

GARDENING CORNER | FROM GLOUCESTER MASTER GARDENERS

Holiday shopping for that special gardener

BY SUSAN CAMP

We have just about cleared the refrigerator of Thanksgiving leftovers, so tonight we will eat supper at our favorite Italian restaurant. The last of the turkey and dressing is a cue for me to begin thinking seriously about holiday shopping. Neither of our sons is a gardener, but I have gardening friends, as I am certain you have, as well. Gardeners love to receive special gadgets and decorative items that they wouldn't purchase for themselves, so I have once again catalog-shopped to find some interesting gift ideas for the special gardener on my holiday list. Some prices are a little higher this year, but online specials can be found on every site.

I discovered some attractive recycled rubber stepping stones on one website. They come in sets of three, so they would make a pretty accent for a small bed. The stepping stones are 11¼ inches in diameter and come in two different patterns. The hummingbird design is currently on sale for \$35.95, and the scrollwork design, which has a metallic finish, costs \$39.95.

If your gardener friend enjoys watching hummingbirds (and who doesn't?), a red glass feeder that attaches to a window by a suction cup would make an ideal gift. Place it on a kitchen window, and savor that morning cup of coffee while watching the jewel-like birds flit and buzz around the feeder. The cost is \$34.95.

For gardening in cold weather, stretch fleece socks for men and women in bright colors and patterns will keep a gardener's feet warm and dry. The socks are mid-calf high and can be worn with shoes or boots. The price is reasonable at \$20.95 per pair.

A practical gift for the record-keeping gardener is a plastic rain gauge for \$17.95. The tube is 20½ inches tall with large numbers and a red float, making it easy to read from a distance. The gauge will measure up to 5 inches of rain. The company recommends taking the gauge inside during the winter.

A more whimsical rain gauge has a glass tube and a polystone frog holding an umbrella to keep him dry. This gauge also measures up to 5 inches of rain. The cost is \$26.95.

For the gardener who likes to keep the beds and borders tidy, a Cape Cod weeder might be the perfect tool. The carbon steel blade resists bending and will reach into narrow spaces to extract undesirable greenery. The ash wood handle is 12 inches long, and with the blade, the total length of the tool is 16 inches. This Cape Cod weeder costs \$21.50.

A gardener's seat and tool caddy for \$46 would be a welcome gift for anyone with back or joint problems. The steel and nylon stool folds for storage or transport around the garden. The detachable nylon tool caddy has 21 pockets and an open interior space.

Every year, I mention nitrile gardening gloves to protect hands and fingernails when weeding or working in the garden. The gloves are \$7.99 per pair on most gardening websites, but you can often get two pairs for \$6 to \$6.99 a pair if you order more than one.

This year, I am adding two new items for hand and arm protection. First, a pair of floral cotton and spandex gardening gloves that reach to mid-arm and secure at the wrist. The palm fingers are reinforced with faux leather. At \$34 per pair, they are pricier than the nitrile gloves, but offer increased protection. The gloves come in small, medium, and large



Eagles found a meal in an abandoned osprey nest last week, in this photo by Linda Tjossem, who also caught the full moon rising over the marsh Monday evening.



Camellia in bloom, sent by Cheryl Battle, Bavan.



Winterberry, Ilex Verticillata, at Providence, sent by Jim McKinnon of Cobbs Creek.



Roses Pinkerbelle, Leonardo Da Vinci and The Poet's Wife from Yana Hare's garden in Hayes; and a rose without a name, but still as sweet.



End of pool season and the last of geraniums for this year at the home of Bruce and Shelba Williams in Hayes.

Toward winter

Beautiful flowers remained before the hard frost, and nature sang with eagles and a big moon. Please send your photos to editor@gazette-journal.net.

Fabulous treats will greet you at King's Daughters Open House

BY BETTY WRENN DAY

After an undesired two-year recess (2020-2021) the Ware River Circle of The King's Daughters and Sons is in the second year of reviving a 34-year tradition: providing a fantastic Christmas treat. It's a very special event that financially benefits the Children's Hospital of The King's Daughters, the entire community of Gloucester, and each ticket holder.

Christmas Open House "A Colrairie Christmas Celebration" is being held Tuesday, Dec. 12 with four sessions: 12 to 1; 1:30 to 2:30; 3 to 4; 4:30 to 5:30.

In 1896, this Circle was organized with 10 members stating a three-fold purpose: education, philanthropy, and religion. Could these founding ladies have conceived where the Circle would be 127 years later?

In 2023, upholding these ideals, Ware River Circle with 50 members is "closing in on completing our \$100,000.00 pledge to the Children's Hospital of The King's Daughters" (CHKD), its major beneficiary. Thus far since July, 62 Gloucester newborns through young adults were admitted at CHKD. Other local charities are not overlooked. These include the local fire departments, Samaritan Group, college scholarships, Gloucester-Mathews Care Clinic, and GUEST.

On Wilson Creek sits historic Colrairie, the home of Bobby and Pam Hatten. It will be festively decorated with beautiful floral pieces for Christmas Open House. The buffet table will offer culinary specials and refreshing libations. The

following recipes are but a few of the spread that will include ham biscuits, tea sandwiches, and smoked salmon, all made by Circle members.

With the support of the entire membership, which Jane Smith serves as president, the events committee presented a preview of what foods would be served at Colrairie: Leslie Belvin as chairman; Cindy Saulman as co-chairman, Pam Driggs as food chairman; with Marilyn Muron Dutton serving on the committee and Virginia Evans as publicity chairman.

Help this energetic Circle to meet its goal of \$34,000. And enjoy some of its wonderful recipes here.

OATMEAL KRISPIES

1 c. shortening  
¾ c. brown sugar  
2 eggs  
1 tsp. vanilla  
1½ c. flour  
1 tsp. soda  
1 tsp. salt  
3 c. uncooked oats  
1 6-oz. pkg. chocolate chips  
½ c. coconut  
½ c. chopped pecans  
Cream shortening. Add sugar and beat until fluffy. Add eggs and vanilla; beat well. Combine flour, soda and salt and add to creamed mixture; mix well. Stir in remaining ingredients. Drop by teaspoonful onto greased cookie sheet. Bake at 350°F. for 10 to 12 minutes. Remove to wire rack to cool.

FRUITCAKE COOKIES

3 c. chopped pecans  
1 8-oz. pkg. chopped dates  
1 8-oz. pkg. candied pineapple, chopped  
1 4-oz. pkg. candied red cherries, chopped  
1 4-oz. pkg. candied green cherries, chopped  
2 c. all-purpose flour,



The Open House is brought to you by committee members, from left, Marilyn Muron Dutton, Virginia Evans, Cindy Saulman, Leslie Belvin, hostess owner Colrairie Pam Hatten, Jane Smith and Pam Driggs; not pictured, Tina McManus, floral designer.

divided  
½ c. butter or margarine, softened  
1 c. firmly packed brown sugar  
2 eggs  
1 tsp. baking soda  
2 Tbs. buttermilk  
½ tsp. ground cinnamon  
½ tsp. ground allspice  
½ tsp. ground nutmeg  
2 Tbs. rum or wine

Combine first 5 ingredients in a large mixing bowl; add 1 c. flour stirring to coat well. Set aside. Cream butter in a large mixing bowl; add sugar beating well. Add eggs beating until well blended. Dissolve soda in buttermilk. Combine remaining flour, cinnamon, allspice and nutmeg. Add to creamed mixture alternately with buttermilk mixture and rum beginning and ending with flour mixture. Stir in fruit mixture. Drop by heaping teaspoonfuls 2-inches apart onto lightly greased cookie sheets. Bake at 325°F. for 12 minutes or until lightly browned. Remove from cookie sheets and

cool on wire racks.

SANDIES

1 c. butter or margarine  
½ c. granulated sugar  
2 tsp. vanilla  
2 tsp. water  
2 c. all-purpose flour  
1 c. chopped pecans  
¼ c. powdered sugar  
Beat butter for 30 seconds; add granulated sugar and beat till fluffy. Add vanilla and 2 tsp. water; beat well. Stir in flour and pecans. Shape into 1-inch balls or 1½ x ½ inch fingers. Place on ungreased cookie sheet. Bake in a 325°F. oven for about 20 minutes. Cool completely. Gently shake a few cookies at a time in a bag with powdered sugar. Makes 36.

HERSHEY'S WHITE CHIP CHOCOLATE COOKIES

1 c. (2 sticks) butter or margarine  
2 c. sugar  
2 eggs  
2 tsp. vanilla extract  
2 c. all-purpose flour

¾ c. Hershey's cocoa  
1 tsp. baking soda  
½ tsp. salt  
1 ⅓ c. (10-oz. pkg.) Hershey's Premier White Chips  
Heat oven to 350°F. Beat butter and sugar in a large bowl until creamy. Add eggs and vanilla; beat until fluffy. Stir together flour, cocoa, baking soda and salt. Gradually blend into butter mixture. Stir in white chips. Drop by rounded teaspoons onto ungreased cookie sheets. Bake 8 to 9 minutes. (Do not over-bake; cookies will be soft. They will puff while baking and flatten upon cooling.) Cool slightly; remove from cookie sheets to wire racks. Cool completely.

HEATH BITS PEANUT BUTTER COOKIES

½ c. shortening  
¾ c. Reese's creamy peanut butter  
1¼ c. packed light brown sugar  
3 Tbs. milk

SEE OPEN HOUSE, PAGE 2B



Stuffing Christmas stockings

The York River Circle of The King's Daughters and Sons stuffed stockings for Social Services to distribute to children in the community during its meeting on Nov. 14 at Providence Baptist Church in Gloucester. Shown, above left, from left, are Circle treasurer Louise Klebitz, who made the stockings, Sharon McGlohn and Circle president Vicki Wolz. At right are Alan Harvey, Barbara McDermott (in front), Ann Byrd, Evelyn King, Marvin Brown and Jean Brown.

