

Eastern Shore

HITCHING

POST

THE SHORE'S ONLY LOCALLY OWNED NEWSPAPER



92nd Pony Penning is the Island's 'Mane' Event

Staff Report

For those born and raised in Chincoteague, the 92nd Annual Pony Penning will be a time to see family and reconnect with old friends. For others, friendships that were forged around a common interest will be renewed and reinforced. For newcomers, it will be a chance to see the event made famous by Marguerite Henry's book, "Misty of Chincoteague," and later immortalized in the 1961 Hollywood movie by the same name, filmed mostly on location on and around Chincoteague.

For everyone, the Hitching Post has rounded up the schedules of this year's activities into a Pony Penning/Pony Swim guide. Thanks to contributors Chincoteague Island Volunteer Fire Department and the Chincoteague Chamber of Commerce & Certified Visitor Center. This guide pertains only to Pony Penning and related activities. Please peruse the rest of the paper for other family fun and equine encounter activities this week on Chincoteague.

June 22 and June 23

July 22 is the south-end roundup at 4 p.m.; the north-end roundup is 7 a.m. on July 23 (the public is not permitted at the north-end roundup). During these two days, the veterinarian will check the ponies to determine if they are healthy enough to make the swim.

June 24

The Beach Walk on Assateague Island is at 6 a.m. The Saltwater Cowboys will accompany the north herd ponies to join the south herd at the corral in the Chincoteague National



Wildlife Refuge, to await the June 26 swim and auction July 27.

This year, there will be 22 stallions, and 110 mares, and approximately 60 foals making the swim from Assateague Island to Chincoteague Island.

June 26

The ponies will swim from Assateague to Chincoteague, with charter boats lining both sides of the As-

sateague canal. For the first time, this year those who assemble in Veteran's Memorial Park will be able to view the swim from a Jumbotron. The first foal to come ashore will be named King or Queen Neptune and given away in a raffle drawing. Tickets are sold during the carnival.

The swim will take place at slack-tide (the period in between tides). Af-

ter the swim, the ponies are given a few minutes of rest before the Saltwater Cowboys begin to nudge them up Pony Swim Lane and onto the roadway for the parade to the fairgrounds.

With an announced swim time between 6 and 8 a.m., the shuttle bus will begin to run around 4 a.m. See page 8 – 9 for full shuttle details. Or-

(Continued on Page 2)

Photo by Angie H. Crutchley

~ Pony Penning ~

(Continued From Front Page)

ganizers are asking riders to pay close attention to details, as day-tripping, handicap parking locations and pick-up points have changed from recent years.

July 27

Pony auction begins at 8 a.m., at the carnival grounds on Main Street.

July 28

July 28, the ponies will return to Assateague. The Saltwater Cowboys ac-

company the diminished herd to Pony Swim Lane, where they are nudged back into the water for their swim back to Assateague for another year.

For more information about the Chincoteague ponies and schedule updates, go to the Chincoteague Volunteer Fire Company's webpage, <http://cvfc3.com/> or to the Chamber of Commerce website at www.chincoteague-chamber.com



Photo by Angie H. Crutchley



Photo by Angie H. Crutchley



Photo by Georgia Allen



Did You Know?

Fun Facts About the Island

By Linda Cicoira

Part of the fun of visiting the island or living on Chincoteague is learning and knowing about the place. It has a rich history, interesting sights to see, the famous wild ponies, of course, and internet sites that inform and prepare everyone for all of it.

The Hitching Post has been checking some websites and found several to recommend.

Fascinating facts can be found at pangeashellfish.com/chincoteague-oyster/ After browsing through the pages there, you will be an expert in the field of what the Panega Shellfish Company calls "Oysterology."

Chincoteague oysters are like no other — salty and good.

"In North America, there are 5 species of edible oysters commercially available, Eastern (*crassostrea virginica*), Pacific (*crassostrea gigas*), Kumamoto (*crassostrea sikamea*), European Flat (*ostrea edulis*) and Olympia (*ostrea conchiphila/lurida*)," the website tells.

Have you been checking for a pearl in those molluscs? "Oysters that commercially produce pearls are NOT in the same family as edible oysters," the website continues. "The edible varieties of oysters can produce pearls, but it is very rare."

"Oysters take on flavors influenced by their surrounding waters and topography, very much like wine and coffee," the site also states. "This concept is known as 'merroir' for oysters. For example, an oyster grown closer to freshwater will taste less salty than an

oyster grown in a salt pond ... Environmental characteristics can influence an oyster's flavor such as the minerals in the sediment of the growing area, the amount of seaweed nearby, or even the type of algae the oyster may be filtering."

"Oysters are full of nutritional benefits!" the Oysterologists said. "They are low in calories and saturated fats, and jam packed with vitamins and minerals. Oysters contain 2.5 times the amount of iron and 10 times the amount of zinc compared to beef. One serving of oysters provides more than the daily recommended value of copper for adults. They're a great source for vitamin B-12, which is essential for the function of the brain, nervous system, and blood formation."

And here's the information you've been waiting for, "Oysters are safe to eat year-round."

"The 'R' rule, which singles out the warmer months of summer (May to August), is an outdated rule (that started) when refrigeration and scientific testing was not as prevalent," the site stated. "Since summer tends to be the time when there are algae blooms, red tides, and higher counts of vibrio (a naturally occurring bacteria in the ocean), there are recommendations to avoid oysters during these months. However, the commercial shellfishing industry has strict regulations like closing shellfishing areas to take precautions against potential food-borne risks," the site added.

If you want to learn more about ponies, we have that for you too. The website, <http://www.pony-chincoteague.com>

involves the world's First Chincoteague Pony Registry, a non-profit organization that has been around for more than 30 years.

Another site is one called "The International Museum of the Horse" at <http://www.imh.org/exhibits/online/chincoteague-pony>

"Chincoteague and Assateague Ponies inhabit the 37-mile barrier island of Assateague off the coast of Maryland and Virginia," it states. "Both herds are essentially the same except for the area of the island on which they graze, divided only by a fence which is an extension of the border between the two states. These small, hardy horses have been the source of great intrigue and speculation throughout their history on the island, from how they arrived there to the love affair created by Marguerite Henry's children's book, 'Misty of Chincoteague' and the annual Pony Penning event."

