

Get hooked on

Summer Fun



MELANY SLAUGHTER / GAZETTE-JOURNAL

A peaceful fishing trip at Beaverdam Reservoir in Gloucester.



SHERRY HAMILTON / GAZETTE-JOURNAL

Learning to swim with the Mathews Family YMCA.

After a pandemic year when very few opportunities were available, Summer Fun is back. Here is our guide to many of the upcoming activities in the area.

GAZETTE-JOURNAL

Thursday, June 10, 2021

Section C



Community activities for the summer of 2021

FRIDAY, JUNE 11

NIGHT FISHING: Gloucester Parks, Recreation & Tourism will hold Night Fishing at Beaverdam Park on Fridays, June 11, July 23 and Aug. 20 from 4 p.m. until midnight. The cost is \$5 and all ages are welcome to participate. Pre-registration is required. Register online via the Gloucester Parks, Recreation & Tourism website.

NIGHT BIKING: Gloucester Parks, Recreation & Tourism will hold Beaverdam Night Biking on Fridays June 11, July 23 and Aug. 20 this summer for ages 18 and older. No trail biking experience needed. The Beaverdam Trails are rugged so be sure your bike is up to it before joining this night biking adventure. The group will leave the trail head at dusk and bike up to five or six miles. You must have at least an 800-lumen headlight and a handlebar light. Meet in the overflow parking lot. The cost is \$3 per night bike. Register online via the Gloucester Parks, Recreation & Tourism website.

OWL WALK: Take a hike into the woods of Beaverdam Park to look and listen for owls from 8-9:30 p.m. Barn Owls, Screech

Owls, Great Horned Owls and Barred Owls are common to this area. Dress for the weather, wear sturdy shoes and bring a flashlight, set of binoculars and a water bottle. The cost is \$5. Learn more on the Gloucester Parks, Recreation & Tourism website.

SATURDAY, JUNE 12

PAINT MAIN: The Gloucester Arts Festival will be holding a painting competition for the artists participating in this year's plein air festival. "Paint Main 2.0" will begin painting at 10 a.m. and stop at noon. Community painters are also welcome to register for the event and compete for prizes. The public is invited and encouraged to attend this free, fast-paced painting event as spectators.

MONDAY, JUNE 14

SURVIVAL: Gloucester Parks, Recreation & Tourism will hold "Hug a Tree & Survive" camp on June 14, July 12 and Aug. 9 from 7:30-8:30 p.m. for children ages seven years to 11. Your child will learn a set of tools to make themselves more findable if they be-

come lost. Sessions will be held in the Whitcomb Lodge at Beaverdam Park. Register online via the Gloucester Parks, Recreation & Tourism website. There is no cost to attend.

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 16

BINGO: "Bingo & Brain Teasers" will be held on June 16 from 10:30 a.m. until noon in the Stewart Building on Main Street, across from Botetourt Elementary. As you play through a few sessions of Bingo you will be challenged with some brain exercises, puzzles, trivia, games, etc., to keep your brain sharp. This activity is for those 55 and older and the cost is \$10. Register online via the Gloucester Parks, Recreation & Tourism website.

CONCERT: Gloucester Parks, Recreation & Tourism will host "Just Dan" for its Concerts on the Green series on June 16 beginning at 6 p.m. on the lawn of County Building Two.

SATURDAY, JUNE 19

MARKETS ON MAIN: The Mathews Main Street Committee will hold the June "Markets on Main," on

June 19 from 9 a.m. until 3 p.m. Suite 101 Bandmates will play at the Historic Courthouse Green from 10 a.m. until 1 p.m. David Shuber Music will play at Sibley's General Store from noon until 3 p.m. Other happenings of the day include the Mathews Farmers Market, the Artisan Market at the Bay School Community Arts Center, The Seafood Shack Food Truck (Mathews M&M Building Supply) and Positive Pizza Food Truck (Brickbat Road).

MONDAY, JUNE 21

CAMP: The Mobjack Rowing Association Learn to Row camp will be held June 21-June 25 and Aug. 23-Aug. 27. The camp is open to all rising 7th through rising 12th grade students. The cost is \$100 for the week. Find out more information and sign-up at mobjackrowing.org.

SEE COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES, PAGE 3C

Mathews Baptist Church presents

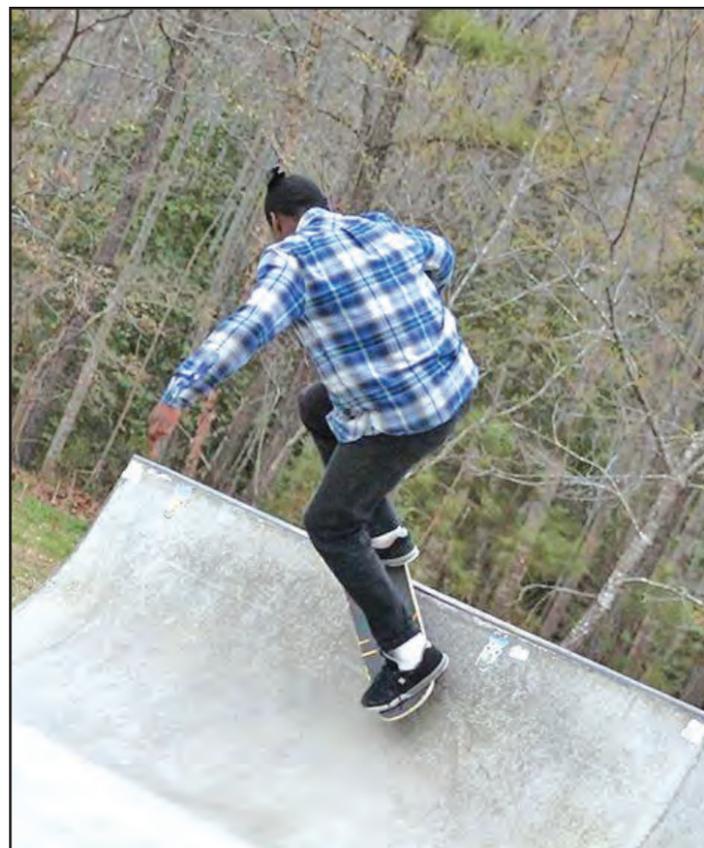
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GLOUCESTER PRT PHOTO

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COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES: *Something for everyone during the summer*

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 2C)

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 23

PICKLEBALL: Beginner Instructional Pickleball will be taught on Wednesdays, June 23-July 14 from 5:30-7 p.m. at Gloucester High School. Basic rules, techniques and strategies will be taught. The cost is \$35. Register online via the Gloucester Parks, Recreation & Tourism website.

FRIDAY, JUNE 25

CHICKEN DINNER: The Gwynn's Island Chicken Dinner will be held on Friday, June 25 from 4:30-7 p.m. at the Gwynn's Island Civic Center. This is a drive-thru only event. Tickets are \$14 for adults and \$7 for children 10 and under. Proceeds benefit Gwynn's Island Civic League and Museum. Call Jan Bassett at 804-725-7860 for any questions. No pre-sale of tickets.

PARK PADDLES: Gloucester Parks, Recreation & Tourism will be holding "Beaverdam Park Paddles" on Fridays, June 25 and July 9 from 8-10:30 p.m. and Saturday Aug. 7 from 7-9:30 a.m. The cost varies. Available for ages 10

and up. Register online via the Gloucester Parks, Recreation & Tourism website.