SEE GIFTS, PAGE 2B



Ware River Circle to raffle off dollhouse

Among the many attractions at the Ware River Circle's Open House on Dec. 12 is a chance to win its own Christmas house, raffling off a dollhouse which stands 2½' tall x 2' 8" wide.

The two-story, all-wood dollhouse has eight rooms and is partially furnished. The raffle winner does not have to be present to win. The winning raffle ticket will be drawn on the day of the Christmas Open House event.

Tickets are \$5 for one or \$20 for five tickets and proceeds benefit the Children's Hospital of The King's Daughters. Jane Worthington, who donated the dollhouse, will be on Gloucester's Main Street near Edward Jones Investments on both Saturday and Sunday, weather permitting, selling tickets and providing information about the raffle.

Tickets for the Open House are \$35 and sold at



WRCKDS member Jane Worthington is donating the dollhouse for the raffle and then donating the proceeds to CHKD.

the Silver Box in Gloucester Court House and Hallmark at Gloucester Point. Sessions are held from noon to 1 p.m., 1:30-2:30 p.m., 3-4 p.m. and 4:30-5:30 p.m.



'Rise Against Hunger'

Central United Methodist Church, Mathews, participated in the "Rise Against Hunger" campaign recently. Some of the volunteers showing their red hairnets are, front row from left, event coordinator Robin Martin, Nancy Goldman, Nancy Jagger, Judy Moughon, Pastor Rebecca Rumburg; back row, Pat Moughon, Chris Moughon, Martha Arnold, Joe Moughon, Merle Guy, Chris Merrill, Bud Fletcher and Linda Dalgety.

OPEN HOUSE: A delicious spread planned at Colraine

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1B)

1 Tbs. vanilla extract  
1 egg  
1½ c. all-purpose flour  
¾ tsp. baking soda  
¾ tsp. salt  
1 ½ c. (8-oz. pkg.) Heath Bits, divided

Heat oven to 375°F. Beat shortening, peanut butter, brown sugar, milk, vanilla and egg in a large bowl until well blended. Combine flour, baking soda and salt and gradually beat into peanut butter mixture. Stir in 1 c. Heath Bits; reserve remaining for topping. Drop by heaping teaspoons about 2 inches apart onto ungreased cookie sheets. Top each with the reserved Heath Bits. Bake 7 to 8 minutes or until set. Do not overbake. Cool 2 minutes. Remove from cookie

sheets to wire racks. Cool completely.

**CHICKEN SALAD**  
2 cans Costco chicken (12.5-oz.)  
1 c. chopped celery  
½ c. chopped onion  
½ c. dried cranberries  
1 c. mayonnaise  
Salt and pepper to taste  
½ to ¾ c. slivered almonds (added by workers in the kitchen on the day of the event)

Gently break up the chicken with a fork. Add celery, onions and cranberries. Add mayonnaise and mix well. Taste before adding salt and pepper. Remember: do not add slivered almonds until ready to serve. Re-

frigerate. Yield: 2 cups.

**BLACK OLIVE SPREAD**  
8 oz. softened cream cheese  
½ c. chopped pecans  
1 c. black olives, chopped well  
2 Tbs. olive juice  
Pepper, a dash

Mix all ingredients together; cover and refrigerate. Spread may be runny at first but sets up in the refrigerator.

**GREEN OLIVE SPREAD**  
8 oz. softened cream cheese  
½ c. Hellmann's mayonnaise  
1 heaping c. chopped green olives (5.75-oz. jar)

Mix together with 2 Tbs. olive juice, dash of pepper. Let set for 24 hours.



Fall Raffle Basket winner

The Mathews County Woman's Club Fall Raffle Basket was recently presented to the winner, Mary Warren of Bohannon, at left, by Martha Frame. All proceeds from the sale of tickets are used to fund the club's Mathews High School scholarship. An annual \$1,000 scholarship is awarded to an MHS graduate each year. Current MHS seniors may apply in the spring by contacting the school guidance counselor.

GIFTS

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1B)

sizes.

The second item is a pair of protective sleeves that cover the entire length of each arm and might offer protection from thorns, twigs, insects, and sunburn. The sweat-wicking poly-spandex fabric offers UPF-50+, according to the website. The sleeves come in small, large to XL, and XXL.

I hope you find the perfect gift for the gardener on your list, and I hope someone picks out the perfect gift for you.

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USNews  
2023-2024





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## Thanksgiving bounty

These local churches welcomed the public to bountiful feasts on Thanksgiving Day. Upper left, Living Waters Church, Dutton, served everyone a menu of turkey, ham, stuffing, yams and other favorite holiday foods. Here, Pastor Grady Brown and his wife Traci Brown (standing at left) are shown with, standing from left, Ava Buckler, Darla Peterson, Living Waters outreach coordinator Erica Williams; seated, Marcus Campbell, John Joseph Buckler, Candis Yi, Michelle Bozza and Barry Green. Upper right, Abingdon Episcopal Church, White Marsh, opens its doors every Thanksgiving in this traditional annual event, providing free meals and fellowship to the community. Those manning the serving line this year included, from front to back, Liz Bryan, Lorraine Ingles, Don Dransfield and Dr. Wayne Reynolds. Lower right, Kingston Parish House hosted the Mathews Community Thanksgiving Dinner, which was sponsored by Antioch Baptist, Church of Francis de Sales Roman Catholic, Kingston Episcopal, Macedonia Baptist and Salem UMC. Shown here at the serving line are volunteers Maryann Hubbard, Rich Thorpe, Mary Hellenes and Rosemary Eaton, from left. Thorpe, nephew of Josie Thorpe of Hallieford, was in town from Minnesota, visiting for the holiday.



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## Services and other activities announced by local churches

Services and other activities in churches this week include the following:

**ANTIOCH BAPTIST**  
The Rev. Julia Forrest will preach at 11 a.m. Sunday in Antioch Baptist Church, Susan.

**APOSTLES LUTHERAN**  
Apostles Lutheran Church, Gloucester, will hold the first Sunday in Advent service at 10 a.m. Sunday. A coffee fellowship will be held afterwards.

**BELLAMY UNITED METHODIST**  
The Rev. Doug Watson will preach at the 8:30 and 10:30 a.m. first Sunday of Advent communion services in Bellamy United Methodist Church, Gloucester. Nursery for birth to three years and Children's Church are both available at the 10:30 service. Bible study and the Faith Builders Bible Study will meet at 9:30 and the youth group will meet at 11:30 with lunch provided.

Loaves and Britches food and diaper ministry will be held from 9-11 a.m. Tuesday and the Gloucester Women's Bible study will meet at 9:30 a.m. Tuesday.

**BETHANY UNITED METHODIST**  
Bethany United Methodist Church, Gloucester Point, will celebrate the first Sunday in Advent with Holy Communion at 8:30 and 11 a.m. The sermon title of Pastor Paul Song will be "Spirituality of Waiting." Nursery for children up to age 3 years is available beginning at 9:40.

**BETHEL BAPTIST**  
The Rev. Sheila Madanat will preach at the noon Sunday service in Bethel Baptist Church, Gloucester. Virtual Sunday school will start at 10 o'clock. Leea's Heart Christmas card-making fellowship will take place at noon Saturday. Christmas cards will be made for local nursing homes. Come and join the fun.  
The Wednesday prayer session will begin at 6:30 p.m., preceding the virtual Bible study period.

**BETHEL UNITED METHODIST**  
The Rev. Garry Livermon will preach at the 10:50 a.m. Sunday service in Bethel United Methodist Church, Onemo. The children will work on their Christ-

### ADVENTISTS

**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

### BAPTIST

**BEECH GROVE BAPTIST CHURCH**  
Richard Croxton, Pastor  
SUNDAY WORSHIP, 10:30 a.m.  
SUNDAY SCHOOL, for all ages 9:30 a.m.  
4073 Cedar Bush Rd. Hayes, VA

### BEULAH BAPTIST CHURCH

Rev. Tom Cohick  
Services: Worship Service 10 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

**GLOUCESTER POINT BAPTIST**  
7741 Terrapin Cove Rd., Gloucester Point 804-642-2555 • www.glpbaptist.org  
Services: SUNDAY, Sunday School, 9:30 a.m.; Worship, 11 a.m.; C.A.R.E. Ministry at 2 p.m. WEDNESDAYS: 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, welcome2gibc@gmail.com,  
2011 Old Ferry Road, Gwynn, VA 23066  
SUNDAY 9:30 AM in the church sanctuary  
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  
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Fellowship 9:00a.m.,  
Service 9:30-10:30a.m.  
See our Facebook page

**MATHEWS BAPTIST CHURCH**  
Huddins, 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.mathews baptist church.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  
11 a.m. Church Service: WEDNESDAY, 6:30pm, Adult Bible Study and Prayer; UBC Kids Crew (k-5<sup>th</sup> grade), OUTWARD Youth (6<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> grade) MON & THUR: Food Ministry, 9-10:30 a.m. SATURDAY; Kickball, 10-11:30 a.m. (k-5<sup>th</sup> 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.