And speaking of Misty, here's everything you ever wanted to know about that famous mare at <http://www.mistysheaven.com/historyofmisty.html> From links and articles to the tracing of her ancestors, there's a lot to read.

"Misty was foaled July 20, 1946, at Beebe Ranch on Chincoteague."

Her father was the "chestnut pinto, Pied Piper." Her mother "was the smokey black pinto, Phantom."

"Misty was a 12-hand palomino pinto with the map of the United States on her side, and a blaze shaped like the state of Virginia. She was foaled into the pony herd of Clarence (Grandpa) and Ida (Grandma) Beebe."

Of course, Misty has friends. Join the group at <http://www.mistyofchincoteague.org/> or read even more about her.

The Chincoteague Natural History Association has a website too. <http://www.piping-plover.org/> is about supporting efforts of the Chincoteague Wildlife Refuge, where all can visit the beach, see the wildlife and climb the lighthouse.

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Feather Fund Makes Dreams Come True

By Jasmine Foeman

Submitted Photos

It all began with two young girls wanting a pony, a woman's desire to help, and a lot of feathers.

In 1995, Lois Szymanski and her husband traveled to Chincoteague Island for the Pony Penning as they had done in years past. Their two daughters desperately wanted a pony and had saved \$500. Unfortunately, it wasn't enough, and the girls were losing heart.

Unbeknownst to any of them, David Savage, a fireman they had spoken to earlier in the day, was about to step in, in what the family later saw as a small act of divine intervention.

This is where Carollynn Suplee comes in. Suplee had been diagnosed with cancer - a brain tumor. She was worried that she might not survive the operation she needed to beat the disease. Leaning on her faith, she asked the Lord to protect her during surgery. This was the point she reported beginning to see feathers everywhere. She would see them in the most random places. Then one day she and her husband, Ed, were visiting the Grotto of the Lourdes in Thurmont, Md., and the bible in the garden was open to Psalms 91:4: "He shall cover thee with his feathers, and under his wings shalt thou trust."

At that year's Pony Penning, Suplee wanted to buy a pony to donate back as an expression of gratitude, but the Suplees arrived after the buy-back ponies had been auctioned.

That's when Savage told Suplee about the girls who would not get their pony. Suplee walked up to them and said that she wanted to help the girls buy a pony. At first, Szymanski and her husband were reluctant; but they, and the rest of the crowd, listened to Suplee's story. She told the Szymanskis that she knew she was meant to do this for them when a seagull feather came down in front of her when Savage was telling her about the girls, and also when she noticed a feather on Szymanski's daughter's shirt.

The Szymanskis relented and let Suplee help their daughters buy a pony. Szymanski says on the Feather Fund website, that they picked "a tiny brown pony foal with four white stockings." Before seeing the pony, Szymanski's daughter asked if

they could name the pony Sea Feather. As if it were part of a greater plan, they noticed the colt had a white marking on its neck in the shape of a feather.

After that summer, Suplee and her husband came back to the auction and bought ponies for children to whom she

felt drawn: children with a need and whom she felt could learn from their ponies. Patience, responsibility, and compassion are some of the lessons she believed ponies could instill in children. If she did not feel drawn to a child, then she purchased a turn-back pony for the fire

department.

Sadly, Suplee's story ended when she succumbed to the brain tumor and died in October of 2003, but her legacy has continued. Szymanski and Ed Suplee decided to start the Feather Fund.

More than three dozen ponies have been placed with children through the Feather Fund since 2004.

In order to be considered for a Chincoteague Pony, applicants must complete a form and meet the requirements, which were established partly through what Suplee was looking for in the children for whom she purchased ponies. Some of the requirements include: being between 10 and 18, having adequate housing and care for the pony, and demonstrating equestrian background. Applicants must also raise a portion of the money themselves. If a recipient can no longer care for his or her pony, there is an obligation to make the pony available to the Feather Fund "at a reasonable cost" to be placed in a new home.

Szymanski says that Sea Feather is doing great, and her grandchildren ride him. Her granddaughter is currently taking riding lessons and Sea Feather has been lent to approximately six - eight 4-H camps for kids to ride.

"The Feather Fund is like a family rather than an organization," Szymanski says. Each year, the winners from previous years return for a picnic and reunion.

This year's 38th and 39th winners are Alyssa Jastram, of Maryland, and Kensington Nelson, of California.

Jastram and Nelson have been riding since they were three and four, respectively. They both attended their first pony penning last year and fell in love with it. Both girls were asked what being a part of the Feather Fund family meant to them.

Jastram replied by saying, "I'm happy for my new family and to be able to participate with other people and friends who are interested in Chincoteague ponies."

Nelson said, "Being a part of the Feather Fund family means to me that I will always have these friends and someone to rely on and be able to be myself around and never get told off for doing something wrong."

For more information on the Feather Fund, visit www.featherfund.net



Alyssa Jastram with her family's Chincoteague Pony, Tunee.



