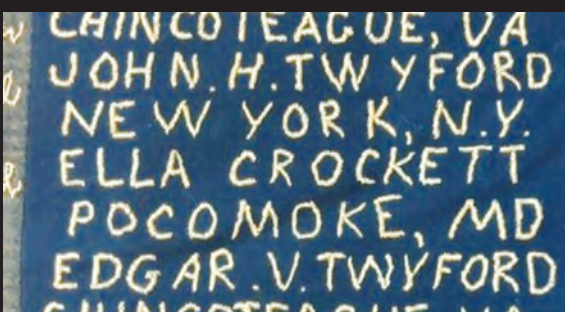




**FREE
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Artisans Guild Studio Tour is Nov. 28-29 | Page 6



A historic fundraiser returns to Chincoteague | Page 10

A time to talk turkey

Roasted turkey and hard cider gravy are a Thanksgiving hit

Page 12

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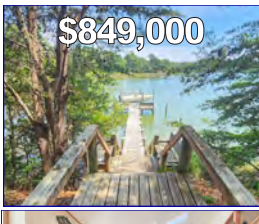


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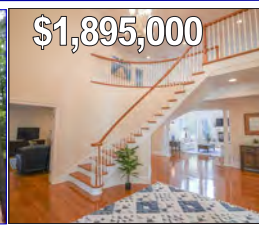


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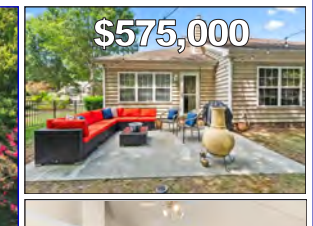


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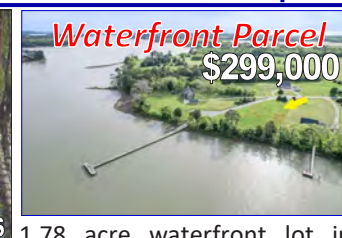
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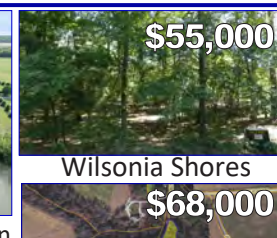
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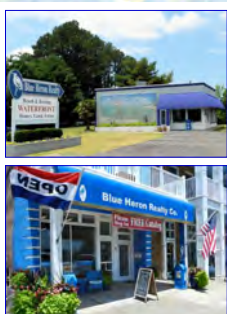
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Pocomoke Christmas Festival is Nov. 8 at Community Center

The Pocomoke Area Chamber of Commerce is kicking off the holiday season with its Christmas Festival, held annually since 2010.

The event will take place on Saturday, Nov. 8, from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. in the elegant Grand Ballroom of the Po-

comoke Community Center, located at 1410 Market St.

It will feature artisans, artists, and crafters, along with holiday music, plus reasonably priced breakfast and lunch and beverages prepared by the center's staff.

There is an admission charge of \$5 per person but no charge for children under 12.

No single family will be charged more than \$20 for admission.

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Cokesbury Cultural Center is pleased to announce our upcoming FREE 2026 Concert Series. We are honored to include programs dedicated to our country's 250th anniversary.

Mark your calendars for Saturday evening performances:

FEBRUARY 7: The College of William & Mary's "The Crim Dell Quartet" on Saxophone

APRIL 11: "Good Shot Judy" Swing Music

JUNE 13: Anna Sterrett, Soprano, including music to coincide with the Tall Ships at Onancock

AUGUST 8: Colonial Singers of Williamsburg in costume with music and colorful historic anecdotes

OCTOBER 10: "L'Armonici" Tim & Judy Olbrych, joined by Ryan Lowe, Classic & Early Guitar

All shows begin at 7 PM at 13 Market Street, Onancock. Donations welcomed.

We are grateful to our 2025 Series Sponsors: Joyce and J.T. Holland, Patricia & Patrick McArdle, Rev. Wayne Parsley, Thomas Young and public donations. We are seeking sponsors for the 2026 Concert Series. If you wish to sponsor one of these events, please contact Rev. Wayne Parsley at 757-710-9321.



COURTESY PHOTO

Decoys by carver David Farlow are shown annually on the Artisans Guild Tour, which will be held Nov. 28 to 29.

Artisans Guild Studio Tour scheduled for Nov. 28-29

Every year on Thanksgiving weekend, the Artisans Guild of the Eastern Shore of Virginia showcases its member artisans and their unique crafts and talent in a self-drive show and sale event.

This year's event will take place on Friday, Nov. 28, and Saturday, Nov. 29, from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. each day.

This is the 23rd annual Holiday Open Studio Tour.

There are two contests. Pick up a Passport to the Arts card at your first

stop. Have it initialed at each tour stop. Then turn in your passport card to the artist at your final stop.

You will be in the drawing for certificates ranging from \$50 to \$300 to spend with your favorite artist on the tour.

The second event is the annual photo contest. Take photos throughout the day at tour stops and email your three favorite and most creative photos to photos@esvaartisansguild.org.

First prize wins \$100, second prize

wins \$50, and third prize wins \$25. The deadline for submitting is Dec. 6.

STUDIO NO. 1

Carole Peirson Fine Art Studio, 3214 Jacobia Lane, Cape Charles

■ Carole Boggemann Peirson. Local scenes and colorful abstract work in oil and cold wax. 757-678-3340

■ Dianne Hottenstein, Hottporcelain Ceramics. Functional ceramics; unique surfaces. 757-573-7359

STUDIO NO. 2

Windsor Woodworks, Edwins Farm Drive and Lankford Highway, Cape Charles

■ Kurt and Sally Lewin, Windsor Woodworks. Custom woodworking from fine furniture to cutting boards. 757-331-4848

■ Kathy and John Groom, Sea Glass by Kathy. Unique sea glass and gifts, acrylic paintings. 757-752-1135

■ Ray and Julita Wood, Gecko Pottery. One-of-a-kind decorative and functional handmade pottery. 757-331-4204

■ Doug Brady. Hand-carved decoys, shorebirds, whales, clams, and oysters. 757-284-6658

STUDIO NO. 3

Noisy Crow Studio/ Shooting Star Studio, 5236 Mockhorn Bay Drive, Cape Charles

■ Nancy A. Kinzinger, Noisy Crow Studio. Copper, brass, and sterling silver jewelry constructed from recycled metal. 757-641-8069

■ Brenda C. Wright, Shooting Star Studio. Art photography, leather cuffs created from upcycled leather belts. 757-641-8861

STUDIO NO. 4

Cape Charles Museum, 814 Randolph Ave., Cape Charles

■ Marina Pierce, Photo by the Bay. Fine art photography of the landscapes and animals of the Eastern Shore. 703-209-5540

■ Michelle Truslow, Cape Charles Mudworks. Small-batch functional pottery reflecting the natural beauty of the Eastern Shore of Virginia. 434-607-5735

■ B.J. Rogers, Blue Jay Pottery by B.J. Varied but recognizable pottery in its quirky, colorful point of view. 757-442-6642

STUDIO NO. 5

JK Pottery, 4325 Wilsonia Drive, Machipongo

■ Jamie Kirkpatrick. Thrown, hand-carved sculptured vessels,

(Continued on page 8)

