



**FREE
TAKE ONE**



BE THERE: New cuisine at Cape Charles Distillery | Page 10



BE THERE: Miniature train town in Pocomoke | Page 12

PUBLIC ART ON THE EASTERN SHORE

A photo collection | Pages 6-9

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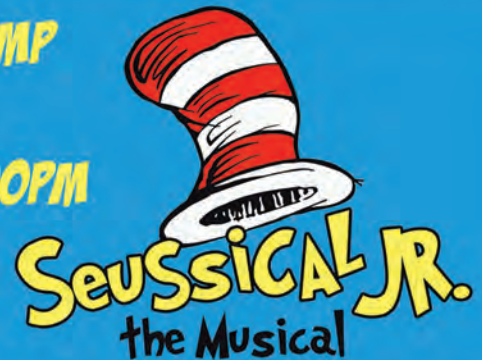
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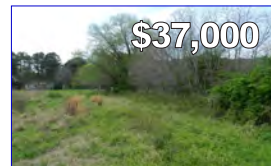
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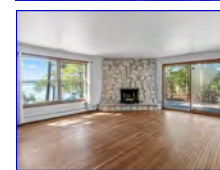
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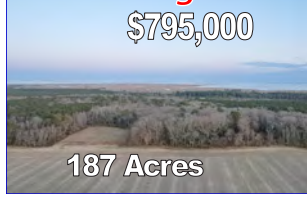
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Information contained herein believed accurate but not warranted.
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Tuesday, May 13 | Wachapreague Birding social

BIRDING SOCIAL: 5 to 7 p.m., The Island House Restaurant, Wachapreague. Birding Eastern Shore is hosting a birding social on the deck at the Island House. This program is free and the public is welcome. Dinner and drinks will be available for purchase.



May 17 and May 18 | Cape Charles Art Walk

ART WALK: Saturday, May 17, and Sunday, May 18, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. both days, Cape Charles Central Park, Cape Charles. Artists can participate in the Central Park ArtWalk. Registration is \$50. There will be a \$250 cash prize for best-in-show 2D and best-in-show 3D.



Saturday, May 17 | Chincoteague Fire company anniversary parade

PARADE: 11 a.m., Main Street, Chincoteague. The Chincoteague Volunteer Fire Company is celebrating 100 years of service and 100 years of Pony Penning with the Ponies and Patriotism Parade. The parade will be followed by an open house at the fire company with bounce houses, fire truck demonstrations, fire truck rides, free food and drinks, and pony petting.



Saturday, May 10

■ **FESTIVAL:** 9 a.m. to 6 p.m., Vaux Hall, 27698 Bobtown Road, Melfa. May Dayz will feature woodworking demonstrations by the Tidewater Turners from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m., and food, drinks, music, activities, and vendors from noon to 6 p.m. Local artists and artisans will be displaying their work, and there will be a May pole.

■ **HISTORY PROGRAM:** 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., Kiptopeke State Park picnic shelter 1, 3540 Kiptopeke Drive, Cape Charles. Tides of Time: Exploring Eastern Shore History is an interactive event that combines nature and history. There will be guest speakers, hands-on exhibits, crafts, demonstrations, and guided hikes.

Tuesday, May 13

■ **LECTURE:** 6 p.m., Museum of Chincoteague Island, 7125 Maddox Blvd., Chincoteague. Mike Clem will deliver a lecture titled "The Story of Alice Boucher" as part of the Tuesday Night Lecture Series. Admission is \$8. Call 757-336-6117 to reserve a seat.

Sunday, May 18

■ **PLANT SWAP:** noon to 3 p.m., Peach Street Books, 401 Mason Ave., Cape Charles. The group ESVA Good and Planty is hosting a plant swap. Those interested can bring house or outdoor plants to sell or trade. There will also be a limited amount of free plant starts.

Monday, May 19

■ **NATURE PROGRAM:** 9 a.m., Cape Charles Beachfront fishing pier, Cape Charles. Creature Catch, ID, and Release is an annual program that is a hands-on look into what animals call Cape Charles Beach home.

Tuesday, May 20

■ **YARN CLUB:** 5:30 p.m., Eastern Shore of Virginia Regional Library, Parkley. Fiber artists can bring their crochet or knitting projects and socialize.

Friday, May 23

■ **BUTTERFLY WALK:** 10 to 11:30 a.m., Eastern Shore of Virginia National Wildlife Refuge, 32205 Seaside Road, Cape Charles. Take a walk along the refuge's butterfly trail and learn about the butterflies that visit the park.

■ **LIVE MUSIC:** 5:30 to 8:30 p.m., Ker Place, 69 Market St., Onancock. Shore History's Sunshine and Margaritas returns with live music on the lawn at Ker Place by Snackbar Jones. There will be food trucks on site and beer, wine, and margaritas will be for sale. Bring a chair.

■ **MOVIE:** 8 p.m., Teaguer's Pub and Restaurant, 5030 Chicken City Road, Chincoteague. Teaguer's is hosting a screening of "The Rocky Horror Picture Show" to benefit Friends of Animal Control Eastern Shore. For a minimum \$25 donation get a bag with all the props to participate in the screening. Costumes are encouraged.

Saturday, May 31

■ **STORYTIME:** 10:30 a.m., Eastern Shore of Virginia Regional Library, Parksley. Kids 5 and under can hear a story and build play literacy.

■ **BOOK SIGNING:** 11 a.m. to 1 p.m., The Book Bin, Onley. Author Christine Worrell will read "The Adventure of Gigi." There will be a book signing afterwards.

■ **FIRE AND RESCUE APPRECIATION:** 12:30 to 4 p.m., Onancock Elks Lodge, 22454 Front St., Accomac. The Elks Lodge is hosting a celebration of local fire and rescue workers. There will be a fire-and-rescue-station-only corn-hole tournament and a themed obstacle course that a member of each company will complete while wearing their gear. Members of fire and rescue and law enforcement officers get in free, along with their significant other. Admission for non-first responders is \$10.

■ **CRAFT CLASS:** 3 to 5 p.m., Chincoteague Cultural Alliance, 6309 Church St., Chincoteague. Learn how to make a shell pony figure. The cost is \$45 per person. To register visit www.chincoteagueca.org

Saturday, May 17 | Cape Charles Music festival

MUSIC FESTIVAL: 3 to 8 p.m., 202 Mason Ave., Cape Charles. ESVA Chamber Fest is a tailgating event and music festival hosted by the Eastern Shore of Virginia Chamber of Commerce. Irie Tree Band, Thunderstruck, and 38 Special will perform live. Food and beverages will be available for purchase. For tickets visit <https://tinyurl.com/yc5n2xm6>



Saturday, May 24 | Cape Charles Fish fry fundraiser

FUNDRAISER: 4 to 7 p.m., Cape Charles Museum, 814 Randolph Ave., Cape Charles. The museum is hosting a fish fry fundraiser. A box dinner includes two black drum fillets and two homemade sides for \$20. There will also be homemade baklava for sale. A box of six is \$20. Only 50 baklava orders are available. For tickets or more info visit <https://tinyurl.com/r6a3cvv9>

Saturday, May 31 | Onancock Garden and Studio Tour

GARDEN TOUR: 11 a.m. to 3 p.m., Historic Onancock School, 6 College Ave., Onancock. The Blooms and Brushes Garden and Studio Tour gives attendees a glimpse into private gardens around Onancock. A painter will be working in each garden to create a plein air painting. Parking and check-in will be at the Historic Onancock School, where participants can pick up a badge and a map to access gardens. Tickets are \$35 in advance and \$40 the day of. Visit <https://tinyurl.com/bdzenwr> for tickets.