Kensington Nelson with a horse she rides at her barn, Voila

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What to do this week in and around Chincoteague

Friday, July 21:

Family Fun Fridays - Sandy Island Shores, 8:30 am - 11:30 am, Check-in begins at 8:15 a.m., Chincoteague Bay Field Station, 34001 Mill Dam Rd., Wallops Island, www.cbfieldstation.org

Rocketry, 2 p.m., Approximately 30 minutes, All ages welcome, NASA Wallops Island Visitor Center, <https://www.nasa.gov/content/wallops-visitor-center/public-programs>

Friday, July 21 – Sunday, July 23:

Chincoteague Island Blueberry Festival, 9 a.m. - 4:30 p.m., The Chincoteague Center (6155 Community Drive), www.chincoteagueblueberryfestival.com

Ladies Floozie Flounder Tournament, To benefit survivors of Breast Cancer, www.captbobsmarina.net/fishing_tournaments.html

Friday, July 21 – Saturday, July 22 & Monday, July 24 – Saturday, July 29:

Chincoteague Volunteer Fireman's Carnival, 7 - 11 p.m., Chincoteague Island Carnival Grounds, www.cvfc3.com

Saturday, July 22, Tuesday, July 25, Saturday, July 29:

Chincoteague Island Farmer & Artisan Market, 9 a.m. - 1 p.m., Chincoteague Cultural Alliance, 6309 Church St., www.chincoteagueculturalalliance.org/chincoteague-island-farmers-market.html

Saturday, July 22:

Imagination Playground, 11 a.m., Children can test their engineering and design skills in small rotations, Approximately 60 minutes, Geared toward ages 4 - 9, NASA Wallops Island Visitor Center, <https://www.nasa.gov/content/wallops-visitor-center/public-programs>

Peculiar Planet, 2 p.m., Short program to learn about one of the other planets in our solar system, Approximately 15 minutes, All ages welcome, NASA Wallops Island Visitor Center, <https://www.nasa.gov/content/wallops-visitor-center/public-programs>

Southern Herd Roundup, 4:30 p.m., "Saltwater Cowboys" round up the ponies on the Southern portion of Assateague, The Southern Pony Corral (along the beach road on Assateague Island), www.chincoteaguechamber.com/pony-swim

Monday, July 24:

The Pony Beach Walk, 6 a.m., "Saltwater Cowboys" moves ponies on from the North Corral to the South Corral, Assateague Beach, www.chincoteague.com/pony_swim_guide.html

Monday, July 24 - Friday, July 28:

"Misty of Chincoteague", 11 a.m., free admission, sponsored by Chincoteague Island Arts Organization, Island Theatre, 4074 Main St.

Tuesday, July 25:

US Coast Guard Open House, 9:30 a.m. - 2:30 p.m., Meet Coast Guard personnel, Coast Guard Auxiliary members and Virginia Marine Resources Commission Officers, Identification required at the gate, Hot dogs, hamburgers and drinks will be on sale, Chincoteague Coast Guard Station, 3823 Main St.

Tuesday Nights at the Museum: Where Island Tales Are Told, 7 p.m., Learn about the Chin-

coteague Ponies behind the Sunny & Jess Book Series, Adults \$4, Free admission for children (12 and under), active military, & Museum Members, Chincoteague Museum, 7125 Maddox Blvd, chincoteaguemuseum.com/programs

Ponies Receive Vet Checks, All of the ponies will be checked by a veterinarian and can be viewed by the public in the Southern Corral (along the beach road on Assateague Island), www.chincoteaguechamber.com/pony-swim

Kitchen Gallery Soirée: "Horsing Around", Noon-2 p.m., Free, Art celebrating Chincoteague ponies and an exhibit of Misty memorabilia. (Also open Sun. July 30, 3 - 5 p.m.) Chincoteague Cultural Alliance, 6309 Church St., www.chincoteagueculturalalliance.org

Kids Art Class "Horses of a Different Color", 1-2 p.m., Free, Make a mixed media souvenir, Chincoteague Cultural Alliance, 6309 Church St., www.chincoteagueculturalalliance.org

Wednesday, July 26:

92nd Annual Chincoteague Pony Swim, Swim takes place at "slack tide" (approximately 30 minute period between tides where there is no current), Specific time announced at the carnival grounds the week of the swim, Memorial Park, 7427 Memorial Park Drive, www.chincoteaguechamber.com/pony-swim

Engineering Challenger, 2 p.m., Registration begins at 1 p.m. at the Visitor Center front desk, Approximately 60 minutes, Recommended for ages 6 and up, NASA Wallops Island Visitor Center, <https://www.nasa.gov/content/wallops-visitor-center/public-programs>

Thursday, July 27:

92nd Annual Chincoteague Pony Auction, 8 a.m. - 12 p.m., helps to keep the overall size of the herd sustainable, Chincoteague Fairgrounds, Main St., www.chincoteaguechamber.com/pony-swim

Children's Summer Programs at the Library, 1 p.m., Tales4Tots (children 2 - 5) will be held in the library, Young Explorers (children 6 - 10) will be held in the pavilion or Theatre Annex (across from the library), Parents/guardians must accompany their children, The Chincoteague Island Library, 4077 Main St.

Summer Cinema Series, "Shaun the Sheep", Film begins at dusk, Popcorn and cold drinks on sale, Rated PG, Robert Reed Downtown Waterfront Park, (in case of rain films are shown at CCA Headquarters, 6309 Church St.), www.chincoteagueculturalalliance.org/summer-cinema-series.html

Friday, July 28:

Chincoteague Story Telling Guild, 7 p.m., Refreshments begin at 6:30 p.m., Free admission, Chincoteague Island Library, 4077 Main St., www.chincoteagueculturalalliance.org/chincoteague-storytelling-guild.html

Ponies Swim back to Assateague, Memorial Park, 7427 Memorial Park Dr., www.chincoteaguechamber.com/pony-swim

Saturday, July 29:

Music at the Dock, 7 p.m., Free concert, Performance by Blue Crab Crossing, Robert Reed Park in Chincoteague's historic downtown, www.chincoteagueculturalalliance.org/music-at-the-dock.html

All listings are provided for information only; call or check websites for updates and confirmation.