Self-driving
tour includes
dozens of stops
in Accomack,
Northampton

2025 Artisans Guild Holiday Tour

1. Carole Peirson Fine Art Studio

3214 Jacobia Lane
Cape Charles, VA 23310
757-678-3340

2. Windsor Woodworks

4245 Edwin's Farm Road
Cape Charles, VA 23310
757-331-4848

3. Noisy Crow Studio/ Shooting Star Studio

5236 Mockhorn Bay Drive
Cape Charles, VA 23310
Noisy Crow - 757-641-8069
Shooting Star - 757-641-8861

4. Cape Charles Museum

814 Randolph Avenue
Cape Charles, VA 23310
757-331-1008

5. JK Pottery

4325 Wilsonia Neck Drive
Machipongo, VA 23405
303-681-4713

6. Chatham Vineyards

9232 Chatham Road
Machipongo, VA 23405
757-678-5588

7. Milby Barn Studio at Chatham Flower Farm

31094 Boggs Road
Painter, VA 23420
508-524-5405

8. High Point Glassworks

30389 Bobtown Road
Pungoteague, VA 23422
757-442-7155

9. Ocean Skye Gallery

15355 Pungoteague Road
Pungoteague, VA 23422
757-442-2150

10. Lynne Rogers Studio

4 Center Street
Wachapreague, VA 23480
757-710-5335

11. Carrie Jacobson Studio

18 Bayview Avenue
Wachapreague, VA 23480
860-442-0246

12. Ann Crain Studio

3 Center Street
Wachapreague, VA 23480
410-610-2007

13. Current Reflections Fine Art

8 Main Street
Wachapreague, VA 23480
757-787-8499

14. Bay Leigh Studios

23895 Bailey Neck Drive
Onancock, VA 23417
484-999-4897

15. Marsh Ryon Studio

18092 Leatherbury Drive
Onancock, VA 23417
757-710-4659

16. Vesna Zidovec Studio

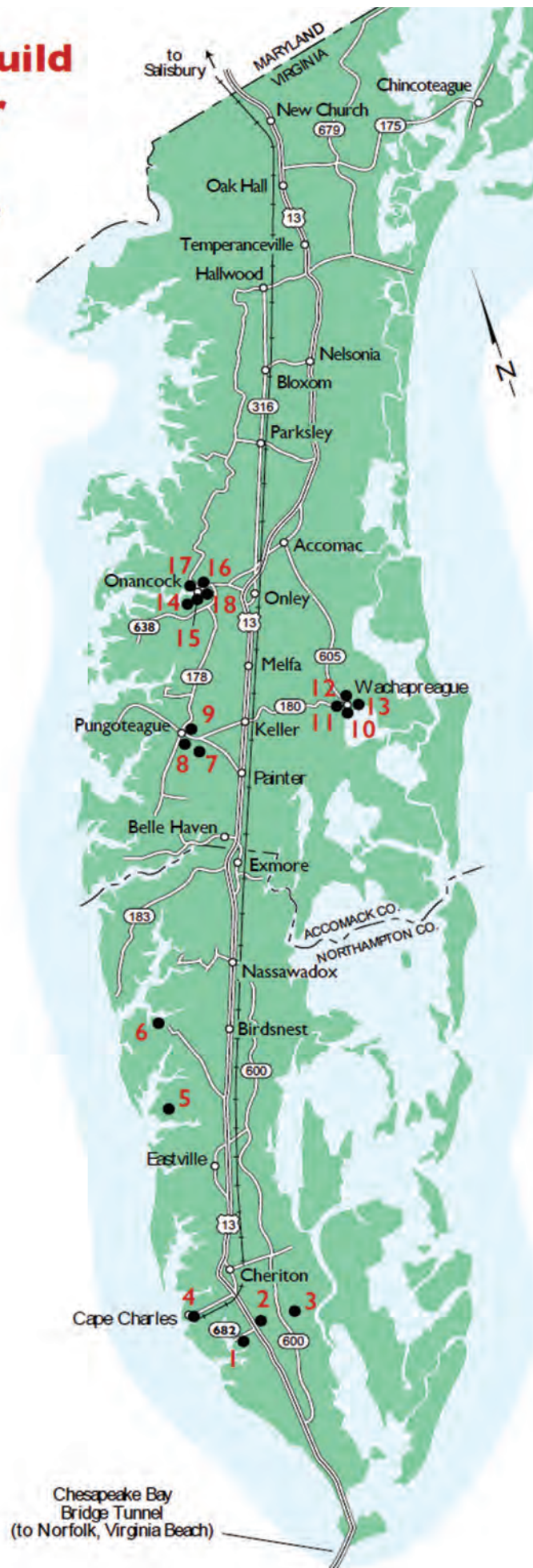
30 Kerr Street
Onancock, VA 23417
757-678-3712

17. Ker Place History Museum

69 Market Street
Onancock, VA 23417
757-787-8012

18. Historic Onancock School

6 College Avenue
Onancock, VA 23417
757-302-1331



Cartography by
Bill & Colette Nelson

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Bridge Tunnel
(to Norfolk, Virginia Beach)

0 5 Miles

Tour

(Continued from page 6)

glazed functional ware. 303-681-4713

STUDIO NO. 6

Chatham Vineyards, 9232 Chatham Road, Machipongo

■ Chatham Vineyards. Wine and oysters offered. Open daily year round. 757-678-5588

STUDIO NO. 7

Milby Barn Studio at Chatham Flower Farm, 31094 Boggs Road, Painter

■ Kate Fitzpatrick, Milby Barn Studio. Oil painter of local landscapes, coastal and farmland. 508-524-5405

■ David Justice. Sculptures designed, carved, painted, and inspired by the beauty of nature. 757-894-5638

STUDIO NO. 8

High Point Glassworks, 30389 Bobtown Road, Pungoteague

■ Ken Platt. Hot glass with live

demonstration. 757-442-7155.

STUDIO NO. 9

The Ocean Skye Gallery, 15355 Pungoteague Road, Pungoteague

■ Anne Winston. Working light, color, and life in mixed media. 757-710-3408

STUDIO NO. 10

Lynne Rogers Studio 4 Center St. Wachapreague

■ Lynne Rogers. Oil paintings, sculptural details, mixed media. 757-710-5335

STUDIO NO. 11

Carrie Jacobson Studio, 18 Bayview Ave., Wachapreague

■ Carrie Jacobson. Bright, bold oil paintings made with palette knife. Birds, florals, landscapes, animals, and more. 860-442-0246

■ Dave Groshong, Dave's Garden Fish. Whimsical garden sculptures. 206-939-7677

STUDIO NO. 12

Ann Crain Studio, 3 Center St.,

Wachapreague

■ Ann Crain. Mixed media with abstract thoughts, acrylics, oils, found objects, and more. 410-610-2007

STUDIO NO. 13

Current Reflections Fine Art, 8 Main St., Wachapreague

■ Bob Bilicki, Current Reflections. Paintings reflecting the color, texture, and depth of the Eastern Shore. 757-787-8499

■ Ted Leonard, Ted Leonard Artist. Oil and watercolor artist specializing in outdoor subjects. 757-641-0034.