### CONGREGATIONAL CHURCHES

**SEVERN CHURCH**  
Rev. Bill West, Pastor, 693-3937  
Since 1884, Off Hwy. 17 at White Marsh to Naxera, Robins Neck  
CHOIR PRACTICE: 10:00 a.m.  
SUNDAY, Worship, 11:00 a.m.  
WEDNESDAY, Bible Study 7 p.m. virtual on Bill West's facebook page

### CHURCH OF GOD

**NEW LIFE MINISTRY CENTER**  
Church of God (Cleveland, TN)  
3450 George Washington Mem. Hwy  
Pastor Jack Smith 804-854-9010  
Sunday School at 9:45 am,  
Sunday Worship at 11 am, Wed night at 6:45

Church Spotlight

Living Waters Church

*We are an interdenominational charismatic church centrally located in the Gloucester-Matthews area. Our goal is to reach out to the entire Middle Peninsula with the love of Jesus. If you are ever in the area, we hope you will pay us a visit.*

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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.

### EPISCOPAL

**ABINGDON EPISCOPAL CHURCH**  
All are Welcome!  
The Reverend Sven L. vanBaars, Rector  
4645 George Washington Memorial Highway  
PO Box 82, White Marsh, VA 23183  
804-693-3035  
www.abingdonchurch.org  
8:00 am Holy Eucharist  
10:30 am Holy Eucharist: Livestreamed from Facebook and YouTube

**KINGSTON EPISCOPAL PARISH**  
Mathews, Virginia • www.kpepiscopal.org  
804-725-2175  
Email: kingstonparish@verizon.net  
The Very Rev. Gary J. Barker, Rector  
Worship Services:  
8:00 am Holy Eucharist, Rite I;  
Christ Church, 320 Williams Wharf Road  
10:30 am Holy Eucharist, Rite II;  
Kingston Chapel, 370 Main Street  
Services live streamed: YouTube and Facebook  
12:00 pm Wednesday: Holy Eucharist and Healing Service at Kingston Chapel

**WARE EPISCOPAL CHURCH**  
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The Rev. Scott Parnell, Rector  
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

### FRIENDS

**MATTAPONI FRIENDS (QUAKER) MEETING**  
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942 BUENA VISTA RD., SHACKLEFORDS, VA  
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804-785-9401  
www.bym-rsf.org/who\_we\_are/val\_meetings/mattaponi/

### INDEPENDENT

**SALEM COMMUNITY**  
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

### LUTHERAN

**APOSTLES LUTHERAN CHURCH**  
The Reverend Jay Serafin, Pastor  
P.O. Box 1010  
7092 Main Street, Gloucester, VA 23061  
693-9098  
Sunday Service: 10:00 AM in-person and via Zoom  
See website for details www.apostles-elca.org  
We are a Reconciling in Christ Community of the ELCA. Follow us on Facebook.

### NON-DENOMINATIONAL

**KINGDOM COVENANT MINISTRIES**  
Apostle Steven A. Forrest Sr.  
Pastor Antichella Forrest  
804-815-4735  
Thursdays 7pm bible study  
worship service Sundays 10:30  
827 Ridge Road, Cobbs Creek, Va. 23035  
kccovenant18@gmail.com

**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  
6:30 PM Wednesday evening prayer service

**LOCUST GROVE 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

**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.  
Intercessory prayer is 6-7 p.m. every Wednesday.  
To see activities go to website: [gracecovenant.us](http://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  
The Rev. Dr. Michael Condrey, Pastor  
Sunday School 9 a.m. / Sunday Worship 10:00 a.m.  
www.grovesmemchurchva.org

### ROMAN CATHOLIC

**CHURCH OF FRANCIS DE SALES**  
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Worship Service: 10:15 a.m.

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CHURCH SERVICES

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 3B)

mas projects and music during children's time. The Advent Bible study, "Unlikely Advent," will be held at 6 p.m., led by Becky Livermon.

The mission group will sponsor the "Reverse Advent Collection" for Social Services and Hands Across Mathews again this year.

CHURCH OF THE LIVING WORD

The sermon title of Dr. Gregory Woodard at 10 a.m. Sunday in Church of the Living Word, Hayes, will be "We Can if We Want To."

The topic at the 6:30 p.m. Wednesday in-person Bible study will be "II Corinthians 9."

FIRST BAPTIST

The sermon title of the Rev. Ward Warren of First Baptist Church, Ordinary, at 10 a.m. Sunday will be "A Christmas Tree for Jesus." Sunday school will begin at 9 o'clock.

Wednesday Bible study will be held from 1-2 p.m.

FIRST MORNING STAR BAPTIST

"Joseph's Obedience" will be the sermon title of Pastor Larry J. Arrington of First Morning Star Baptist Church, Bena, at 11 a.m. Sunday. The combined choir will sing under the direction of Leander Myers.

FRANCIS DE SALES ROMAN CATHOLIC

Francis de Sales Roman Catholic Church, Mathews, will observe First Friday Devotion with Mass at 9 a.m., followed by an hour of Eucharistic Adoration and Benediction. The First Saturday Devotion will also be observed with Rosary at 9:30 a.m., followed by Mass at 10 o'clock.

GLOUCESTER POINT BAPTIST

The sermon title of Pastor Dilon Evans of Gloucester Point Baptist Church at the 11 a.m. first Sunday of Advent will be "The Hanging of the Greens."

GWYNN'S ISLAND BAPTIST

The sermon title of Dr. Ed Jordan, pastor of Gwynn's Island Baptist Church, at 10 a.m. Sunday for its service will be "A Christmas Pattern: Became and Explained." Special music will be by Autumn Jenkins and Lori Oliver. This will be the first Sunday of Advent.

Ladies Bible study will meet at 10 a.m. Thursday and Men's Bible study will meet at 9 a.m. Tuesday.

KINGSTON EPISCOPAL PARISH

Kingston Episcopal Parish, Mathews, will observe the first Sunday in Advent with Holy Eucharist Rite I at 8 a.m. at Christ Church on Williams Wharf Road and Holy Eucharist Rite II at 10:30 a.m. at Kingston Chapel on Main Street.

MATHEWS CHAPEL UNITED METHODIST

The sermon title of the Rev. Dr. Marcus Stallworth of Mathews Chapel United Methodist Church, Cobbs Creek, at 11 a.m. Sunday will be "Our Shocking Hope."

MORNING GLORY BAPTIST

Morning Glory Baptist Church, Gloucester, will hold worship and Holy Baptism at 11 a.m. Sunday. The in-person

service will also be available by Facebook Live and conference call. The Rev. Roy K. Bell, associate minister of Pleasant Grove Baptist Church, Prince George, will be the guest minister. Music will be presented by Melvin Sykes and the Senior Choir.

MT. ZION UNITED METHODIST

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

NEW POINT FRIENDS

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

NEWINGTON BAPTIST

Newington Baptist Church, Gloucester, will hold a potluck Lottie Moon prayer breakfast at 9 a.m. Sunday. Everyone is to bring a breakfast item to share. The sermon title of Pastor Chris Grella at 10:30 a.m. will be "The Hope of Jesus." The Lottie Moon Parade of Flags will be a part of the service.

Wednesday night activities include COR3 Youth, KidzLife, and adult Bible study at 6:30.

OLIVE BRANCH GLOBAL METHODIST

Olive Branch Global Methodist Church, Gloucester, will hold worship at 9:30 a.m. Sunday. The Bible study on John 3:16 will follow at 10:30.

SALEM COMMUNITY

John Young will preach at 11 a.m. Sunday in Salem Community Church, Gloucester. Game Night will be held at 6 o'clock on tonight. Craft workshop is open from 9 a.m.-4 p.m. every Tuesday.

SEVERN

The sermon title of Pastor Bill West of Severn Church, Naxera, at 11 a.m. Sunday will be "Caricatures of Christmas." The children will have a Christmas party during Children's Church.

SHEPHERDSVILLE BAPTIST

The sermon title of Pastor Douglas Riley of Shepherdsville Baptist Church, Gloucester, at the 11 a.m. in-person Sunday service will be "Christmas Through the Eyes of the Grinch."

SINGLETON UNITED METHODIST

Singleton United Methodist Church, Ware Neck, will hold an in-person and Zoom service at 11 a.m. Sunday. The sermon title of the Rev. Calvin Griffin will be "Calling to God."

Monday Bible study, "Invitation to the Old Testament," meets at 9:30. Wednesday Bible study will discuss "Life Lessons from Genesis" at 7 p.m.

SPRING HILL BAPTIST

The sermon title of Pastor Ross Davis of Spring Hill Baptist Church, Cobbs Creek, at 11 a.m. Sunday will be "Word of Faith."

THE FIRST UNITED BAPTIST

The sermon title of Pastor E. Randolph Graham of The First United Baptist Church, White Marsh, for the 11 a.m. Sunday service will be "Hope

SEE CHURCH SERVICES, PAGE 5B

TODAY'S MEDITATION

©THE UPPER ROOM

THURSDAY, NOV. 30, 2023

Read Luke 12:22-26

If that is how God clothes the grass of the field, which is here today, and tomorrow is thrown into the fire, how much more will he clothe you—you of little faith!

-Luke 12:28 (NIV)

About 10 years ago, there was a huge playground just beyond the walls of my house. The chattering of adults and the giggling of children always gave life to it. Now it is abandoned, but to me it is more beautiful than ever. Grasses have taken over the whole playground, painting it green. Giant trees continue to grow, and their yellow, pink, and red flowers glow against the blue sky and white clouds. Occasionally a gardener cuts and burns the grasses, allowing new grasses to sprout up even greener, moving with the

morning breeze and sparkling in the sunlight that shines among the leaves of the trees. What a perfect picture of God's creation!

Just as that playground was abandoned, we may at times feel forgotten by our friends, our family, or people around us. But we need not become discouraged. People abandoned the playground, but God redecorated it, making it more beautiful and peaceful. When we encounter situations that challenge us, we need not be anxious. The grasses are cut and burned, but they are always reborn with perfect beauty. If God wonderfully cares even for these small things, God will surely care for us. We can rest assured that God will care for us because we are God's beloved children.