Day Trips and Side Trips Around the Eastern Shore

Thursday, July 27:

Movie - "Notorious" (1946), 7 - 9 p.m., \$5, Historic Palace Theatre, 305 Mason Ave., Cape Charles,
<http://artsentercapecharles.org/calendar/>

Friday, July 21 - Wednesday, July 26:

"Cars 3", 7 p.m. (July 23 also at 4 p.m.), Adults \$9, Seniors \$8, Children (12 and under with parent) \$7.50, Roseland Theatre, 48 Market Street, Onancock,
<http://www.roselandonancock.com/>

Friday, July 21 - Sunday, July 23 & Thursday, July 27 - Saturday, July 29:

"Young Frankenstein", 8 p.m. (July 23 at 2:30 p.m.), Adults \$20, Seniors \$18, Student \$10 (Reserved Tickets: Adults \$25, Senior \$23, Student \$15, call 757-787-2050 for reserved seating, North Street Playhouse, 34 Main Street, Onancock, <http://northstreetplayhouse.org/etcetera-1/>

Friday, July 28 - Saturday, 29:

"Transformers: The Last Knight", 7 p.m., Adults \$9, Seniors \$8, Children (12 and under with parent) \$7.50, Roseland Theatre, 48 Market Street, Onancock, <http://www.roselandonancock.com/>



Photos from Past Pony Pennings by
 Angie H. Crutchley

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Pony Swim Planning Guide from the Chincoteague Chamber of Commerce

Info Courtesy of the Town of Chincoteague and the Chincoteague Chamber of Commerce & Certified Visitor Center

Swim time estimated between 6 – 8 a.m.

General Information

- Free shuttle buses will begin at 4 a.m. Shuttle buses will run on Wednesday only.
- Do not carry large coolers or large umbrellas onto buses. Bring only what will fit in your lap.
- Volunteer guides will be on buses and at locations along the shuttle route to assist.
- Be prepared for hot and humid conditions at the swim site. Bring plenty of water, sunscreen and insect repellent. Seating is not provided. The swim area at Pony Swim Lane is marshland, so wear proper shoes. Flip flops are not recommended.
- Please be patient after the swim! Several hours before the swim, thousands of people are transport-

ed. Thousands cannot all be accommodated at one time immediately after the swim.

- Traffic will be extremely heavy in the carnival grounds area after the swim. Several of the roads from the swim site to the carnival will be closed until after the ponies arrive. Parking will be limited to the carnival parking lots.
- Traffic will clear after the shuttle ends operation.

Handicap accessibility

- Handicapped-tagged vehicles will be permitted access into two front parking lots at the Chincoteague Municipal Center on Community Drive. Very limited parking is available. No handicap parking will be available at Veteran's Memorial Park.
- There will be one bus equipped for handicap accessibility, which is accessed at the municipal center.

The Shuttle Service

- Shuttles start at 4 a.m. from the

municipal center at 6150 Community Dr. This is the parking area for day visitors to catch the shuttle. There will not be parking available at other pick-up points.

- Immediately after the swim, two lines will form in front of Memorial Park (the drop off site for the swim). One line is for transportation to the carnival (where the ponies are going) and one line is for the municipal center and other locations.
- If you walk from Memorial Park to the pony landing site, you must be back in front of Memorial Park within 30 minutes of the ponies coming ashore to catch the shuttle.
- Several buses will go directly to the carnival grounds after the swim. Most buses will load at the front of Memorial Park and go to the municipal center, then to other stops. Buses will return to Memorial Park to reload until the swim area is cleared.
- Walking from the swim site to the carnival after the swim is recommended. The distance is approxi-

mately 1/2 mile.

- No buses will load behind the carnival grounds until the swim site is emptied.
- After the swim area is cleared, there will be no further stops at Memorial Park. Buses will only be available behind the carnival grounds on Willow Street.
- A long, single-file line will form behind the carnival immediately after the ponies arrive. The end of the line is to the south of the corral. You must get to the end of the line and work toward the buses. Be sure everyone in your party is counted for loading. The line moves quickly as buses become available.
- The last bus leaving from behind the carnival grounds on Willow Street will be approximately one hour after the ponies arrive at the carnival.
- At 11 a.m., the Pony Express, the island's only trolley system, will begin service across from the main entrance of the carnival grounds on Main Street. Cost is \$0.25/person.



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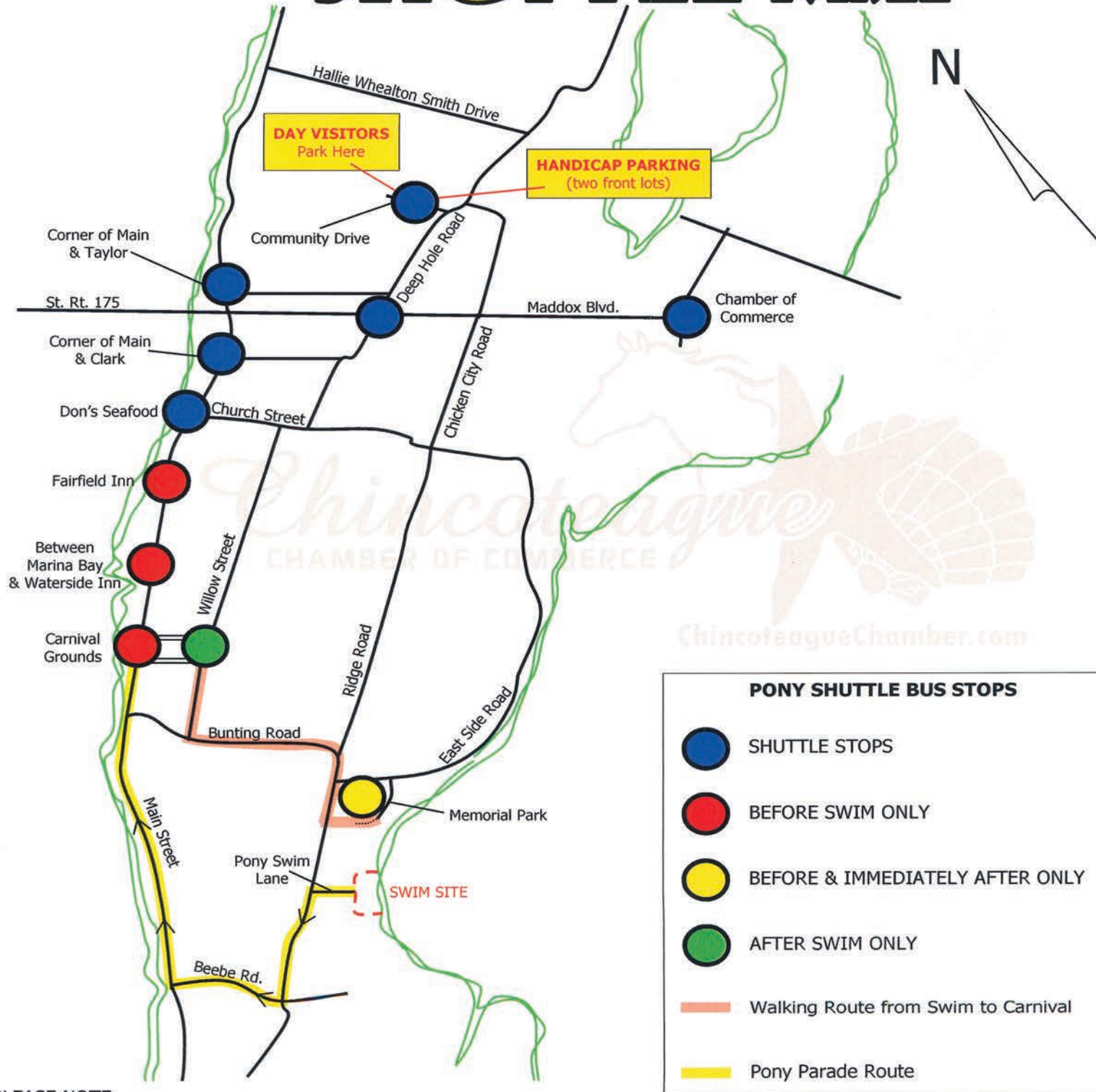
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2017 PONY SWIM SHUTTLE MAP