SATURDAY, JUNE 26

RACE: The Mathews Outdoor Club will be holding the annual Gwynn's Island Race of June 26 from 7-9 a.m. Participants will be able to choose a 4-mile run, a 10-mile bike ride or combine the run and bike for a duathlon. The race proceeds will benefit local athletes. The cost is \$30. Register online at <https://mocva.net/mmts/>.

MONDAY, JUNE 28

CAMP: Gloucester Parks, Recreation & Tourism will be holding a Disney Camp for children ages eight to 11 from June 28 until July 1 from 9 a.m. until noon at T.C. Walker. Your child will learn and perform favorite Disney Movie songs, some choreography and basics of performing. The cost is \$59. Register online via the Gloucester Parks, Recreation & Tourism website.

CAMP: Gloucester Parks, Recreation & Tourism will be holding a Girls Show Music Choir Camp from June 28 until July 1 from 1-4

p.m. at T.C. Walker. Your child will learn and perform favorite Show Music, some choreography and basics of performing. This camp is for children ages 12-17. The cost is \$59. Register online via the Gloucester Parks, Recreation & Tourism website.

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 30

CONCERT: Gloucester Parks, Recreation & Tourism will be hosting "St. Juliens Creek Revival" for its Concerts on the Green series on June 30 beginning at 6 p.m. on the lawn of County Building Two.

SATURDAY, JULY 3

MUSIC: The Ukesters, a ukulele group, will be performing a free concert on Sibley's General Store's front porch on July 3 from 11 a.m. until 1 p.m.

WEDNESDAY, JULY 14

SIT & CRAFT: All ages are welcome to "Sit & Craft" on July 14 from 9 a.m. until 3 p.m. at the Whitcomb Lodge at Beaverdam Park. Bring your favorite craft, whether it be sewing, drawing, scrapbooking, knitting, painting, crocheting or quilting. The cost is \$15. Register online via the Gloucester Parks, Recreation & Tourism website.

CONCERT: Gloucester Parks, Recreation & Tourism will be hosting "Those Guys" for its Concerts on the Green series on July 14 beginning at 6 p.m. on the lawn of County Building Two.

SATURDAY, JULY 17

MARKETS ON MAIN: The Mathews Main Street Committee will hold the July "Markets on Main," on July 17 from 9 a.m. until 3 p.m. The Virginia Shellfish Coalition Band will play from 11 a.m. until 1 p.m. at the Historic Courthouse Green. Liana Daymar Music will play at Sibley's General Store from 1-3 p.m. Other happenings of the day include the Mathews Farmers' Market, the Artisan Market at the Bay School Community Arts Center, The Seafood Shack Food Truck (located at Mathews M&M Building Supply) and On the Flip Side Food Truck (Brickbat Road).



MATHEWS LAND CONSERVANCY PHOTO

Williams Wharf Landing on the East River in Mathews has a fishing pier and floating dock for the launching of motorless watercraft. It is open sunrise to sunset.

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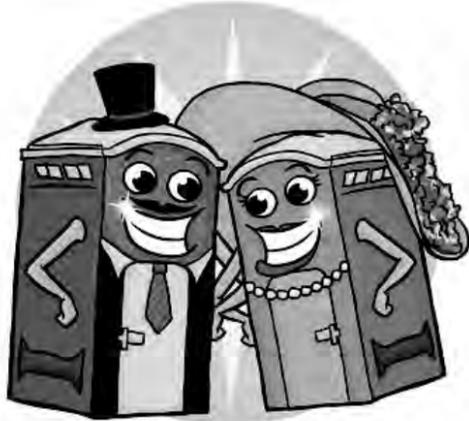
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SEE COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES, PAGE 4C

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COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES: *Something for everyone during the summer*

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 3C)

MONDAY, JULY 19

CAMP: Gloucester Parks, Recreation & Tourism will be holding a "Experience Gloucester History Day Camp" at the Gloucester Museum of History July 19-22 from 9 a.m. until noon. The camp is for those ages 9-11 and the cost is \$59. Register online via the Gloucester Parks, Recreation & Tourism website.

TUESDAY, JULY 20

KAYAK ADVENTURES: Gloucester Parks, Recreation & Tourism is holding a Beaverdam Kayak Adventures camp for children ages 10-15 July 20-22, Aug. 2-4 and Aug. 8-11. Each camp will take place from 9 a.m. until 1 p.m. Kayakers will learn the basics of water safety and kayak operation. Proper paddling strokes, planning and adventure and self-rescue will be covered. Bring a lunch, sunscreen and plenty of water. You will get wet. Wear water shoes, modest bathing suit or shorts and t-shirt. Bring an extra set of clothes and a towel for after. You may only sign up for one camp. The cost is \$59. Register online via the Gloucester Parks, Recreation & Tourism website.

BLOOD DRIVE: There will be a Red Cross Blood Drive on July 20 from

2-7 p.m. at the Piankatank Ruritan Club in Mathews. Appointments are now required and can be made at redcrossblood.org or by calling 804-725-2485.

WEDNESDAY, JULY 21

BINGO: "Bingo & Brain Teasers" will be held on July 21 from 10:30 a.m. until noon in the Stewart Building. As you play through a few sessions of Bingo you will be challenged with some brain exercises, puzzles, trivia, games, etc., to keep your brain sharp. This activity is for those 55 and older and the cost is \$10. Register online via the Gloucester Parks, Recreation & Tourism website.

FRIDAY, JULY 23

OWL WALK: Take a hike into the woods of Beaverdam Park on July 23 from 8-9:30 p.m. to look and listen for owls under a full moon. Barn Owls, Screech Owls, Great Horned Owls and Barred Owls are common to this area. Dress for the weather, wear sturdy shoes, and bring a flashlight, set of binoculars and a water bottle. The cost is \$5. Learn more on the Gloucester Parks, Recreation & Tourism website.

WEDNESDAY, AUG. 4

CONCERT: Gloucester Parks, Recre-

ation & Tourism will be hosting "Clan MacCool" for its Concerts on the Green series on Aug. 4 beginning at 6 p.m. on the lawn of County Building Two.

WEDNESDAY, AUG. 11

SIT & CRAFT: All ages are welcome to "Sit & Craft" on Aug. 11 from 9 a.m. until 3 p.m. at the Whitcomb Lodge at Beaverdam Park. Bring your favorite craft, whether it be sewing, drawing, scrapbooking, knitting, painting, crocheting or quilting. The cost is \$15. Register online via the Gloucester Parks, Recreation & Tourism website.

WEDNESDAY, AUG. 18

BINGO: "Bingo & Brain Teasers" will be held on Aug. 18 from 10:30 a.m. until noon in the Stewart Building. As you play through a few sessions of Bingo you will be challenged with some brain exercises, puzzles, trivia, games, etc., to keep your brain sharp. This activity is for those 55 and older and the cost is \$10. Register online via the Gloucester Parks, Recreation & Tourism website.

CONCERT: Gloucester Parks, Recreation & Tourism will be hosting Courthouse Orchestra for its Concerts on the Green series on Aug. 18 beginning at 6 p.m. on the lawn of County Building Two.

