. West Scholarship Fund which last year provided seven scholarships of \$1,000 each to Gloucester High School seniors, an announcement said.

Cash prizes are planned as follows: six largest fish total weight, \$1,000 for first place and \$500 for second place; largest single spot, man, \$250, woman, \$250, and child 12 or under, \$250.

The entry fee is \$150 per boat, which also earns each boat four tickets for prize drawings. Additional prize tickets are \$5 each.

Additional donations are appreciated and will be listed with the scholarship, the notice said.

Amos West was born in Gloucester and grew up on the water in Achilles. He learned the local waters from his father, Russell West, and Amos retired from Hampton City Schools where he had been an administrator, coach, and biology teacher. He died in 2018, the year of the first tournament. "We want everyone to have fun," said the announcement of the tournament. "Amos sure did when he fished, and that

was often."

After fishing all day, anglers must weigh in at Lockwood's Carpets, Gloucester, by 5 p.m.

Mail entry checks with boat name, captain's name and contact info to Kristee West Georgiou, 3217 Severn Wharf Road, Hayes, Va. 23072.

For more information, call Jim Lockwood (804-824-4200), Shirley Hogge (757-509-0733) or Kristee Georgiou (804-824-4080).

BOATING

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 15A)

providing a safe and enjoyable experience for boaters.

In Virginia, it is illegal to operate a vessel with a blood alcohol content of 0.08 percent or higher. The Department of Wildlife Resources reminds boaters to always boat sober and to wear a life jacket when on the water.

Operation Dry Water is an annual boating under the influence awareness and enforcement campaign.

Visit operationdrywater.org or VA DWR Boating Laws for more information about boating under the influence.

LOCAL TIDES		
Mobjack Bay, East River Entrance		
	HIGH	LOW
Thursday	7:11 a.m.	1:15 a.m.
7/2	7:44 p.m.	1:12 p.m.
Friday	8:07 a.m.	2:11 a.m.
7/3	8:38 p.m.	2:07 p.m.
Saturday	8:59 a.m.	3:03 a.m.
7/4	9:29 p.m.	2:59 p.m.
Sunday	9:48 a.m.	3:53 a.m.
7/5	10:12 p.m.	3:50 p.m.
Monday	10:37 a.m.	4:39 a.m.
7/6	11:03 p.m.	4:39 p.m.
Tuesday	11:23 a.m.	5:24 a.m.
7/7	11:48 p.m.	5:26 p.m.
Wednesday		6:07 a.m.
7/8	12:07 p.m.	8:13 p.m.

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

THE SUN THIS WEEK		
	Sunrise	Sunset
7/2	5:50 a.m.	8:29 p.m.
7/3	5:51 a.m.	8:28 p.m.
7/4	5:51 a.m.	8:28 p.m.
7/5	5:52 a.m.	8:28 p.m.
7/6	5:52 a.m.	8:28 p.m.
7/7	5:53 a.m.	8:28 p.m.
7/8	5:54 a.m.	8:27 p.m.

THE MOON THIS WEEK		
	Moonrise	Moonset
7/2	6:11 p.m.	3:31 a.m.
7/3	7:18 p.m.	4:16 a.m.
7/4	8:19 p.m.	5:07 a.m.
7/5	9:14 p.m.	6:04 a.m.
7/6	10:00 p.m.	7:05 a.m.
7/7	10:39 p.m.	8:02 a.m.
7/8	11:13 p.m.	9:09 a.m.

JULY MOON PHASES		
Full moon	7/5	
Last quarter	7/12	
New moon	7/20	
First quarter	7/27	

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COVID-19 NUMBERS

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1A)
tencies don't affect the overall trends on which he bases his decision-making and risk assessments.

Mathews County added a single case on Tuesday, for a total of six cases in the county, which had been without a new case for over seven weeks. Williams said the low number of cases in Mathews is likely due to the county's rural nature. "The less time we spend close to others, the better protected we are," he said.

This generally holds true across the Three Rivers Health District, said Williams. He said the district is in a favorable position to support phased reopening activities.

"We have always been able to maintain our containment activities, and expect to be able to do so for the future," he said. "Our rural nature does serve to protect us via lower population density. We are fortunate in that regard."

Since March, two people in Mathews have had to be hospitalized for the virus, and there have been no deaths in the county. Neighboring Middlesex County has held steady, with a total of 15 cases, one hospitalization, and no deaths.

Two new outbreaks related to businesses have occurred in the Three Rivers Health District over the past week, but Williams said he couldn't provide the identity of the businesses, the individuals involved, or the localities in which the outbreaks occurred. He said the sources of the outbreaks are likely community spread and people traveling to the area from out of state.

The district as a whole has seen a total of 648 cases of COVID-19, with 41 of those added during the past week. Cumulatively, 49 people have been hospitalized, and there have been nine deaths in the district.

Statewide, there were 63,203

cases of the illness in Virginia as of Wednesday morning, with 2,675 of those yet to be confirmed. There has been a cumulative total of 6,262 hospitalizations for COVID-19, 34 of them listed as probable, and 1,786 deaths due to the illness, with 105 of those considered probable.