-Johana Htwe (Myanmar)

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**MAKING PLANS**

Arranging appointments and maintaining busy schedules is an unrelenting task; weeks can fly by in a whirlwind of activities. Sometimes, we need to assess our expenditure of time. Are we using it wisely? Is God marked on our calendar? This consideration affects all our plans; God wants us to make Him a part of each day. Our stress level can decrease as our faith in God's power increases. "In his heart a man plans his course, but the Lord determines his steps" says Proverbs 16:9. Let God help you with your plans, and plan to visit your house of worship every week.

Daily Bible Readings					
Psalm 146	Psalm 147	Psalm 148	Psalm 149	Psalm 150	Mark 1:1-8
Scriptures Selected by the American Bible Society					
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Y M C K





### Baptism

The Church of the Living Word held a baptism service at Gloucester Point Beach in the York River on Sunday, Nov. 19. Pictured from left are Pastor-Select McKinley Miller, Lennox Smith, Lyric Smith, Sebastian Green, Gabriel Green, Desiree Smith, Eric Smith, and Lead Pastor Melvin Epps.



### Loaves and Britches Ministry

On Nov. 14, the Loaves and Britches Ministry at Bellamy United Methodist Church, Gloucester, provided frozen turkeys and pies along with boxes of non-perishable food to area residents for Thanksgiving. Shown with the turkeys are, from left, Linda Clements, Martha Tiernan, Barbara Bennett, Marianne Hunter, Jack Wassom, Caroline Miller, Sherrie Hogge, Billie Jenkins and Pam Barnette.

#### CHURCH SERVICES

**(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 4B)**  
While Watching and Waiting," Praise and worship will begin at 10:45. The church will celebrate its 62nd anniversary at 3 p.m. The Rev. Dr. Robert Whitehead and members of Zion Baptist Church of Williamsburg will be the guests. Dinner will be served at 1 o'clock.

**UNIVERSALIST FELLOWSHIP OF THE RAPPAHANNOCK**  
The Rev. Rob Moore will speak at 10:30 a.m. Sunday on "A Holy Impatience" in Unitarian Universalist Fellowship of the Rappahannock, White Stone.

**WESTVILLE BAPTIST**  
The sermon title of Pastor Bob Huff of Westville Baptist Church, Mathews, at the 10:45 a.m. Sunday communion service will be "For the Lord's Sake." The first Sunday of Advent, "Hope," will be celebrated. Sunday school, "Genesis," will precede the service at 9:45. Wednesday Bible study will be held at 3 p.m.

**ZION HILL BAPTIST**  
Zion Hill Baptist Church, Gloucester, will have in-person worship service at 11 a.m. Sunday. Pastor Eugene Comithier

will preach and the Senior Choir will sing. In-person Sunday school will be held at 9:45. Wednesday Bible study will be held at 6:30 p.m. via conference call.

**ZION POPLARS BAPTIST**  
The sermon title of Pastor Ronald W. Gayle Sr. of Zion Poplars Baptist Church, Gloucester, at the 11 a.m. Sunday communion service will be "Does the Book of Revelation Scare You?" The Senior Choir will sing.

#### LIFELINES

BY DR. ED JORDAN

### Four reasons to thank God

In what situations do you say "Thank you?" To whom do you say "thank you" the most? Many times a "thank you" comes out of our mouths almost automatically when someone holds a door open for us, or gives us a gift, but it still feels good to express appreciation.

When you were young, did someone make the effort to teach you the importance of saying "thank you" to someone? Are you teaching anyone in your life of the importance of being grateful and appreciative of how others make your life better? Do you teach your children or grandchildren the importance of appreciating others? In October each year I write several columns in which I try to encourage people to notice some of the important things that their pastor and church staff do which benefit others. I do this not for people to appreciate me, but for people to appreciate their own ministers who work incredibly long hours to bless the people in their churches and their communities.

Well, this column is not about appreciating your earthly pastor; it is about appreciating your Heavenly, Eternal Pastor. In Psalm 23:1-3 (NASB95), we are taught: "The Lord is my shepherd, I shall not want. He makes me lie down in green pastures; He leads me beside quiet waters. He restores my soul; He guides me in the paths of righteousness, for His name's sake."

For what do you say "thank you" to God? For good things that happen

in your life? For His protection over you? Do you thank Him for leading you onto the best paths? For the people He has brought into your life?

It seems that the old adage "familiarity breeds contempt" is true in our relationship with God as well as with others. God is constantly blessing us, helping us, protecting us, or leading us into good opportunities, yet I think we begin to take God for granted. Somehow we think He owes it to us as a loving God to make all our days easy. At this season of Thanksgiving, have you taken time to converse with God and express your ten million "thanks" for His constant goodness upon your life?

Indeed, we have so much to thank God for! Yet giving thanks needs to move beyond gratitude for things, and move into the realm of gratitude for relational support and guidance. In Psalm 108:3-5 (NLT) we read: "I will thank You, Lord, among all the people. I will sing Your praises among the nations. For Your unending love is higher than the heavens. Your faithfulness reaches to the clouds. Be exalted, O God, above the highest heavens. May Your glory shine over all the Earth."

This passage delineates four specific things for which to thank God. These are: 1) God's constant unending love. 2) God's faithfulness and devotion towards us. 3) That God is as high above us as the heavens and yet lives among us as our friend. And 4) that God's glory and unique goodness shines over all the Earth, reaching us

wherever we are.

These are character traits of God, as He reaches out to relate to us and bless our lives. We fail Him so often, yet He remains devoted to us. We should thank God for His faithfulness and consistency in the way He relates to us. He is always only a prayer away. God is the ultimate, Highest Being there is. He can see our lives from beginning to end, can give us clarity of vision when we don't know the way forward. And God is glorious, wondrous and full of dazzling light! Wherever God is the darkness dissipates. He is good, beyond any goodness found on Earth. We are bathed in His goodness all day, every day.

One of the greatest things in the universe is to be loved by a good-hearted person. But the greatest thing is to be loved by the ultimate manifestation of goodness, God Himself. To be loved and valued and nurtured by God, day after day, night after night, from now to infinity; that is glorious!

Even though the Thanksgiving holiday is past on the calendar, it is always the right time to express deep appreciation and gratitude to God, who sacrificed His all, that we might share in all that is His. So, keep giving thanks to the Lord for He is good, and His devoted love endures forever. Happy thanks-giving all year long!

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

## VARIETY

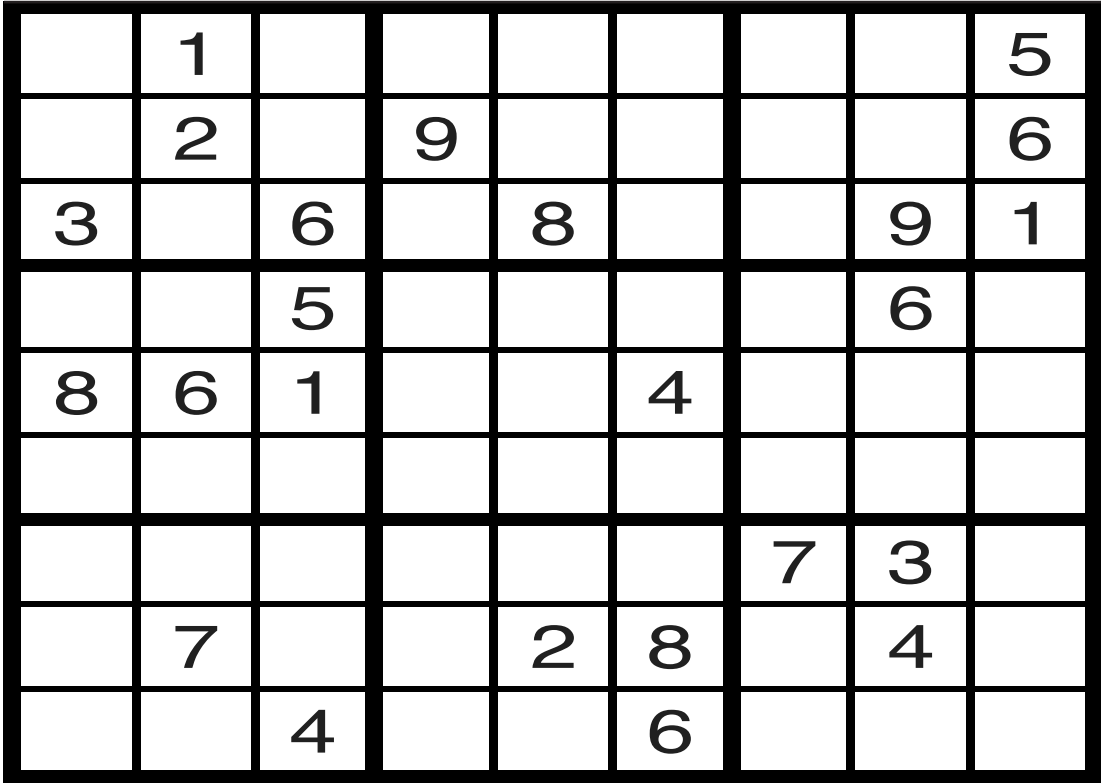
### HOLIDAY BAKING WORD SEARCH

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

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

#### WORDS

BAKED  
CHOCOLATE  
COOKIES  
CREAM  
CRUMBS  
DESSERT  
EGGS  
FOLD  
FRUITCAKE  
GINGERBREAD  
INGREDIENTS  
KNEAD  
PASTRY  
PLATTER  
PUDDING  
PUMPKIN PIE  
RECIPE  
ROLLING PIN  
SPRINKLES  
STRUDEL  
TEMPERATURE  
TORTE  
TREATS  
VANILLA



### BRIDGE BITES

by Brian Gunnell

♠ KT8  
♥ QJ652  
♦ A874  
♣ 7  
North  
West East  
Declarer  
♠ AQJ97  
♥ 3  
♦ K5  
♣ AQ532

E-W Vulnerable  
South West North East  
1♠ Pass 2♥ Pass  
3♣ Pass 4♠ Pass  
6♠ All Pass

This week's hand offers two ways to play the Clubs. Which is better? No need to be a math whiz, some simple logic comes up with the same correct solution as that calculated by our resident Professor of Statistics.