Shore First | Life around here

Public art finds a place on the Eastern Shore

Murals, statues, and more put color and fun on streetscapes

There is no published guide to finding the Eastern Shore of Virginia's unique works of public art.

It's more of an informal collection that has been added to, here and there, by towns and business owners.

Finding them all makes for a fascinating day of area sightseeing.

Public art is a recent addition to the Eastern Shore of Virginia. Statues, murals, and even massive mosaics put color and vibrancy in downtowns and streetscapes.

"Murals bring walls to life," said Michael Rosato, the Maryland artist who completed the three-story-tall Chincoteague Main Street mural in 2024.

"It can transform a building – sometimes it can transform people in front of it," he said.

Murals also can commemorate timeless Eastern Shore characters.

A tribute to late artist and Tangier native Willie Crockett is on display outside his former

Public art

■ From Cape Charles to Chincoteague Island – and in many communities along the way – there are striking examples of public art on the Eastern Shore of Virginia that depict the area's historic and cultural assets. Public art is a recent addition to the area. Statues, murals, and even massive mosaics bring color and vibrancy to communities.

studio in Onancock.

Crockett passed away in 2021 and was famed for his artistic talent, Tangier accent, and natural storytelling abilities.

The mural is one of three undertaken by Onancock Main Street, a nonprofit organization that works with the town to "ensure the continued vibrancy and preservation of historic downtown Onancock," according to its website.

Seth Lubaton, who painted the mural, studied Crockett's works that use both watercolor and oil paint to capture the movement of water featured in many of his paintings.

"He was just a prolific artist and painted so much," he said.

On Chincoteague Island, one of the Eastern Shore's first murals memorializes Ruby Lee Daisey, who overcame developmental disabilities to become an upbeat island fixture.

Daisey, who died at the age of 57 in 2003, was known for helping whenever and wherever she was needed.

In addition to the pieces of art depicted on pages 7 to 9, there are other murals around the Eastern Shore, including in Wachapreague and Parksley. Monuments to Francis Makemie, the founder of American Presbyterianism, also can be found in the northern Accomack community of Makemie Park and in downtown Accomack behind a church bearing his name.

Eastern Shore public art



SHORE FIRST/TED SHOCKLEY

CAPE CHARLES: The 7-foot-tall King Neptune on the Bay Avenue Beachfront was installed in 2015. It was created by sculptor Paul DiPasquale. It served as a model for the larger King Neptune statue in Virginia Beach. It was donated for display in Cape Charles by Wyndham Price.



SHORE FIRST/TED SHOCKLEY

CAPE CHARLES: The Mason Avenue mural on a fence that closes off a vacant lot was painted by Emily Smith, an illustrator who goes by Emily an an Artist.



SHORE FIRST/TED SHOCKLEY

ONLEY: In 2018, Hampton Roads artist and mural painter Sam Welty completed a massive mural on the southern end of Four Corner Plaza in Onley for Rick Hall, owner of the shopping center. The mural, inspired by family photos, includes members of Hall's family and some of their boats through the years. Family friends also are included, including an airplane flown by local pilot Carter Crabbe.

SHORE FIRST/TED SHOCKLEY

CHINCOTEAGUE: The Misty of Chincoteague sculpture, left, on Main Street was created by Brian Maughan and given "to the Town of Chincoteague and the children of the world" by the Misty of Chincoteague Foundation Inc. on the 60th anniversary of the publication of the book, "Misty of Chincoteague."

Eastern Shore public art



SHORE FIRST/SARAH BARBAN

ONANCOCK: Seth Lubaton's mural of flowers and butterflies adorn the rear wall of the building at 9 North St. The Onancock murals are projects of the Onancock Main Street initiative.



ONANCOCK: Muralist Seth Lubaton stands in front of a replica of artist Willie Crockett's painting at 39 Market St., Onancock, in 2023. Below is Curtis Goldstine's theatrical mural in Onancock.

SHORE FIRST/
CLARA VAUGHN/
TED SHOCKLEY



CHINCOTEAGUE: One of the Eastern Shore's more poignant displays is the mural dedicated in memory of Ruby Lee Daisey, who died in 2003 at the age of 57. Daisey overcame developmental delays to become part of the island's fabric — always willing to help in any endeavor. The mural at Jessie R. Watson Sr. Memorial Park was created by children on Chincoteague Island.



SHORE FIRST/
TED SHOCKLEY



SHORE FIRST/TED SHOCKLEY

CHINCOTEAGUE: The massive three-story mural on Main Street depicting the Chincoteague waterfront was completed by Maryland artist Michael Rosato for the Chincoteague Main Street Merchants Association.

Eastern Shore public art



SHORE FIRST/TED SHOCKLEY

CHINCOTEAGUE: Waves crash in the mural at Jessie R. Watson Sr. Memorial Park at the intersection of Main and Cleveland streets.



SHORE FIRST/TED SHOCKLEY

EXMORE: The latest example of Eastern Shore public art to be installed, a depiction of Adam and Eve in mosaic tile at New Ravenna on Main Street, graces a building that once served as a movie theater. New Ravenna creates bespoke mosaics that are found in homes, restaurants, and offices around the world.

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PHOTO COURTESY HANNAH LEMOYNE

Classic baked oysters at the Salty Rooster.



EASTERN SHORE POST/SARAH BARBAN

Beef tenderloin steak with dauphinoise potatoes.



EASTERN SHORE POST/SARAH BARBAN

Lettuce wraps at the Salty Rooster.

The Salty Rooster eatery is at the Cape Charles Distillery, 225 Mason Ave., Cape Charles. The business is housed in the former Watson's Hardware building

SHORE FIRST/
SARAH BARBAN



but two kitchens and is turning out delicious food for distillery patrons and private events.

The new food arm of the business is called the Salty Rooster. Currently, a rotating menu of small plates is being served on Thursdays, Fridays, and Saturdays from 1 to 8 p.m. and from 1 to 5 p.m. on Sundays for brunch. After Memorial Day food service will be daily.

Regional tastes

On a recent Friday the menu featured spicy sweet gochujang chicken lettuce wraps and a perfectly seasoned beef tenderloin steak topped with garlicky butter and served with decadent dauphinoise potatoes.

The menu also featured a bread and cheese board, cheesy baked oysters with crusty bread, and Eastern Shore classics like crabcakes and oysters on the half shell.

The menu is tied together by what Liam Duncan, who co-owns the operation with his wife, Hayley, calls a regional transition menu.

“What that means is that regionally we’re focusing on the Eastern Shore and its food, its plates, and styles of cooking,” he said. “But we’ve made it flexible enough so that when someone comes down from Boston or up from Charleston they will find something on the menu they’re familiar with.”

The menu’s primarily small plate format makes it a great bet for a cozy date night with a few cocktails and a selection of dishes, or an ideal

(Continued on page 11)

With Salty Rooster, Cape Charles Distillery adds dining options

Craft cocktails, small-plate eats, fine cigars part of ‘richer experience’

Go visit!

- **WHAT:** The Salty Rooster, the onsite eatery at Cape Charles Distillery
- **HOURS:** Thursdays, Fridays, and Saturdays from 1 to 8 p.m. and from 1 to 5 p.m. on Sundays for brunch. After Memorial Day food service will be daily.