STUDIO NO. 14

Bay Leigh Studio, 23895 Bailey Neck Dr., Onancock

■ Janis King, Bay Leigh Studios. Figurative sculptures and paintings, plus multi-media Santas. Demonstrations with clay. 484-999-4897

STUDIO NO. 15

Marsh Ryon Studio, 18092 Leath-
erbury Drive, Onancock

■ Marsh Ryon. Nature inspired artwork in a variety of media. 757-710-4659

STUDIO NO. 16

Vesna Zidovec Studio, 30 Kerr St.,
Onancock

■ Vesna Zidovec. Handmade functional and decorative pottery. 757-678-3712

STUDIO NO. 17

Ker Place History Museum, 69
Market St., Onancock

■ Diana M. Davis. Award-winning watercolors depicting the Eastern Shore. 757-350-0261

■ David Farlow, Seaside Decoys. Fourth-generation decoy carver in the Eastern Shore tradition. 757-442-9097

■ Douglas Greer, Greer Studio. Wildlife and landscape detail in acrylics and water-soluble oils. 757-710-1847

STUDIO NO. 18

Historic Onancock School, 6 Col-
lege Ave., Onancock

■ Karyn Belknap, Ten Good Sheep Yarns and Natural Fibers. Perfect gifts and stocking stuffers

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757-243-1400

■ Mark Belknap. Hand-forged gifts and traditional decoys/shorebirds. In studio 113. 757-710-1400

■ Billy Crockett, Billy Crockett Carvings. Master carver. In studio 117. 757-710-6669

■ Amy Felske, Incipient Madness. Fiber sculpture, art dolls, original sewing patterns, doll making kits. 757-331-0976

■ Donna Stufft, Painted Stitches. Art quilts, painted fabric embellished with thread sketching. 443-616-2665

■ Sarah Jillard, Painted Stitches. Art quilts, painted fabric embellished with thread sketching. 856-340-2665

■ Joel Simpson, Hand-carved utensils and turned bowls — functional art in wood. 757-710-1822

■ Dawn Simpson, Optic Fibers Crochet. Charming stuffed creatures, wearables, accessories. 757-710-5917

■ Laura McGowan, Laura McGowan Fine Art. Original oil paintings inspired by the Eastern Shore. In studio 114. 757-710-7600

■ John Labadie, Margie Labadie, Steppingstone Arts. A carefully rendered fantastic universe of colorful objects and spaces. Natural world col-
laged paintings, prints, and poetry;

glass-beaded jewelry. In studio 105. 910-734-3223

■ Margie Labadie, Steppingstone Arts. Original paintings, prints, and collages inspired by nature. In studio 105. 910-734-3351

■ Ginny Rutherford, Two Shores Art. Handbuilt functional and decorative pottery inspired by nature. 609-385-3766

■ Brenda Llewellyn, Llewellyn Ceramics. Porcelain and stoneware functional pottery of organic design. 240-478-7647

■ Deb Torguson, Collectors Portraits. Portrait artist and fine art photographer working traditional and digital media. In studio 108. 757-710-0993

■ Elizabeth Rhoades, Elizabeth Rhoades Fine Art. In studio 106. Original fine art oil and pastel landscapes. 860-841-3939

■ Guy Shover, bronze and salvaged wood sculpture. In studio 109. 757-894-1924

New Start Location:
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Chincoteague Island

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10am - 3pm
Rain or Shine

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'Send Me No Flowers,' Nov. 21-23 at Historic Palace Theatre

"Especially during a time when we're so divided, we strive to find plays that draw the community together," said Clelia Cardano Sheppard, director of Arts Enter's latest production, "Send Me No Flowers," at the Historic Palace Theatre in Cape Charles.

The three-act comedy by Norman Barasch and Carroll Moore brings together actors from the Eastern Shore, Hampton Roads, and New York.

"Send Me No Flowers" is sure to deliver a healthy dose of comedy.

The play is set in the 1960s in the suburban ranch home of Judy and George Kimball, a happily married middle-aged couple, played by a real-life married couple, Karla and Tony Robinson, of Virginia Beach.

The plot revolves around George's fear of illness; he is a true hypochondriac.

Their doctor, Ralph Morrissey, played by Mike Crockett, of Virginia Beach, dismisses George's endless symptoms, much to his frustration.

When George asks Morrissey to visit him due to a chest pain, he overhears a phone conversation about a very ill patient and mistakenly thinks the doctor is referring to him.

George begins preparing for his own death and enlists his friend Arnold to help him find a new husband for Judy. They settle on her old college flame, Bert, played by Jon Hatton, of Chesapeake. A chaotic mess of misunderstandings and assumptions ensues.

"Although we have each been in many productions, my husband and I have only done a handful of things together on the stage," said Robinson, whose credits include singing with the Chicago Symphony Chorus and numerous musical theater productions.

"To interact like this has been so much fun, working on our lines in our living room."

Both she and Tony have performed in Arts Enter productions.

"It's uncanny how most of us in the show are so much like our characters," Robinson said. "We're having a blast."

Her husband, Tony Robinson, who has acted on stages from California to Chicago and all over Hampton Roads, "is very thoughtful and introspective, much like the character of George. I play this ditzzy 1960s housewife who can't take care of herself until she absolutely has to."

Robinson related to her character's dedication to her husband: "I love how the character of Judy deals with George's fears, saying 'Yes dear, love you anyway.' It's just so cute."

Playing Arnold, who is a lawyer and George's best friend and next door neighbor, is Robert Wagner, a law professor who has been Tony's best friend since they met in high school theater.

"They're hysterical on stage because they have this history," said Karla. Wagner, who has performed in Chicago and California, is making his East Coast debut by reuniting with his old friend on the Palace Theatre stage.

He has been flying in every weekend from New York for rehearsals, missing his wife and children but relishing the opportunity to reconnect.

"I have felt moments where I could see myself and Tony over the years having one of these conversations. It feels authentic," said Wagner.

"My character in particular struggles with the mortality question," Wagner said. "While he expresses it in comedic fashion, the realization that his friend is going to die — and then not die — does hit him hard and deeply."

The cast also includes Tony Green, of Norfolk, playing Mr. Akins, and Randy Garrett, of Belle Haven, rendering the character of Vito. Laura Paré, Arts Enter's costume mistress and owner of Hometown Alterations in Eastville, is bringing the 1960s time period to life through her costuming. Lighting is by Noah Young, of Norfolk.

"Send Me No Flowers" was adapted for the screen in 1964 in a film starring Rock Hudson, Doris Day, and Tony Randall. In a nod to this history, Arts Enter's production integrates the dream sequences as original film segments, featuring the on-stage cast as well as New York-based artist Renata Sheppard, a choreographer and filmmaker with Eastern Shore roots, performing as Miss Mason and "the girlfriend."

Supporting film cast members include Shon Stacy, Charles Robinson, and Debbie Garrick.

Arts Enter's production of "Send Me No Flowers" is dedicated to the memory of the late Joel King, a beloved actor and friend of the Palace Theatre.

It will be performed Nov. 21 and 22, 7:30 p.m., and Nov. 23, 3 p.m., adults \$30, students \$15, artsenter-capecharles.org, at the Historic Palace Theatre in Cape Charles.



Welding Instructor Lloyd Wagar shows students welding basics at Eastern Shore Community College.

Eastern Shore 10th graders explore careers at ESCC

The second annual Career Adventure Day at Eastern Shore Community College was held on Oct. 17 from 9 a.m. to noon.

Twenty vendors and four trades faculty members provided demonstrations and information regarding career pathways on the Eastern Shore to over 400 10th grade students from Accomack County Public Schools, Broadwater Academy, and Northampton County Public Schools.