PLEASE NOTE:

HANDICAP PARKING is only available at Community Drive front two parking lots. No handicap parking will be available at Memorial Park.

Official Pony Swim shuttle map provided in cooperation with the [Town of Chincoteague](#) and the [Chincoteague Chamber of Commerce](#).



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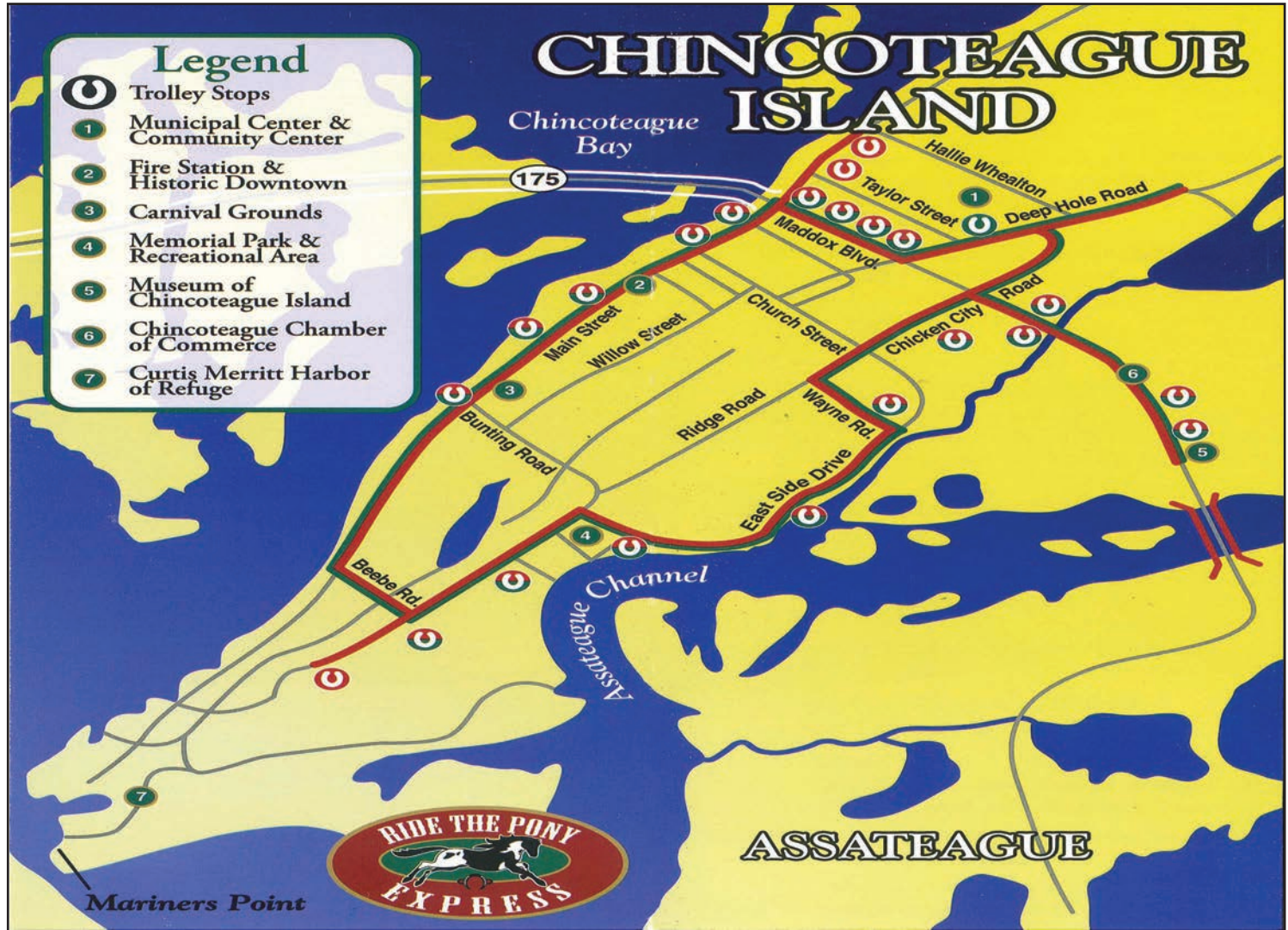
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2017 TROLLEY SCHEDULE