BY SARAH BARBAN
Shore First

The former Watson’s Hardware building has traded nails and saws for expertly crafted cocktails and a carefully curated menu.

Cape Charles Distillery opened in the building in August 2024, after a renovation that transformed the space.

Now there is a sleek downstairs

dining area with intimate booths and spaces where groups can relax and enjoy a craft cocktail, as well as a second-floor event space, a cigar lounge, and a rooftop deck. Another change is the addition of food.

Originally located on Strawberry Street, the distillery later relocated to Mason Avenue on the ground floor of recently constructed condominiums.

Neither location offered full food service, but the new space has not one



SHORE FIRST/SARAH BARBAN

The Cape Charles Distillery zephyr combines vodka, grapefruit, Campari, and fresh lemon juice.

Salty Rooster

(Continued from page 10)

spot to grab drinks and bites with a group before a night out in Cape Charles.

The indulgent feel of the menu and the posh atmosphere pair wonderfully with the distillery's cocktail menu, which was curated by Hayley, who serves as the mixologist, while Liam works as the distiller.

Classics like the Moscow mule, old fashioned, espresso martini, and cosmo are offered — as are new creations like the zephyr, which combines vodka, grapefruit, Campari, and fresh lemon juice, and the berry smash, a light, refreshing combo of vodka, lemon, berries, and soda.

Currently, the Cape Charles Distillery isn't able to use its micro-distilled spirits in its cocktails or sell bottles, but the owners are working on transferring their ABC license to their new location and hope to be serving their spirits soon.

After-dinner cigar

Those who like to finish off a good meal with a cigar and a cocktail can select a stogie from the distillery's collection and cap off the night in the cigar lounge.

The collection of cigars is curated by Tammer Olbiah, who is the Duncans' partner in the tobacco portion of the business.

The rooftop deck will be open during Memorial Day weekend for those who want to get a peek of Cape Charles from above.

Whether it is the craft cocktails produced at Cape Charles Distillery, the food produced by Salty Rooster, the cigars offered through Vintage cigar, or the vibe the whole space creates, the focus is on quality.

"This is a new project for the distillery," Liam Duncan said. "So we've been very focused on making spirits. We took on this space so we could expand that same type of quality we've been doing and offer that in multiple forms. We know bourbon and cigars go together.

"We're giving people a richer experience."



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The Pocomoke Area Model Train Club setup includes miniature businesses and vehicles.



Among the landmarks in the train club's setup is a model of the Sturgis One-Room School Museum.



The train club's scenes include the historic Pocomoke River drawbridge.



COURTESY PHOTOS

Downtown Pocomoke City's buildings are depicted almost exactly in the Pocomoke Area Model Train Club's layout.

Pocomoke Model Train Club celebrates the rails and area

Scenes depict lower Shore from a bygone era of train travel

Go visit!

■ **WHAT:** The Pocomoke Area Model Train Club at 824 4th St. (the intersection of 2nd and 4th streets.).

■ **WHEN:** Admission is free. Hours of operation are Wednesdays from 7 to 9 p.m and Saturdays from 1 to 3:30 p.m.

BY JANET BERNOSKY
Shore First

Entering the old train station in Pocomoke City is like stepping back in time to a long-ago Christmas morning, complete with the hum of trains on tracks and a miniature world under the tree that captured the imagination of every child and child at heart.

In the tiny scenes, ladies shop

and push baby carriages, children run to greet their friends or deliver newspapers, people skate on ice-covered ponds, animals graze in fields, and men hurry home from work. It all harkens to a bygone time when life was slower and perhaps less complicated.

All this and more has been created in several themed displays built by the members of the Pocomoke Area Model Train Club for the public's

enjoyment.

The club unofficially began in 2015 when a group of like-minded model train enthusiasts put together a holiday display in the city's old firehouse.

By 2018, members moved their annual display to the Delmarva Discovery Museum, where to this day, it remains a popular part of the Christmas season in Pocomoke.

By April 2020, the group formed an official club and partnered with the city in July of that year to use the train station to feature its layouts on a year-round basis.

The club's mission is to increase interest in this hobby, as well as expand the public's knowledge of the history of railroad transportation on the Shore through its displays and memorabilia, the running of model trains, and holding other community events.

One layout currently under construction pays homage to the history of the railroad lines and important stops along the way, from Pocomoke City to Cape Charles.

Members Earl Ludy and Anthony Smith are the lead engineers on the layout, seeking to capture the essence of great railroad towns like Nassawadox and Parksley by incorporating models of some of the key businesses — like Bayshore Concrete, Watson's Hardware, and the Northampton Lumber Company — that were part of Eastern Shore life over the decades.

The largest layout pays tribute to Pocomoke City, with replicas of familiar landmarks including the drawbridge, the Sturgis School, and the MarVa Theater.

(Continued on page 13)

Trains

(Continued from page 12)

A vignette in this layout shows a tiny white convertible belonging to renowned local radio personality James “Choppy” Layton pulling a trailer housing his gear on his way back to Pocomoke radio station WDMV after a gig.

Many of the buildings in the layouts are built for the club from photographs by Delmar resident Rick Kerwin, while other buildings are antique or vintage from the 20th century.

A Civil War layout with trains was donated by Paul Walker, a Rochester, N.Y., resident, who made the buildings and a unique bridge in that display.

Treasurer Betty Burgert is the club’s only female member. She said she serves as the “chief decorator,” applying all the “finishing touches,” such as pathways, people, flowers, and trees.

“I just love it. It taps into my creative side,” she said.



A feature of the train club’s setup is a depiction of local radio personality James “Choppy” Layton pulling a WDMV trailer.

Burgert also prepares several small layouts throughout the year for the seasons or holidays such as Halloween.

Her love of trains was actually inspired by her grandmother, who decorated the tree, along with a train and village underneath, all on Christmas Eve.

“Then she cooked a big dinner the next day,” Burgert said. “We had a big family, too. I don’t know how she did it.”

Paul Nimmerichter created a layout that harkens back to the 1950s — one that might have been lovingly created in a basement or spare room by a fa-

ther and son.

While many of the other layouts pay attention to keeping the scale fairly consistent, this one mixes things up.

Nimmerichter describes his layout as a “hodgepodge of everything we could find,” which only adds to its charm.

Proudly displayed on a wall is a photo donated by the twin sons of Bryan Bundick, a Pennsylvania Railroad employee, who clerked and collected tickets at the Pocomoke station from 1936 to 1962.

The members also love to share tid-

bits of history with visitors.

“Did you know they didn’t make trains during World War II?” asked Club President Paul Becker. He went on to explain that the use of metals was largely reserved for the war effort.

This fall, the club hopes to have a layout finished that will allow the public to bring their own trains to run on a two loop, 0-gauge track, with the option to also run a club train instead.

The club is also hoping to implement a Young Engineers Club around the same time as a way for students to learn more about the hobby and create excitement about it.

“This is important to us, for students to show interest in this wonderful hobby and for us to pass our love for it along to them,” said Becker, who is an educator.

■ *The club welcomes experienced hobbyists or newcomers to become members. Groups or schools are invited to schedule a visit or field trip by contacting pamtcstation@gmail.com or by messaging the club page on Facebook.*

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VCCS chancellor to speak at ESCC commencement

The 54th annual event will be held on Wednesday, May 14, at 5 p.m., with a rain date of Thursday, May 15

The 54th annual commencement at Eastern Shore Community College in Melfa will be held on Wednesday, May 14, at 5 p.m., with a rain date of Thursday, May 15.