### No math required

West led a trump, a good choice! After that opening lead, this is not a good slam at all, requiring Clubs to be brought home for no losers, with only two Club ruffs available on the board. Do you cash the ♠A and ruff a couple of Clubs, hoping that the ♠K comes down in three rounds? Or do you finesse the ♠Q and then ruff two Clubs, hoping that the King is onside and comes down in four rounds? Things get simpler as soon as Declarer realizes that, regardless of who holds the King, Clubs must be 4-3, otherwise the suit will never set up. What are the chances of the Club finesse working? 50%. What are the chances of one of the defenders holding ♠Kxx (we are counting the Jack as an

x for this discussion)? The aforementioned professor would make some calculations with lots of factorials involved and announce that, if Clubs are 4-3, there are 30 possible holdings of Kxx and 40 holdings of Kxxx. That makes Kxx about a 43% probability, not as good as the finesse. And simple logic arrives at the same conclusion. If one hand has four places for the King and the other has only three places, where is the King more likely to be? That's right, in the hand with longer Clubs. So, Declarer wins the opening trump lead in Dummy, finesesses the ♠Q, ruffs a Club, crosses to the ♠K, ruffs a Club, cashes ♠A, ruffs a Diamond, draws trumps, and cashes the remaining Clubs. 12 tricks!

## CROSSWORD

#### CLUES ACROSS

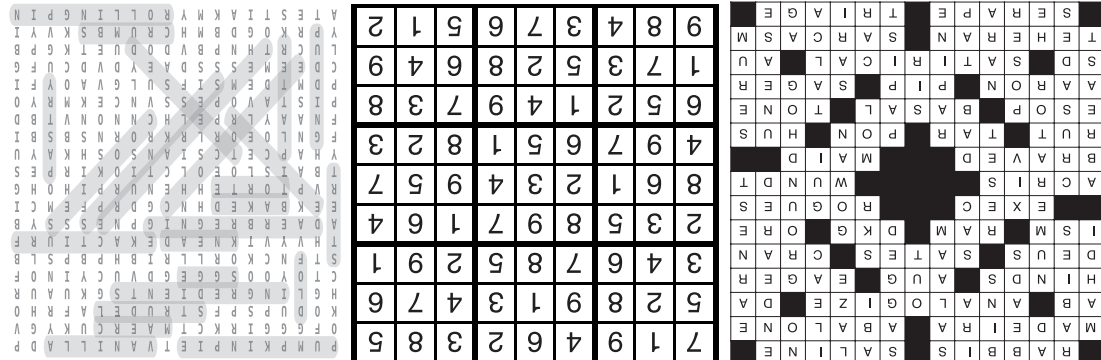
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- Fermented wine
- Edible mollusk
- It begins with them
- A way to compare
- Government lawyer
- Back parts
- 8th month (abbr.)
- Very willing
- ex machina
- Satisfies
- Quebec river
- A doctrine
- Popular pickup truck
- Dekagram
- Naturally occurring solid material
- Company officer
- Villains
- Cricket frogs

#### CLUES DOWN

- Animal disease
- Commercial
- Craft supply
- Storage units
- Investment vehicle
- Colorado Heisman winner
- In a way, sank
- Post-birth brain damage (abbr.)
- Lay about
- Intestinal
- The opposite of yes
- Caused to be loved
- Messianic in Islamic eschatology
- Showing since conviction
- Not safe
- The number above the line in a fraction
- Yard invader
- Pouch
- Swedish krona
- Start anew

- German founder of psychology
- Endured
- A female domestic
- A "place" to avoid
- Cigarette (slang)
- Canadian politician Josephine
- French ballet/acting dynasty
- Employee stock ownership pla
- Belonging to the bottom
- Sound
- Yankees' slugger Judge
- Dickens character
- More wise
- Flash memory card
- Exposing human vice or folly to ridicule
- Atomic #79
- Longtime Braves pitcher Julio
- Humor
- Shawl
- Preliminary assessment of pati

- White white or yellow flower
- Fortune
- Graphical user interface
- Up-to-date on the news
- Campaigns
- Touch softly
- "Boardwalk Empire" actress Gretchen
- Violent seizure of property
- One who supports the Pope
- Anxiety
- Body fluid
- Phony person
- Title of respect
- Chilean city
- City in central Japan
- Silk garment
- Draw from
- Automobile
- Man
- Legal bigwig (abbr.)





GLIMPSES INTO THE PAST

Local Thanksgiving visitors and sermons

**110 YEARS AGO**  
**Thursday, Nov. 27, 1913**  
from the Mathews Journal  
Mr. Dallas Marshall of Gwynn's Island had the misfortune to cut one of his fingers off last week.  
Rev. Filmore Forrest preached a fine sermon last Sunday to a large crowd.

**100 YEARS AGO**  
**Thursday, Nov. 29, 1923**  
from the Gloucester Gazette  
An excellent Thanksgiving sermon was preached by Rev. P.M. Petty at Union Baptist Church on last Sunday. A large attentive congregation was present as usual.  
Mr. Charles Duff, principal of Achilles High School, is on crutches but suffering a sprained ankle does not interfere with his aggressive interest in school methods and progress.  
Mrs. Rodney Hayes will spend Thanksgiving in Richmond.

from the Mathews Journal  
Rev. Bumstead, the new Rector of Kingston Parish, arrived here last Friday and was warmly welcomed by his congregation. His home was all ready for him, dinner was cooked and there was nothing for him to do except go in and eat.

**90 YEARS AGO**  
**Thursday, Nov. 30, 1933**  
from the Gloucester Gazette  
A total of \$651.05 was raised in the annual Red Cross roll call this year, according to figures made public yesterday by Irving Stewart, roll call chairman. The statistics of the drive were given as follows: Total amount collected, \$651.05; \$1.00 memberships, 500; \$5.00 memberships, 13; \$10.00 memberships, 4. Contributions less than \$1.00, \$3.50; Contributions other than above, \$42.45; due Washington for National Fund, \$261.25; amount remaining in local treasury, \$389.80.

from the Mathews Journal  
Pie Social for Beaverdam School. Pies! Pies! Pies! The pie season is here. Help us celebrate it Tuesday night at 7:30, Dec. 5, by coming to Beaverdam School and partaking of the lovely, tasty pies the ladies of Beaverlette make. After satisfying your pie appetite we will have a fortune teller reveal to you your future at a very small cost. There will also be untold treasures in grab-bags and delicious home-made candy will be sold. Proceeds for the benefit of Beaverdam Community League.

**80 YEARS AGO**  
**Thursday, Dec. 2, 1943**  
from the Gazette-Journal  
The Committee on Education of the Virginia State Chamber of Commerce proposes raising the upper age limit of compulsory attendance in Virginia schools from 15 to 16 years. The Committee makes this one of its recommendations in a report just made to the Chamber's membership. "There is a sharp increase in the rate of withdrawal from school in Virginia after the age of 15, the present age limit for compulsory attendance," the Committee says.

**70 YEARS AGO**  
**Thursday, Dec. 3, 1953**  
from the Gazette-Journal  
The top man-made wonder of the Commonwealth of Virginia is attached to the lower end of Gloucester County, the Virginia Section of the American Society of Civil Engineers agreed this week. The \$9,000,000 George P. Coleman Bridge which spans the York River between Gloucester Point and Yorktown, is the top engineering "wonder" in Virginia in the opinion of the State's civil engineers.  
When asked to select the seven top man-made "wonders" in the State, members of the Engineers' Society gave first ranking to the bridge in Tidewater Virginia. The six other "wonders" in order ranked by members ballots, include Kerr Dam at Buggs Island, Norfolk-Portsmouth Bridge and Tunnel, Blue Ridge Parkway and Skyline Drive, Newport News Ship-

building and Dry Dock Company where ocean-liners and aircraft carriers have been built, Langley Air Force Base and its test facilities, and the James River Bridge at Newport News.

**60 YEARS AGO**  
**Thursday, Nov. 27, 1963**  
from the Gazette-Journal  
Mass oral polio vaccine clinics slated for Dec. 8 in Gloucester and Mathews counties will marshal the forces of a small army of volunteer workers in a civic endeavor of vital importance to the entire area. Within a five-hour period—from noon until 5 p.m.—clinics in five public schools in the two counties will offer Sabin polio vaccine to each of the 19,000 residents who avail themselves of the opportunity.  
Simultaneously, similar programs will be underway in neighboring Middlesex County, the Newport News-Hampton-Williamsburg area, the city of Richmond and surrounding counties, and many other Virginia communities.

**50 YEARS AGO**  
**Thursday, Nov. 29, 1973**  
from the Gazette-Journal  
The largest business organization in the world, as of Jan. 1, 1974, is the National Association of Real Estate Brokers. Figures show that the real estate business is also one of the largest in Gloucester and Mathews counties. One out of every 208 persons living in the two counties is licensed to sell real estate, according to the 1970 Census and the Virginia Real Estate Commission Biennial Roster. And the number of real estate agents will probably increase as business in Gloucester and Mathews continues. During the 1969-1972 period real estate sales increased 62 percent in Gloucester and 42 percent in Mathews.

