

GARDENING CORNER |
FROM GLOUCESTER MASTER GARDENERS

Christmas tree
selection and
safety

BY SUSAN CAMP

For our first Christmas in Bavaria, Jim and I purchased a pretty tree from a shop not far from our house in Augsburg. The tree looked lovely, but it wasn't fresh. That fact, coupled with the mighty steam heat from old-fashioned radiators, meant that needles began shedding immediately. The only way to dispose of the tree was through a large living room window. While I stood lookout to make sure no one was passing by, Jim pitched the tree out onto the sidewalk below. By the time it hit the concrete, the tree was needleless.

The next Christmas found our family at a nearby forest that permitted the cutting of trees for the holidays. Snow covered the ground and the trees and began to fall again before Jim tied the tree to the car roof. The boys were thrilled. We thawed and dried the tree in the bathtub. It lasted well into January, despite the steam heat, and may have been the most perfect Christmas tree we've ever had.

Many of you remember similar family stories of live Christmas trees that remained healthy and green throughout the holiday season or turned dry and brown before Santa made it down the chimney on Christmas Eve.

We can't always predict how a tree will behave once we get it inside the house, but there are a few steps we can take that will help to ensure a healthy tree that lasts through the season.

The first step toward a healthy tree is to buy locally, if possible. On the Middle Peninsula, that means a tree grown in Virginia or a neighboring state. Numerous tree farms remain active in the Shenandoah Valley and western counties. Inquire about Virginia-grown trees; you will most likely find them at smaller local nurseries.

Next, look for an evergreen species that is known for good needle retention, firm branches, fragrance, and soft

SEE PICKING A TREE, PAGE 2B



Orlando, the writer's cat, under a fresh tree.

Easy, delicious, American: try meatloaf for dinner

BY BETTY WRENN DAY

The most frequent question this writer receives is "Where do you find all the people, places and subjects that you write about?"

The answer may be found in everyday conversation, which is how this story came about. Several ladies were discussing how much they all liked to make meatloaf and how delicious they thought it is. But wanting to know more about this classic American comfort food, they decided to ask the food writer to write a story. Well, here it is.

The history of meatloaf, according to some historians, can be traced to medieval Europe around the fifth century in the Mediterranean region. There was a dish of finely chopped meat scraps combined with fruits and spices into a loaf. The Romans' cookery collection included a minced loaf of meat with wine and bread. Different ways to make meat scraps into loaves appeared sporadically in various areas over time. The first recipe for meatloaf, still calling for chopped meat, appeared in the 1870s, not as a dinner dish but as a breakfast staple.

Following the invention of the industrial meat grinder in the late 1800s, the ease of making a meatloaf began to improve. Not only were cooks using more of the newfound cheaper meat that they didn't have to chop themselves, the meat producers dug up recipes to make use of such, as well.

The Great Depression in the 1930s proved to be the biggest catalyst for the growth of meatloaf in this

country. Meatloaf reserved its spot on dinner menus because it allowed home cooks to stretch their mealtime budgets. During World War II the meatloaf again served as a basic family favorite while at the same time stretching the ration book stamps.

By 1950 meatloaf was here to stay. Betty Crocker published 70 recipes for making meatloaf. In today's world meatloaves are no longer penny-pinching dishes. They have instead become a convenient creation with a solid place in America's culinary index.

Here are some tips that will take this classic American comfort food a meatloaf to a higher level: 1. Use high fat meat, as lean meat makes it dry. 2. Don't skip on adding moisture (egg, ketchup, tomato paste, etc.). These ingredients help make the loaf super moist. 3. Use soaked crustless bread. 4. If using vegetables, sauté them before mixing with meat. 5. Do not over-mix. Fold together. 6. Do not pack the meatloaf tightly in a pan. Give it space. 7. A glaze gives high quality to a meatloaf. 8. Cover with foil and let it rest for at least 10 minutes before serving.

Meatloaf is easy to prepare and is delicious. It's American.

Note: References include "History of the Loaf, Suddenly Craving Meatloaf," "The Delicious Inventive History of Meatloaf" and "A History of Meatloaf, Long May it Reign."

JUST AN AMERICAN MEATLOAF

- 2 Tbs. onion
- 20 squares saltine-type crackers, unsalted tops
- 1 lb. lean ground beef (10% fat)



Kim Andrews of the Gazette-Journal staff prepared her mother's meatloaf recipes while wearing the apron and dress of her great-grandmother, Virginia Arbell Cummings Mann.

- 1 large egg
- 2 Tbs. milk
- ¼ tsp. black pepper
- Preheat oven to 350°F. Finely chop onion. Place crackers in a large zip-top bag and crush with a rolling pin. Coat a loaf pan with nonstick cooking spray. In a large bowl, combine crushed crackers, onion, ground beef, egg, milk and black pepper. Mix well. Place mixture into loaf pan. Bake for 40 minutes.

Topping

- ½ c. catsup

- 1 Tbs. brown sugar
- ½ tsp. apple cider vinegar
- 1 tsp. water
- Mix catsup, brown sugar, vinegar and water in a small bowl. When meatloaf is cooked, remove from oven and cover with sauce. Return to oven and bake 10 minutes more, until meatloaf is completely cooked through.

MY MAMA'S MEATLOAF

- Kim Andrews
- ½ c. milk

SEE MEATLOAF, PAGE 2B

WEDDING |



Mr. and Mrs. Aaron Michael Templeman

Templeman-Soles

Lauren Elizabeth Soles and Aaron Michael Templeman were married at 3 p.m. on Friday, Nov. 12, 2021, at "Constellation" in Kill Devil Hills, N.C. The Rev. Anne W. Kesner officiated.

The bride is the daughter of H. Blair and Karen Soles of Schley.

The groom is the son of George and Debra Templeman of Calvert County, Maryland.

The bride was attended by her matron of honor, Kara Soles Barbie; her matron of honor, Madeleine Ramsey, and bridesmaids, Allyson Bridges, Andrea South, Kellyn Moody, Michelle Mertens and Anne Kesner. Madison Barbie was junior bridesmaid.

The groom was attended by his best man, Nathan Templeman, and groomsmen, David Rice III, Thomas Rymer, Trevor Tompkins, Garrett Smith. Colin Barbie was junior groomsmen.

Mistresses of ceremonies were Connie Field and Katie Dutton.

Following the wedding, the couple traveled to Napa Valley, California, and Hawaii. They make their home in Richmond.

Blooms in
December

Flowers continue to show themselves here and there, and other beauties are adding brightness to this month. Please send your photos to editor@gazettejournal.net.



Cheryl Battle of Bavon photographed this honeybee, grateful for a warm sunny day and a blooming camellia.



Columbine blooming on the sunny side of Richard and Joan Miles's house in Mathews.



Janet Clark of Hallieford sends the last rose of summer, cut from a 30-year-old bush, and a gorgeous red maple.



Camellia sasanqua Otome, sent by Lewis Hubbard of Cardinal.



Money plant (lunaria) seed discs, oxalis still in bloom, December rose, and maple leaves in the birdbath, from left; all sent by Louise Witherspoon of Port Haywood.



MELANY SLAUGHTER / GAZETTE-JOURNAL

Wreath decorating

The Garden Club of Gloucester and Mathews decorated fresh wreaths in colonial style Friday morning at the Gloucester Museum of History. The wreaths are now hanging on historical buildings around the court circle for all to enjoy. Pictured above are club members, front row from left, Robin Ramsey, Tina McManus, Peg Montgomery; back row, Sarah Finney, Nina Watkins, Shannah Cooper, Vivian Shackelford and Durfee Betts.



Craft sale

The Walter Reed Garden Club held a craft sale during Saturday's Christmas parade in Gloucester. Members will also have a booth set up during this Saturday's parade in Mathews. Members at the Gloucester craft sale booth included, from left, June James, Penney Carucci, Patty Emery, Becky Horsley, Amelita Thomas and Penny Doyel.

MEATLOAF: *An American standard*

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1B)

2 slices wheat bread
2 Tbs. olive oil
1 medium onion, sliced
2 c. mushrooms, diced
¼ c. red wine
1½-2 lb. ground beef
½-½ c. Italian seasoned
bread crumbs
¾ tsp. salt
Freshly ground black
pepper to taste
½ tsp. cayenne red pepper
½ c. minced flat-leaf parsley
2 eggs, beaten

Sauce
½ c. ketchup
½ c. brown sugar
4 Tbs. dark molasses or
maple syrup
¼ c. apple cider vinegar
1 tsp. ground cayenne red
pepper or to taste
Preheat oven to 375°F. In a
large mixing bowl, pour milk
over bread slices and set aside
to soak. Heat olive oil in a skil-
let; add onion and sauté until
translucent. Add mushrooms
and cook 3-4 minutes. Add red
wine and cook until reduced,
5-7 minutes. Remove from
heat and set aside to cool. To

milk-soaked bread, add beef,
breadcrumbs, salt, peppers and
parsley. Add eggs and cooled
vegetables. Use hands to com-
bine all. Coat a glass loaf pan
with nonstick spray. Form meat
into a loaf, place in pan, leav-
ing room on all sides for sauce.
Combine all sauce ingredi-
ents. Pour 1/3 of sauce on top
of meatloaf and spread with a
spoon. Bake 45 minutes, then
pour another third of sauce
over top. Bake another 20 min-
utes or until cooked through.
Slice and serve with remaining
sauce.

BARBECUE MEATLOAF
1½ lb. ground beef
1 c. diced onion
2 cloves garlic, minced
2 Tbs. canola oil
1 c. breadcrumbs
½ c. tomato sauce
¼ c. minced parsley
1 egg, beaten
1¼ tsp. salt, divided
½ tsp. pepper
Preheat oven to 350°F. Heat
a fry pan over medium-high
heat; add canola oil; heat un-
til hot; add onion and ¼ tsp.

of salt. Cook two minutes, stir-
ring occasionally. Add garlic
and cook for another 30 sec-
onds. Pour mixture into a large
bowl. Add breadcrumbs, to-
mato sauce, parsley, egg, re-
maining salt and pepper. Mix
until well combined. Add the
ground beef and gently mix
until well incorporated. Pour
beef mixture into a 9 x9-inch
loaf pan.

Barbecue sauce
1 8-oz. can tomato sauce
3 Tbs. apple cider vinegar
3 Tbs. brown sugar
2 Tbs. Dijon mustard
2 Tbs. Worcestershire sauce
¼ tsp. Liquid Smoke
In small saucepan over me-
dium heat, combine the above
ingredients. Stir until the brown
sugar has dissolved and let
cook for an additional 3 min-
utes. Pour ¾ of the barbecue
sauce over the meatloaf. Place
meatloaf in the oven and cook
for 35 minutes. Then, pour the
rest of the sauce over the top;
return to the oven and cook
15 minutes more. Let rest for 5
minutes before slicing.



PHOTO BY LINDA TIOSSEN

Turning the town yellow

Members of the Gloucester Daffodil Club gathered in two locations last Thursday to further their efforts to turn the town yellow in the spring. The group planted 250 bulbs around the Hampton Inn sign on Route 17 and 400 bulbs at the entrance of Main Street Landing, a new subdivision off Business Route 17. Every year, the GDC plants more and more bulbs along the main thoroughfares of Gloucester. Shown here are, front row from left, Susan Camp, Jim Camp, Judith Williams, Chris Conley, Debbie Burgess; back row, Bill Thomas, Penny Carucci, Arlene Tucker and Kathleen Gillerlain. Also taking part were Peggy Bowditch and Marilyn Hackett, not pictured.

Life is short.
Don't make
it shorter.

Choose life. Make sure your kids get
their HPV vaccine and protect them
against cancer.

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Protect the ones you love,
get vaccinated
now.