The college is excited to announce its commencement speaker for this momentous occasion is David Doré, chancellor of the Virginia Community College System.

Doré is the tenth chancellor to lead the system, which was founded in 1966.

As chancellor, Doré provides day-to-day leadership for a system comprised of 23 colleges that serves more than 200,000 degree-seeking and workforce-career training students annually.

Like so many community college students, Doré was a first-generation college student.

His decades-long career has been guided by a fundamental belief that every learner can be successful.

His commitment to serving diverse and underrepresented populations to foster inclusive learning communities, supporting open access, student success, and economic mobility is both palpable and unwavering.

A self-described student advocate, Doré is focused on recruiting the “new majority of learners” — those 25 and older who face limited job prospects because they lack post-high school credentials.

Before taking the reins at the Virginia Community College System, Doré served as president of campuses and executive vice chancellor at Pima Community College.

There, he led the college’s five campuses and workforce development initiatives.

Doré has also served in higher



COURTESY PHOTO

Eastern Shore Community College President Jim Shaeffer is pictured with VCCS Chancellor David Doré.

education leadership positions in Tempe, Ariz., and San Francisco, Calif.

Doré earned his doctor of education degree at Pepperdine University; master’s degrees at Georgetown University, Boston College, and Santa Clara University; an advanced degree in philosophy from Gonzaga University; and

his bachelor’s degree from Gannon University.

Named a Presidential Fellow of the Aspen Institute’s College Excellence Program in 2017, Doré is active in community leadership and is a staunch proponent of community college education at the state and national levels.

The ESCC commencement is a ticketed event with a limited number available for students to share with family and friends.

The event will be broadcast live and streamed on WESR-FM 103.3 and can be seen on Facebook Live on the Eastern Shore Community College Facebook page.

Art auction at Lemon Tree; Beatles tribute May 24

Performances and live music highlight a busy month of May at the Historic Palace Theatre in Cape Charles

The Lemon Tree Gallery in Cape Charles will be alive with art, food, champagne, and a cash bar on Friday evening, June 6, at 6:30 p.m. Local art enthusiasts and collectors can enjoy “Canvas and Cocktails,” the newly named event. It will be an opportunity to acquire a piece of art while supporting the arts. The event is open to the public.

The artists included in The Lemon Tree Collective were asked to donate a piece of art to be either auctioned in the live auction or available in the silent auction. Many artists complied and there will be a lovely collection on display and auctioned during the evening.

Professional Auctioneer Sally McNeilan will or-

chestrate the live sales portion of the event. Among the original pieces will be work by David Crane, Diana Davis, John Harlow, Lynn Schrieber, John Nyberg, Deborah Dartez, Suzan Gray, Marcie Otterson, Sally McNeilan, Petya Ivanova, Richard Williams, Robin Cochran, Clelia C. Sheppard, and Gia Labidi.

Other theater events this spring include popular tribute bands. On Saturday, May 24, at 7:30 p.m. “Britain’s Finest, the Beatles Experience,” will perform in the Palace Theatre.

Britain’s Finest is one of the most authentic Beatles tribute bands to emerge within the past 20 years. Based in Hollywood, Calif., the “All

Star” cast’s reputation has been rapidly growing both nationally and internationally with their hauntingly accurate recreation of all the iconic eras in Beatles history.

Hotel Cape Charles is the Presenting Sponsor for “Britain’s Finest, the Beatles Experience.” David and Kathryn Gammino have been loyal supporters of the arts for many years.

Tickets are \$40 for adults and \$15 for students.

For ticket information visit www.artsentercapecharles.org

Mark your calendar for “Wilder Horses,” a Rolling Stones tribute, on Saturday, June 21, at 7:30 p.m.



COURTESY PHOTO

Abstract #4 by Gia Labidi is one of the items for auction at the Lemontree Gallery’s “Canvas and Cocktails” event.



COURTESY PHOTO

“The Blues” by John Nyberg is one of the items for auction at the Lemontree Gallery’s “Canvas and Cocktails” event.

As the Triple Crown races beckon, so does 'Thoroughbred Pie'

I've always been a fan of the series of horse races known as the Triple Crown. Starting with the Kentucky Derby, continuing with the Preakness in Maryland, and finishing up with the Belmont Stakes in upstate New York, they are always something that I look forward to in the spring.



Laura Davis

While Mint Juleps are a great way to celebrate "the run for the roses," I've always preferred this delicious chocolate-nut pie known simply as "Derby Pie." (Although, you didn't hear me call it that. The family restaurant that invented this pie has that title trademarked and has not been afraid to take it up in court in the

past.)

So, you'll see it referred to as other names — "Kentucky Pie," or "Thoroughbred Pie" to name a few.

Some folks use pecans in their pie, but after poking around a bit it seems to me that the original uses walnuts. So I've just always gone with that.

It's a decadent and rich pie studded with plenty of chocolate, walnuts, bourbon, and brown sugar.

When baked, a sugary top crust forms on its own that is slightly crunchy.

I like to let it cool to room temperature before slicing, then warm in the microwave for about 15 seconds and serve alongside a scoop of vanilla ice cream.



Thoroughbred Pie

- 1/2 cup flour
 - 1/2 cup brown sugar
 - 1/2 cup granulated sugar
 - 2 eggs, beaten
 - 1/2 cup melted butter
 - 2 Tbsp bourbon
 - 1 cup chopped walnuts, lightly toasted
 - 1 1/4 cup semi-sweet chocolate chips
 - 1 tsp vanilla extract
 - Pinch of salt
 - 1 ready-made piecrust
- Preheat the oven to 350 degrees.

Combine flour and sugars in a mixing bowl. Add the eggs and butter, mix to combine. Stir in the bourbon, toasted walnuts, chocolate chips, vanilla, and salt. Pour the mixture into the unbaked pie crust. Bake for 40 to 45 minutes.

Let cool to room temperature before slicing and serving.

Derby Pie, known by many names, is a spring tradition.

PHOTO COURTESY
LAURA DAVIS

Laura Davis, of Chincoteague Island, is a food writer and blogger at www.tideandthyme.com. Her recipes have been featured on Huffington Post and www.craftbeer.com, among other publications. She is a frequent guest on WBOC-TV's DelmarvaLife show, where she showcases her culinary talents for viewers. Her work appears monthly in Shore First.

Remembering Southey 'Sud' Bell, banjo-picking governor of Hog Island

Barrier island artifacts have a way of turning up in unlikely places. Case-in-point, recently the Barrier Islands Center in Machipongo was given a newspaper clipping about Southey "Sud" Bell, one of the more colorful residents of Hog

Island a century or so ago. Sud was a tall, lanky oysterman known mainly for playing the banjo.