**40 YEARS AGO**  
**Thursday, Dec. 1, 1983**  
from the Gazette-Journal  
The Gloucester Board of Supervisors is expected to approve purchase of the first homesite on the proposed Beaverdam reservoir site six months ahead of schedule Tuesday. County Administrator John J. Jackson said Wednesday morning he has recommended the board approve purchase of the 7.44-acre site, owned by Jack Haynie of Woods Cross Roads, at the meeting Tuesday afternoon.

**30 YEARS AGO**  
**Thursday, Dec. 2, 1993**  
from the Gazette-Journal  
The Hardee's Restaurant in Mathews, lightning rod of discussion (to change our quaint ways or not) opened Friday to predictable crowds. Before the opening, it had held a party for neighbors and others in the community, getting acquainted. The crowds could be anticipated.  
The opening party was a gracious gesture, a pleasant surprise.  
The vandalism which preceded the opening was another surprise, of the sort not to be expected. Some show-off know-it-all saw fit to ping the window and break the outside menu board with a pellet gun. The motivation is obscure; and if the act carried a message, that, too, is not clear.

**20 YEARS AGO**  
**Thursday, Nov. 27, 2003**  
from the Gazette-Journal  
Help To Others (H2O), a program designed to help pay water for the needy, is now accepting donations for 2003. Sponsored by the Hampton Roads Planning District Commission, the program provides one-time per year financial aid to families or individuals in danger of losing residential water service due to failing to pay a water bill. The delinquent water bill can be to a local public water utility or the Hampton Roads Sanitation District.  
Over the past four years the H2O program has raised over \$137,000 total to help those qualified for assistance. Gloucester County is one of the program partners and is a member jurisdiction of

HRPDC.

**10 YEARS AGO**  
**Thursday, Nov. 28, 2013**  
from the Gazette-Journal  
Gloucester Park, Recreation and Tourism invites the public to join Santa Claus as he hikes the trails of Beaverdam Park on Saturday, Dec. 14. Ev-

eryone including Santa can use some exercise this time of year as we all overindulge in holiday fare, a release stated.  
Each registered child will receive a digital photo by e-mail. Santa will be hiking from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. The fee is \$5/child and the deadline to register is Dec. 7

Ho Ho Bingo to be held in Mathews

Mathews senior citizens are invited to participate in Ho Ho Bingo from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. on Tuesday, Dec. 12, at the Piankatank Ruritan Club at Hudgins.  
This holiday social event is sponsored by Mathews County Triad and includes a hot lunch of soup, bread, dessert and drinks by local caterer Shelly Williams.  
A door prize will be given to the winner of each game. Prizes range from heated throws to foot baths, and there will be a grand prize

drawing for a \$50 gift card to Dollar General.  
There is no cost to attend, but those wishing to participate need to register by Dec. 5.  
A registration slip is included in this newspaper. It can be dropped off at Mathews Social Services on Church Street, the Mathews County Senior Center or the Mathews County Sheriff's Office at Liberty Square on Buckley Hall Road. It can also be mailed to Triad, P.O. Box 185, Mathews, Va. 23109.

Best Years Trip to Rosie's set for Dec. 13

A Best Years Trip (for those 55 and older) to Rosie's Gaming Emporium in New Kent will be held on Wednesday, Dec. 13 from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.  
Spend the day in the Rosie's gaming room and have lunch on your own while there. The registration fee is \$25 and the deadline to register is Dec. 6.  
WALK WITH EASE: Gloucester Parks, Recreation and Tourism is sponsoring the Arthritis Foundation's Walk with Ease program on Mondays,

Wednesdays and Fridays, Dec. 15 through Jan. 31, from 9 to 10 a.m. at the Stewart Building. Sessions include an informational element, stretching, walking, stretching. Wear comfy shoes and dress for the weather. The fee is \$55, which includes the WWE book and the deadline to register is Dec. 8.  
For more information, or to register, call 804-693-2355, email prt@gloucesterva.info or stop by the PRT office at 6382 Main Street.

DO YOU REMEMBER?



FILE PHOTOS

Holiday startups

Two important activities happened in the weekend after Thanksgiving in 2010 to help usher in the holiday season. Above, people from throughout Mathews gathered at Mathews Memorial Library for the annual Deck the Halls celebration. Multiple trees were trimmed by volunteers, including, front from left, Raquel Ott and Kennedy Maultsby; at back, library technical services head Greg Lewis, and, doing the honors on the ladder, Mathews County Administrator Steve Whiteway. Below, Edna South of Gloucester shopped for Christmas gifts at Peebles Department Store in Hayes.



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## Carlos Britos finishing up first year at Edward Jones office in Hayes

BY RUBY WILLIAMS

Financial advisor Carlos Britos, who runs the Edward Jones office at Hayes, is winding up his first year at the firm, and will celebrate with an open house on Dec. 8.

Britos, whose office includes branch office administrator Donna West, came to Edward Jones after a nearly 20-year career with the U.S. Navy.

“I loved my time in the service,” he said.

Even though Britos recently started his business in financial advising, it is what he has been interested in for many years.

“Investments and savings are something I have been interested in for 20 years. It’s been a passion of mine for a long time,” he said. “Making money is hard and you have to work hard to make your money so you should make your money work just as hard as you.”

Britos said that everyone should have a financial advisor, no matter what your age. He feels that most people think that you have to have money in order to have a financial advisor, but you need one in order to make money.

“There is a financial decision to be made at different times in your life. It’s never too soon and it’s never too late to hire a financial advisor,” said Britos.

Britos provides comprehensive financial services. He can help with savings, in-



RUBY WILLIAMS / GAZETTE-JOURNAL

Financial advisor Carlos Britos is approaching the end of his first year at Edward Jones. His Hayes office will hold a Holiday Open House on Friday, Dec. 8.

vestments, retirement planning and executing, wealth strategies and much more. He is good at coming up with creative and unique investment and savings efforts to fix weak points, identifying action items, and analyzing what needs to be done. He is client focused and does what’s best for the client especially when it comes down to fees and costs.

“Donna and I do what’s best for the client. We have various fee and cost structures depending on investments and savings of the client. People are surprised at how inexpensive it can be for us to work

for our clients,” he said.

Britos is also community oriented. He is a member of the Abingdon Ruritan Club and the York County Chamber of Commerce and he is looking to become even more involved in Gloucester County.

### Open house

Britos and West will host a Holiday Open House from 2-6 p.m. on Friday, Dec. 8, to celebrate the season and express their gratitude for their clients, friends and community. Their address is 2922 George Washington Memorial Highway.



SHERRY HAMILTON / GAZETTE-JOURNAL

## Black Friday

Members of the Bullock family were in Mathews on Black Friday while visiting with the family matriarch, Lydia Wetterling of Susan. They stopped by Cattails to search for gifts. Shown, above from left, are Natalie Bullock of Cincinnati, Bayley Bullock of Virginia Beach, and Carol Bullock and Meredith Bullock Miller of Cincinnati. Below, vendors plied their wares under tents in the Bay School Community Art Center’s parking lot on Black Friday. Here, Hope Moore of North, A.J. Shaw of Warner Robbins, Georgia, and John Rennochl of Mathews (partially visible) examine items being sold by vendors Tedd and Jacqueline Bumgardner of DowntoEarth.



## John Sadler to step down as Chesapeake Wealth Management president

John Sadler, president of Chesapeake Wealth Management, will be stepping down from his role by the end of 2023 and returning to practicing law, CWM announced this week. He will also be moving to a new primary residence in Lexington.

Sadler has been the face of Chesapeake Wealth Management for nearly a dozen years and has elevated its prominence through his commitment to multiple community and professional organizations, a release stated.

Beth Swartz, current Investment Services Manager and Senior Vice President, will serve as interim president. Swartz has been with CWM for eight years and she has been employed in investment services for 37 years.

CWM is searching for a successor to Sadler and looks forward to seamless transition and announcing the new president in the first quarter of 2024, according to the news release.

“John has brought such a high level of professionalism

to CWM during his tenure,” said Jeff Szypperski, Chairman, CEO, and President of Chesapeake Bank and Chesapeake Financial Shares. “Excellent client service and responsiveness has always been his priority and he has made it a priority of the firm. We all wish him nothing but the best in the next leg of his professional life.”

As Chesapeake Bank’s sister company and a wholly-owned subsidiary of Chesapeake Financial Shares, Inc., Chesapeake Wealth Management is “part of a 123-year tradition of excellence in comprehensive financial services,” according to the release. CWM is currently celebrating its 50th year in the trust and investment business and serves Greater Williamsburg, the Northern Neck, the Middle Peninsula, Chesterfield and Greater Richmond, with a new office just opened in Newport News.

For more information, call 888-653-9088 or visit [www.chesapeakewealth.com](http://www.chesapeakewealth.com).



John Sadler

## Virginia-grown oysters dominate East Coast production

Chris Buck found the ideal spot for growing oysters on Virginia’s lower Eastern Shore at Cherrystone Creek, where the Chesapeake Bay meets the Atlantic.

“Geography is an important factor,” said Buck, who founded Ruby Salts Oyster Co. in 2010. “I had the good fortune to come across a piece of intertidal bottom suitable for growing oysters. They take on the flavor of where they’re grown, and the Chesapeake Bay is an amazing resource with a wide salinity range.”

Buck is among oyster growers featured a Virginia Farm Bureau report last week.

Wind, tide cycles and heavy rainfall can alter salinity levels.

“But we’re able to stay pretty consistent at the mouth of the bay,” Buck said. “So our waters are not as susceptible to fluctuations.”

Celebrating Virginia’s No. 1 rank in oyster production on the East Coast, Gov. Glenn Youngkin proclaimed November to be Virginia Oyster Month. The state is home to eight different oyster regions, each with its own taste, his-

tory and heritage, originally harvested by Native Americans and early colonists.