Testing across the state continues to be robust, with 81,945 PCR tests conducted statewide over the past week, for a total of 655,958 PCR tests conducted since testing first began in March. The rate of positive tests was 6.1 percent as of Wednesday morning. In the Three Rivers District, 10,156 PCR tests have been conducted thus far, with a 4.7 percent positive rate.

The Virginia Hospital and Healthcare Association, which conducts a daily tally of the number of people currently in hospitals statewide, reported on Wednesday that a total of 892 people with COVID-19 were in Virginia hospitals at that time. Of those people, 535 had tested positive for the virus, while 357 had pending test results. There were 205 people with COVID-19 in ICUs across the state as of Wednesday morning, with 95 of them on ventilators, continuing a downward trend seen over the past few weeks.

Hospitals continued to report an adequate supply of ventilators, with 3,033 on hand statewide as of Wednesday morning, 645 of which were in use. Bed availability also continued to hold steady, with 3,646 of the regular available that can accommodate COVID-19 patients available, and an additional 3,695 beds available under Executive Order 52, which allows an increase in licensed bed capacity in an emergency.

Northam prohibits seating in bars as state enters Phase Three

Bar seating in restaurants remains prohibited in Virginia under a decision made by Gov. Ralph Northam just hours before the state was scheduled to begin moving into Phase Three of reopening at midnight on Tuesday. In addition, a statewide requirement to wear face coverings in indoor public spaces remains in place.

To reduce the likelihood of patrons gathering in bar areas without observing social distancing guidelines, bar seating and congregating areas of restaurants will remain closed except for those pass-

ing through, according to a release from the governor's office. Restaurants may use non-bar seating in their bar areas, as long as a minimum of six feet between tables is provided.

Northam made the announcement regarding the bar seating on Tuesday afternoon in light of the rise in COVID-19 cases in other states that have allowed restaurants to reopen their bar seating areas.

"I am watching what is happening in other states," said Northam. "If our public health metrics begin moving

in the wrong direction, I will not hesitate to take action to protect the health and safety of our communities."

The press release points out positive factors in Virginia that the governor took into consideration when making the decision to implement the Phase Three reopening plan. These include a significant decrease in the number of people hospitalized with COVID-19, just a 6 percent positive rate in tests conducted, ample supplies of personal protective equipment in hospitals, and a force of over 1,200 contact tracers

working statewide.

However, the governor said that, even with these positive signs, Virginians continue to remain safer at home, especially if they are in the high-risk or vulnerable population. He also said that people must continue to wear masks when in indoor public spaces. They should also continue to telework if possible, wash their hands regularly, maintain six feet of physical distance from others when outside of the home, and get tested immediately if they have COVID-19 symptoms.

TPMG to conduct COVID-19 investigational treatment trial

Tidewater Physicians Multi-specialty Group has recently been awarded a new COVID-19 investigational treatment trial for patients with mild to moderate symptoms not requiring hospitalization.

The TPMG Clinical Research Division in Williamsburg is one of a handful of sites in the country that will be conducting the study.

TPMG board-certified pul-

monologist Dr. Vijay Subramaniam will be the principal investigator on the therapeutic study and is looking for patients who have been recently diagnosed with the novel coronavirus.

In order to be considered for the study, participants must meet the following criteria: have been notified within 72 hours of a positive diagnosis for COVID-19, and present

COVID-19 related symptoms (fever, cough, shortness of breath). All active participants will be compensated for their time.

"This is an incredible opportunity for the Williamsburg division, and we are proud to have been awarded this study," said Subramaniam. "We hope the data we collect from this trial will improve clinical outcomes and allow us

to better serve our local community as we continue to combat and diminish the spread of the novel coronavirus."

The TPMG clinical research division is looking to screen 300 to 500 patients for this study. For more information on enrollment in the study, contact the Williamsburg Clinical Research Division at 757-741-0981 or visit <http://clinicaltrial.net>.

DRIVE-THRU TESTING: 464 tests given Monday at GHS

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 17A)
five days, said Williams. Anyone with a positive test will be contacted immediately to initiate case investigation and contact tracing. People with negative tests will also be contacted and informed of their results, he said.

The process was a quick and smooth one for participants. Guides directed cars to line up across the parking lot as they arrived, and the line of cars moved along the outer perimeter of the parking lot with little delay.

Participants in the testing were greeted first by

personnel who handed the driver a clipboard containing paperwork to be filled out, with minimal information required—name, address, telephone, email, sex, race, ethnicity. At a second station, the clipboards were

collected, and at a third, the paperwork was turned in, a nasal swab was performed, and the participant drove away.

A similar testing event was held yesterday at Washing-

ton and Lee High School in Westmoreland County.

For information about future testing events in the Three Rivers Health District, visit www.vdh.virginia.gov/three-rivers or call 804-758-2381.

DMV CREDENTIALS

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 5A)
exceed Aug. 31. If a credential expires after July 31, it must be renewed before its expiration date.

As of June 25, 35 of the

75 DMV Customer Service Centers in Virginia have reopened and are accepting appointments. For the latest DMV information, visit dmvNOW.com/COVID-19.

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