Sud was a well-known local character, but this clipping was from the Sept. 7, 1947 issue of the *Caller-Times*, a newspaper published in Corpus Christi, Texas. It was

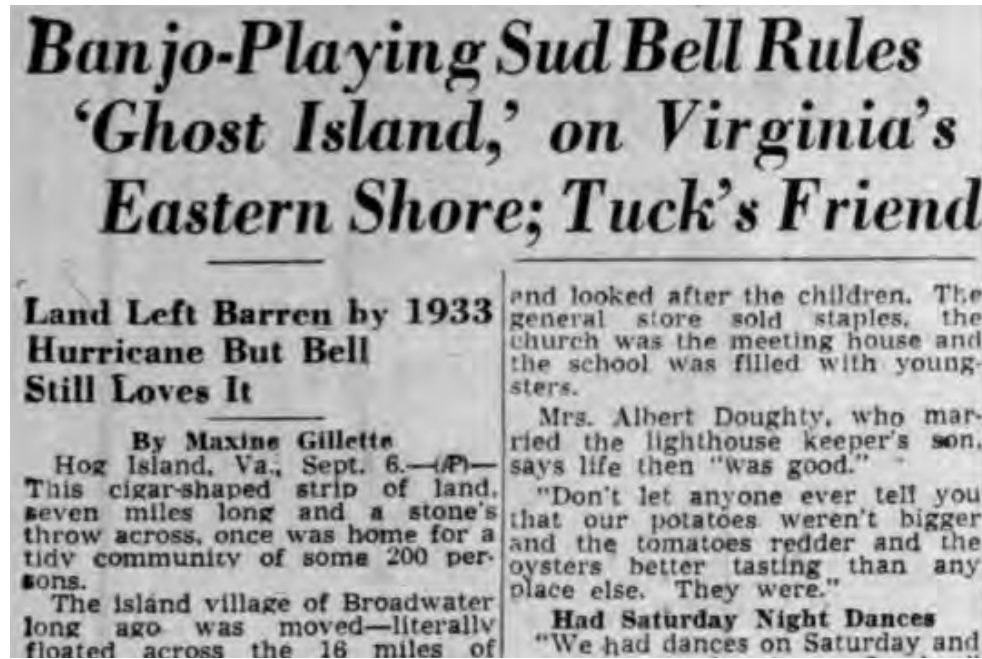


Curtis Badger

written by Maxine Gillette, who referred to Bell as the "governor" of Hog Island. At that time, Sud and his son Milford were the two remaining residents of Hog Island. Gillette spoke with him extensively about his musical career, which took him far beyond the island shores.

"This was a great find, a complete surprise, and the timing couldn't have been better," said Sally Dickinson, director of the BIC. "We were just finalizing plans for Art and Music on the Farm and it was wonderful to read about Sud and the way he used music to cross cultural boundaries. Music unites people, as Sud did long ago, and Art and Music on the Farm continues to do it today."

Art and Music on the Farm will be held on May 24 at the 18-acre farm in



FILE PHOTO

Maxine Gillette's Sept. 7, 1947 article on Sud Bell was printed in several newspapers, including the *Virginian-Pilot*. Pictured here is an excerpt from the article.

Machipongo where the Barrier Islands Center is located. The event will feature award-winning musicians performing oldtime, bluegrass, and string band music, and an Afro-Puerto Rican band will be sharing their salsa/bamba style of music. Local artists will also be showing their work, and a variety of foods will be on sale. The event opens at 10 a.m. and closes at 4 p.m.

The article in the *Caller-Times* suggests that Sud Bell's reputation as a musician may have been more extensive than we realize. At the time she interviewed him, he was 68 years old and living with his son in a two-room shack

on the island. They were the last two permanent residents of Hog Island.

Gillette put it this way: "Today, the Hog Island Coast Guard station hugs the southern tip; the Machipongo Coast Guard station lies at the northern end, and in between live the only two civilians on the island — banjo-playing Sud Bell, leather-faced, wrinkled ruler of this abandoned Atlantic Ocean island, and his son, Milford."

Gillette wrote that Sud had an ardent admirer in Virginia Gov. William Tuck, who supposedly named Sud governor of Hog Island. "But Sud Bell's reputation isn't based on his governorship of the is-



PHOTO COURTESY BARRIER ISLANDS CENTER

Sud Bell plays the banjo.

land," wrote Gillette. "As one mainlander put it, 'Sud's the durndest banjoplaying fool in Virginia. Sud can make it talk.' Sud's artistry hasn't gone unrecognized. He has rubbed elbows and tipped glasses with some of America's wealthiest. Walter Chrysler, many years ago, took Bell away from the Eastern Shore to New York, where he played for the industrialist and his friends in private clubs. Show people liked Sud and Sud liked the show people. He composed bits of music here and there, most of it sentimental ballads about the Eastern Shore."

With this newly discovered appreciation of Sud Bell, and the recent recognition of Arthur "Big Boy" Crudup with a historic highway marker, the Eastern Shore is basking in a newly found musical heritage.

The full text of the *Caller-Times* story on Sud Bell appears in the summer issue of the Barrier Islands Center newsletter.

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

Opening of Assateague bridge allowed tourism to flourish

While the Ash Wednesday storm of 1962 effectively ended chicken farming on Chincoteague, the storm's effects upon the island's tourist industry were, in the long run, far more positive.

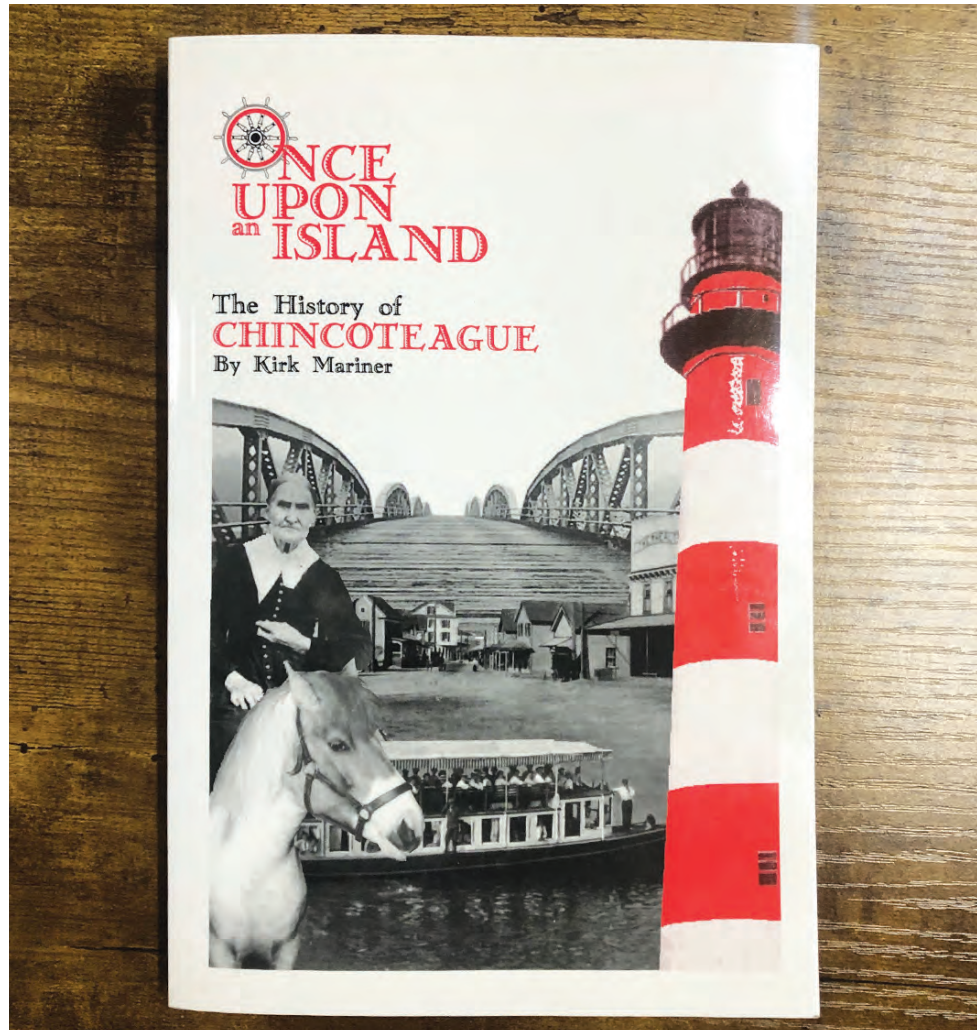


Kirk Mariner

The immense publicity that the island received during the storm helped to put Chincoteague on the map at the very time that the attempt was being made to increase tourism. The bridge from Chincoteague to Assateague

opened to the public on September 28, 1962, four months behind schedule because of the storm. Despite one summer season lost to the delay, the opening of the bridge marked the real beginning of Chincoteague's modern tourist industry.