Now consumers shell out for fresh oysters that are iced and shucked at fine restaurants and in stores year-round.

“Aquaculture is a booming industry in Virginia,” Youngkin wrote in the proclamation. “The average dockside value for Virginia’s wild and farmed oysters is approximately \$40 million annually.”

Consumers are now eating oysters year-round because only consuming them in months ending in R is an antiquated philosophy, Buck explained. Commonly-used triploid oysters are sterile, not expending energy—and meat quality—on reproduction in warm summer months. “We also have rapid transport with mechanical refrigeration,” he added. “When oysters are harvested and cooled, they are safe to consume in warmer months.”

To support state aquaculture growers, ask specifically for Virginia oysters, Buck advised. The method of consumption is up to you.

# BUSINESS GUIDE FALL

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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. 16-21:

Kenneth G. Salmon to Jacob A. West, et al, 0.566, Lot 2, Abingdon, \$240,000.

County of Gloucester, Virginia to R.M. Clarke, LLC, 2.056 acres, Parcel 1, Abingdon, \$275,000.

Norman L. Sutton, et al, to Norman L. Sutton, et al, trustees, 0.089 acre, Lot 30, Coleman's Crossing, Phase 4, Gloucester Point, no consideration.

Glenda G. Bond to Glenda G. Bond, trustee, 1.0347 acres, Lot A, Riverview Park, Petsworth, no consideration.

Zanette Larimore McMillan to Lan Vong, et al, 1.28 acres, Parcel A, Abingdon, \$80,000.

The Secretary of Veterans Affairs to Coreen D. Huber, et al, 5.51 acres, Lot 10, Regency Woods, Section 2, Petsworth, \$295,000.

CAG National Fund 1 LLC to Nicholas J. Dupree, et al, 1 acre, Ware, \$78,000.

Janet L. Jacoby to Matthew Thomas Wessels, Lot 4, Crescent Run, Lot 3A, Parcel 4, Abingdon, \$273,900.

Roderick E. Lee III, et al, to Jeanne P. Hockaday, trustee, 3 acres, Parcel 1, Abingdon, \$160,000.

Jacqueline Anne Willett to Damon D. Horsley, 0.238 acre, Lot 2, Ware, \$1,400.

Jacqueline Anne Willett to Damon D. Horsley, 0.251 acre, Lot 1, Ware, \$950.

Anita Shaffer, et al, to Phillip R. Brooks, et al, 15 acres, Petsworth, \$77,000.

Stephen D. Hendrix, et al, to Michael Logan Nonnemacker Jr., et al, Lot 73, Patriots Walk, Phase 2, Section C, Ware, \$520,000.

Emilie O. McClure, et al, to Ronald T. McClure Sr., et al, 30,002 square feet, Parcel B, Ware, gift.

Raelisa B. Reid, et al, successor co-trustees, to Two Thirty-Eight, LLC, Lot 9, Section B, Ware, gift.

Carter D. Meredith to Louis Dovel, Parcel B, Ware, \$289,000.

Grubstake, LLC to William C. Norris, Lot 4, Sunset Point, York, \$270,000.

## MATHEWS

The following deeds were recorded recently in Mathews Circuit Court:

Robert Lee Mickelborough, successor trustee, to Sandra A. Mickelborough, 3.78 acres, Westville, \$4,500.

Daniel S. Jones, executor, to Mary Katherine Hamilton Burns, et al, 14.5 acres, Westville, \$700,000.

John S. Gill, et al, to Robert E. Hall, et al, 1 acre, Westville, \$20,000.

Scott P. Heinz to Scott Phillips Heinz, trustee, 0.36 acre, Gwynn's Island, Piantankank, gift.

Patrick D. Sullivan, et al, to Cathy Huynh, Parcel One: 2.51 acres and Parcel Two: 3 acres, Chesapeake, \$670,000.

Debra McDonough to Debrah A. Knarr, et al, Lot 20, Block C, Section 1, Chesapeake Shores Inc., Chesapeake, \$303,000.

Aquaculture Real Estate Corporation to AAF Relco LLC, 20.42 acres, Westville, \$898,000.

Courtney E. Love, et al, to William S. Love Jr., et al, 2.5901 acres, Piantankank, gift.

Timber Resource Management to Michael Hux, et al, Parcel One: 26.76 acres, Parcel Two: 13.38 acres, Parcel Three: 13 acres, and Parcel Four: 8 acres, Westville, \$135,000.

Ruth D. Russell to James Michael Russell, et al, 144 Breezy Way, Piantankank, revocable transfer on death deed, no consideration.

## CIRCUIT COURT GLOUCESTER

The following cases were heard recently in Gloucester Circuit Court:

John Clinton Jefferson, 55, 3610 Woods Cross Road, Gloucester, felony charges of obtain money by false pretenses and contractor fraud were dismissed and removed from the court docket.

Crystal Hardwick Dyess, 43, 8212 Glass 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.

Guy William Roberts, 68, 7377 Village Green Lane, Gloucester, was sentenced to two years in the state penitentiary, all suspended, for the felony conviction of possess Schedule I/II controlled substance.

Brooke Nichole Keeton, 32, 15208 George Washington Memorial Highway, Saluda, was sentenced to five years in the state penitentiary, with four years, seven months suspended, for the felony conviction of child abuse/neglect. Also, the defendant was sentenced to five years in the state penitentiary, all suspended, for the felony conviction of possess Schedule I/II controlled substance. Also, the defendant was sentenced to 12 months' jail with 11 months suspended for the misdemeanor conviction of Driving While Intoxicated (second offense, drugs). The defendant was also fined \$1,000 and ordered to pay \$50 to the Trauma Fund, ordered to successfully complete ASAP and a parenting class and have no unsupervised contact with her children without Social Services. The defendant's operator's license was suspended three years.

Sharrita Kiara Johnson, 27, 7531 Riverpark Road, Hayes, was sentenced to two years in the state penitentiary with one year, six months suspended for the felony conviction of possess Schedule I/II controlled substance.

Jessica Kaye Thomas, 42, 5524 How-

ard Lane, Gloucester, pleaded guilty to a felony charge of possess Schedule I/II controlled substance. The court did not enter a verdict, instead deferring the proceeding for one year and ordering the defendant to complete a number of conditions, including the performance of 100 hours of community service work. If, at the end of said one-year period, all of the conditions have been met, the charge herein shall be dismissed.

Glenn Richard Musgrove, 29, 4112 Buckley Hall Road, Cobbs Creek, pleaded guilty and was found guilty of felony charge of DWI (third or subsequent offense) and an ancillary misdemeanor charge of drive after license revoked/suspended. The defendant was sentenced to five years in the state penitentiary, with four years, five months suspended on the felony conviction and 12 months' jail, all suspended, on the misdemeanor conviction.

James Douglas Cassell, 56, 42 Green Oaks Way, Port Haywood, pleaded guilty and was found guilty of felony charge of possess with the intent to sell a Schedule I/II controlled substance and an ancillary misdemeanor charge of DWI. The defendant was sentenced to 10 years in the state penitentiary with nine years suspended on the felony conviction and 12 months' jail with 11 months suspended on the misdemeanor conviction. The defendant was also fined \$500 with \$250 of fine suspended, ordered to successfully complete ASAP and his operator's license was suspended one year. Pursuant to a plea agreement, a second felony charge of possess with the intent to sell a Schedule I/II controlled substance was nolle prossed and removed from the court docket.

Lindsay Stapleton, 44, Norfolk, pleaded guilty and was found guilty of felony charges of unauthorized use of a vehicle and fail to appear. The defendant was sentenced to five years in the state penitentiary, all suspended, for the unauthorized use conviction and one year in the state penitentiary, all suspended, on the fail to appear conviction. The defendant's operator's license was suspended 60 days.

Joe Clifford Freeman III, 45, Richmond, felony charge of hit and run was amended to a misdemeanor. The defendant pleaded guilty and was found guilty of the amended charge and sentenced to 12 months' jail with 11 months suspended. The defendant was ordered to pay \$100 in restitution to the victim and have no contact, direct or indirect, with the victim.

Marlon Howard Bruce Jr., 25, 11020 Woods Cross Road, Gloucester, was found guilty of felony charges of drive after license revoked/suspended (third or subsequent offense, two counts), possession of ammunition after having been convicted of a felony and an ancillary misdemeanor charge of drive after license revoked/suspended. Sentencing is set for Feb. 13, 2024 at 9:30 a.m.

Darrylana Lashawna Jones, 24, Norfolk, was found guilty of felony charges of grand larceny and break and enter. Sentencing is set for Feb. 20, 2024 at 9:30 a.m.

## MATHEWS

A Mathews County grand jury, meeting on Monday, Nov. 20, returned indictments on the following charges:

Samuel Thomas Nugent, 47, Middle Peninsula Regional Security Center, Saluda, felony charges of forgery (four counts), perjury (three counts), elude/disregard police, possess firearm after having been convicted of a felony and illegally obtain DMV document, April 27, July 4 and July 5, 2023.

Christopher Allen Clevinger, 28, Middle Peninsula Regional Security Center, Saluda, felony charge of possess child pornography, June 23, 2023.

Mindy Sue Davis, 36, 1111 Buckley Hall Road, Cobbs Creek, felony charge of steal a motor vehicle having a value of \$1,000, July 9, 2023.

Johnathan Thomas Edwards, 23, 471 Put In Creek Road, Mathews, felony charge of elude police, July 16, 2023.

William Beverly Taylor, 59, Newport News, felony charge of Driving While Intoxicated (third or subsequent offense), July 7, 2023.