The ESCC planning committee consisted of Hayleigh Bradbury, Heather Coleman, and Elizabeth Walraven.

Numerous staff from student services and workforce came together to ensure a safe and enjoyable time was had by all.

Students engaged in bird-watching with The Nature Conservancy, learned about

various health care fields through activities provided by Riverside Shore Memorial Hospital and Eastern Shore Rural Health, and engaged in STEM activities with aerospace partners.

Sentinel Robotics Solutions provided drone demonstrations, and local law enforcement and public safety agencies demonstrated use of vehicles and equipment.

The purpose of this four-hour event was to engage students in activities to promote awareness of career pathways and connect them with resources at the college that can help them begin the steps towards pursuing those goals.

This event is generously funded by a grant through the DRANREF Foundation, whose mission is to advance STEM education and entrepreneurship in underserved areas.

Century-old quilt inscribed with Chincoteague heritage

BY JANET BERNOSKY
Shore First

A century-old quilt that quite literally reads like a veritable who's who of life on Chincoteague Island in a bygone era will be on display at the Museum of Chincoteague Island until it closes for the season on Dec. 13.

Featuring the hand-embroidered names of people who contributed to a worthy cause, the quilt also serves as an important historic record of that time.

"They say necessity is the mother of invention," said Cindy Faith, assistant director of the museum, about the unique-for-its-time fundraiser that resulted in the quilt's creation. Money raised was contributed toward the purchase of much-needed fire fighting equipment for the island town.

Faith was so inspired that she is seeking to make its modern-day counterpart, borrowing from the style of its predecessor. It will be to raise money to rebuild the barn at the Beebe Ranch on Ridge Road that was lost to fire in 2019.

The ranch is now part of the museum.

Back then, people paid 25 cents per name to have the names embroidered onto squares, eventually forming the very large quilt.

Some purchased entire blocks, Faith said.

"We can see surnames that are still found on the island today: Jester, Taylor, Tolbert, and Beebe, plus the Lunns, who descend from James Alone, to name a few," Faith said.

Other squares document names of people representing the ESVA mainland, Pocomoke City, Ocean City, Delaware, Washington, D.C., New York City — and as far away as Clarence T. Fedde-man in the Panama Canal Zone.

The women involved with the quilt

New fundraiser will be a quilt like one island completed back in 1925



Viki Ash holds the century-old Chincoteague fundraiser quilt, stitched with names from the era. A new fundraiser will create a similar quilt.

project went to banks and businesses, asking men to donate their trousers and suit coats because wool was more durable.

Faith estimates the quilt dates back to 1918 by referencing a square with that particular date its middle.

In 1905, a group of island residents purchased a hand-pumper engine for \$25, built around 1880 and pulled by a horse, to fight fires.

Later, a small gasoline-powered engine was acquired.

It is possible that the quilt's origin began, or contributed to, the fundraising for this engine because the timeline

1925.

By counting all the names, she estimates it raised about \$77.50 in total — worth around \$1,500 by today's standards.

"Whoever came up with this idea back then, it was just brilliant," said Faith, acknowledging it is more common now to create quilts for a particular cause.

All told, 61 squares were created to form the quilt. It was gifted in 1972 by the fire company to the newly opened Oyster Museum, now called the Museum of Chincoteague Island.

Beth Rhodes Sheeley, who works at the museum with the Road Scholar Program, was thrilled to find her great-great-grandparents' names on the quilt.

Her paternal great-grandmother, Ruby Fletcher Daisey (1905-1999), was a daughter of James E. (1873-1969) and Margaret Birch Fletcher (1877-1964), whose names were literally stitched in time.

Their gravesites are in Red Men's Cemetery on Taylor Street, Sheeley said.

Faith acknowledged the cost to participate in the new quilt project has gone up a bit since the last century: it is \$25 per line, or \$250 for an entire square.

There's potentially some creative leeway for squares, she said.

She urged those interested to not wait and said that she is available by phone at 757-336-3117 or by email at astdirector@museumofci.org.

The museum is currently open on Fridays and Saturdays from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Faith said anyone can stop by in person and fill out a quilt application, too.

Like the original, this quilt will also be hand-embroidered on similar fabric. The time-consuming, detailed work has already begun, according to Faith, calling it a "labor of love" for those involved.

The museum plans to have both quilts on display when it reopens in the spring.

"If only those names could talk, what stories would they tell us?" Faith wondered.

"In 100 years, will Chincoteague residents ask that same question about the quilt that we are creating now?"

seems to fit.

Unfortunately, both engines proved no match for the devastating fire that swept along one side of Main Street in September 1920.

It was followed by another in February 1924 that burned the opposite side of the street.

Afterward, the fledgling Chincoteague Volunteer Fire Company was founded with 14 members. They passed a hat, raising \$4.16. This group stepped up its efforts to purchase more modern equipment to keep the town safe.

Faith said the quilt was completed in

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Impress your guests with roasted turkey and hard cider gravy

Roasted turkey. Those two simple words instill so much fear and worry into home cooks all over this country this time of year. I remember being intimidated — I mean, 20 pounds can be a lot of bird! But, you really shouldn't be. Since I started brining my turkey,



Laura Davis

there hasn't been a dry bird in the house for years.

Another key component for a good turkey is a nice variety of aromatics stuffed into the cavity. You can use what you have around, but I've settled on oranges, onions, and rosemary.

It infuses the meat subtly with those wonderful flavors, and the juices drip down into the roasting pan, infusing the gravy with the flavors as well.

Then there's the cheesecloth thing. It's mainly to keep the breast from browning too much, but it keeps the skin constantly soaked in delicious basting juices — which certainly can't hurt either. I started out making this recipe using white wine, but a few years ago all I had on hand was some hard cider, so I substituted that and haven't turned back since. But if wine is available, feel free to use that. Happy Thanksgiving!

(Continued on page 13)



PHOTOS COURTESY LAURA DAVIS

At left, a key component for a good turkey is a nice variety of aromatics stuffed into the cavity. At right, hard cider gravy is a perfect complement to turkey and other Thanksgiving-meal staples.

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.

Roasted turkey

For the brine:

- 1 cup kosher salt
- 1/2 cups light brown sugar
- 1 gallon vegetable or chicken stock
- 1 tablespoon black peppercorns
- 1 1/2 teaspoons allspice berries
- 1 1/2 teaspoons chopped candied ginger
- 1 gallon heavily iced water

For the aromatics:

- 2 oranges, halved
- 1 small onion, quartered
- 4 sprigs rosemary
- Canola oil

For the basting liquid:

- 2 sticks butter
- 1 (12 ounce) bottle hard cider
- large square of cheesecloth (about 18"x 18")

Three days before roasting: Begin thawing the turkey in the refrigerator or in a cooler kept at 38 degrees F.

Combine the vegetable stock, salt, brown sugar, peppercorns, allspice berries, and candied ginger in a large stockpot over medium-high heat. Stir occasionally to dissolve solids and bring to a boil. Then remove the brine from the heat, cool to room temperature, and refrigerate.

Early on the day or the night before you'd like to eat: Combine the brine, water, and ice in a 5-gal-

lon bucket. Place the thawed turkey (with innards removed) breast side down in brine. If necessary, weigh down the bird to ensure it is fully immersed, cover, and refrigerate or set in cool area for eight to 16 hours, turning the bird once half way through brining.