GREEN ROUTE										RED ROUTE											
EVENING HOURS ONLY										EVENING HOURS ONLY											
Pine Grove	5:02		6:02		7:02		8:02		9:02		10:02	Pine Grove	5:15		6:15		7:15		8:15		9:15
Maddox Blvd. & Deep Hole Rd.	5:05	5:35	6:05	6:35	7:05	7:35	8:05	8:35	9:05	9:35	10:05	High School	5:20		6:20		7:20		8:20		9:20
Main St. & Church St.	5:08	5:38	6:08	6:38	7:08	7:38	8:08	8:38	9:08	9:38	10:08	Main St. & Church St.	5:22	5:51	6:22	6:51	7:22	7:51	8:22	8:51	9:22
Beebe Rd. & Ridge Rd.	5:13	5:43	6:13	6:43	7:13	7:43	8:13	8:43	9:13	9:43	10:13	Beebe Ranch Turnaround		5:59		6:59		7:59		8:59	
Memorial Park	5:17	5:47	6:17	6:47	7:17	7:47	8:17	8:47	9:17	9:47	10:17	Beebe Rd. & Ridge Rd.	5:30		6:30		7:30		8:30		9:30
Pony Centre	5:21	5:51	6:21	6:51	7:21	7:51	8:21	8:51	9:21	9:51	10:21	Memorial Park	5:34		6:34		7:34		8:34		9:34
Museum of Chincoteague Is.	5:25	5:55	6:25	6:55	7:25	7:55	8:25	8:55	9:25	9:55	10:25	Museum of Chincoteague Is.	5:38	6:08	6:38	7:08	7:38	8:08	8:38	9:08	9:38

GREEN ROUTE: Designated "Free Rides" courtesy of the Chincoteague Chamber of Commerce
 SEPT.: 30th - Chili Chowder Cook Off - 10am - 10:30pm
 OCTOBER: 7th - Oyster Fest - 10am - 10:30pm (Ride free 10am - 5pm)

RED ROUTE: Carnival, Pony Swim, Pony Auction, Pony Swim Back Extended Hours
 JULY: 1st - Fireworks - 5pm - Midnight 26th - Pony Swim - TBA - Midnight
 JULY: 27th - Pony Auction - 7am - 1pm** 28th - Pony Swim Back - 6am - 1pm**
 ** Last Call for Trolley during Carnival is 11:00pm

ROUTE DAYS OF OPERATION

- The **Green Route** will run the 3rd of June, and will run continuously June 6th through September 9th. The **Green Route** route will be run Friday and Saturday, starting September 15th through October 14th.
- The **Red Route** will begin on June 5th and will run every day through August 31st.

Trolley fare is 25 cents per person per ride. Exact change is appreciated. Free ride tokens are available at local businesses. Drivers do not carry cash. **As a courtesy, please: no alcohol, no tobacco, and no pets.** The Pony Express is seasonal transportation service provided by the Town of Chincoteague. This service is open to the public. Many of the motels, restaurants, shops, parks, recreational areas, ice cream parlours, and campgrounds are along our routes. Trolleys are equipped with wheelchair lifts. To inquire about Americans with Disabilities Act public transportation option, please contact the Town of Chincoteague during business hours at 757-336-6519, or The Pony Express at 757-854-8572, after 5 p.m.

FIND YOUR THRILL AT THE BLUEBERRY FESTIVAL

Story by Amanda Mehall

"I know you'll find a special meaning to the day, walking down the Blueberry Way..." sings Deedra Ervin in Chincoteague Island's Blueberry Festival's official song, "Blueberry Way."

Kicking off on Friday, July 21, and going until Sunday, July 23, the Blueberry Festival will host vendors selling blueberry-themed foods, crafts and goods combined with live entertainment and family-friendly activities all day long.

"It's the largest fine arts and crafts event on the Eastern Shore of Virginia," festival promoter Sam Serio said.

The festival began in 1987 as a way to celebrate summertime, and the founders settled on centering it on blueberries because of their durability.

"The ladies looked for something to hold up to summer heat," Serio said. "Strawberries or peaches wouldn't work."

Thirty years later, blueberries are still as popular as ever due to their recent spike in interest due to their high amounts of vitamins and antioxidants, which help fuel the growth of Chincoteague's Blueberry Festival. This year, more than 100 different vendors from 16 states will be featured, includ-

ing artists from as far as Florida and Missouri. Serio described the Blueberry Festival as a Christmas in July shopping experience.

"There will be anything that you can imagine that has to do with blueberries," Serio said, "There are jams, jellies, massage oils, people integrate blueberries into everything they do."

Local businesses also get involved to celebrate blueberries for the weekend. Serio mentioned that Sugarbakers Bakery and Café will prepare the "ultimate blueberry pie" and Island Creamery makes a special blueberry ice cream for the festival.

Aside from blueberry food and goods, Serio said the festival will also have nonstop live music and entertainment all three days. Three locally loved artists, Deedra Ervin, Jessica West and Emily Guemple, will perform on Sunday, July 23, during the women's singer showcase. Other performers include Hemlock Hollow, Blind Wind, The Reasoners, Dalton Elliot and Virginia Creek, Wayne and Chris Young, Bryce Hitchcock as well as magic shows performed by Jamal the Magician all three days.

"I enjoy interacting with the people

that come to the festival, the exhibitors and attendees, they're all interesting people," Serio said.

The Blueberry Festival will take place at the Chincoteague Center, 6155 Community Dr., this weekend from 9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Admission is \$5 for an adult day pass, \$8 for a two-day pass,

\$10 for a three-day pass and children 12 and under are \$1.

Further information, including a schedule of live performances, complete list of vendors, access to the song "Blueberry Way" and a coupon to the festival, is available on chincoteagueblueberryfestival.com or [facebook.com/ChincoteagueFestival](https://www.facebook.com/ChincoteagueFestival).