FRIDAY, AUG. 20

GOLF CLASSIC: The Gloucester Mathews Care Clinic will be holding its 11th Annual Golf Classic on Aug. 20 from noon until 7 p.m. The classic offers four-member teams and individual entries to raise funds for a great cause while playing the beautiful course of Piankatank River Golf Club. Sponsorships are also available. Register online at gmcareclinic.com/events.

SATURDAY, AUG. 21

MARKETS ON MAIN: The Mathews Main Street Committee will hold its August "Markets on Main," on Aug. 21 from 9 a.m. until 3 p.m. Carolyn August Band will play at the Historic Courthouse Green from 9:30-11:30 a.m. Suite 101 Bandmates will play at Sibley's General Store from noon until 3 p.m. Other happenings of the day include the Mathews

Farmers' Market, the Artisan Market at the Bay School Community Arts Center and The Seafood Shack Food Truck (Mathews M&M Building Supply).

WEDNESDAY, SEPT. 1

CONCERT: Gloucester Parks, Recreation & Tourism will be hosting Good Shot Judy for its Concerts on the Green series on Sept. 1 beginning at 6 p.m. on the lawn of County Building Two.

MONDAY, SEPT. 6

DUATHLON: The Mathews Outdoor Club will hold the annual Labor Day Put-In Creek Duathlon on Monday, Sept. 6. The three-mile run and two and a half-mile kayak race is free and open to the public. The race starts at 8:30 a.m. at Put-In Creek. Visit mocva.net/pic/ for more information.

ONGOING

MATHEWS MICRO-TRI SERIES: The Mathews Outdoor Club will be holding the Mathews Micro-Tri Series on June 5, July 10, July 31 and Aug. 21. Register online at mocva.net/mmts/.

GWYNN'S ISLAND MUSEUM: Visit the Gwynn's Island Museum Fridays, Saturdays and Sundays from 1-5

p.m. April through October. Contact the museum at 804-725-5022 for more information.

TOMPKINS COTTAGE: Tompkins Cottage Museum will be open from 10 a.m. until 1 p.m. on Saturdays until Oct. 30. Exhibits include a room dedicated to the history of Mathews County and serves as a gift shop, two rooms representing a home from the 1840s to the 1920s and a room dedicated to Sally Louisa Tompkins, who was the first woman commissioned in an American military unit. During this period of safe-distancing, self-guided tours will be conducted.

THOMAS JAMES STORE: The Thomas James Store, Mathews, will be open on Saturdays until Oct. 30. Take a self-guided tour of one of the best-preserved early 19th century stories in the southeastern U.S. This rare commercial structure has retained much of its original fabric; shed-roofed rectangular wings were added around 1900. Interpretive signage explains what the various marks and features represent.

MMF OPEN: The Mathews Maritime Museum will be open Fridays and Saturdays 10 a.m. until 2 p.m. May through November. To tour by appointment, contact MMF at infor@mathewsmaritime.com.



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Gloucester Arts Festival returns this year

BY MELANY SLAUGHTER

The Gloucester Arts Festival makes its return this year after having been canceled last year due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

This year's Plein Air Festival will feature 20 artists from across the country who

will paint outdoor scenes in Gloucester.

Chairman for this year's festival Mollie Stewart had to make the decision last year whether or not to hold this year's festival. She figured by June 2021, Gloucester could have an outdoor festival since the community is small. Still,

this was a risk due to the amount of time, work and planning that goes into each festival.

"It takes a tremendous amount of preparation," said Stewart.

She decided to take the festival to the next level by planning each event outdoors to keep the festival COVID safe.

This year's festival kicked-off on June 3 with the Sculpture Unveiling and Talk by Artist Jay Lageman. Attendees walked along Main Street as each sculpture was unveiled and learned the story and inspiration behind each one.

The popular "Symphony Under the Stars" was held on June 5 at Woodville Park. The Virginia Symphony Orchestra gave the free concert while the plein air artists painted live during the event.

The Plein Air Outdoor Gala at Sussex on the York River will begin at 5:30 p.m. Friday. The gala will include a cocktail hour and an art sale. This is a ticketed event.

On Saturday, the community can enjoy "Paint Main 2.0." The festival painters will be competing in a fast-paced "paint-out" along Main Street from 10 a.m. until noon. Attendees can walk along Main Street and watch the artists painting. Larry Moore will announce the winners of the competition and award prizes at 12:30 p.m.

On Sunday, Moore will be giving a lecture on "The Cre-



MELANY SLAUGHTER / GAZETTE-JOURNAL

Mollie Stewart, chairman of the 2021 Gloucester Arts Festival, has been planning a COVID-19 safe festival since last year.

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SEE ARTS FESTIVAL, PAGE 6C

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Gloucester Parks & Recreation planning a more normal summer

BY MELANY SLAUGHTER

After its typical summer plans were foiled by the COVID-19 pandemic last year, Gloucester Parks, Recreation & Tourism has planned a more normal summer for the community.

"Last summer we weren't able to do much of anything," said Katey Legg, director of Gloucester Parks, Recreation & Tourism.

Legg said that the department will offer more programs this summer than it did last summer.

Gloucester Parks & Rec will continue to utilize the county parks this summer to remain COVID safe. More programs will be held at Beaverdam and Woodville parks, like kayak opportunities, night hikes and night fishing. Since it does not have a recreation center, Parks & Rec will use Whitcomb Lodge at Beaverdam Park for some of its programs.

Concerts on the Green will make a return this summer after being canceled last year after only one concert.

"Too much was changing too fast," said Legg about

COVID rules and regulations.

The department has decided to move the concerts from the Court Circle to the lawn of County Building Two to give people plenty of room to spread out.

These concerts are free, family-friendly events. There are seven concerts in total lined up for the summer. Each concert will begin at 6 p.m. and will be held on Wednesdays, June 2, June 16, June 30, July 14, Aug. 4, Aug. 18 and Sept. 1. Performers, in order of appearance, include Toby & Larry, Just Dan, St. Juliens Creek Revival, Those Guys, Clan MacCool, Courthouse Orchestra, and Good Shot Judy.

Legg would like to remind people that alcohol is not permitted on county property. In case of rain call the Parks & Rec PlayLine at 804-693-5811 for updates on performances.

There will also be a movie shown at Woodville Park in August. Movie selection will be announced at a later date.

"Lots of good things are happening," said Legg.

Summer activities include camps with specialty interests. Two performing arts camps will be directed by Karen Scalf.

Disney will be the theme of the camp for ages 8-11, which will meet from 9 a.m. to noon. For girls ages 12-17 the camp theme is "Show Music Choir." This camp meets from 1-4 p.m. The fee for each camp is \$59; both will be held at T.C. Walker from June 28-July 1. The deadline to register is June 21.

Also, PRT will hold Experience Gloucester History Day Camp on July 19-23 from 9 a.m. to noon each day at the Gloucester Museum of History. Rising fourth and fifth graders will explore Gloucester's court circle, the museum, the Rosewell ruins, and a Revolutionary War encampment. The fee is \$59 and the deadline to register is July 12.

Last year when the pandemic was in full swing, Gloucester parks saw heavy use. "Our parks were the only things open for months," said Legg.

According to Legg, Beaverdam Park had a 20 percent increase in traffic and Brown Park experienced a 400 percent increase. Legg said that her staff worked hard to keep the parks running



GLOUCESTER PRT PHOTO

Woodville Park will be the site of some organized events this summer, and has plenty of attractions for families on an outing.