VDH VIRGINIA
DEPARTMENT
OF HEALTH



PICKING A TREE

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1B)

needles. Popular trees fre-
quently sold on the Middle
Peninsula include Fraser and
balsam firs and Scotch pines.
In fact, these three species
are popular across the United
States, and rate high in all
categories.

Canaan fir is native to some
mountainous areas of Virgin-
ia and West Virginia. It is now
grown on the East Coast and
across the Midwest. Canaan
fir has a strong fragrance sim-
ilar to balsam fir and better
needle retention than Fraser
fir.

Scotch pine is the most
popular tree sold at Christ-
mastime. It has the advantage

of retaining its needles even
when dry. When kept well-hy-
drated, a Scotch pine will stay
fresh throughout the holiday
season. See "Christmas Tree
Varieties: Photos and Infor-
mation to Choose the Best
Tree!" at <https://www.pickyourownchristmastree.org/treevarieties.php>.

Select the freshest tree that
you can find. This means that
the needles are a healthy
green and don't fall off when
you shake the tree. Branch-
es should not be brittle or
drooping.

If you aren't going to deco-
rate the tree for a few days,
place it in a bucket of water

out of the sun and wind after
cutting a ½ inch slice from
the bottom of the trunk. Six
to eight hours after being cut,
a tree will lose the ability to
take up water unless it is re-
cut.

Use a tree stand that is
large enough to provide sta-
bility and hold sufficient
water to keep the tree hy-
drated, at least one quart
per inch of trunk diameter. A
7-foot tree can consume two
quarts a day during the first
two weeks. If the water in the
container dries up, the tree
should be recut, a difficult
task to accomplish on a deco-
rated tree. Locate your tree

away from heat or fire sourc-
es and use LED lights.

Unfortunately, herbicides,
pesticides, and fire retar-
dants are used in Christmas
tree production, so dispose
of your tree responsibly.
Commercial trees do not
make good habitats for birds
and small animals because
of the use of chemicals.

See Purdue Extension pub-
lication FNR-43-W "Tips for
First-Time Buyers of Real
Christmas Trees" and North
Carolina State Extension
"FAQ: Pesticides Used in
Christmas Trees" for detailed
information.

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at 757-220-2874, or visit WestvilleLanding.com

PLANNING FOR THE HOLIDAYS

Give Mom and Dad the Lifestyle They Deserve

Shorter days and turning leaves bring memories of holidays past. Mom going all out with dinner. Dad bringing home the biggest tree. Kids running all over the house. These were festive (if not chaotic) times. But the kids are older now and our parents are too.

During the holidays we all deserve to be surrounded by family and friends: sharing stories, enjoying home-cooked meals, and having the peace of mind that comes with knowing you are loved.

This is what Commonwealth Senior Living communities offer during the holidays and every day. Our families are relieved to know that their loved ones are safe, happy, and enjoying the lifestyle they deserve.

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*Rent lock in effect until March 1, 2023; lock does not apply to level of care fees.

www.CommonwealthSL.com

Services announced by local churches

Special services and other activities in churches this week include the following:

ABINGDON EPISCOPAL
Abingdon Episcopal Church, White Marsh, will hold Holy Eucharist services at 8 and 10:30 a.m. Sunday. Both services are held in-person and the 10:30 service is livestreamed on Facebook and YouTube.
On Sunday at 4 p.m., prayer and reflection will be held at the giant Advent wreath in the circle drive.

APOSTLES LUTHERAN
Apostles Lutheran Church, Gloucester, will hold in-person worship at 9:30 a.m. on the third Sunday in Advent. The service can also be joined via Zoom or YouTube. A Guatemalan Fiesta will be held after the worship service to celebrate the work of the Service and Sharing Ministry Team. Children's Chapel will be held at noon via Zoom.

BELLAMY UNITED METHODIST
Bellamy United Methodist Church, Gloucester, will celebrate the third Sunday of Advent with a worship service at 10 a.m. in the sanctuary. The service will feature music of the season from all areas of the music department. A plated meal will follow in the fellowship hall. At 5 p.m., there will be a Christmas Carol bonfire at the Outdoor Worship Center.

BETHANY UNITED METHODIST
Bethany United Methodist Church, Gloucester Point, will celebrate the third Sunday in Advent at 10 a.m. with the family Christmas program, "Sing for Joy," presented by Children and Youth Ministries. A "Happy Birthday, Jesus!" party will follow the program in the Warren Belvin Fellowship Hall.
Bethany will host its Advent Bible School from 6-7:30 to-night. All children, ages four through fifth grade, are invited to come enjoy music, the Christmas story, and crafts. For more information, call the church office at 804-642-2110.

BETHEL BAPTIST
The sermon title of the Rev. James L. Harris of Bethel Baptist Church, Gloucester, at noon Sunday will be "A Season for Celebration and Reflection." Communion will be served after in-person worship. The service can also be accessed by logging onto <https://global.gotomeeting.com/join/929136757>. You can also call 1-312-757-3121 and use access code, 929-136-757#. Sunday school will start at 10.
Bible study and Sunday school will be held online using the same login information.

BETHEL UNITED METHODIST
The Christmas program, "The Birth of Jesus," will be presented during the 10:50 a.m. Sunday worship service at Bethel United Methodist Church, Onemo. A love offering will be taken for a church member during the service. A soup and salad luncheon will follow. Everyone is asked to bring their favorite crockpot of soup, a release said. Salad, crackers, beverages and Christmas cookies will be provided. The collection of non-perishable food for Social Services will also be due on Sunday.
The Son Seekers Class will have a tree of lights this Christmas season. You may make a monetary gift in honor or memory of a loved one to be included in the Tree of Lights bulletin due on Sunday.
Advent Bible study, "All the Good," continues at 10 a.m. at St. Matthew UMC, Peary.
Christmas Open House at the parsonage will be from 2-5 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 18.

CENTRAL UNITED METHODIST
Central United Methodist Church, Mathews, will hold its service at 9:15 a.m. Sunday. The service will be broadcast live on the church's YouTube channel, which can be found at www.centralumcmathews.org.

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GLOUCESTER SEVENTH DAY ADVENTISTS
SATURDAYS at 7314 Main Street, Gloucester, VA 23061 Sabbath School 9:30 a.m.; Worship 11 a.m. 757-814-5285

ANGLICAN

ST. JAMES ON-THE-GLEBE
Fr. Kevin Fife, Vicar
6124 Abingdon Glebe Lane, Gloucester (Off Hwy. 17 behind Ken Houtz Chevrolet). 804-824-9557
Services: Holy Communion 10:00 AM Sunday Morning Prayer: 8:30 AM Sun., 7:00 AM Tue.-Sat. Evening Prayer: 5:30 PM Tue.-Fri.

ASSEMBLY OF GOD

LIGHTHOUSE
Reverend Kenneth F. Cramer
4299 Geo. Wash. Mem. Hwy. Hayes, VA 23072
804-642-2752 • 804-642-4018 Fax
www.LighthouseVA.org
Services: SUNDAY, Prayer at 9 a.m.; Worship Service 10 a.m.; WEDNESDAY, 6:30 Verge Youth Group

BAPTIST

BEECH GROVE BAPTIST CHURCH
Richard Croxton, Pastor
SUNDAY WORSHIP, 10 a.m.
SUNDAY SCHOOL, for all ages 11 a.m.
4075 Cedar Bush Rd., Hayes, VA

BEULAH BAPTIST CHURCH

Rev. Tom Cochick
Services: SUNDAY, Sunday School 10 a.m.; Worship Service 11 a.m.
5490 Ware Neck Rd., Ware Neck, VA 23178

CHURCH OF THE LIVING WORD

8144 Tidemill Road, Hayes, 642-9612
Building A Victorious Church That Lives The Word Through The Power Of Jesus Christ
Bishop Gregory and Pastor Eunice Woodard
Services: SUNDAY, 10:00 a.m. Worship; 11 a.m. Children's Church; WEDNESDAY, 7 p.m. Prayer/Bible Study (Adults and Youth) FRIDAY, 6 p.m. Intercessory Prayer.
THE CHURCH OF LOVE
www.churchofthelivingword.net

FAITH BAPTIST CHURCH

Rev. Werlie Hendrix, Pastor
17448 John Clayton Memorial Hwy. 824-4347
Services: SUNDAY, Sunday School for all ages at 9:30 a.m., Worship Service 10:45 a.m. Sunday Family Night, Bible Study for all ages 6 p.m. "Faith Feels Like Family"
Affiliated with the Southern Baptist Conservatives of Virginia
www.faithbaptistfamily.com

Church Spotlight



GLOUCESTER POINT BAPTIST CHURCH
Gloucester Point Baptist Church is seeking ways to Love God, Love Others, and Serve in God's World. Please come and serve with us.

GLOUCESTER POINT BAPTIST
Pastor Ray P. "Bud" Goudie, Jr.
7741 Terrapin Cove Rd., Gloucester Point 804-642-2555 • www.gloptbaptist.org
Services: SUNDAY, Sunday School, 9:30 a.m.; Worship, 11 a.m.; C.A.R.E. Ministry at 2 p.m. WEDNESDAY: 6pm Youth in Action and Children's Choir, 6:30pm Team Kids and Adult Bible Study/Prayer Meeting and 7:30pm Choir Practice.

GWYNN'S ISLAND BAPTIST CHURCH
Dr. Ed Jordan, Pastor • 725-2384
www.gibchurch.com, welcometogibc@gmail.com,
2011 Old Ferry Road, Gwynn, VA 23066
Drive-in Worship Service: SUNDAY 10 AM at the GI Civic League parking lot, across from the church.
Men's Bible Study group will meet every Tuesday, 9 AM at the Gazebo
Women's Bible Study Fellowship will be every Thursday, 10 AM in the Moore Hall.
- Serving the Lord by Serving Other

HIGHWAY TO HEAVEN BIKER CHURCH

DAV Bldg. Chapter 58
6265 Professional Dr.
Gloucester, Va. 23061
Sunday Mornings:
Fellowship 9:00a.m.,
Service 9:30-10:30a.m.
See our Facebook page.

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MACEDONIA BAPTIST CHURCH
Foster, Va. 23056 • 804-725-5416
Rev. Everett Hughes • 804-725-3032
revhughes@yahoo.com
Services: SUNDAY, 9:45 a.m. Sunday School; 11 a.m. Preaching.

MATHEWS BAPTIST CHURCH
Hudgins, VA, 804-725-3707
Rev. Brian E. Kramer, Pastor
Services: SUNDAY, in-person Worship, 9 AM Contemporary; 11 AM Traditional. Sunday School, 10:00 AM for all ages. The contemporary service is also available on the Mathews Baptist YouTube Channel and an audio copy of the traditional service upon request. For more information, call the church office. www.mathewsbaptistchurch.com

SPRING HILL BAPTIST CHURCH

Rev. Ross Davis, Pastor
Cobbs Creek, Va. 804-725-3500
Services: SUNDAY, 10 a.m. Sunday School; 11 a.m. Morning Worship. THURSDAY, 6:30 p.m. Bible Study and Prayer Meeting; 7:30 p.m. Choir Practice.
1676 Buckley Hall Rd, Cobbs Creek, VA 23035

UNION BAPTIST CHURCH
9254 Guinea Rd., Hayes, VA 23072
Located next to Achilles Elementary School
Church Office: 804-642-2332
Rev. Jared Berry, Pastor
E-mail: laura@unionbaptistchurch.net
www.unionbaptistchurch.net
Services: SUNDAY 9:45 a.m. Sunday School; 11 a.m. Church Service; WEDNESDAY: 6:30pm, Adult Bible Study and Prayer; UBC Kids Crew (K-5th grade), OUTWARD Youth (6th-12th grade) MON & THUR: Food Ministry, 9-10:30 a.m. SATURDAY: Kickball, 10-11:30 a.m. (K-5th grade)

ZION POPLARS BAPTIST CHURCH
Pastor Ronald W. Gayle Sr.
693-4821 • 7000 T.C. Walker Road, Gloucester
Sunday School 10 am; Worship 11 am
Bible Study Wednesday 7 pm.