Photo by Connie Morrison

BUTTER CAKE WITH BLUEBERRY TOPPING

INGREDIENTS:

- 1 (18-1/4-oz.) PACKAGE YELLOW CAKE MIX
- 1 EGG
- 8 TABLESPOONS BUTTER, MELTED

FILLING:

- 1 (8-OUNCE) PACKAGE CREAM CHEESE, SOFTENED
- 2 EGGS
- 1 (16-OUNCE) BOX POWDERED SUGAR
- 1 TBSP. VANILLA

DIRECTIONS:

- PREHEAT OVEN TO 300 DEGREES F.
- COMBINE CAKE MIX, EGG, AND MELTED BUTTER & MIX WELL. PAT THE MIXTURE INTO THE BOTTOM OF A LIGHTLY GREASED 13 BY 9-INCH BAKING PAN.
- IN A LARGE BOWL, BEAT THE CREAM CHEESE, THEN ADD THE EGGS AND VANILLA AND BEAT TOGETHER UNTIL SMOOTH.

- NEXT, ADD THE POWDERED SUGAR AND MIX WELL. SPREAD OVER CAKE BATTER AND BAKE FOR ABOUT 40-50 MINUTES. MAKE SURE NOT TO OVERBAKE AS THE CENTER SHOULD BE A LITTLE GOOEY.

TOP SHELF INGREDIENTS — GOOD VANILLA AND FRESH EGGS (DUCK EGGS, IF YOU CAN GET THEM) — BRING OUT THE FLAVORS IN THIS SIMPLE CAKE.

(RECIPE ADAPTED FROM PAULA DEEN'S OOEY GOOEY BUTTER CAKE)

BLUEBERRY TOPPING:

- 4 CUPS FRESH BLUEBERRIES
 - 1 TBSP. CORNSTARCH, DISSOLVED INTO 2 TBSP. WATER
 - 1/3 CUP WATER
 - 1 TBSP. LEMON JUICE
 - 1/4 CUP SUGAR
- PLACE BLUEBERRIES IN A SAUCEPAN WITH WATER AND SUGAR. HEAT OVER MEDIUM-HIGH HEAT UNTIL MIXTURE COMES TO A LOW BOIL AND BLUEBERRIES JUST START TO BREAK APART.
 - ADD DISSOLVED CORNSTARCH TO SAUCEPAN AND BRING MIXTURE TO A ROLLING BOIL. TURN HEAT DOWN AND SIMMER ON LOW HEAT FOR 2-3 MINUTES, OR UNTIL SAUCE REACHES DESIRED CONSISTENCY. ADD WATER, ONE TABLESPOON AT A TIME, IF THE SAUCE GETS TOO THICK.
 - REMOVE FROM HEAT. SERVE WARM OR COLD.

(RECIPE BY CONNIE MORRISON)

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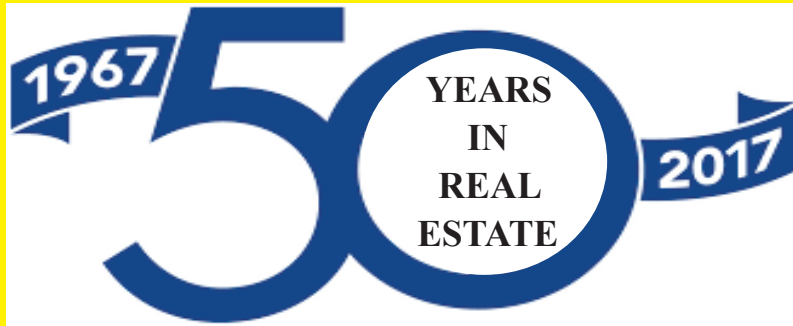
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Jeanne Selph
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Aaron Turner
757-710-0521

WATERFRONT PROPERTIES ON VIRGINIA'S EASTERN SHORE



**MLS 45012- \$675,000- 3 BR, 2 BA & A GUEST HOUSE, 11 ACRES- PARKSLEY, VA
Agent, Jane Bulette 757-710-0319**



**MLS 43199- \$598,800- 3 BR, 4 BA & A ONE (1) BR APT. - HACKSNECK
Agent, Tammy Mason 757-710-2295**



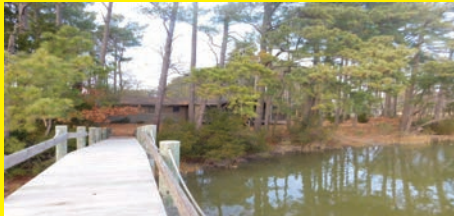
**MLS 43379- \$399,900- 3 BR, 2.5 BA , DOCK & BOAT RAMP- ONANCOCK, VA
Agent, Helen Glenn 757-710-3129**



**MLS 45978- \$399,950- 3 BR, 3 BA , & A 2 BR GUEST SUITE- ONANCOCK, VA
Agent, George Schoolfield 757-710-1871**



**MLS 43019- \$399,000- 51 ACRE HORSE FARM- 4 BR, 2.5 BA - HALLWOOD, VA
Agent, Jeremy Ware 908-328-8634**

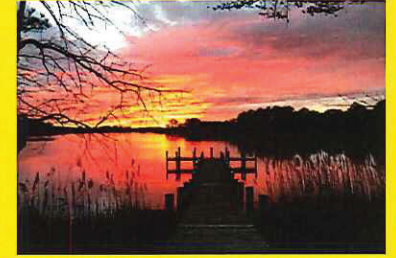


**MLS 42879- \$432,100- NEARLY 3- W.F. ACRES W/HUGE GARAGE/BOAT-
HOUSE- BELLE HAVEN, VA Agent, Schuyler Hurlbut 757-710-9576**

WATERFRONT PROPERTIES ON VIRGINIA'S EASTERN SHORE



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Agent, Jane Bulette 757-710-0319**



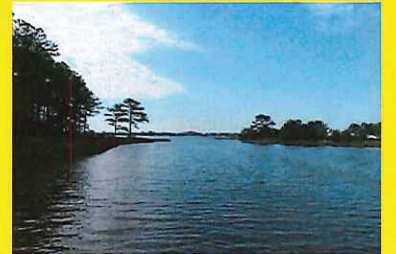
**MLS 44499- \$499,900- 4 BR, 3 BA, PRIVATE DOCK-MELFA, VA
Agent, Tammy Mason 757-710-2295**