On September 21, 1965, President Lyndon B. Johnson signed the legislation that created the Assateague Island National Seashore. Under federal ownership, the island's renown increased rapidly, and by 1969 the number of visitors to Assateague Island totalled three-quarters of a million annually. In 1971 Assateague was, among the National Seashores, sec-



This excerpt is taken from Kirk Mariner's "Once Upon an Island: The History of Chincoteague."

ond only to Cape Cod in popularity. By 1980 the number of visitors to Assateague was well over a million, and by 1985 it was over two million.

On Chincoteague Island, through which most of these visitors had to pass to reach Assateague, tourism bloomed at last. The first actual motel on the island was built

by Wheatley Watson in December 1962, a one-story, six-unit building behind the Lighthouse Inn, which became, when the big house was later demolished, the nucleus of the Lighthouse Motel. Other motels followed in quick succession, and on Maddox Boulevard sprang up shops and businesses to rival downtown. Meanwhile, the number of restaurants on the island increased even more rapidly than the motels: nine in 1973, 19 in 1985, and 27 in 1996.

By 1985 tourism was a \$24 million a year business on Chincoteague and had surpassed seafood as the principal industry of the island. The year-round population of 4,000 swelled annually to 15,000 during the eight-month tourist season, while Pony Penning week was likely to find even twice that many people on the island. By the mid-1990s, the industry was bringing in more than \$100 million annually, and Pony Penning crowds were estimated to be as high as 50,000 people.

Thrust at last into the limelight, Chincoteague after 1962 became a fast-changing community facing a puzzling mosaic of new issues. What kind of visitors should the island attempt to attract? Where was the balance between preservation and development, heritage and jobs? How much growth was desirable? How much growth could Chincoteague and Assateague sustain?

(Continued on page 19)

The Rev. Kirk Mariner was an Eastern Shore author, historian, and United Methodist minister whose book, "Off 13: The Eastern Shore of Virginia Guidebook," is an indispensable volume for natives and visitors alike. Mariner died in 2017. His work appears in Eastern Shore First courtesy of Miona Publications. This first appeared in his book, "Once Upon an Island: The History of Chincoteague."

Mariner

(Continued from page 18)

Regarding the balance between preservation and development, heritage and jobs, one businessman argued in 1984 that “We’ve got enough quaintness already,” insisting that tourism had arrived just “in the nick of time” to rescue an island whose seafood industry had dwindled.

Yet “they’re killing the goose that laid the golden egg,” countered other residents. “It’s the island’s character that draws people here.”

In that year the Wet ‘n’ Wild amusement park on Piney Island was attracting tourists with a 40-foot plaster statue of a bikini-clad woman waving an American flag — “a painted lady who has wandered into a Victorian village,” as one visitor labeled it. Just up

the street, the Refuge Waterfowl Museum mounted a dignified exhibition of the traditional craft of decoy carving.

The building of a McDonald’s restaurant on Piney Island in 1986 threatened to polarize local opinion: “Almost the last thing before you get to the beach will be those golden arches,” complained one islander. Another Teaguer thought it would be “a big help to the island.”

“We don’t want another Ocean City here,” was a frequent cry as islanders watched townhouses go up on Church Street, Bunting Road, and Ridge Road.

When Clarence Beebe’s daughter-in-law put the Beebe Ranch up for sale in 1989, citing mounting property taxes, one newspaper labeled the rapidly changing island “a sad story of progress, commercialization, and decay.” Yet, as one businessman observed, “If people don’t come, our revenues go down.”

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



Call 911 if experiencing these symptoms!

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



riversideonline.com/stroke



100 years ago
May 1925

Eastern Shore ships berries

With 20 carloads of strawberries billed out from Northampton and Accomack counties Saturday, the marketing of the Shore's berry crop got under way in full force, and it is thought that more than 100 carloads will be moved out today.

The auction block at Onley, Accomack County, opened last Thursday when three carloads were sold under the hammer to the highest bidder. The auction block will continue at Onley throughout the berry season and will be in full sway this week. Berries have been ripening very slowly since the opening of the season 10 days ago, and it is estimated that the yield will be cut 40% on account of the cold weather that has prevailed for the last three weeks.

The quality of fruit that was offered last week was well up to standard and brought from \$5 to \$6 a crate. Unless extremely warm weather prevails this week to cause the fruit to ripen fast, causing an overproduction, the market is expected to hold firm, which will net the growers a profit for their berry crops.

— *Ledger-Star*

Man taken in vicinity of shooting

Roland West, 21, sought since Sunday, May 18, for the fatal shooting of Justice of the Peace Bernard LeCato, of Keller, was captured at Mappsville late yesterday afternoon.

Taken to the Accomack jail, West is said to have confessed to the crime. No demonstration was made when he was taken into custody and to the jail. He submitted to arrest without remonstrance.

Justice LeCato was killed by a charge from his own pistol, which West had seized while awaiting transportation to the Accomack jail. Death was instantaneous.

West fled after the shooting and a manhunt followed in which several armed citizens participated. Bloodhounds were summoned to the scene from Eastville.

On Sunday authorities at Delmar took a man from a freight train, said to have been a friend of the slayer. He was held as a suspicious character until it was learned that he knew nothing of the shooting.

West had been arrested Sunday afternoon on charges of drunkenness and disorderly conduct.

After conviction had been passed by the mag-

istrate, entailing a jail sentence, West seized LeCato's pistol and fired.

— *The Daily Times*

Makemie Park honors American Presbyterian pioneer

Nestling in the upper reaches of Accomack County on Virginia's Eastern Shore lies Makemie Park, a spot set aside and dedicated to the memory of Francis Makemie, pioneer of American Presbyterianism. To him the churchmen give credit as being the first to bring the faith of Calvinism to the New World.

He lies buried near Onancock, where he had his home and where he first was given license to preach, following years of persecution. Francis Makemie was educated for the ministry at Glasgow University in Scotland. Once ordained, he was sent to America in 1682. On his arrival in Virginia, he found himself at grips with the Anglican Church and suffered great persecutions before being allowed to spread his gospels. His first license to preach was granted after he had been arrested at Williamsburg and allowed to plead his case before the governor and House of Burgesses.

While Makemie wandered considerably through the new colonies, he had his home in Virginia. He eventually came back to settle on the Eastern Shore. While pastor at Onancock, he was married to Naomi Anderson, who is said to have been the daughter of a wealthy Virginian merchant.