CHURCH OF CHRIST

GLOUCESTER CHURCH OF CHRIST
2432 Hayes Road, Hayes • 642-6050
SERVICES: Sunday, Bible Class, 10 a.m., Worship 11 a.m., and 2 p.m. WEDNESDAY, Mid-week Bible Study, 7 p.m.

CHURCH OF GOD

LIVING WATERS CHURCH
"A Church of New Beginnings"
Pastor Grady Brown III
2061 Windsor Rd., Dutton, VA 23050
Worship Services: 10:30 am Sunday & 7 pm Wed. Increasing Faith • Imparting Hope Modeling Love

CONGREGATIONAL CHURCHES

SEVERN CHURCH
Rev. Bill West, Pastor, 693-3937
Since 1884, Off Hwy. 17 at White Marsh to Naxera, Robins Neck
SUNDAY, Worship, 11:00 a.m.
WEDNESDAY, Bible Study 7 p.m. virtual on Bill West's facebook page

EPISCOPAL

ABINGDON EPISCOPAL CHURCH
The Reverend Sven L. vanBaars, Rector
5645 George Washington Memorial Highway
PO Box 82, White Marsh, VA 23183
804-693-3035
www.abingdonchurch.org
7:45 am Holy Eucharist: Rite II
11:00 am Holy Eucharist: Rite II Live streamed from Facebook and YouTube
All are Welcome!

KINGSTON EPISCOPAL PARISH

Mathews, Virginia 804-725-2175
The Very Rev. Gary J. Barker, Rector
Email: kingstonparish@verizon.net
Services: 8:00 am Holy Eucharist: Rite I Christ Church
10:30 am Holy Eucharist: Rite II Kingston Chapel at Kingston Parish House Live streamed on Facebook and YouTube
12:00 pm Wednesday Holy Eucharist/Healing at Kingston Chapel
For ID and passcode, call the church office.

WARE EPISCOPAL CHURCH
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7825 John Clayton Memorial Highway
P.O. Box 616, Gloucester, VA 23061
804.693.3821 | www.warechurch.org
Sunday Worship Schedule:
8:30 a.m. – Morning Prayer with Eucharist
10:30 a.m. – Holy Eucharist, Rite II

FULL GOSPEL

CORNERSTONE FELLOWSHIP CHURCH
2243 Buckley Hall Road, Cobbs Creek, VA 23035
Chris Morgan, Pastor 725-9145
Services: SUNDAY 10 am Morning Worship
Force 412 Middle High Youth Services every other SUNDAY at 10 am
Children's Ministry available for Nursery for 0-3 years old ages, Preschool for 4-5 years old
Mighty Kids 6 yrs. - 5th Grade every SUNDAY.
Abaze Youth Services every other SUNDAY at 10am; 10 am WEDNESDAY Healing Center; 7 pm WEDNESDAY Midweek Prayer Service

LUTHERAN

APOSTLES LUTHERAN CHURCH
The Reverend Jennifer N. Tillman, Pastor
Main Street at Fox Mill Run Estates
Gloucester, 693-9098
www.apostles-elca.org
Sunday Service: 9:30 AM in-person and via Zoom
See website for details
We are a Reconciling in Christ Community

NON-DENOMINATIONAL

GRACE BIBLE CHURCH
Pastor R. Ashley Gibson
804-493-4076
9577 George Washington Memorial Hwy, Box 105, Ark, VA 23003
9:45 AM Sunday School classes for all ages
11:00 AM Sunday Worship Service
6:00 PM Sunday evening Bible Study
6:00 PM Wednesday evening prayer service

KINGDOM COVENANT MINISTRIES

Kingdom Covenant Ministries
Apostle Steve A. Forrest Sr.
804-815-4735 or 804-221-2670
Thursdays 7pm bible study
worship service Sundays 10:30
827 Ridge Road, Cobbs Creek, Va. 23035
kcovenant18@gmail.com
Drive up Resurrection Sunday Worship Service, April 4th at 10:30am. All are welcome.

TABERNACLE OF FAITH

7028 Woodsville Road, Hayes
804-684-9373
SUNDAY SERVICE: 11 am; Kingdom Preparation Teaching classes are held at 10 a.m.; Intercessory prayer is 6-7 p.m. every Wednesday, Bible study is 7 to 8 pm every Thursday at the church.

PRESBYTERIAN

GRACE COVENANT PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
6470 Main St., Gloucester, VA
Dr. Douglas Nagel, Pastor
693-2071, 9 a.m.-3 p.m. daily.
E-mail: becky@gracecovenant.us
To see activities go to website: gracecovenant.us
Schedule: Sunday School, 9:15 am; Worship, 10:30am

GROVES MEMORIAL PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

9117 Glass Road, P. O. Box 1263, Hayes VA
Ph: 804-642-9698
Rev. Michael Condrey, Interim-Pastor
Sunday School 9 a.m. / Sunday Worship 10:00 a.m.
www.grovesmemchurchva.org

ROMAN CATHOLIC

CHURCH OF FRANCIS DE SALES
Rt. 647, Lover's Lane, Mathews Court House
Fatu'u Gerry Kagawa
Spring Schedule: Sunday Mass 11 a.m.
Weekday Mass: 9 a.m. Tues. & Fri.
Holy Day Mass: 5:30 p.m.
Worship, 10:30am
4073 Cedar Bush Rd., Hayes, VA

CHURCH OF ST. THERESE
6262 Main Street • Gloucester, VA 23061
804-693-5939 • Father Gregory Kandt
Weekend Masses:
5 PM Saturday, 8 & 10:30 AM Sunday;
Holy Day Mass: 12:00 and 7:00 pm;
Faith Formation: K-8 at 9:15 a.m. to 10:15 a.m.
9-12 at 6:00 to 8:00

THE CHURCH OF JESUS CHRIST OF LATTER-DAY SAINTS

GLOUCESTER WARD
6846 Short Lane, Gloucester
Sunday Service: 10:00 am
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Rev. Moonsup "Paul" Song Pastor, 642-2110
www.bethanyumc-gp.org
Services: Sunday Worship: 10:00am;
Adult Sunday School: Immediately following Worship
BEULAH UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
New Point, VA
Rev. Dede Parrish, Pastor • 725-2775
Sunday School 9:45 a.m.; Worship 11 a.m.

CENTRAL UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
121 Church Street, Mathews, VA
Rev. John Choi, 725-3332
SUNDAY: Sunday School; 10:15 a.m. Worship Service; 9:15 a.m.,

LOCUST GROVE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
Pastor Booker Brown
804-725-3504 / cell: 804-513-9258
Rt. 3, Dutton
Sunday School: 9:45 a.m., Worship 11 a.m.;
Nursery provided, Children's Church, elevator

MATHEWS CHAPEL UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
Join Us For Worship
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www.mathewschapelumc.org
Pastor Marcus Stallworth
804-725-9275
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Nursery Provided

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Rev. Calvin Griffin * 804-693-3811
Traditional Country Church on the Hill
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Services are available on Youtube under Mt Zion/Singleton church

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Sunday Worship 9:30 am

SALEM UMC
11408 Salem Church Rd, Glouc., VA 23061
Between Turks Ferry Rd and Hunny Pot Ln
(804) 693-3754 • umc.org
Sunday Worship 11:00 am

SINGLETON UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
5869 Ware Neck Rd., Schley, VA
Rev. Calvin Griffin • 804-693-3811
Worship service 11 a.m.; Congregational Sunday School at 9:45 in the church annex.
"We are workers together with God!"
www.singletonumc.org
<http://singletonumcblog.wordpress.com>

Please call or e-mail Regina South to be part of this directory: 804-693-3101 or rsouth@gazettejournal.net



Act of Kindness Ministry

The Act of Kindness Ministry of Church of Living Word, Hayes, contributed to the Gloucester United Emergency Shelter Team program with 145 items recently. The staff workers shared how each item will help those that come to the shelter. Pictured are, from left, are Minister Natalie Cook and GUEST staff Aleya McCurry, Lori Lee and Yvonda Roberts-Whitfield.

CHURCH SERVICES

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 38)

A weekly Bible study on Letter to the Colossians will begin at 1:30 p.m. Wednesday in the fellowship hall.

CHURCH OF THE LIVING WORD

The sermon title of Dr. Gregory Woodard of Church of the Living Word, Hayes, at 10 a.m. Sunday will be "Merry Christmas."

The Gospel of Luke will be the topic for the 6:30 p.m. in-person Wednesday Bible study.

FIRST BAPTIST, ORDINARY

The sermon title of Pastor Ward Warren of First Baptist Church, Ordinary, at the 11 a.m. Sunday Holy Communion service will be "The Birth that Baffles the Mind." Church school begins at 9:30.

The Executive Board will have a virtual meeting at 9 a.m. Saturday.

The virtual Wednesday Bible study will be at 6:30 p.m. For dial-in information, call Deacon Albert Ali at 804-642-3019.

FIRST MORNING STAR BAPTIST

The sermon title of Pastor Larry J. Arrington of First Morning Star Baptist Church, Bena, at the 11 a.m. Sunday in-person service will be "A Waiting Church." The service will also be livestreamed on the church's Facebook page.

GLOUCESTER POINT BAPTIST

Pastor Bud Goude of Gloucester Point Baptist Church will speak from Luke 2:8-12 at 11 a.m. Sunday. The third Advent candle will be lit and the adult Christmas cantata will be presented. Those who are unvaccinated are encouraged to wear a mask; all others may use their discretion.

Children's Advent Bible School will continue from 6-7:30 p.m. Wednesdays, through Dec. 22.

GRACE COVENANT PRESBYTERIAN

The sermon title of Pastor Kathryn Leech of Grace Covenant Presbyterian Church, Gloucester, will be "Suit Up, Soldier."

The children's Christmas pageant will be presented on Dec. 19.

GWYNN'S ISLAND BAPTIST

Gwynn's Island Baptist Church will hold a drive-in service at 10 a.m. Sunday around the gazebo across from the church. Parking will begin at 9:30. The sermon topic of Dr. Ed Jordan, pastor, for the third Sunday in Advent will be "What Shall We Call Him?" Special music

will be presented by Richard Callis and Island Praise.

KINGSTON EPISCOPAL PARISH

Kingston Episcopal Parish, Mathews, will observe Advent 3 with Holy Eucharist Rite I at Christ Church at 8 a.m. Sunday; Holy Eucharist Rite II will be at 10:30 a.m. at Kingston Chapel on Main Street. Both services will be livestreamed on YouTube and Facebook.

The Vestry will meet at 5 p.m. Wednesday at the home of Senior Warden Mary Chapman. Masking has been mandated by the bishop of The Diocese of Virginia. The ID and passcode for all online events can be obtained from the church office, 804-725-2175.

MATHEWS BAPTIST

Mathews Baptist Church, Hudgins, will hold in-person services on Sunday: contemporary at 9 a.m. (also online) and traditional at 11 o'clock (also on CD upon request). The sermon title of the Rev. Brian Kramer will be "Angels From the Realms of Glory."

All are invited to Breakfast in Bethlehem from 8:30-10:30 a.m. Saturday, in the fellowship hall, a release said.

MATHEWS CHAPEL UNITED METHODIST

Mathews Chapel United Methodist Church, Cobbs Creek, continues its hybrid Wednesday Bible study at 7 p.m.

MORNING GLORY BAPTIST

The sermon title of Pastor Darrell Hudson of Morning Glory Baptist Church, Gloucester, at the 10 a.m. Sunday in-person worship will be "A Gift to a Troubled World." Join in livestream worship service on Facebook live at www.morningglorygloucester.org. You may also dial in on the conference call line for service, 701-801-6981.

The church will hold a Deacon Ordination Service with the Rev. Dr. Wilbert D. Talley, pastor of Third Union Baptist Church, King William, as the guest speaker at 3 p.m. Sunday. Refreshments will be served afterwards.