ARTS FESTIVAL

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 5C)

ative Process and Authenticity in Art." The lecture will be at the Gloucester Colonial Courthouse Circle Green from 3-4:15 p.m. This event is free and open to the public.

Moore will teach a five-day workshop for artists June 14-18 from 9 a.m. until 5 p.m. The workshop costs \$675 and the class is limited to 15 participants.

On June 26, visitors will have a last chance to review the 2021 Heart of the River Collection at Arts on Main. Doors open at 10 a.m. and close at 5 p.m. This event is free and open to the public.

To wrap up the festival, the U.S. Fleet Forces Band will give a free concert at the lawn at Main Street and Walter Reed Way. A time for the concert will be determined at a later date.

Stewart's goal as chairman this year was to put on a COVID safe festival.

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SEE GLOUCESTER PRT, PAGE 7C

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Churches announce VBS and other activities

SATURDAY, JULY 10

WORSHIP SERVICE: Mathews Baptist Church will host "Rejoicing at the River: A Night of Worship at Williams Wharf" on Saturday, July 10 beginning at 5 p.m. All are invited to come out and enjoy an evening of music by local talent, food (food trucks will be on site), worship by Mathews Baptist Church Praise Band, and a special message presented by the Rev. Patrick Billups.

MONDAY, JULY 12

VBS: Union Baptist Church, Hayes, will host its Vacation Bible School July 12-16 daily from 9 a.m. until noon for ages five years through

12. Climb aboard for mountains of fun at Rocky Railway. On this faith-filled adventure, kids discover that trusting Jesus pulls them through life's ups and downs. Register for VBS online at unionbaptistchurch.net.

SATURDAY, JULY 17

VBS: Mathews Baptist Church will host Vacation Bible School for the whole family on Saturday, July 17 from 6-8 p.m. Come be a part of "Jonah's Journey, From Reluctance to Revival." Call the church office at 804-725-3707 if you have any questions.

MONDAY, JULY 19

SPORTS CAMP: LightHouse Worship Center, Ordinary, will hold a Mega Sports Camp from July 19-23 daily from 8:30 a.m. until noon. This is a fun and energetic camp for kids age 5-13 (kindergarten-eighth grade). Registration is open, but space is limited. There are three sports to choose from: basketball (must be going into first grade), soccer

and cheerleading. To register, visit www.lighthouseva.life and click on Mega Sports Camp sign up. Registration closes on July 4.

MONDAY, JULY 26

VBS: Newington Baptist Church, Gloucester Main, will host its Vacation Bible School from July 26-30 from 9 a.m. until noon. This year's theme is "Rocky Railway." Open to kids four years old through rising sixth graders. Pre-registration is required this year (no walk-ins) to help the church keep its crews small and carefully planned.

MONDAY, AUG. 2

VBS: Grace Covenant Presbyterian Church, Main Street, Gloucester, will hold its 2021 Vacation Bible School from Aug. 2-6 from 9 a.m. until noon. This year's theme is "Destination Dig." Kids will become junior archaeologists and they depart on an "epic adventure of discovery." Open to kids three years old (potty-trained) to rising

fifth graders. Register by July 26.

VBS: Gloucester Point Baptist Church's Vacation Bible School will be held from Aug. 2-6 from 6-8 p.m. Those Pre-K (four years old) to rising sixth graders can participate in "Destination Dig."

MONDAY, AUG. 16

VBS: Bellamy United Methodist Church and Severn Church, Gloucester, will host a joint Vacation Bible School at Bellamy United Methodist, Aug. 16-19 from 6 o'clock to 7:30 nightly. "Knights of the North Castle" is open for children ages three years through rising fifth graders.

GLOUCESTER PRT

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 6C)

through the pandemic last summer. "My team is full of really great people," she said.

The pandemic and the continued COVID regulations have taught the parks department how to be more creative and flexible. Legg said that she and her team are accustomed to things changing, but COVID threw them for a loop, especially when planning for this year's Daffodil Festival. Even so, Legg said that 3,000 people attended this year's modified festival.

"I am just so hopeful that 2022 allows us to have a real festival," she said.

Legg said that she feels good with how her department has responded to COVID. She is looking forward to where she and her team are going and will continue to help keep people active this summer.

For a full list of activities and programs, visit the Gloucester Parks, Recreation & Tourism website at gloucesterva.info/149/Parks-Recreation-Tourism.

Many of this year's summer events and programs require registration.

For more information call the department at 804-693-2355 or email prrt@gloucesterva.info.

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1. Grimstead
2. Town Point

★ SMALL BOAT LANDINGS

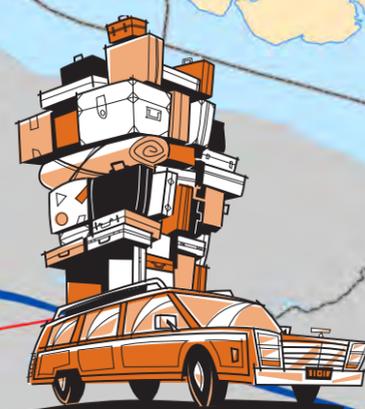
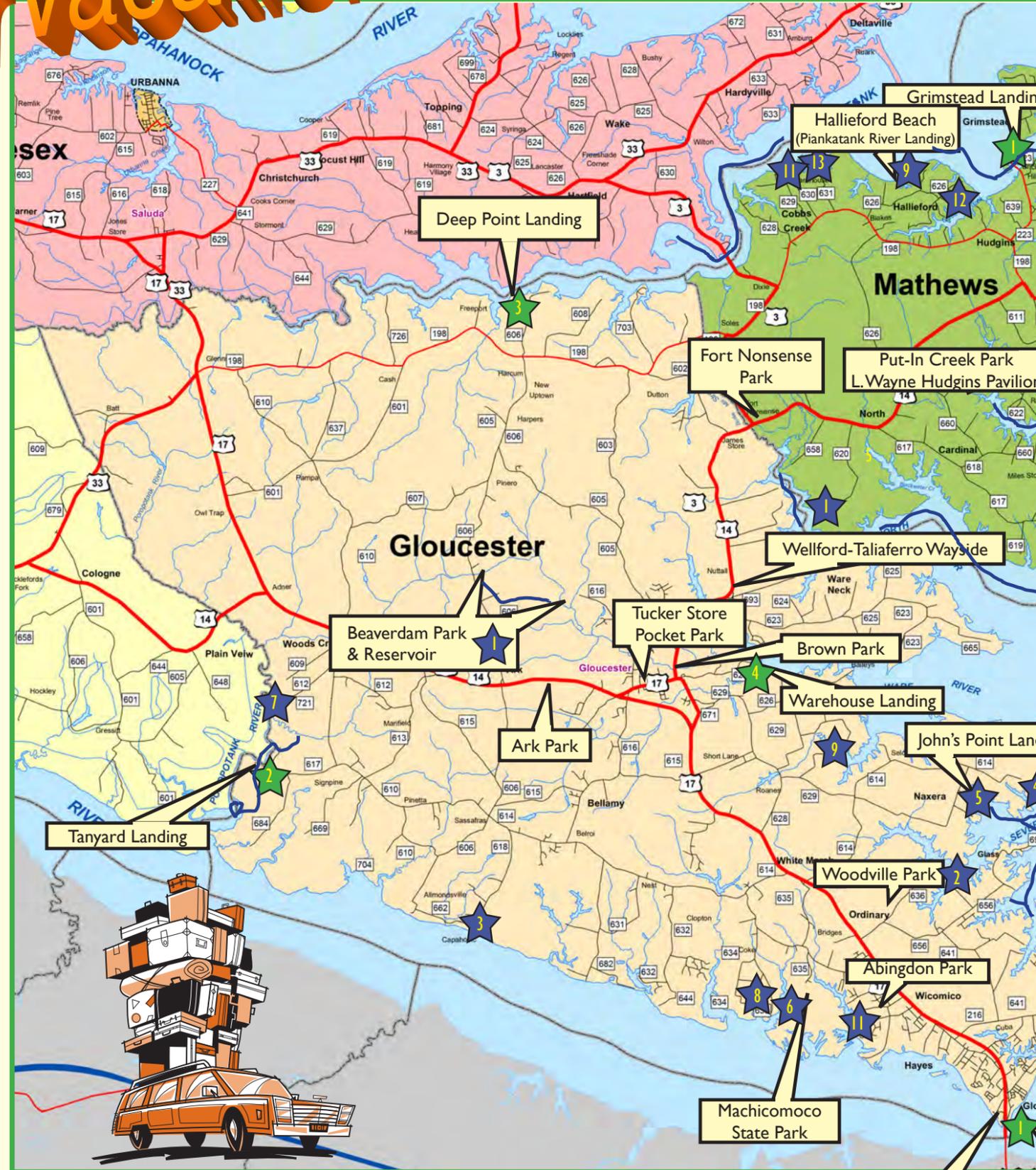
Canoes, kayaks, hand-carried watercraft