Thomas Ray Tilley, 122 Queens Cove Lane, Mathews, three felony counts of distribute methamphetamine, a Schedule I/II controlled substance, June 29, July 5 and July 12, 2023.

Shannon Marie Estep 26, 8008 Cedar Drive, Gloucester, felony charge of possess methamphetamine, a Schedule I/II controlled substance, April 28, 2023.

Logan Brent Cannon, 38, 177 Lovers Lane, Mathews, felony charges of distribute methamphetamine, a Schedule I/II controlled substance and distribute a substance that imitated a controlled substance classified in Schedule I/II of the Drug Control Act, April 21 and Aug. 24, 2023.

Melinda Nicole Thomas, 37, 177 Lovers Lane, Mathews, two felony counts of distribute methamphetamine, a Schedule I/II controlled substance, May 19 and June 6, 2023.

Joanna Marie Ferreris, 39, 177 Lovers Lane, Mathews, felony charges of distribute methamphetamine, a Schedule I/II controlled substance and possess methamphetamine, Aug. 29 and 30, 2023.

Jerry Wilson Lane Jr., 45, 177 Lovers Lane, Mathews, felony charges of distribute methamphetamine, a Schedule I/II controlled substance (three counts) and possess methamphetamine, Aug. 1, 4 and 30, 2023.

## DISTRICT COURT GLOUCESTER

The following cases were heard in Gloucester General District Court on Nov. 15-16:

William Robert Donnelly III, Laguna Vista, Texas, Driving While Intoxicated, \$250 fine and \$251 costs, 90 days' jail, operator's license suspended one year; 80 days of jail sentence suspended upon successful completion of ASAP. Also, fail to stop at the scene of an accident, \$35 costs and 12 months' jail; jail sentence suspended. Also, operate uninsured motor vehicle, \$500 fine and \$35 costs.

Matthew Lewis Johnston, 6823 Johnston Street, Gloucester, DWI, \$250 fine and \$241 costs, 90 days' jail, operator's license suspended one year; 85 days of jail sentence suspended upon successful completion of ASAP.

Kimberly Dianne Morris, 7513 Riverpark Road, Gloucester Point, fail to comply with court terms, \$120 costs and 80 days of previously suspended jail sentence revoked and resuspended.

Kisha Renee Robertson, 3406 East River Road, Cardinal, shoplifting, \$241 costs and 180 days' jail; 176 days of jail sentence suspended.

Robert Raymond Giers Jr., 874 Chapel Lane, Cobbs Creek, drive after license revoked/suspended, \$250 fine and \$251 costs, 30 days' jail, operator's license suspended six months; 20 days of jail sentence suspended. Also, drive after license revoked/suspended, \$500 fine and \$216 costs, 30 days' jail; jail sentence suspended. Also, drive after license revoked/suspended, \$216 costs and 30 days' jail; jail sentence suspended.

Joshua Paul Queen, 7703 Belroi Road, Gloucester, reckless driving (97/55), \$1,000 fine and \$226 costs.

## MATHEWS

The following case was heard recently in Mathews General District Court:

David Shannon Belcher of Port Haywood, reckless driving (pass school bus), \$500 fine and \$111 costs.

## SHERIFF'S REPORT GLOUCESTER

The following incidents were reported this week by the Gloucester County Sheriff's Office:

**DRIVING UNDER THE INFLUENCE:** A 42-year-old Gloucester man was charged with driving under the influence (second offense) after GCSO deputies were dispatched to Riverbend Apartments in the 5800 block of Glass Bay Road in reference to a single-vehicle accident the night of Nov. 22. Deputies arrived on scene and discovered there were no injuries.

**LARCENY:** A GCSO deputy fielded a report in reference to fraud the night of Nov. 19. A suspect scammed a victim out of less than \$1,000 while using Facebook. This is an active investigation; A GCSO deputy was dispatched to the Tidewater Beagle Club in reference to a reported theft the morning of Nov. 24. A shotgun, three starter pistols and snacks had been stolen from the club building over the past week. This is an active investigation; A GCSO deputy fielded a report in reference to a theft the night of Nov. 25. A victim had placed personal items in a locker at Riverside Wellness and Fitness Center at approximately noon prior to a workout. Upon return, the victim noticed the items were gone. This is an active investigation; A 40-year-old Hayes woman was charged with petit larceny after GCSO deputies were dispatched to Walmart in reference to alleged shoplifting the afternoon of Nov. 22; A GCSO deputy fielded a report in reference to a stolen wallet at Walmart the afternoon of Nov. 23. A victim left their wallet in a grocery cart. It was later discovered that multiple fraudulent charges had been made to the victim's credit cards. This is an active investigation.

**ASSAULT:** A 47-year-old Hayes woman was charged with assault and battery of a family member after GCSO deputies were dispatched to the 8100 block of Meandering Lane in reference to an alleged domestic incident the night of Nov. 25. A victim was observed with an injury that did not require emergency medical care.

**DAMAGED PROPERTY:** A 22-year-old homeless woman was charged

with felony damaged property after GCSO deputies were dispatched to the Gloucester Inn Motel in reference to damaged property the evening of Nov. 24. An investigation revealed a tenant had allegedly caused over \$1,000 in damage to a motel room.

**DISORDERLY CONDUCT:** A 41-year-old Gloucester woman was charged with disorderly conduct after GCSO deputies were dispatched to the 7500 block of Belroi Road in reference to an individual brandishing a knife in the early morning hours of Nov. 25. An investigation revealed a suspect had thrown rocks at an individual's window while holding a knife. The suspect allegedly screamed at the individual and began throwing rocks at the victim's vehicle.

**POSSESSION:** A 45-year-old Gloucester woman was charged with two counts of possession of a Schedule I/II controlled substance, driving with a suspended license, damaged property, hit and run, reckless driving and receive/possess stolen goods after GCSO deputies were dispatched to the 8200 block of Crab Thicket Road in reference to a single-vehicle crash in the early morning hours of Nov. 22. On arrival, deputies discovered an unoccupied vehicle that was reported stolen out of Chesterfield County. Deputies identified the suspect of the vehicle theft. A search of the area yielded negative results. At 5:12 a.m., a GCSO deputy conducted a traffic stop and located the suspect hiding in the passenger floorboard of the vehicle. A search revealed suspected methamphetamine and cocaine.

**FRAUD:** A GCSO deputy fielded a call in reference to a report of identity fraud the night of Nov. 21. A suspect allegedly used the victim's Social Security number during a Gloucester County arrest that took place in 1996. This is an active investigation.

## MATHEWS

The Mathews County Sheriff's Office reported that after a five-monthlong drug investigation, drug investigators with Mathews and the Virginia State Police Tri-Rivers Drug Task Force obtained indictments on five individuals who had engaged in the distribution of narcotics for a period of several months. Those cases are listed under circuit court.

The sheriff's office is also investigating several incidents that occurred during the past week.

On Tuesday, Nov. 21, a resident of the 2500 block of Old Ferry Road on Gwynn's Island reported that a vehicle had sustained damage while parked in their driveway during the night of Nov. 21-22. Damages were estimated at \$634.86.

Deputies responded to the 900 block of Haven Beach Road in Diggs on Sunday, Nov. 26 in reference to damage to a residence, which were estimated to be less than \$100.

Also on Sunday, deputies responded to the 400 block of Osprey Road in Bohannon in reference to a stolen firearm valued at approximately \$900.

Anyone with information about these or other cases in Mathews is asked to call Crime Solvers at 804-725-7001. If information provided leads to an arrest, the recovery of stolen property, or the seizure of illegal drugs, the caller may receive a cash reward.

## FIRE REPORT MATHEWS

Nov. 24, 10:43 a.m., vehicle accident, 9200 block of Buckley Hall Road at Little Sue, Mathews, one engine.

Nov. 26, 10:50 a.m., vehicle accident, 4100 block of Buckley Hall Road at Mathews Chapel United Methodist Church, Cobbs Creek, one engine.

Nov. 27, 6:05 a.m., smoke investigation, 11100 block of John Clayton Memorial Highway, North, two engines.

## Report finds steep decline in young driver crash rates

Traffic crash and fatality rates for young drivers have improved dramatically over the past two decades—even more so than for older drivers, according to a recent report by the Governors Highway Safety Association.

“Young driver crash rates are nearly four times higher than that of older drivers per miles driven, but the good news is that we're making progress,” said Pam Shadel Fischer, report author and GHSA senior director of external engagement, during an Oct. 31 GHSA webinar.

The Oct. 2023 report, “Young Drivers and Traffic Fatalities: 20 Years of Progress on the Road to Zero” defines young drivers as 20 years or younger and examined Fatality Analysis Reporting System data for 2002 through 2021.

The young driver crash fatality rate improved in all but three states and Washington, D.C. In Virginia, fatal crash involvement rates per 10,000 licensed drivers under 21 fell 37 percent.

Fatal crashes involving a young driver fell 38 percent while they increased nearly 8 percent for older drivers. At the same time,

deaths of young drivers fell about 45 percent compared to an 11 percent increase in fatalities for older drivers.

“I believe that young drivers, more than any other age group out there, have the greatest potential for reaching this milestone of zero fatalities,” added Fischer. “But it's going to take us doing more to get there.”

She outlined the policies and programs responsible for gains in teen driver safety, including Graduated Driver Licensing. This is a three-step system that includes a supervised learner's period, an intermediate phase with restrictions for novice drivers and a license with all privileges. “We know it's the most effective tool we have in our toolbox for teen driver safety,” Fischer noted. “This three-step licensing process is really responsible for novice driver crash rates falling anywhere from 20-40 percent.”

Other effective tools include parent involvement, driver education, behind-the-wheel training, peer-to-peer traffic safety education programs and the emergence of safer vehicles and teen-specific technologies.

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