MT. ZION UNITED METHODIST

The sermon title of the Rev. Calvin Griffin, pastor of Mt. Zion United Methodist Church, Gloucester, at the 9 a.m. Sunday in-person service will be "Celebrating."

SEE CHURCH SERVICES, PAGE 5B

TODAY'S MEDITATION

©THE UPPER ROOM

THURSDAY, DEC. 9, 2021

Read I John 4:19-21

We love because God first loved us

-I John 4:19 (CEB)

Our hearts were broken. A few months earlier, we had lost our beloved dog. One day my husband and I felt it was time to visit the local animal shelter and look for a pet who might fill the hole in our hearts. And we found him! He was in a small cage with his head down and his tail between his legs. Now, only weeks after bringing him home, he runs to greet us, holds his tail up high, chases his ball nonstop, and is the happiest dog.

If the love my husband and I gave to that little dog can completely change him in such a wonderful way, how

much more can the love of God change all of us? First John 4:19 says, "We love because God first loved us." And because God loved us first, we are able to do things that we couldn't possibly do otherwise. We can replace anger with forgiveness, we can replace prejudice with acceptance, and we can work toward peace in our families, neighborhoods, and the world. We can love!

PRAYER: Dear God, help us not to wait for others to show love to us, but give us courage to love them first. Amen.

THOUGHT FOR THE DAY
Today I will look for opportunities to surprise others with acts of love.

-Carola Spreacker
(New Mexico)

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THE HIGHEST HEIGHTS



Climbing a mountain takes skill, physical fitness, and determination. Harsh weather, lack of oxygen, and exhaustion may face the climber who dares to face the silent majesty of extreme heights. Like a mountain climb, a journey in faith has its struggles; God's ways are not always easy to comprehend. Obstacles thrown in our path may make us falter and fail, but He gives us new strength with every new difficulty. Seek His strength and refuge at your house of worship this week.

Daily Devotional Reading

Isaiah
7:1-25

Isaiah
8:21-9:7

Isaiah
44:1-28

Isaiah
45:1-25

Isaiah
48:1-22

Isaiah
62:1-12

Isaiah
65:17-25

Scriptures Selected by the American Bible Society

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CHURCH SERVICES

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 4B)

NEWINGTON BAPTIST

The Rev. Eddie Heath will be the guest speaker at the 10:30 a.m. Sunday service in Newington Baptist Church, Gloucester. The service will also be streamed live on the church's Facebook page. The nursery, for infants and toddlers, and Kids Worship, for children age four years through fifth grade, will be available. Activities for grades 1-12 begin every Wednesday evening at 6:30. The Clothes Closet will be open from 10 a.m.-noon Saturday, Dec. 18.

NEW POINT FRIENDS

The sermon title of Pastor Thomas Bunting of New Point Friends Church at the 11 a.m. Sunday service will be "The Joy of Christmas."

OLIVE BRANCH UNITED METHODIST

Curt Walker will be the guest speaker at the 9:30 a.m. service in Olive Branch United Methodist Church, Gloucester, for the third Sunday in Advent in-person. Adult Sunday school, also in-person, will begin at 10:30 in the conference room. A virtual service will be at 10:30 on its Facebook page at Salem United Methodist Church, Gloucester. Virtual Fall Bible study will begin at 10:30 a.m. every Wednesday on Facebook. A churchwide Christmas breakfast will be held at 8 a.m. Dec. 19.

REVGAYLE.ORG INC.

This week's sermon on revgayle.com will be "Yahweh - I Am - He who is - Self Existent." All previous sermons can be viewed anytime, all day, and every day.

SALEM UNITED METHODIST

Salem United Methodist Church, Gloucester, will celebrate the third Sunday of Advent during the 11 a.m. in-person service. Curt Walker will be the guest speaker. In-person adult Sunday school will be at 10 o'clock in the conference room. A virtual service will be held at 10:30 on the Facebook page at Salem United Methodist Church, Gloucester. Virtual Fall Bible study is held at 10:30 a.m. every Wednesday on Facebook. Wickel Food Pantry will be

open from 9-11 a.m. Saturday, Dec. 18. "Christmas through the Carols and Bells" Sunday service will be on Dec. 19.

SHEPHERDSVILLE BAPTIST

Shepherdsville Baptist Church, Ark, continues to have in-person services at 11 a.m. Sunday. CDC guidelines will be followed; masks are required. The sermon title of Pastor Douglas D. Riley will be "Now Run And Tell That!" You may also join by way of Zoom, by going to www.shepherdsvillebaptistchurch.org and clicking on the Zoom button, or by calling 518-418-1016.

SINGLETON UNITED METHODIST

Singleton United Methodist Church, Ware Neck, will hold in-person and a Zoom service at 11 a.m. on Sunday. The sermon title of the Rev. Calvin Griffin, pastor, will be "Celebrating." Services will also be available on YouTube. For Zoom login information, email Calvin.griffin@cox.net Monday Bible study on "The Heart That Grew Three Sizes" will begin at 9:30 a.m. at the church. Wednesday Bible study, "The God We Can Know," will begin at 7 p.m.

SPRING HILL BAPTIST

The sermon title at 11 a.m. Sunday in Spring Hill Baptist Church, Cobbs Creek, will be "The Prayer of a Righteous Man." Sunday school and adult Bible study begin at 10 o'clock.

ST. JAMES ON-THE-GLEBE

St. James on-the-Glebe, "traditional Anglican," of Gloucester, will celebrate the third Sunday in Advent, with Mattins (morning prayer) at 8:30 a.m., Catechesis for all ages at 9 o'clock, and Holy Communion with Anointing of the Sick at 10 o'clock. Fellowship and food will follow the service.

ST. MATTHEW UNITED METHODIST

St. Matthew United Methodist Church, Peary, continues the Advent study, "All is Good," at 10 a.m. Wednesday. Christmas Open House at the parsonage will be from 2-5 p.m. on Saturday, Dec. 18.

THE FIRST UNITED BAPTIST

The sermon title of Pastor E. Randolph Graham of the First United Baptist Church,

White Marsh, at the 11 a.m. Sunday service will be "Joy: An Attribute that Equips One for Christ's Return." Prayer and Praise will begin at 10:45. Holy Communion will be observed. The in-sanctuary service will be simulcast and streamed via Zoom and Facebook Live.

UNION BAPTIST

Union Baptist Church, Hayes, will hold its grand illumination/singspiration at 5 p.m. Sunday. Cocoa and caroling family night will be held at 6 o'clock on Wednesday. The men will have a breakfast meeting at 8 a.m. Saturday, Dec. 18.

UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST FELLOWSHIP OF THE RAPPAHANNOCK

Ruth Micklem will speak on "The State of the Fellowship" at 10:30 a.m. Sunday in the parking lot of Unitarian Universalist Fellowship of the Rappahannock, White Stone. Vaccinations and masking are requested.

WESTVILLE BAPTIST

The sermon title of Pastor Bob Huff of Westville Baptist Church, Mathews, at 11 a.m. Sunday will be "Grace and Peace." The third candle of Advent, "Peace," will be lit. Wednesday Bible study on "Deuteronomy" will begin at 3:30 p.m. The church is still collecting non-perishables for Hands Across Mathews and toiletries for Mathews Social Services.

WESTVILLE CHRISTIAN

The sermon title of the Rev. Tim Dice, pastor of Westville Christian Church, Mathews, at 11 a.m. Sunday will be "People of Joy." Bible Café will be at 9:45.

ZION POPLARS BAPTIST

Zion Poplars Baptist Church, Gloucester, will observe its inside worship service and conference call at 11 a.m. Sunday. The sermon title of Pastor Ronald W. Gayle Sr. will be "Yahweh - I Am - He Who Is - Self-Existent." Wednesday prayer meeting and Bible study will begin at 7 p.m. Worship service and prayer meeting conference call is 1-617-769-8975.

VARIETY

GIFTING TIME WORD SEARCH

G A O C H I L D R E N P Y R F A M I L Y
I I A U B H W T L O S X W T G I T U B I
T M F I F G O R O O L T R N R I W A R M
N D N T A Y N U X I N B I T Y O B U G X
T R X W S D A H L E H D R A R D D M T
S L D E G G A B I B T T E S E B S I Y E
P W E D S R W P L O T P Y F Y U G D C C
G P S F P O I I L T A A R E R S G G N H
S N M S A C S C E P F U S S I A N R B N
N E S F E T X P E P D F E X T N I X W O
E C I R W N A U A U G X F P E T P U T L
C W G B U T S F S R R P C Y R A P M T O
S A B B B S Y H Y C O B O N C E A D C G
E S B D I O I L G H R U B F E W R C O Y
X P T T C D H W A A A E C A S N W U S X
O I F U D M Y Y Y S Y S T S E R E T N I
B Y L E D A D W D E O T F W O T B B S D
B A N C O E G N I R A C T N Y X G L Y D
C U R S C S R P R E S E N T R C D P R N
F F R I E N D S B H M Y R Y S R T W G P

WORDS

BAGGED
BOXES
CARING
CHILDREN
CLOTHING
FAMILY
FRIENDS
GIFT
HIDDEN
HOBBIES
INTERESTS
LIST
PRESENT
PURCHASE
RECIPIENT
SANTA
SECRET
TAPE
TECHNOLOGY
TISSUE PAPER
TOYS
WRAPPING

Find the words hidden vertically, horizontally, diagonally, and backwards.

	1	5			7		2	
	4		5			3		
	3						6	
	2		1	3				
			4		6		3	
9						2		
4					2	7		
	7		8					
					4			1

BRIDGE BITES

by Brian Gunnell

Forgive the grandiloquent title, we are not talking here about Lewis and Clark, nor the HMS Beagle, nor even Christopher Columbus. We merely refer to Declarer's intelligent (but hardly epic) play of the ♠K in the following deal:

E-W Vulnerable
South West North East
1NT

2♠ Pass Pass Pass
Just in case it happens to be a really useful clue, we should point out that East's 1NT showed 15-17 HCP.

West leads the ♥J which holds the trick. East wins next two tricks with the ♥Q followed by the ♥A. Now East cashes the ♦A and continues the suit. You can win this in hand or in Dummy, and must decide how to tackle trumps. What is the percentage play? With a combined holding of 8 trumps the percentage play is to finesse against the Queen rather than to play for the drop. It's a two-way finesse ... you can lead towards Dummy and finesse the Nine ... or, alternatively, you can cash Dummy's King and finesse the other way. All things being equal (that is, with no clues from the bid-

ding and the play) you would lead to the King and then finesse against East. Is that how you would play the trump suit? The answer is "maybe". You can eliminate all guesswork by discovering more about the hand first. If your next play (after winning the second Diamond trick) is to play the ♠K, then you will find out who has the Ace in that suit. How will that help? East has already shown up with ♥AKQ and ♠A. That's 13 HCP. So you can see that if East has the ♠A that gives him 17 HCP and no room for the ♠Q ... and if East does not have the ♠A then he must have the ♠Q for his 1NT opening. Playing the ♠K before tackling trumps is a so-called "discovery play".

♠K9
♥854
♦QT
♣QJT842
Dummy
♠Q84
♥JT7
♦9652
♣975
West
East
♠73
♥AKQ2
♦A874
♣A63
♠AJT652
♥963
♦KJ3
♣K
Declarer

Voyage of discovery

When East shows up with the ♠A, he's up to his maximum quota of 17 HCP, and now it's a certainty that West has the ♠Q. That being the case, you ruff East's Club return and take an immediate finesse of the ♠9! The ♠K is now cashed, then back to hand with a Club ruff. The remaining trump is extracted and it's 8 tricks for those who did some counting and discovering. Of course, if Declarer uses discovery in the play of the hand then it follows that the defenders should practice the art of concealment. Do you see anything fiendishly cunning that East might have done during the play? This might seem far-fetched, and the play would be far from obvious at the table, but suppose that East wins Trick 1 with the Ace ... then cashes the Queen ... then leads a low Heart to Partner's Ten! Doesn't that look like an East who started with ♥AQ2? It sure does! Declarer is likely to assume that West's opening lead is from ♥KJT7, in which case a discovery play is not even needed. If West has four points in Hearts then East must have the ♠Q to make up his opening bid. What a terrific deceptive play!