Gloucester County

1. Beaverdam Reservoir
2. Brays Point Landing
3. Cappahosic Landing
4. Captain Sinclair's Landing
5. John's Point Landing
6. Machicomoco State Park
7. Miller's Landing
8. Olivers Landing
9. Paynes Landing
10. Perrin Wharf
11. Williams Landing

Mathews County

1. Auburn Landing
2. Davis Creek
3. Doctor's Creek
4. East River
5. Edwards Creek-Milford Landing
6. Horn Harbor
7. New Point Observatory
8. Old Mill
9. Piankatank River
10. Put-In Creek
11. Roane's Point
12. Roses Creek
13. Warehouse Creek
14. White's Creek
15. Williams Wharf
16. Winter Harbor



Base map courtesy of Middle Peninsula Planning District Commission; illustration by Gloucester-Matthews Gazette-Journal

This map does not include private launching facilities at marinas. Many of these are available to the public for a fee.

Blueways Trails

Info at <https://virginiawatertrails.org/middle-peninsula>



im, enjoy your picnic lunch, take the Blueways Trails,
oucester and Mathews open air attractions.



**PARKS, BEACHES
PICNIC SITES**

- Gloucester*
- Abingdon Park
 - Ark Park
 - Beaverdam Park and Reservoir
 - Brown Park
 - Gloucester Point Beach Park
 - Machicomoco State Park
 - Tucker Store Pocket Park
 - Tyndall's Point Park
 - Woodville Park
 - Wellford-Taliaferro Wayside

- Mathews*
- Aaron's Beach
 - Bayside Landing
 - Bethel Beach Natural Area Preserve
 - Festival Beach
 - Fort Nonsense Historical Park
 - Hallieford Beach
 - New Point Lighthouse Observatory
 - Put-In Creek Park
 - Port Fun Park
 - Williams Wharf Landing

Gloucester Point Beach & Fishing Pier

**Parks, beaches and boat landings
in Gloucester County**

State facilities

Machicomoco State Park, 3601 Timberneck Farm Road, Hayes. Open 8 a.m.-dusk. Walking, trails, biking campsites, yurts, picnic shelters, car-top boat launch, floating docks, interpretive pavilion. Info: dcr.virginia.gov/state-parks/machicomoco.

Wellford-Taliaferro Wayside, at the intersection of Route 623, Ware Neck Road, and Route 690, Flat Iron Road, Gloucester, just off John Clayton Memorial Highway. This is one of a handful of picnic waysides in Virginia maintained by the Virginia Department of Transportation.

County parks

Gloucester Parks, Recreation and Tourism operates a number of parks. For detailed information on fees, reservations, hours of operation and amenities, call 804-693-2355 or visit gloucesterva.info, click on the Government tab and then Parks, Recreation and Tourism. Some of the amenities are seasonal.

Abingdon Park, 7023 Powhatan Drive, Hayes. Athletic fields, picnic shelter, seasonal bathrooms.

Ark Park, 7963 Number Nine Road, Gloucester. Athletic fields, outdoor basketball court, playground, picnic areas.

Beaverdam Park, 8687 Roaring Springs Road, Gloucester; also can be entered from 9537 Farys Mill Road, Ark. Trails for biking, hiking and horseback riding, picnic areas and shelters; ranger station at main entrance; fishing pier, playground, boating access.

Brown Park, 7461 Foster Road, Gloucester. Skate park, green space, picnic tables.

Gloucester Point Beach Park, 1255 Greate Road, Gloucester Point. Public fishing pier, interpretive walk, swimming, picnic shelter, playground, showers, volleyball, bathrooms, gazebo, boat ramps, grill.

Tucker Store Pocket Park, Gloucester Court Circle. "Sit a spell" benches, clock, historical kiosks.

Tyndall's Point Park, 1376 Vernon Street, Gloucester Point. Historical interpretive trail.

Woodville Park, 3904 Woodville Park Road, Hayes. Playground, gardens, athletic fields, walking trails.

Public landings in Gloucester

These landings can handle recreational trailered boats and offer parking. Fishing from the bank is available at some. Visit gloucesterva.info/1302/Boat-Landings for details.

Deep Point Landing, end of Deep Point Lane, Route 606, Harcum; state ramp.

Warehouse Landing, end of Warehouse Road, Route 621, Gloucester.

Gloucester Point Ramp, end of Greate Road, Route 1208, Gloucester Point, two ramps under the Coleman Bridge.

Tanyard Landing, end of Tanyard Landing Road, Route 617, Signpine.

A few end-of-road spots

In addition, there are a number of places where car-top small boats can be launched at the end of these roads. Some of them will not accommodate trailers, check for details:

Beaverdam Reservoir, 8687 Roaring Springs Road, Gloucester; 9537 Farys Mill Road, Ark—paddle or electric motors only.

Brays Point Landing, end of Brays Point Road, Route. 636, Ordinary.

Cappahosic Landing, end of Cappahosic Road, Route 618, bank fishing, picnicking, seasonal restrooms.

Captain Sinclair's Recreational Area, 9524 Whittaker Drive, Naxera, concrete ramp for small trailer boats and floating pier for kayak launch.

John's Point Landing, end of John's Point Road, Route 657, Naxera, fishing, ample parking.

Machicomoco State Park, 3601 Timberneck Farm Road, Hayes, details at "State facilities" above.

Miller's Landing, end of Miller's Landing Road, Route 612 near Woods Cross Roads, limited parking, no trailers.

Olivers Landing, end of Cedar Bush Road, Route 633, Hayes, very limited parking.

Payne's Landing, end of Payne's Landing Road, Route 630, Roanes, no trailers, limited parking.