It was not until more than 200 years after his death, however, that the American Presbyterian Historical Society reared a monument over his grave and had the spot set aside as a park.

Today, Makemie is but one of the many varied and interesting historical characters who enrich the lore and annals of the Eastern Shore of Virginia.

— *The News and Advance*

75 years ago
May 1950

Navy bomber crash kills four

A twin-engined U.S. Navy Neptune patrol bomber caught fire over Cape Charles yesterday afternoon and crashed a few minutes later on the waterfront at Oyster, an Eastern Shore fishing village, claiming the lives of four Navy fliers.

The plane had left its base at the Patuxent

River Naval Air Station in Maryland at about 12:30 p.m. on a routine training flight. Naval spokesmen there said two officers and two enlisted men were the plane's crew.

All four were attending the Navy's test pilot training school at Patuxent River, the base executive officer said. The Navy is withholding identification until families of all four men are notified.

Cape Charles residents saw the big bomber ablaze as it passed over their town flying in a northeasterly direction. Within a few minutes an explosion inside the plane tore loose one wing and sent smaller parts plummeting to the ground.

One of the fliers attempted to bail out, but his parachute was seared by the flames. He fell into the water near a pier and died as rescuers brought him to shore. His parachute had fallen on the pier, and from its markings came the first evidence as to the plane's identity.

The main body of the plane fell into a marsh. Spectators, several of whom had narrowly missed being hit by debris, could see the bodies of two men in the plane, but until boats were brought in they had no access to the wreckage.

The flaming wing had fallen on Pete West's marine railway. The fire it started completely destroyed the railway, a machine shop, a tool shed, and five oyster boats. Four other boats were damaged. Volunteer fire companies from two Eastern Shore villages fought the fire for more than an hour.

For a time they feared the flames would reach an oil storage tank that belongs to the Texas Company. No one was injured by falling plane parts or by the fire.

More than a dozen planes and three helicopters circled the area while the fire burned and later in the afternoon.

The bodies of the Navy men were removed to the Fox Funeral Home at Eastville. The plane they flew was a Lockheed P2V-2, a modification of the type of patrol bomber that flew from Australia to Columbus, Ohio, setting a new world record for straight-line distance flying.

— *The Virginian-Pilot*

Onancock publishing company buys Exmore plant

The Eastern Shore News Publishing Co., Inc., of Onancock, has purchased the Turner Company in Exmore.

(Continued on page 21)

Yesteryears

(Continued from page 20)

The Turner Company was recently bought by John B. Schoolfield, who made the sale last week.

Mr. Schoolfield bought the Eastern Shore Herald from Ben T. Fisher and changed the name to the Exmore Tribune — a weekly newspaper. Later he published the magazine, “The Public.”

The Eastern Shore News Publishing Co. is owned and operated by John T. Borum. A \$100,000 fire swept the Borum printing plant several months ago.

Newer and more modern equipment has been installed since the fire. With the purchase of the plant in Exmore, Mr. Borum said he plans to make additional improvements.

The Eastern Shore Publishing Co. was established in 1896. It will operate a job printing plant in Exmore.

— *The Daily Times*

Jurymen see site for proposed new research program

A dozen touring jurymen yesterday went on a cruise off Virginia’s Eastern Shore at the federal government’s expense. They toured Wallops Island, near Chincoteague, to help in their determination of a fair rate for the island, which the government is taking over for aeronautical research.

The jury left Norfolk yesterday afternoon but spent last night at the Old Dominion Lodge on Chincoteague Island. Today they cruised around the island in a government boat and looked over the physical facilities on the island.

Wallops Island is owned by Wallops Island Club, Inc., a hunting club incorporated at Chincoteague. It is asking \$250,000 for the 3,000 acres of land near the Maryland line.

The government has offered \$45,000 for the land.

On Monday the jury will sit at a meeting before Federal Judge Dan Gillam, of Tarboro N.C., to determine an equitable price.

The tour is being conducted by Deputy U.S. Marshall R. V. Brownell.

— *Danville Register and Bee*

Onancock High has sensation in Dick Burton

The name of Dick Burton, the sensational Onancock High righthander, has lit up the Delmarva peninsula like a kerosene torch. His two-year undefeated pitching string of 17 straight triumphs, five of which were no-hitters, is a performance that can’t be sneezed at.

Six of the seven wins inked this spring were shutouts and three authored by the no-hit, no-run route. Records show 87 strikeouts in 47 innings of play.

Last Wednesday, Burton fashioned his third no-hitter in a 15-0 win against a previously unbeaten Cape Charles High nine. He fanned 15 and walked three, but not a runner got as far as second base.

The big test will come tomorrow when he faces the Northampton High crew at Onancock.

Burton is only a junior and will be around for another season to spread misery in the hearts of opposing batsmen. Major League scouts will have to wait another year before they can talk contract.

According to John Borum, editor of the Eastern Shore News, Burton has all the tools to be a standout curver. His best pitch seems to be a smoking fastball, which he blends occasionally with a quick-breaking curve.

Understand the boy has gobs of eye appeal to the spectators. He looks and behaves like everybody’s kid brother — a fellow who tries so hard that he makes even the most jaded onlooker root for him.

— *The Daily Times*

50 years ago
May 1975

Decisive naval battle fought at bridge-tunnel

One of the most important but little known chapters in the history of America’s War for Independence was written here, where the Chesapeake Bay Bridge-Tunnel now spans the broad mouth of the bay.

This was the naval engagement in which the French fleet met and defeated the British navy, an action that hastened the end of British rule in the colonies.

As America celebrates her bicentennial and

looks back on past glories, the contribution that the French seamen made to the colonies’ successful fight for freedom is being given greater recognition than ever before, especially in nearby Norfolk, by tradition a “navy town.”

The battle between the French and English is now commemorated by a marker on Sea Gull Island, southernmost of the bridge-tunnel’s four manmade islands. The marker, dedicated in 1973 by the Colonial Dames of America in the Commonwealth of Virginia, is dedicated to Comte Francois Joseph Paul de Grasse, Admiral of the French fleet.

Called the “Arbiter of the War” by Gen. George Washington, de Grasse defeated the British forces under Admiral Graves and precipitated Lord Cornwallis’ surrender at Yorktown — the beginning of the end of the Revolutionary War.

By blockading the Chesapeake Bay in 1781, the allies were able to bottle up the British army at Yorktown; Cornwallis, who could neither retreat nor receive reinforcements, was compelled to surrender to Gen. Washington. The surrender of his army, the second largest British force in America, had a decisive political impact on the course of the war and commenced the final stage of hostilities.

Sea Gull Island was selected as the site for the historical marker because the Chesapeake Bay Bridge-Tunnel, which was completed in 1964, spans the waters between Cape Henry and Cape Charles and parallels the line that the French fleet formed to prevent the British ships from penetrating the bay.

— *The Daily Times*

Island families ask to adopt Viet orphans

At least 20 families on the tiny Chesapeake Bay island of Tangier have applied to the Accomack County Department of Social Services for the right to adopt Vietnamese and Cambodian orphans.

Four of the department’s social workers visited the island Friday to begin preliminary home studies.

Officials said the studies would deal with such things as family background, health, and financial status.

The data will then be sent to the Virginia State Department of Welfare, which will then coordinate the Tangier Island activity with

(Continued on page 22)

Yesteryears

(Continued from page 21)

licensed childplacing agencies in Virginia or other states or with any federal office that may be involved, they said.