LIFELINES

BY DR. ED JORDAN

The Gift of Favor

Ready or not, the Christmas Season has begun! For many people, this is their favorite time of year. There is an excitement that fills the air, as people look for ways to show favor by giving gifts to one another. It is very hard not to get caught up in the spirit of giving love and gifts to one another. Of course there are some "Bah-humbugs" in the crowd, but the spirit of giving neutralizes their negative vibes.

What do you envision when you hear the word "favor?" It is an interesting word. In English some synonyms for favor include: to accommodate, advance, give approval, gift, grace, to esteem, reward, support or uphold. In a sense, favor is at the heart of our Christmas activities. Interestingly, it was the central word that Gabriel communicated to Mary in regard to her having found favor with God. In Luke 1:28-31 (NLT), Gabriel appeared to her and said: "Greetings, favored woman! The Lord is with you!" Confused and disturbed, Mary tried to think about what the angel could mean. "Don't be afraid, Mary," the angel told her, "for you have found favor with God! You will conceive and give birth to a son, and you will name Him Jesus."

Have you ever been given a special honor in your life? Perhaps a teacher commended you on your intelligence, or your ability to communicate with others. Perhaps you were honored for some athletic accomplishment, or you made the honor roll, or became employee of the month. It makes all of us feel better when someone

acknowledges that we have gifts or commendable traits or skills.

In this passage in Luke, Mary was flabbergasted when Gabriel said that she had found favor with God. She was just a poor girl from a small town. She did not have a famous name, nor notable skills. How could she possibly be "favored by God?" That is a rare statement in the Bible, at least in using the word "favor" for the concept. Mary, don't be afraid! You have found favor with God.

Wow! Few of us even get recognition from our peers, let alone being shown favor by them. Yet the awesomeness of Mary was that she had found favor with God. She found favor with God, precisely because she did not seek to be favored by God. The God who created universes and worlds and planets, and people, sent an angel to tell Mary that she had found favor, honor, approval, and esteem with God. Of all the people ever to live, and ever to give birth to a child, Mary was favored and chosen to be the one person through whom God's Son, Jesus, would be conceived, nourished, birthed, and then cared for by Mary. Favored indeed!

Her reaction was puzzlement and confusion. Why me, Lord? In Jewish society it was the males who were honored and given accolades, not the ladies. Further, Mary had been chosen by God from millions of candidates to become the mother of Jesus, God's one and only begotten Son. Gabriel's message was, "Don't be afraid! You are fa-

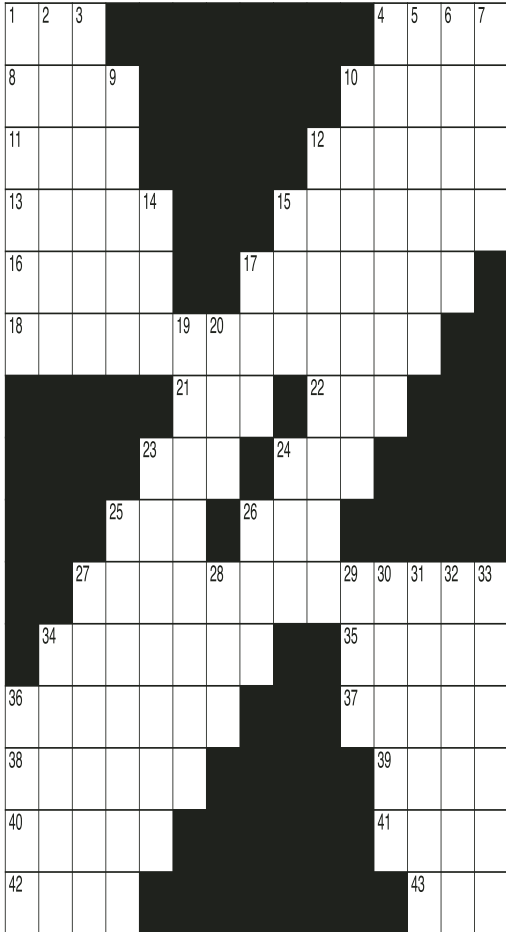
vored by God." He told Mary this twice in these few verses. "Greetings, favored one! The Lord is with you." (cf. Luke 1:28)

Herein is the heart of Christmas. In John 3:16 (NASB95) we read: "For God so loved the world, that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him shall not perish, but have eternal life." Jesus was given to us that first Christmas, so that each of us might experience the favor of God. When God is with us, and indeed when Jesus comes to live in us, God's favor is within us and upon us. Jesus came through Mary so that all of us might understand that God's favor does not depend upon our merit, but upon God's gracious provisions. At Christmas God came to us that we might experience God's favor. We give to others, because God has given life, and everything we have, to us.

Have you experienced the favor of God? If not, turn to Him and open your heart to Him. Invite Jesus to come be born within your life. This happens as we believe what God tells us, and submit our lives to do His good will. God gave Jesus so that whosoever would believe in Him, would not perish but have everlasting life, living with God forever. As we give ourselves to God, He gives Himself to us, and we discover that wherever God is, there you will find His grace, His favor, His blessing.

Award-winning columnist Dr. Ed Jordan is pastor of Gwynn's Island Baptist Church. He can be reached at szent.edward@gmail.com.

CROSSWORD

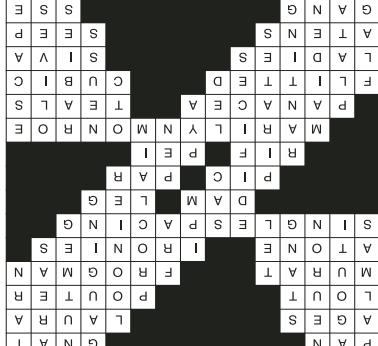
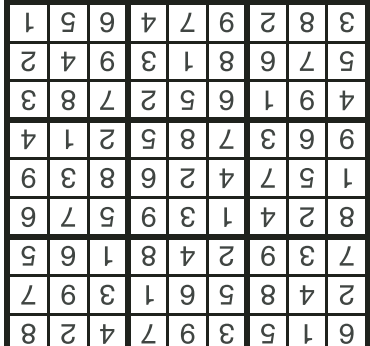
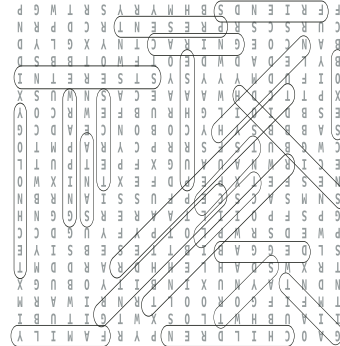


CLUES ACROSS

- You fry food in it
- Pesky insect
- Gets older
- ___ Dern, actress
- Uncouth man
- One who sulks
- Napoleon's king of Naples
- One who swims underwater
- Make amends
- Expressions
- Document format
- What a beaver makes
- Limb
- Photograph
- Golf score
- Moroccan mountain range
- Wrinkled dog breed: Shar ___
- 20th century sex symbol
- Remedy for all diseases
- Bluish greens
- Moved swiftly
- Type of units
- Madames
- Indian religious god
- Potentially hazardous asteroids
- Leak slowly through
- An association of criminals
- A way to push content (abbr.)

CLUES DOWN

- Town in central Brazil
- Large burrowing rodent
- Estimating
- Bakers use it
- Regions
- Small lake
- Environmentalist noun
- More kookie
- Announce officially
- Israeli city ___ Aviv
- Title given to friar
- Inches per minute (abbr.)
- Buildings
- Pouch
- They steal on the high seas
- It's mightier than the sword
- Going off on a tangent
- Monetary unit
- Young woman
- Type of bulb
- Type of drug (abbr.)
- City opposite Dusseldorf
- Animal disease
- Martini necessities
- Elude
- La ___, Buenos Aires capital
- An off-enduring symbol



GLIMPSES INTO THE PAST

To Newport News and back in the same evening!

100 YEARS AGO
Thursday, Dec. 8, 1921
from the Gloucester Gazette

Gloucester county people will be given an opportunity to attend a show in Newport News at least once a week and return to their homes the same night. The Newport News Retail Merchants' Association, which is seeking to get in closer touch with the people of Gloucester, has made arrangements for the York River ferry to furnish a late-night service at least once a week. These gentlemen operate most of the show houses here. Gloucester county people recently complained that they were unable to attend a show in this city without spending the night.

90 YEARS AGO
Thursday, Dec. 10, 1931
from the Gloucester Gazette

Dear Santa: Please bring me a desk and a chair, anything else you want to. Remember the little orphan children, be good to them. Don't forget mother and daddy and my grand-parents. Bring my teacher something nice. Your little girl, Margaret Wilson, Glenns

Dear Santa: I am writing to tell you what I would like to have for Christmas. I am 7 years old and would like to have a rain coat, a pair of wool gloves to wear to school, a football and some goodies. Remember my daddy who is at the Soldier's Home, bring him something, also mother. Don't forget anyone, Santa, look around good to see all the children. Your little boy, Martin Robins, Gloucester

Dear Santa Clause: I am a bad little boy. But I want you to bring me something any how. I want you to bring me a little row of trains, a car and a dump body truck, which has a string you can pull it by and I would like to have a leather football, for I want to be a

good football player when I grow up. And I want a pair of Sunday shoes, and a pair of socks, a neck tie, and a game of old maid cards, and a pretty hat for a little boy. I still love apples, oranges and nuts, so I hope I may also get some of them. From, Thomas Purcell, Pinetta

Dear Santa Claus: I am a little girl in the third grade. And dear Santa, this is what I want you to bring me. I want a little table and two chairs to go with it, a ring and a little sleigh. I also need a tablet and pencil, and dear Santa I forgot, please bring me a cute little cap. Remember my sisters and brothers, your little girl, Blanche Shackelford, Pinetta

80 YEARS AGO
Thursday, Dec. 11, 1941
from the Gazette-Journal

We are now at war with Japan and even before this goes to press, we may be further involved with the other powers of the Axis. We know that there is a question in the minds of every patriotic man and woman of the United States of America: What can I do to help in this "all out" effort?

Your country has need for your skill! Skilled workers are needed for defense jobs. Industry must have workers to supply our Army and Navy and Air Corps with necessary arms and ammunition. We need men behind the men behind the guns!

Even if you have registered with Employment Service, if you have failed to report and keep your registration active, contact them at once.

Beginning at once, the West Point local office, which serves this section, will undertake an intensive recruiting program.

A representative of this service will be at the following places on the date specified:

Gloucester County: Court

House, Gloucester, Wednesday, Dec. 17, 7-9 p.m.

Mathews County: Court House, Mathews, Thursday, Dec. 18, 7-9 p.m.

70 YEARS AGO
Thursday, Dec. 6, 1951
from the Gazette-Journal

The Gloucester County Board of Supervisors at their regular meeting on Thursday, Nov. 29, resolved that the Gloucester Junior Chamber of Commerce be permitted to use the Court House Green for Christmas decorations during the holidays, provided all decorations and lights are removed by them on or before Jan. 15, 1952.

60 YEARS AGO
Thursday, Dec. 7, 1961
from the Gazette-Journal

Long Bridge Ordinary, home of the Gloucester Woman's Club here, will not lose any of its grounds as a result of U.S. Route 17 dualization, a Gloucester group was advised earlier this week.

Minor design changes are being worked into plans for the project to avoid any damage to the club property which dates back to 1727, State Highway Commissioner H.H. Harris told a delegation from the Gloucester Village Business Association Tuesday in Richmond.