Prepare the basting liquid by combining the butter and hard cider in a large saucepan. Heat over medium until the butter has melted. Stir to combine and set aside.

Preheat the oven to 500 degrees F. Remove the bird from brine and rinse inside and out with cold water. Discard the brine. Place the bird on roasting rack inside a half sheet pan and pat dry with paper towels. Add the aromatics to the turkey's cavity. Tuck the wings underneath the bird and coat the skin liberally with canola oil.

Roast the turkey on lowest level of the oven at 500 degrees F for 30 minutes until the breast is starting to brown. Remove the roasting pan from the oven. Dip the cheesecloth into your basting liquid, gently squeeze to remove the excess liquid, and carefully spread it over the breast of the turkey in an even layer, covering the breast completely. Return bird to oven.

Insert a probe thermometer into thickest part of the thigh and reduce the oven temperature to 350 degrees F. Set the thermometer alarm (if available) to 161 degrees F. A 14-to 16-pound bird should require a total of 2 to 2 1/2 hours of roasting. Baste

the turkey (including the cheesecloth) every half hour or so, basting with the pan liquids if you run out of your butter/cider mixture.

Let the turkey rest, loosely covered with foil for 15 minutes. Carefully remove the cheesecloth before serving and carving.

Hard cider gravy

- pan drippings from a roasted turkey or chicken
- 1 cup hard cider or dry white wine
- 2-3 cups chicken broth or water
- 3 tablespoons cornstarch
- 1 tablespoon cold water
- kosher salt and black pepper

Strain the drippings into a large measuring cup or bowl. Let stand for five minutes, then skim off and discard the fat. (Alternatively, use a fat separator.)

Place the empty roasting pan over two burners on medium-high heat. Add the cider and cook for one minute, scraping up the bits stuck to the pan. Pour into the skimmed drippings and add enough broth to make a total of four cups.

Add the broth mixture to a large saucepan and bring to a boil. Combine the cornstarch and cold water to form a slurry, then whisk into the broth. Reduce heat and simmer until thickened, eight to 10 minutes. Season with salt and pepper to taste before serving.

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Who was the ‘Laughing King’ of the Accomacks?

Without a doubt the most famous Indian of the Eastern Shore of Virginia was the “Laughing King” of the Accomacks. This peaceful werowance, unlike his contemporaries on the Western Shore, welcomed the

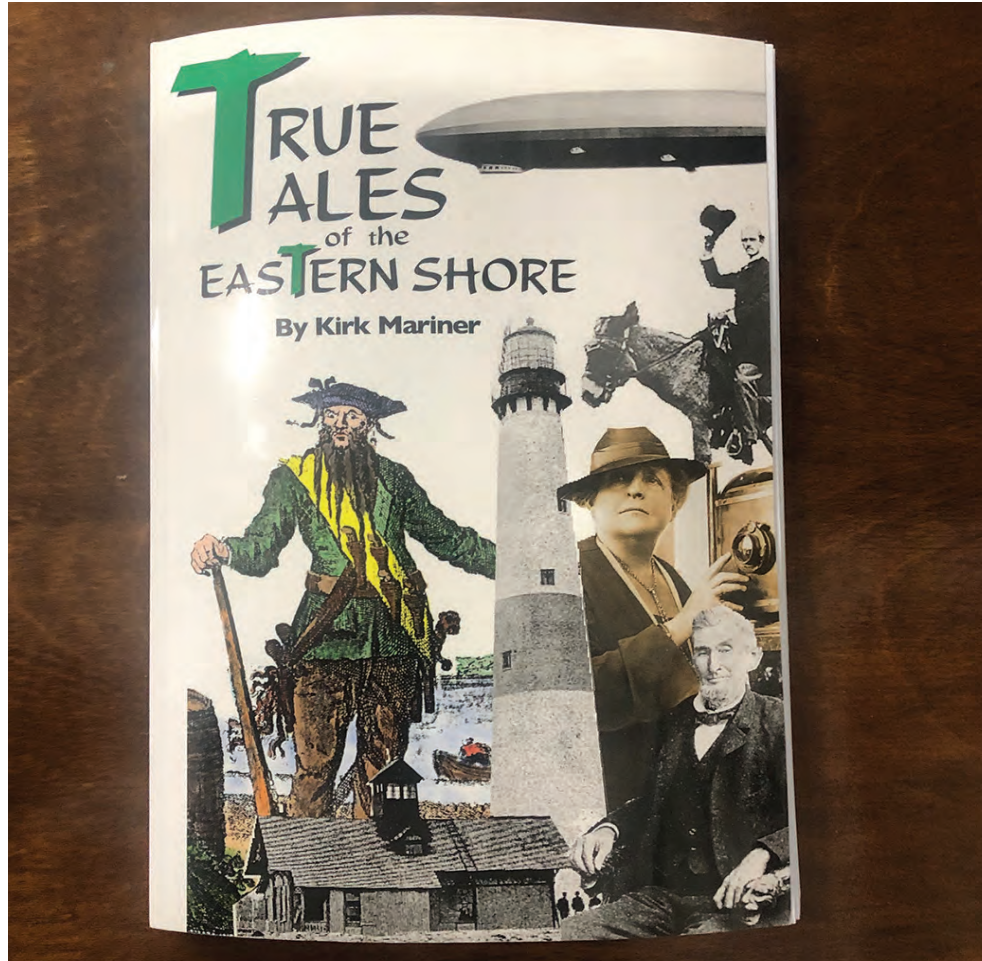
English settlers, gave them land on which to live, counted them among his friends, and kept his people from going to war against them.

We know him as Debedeavon, but that was almost certainly not his name. A careful examination of the

original documents of that period suggests that Debedeavon and the “Laughing King” were two entirely different persons.

It may have been the “Laughing King” himself whom Captain John Smith met in 1608 and called the “comeliest, [most] proper, and civil Salvage [sic] we encountered.” Yet not until 1621 is there specific mention of the “Laughing King” by that name.

After that the old records speak of him frequently, always by that name and always in the region of lower Northampton County. The last mention of him pertains to the 1630s, and his name drops from the record after that because, presumably, he died about that time. And not once in any of



SHORE FIRST/TED SHOCKLEY

This excerpt is from Kirk Mariner’s “True Tales of the Eastern Shore.”

the original documents is this “Laughing King” identified as “Debedeavon.”

Debedeavon, on the other hand, does not enter the pages of history until 1648, well after the “Laughing King” had dropped from the record. For a number of years after that he appears in the old documents, always by the name Debedeavon (spelled in a vari-

ety of ways: Deabedanba, Depatiavon, Tabatiabum, Tapatiaton), and always in the region of Accomack County, not Northampton. It is he who is sometimes referred to as “King of Nandua,” or “King of Great Nuswattocks,” which was an early name for Nandua Creek. And not once in any of the original documents is this Debedeavon

If not Debedeavon, what was the name of the peaceful werowance ‘Laughing King’?

called the “Laughing King.”

Two different names, two different periods, two different areas, never once joined in the same place or identified as the same person — the conclusion seems inescapable: in giving the name of Debedeavon to the “Laughing King” we have confused two separate Indian chiefs and merged them into one personality.