Perrin Wharf, end of Perrin Creek Road, Route 1101, Perrin, gravel ramp and limited parking.

SEE FRESH AIR DIRECTORY, PAGE 10C





FRESH AIR DIRECTORY: *Places where you can go outdoors and breathe deeply*

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 9C)

Williams Landing, end of Williams Landing Road, Route 1303, Hayes, pier and dirt ramp.

Parks, beaches, and boat landings in Mathews County

State owned beaches

Bethel Beach Natural Area Preserve, end of Route 609, Bethel Beach Road, Onemo, on the Chesapeake Bay, parking, fishing.

County owned beaches

Festival Beach, end of Route 643, Haven Beach Road, Diggs, on the Chesapeake Bay, parking, swimming, fishing.

Aaron's Beach, end of Route 645, Aaron's Beach Road, Diggs, on the Chesapeake Bay; very limited parking and swimming area.

Piankatank River Landing, Hallieford Beach, located on Godfrey Bay, end of Route 632, Godfrey Bay Road, Hallieford. Beach, small boat launch.

County parks

Put-In Creek Park/L. Wayne Hudgins Pavilion, located on Route 1103, Brickbat Road, Mathews Court House. Picnic pavilion, kayak launch into headwaters of Put-In Creek.

Port Fun Park, 9889 Buckley Hall Road, Mathews. Baseball, softball, tennis, playground, parking.

Fort Nonsense Historical Park, intersection of Routes 3 and 14 (Windsor Road and John Clayton Memorial Highway), county line with Gloucester. Historical interpretive walking trails of Civil War earthworks, shelter, parking.

New Point Observatory, end of Route 600, Old Light-house Road, Bavon, observatory and ramp into Harper's Creek.

Privately held parks, open to public

Williams Wharf Landing, owned by the Mathews Land Conservancy; Route 614, Williams Wharf Road, East River. Open sunrise to sunset. Small boat launch, picnic area, fishing pier.

Bayside Landing, owned by Mathews Land Conservancy,

SEE FRESH AIR DIRECTORY, PAGE 11C



MATHEWS LAND CONSERVANCY PHOTO



GLOUCESTER PRT PHOTO

Perfect for picnics

You can enjoy a picnic lunch at the end of Route 14 at Bayside Landing in New Point, gazing at the vast expanse of Mobjack Bay and beyond. Open sunrise to sunset.

Amenities at Abingdon Park in Hayes include a picnic shelter with tables and playing fields.

LET THE Summer FUN Begin AT **BRENT AND BECKY'S**

Second Saturdays with the Gloucester Master Gardeners, Pollinator Week Celebration, Garden Walks, Kokedama Workshops, National Honey Bee Day, Garden Exploration Activities, and more!

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FRESH AIR DIRECTORY

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 10C)

at the end of Route 14, Bavon, on Mobjack Bay. Open sunrise-sunset. Picnic area.

Public landings in Mathews

Town Point, state owned, end of Route 615, Mathews, Town Point Landing Road, on East River at Put-In Creek. Concrete ramp, parking.

Grimstead Landing, Route 633, Old Ferry Road, on Milford Haven as you drive onto Gwynn's Island. Concrete ramp and parking.

In addition, there are a number of places where car-top small boats can be launched at the end of these roads. Some of them will not accommodate trailers, check for details:

Auburn Landing, end of Route 620, Chapel Neck Road, North, limited parking.

Davis Creek, Route 689, Davis Creek Road, Bavon, parking, fishing.

Doctors Creek, Route 699, Doctors Creek Road, New Point, limited parking.

East River, end of Route 619, Mill Lane Road, Bohannon, dirt ramp.

Edwards Creek, Milford Haven Landing, end of Route 672, Edwards Landing Road, Gwynn, shoulder parking, slips, fishing, ramp.

Horn Harbor, end of Route 698, Capt. Gene's Road, Peary, shoulder parking.

New Point Observatory, see "County parks," above.

Old Mill, end of Route 611, Onemo, shoulder parking, slips, fishing, launch, Winter Harbor.

Piankatank River, end of Route 632, Godfrey Bay Road, Hallieford. Beach, small boat launch on Godfrey Bay,

Put-In Creek, located on Route 1103, Brickbat Road, Mathews Court House. See "Put-In Creek Park," above.

Roanes Point, end of Route 630, Roane's Point Road, Cobbs Creek, limited parking, on Piankatank River.

Roses Creek, Route 662, Old Matthews Lane, Hallieford, limited parking, mooring, fishing on Queens Creek.

SEE FRESH AIR DIRECTORY, PAGE 12C

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touches*



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Antiques and Interiors

benches ~ furniture ~ planters ~ yard & home art
birdbaths ~ collectibles ~ architectural

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FRESH AIR DIRECTORY

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 11C)

Warehouse Creek, end of Route 631, Chapel Lane, Cobbs Creek, on Piankank River.

White's Creek, end of Route 682, White's Creek Lane, Diggs, parking, pier.

Williams Wharf, see "Williams Wharf Landing," above.

Winter Harbor, end of Route 608, Peary, fishing, launch, trailer parking.

Sources

For more information on wide open spaces, visit these websites: dcr.virginia.gov/state-parks; vahighways.com/waysides; dcr.virginia.gov/natural-heritage; gloucesterva.info then to parks, recreation and tourism; mathewscountyva.gov; visitmathews.com; mathewslandconservancy.org; virginiawatertrails.org/middle-peninsula; mppaa.virginiainteractive.org.



GLOUCESTER PRT PHOTO

Gloucester Point Park and Beach is one of the busiest spots in the county during the summer. A fishing pier allows anglers to try their luck in the York River.

VIRGINIA Motor Speedway

2021 SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

(TENTATIVE AND SUBJECT TO CHANGE)

<p>JUNE 12 PRO LATE MODEL, SPORTSMAN, MODIFIED, LIMITED STOCK</p>	<p>JUNE 26 PRO LATE MODEL, SPORTSMAN, MODIFIED, LIMITED STOCK</p>	<p>JULY 10 PRO LATE MODEL, SPORTSMAN, MODIFIED, LIMITED STOCK</p>	<p>JULY 17 PRO LATE MODEL, SPORTSMAN, MODIFIED, LIMITED STOCK</p>	<p>JULY 31 PRO LATE MODEL, SPORTSMAN, MODIFIED, LIMITED STOCK</p>	<p>AUGUST 7 ULTIMATE SUPER LATE MODELS \$20K TO WIN plus FASTRAK PLM \$3K TO WIN</p>	<p>AUGUST 21 FASTRAK PLM \$3K TO WIN SPORTSMAN, MODIFIED, LIMITED STOCK</p>	<p>SEPTEMBER 4 PRO LATE MODEL, SPORTSMAN, MODIFIED, LIMITED STOCK</p>	<p>SEPTEMBER 17-18 \$20K TO WIN FASTRAK PLM plus NON-QUALIFIERS RACE plus UMP MOD NATIONAL POINT RACE</p>	<p>OCTOBER 2 MUD BOG featuring 11 DIVISIONS OF MUD MANIACS including TWO MEGA TRUCK DIVISIONS and A MONSTER TRUCK FREESTYLE SHOW</p>
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2021 WEEKLY RACING SERIES DIVISIONS

4426 TIDEWATER TRAIL, JAMAICA VA 23079 | p: 804.758.1867 | w: vamotorspeedway.com

Mathews Outdoor Club planning plenty of summer fun

BY MELANY SLAUGHTER

The Mathews Outdoor Club is a brand-new 501(c)(3) non-profit, dedicated to powering outdoor activities and promoting local sports tourism. This summer, the group has several outdoor activities planned that can be enjoyed by anyone at any skill level for both locals and tourists.