The club last month petitioned the State Highway Department to reconsider its plans to four-lane Route 17 to Edge Hill in Gloucester and to construct, instead, a by-pass route around Gloucester. The petition suggested a specific route, referring to a copy of a survey map in which several possible routes were marked. The route suggested would extend from Short Lane west of Gloucester, joining the existing Route 17 between Gloucester and Ark.

50 YEARS AGO
Thursday, Dec. 9, 1971
from the Gazette-Journal

Two large property tax payments for 1971 have been made to Gloucester and Mathews Counties by the two public utility companies operating in the area.

Virginia Electric and Power Company of Richmond, sent a check to the Gloucester County treasurer in the amount of \$28,908; Mathews received \$15,771.

Veeco is reported to be the state's largest taxpayer, with a total estimated tax bill for 1971 of \$2,906,000.

Tidewater Telephone Company of Warsaw paid \$22,219.99 to Gloucester and \$12,036.07 to Mathews, a company spokesman said.

These two companies are the largest individual taxpayers in Gloucester and Mathews, according to the treasurers of the counties.

40 YEARS AGO
Thursday, Dec. 10, 1981
from the Gazette-Journal

Two winter ski trips have been announced by the Gloucester Parks and Recreation Department.

A one-day trip to Wintergreen is planned for Jan. 22. The bus will leave Gloucester at 4:30 a.m. and depart from Wintergreen that evening at 5. The cost of this trip will be \$29 for adults and \$28 for students; for youth 12 and under the cost will be \$27. These fees do not include ski rentals or a lesson.

The department will also sponsor a two-day, two-night trip to Canaan Valley, from Feb. 19-21. It features two nights' lodging and two days' skiing. The cost will be \$127 per person with two in a room; \$117 per person with three in a room; and \$107 per person with four in a room. The fees

include room, transportation and lift tickets.

30 YEARS AGO
Thursday, Dec. 12, 1991
from the Gazette-Journal

The presentation of new county flags and the premiere showing of a video on Mathews were features of the Bicentennial Committee's final program last Friday night in Thomas Hunter School.

The flags were designed by county native Ida Trusch of Richmond, and manufactured by D & P Embroidery at Cobbs Creek. They were presented for use in county offices and the courthouse, Mathews High School, Thomas Hunter and Lee-Jackson schools, the school board office, and the Mathews Memorial Library. The presentations were made by John Warren Cooke of Mathews, former Speaker of the House of Delegates.

The color video, made by Winter Harbor Productions, featured comments by J. Martin Diggs, Shelly Rowe, Mildred P. Hudgins, Al Carpenter, Harold Foster, and Cooke. The film will be in the library for public viewing.

20 YEARS AGO
Thursday, Dec. 6, 2001
from the Gazette-Journal

A crew filming a documentary for Canada's History Channel was in Gloucester County on Friday, shooting footage

at Walter Reed's Birthplace in Belroi for a documentary titled "Yellow Jack."

Ceci Brown coordinated the filming on behalf of the property's owner, the Association for the Preservation of Virginia Antiquities. The program on Walter Reed and the Yellow Fever Commission should air in the spring. Walter Reed's Birthplace is located at the corner of Belroi and Hickory Fork roads and is open the last Saturday in April for Garden Week, the Sunday nearest his birthday in September and by appointment.

10 YEARS AGO
Thursday, Dec. 8, 2011
from the Gazette-Journal

Bethel Elementary School held its annual Science Fair for fourth and fifth grade students on Nov. 10. The fair displayed the work of 170 fourth and fifth grade participants and was well attended by Bethel students and parents.

Representatives from Jefferson Lab, National Oceanographic and Atmospheric Administration, NASA, and York River State Park also attended and provided hands-on science activities for students and their families.

Science fair winners were Lexzi Wright, Ethan Polley, Mackenzie Sullivan, Molly Trull, Tyler Safranek, Jeanette Henderson, Alayna Brown and Austin Serio.

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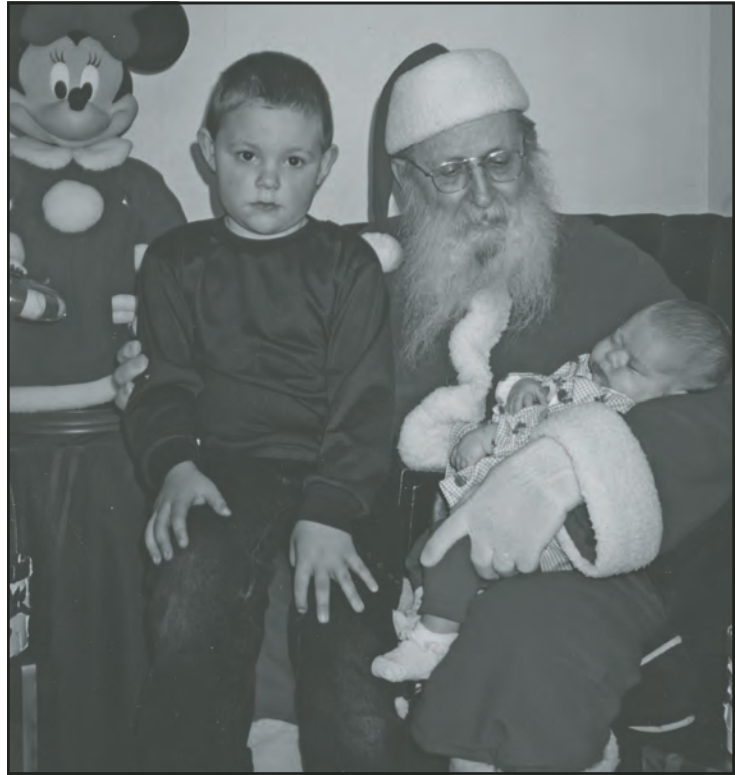
DO YOU REMEMBER?



FILE PHOTOS

Santa comes year after year

Tireless Santa Claus comes year after year to hear the wishes of children. In 1998, appearing at Gloucester Court House, Santa heard from Keyonna, Janice and Devante Anderson, clockwise from left; below, Thomas West and his baby sister Tabitha West had a moment with Mr. Claus.



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TYLER BASS / GAZETTE-JOURNAL

Kelsick Specialty Market will close its doors in a few weeks to relocate to a new location a few buildings down on Main Street in Gloucester. The shop, that sells food, beers, wine and other goods, is owned by Paige Williams, above.

Kelsick Specialty Market moving within Gloucester C.H.

BY TYLER BASS

Kelsick Specialty Market on Gloucester's Main Street is on the move, closing the doors of its current location in a few weeks to reopen a few buildings down.

Owner Paige Williams is excited about the move that will see the market reopen in the former location of Rev-It-Up, next to Courthouse Restaurant.

Williams said the move is a long-term investment in Kelsick. She said the new building offers almost double the space of the current location. She said the space and eventual ownership of the building will allow her to turn the market into what she's always dreamed it to be.

Williams said the move is a sign of Kelsick's success over the last few years. She

said the community has really blessed her and the market with its support, allowing the business to grow.

At the new location, customers will be able to sit down for lunch while enjoying beer and wine, said Williams. She said she looks forward to being able to pour and talk with customers who come in for lunch or just for drinks. The experience is what she's always wanted to offer and soon will be able to.

Williams said the new space will also have a new aesthetic. She said the new place will have more focus on seating and will have the space to better display local goods. She said the windows will be covered until then, so Kelsick customers will have to wait until the doors open to see the new look.

Kelsick shoppers have until

Christmas Eve to stock up on their favorite locally sourced beers, wines and other goods. After Christmas Eve, the doors on the current location will close for good.

Williams said as they prepare to move, some products will see fewer restocks. She'll try to sell as much stock as they can to aid in moving so she wants customers to be on the lookout for any potential sales.

Her hope is to be closed only for a month during the transition, but an official re-opening date has yet to be set.

Kelsick, originally called Kelsick Gardens, first opened its doors in 1992 at 6606 Main Street (the current location of Amedisys Home Health Care). In 2009, the business relocated to its current location at 6632 Main Street.

Miller's Services is looking for Hometown Heroes

Miller's Services has kicked off its second annual Hometown Heroes campaign.

In the spirit of giving, the home services company will be giving away a replacement heating and cooling system to bless a local hero and their family. "The company has a long-standing history of giving back to its community and looks forward to another opportunity to provide assistance to a local hero," a release stated.

Considering the chaos experienced in the last two years throughout the country, Miller's says it is especially grateful to be able to bless a deserving member of the local community during the holidays. "Our frontline workers have been hit extremely hard these

past two years, but they still got up every day, put a smile on their face, and found a way to make a difference. We want to recognize these great people and create a blessing for their family," said Miller's Services General Manager Ashley Miller.

Miller's Services is collecting nominations on its website through Dec. 15. The company is looking for local police, fire, EMS, first responders, military service members, teachers, or other community service personnel who have given back to the local community. An ideal candidate is local to the Middle Peninsula and exemplifies selflessness, integrity, and generosity to those around them.

Visit miller-sv.com/hometownhero to submit a nomination.



CHARLIE KOENIG / GAZETTE-JOURNAL

'Holiday on Main'

The Gloucester Main Street Association was open for business on Sunday as the group of Main Street business owners, residents, property owners and others welcomed visitors to Gloucester Village "Holiday on Main." The shops and restaurants were decked out for the season, taking part in the festive open house event. Of course, a highlight of the day was a chance to meet the Jolly Ol' Elf himself, who set up shop at Split Enz Salon. Members of the GMSA Board of Directors couldn't resist getting a photo with Santa Claus. Sitting on Santa's lap is Executive Director Jennifer Haggerty. Board members volunteering that day included, standing from left, Vonnie James, Katey Legg and chairman Nathan Hansen. Seated at right is Sam Smith, owner of the salon hosting the visit with Santa. Be sure to look for pictures of children (and others) with Santa Claus in the Gazette-Journal's Season's Greetings section on Dec. 23, which will also include letters to Santa.

BayPort Foundation raises nearly \$160,000 in its first year

In its first year, the BayPort Foundation has raised \$158,875 to support student scholarships and educational grants in the Greater Hampton Roads area.

This outcome was made possible by contributions of several individual long-standing credit union members and business partners. The inaugural BayPort Foundation Crawl'n' Crab Race Weekend also included funds from race participants, charitable donations, and its three official corporate sponsors: Cox Business/Cox Media, Newport News Shipbuilding, and Staples.

The foundation's first-year efforts permit the increase of its annual scholarship program to \$100,000 in tuition assistance to students of all ages attending an accredited college or university, trade, or vocational school.

For the 2022-2023 academic year, the foundation will offer 10 different scholarship types to member students ranging from high school seniors, college students, and full-time working adults going back to school.

In addition, the foundation has introduced its newest scholarships: the Donald I. Steppe Memorial Scholarship and the McGee Family Scholarship. Both are family gifts as inaugural donors to the BayPort Foundation Legacy

Giving Program, which honors those who share BayPort's commitment and philanthropic efforts.

The Steppe Scholarship is a \$2,000 one-time scholarship awarded annually to a Thomas Nelson Community College graduate pursuing a baccalaureate degree at a four-year college or university. The McGee Scholarship is a \$2,000 one-time scholarship awarded annually to a student attending the Thomas Nelson Community College Early Childhood Development program.

"The success of our first-year fundraising is a testament that acknowledges BayPort's longtime supporters. Philanthropy is more critical today than it has ever been," said BayPort President/CEO and foundation chair Jim Mears. "We are deeply grateful to our business partners and board members. Without this community support, the foundation's mission would not be possible."

As the philanthropic arm of BayPort Credit Union, the Foundation is an extension of the credit union's charitable giving. BayPort Credit Union commits more than half a million dollars in annual corporate donations and pays all the foundation's overhead to ensure that 100 percent of foundation donations support its mission.