It is only since the 20th century that we have done so, and the mistaken identity seems to have begun with Thomas Teackle Upshur (1844-1910), a prominent student of the Shore’s history and arguably its first historian. In 1900 Upshur gave an address on Eastern Shore history in Accomac, which he published the following year in a scholarly journal. This article is the earliest known source linking the identities of the “Laughing King” and Debedeavon. Since Upshur, most historians who have written about the Eastern Shore’s Indians have relied on his identification, and “Debedeavon” as the name of the “Laughing King” has long since become a commonplace of Eastern Shore history.

No matter what his name, there is no mistaking the legacy of the “Laughing King.” Throughout the time that his name appears in the records, relations between the Indians and the Englishmen of the Eastern Shore were remarkably peaceful. When the Western Shore Indians conspired to massacre the English,

(Continued on page 15)

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 14)

the “Laughing King” of the Accomacks refused to participate. When a 1631 law ordered that no Englishman should “speak or parlie with any Indian either in the woods or in any plantation if he can possibly avoide it,” an exemption was granted to Eastern Shore residents, perhaps because Indians and Whites there were already on friendly terms. The “Laughing King” granted large tracts of land to Thomas Savage (still known as Savage Neck) and to George Yeardley (Oldtown Neck), apparently welcoming English settlement among his people. And once a year he visited the home of his trusted friend Colonel Obedience Robins at Cherrystone.

By the 1640s the Eastern Shore was entering a new era of less peaceful relations between the two races. Conflict was inevitable as Whites came in increasing numbers, moving always farther up and into the

peninsula. But another factor in the increased tensions, border incidents, and outright warfare that characterized the mid-1600s may well have been that, by then, the old “Laughing King” was dead, no longer able to set the tone for race relations. A new generation of Indians, among whom was the chief named Debedeavon, faced a period of increased tension and growing hostility.

If not “Debedeavon,” what was the name of the “Laughing King?” It is tempting, on the one hand, to suggest that his name was nothing other than “Laughing King” — that is, that “Laughing King” is an Anglicization of whatever Indian word or words made up his name or title. Since the documents make no mention of his being jolly, it is tempting to suggest that the English called him “Laughing King” not because he was jovial but because what the Indians called him and what he called himself sounded, to English ears, like the two English words “laughing king.”

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Are there California Pioneers among our ancestors?

Some Shore folks journeyed west during the Gold Rush from 1849 to 1855

Not long ago I came across some letters my great-grandfather and great-uncle wrote from California to the folks back home. They went to California in 1849

to seek their fortune in the Gold Rush. John, my great-grandfather, was 16 at the time, and Tom, his older brother, was 21.

They departed New York on March 3 aboard the schooner James L.

Day and sailed around Cape Horn, arriving in what is now Oakland some six months later.

Their father had died in 1846, and Tom had left the family farm at Red Bank to take a job as a mate on a cargo vessel to help support the family. So, after three years at sea, he was comfortable on the water.

No one knows whether they found gold, but they settled in California for the long term. Tom went into the shipping business, and John settled in Emeryville, north of Oakland. Emeryville was a Gold Rush town, and it appears that John did go to the gold fields, however briefly. We found a news item in the Emeryville Chronicle reporting that his cabin and all his provisions had been destroyed by fire. After that, John apparently went into the mercantile business, reasoning

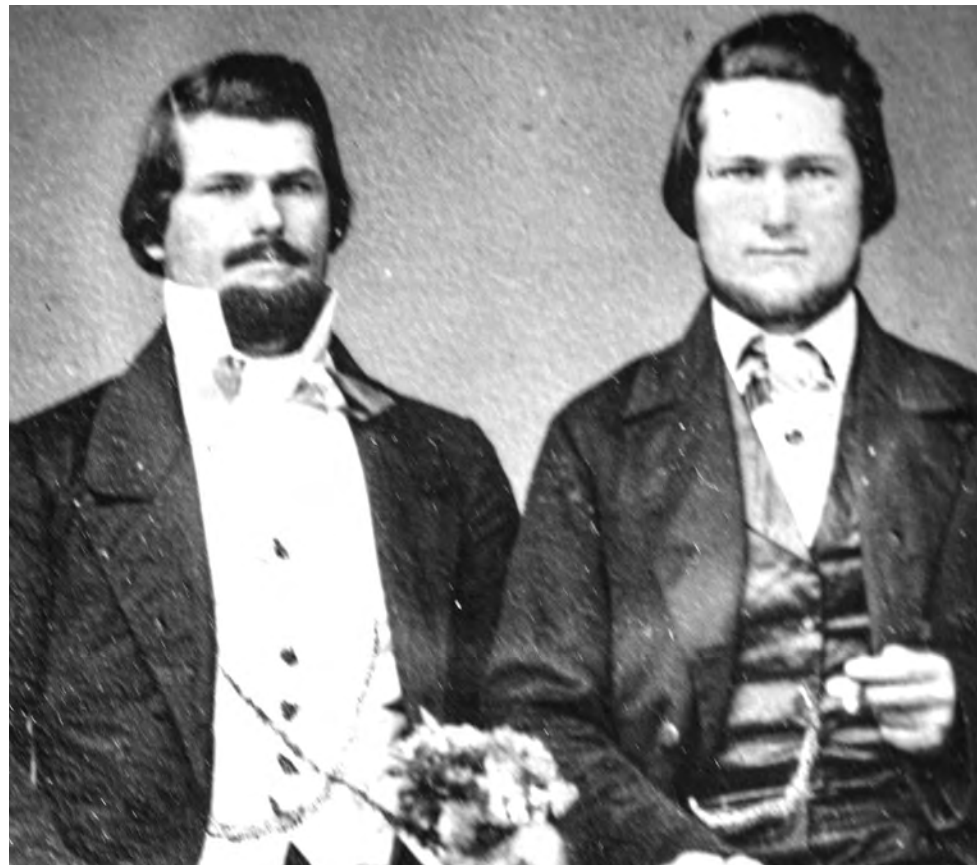


PHOTO COURTESY CURTIS BADGER

Thomas W. Badger, left, and John W. Badger went to California in 1849 to seek their fortune in the Gold Rush.

that it was more profitable and safer to supply goods to the gold seekers rather than to seek gold himself.

Tom spent the rest of his life in California, first in the shipping business, and later running an amusement park in what is now downtown Oakland. John stayed in Emeryville for 11 years and returned to the East-

ern Shore in 1860, probably because he realized war was inevitable and he felt the responsibility to come home to protect the family farm. The Emeryville Chronicle in March reported that he was boarding the next ship sailing for Pungoteague Creek.

It seems that every time I tell someone about Tom and John's Gold

Rush adventure, they reply with a Gold Rush story of their own. A great-great-uncle went to California and came home with a few nuggets that have become family heirlooms. I recently heard an account from a reliable source that a farm in the Mappsburg area of Accomack County had been purchased many years ago with proceeds from the Gold Rush.

Did the Eastern Shore supply an inordinate number of gold seekers to California in 1849? Are there California Pioneers among our ancestors?

I have heard that someone once compiled a list of Eastern Shore folks who went to the Gold Rush, but I have never seen a copy if one does exist.

It makes sense that young, adventurous Eastern Shore men would go to California. People were used to traveling by water in those days. It was how we got from place to place, how we conducted business and commerce. California would seem more accessible to an Eastern Shore person than it would to someone from, let's say, Roanoke. Yes, California would be a long boat ride, but it was a boat ride. We can do boat rides, especially if gold is involved.

I thought it would be interesting to put together a list of local people who left the Shore to seek gold in California and to tell their stories. Do you have a California Pioneer in your family? If so, drop us an email at editor@easternshorepost.com and tell us your family story.