"Our focus is strictly outdoors," said Mathews Outdoor Club president Christine Johnson.

The club's first summer event is the Mathews Micro Tri Series—a micro triathlon ideal for not only beginners, but also experienced competitors wanting to practice their transitions between activities. The series consists of a 0.2-mile open water swim, an eight-mile bike ride and a two-mile run. The triathlons will take place on June 5, July 10, July 31 and Aug. 21 at Williams Wharf. The cost is \$22 to participate.

Race

Though the Gwynn's Island Festival has been canceled due to concerns over COVID-19, the race is still on. The Mathews Outdoor Club will host the Gwynn's Island Festival Race on Saturday, June 26, beginning at 7 a.m. Participants of the race have the option of completing a four-mile run, a 10-mile bike ride, or a run/ride duathlon. Those who would like a more relaxed race can sign up for the fun run which is only a little over a mile long. Registration for this year's race will close when 200 participants have signed up or on June 19. The cost for the race varies.

Duathlon

To round out its summer events, the Mathews Outdoor Club will host its annual Put-In Creek Duathlon on Labor Day which falls on Monday, Sept. 6 this year.

The duathlon will consist of a three-mile run and a two-and-a-half-mile kayak, starting and ending at the Put-



Kat Sharp (center), Mathews Outdoor Club secretary, exits transition for the run leg of the Mathews Micro Tri Series last year, cheered on by Jake Johnson (left) and Ron Myers.

In Creek park and pavilion, which is located in Mathews Court House. The transition point from run to kayak is at Williams Wharf. The race will start at 8:30 a.m. and is a free event.

Each race will be chip-timed and results will be available immediately.

Ongoing

Throughout the summer, the Mathews Outdoor Club will have outdoor group exercises. The Mathews Outdoor Club Fitness Program has something for everyone to enjoy and get active.

On weekday evenings after 5:30 and weekend mornings, there will be a Cardio and Sculpt class located at Thomas Hunter Middle School. Each session is approximately one hour in length and is a high-energy workout. Equipment, such as hand weights, will be available. Classes are only available for adults.

Also at THMS, the Mathews Outdoor Club will host Fitness Boot Camps. These classes are for anyone looking for an intense, non-stop workout. Participants will rotate through strength training, cardio and endurance exercises. Classes are for adults only and are approximately one hour long.

The club is also offering an

Come and Enjoy a Game of Golf!

All Day Greens Fees
Weekdays (walking prices)

Regular - \$13

Senior, Students, Twilight after 4 p.m. - \$10

Weekends

For All Age Groups - \$14

Golf Carts Available

Gloucester Golf Course

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Golf Club Road, located behind the Gloucester Walmart

OPEN TO THE PUBLIC



SHERRY HAMILTON / GAZETTE-JOURNAL

Playground, tennis courts and more at Port Fun Park in Mathews provide activities for all members of the family.

SEE OUTDOOR CLUB, PAGE 14C

Diggs School of Dance Summer Dance

6 week Session

Classes begin the week of
June 28

- **FUN**damentals I and II
- **B**allet • **J**azz • **M**odern
 - **D**anspiration
- **T**een/Adult Ballet



To register call 804-694-5900 or visit our website at www.DiggsDance.com



MELANY SLAUGHTER / GAZETTE-JOURNAL

Mathews Outdoor Club Vice President Bronwyn Hughes (left) and President Christine Johnson have plenty of summer outdoor fun planned for locals and tourists alike. The two are, pictured above, at Put-In Creek, which is the location of the club's annual Labor Day duathlon.

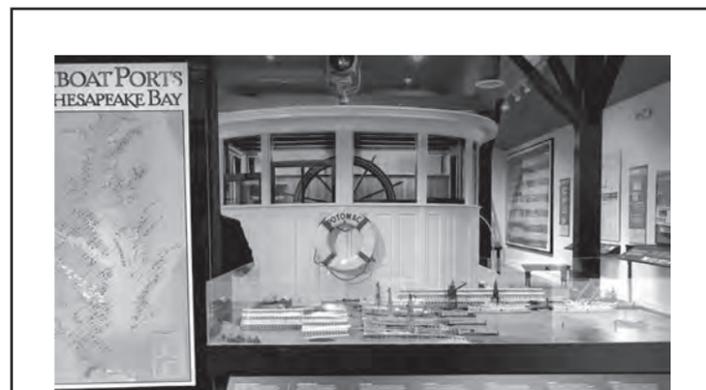


Rick Browder completes the Gwynn's Island Festival Race in 2020.



SHERRY HAMILTON / GAZETTE-JOURNAL

Put-In Creek Park, adjacent to Mathews Court Green, includes kayak access to the headwaters of the creek. An adjacent pavilion may be reserved for events.



Welcome Aboard

The Steamboat Era Museum Is Open!

New exhibits, including a video about the restoration and installation of the pilothouse, are awaiting your visit.

Listen to oral histories, walk through the restored Potomac pilothouse, see how a steam engine works and find out how steamboats helped small towns flourish.

Kids' Friday Morning Activities

Friday morning Children's Activities will begin June 25. Kids from 5-16 will learn about the Steamboat Era and build a steamboat! The program runs from 10:30 am-noon and is \$5.00 per child. Please call 438-6888 to reserve a space.

Museum Hours | Thursday, Friday, Saturday & Monday 10-4 Sunday 1-4
Admission | Adults \$6.00 | Youth 12-17 \$3.00 | Active military & Children under 12 Free | Group Rate 10+ \$5.00

156 King Carter Drive, Irvington, VA | 804-438-6888 | SteamboatEraMuseum.org

OUTDOOR CLUB

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 13C)

open-water swim on week-day evenings between 5 and 7 o'clock, June-September, at Williams Wharf Landing. This is a self-paced activity for adults only who want to practice swimming laps in open water. An attendant will be present to observe and monitor, but each participant is expected to be a competent swimmer. This is not an instructor-led session and it is not intended as a swim lesson or for recreational (play) swim. Swimming at Williams Wharf, other than this Mathews Outdoor Club activity, is prohibited.

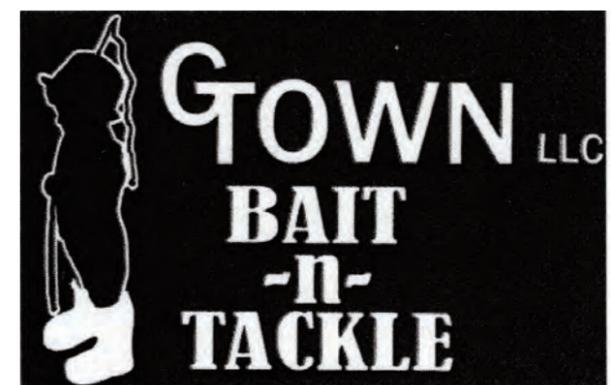
Those interested in these summer programs are encouraged to fill out a membership form and waiver, which can be found on the Mathews Outdoor Club website, and pay the \$25 membership fee. After that, just show up for a class or activity and pay the instructor or attendant per class (\$5).