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THE PUBLIC RECORD

LAND TRANSFERS GLOUCESTER

The following deeds were recorded in the Clerk's Office of Gloucester Circuit Court during the period Nov. 24-Dec. 1:

Fannie Mae to Fari R&R LLC, 0.3 acre, Abingdon, \$70,000.

The Secretary of Housing and Urban Development to Robert L. Wrenn, et al, 3.2249 acres, Parcel 2, Abingdon, \$100,100.

James E. Morris, et al, trustees, to Brian Wayne Spikes, Lot 23, Section A, Chiskiaka Village, \$270,000.

Tracy A. Whitaker III, et al, to Kristi Lane Jenkins, 0.9469 acre, Parcel A, Abingdon, \$242,000.

Gary A. Coggins, et al, to Dawn H. Coggins, et al, trustees, Lot 4, Riverwatch, Section 3, Phase 1, Petsworth, gift.

William H. Girard, et al, to William H. Girard, 1.66 acres, Lot 2, Callahan Village, Petsworth, gift.

NVR Inc. to Carl V. Yutzy, trustee, Lot 87, Phase 2, Main Street Landing, \$332,775.

Carol Jenkins Gunn, et al, to Michael Anthony Shaffer, et al, trustees, Lot 1, York, \$110,000.

James J. Fogarty, et al, to Brent R. Johnson, et al, 3.059 acres, Ware, gift.

Alice Vernell Jones to April M. Garrett, Lot 4, Section 3, Millwood Subdivision, Petsworth, \$315,000.

John F. Baxter, trustee, to Pauline A. Bailey, Unit 2505, Building, 25, Dockside Condominium, Phase 2, York, \$217,500.

Bruce D. Dunlap to Vince Lima, 0.41 acre, Robinson's Spring Subdivision, Ware, \$212,500.

NVR Inc. to Nelson F. Pena Sr., et al, Lot 89, Phase 2, Main Street Landing, \$323,270.

Main Street Landing, LLC to NVR, Inc., Lots 108 and 109, Phase 2, Main Street Landing, \$340,000.

Peter L. Foley to Christopher D. Smith, 5.5 acres, Lot 2, Section L, Marlfield Farms, \$260,000.

Shawn Tyler Middlebrook to Shawn Tyler Middlebrook, et al, 5.6152 acres, Lot 2, Ware, gift.

Donna Rena Stall to Shannon Magdalene Karnes, Lot 9, White Marsh Subdivision, Abingdon, \$175,000.

Kyle Austin Booker to Julia V. Springer, 1.228 acres, Parcel 2-A, Abingdon, \$17,000.

Charles Douglas Harris II, et al, to Joseph Lee Durham, 0.246 acre, Lot 27, Ware, \$359,900.

Cascio Properties, LLC to William J. Longan Jr., et al, Unit 0302, Building 3, Dockside Condominium, Phase 1, York, \$247,500.

Mallory Fallon Peebles, et al, to Jason Keating, Lot 6, Petsworth, \$45,000. NVR Inc. to Nelson Fernando Pena, et al, Lot 90, Phase 2, Main Street Landing, \$332,115.

Mary R. Hudgins to Virginia Robinson, 2.52 acres, Abingdon, \$30,000.

MATHEWS

The following deeds were recorded recently in Mathews Circuit Court:

Cynthia Edmonds Kloeke, executrix, to Wasel Akbary Sayed, et al, Parcel One: 1.353 acres and Parcel Two: 0.44 acre, Westville, \$599,000.

Mary K. Olson to Mary K. Olson, et al, co-trustees, Lot 3: 0.325 acre and Lot 4: 0.67 acre, Piankatank, no consideration.

Mark E. Eubank, et al, to Gregory A. Lewis, et al, trustees, Parcel One: Parcel C, 0.887 acre and Parcel Two: Parcel C-1, 0.231 acre, Gwynn's Island, Piankatank, \$90,500.

William S. Edwards, et al, to William Concepcion, et al, 4.838 acres, Gwynn's Island, Piankatank, \$16,000.

Andrew M. Neville, special commissioner, on behalf of Mark Sumner, to Shea Kersey, 3.89 acres, Westville, \$11,050.

Deanna W. Struk to Cascio Properties LLC, 0.9 acre, Piankatank, \$380,000.

Olivia Marie Hogge to Kyle Davis, 5 acres, Lot 2, Piankatank, \$249,900.

Christopher J. Reading, et al, to John J. Larson, et al, 4 acres, Gwynn's Island, Piankatank, \$743,000.

CIRCUIT COURT GLOUCESTER

The following cases were heard recently in Gloucester Circuit Court:

Artis Trevon Starks, 27, 7044 Bray Road, Hayes, was sentenced to two years in the state penitentiary, with one year, nine months suspended for the felony conviction of possess Schedule I/II controlled substance.

Van Douglas Greene, 35, 9447 Maryus Road, Hayes, found guilty of felony charge of possess Schedule I/II controlled substance. Sentencing is set for Feb. 28, 2022 at 9:30 a.m.

Travis Scott Nicholas, 32, 8031 Willis Road, Gloucester, felony charge of make a materially false statement on a consent form was amended to a misdemeanor. The defendant pleaded guilty and was found guilty of the amended charge and sentenced to 12 months' jail with 10 months suspended.

William Bain Carter, 43, 7408 Featherbed Lane, Gloucester, pleaded guilty to a felony charge of destruction of property. The court withheld a judgment. The defendant was placed on probation, to be of good behavior for 12 months and ordered to pay \$500 in restitution within six months. If the defendant complies with all of the terms, at the end of said one-year period the charge shall be dismissed.

Dennis John Miller, 38, 10158 Deer Trace Lane, Gloucester, pleaded guilty to a felony charge of possess Schedule I/II controlled substance. The court withheld a judgment. The defendant was placed on probation for one year and ordered to comply with a number of conditions, including performing 100 hours of community service work. If all of the conditions have been met, the court shall dismiss the charge at the end of said one-year period.

Patrick Vincent Ford Jr., 52, Newark, Del., pleaded guilty and was found guilty of felony charge of obtain money by false pretense or token. Sentencing is set for Feb. 28, 2022 at 9:30 a.m. Pursuant to a plea agreement, a felony charge of forgery/uttering was nolle prossed and removed from the court docket.

Melissa Ann Miller, 33, Toano, pleaded guilty to a felony charge of possess a Schedule I/II controlled substance. The court withheld a judgment.

ment. The defendant was placed on probation for one year and ordered to comply with a number of conditions, including performing 100 hours of community service work. If all of the conditions have been met, the court shall dismiss the charge at the end of said one-year period.

Steven Ray Rose, 40, Shackelfords, pleaded guilty to a felony charge of possess Schedule I/II controlled substance. The court withheld a judgment. The defendant was placed on probation for one year and ordered to comply with a number of conditions, including performing 100 hours of community service work. If all of the conditions have been met, the court shall dismiss the charge at the end of said one-year period. The defendant also pleaded guilty and was found guilty of a misdemeanor charge of possess fictitious license plates. The defendant was sentenced to three months' jail; all suspended.

Kathryn Louise Baxley, 30, 125 The Love Lane, Mathews, pleaded guilty to a felony charge of assault and battery law enforcement officer and misdemeanor charge of trespassing after forbidden. The case is continued to March 22, 2022 at 9:30 for consideration of a pre-sentence report.

Patrick Michael Konkright, 46, Heathsville, felony charge of make a materially false statement on a consent form was amended to false report to police (misdemeanor). The defendant pleaded guilty and was found guilty of the amended charge and sentenced to 12 months' jail, all suspended. The defendant was also ordered to not possess a firearm until his rights have been restored by the court.

DISTRICT COURT GLOUCESTER

The following cases were heard in Gloucester General District Court on Dec. 1-2:

Maria Fernanda Coes, Hampton, Driving While Intoxicated, \$250 fine and \$216 costs, 90 days' jail, operator's license suspended one year; imposition of 90-day jail sentence suspended upon successful completion of ASAP.

Crystal Gail Hubbard, 6711 Lemburn Lane, Hayes, fail to comply with terms of LP&PS, \$120 costs and 10 months of previously suspended jail sentence revoked; nine months, seven days of sentence resuspended. Also, fail to appear, \$251 costs and five days' jail. Also, fail to comply with terms of LP&PS, seven months of previously suspended jail sentence revoked and resuspended.

Robert Michael Huch, 8460 George Washington Memorial Highway, Gloucester, fail to comply with terms of LP&PS, 12 months of previously suspended jail sentence revoked and resuspended.

Noah Myers, no fixed address, Gloucester, fail to appear, \$216 costs and 30 days' jail. Also, shoplifting, \$566 costs and 60 days' jail; 56 days of jail sentence suspended. Also, fail to appear, \$216 costs and 10 days' jail. Also, fail to appear, \$216 costs and five days' jail. Also, provide false ID to law enforcement, \$160 costs and six months' jail; five months of jail sentence suspended. Also, possess drug paraphernalia, \$160 costs and 90 days' jail; jail sentence suspended.

Xaviah DeJuane Payne-Dixon, 6936 Crocus Road, Hayes, fail to keep the peace and be of good behavior, \$120 costs and 56 days of previously suspended jail sentence revoked.

Kenneth Dobson Rowe, 2205 Cooks Landing Road, Hayes, fail to report to jail, \$130 costs and 11 months of previously suspended jail sentence revoked and resuspended.

Matthew David Seitz, 5371 Paige Road, Gloucester, fail to register, reregister or verify registration, or knowingly provide false information to the Sex Offender and Crimes Against Minors Registry, \$216 costs and 12 months' jail; jail sentence suspended.

Perry R. White, 3385 Toms Hill Road, Saluda, threaten an illegal or immoral act over telephone, \$250 fine and \$251 costs, 12 months' jail; nine months of jail sentence suspended. Appeal noted.

Anthony Gathuru Nganga, Williamsburg, reckless driving, \$2,500 fine and \$111 costs, operator's license suspended 180 days.

Robert Norman Oxley, Providence Forge, drive after license revoked/suspended, \$100 fine and \$251 costs, 180 days' jail, operator's license suspended 60 days; 170 days of jail sentence suspended.

SHERIFF'S REPORT GLOUCESTER

The following felony crimes were recently reported by the Gloucester Sheriff's Office:

At 7:10 a.m. Sunday, a firearm was reported taken from a vehicle. The owner advised a Beretta 950 .25 caliber handgun was discovered missing on Dec. 1 and it was unknown where the theft occurred. There was no sign of forced entry to the vehicle.

At 3:57 a.m. on Dec. 1, deputies responded to a business alarm at the Stop & Go convenience store in the 1500 block of Route 17. The front glass door was shattered and a quarter gaming machine had its glass broken out and an undisclosed amount of currency was taken from the machine.

The following incidents were also reported by the GSO:

Assault: At 10:30 p.m. Saturday, deputies responded to a domestic assault between an adult brother and a juvenile sibling at their shared residence in the 8000 block of Kitchener Drive. The 27-year-old adult brother was arrested for assault and battery of a family member.

Larceny: At 3:11 a.m. Monday, a clerk at the 7-Eleven in the 5100 block of Route 17 rang up merchandise and placed it in a bag for a male customer. The customer then grabbed the bag, fled the store, got into the passenger side of a white SUV which then headed south on Route 17; On Dec. 1, Walmart loss prevention personnel observed a female allegedly not scanning all of her items at a self-checkout before exiting past all points of sale. The 32-year-old woman of Edinburg, Virginia, was located on scene and issued a summons for shoplifting. The items taken were valued at \$286.33.

Fraud: A fraud victim reported wiring funds from a checking account on Dec. 1 to another financial institution, believing they were

sending funds to the closing agent for the purchase of a new home. The funds were not received by the agent and were deposited into a different financial institution and account. The case is under investigation.