“We are very excited about this particular project,” Marietta Eichelberger, director of the county’s social service office, said. “We think the enthusiasm for adoption shown by the people on Tangier is a wonderful reflection of their kindness and courage.”

On the island itself, Mayor Hartford Williams and Vanessa Dise are coordinating the project.

About 1,000 persons, most of them watermen, live on Tangier Island. The island is located about 10 miles from Virginia’s Eastern Shore.

— *Culpeper Star-Exponent*

Thousands expected for Chincoteague event

“Tickets are widespread for the Eastern Shore Chamber of Commerce Seafood Festival,” according to the chamber’s executive vice president.

Mrs. Anita Conquest said this past week that 3,000 tickets went on sale to the public on Oct. 1, 1974, and were sold out within two days. The festival will be held at Tom’s Cove, Chincoteague, on May 7, from 1 to 4:30 p.m.

Mrs. Conquest said, “Tickets were sold to people from all over the East Coast and inquiries have been made about next year’s festival from people in Wisconsin, Colorado, and even California.”

Five hundred invitations were issued in addition to those tickets sold, she said.

Virginia’s Governor Mills E. Godwin has accepted and will be flying into Wallops Island. However, President Ford sent his regrets, Mrs. Conquest said.

Virginia’s First District Congressman Thomas N. Downing has also accepted.

“Due possibly to this being an election year, we are having an unusual turnout of state legislators,” she said.

All members of the Accomack County and Northampton County boards of supervisors have said they will be attending the festival.

Thirty-six high school students and 100 college students have been hired to help to see that

everyone gets enough to eat. “The school board has been very cooperative and the Eastern Shore Community College at Melfa usually closes on the day of the festival,” Mrs. Conquest said.

“We start working two days ahead of time to get everything in readiness,” she said, “and then when the big day arrives we cross our fingers and hope for a beautiful day,” she said.

The menu consists of four kinds of fish, clams and oysters of all styles, French fried sweet potatoes, hush puppies, and coleslaw. This year, for the first time, there will be crab chowder.

— *The Daily Times*

25 years ago
May 2000

No secret was safe in Grotons

She knew just about everyone in her neck of Accomack County — their nicknames, their roles in life, even for whom many were named. She knew their parents, grandparents, uncles, aunts, and siblings.

No secret was safe from Malinda Griffith Ennis.

The 90-year-old can go on for hours about the most minute details of life in this part of Accomack County despite leaving the community in 1929 for promised economic prosperity in the “big city” of Salisbury. Even after she left seven decades ago, Ennis kept up with the happenings until the Accomack villages faded away.

She grew up in a time when villages were plentiful, separated by creeks, coves, and stretches of marsh. Communities included Cattail and Messon-go, Belinda and Marsh Market. Nearby were Bull-beggar and Jenkins Creek, Sugar Hill, and Sanford. Down the road a piece were Mears and Mearsville, Guard Shore, Winterville, Bloxom, Makemie Park, Skin Point, The Hammocks, and Flag Pond.

As was usually the case, neighbors and friends were also cousins, once-, twice-, and three-times removed.

“My grandfather Marshall’s brothers — we called them Uncle Sam and Uncle Brace, married sisters. They were Marshalls, too. My mother’s brother married his own cousin,” Ennis recalled. “My grandmother was so upset. She asked him, ‘Can’t you find anybody else to marry besides your cousin?’ Lot of that went on down there,” she said.

Ennis hasn’t forgotten the little chat she had with her father when she was 16, warning her to stay clear of certain families known for the moral

shortcomings of their men and women and their lack of ambition and industry. It didn’t have to be spelled out, he said; she had been around Grotons long enough to know who the wrong families were.

There are tales that give life color and happenings that have been told and retold. While it seems like just yesterday, it’s been almost a century, she said, that a Mears hung himself in the attic of the old store at Marsh Market, supposedly over the rejections of a woman in nearby Sanford.

“His wife said if she had known he killed himself over another woman, she’d never put on another piece of black as long as she lived,” Ennis said.

So remarkable is her memory that she can identify most faces in church and school photos taken almost 80 years ago. She is only hindered by failing eyesight. A photo of a revival service recalls the time when the Rev. William Vickers of Cambridge came to the area and saved souls under a huge white tent that eventually led to the building of the Pilgrim Holiness Church in Grotons in 1916, now closed. Another photo prompts memories of those unforgettable weekend nights of square dancing at Flag Pond, once a social hot spot for watermen and farmers.

Photo after tattered photo are tied to countless tales of marriages, love on the rocks, businesses that flourished and died, fortunes gained and lost. There are legacies that became legendary, like the tales of businessman “Big Al” Hall, said to have been so crooked even his tombstone’s epitaph cursed him.

There are stories of births and deaths, like that of the mother and child who died in childbirth at home, buried together in the same casket during a funeral service that brought folks from many neighborhoods to the home.

Memories of neighbors serenading newlyweds with music made by beating pots and pans and the glow of Roman candles at night. Tender stories. Fun stories. History all.

There will never be another Malinda Ennis. She devoted her life to memorizing the past of so many people in so many places at a time when many things remained constant. But no more. Life in this part of Accomack County will never again be so slow-moving, so predictable, so traditional.

“I guess I managed it because I was born with a brain that could do it. I’ve been interested in genealogy all my life. All the people but one that I remember from my youth are dead,” she said.

But they live on in Malinda Ennis.

— *The Daily Times*

Shore First

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KIRK MARINER (1943-2017)

'Tides of Time' event at Kiptopeke State Park May 10

Kiptopeke State Park will host an event called Tides of Time: Exploring the Shore History on May 10 from 10 a.m. until 2 p.m. at Picnic Shelter 1.

"The park's flora and fauna are unique to the area and give much insight to the past while focusing on the future of the park's historical, natural, and cultural resources," said Kiptopeke State Park Manager Sean Dixon. "This event will be engaging to make learning more fun and accessible while exploring the park."

This event will allow guests to hear from expert speakers covering Native American history of the Eastern Shore, Black history and its lasting impact on the region, the Chesapeake Bay Bridge-Tunnel and ferries, and the history of Kiptopeke State Park.

The Chesapeake Bay Bridge-Tunnel has a huge impact on the transportation of goods and services to the Shore. Ferries were used as the main mode of transportation across the bay from the colonial period until the completion of the bridge.

Exhibits and demonstrations will be provided by the Cape Charles Museum, Eastern Shore Maritime Museum, ESVA Heritage Center, Samuel D. Outlaw Blacksmith Shop Memorial Museum, U.S. Coast Guard, and more.

"We will bring history to life through captivating guest speakers, fun activities, and a variety of exhibits," said Kiptopeke State Park Education Support Specialist Jessica Stohr. "Enjoy hands-on history with crafts and activities for all ages, including guided history hikes through the park and demonstrations in our day-use area."

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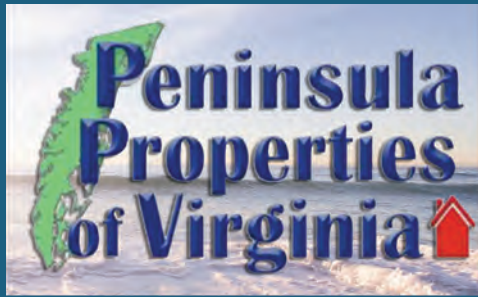


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