For other resources, such as running and bike routes, and to learn more about the aforementioned summer activities, visit the club's website at mocva.net.

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Come join us for our
Summer Sidewalk Sale on July 17!
11 am-4 pm



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Check Us Out On Facebook



Out of town activities, but close to home

SATURDAY, JUNE 12

APPRECIATION DAY: Yorktown Armed Forces Appreciation Day will be held on Saturday, June 12 at the Watermen's Museum from 10 a.m. until 5 p.m. Events will occur throughout the whole town to include Revolutionary War, War of 1812, WWI, WWII, and modern military exhibitions.

SATURDAY, JUNE 19

TOUR: The Military in Yorktown Tour will take place on June 19 from 11 a.m. until noon at the Mobjack Bay Coffee Roasters & Petite Café. This walking tour

will include Fort Yorktown, the Virginia Militia during the Revolutionary War, the Siege of Yorktown, the Surveyor Battle of 1813, the 2nd Siege of Yorktown during the Civil War, Yorktown's role in World War I and World War II through present day. The cost is \$10 and is free for children under 12 years old. For more information call 757-372-3020.

THURSDAY, JUNE 24 & 25

CAMP: Yorktown Adventurers Camp will be held on June 24-25 at the American Revolution Museum at Yorktown from 9:30 a.m. until 12:30 p.m. Enlist in George

Washington's Continental Army to join the fight. The cost is \$42 for the two-day session. Available for ages four years through six. Call 757-253-4838 for more information. Another Adventurers Camp will be held July 29-30. **CAMP:** Yorktown Discoverers Camp will be held on June 24 and 25 at the American Revolution Museum at Yorktown from 9:30 a.m. until 12:30 p.m. Discover the growing list of uses for plants in a colonial garden, like medicines, cooking, and many other household needs. The cost is \$42 for the two-day session. Call 757-253-4838 for more information. Another Discoverers Camp will be held July 29-30.

SATURDAY, JUNE 26

TOUR: The Libation Tour of Yorktown will be held on Saturday, June 26 from 3-4 p.m. at the Mobjack Bay Coffee Roasters & Petite Café. The walking tour will include the Swan Tavern, sites of other taverns and ordinaries (there were many), and the famous "Poor Potter" and his kiln. The tour will end at Mobjack Bay Coffee Roasters. The cost is \$10 and is free for children under 12.

MONDAY, JUNE 28

CAMP: The Watermen's Museum, Yorktown, will host an Archaeology Camp June 28 through July 2 from 9 a.m. until 3 p.m. Kids will love unearthing the mysteries that lie beneath the shores and waters of the York River in this thought-provoking summer camp. Available for rising third through eighth graders. The cost is \$180, including a \$50 non-refundable deposit. Call 757-887-2641 for more information. Another Archaeology Camp will be held July 26-30.

CAMP: The Watermen's Museum, Yorktown, will host a Pirate Camp June 28 through July 2 from 9 a.m. until 3 p.m. Campers will love experiencing military drills, pirate crafts, and colonial games during this weeklong camp. Available for kindergarten through fifth graders. The cost is \$170, including a \$50 non-refundable deposit. Call 757-887-2641 for more information. Other pirate camps will be held July 5-9, July 12-16, July 19-23, July 26-30, Aug. 2-6, Aug. 9-13, Aug. 16-20 and Aug. 23-27.

FRIDAY, JULY 2

FIREWORKS: The Urbanna Independence Day Fireworks & Boat Parade will be held on Friday, July 2 at the Urbanna Town Marina at Upton's Point. The boat parade on Urbanna Creek will begin at 6 p.m. with a contest for best boat decorations. Fireworks over the creek will begin at 9 p.m.

TOUR: Ghost Tour: "The Thin Veil of Yorktown" will be held on Friday, July 2 from 6-7 p.m. at the Mobjack Bay Coffee Roasters & Petite Café. The cost is \$10. No children under 12 allowed.

SUNDAY, JULY 4

CELEBRATIONS: Independence Day in Yorktown is a free, family-friendly celebration featuring a full lineup of events leading up to the big fireworks finale. The morning starts at 8 o'clock with an 8K Run (live and virtual options), followed by a patriotic parade along Water and Main streets. For more information call 757-890-5900.

SEE OUT OF TOWN, PAGE 16C

SATURDAYS
WEEKLY THROUGH OCTOBER 30
(except July 3 & October 2)

8 AM to 12 PM

Riverwalk Landing
425 Water Street, Yorktown

{Rain Shine}
or Shine}

2021 Special Markets

AUG	7	National Farmers Market Week
OCT	9	Fall Market
OCT	16	First Responders Market
OCT	30	Paws at the River
NOV	13	Maritime Market
NOV	20	Harvest Market
DEC	11	Mistletoe Market

All events are subject to postponement or cancellation due to COVID-19
Presented by York County & Riverwalk Landing
YorktownMarketDays.com

Groovin' in the Park 2021

A Deltaville Maritime Museum performing arts presentation
Sponsored by Primis Banks

JUNE 26, 5-6pm. Paige Melton, The lady can sing
6-8pm. "Abbey Road" the Ultimate Beatles Party Band

#JULY 24th, 5-6pm. "Stonethrow" wonderful arrangements of your favorites
6-8pm. #Special Performance# "Good Shot Judy!" Classic big band sound

AUGUST 28, 5-6pm. "Sincerely Iris" Road trip music with Todd Murray
6-8pm. "Stuck On A Name" Let's REGGAE! None better, no worries!

SEPTEMBER 4, Labor Day Bonus Groovin' - 5-6pm. "Toby Gillie & The Unpredictables"
6-8pm. "Josh Walker Quartet" w/Sharon Rae North: Standards

SEPTEMBER 25, 6-8pm. "Tom Euler Band" Blues/Rock at it's best!

* Regular Pricing: \$10 advance, \$15/gate # Special Performance Pricing: \$15 advance, \$20/gate

Deltaville Maritime Museum, 287 Jackson Creek Road, Deltaville, VA 23043
 804-776-7200 • www.deltavillemuseum.com



C
M
Y
K



Waves of the Chesapeake Bay lap the shoreline at Festival Beach in Mathews, a county-owned beach open to the public.

SHERRY HAMILTON / GAZETTE-JOURNAL

OUT OF TOWN

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 15C)

SATURDAY, JULY 10

CORNHOLE TOURNAMENT: The Urbanna Cornhole Tournament will be held on Saturday, July 10 on Rappahannock River in Urbanna (next to Taber Park). Signups begin at 11:30 a.m. Play begins at 1 p.m. The cost to participate is \$20 per person.

WEDNESDAY, JULY 14

MUSIC: Band together with ShantyGrass and other music lovers in this monthly jam session at the Watermen's Museum on

Wednesday, July 14 from 5:30-9:30 p.m. This event is free.

SATURDAY, JULY 17

SUMMERFEST: Join in a day of fun and great seafood at the Watermen's Museum Seafood Summerfest on Saturday, July 17 from 10 a.m. until 5 p.m.

SATURDAY, AUG. 7

FOUNDERS DAY: Celebrate Urbanna's Founders Day on Saturday, Aug. 7 at the Middlesex Woman's Club. Fife and drums will begin the festivities at 10 a.m.



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