Counterfeit currency: A counterfeit \$50 bill was reportedly passed at the 7-Eleven in the 14000 block of Route 17 on Nov. 29.

Damaged property: At 10:30 a.m. on Saturday, three of the four tires on a vehicle were reported slashed overnight while the vehicle was parked at a residence in the 7000 block of T.C. Walker Road; At 6:42 a.m. last Thursday, a deputy responded to a damaged property report of a vehicle parked on the side of the road in front of a residence in the 7000 block of Laurie Lane. The vehicle was stuck by another vehicle overnight causing

approximately \$1,200 in damage to the driver's side rear bumper.

MATHEWS

The Mathews County Sheriff's Office reported the following incidents that occurred during the past week.

On Thursday, Dec. 2, a resident reported the theft of tools from his home in the 4600 block of Buckley Hall Road. A suspect has been identified, and charges are pending.

On Sunday, Dec. 5, deputies responded to a report of an assault in the 1600 block of Old Ferry Road. Upon arrival, they located both suspects involved. Witness statements and evidence at the scene resulted in a

40-year-old female resident of the 3800 block of Old Ferry Road being arrested and charged with assault. She was released on bond.

Anyone with information about these or other crimes in Mathews is asked to call Crime Solvers at 804-725-7001. All calls are anonymous and could result in a reward if information provided leads to an arrest, the recovery of stolen property, or the seizure of illegal drugs.

FIRE REPORT ABINGDON

Abingdon Volunteer Fire and Rescue responded to 60 calls during the period Nov. 29-Dec. 5, as follows: 43 medical calls, seven public assists, four

motor vehicle accidents, three brush fires, one mutual aid to GVFRS, one fire alarm, and one hazmat call (diesel spill on roadway).

GLOUCESTER

Gloucester Volunteer Fire and Rescue responded to 82 calls during the period Nov. 21-27 as follows: 66 medical; seven motor vehicle accidents, four fire alarms, two public assist calls, one brush fire, one structure fire, and one fire/other.

MATHEWS

Dec. 3, 4:06 p.m., public service, Old Ferry Road, Gwynn's Island, one engine.

Dec. 5, 10:02 a.m., structure fire, 3100 block of Buckley Hall Road, Cobbs Creek, three engines and one tanker.



KIM ROBINS / GAZETTE-JOURNAL

Shop with a Cop

The Middle Peninsula Classic Cruisers car club recently donated \$1,616 to the Shop with a Cop program in Gloucester. The club took in the money during its SWAC car show in November at Walmart. Shown, from left, are MPCC Treasurer Ed Smith, MPCC President Tony Saccaro, Steve Perry of SWAC, MPCC member Red Mahaffey, Jamie Williams of SWAC and Gloucester Sheriff's Office Deputy Tim Kurr.

Motorist drives wrong way on Rt. 14 during pursuit

A 57-year-old Hampton man was arrested in Gloucester last Wednesday, Dec. 1, after leading state police and Mathews deputies on a chase that included driving the wrong way on Route 14.

According to a press release from Sgt. Michelle Anaya of the Virginia State Police, the chase began at approximately 3:57 p.m., when a trooper attempted to make

a traffic stop on a 2013 Dodge Caravan for no inspection. The vehicle refused to pull over, and a pursuit was initiated, traveling eastbound on Route 14 at the Mathews/Gloucester county line.

During the pursuit, Mathews County Sheriff's Office attempted to assist in stopping the vehicle, said the release, but the driver continued eastbound, then turned around into the west-

bound lanes and entered the divided highway on the wrong side, at which point state police terminated the pursuit.

However, the Mathews Sheriff's Office continued the pursuit and stopped the vehicle on Route 14, west of Field Family Lane, approximately 2.5 miles west of the county line. State police then took custody of the driver.

Upon inspection, it was

found that the vehicle did display an inspection sticker, said the release, but it was allegedly a counterfeit copy.

The suspect was arrested on charges of felony eluding, possession of Schedule II narcotics, driving while suspended, driving under the influence of drugs, and counterfeit inspection, said the release. He was taken to the Gloucester County jail.

4 traffic fatalities in Virginia over holiday

Over the 2021 Thanksgiving statistical counting period, there were four fatal vehicle accidents in Virginia. This is the lowest number of traffic fatalities during Thanksgiving in more than a decade.

The statistical counting period began at 12:01 a.m. Wednesday, Nov. 24 and concluded at midnight on Sunday, Nov. 28. The fatal crashes occurred in Albemarle, Chesterfield, Fairfax and Spotsylvania counties. Of those crashes, one involved a pedestrian and another was not wearing a seatbelt. This is a decrease from 2020 when there were 12 traffic fatalities dur-

ing the five-day counting period.

State troopers also cited 5,127 speeders and 1,565 reckless drivers. They also arrested 65 drivers for driving under the influence of alcohol and/or drugs and cited 477 drivers for failing to buckle up themselves and/or juvenile passengers.

State police responded to 1,273 traffic crashes across the commonwealth, with 139 of those resulting in injuries. They also assisted 1,151 disabled or stranded motorists during the Thanksgiving weekend.

Regular septic pump-outs required in Gloucester

With the holidays in full swing, Gloucester County officials are encouraging residents to make sure they complete the necessary regular maintenance on their septic systems.

Both Virginia Code and Gloucester County's Chesapeake Bay Preservation Ordinance Sec. 5.5-9(b)(5) specify that all on-site sewage disposal systems be pumped out at least once every five years.

According to Gloucester's Environmental Program Manager Kevin Landry, research has shown that failing septic systems contribute considerable amounts of pollution to groundwater and the Chesapeake Bay and its tributaries. By having one's septic tanks pumped before it is full, the number of solids leaving the septic tanks and migrat-

ing into the drain field is greatly reduced, allowing the drain field to function as designed for a much greater length of time.

To have your system pumped out or inspected, contact any sewage handler licensed to operate within Virginia.

Landry added that regular pump-outs not only protect the environment, but also protects public health. "A full or poorly maintained septic system can cause contaminants to spread onto your property, putting you and your pets at risk for disease," Landry said.

Regular pump-outs also allow the system to operate more efficiently, saving the owner money. For example, a septic tank with too much sludge cannot process wastewater effectively or efficiently. The system becomes imbalanced and can fail. Then, replacement of a failed tank can

be both costly and inconvenient.

Aside from regular pump-outs, Landry offers several other tips to avoid overloading your septic system during the holiday season. He suggests staggering use of water-based appliances during the holiday season. He also said to avoid putting food waste down the drain and to stay away from pouring cooking

grease and oil down the drain. Finally, he suggests not flushing items other than toilet paper down the toilet.

For more information regarding this, or other requirements of the Chesapeake Bay Preservation Ordinance, contact Ron Owens, Chesapeake Bay Programs Administrator in the Environmental Programs office at 804-693-1217 or rowens@gloucesterva.info.

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A lengthier, but average dead zone recorded in Chesapeake Bay in 2021

Chesapeake Bay Program partners released information on Nov. 30 on the state of the 2021 Chesapeake Bay “dead zone.”

While last year’s dead zone was the second smallest observed since 1985, this year’s assessment paints a more complex picture of the bay’s health.

Throughout the year, researchers track bay oxygen conditions using a variety of methods. Oxygen and nutrient levels are measured as part of the Chesapeake Bay Monitoring Program, a bay-wide effort involving watershed jurisdictions, several federal agencies, 10 academic institutions and over 30 scientists. Among these institutions, the Maryland Department of Natural Resources, Virginia Department of Environmental Quality and Old Dominion University conduct nine cruises between May and October to track summer hypoxia in the bay. Results from each monitoring cruise can be accessed through the Eyes on the Bay website for the Maryland portion of the bay and the VECOS website for the Virginia portion. Scientists at the Virginia Institute of Marine Science, in collaboration with Anchor QEA, use computer models combined with local weather information, to produce daily real-time estimates of dead zone size throughout the summer.

Based on the nine monitoring cruises conducted between May and October 2021, the Maryland DNR assessed that the dead zone was only slightly below average in 2021. On the other hand, the model simulations provided by the Virginia Institute of Marine Science and Anchor QEA indicated that the dead zone was slightly more extensive than average, largely due to the duration of the dead zone in 2021. However, both estimates suggest a near-average sized dead zone for this year.

“Monitoring of hypoxia and other Chesapeake Bay

water quality and habitat conditions provide valuable data to assess and improve the health of the bay,” said Mark Trice, chief of the Water Quality Informatics Branch at Maryland DNR. “Maryland and its Chesapeake Bay Program partners are working towards achieving nutrient and sediment pollution reduction goals that will provide improved habitat for iconic species such as crabs, oysters and rockfish, while fostering a robust economy that those bay resources support.”

This year’s assessment confirms the earlier forecast of a slightly smaller than average dead zone, due to reduced spring rainfall and less nutrient-rich runoff flowing into the Chesapeake from the watershed. Since 2007, a model developed by the University of Michigan has been used to forecast the volume of summer hypoxia for the mainstem of the Chesapeake based on the amount of nitrogen pollution flowing into the bay from the Susquehanna River from the previous January-May. The model is informed by data provided by the Chesapeake Bay Program, MD DNR, VA DEQ and U.S. Geological Survey.

“The general agreement between the multiple methods used to assess the size of this summer’s dead zone is reassuring,” said Dr. Marjy Friedrichs, VIMS research professor. “The relatively average dead zone size, despite warming summer temperatures, is a testament to the success of management actions that have reduced nutrients entering the bay.”

Weather conditions play a large role in the size and duration of the annual dead zone. Below average river flows, due to less springtime rainfall bringing nutrients and sediment into the bay, is believed to have played a role in the smaller than average dead zone noted during monitoring cruises conducted from May through July. However, due to calm winds, increased precipitation and warm tem-

peratures throughout the late summer 2021, conditions were perfect for the dead zone to grow larger than it had during this time than in previous years. For example, temperatures in August and September were recorded as the fifth hottest on record for those months in Maryland, according to the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration’s National Centers for Environmental Information. Despite the short-lived high winds and cool temperatures associated with the passage of Hurricane Ida remnants, the September dead zone remained above average in size throughout the month and well into October. Overall, the 2021 dead zone lasted longer than 89 percent of those recorded over the past 36 years.

The primary way in which nutrients can enter the bay is through the tributaries in its watershed. Higher river flows bring increased amounts of nutrient pollution into the bay. Despite lower flows in spring 2021, the U.S. Geological Survey reported that the average for the water year (measured from Oct. 1, 2020 to Sept. 30, 2021) was higher than normal, with flows entering the bay at an average of 84,880 cubic feet per second, which is above the long-term average of 79,000 cubic feet per second. Estimates of river flow and nutrients entering the bay can be accessed on the U.S. Geological Survey’s website.

The dead zone is an area of little to no oxygen that forms in deep bay waters when excess nutrients, including both nitrogen and phosphorus, enter the water through polluted runoff and feed naturally-occurring algae. This drives the growth of algae blooms, which eventually die and decompose, removing oxygen from the surrounding waters faster than it can be replenished. This creates low-oxygen—or hypoxic—conditions at the bottom of the bay. Plant and animal life are often unable to survive in this environment, which is why the area is referred to as a “dead zone.”

“This year’s estimate of the Chesapeake’s “dead zone” illustrates the challenge between Chesapeake Bay Program management actions and climate change that brings increased rainfall volume and river flows,” said Michelle Price-Fay, acting director of the Environmental Protection Agency’s Chesapeake Bay Program Office. “While the long-term trend is toward a reduction in hypoxia due to management actions taken throughout the watershed and airshed, warming from climate change is a headwind that may increase hypoxia’s duration and extent,” said Price-Fay.



PHOTO BY WOLFGANG VOGELBEIN

Christmas on the farm

The barns at the Hickory Fork Road home of Joy Klein, the homeplace of Howard and Betty Leigh, are decked out for the holidays.



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