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.

100 years ago
November 1925

Preachers owned stills

Two preachers were among the three violators of the prohibition laws taken in a raid yesterday by Prohibition Officer Eugene Dennis, of Cape Charles, and Magistrate Henry L. Upshur, of Eastville, on the latter's farm near the county seat town.

The Rev. Peter Davis had in his possession a still of 15-gallon capacity and 30 gallons of mash, the officers claim. The Rev. J.A. Baker's outfit is charged with having a 50-gallon still and 100 gallons of mash.

The other man taken in the raid was William Banaster, who had a 50-gallon still and 150 gallons of mash and was arrested on the farm of Mrs. Mary Dalby at Bridgetown.

Violators of the Prohibition Law have shown a decided decrease in Northampton County during the past three months. Prohibition Officer Dennis thinks the manufacture of whiskey has fallen into new hands.

— *Ledger-Star*

Fraud charged in suit filed for 10K

A suit for \$10,000 for alleged false and fraudulent statements relative to securing a loan of \$5,000 was filed today by Emory H. Niles and M.T. Donohue, receivers for Rielly-Edwards Co., of Delaware, against Henry W. Conant, of Chincoteague. This loan was made to the Chincoteague Fish Oil and Guano Company on Nov. 23, 1922.

The plaintiffs charge that this company secured the money through statements of Mr. Conant, its president, from Rielly-Edwards Company, who were brokers engaged in the fish oil and scrap business. The defendant's company sold to Proctor & Gamble through the company represented by the plaintiffs, five cars of fish oil for \$16,000/per car, it is set out in the bill.

The Chincoteague company was in need of immediate funds and secured the \$5,000 loan on the strength of a statement alleged to have been made by Mr. Conant that his company had three cars of oil in North Carolina ready for shipment. Pay for this would have been made through the Baltimore office of Rielly-Edwards, and the amount advanced would have been de-

ducted, the petition sets out.

The defendant's company did not have a gallon of oil, the trustees charge, and closed its plant on Dec. 22. This company passed into the hands of receivers in 1923, the bill charges. The sale to Proctor & Gamble was based on production by the Chincoteague company, and the company neither produced nor had any oil on hand, according to the statements of the trustees.

— *Ledger-Star*

Game bird treaty violator is fined

The machinery of the law moved swiftly for William T. Powell, of Deep Creek, Accomack County, who was fined \$100 in Federal District Court today for violating the migratory game bird treaty by having 25 wild ducks in his possession on Oct. 30.

Arrested Tuesday afternoon at Onancock by Deputy Marshall Turner, of Norfolk, Powell was given a preliminary hearing before U.S. Commissioner Mahone this morning and held for action in Federal Court, District Attorney Paul Kear immediately made information against Powell in Federal Court and Powell pleaded guilty.

Judge Groner accepted District Attorney Kear's recommendation that a fine, instead of a jail sentence, be imposed.

Federal Game Warden Thomas Bloxom swore out the warrant for Powell's arrest. He is alleged to have used traps and nets to catch wild ducks.

— *Richmond Times-Dispatch*

75 years ago
November 1950

Cape Charles rolls up 93-0 score

Cape Charles High School wound up its 1950 season here today with an unbelievable 93-0 triumph over Northampton High.

Cape Charles scored 14 touchdowns and nine extra points, with at least two touchdowns coming every quarter.

Figuring in the touchdown parade were Amos Dickerson with five; Regis Etz with three; Charlie Powell with two; Dickie Waters with one; Shaw, one; Parks, one; and Travis, one.

Shaw made two extra points; Powell made three; Shriezes, three; and Kellam, one.

The lopsided triumph gave Cape Charles eight wins for the season against no losses and 343 points scored for the year against six for their opponents.

— *The Virginian-Pilot*

Stuffing comes high

That 89-pound marlin Gov. Battle caught off Chincoteague some weeks ago cost him nearly \$1 a pound. The governor had the fish stuffed. It was delivered today, along with a bill for \$86. Asked where he planned to put the fish, he said, "I have not the slightest idea."

— *The Daily News Leader*

Forest fire loss \$75K

A second forest fire in Accomack County was brought under control today after it and an earlier fire caused damage estimated at \$75,000.

Approximately 1,000 acres of woodland, thicket, and truck crop land were in the area swept by the two fires.

The first of the two fires, in the Hack's Neck area, started yesterday. Forestry officials believe the second, just north of Hack's Neck and across two creeks, was started by sparks from the original blaze.

Rain during the night aided the firefighters. Volunteer firemen from Onancock, Tasley, Melfa, Wachapreague, Exmore, and Parksley helped to fight the two fires.

A U.S. Navy vessel sent a firefighting party ashore last night to aid in fighting the Hack's Neck blaze.

— *Ledger-Star*

50 years ago
November 1975

Two sought in Virginia holdup

The search continues today for two men who escaped with an undetermined amount of money and a \$9,000 van following an armed holdup of a service station south of Cape Charles light Wednesday evening.

According to Northampton County Deputy Sheriff W.T. Belote, the two men robbed Tommy Lewis' Exxon Station at 6:30 p.m. Wednesday, firing a single shot then kidnapping the station owner and an employee.

(Continued on page 18)

Yesteryears

(Continued from page 17)

No injuries were reported and the two victims were freed on a deserted road south of Cape Charles.

The amount of money taken hasn't yet been determined.

— *The Daily Times*

Court clerk injured in boat mishap

The Clerk of Circuit Court for Wicomico County, A. James Smith, is listed in serious condition after being injured Friday when a small motor launch steering mechanism malfunctioned, throwing him into Chincoteague Bay, crushing his arm and hand with the propeller.

Smith had been goose hunting and was returning to a hunting lodge with Ronald Savage when the accident occurred somewhere on the bay near Public Landing.

Details of the accident were sketchy since Savage, who was also injured, rescued Smith and reached Girdletree in an apparent state of shock.

According to Mrs. Smith, the two men were en route to the lodge when something in the steering mechanism exploded, causing the small craft to lurch and throw Smith into the bay. Out of control, the launch struck Smith, the propeller crushing bones, tendons, and muscles in his right arm and hand.

Savage was knocked through the windshield of the boat, and according to Mrs. Smith, he doesn't know how he got the boat across the bay to land, but apparently he steered it by gripping the cables.

Coming ashore at Girdletree, the men drove to Snow Hill, and Smith was transported from there by ambulance to Peninsula General Hospital, where he underwent seven hours of surgery.

— *The Daily Times*

Poll backs rural Shore, voters favor industry

A large majority of residents on the lower Eastern Shore prefer rural life here to higher salaries elsewhere, according to a survey by the

Nature Conservancy.

Out of 1,000 persons polled in the two Virginia Shore counties, 90% said they were satisfied with their lives on the Shore, and 76% said they would not move away even for an additional income as high as \$5,000 a year.

The results of the poll were released by the Nature Conservancy the same week that Northampton County voters showed overwhelming support for the first heavy industry on either the Virginia or Maryland Shore by electing to the three-member Board of Supervisors two avowed supporters of Brown & Root, a maker of oil rigs from Houston.

Ironically, the survey was partially paid for by the American Petroleum Institute.

Attempting to explain the seeming contradiction between the survey and the election results, a Nature Conservancy staff member said he believes "the people down here are not putting two and two together."

The Nature Conservancy survey is part of a larger study covering the ecology, economy, and sociology of the Virginia Shore that will guide the conservancy in its management of 12 barrier islands it owns south of the better known Ocean City and Assateague Island.

The entire study is scheduled for completion by the end of December.

The results are "statistically sound," according to James W. MacFarland, a conservancy staff member.

It was conducted this summer by two sociology professors from Salisbury State College — John H. Shope and Peter Lade.

The two professors directed interviews of 1,000 Shore residents selected to represent a statistical cross section of the population based on the 1970 census. On this basis, 43.5% of the persons interviewed were Black; 53% were women; 512 were from the seaside and 488 were from the bayside, and they ranged in age from 18 to 88.

In answers to specific questions, 72% favored life in small towns over large towns, and 85% said they would not want to live in a "planned community" or housing development.

The questioners also found that the majority of the Virginia Shore families seldom leave the Shore for weekends or vacations and that the leisure time of most is spent at home, visiting nearby friends, or fishing.

Of the 1,000 interviewed, only 15% said they would move for more money.

MacFarland said he believes one explana-

tion for the contradiction between results of the survey and the Northampton County elections favoring Brown & Root is that the survey included both voters and nonvoters in both Northampton and Accomack counties.

The 4,645 persons who voted earlier this month in the most controversial election in Northampton County history represented less than a third of the total population of 14,447, said McFarland. He does not believe that many of them connect the coming of big industry and the way of life they say they do not want to change.

— *The Baltimore Sun*

25 years ago
November 2000

Probing the bay's ancient crater

Geologists are digging up more about the ancient crater that sits beneath the Chesapeake Bay. The brilliant ball of light that smashed into the coastal area 35 million years ago, carving out the crater, also created 23 secondary holes and triggered faults through southeastern Virginia, helping to shape the region's unusual groundwater system.

The new findings are rewriting the state's geological history, giving rise to an understanding of Tidewater Virginia as a thin layer of rock riding over restless rubble.

"We're resting atop an unstable area, just shot through with faults," one of the researchers, Lucy E. Edwards, of the U.S. Geological Survey, said last week during an interview.

The impact's legacy is well known to area residents who try to drill for drinkable groundwater and encounter Virginia's saltwater "wedge," pockets of brine nestled in an arc from the lower Eastern Shore to the Hampton Roads/Newport News area.

Since the mid-1980s, USGS and Virginia scientists have been unearthing evidence suggesting that a fiery meteor or comet plunged to Earth along the Atlantic coast. It left a 56-mile-wide crater, buried under debris, centered at Cape Charles.

Understanding this cataclysm is critical, scientists say, because it continues to mold Virginia's coastal geology and hydrology even today.

State officials, for example, want to know more about the area's bizarre geology to guide

(Continued on page 19)

Yesteryears

(Continued from page 18)

water management in the Tidewater area, where the future sources of water are also sources of controversy.

New research makes clear the complexity of the region. What was until recently understood as an inverted sombrero-like crater buried a mile deep is now seen as a system of a main crater, a string of 23 smaller craters, and a criss-crossing of deep faults across a 90-mile-wide area.

The USGS plans to continue to study the impact, the faults, and the effect on groundwater.

— *The News and Advance*

Garry Pearce: a military legend

It is hard not to believe in the power of courage, dedication, perseverance, and maybe even miracles after meeting retired U.S. Marine Col. Garry Pearce.

During World War II Pearce was a rear gunner in dive bombers.

In the Korean War he disposed of bombs.

During the Vietnam War he was in charge of a minesweeping force and was exposed to Agent Orange.

And in peacetime he worked at “ground zero” during the infancy of nuclear bomb testing.

He survived it all with only one scratch. That has to be miracle territory.

It all started with the movie “Guadalcanal Diary,” that came out during World War II. It was the story of Marines fighting in the first offensive battle of the war.

“That motivated me,” says the 74-year-old native of the Bronx, New York. “I was raised in a patriotic family.”

So in 1943, at 17, he joined the Marines and took boot camp at Parris Island, S.C. Afterward Pearce was trained as an “ordnance man” responsible for loading and launching weapons, including bombs, rockets, and artillery shells.

In 1944 he was sent to the Marshal and Caroline islands in the Pacific, where he was in two operations before moving into the aviation arena.

As a rear gunner in a dive bomber plane, Pearce flew in 10 to 12 missions before the war’s end.

“I remember almost shooting off the tail of my own plane,” he said with a smile, playing down the danger he faced during the missions.

Pearce was discharged after World War II, but he re-enlisted less than a year later and began training pilots in aviation ordnance at the Quantico Marine base.

In 1951 Pearce was promoted to lieutenant before once again heading to war, this time in Korea, where bomb disposal became his specialty.

After a 13-month tour in Korea, Pearce returned to the United States, where he was sent to explosive ordnance disposal school. After promotion to captain, he was transferred to a Marine combat engineer division where he began designing targets and the employment of nuclear weapons.

In the mid-1960s Pearce earned a degree in military arts and sciences from the U.S. Armed Forces Institute, was promoted to lieutenant colonel, and was sent to Vietnam in 1966.

After completing his 13-month tour, Pearce returned home. The following year, he retired from the Marines after 25 years of service.

Amazingly, over the course of three wars, Pearce’s only injury was a “scratch” inflicted by a piece of shrapnel during a bombing mission in World War II. He never reported the injury because he would have been ashamed to show up at the military hospital with such a small wound when so many others had suffered grievous injuries.

“I was extremely lucky,” he said.

Though he escaped the wars relatively unscathed, Pearce said he and his family sacrificed years apart due to his military service. He spoke lovingly of his wife of 52 years, Marcy, giving her the credit for raising their four sons: Randy, Steven, Richard, and Stacey. “She’s a tough lady. I’d never have made it without her.”

After retiring from the military, he began work as a general contractor, moving to Chincoteague in 1974. Later he started the Century 21 real estate company on the island and even today retains his real estate license.

As commander of the American Legion Post 159 on Chincoteague, Pearce stays busy with the post’s activities, although he enjoys woodworking in his spare time and describes himself as an “avid, voracious reader.” Because of his military background, Pearce remains interested in foreign policy, as well. “I’m a news freak,” he jokes.

Though he has long been retired from the service, patriotism and service are of the utmost importance to Pearce.

“It’s the major force in my life,” he says. “I have no regrets.”

— *The Daily Times*

Shore First

The Eastern Shore of Virginia's
monthly newsmagazine

Published at the beginning
of each month
since May 2017

A PUBLICATION
OF CAPE MEDIA LLC

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3257B Main Street
Exmore, VA 23350

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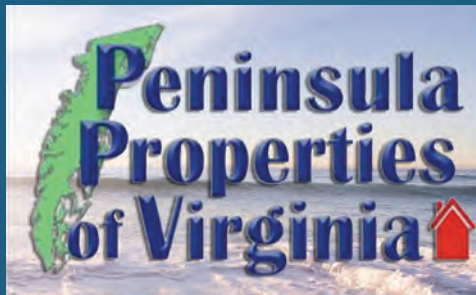
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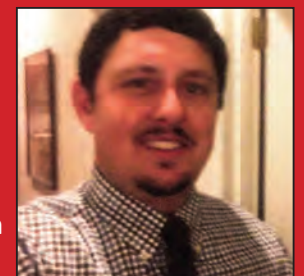


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