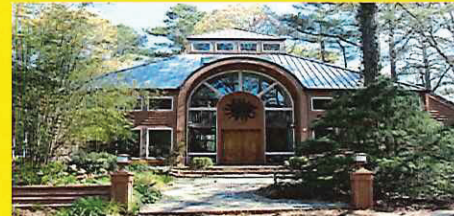
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**MLS 45510- \$549,900- 3 BR, 3 BA , PRIVATE DOCK - ONANCOCK, VA
Agent, Tammy Mason- 757-710-2295**



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FRANKTOWN, VA Agent, Jane Bulette 757-710-0319**

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MLS 44191- \$369,900- 3 BR, 2.5 BA -WATERFRONT- EXMORE, VA
Agent, Tammy Mason 757-710-2295



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MLS 43680- \$335,000- 3 BR, 2.5 BA, WATERFRONT- ONANCOCK, VA
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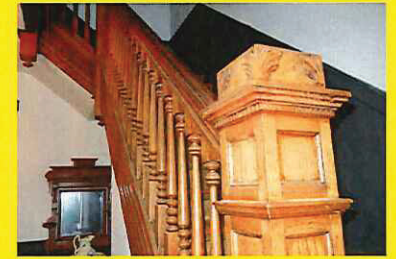


MLS 45511- \$995,000- 4 BR, 5.5 BA - WATERFRONT- ONANCOCK, VA
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MLS 45739- \$240,000- 2 BR, 2.5 BA, MARSH VIEW- GEOTHERMAL- GUARD
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Agent, Jane Bulette 757-710-0319



MLS 41138- \$850,000- 4 BR, 3.5 BA, 45 ACRES-WATERFRONT-ONANCOCK, VA
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MLS 45437- \$299,900- 4 BR, 3 BA , LOCATED IN A FISHING VILLAGE-
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MLS 46090- \$360,000- 3 BR, 3 BA , IN THE COUNTRYSIDE OF ONANCOCK, VA
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MLS 45921- \$199,900- 3 BR, 2 BA - ON THE FAIRWAY OF ESICC- MELFA, VA
Agent, Jeremy Ware 908-328-8634



MLS 45228- \$699,000- 4 BR, 2 FULL & 2 HALF BA, & GUEST HOUSE
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Clamming on the Eastern Shore

By Captain Pete Wallace

There are many methods for capturing clams: treading, Virginia-style rake, basket-style rake, dredging, tonging, bull rake, signing, shinny cock, farming and, no doubt, a few other ways that I have overlooked. There are also many different species of clams; I will be referring to "hard clams."

I am just going to address the ways of capturing clams that can easily be done by recreational clambers. Clams vary in depth, from one inch to a few inches, in tidal saltwater sand and mud. The depth depends on temperature and predators. They can be found anywhere between tidal flats that go dry at low tide, out into the deepest holes in the bay. Clamming is always best done at low tide.

You can check the tides in the area that you are planning to clam at www.saltwatertides.com

Treading is done by feeling for clams with your feet. This can be done on exposed tidal flats or in water up to a few feet deep. Treading is one of the most popular methods of commercial clamming. Experienced treaders can often gather over 2,000 clams in a day. They usually work in chest-deep water, and slide the clams up one leg with the foot of the other. The only things required for this type of clamming are feet.

Additional equipment that is recommended, not just for treading, but for all methods of clamming, are socks

and a container to put your clams in.

Virginia-style rake is done on exposed tidal flats and in water up to a few inches deep. This is done by pulling the rake through a few inches of soft sand or mud until you feel contact with a clam and dislodge it. Don't try to bury the prongs of the rake in the sand, just go down a few inches.

Signing is done on exposed tidal flats with a two-prong "signing rake" by walking the flats looking for a "signing hole," which is a small figure-8 shaped breathing hole created by the clam. Reach down and dislodge the clam with the signing tool.

Clams are most often more plentiful at depth changes and drop offs.

Commercial clams are graded into different size categories starting with the smallest being "Pasta" or "Count Necks" then "Little Necks," "Special Necks," "Top Necks," "Cherrystones" and the largest being "Chowders or Quahogs." This grading is most often done by sorting machines. To simplify things, I am going to sort them as small, medium and large. Small clams are referred to as "steamers", because they are most often steamed, then dipped in butter. They can also be combined in different sauces. Medium clams are served on the half shell, typically with cocktail sauce. They can also be made into clams casino, single friend and grilled. Large clams are made into clam chowder, clam fritters or stuffed clams.

Properly cared for, clams can be kept alive for days. Clams must be kept cool and moist. It's best to keep them in a cool area, but not to refrigerate them. Keep them covered with a moist towel or newspaper. Do not submerge them in water, unless its in the bay. If your clams are opening, tap them with another clam. If they close, they are alive, if not discard them; do not eat dead clams.

If you are going to open clams to be served on the half shell, single fried or casino, use a clam knife. Another option is the clam ram (www.clamram.com) but do not use any other type of knife. After opening the clam, you must cut the mussel from both sides of the shell, and the lip from both sides of the shell. Steamers open when they are done. If a steam pot is not available, you can cook them on the grill. In either case, remove them when they open. The easiest way to open chowder clams is to first freeze them, then use a clam knife to cut the mussel from the top and bottom shells, and then remove the lips.

If you are on vacation, there are some simple ways to enjoy your clams. Steamed clams are one of the easiest methods, either in a steaming pot or on the grill. Clams casino can be made by opening the clam, then twisting off the upper shell. Detach the clam from the bottom shell with a clam knife. Add relish and a small strip of bacon on the top and put on the grill or in the oven until

the bacon is done.

Single fried are done by removing the clam from the shell, rolling it in flour and pan frying it in butter.

With the large clams, freeze them overnight or longer. If you want to use them that day, you will need to open them with a clam knife. Remove the clam from the shell, cut off and remove the sack. Cut the tongue into small chunks. For chowder, buy your favorite vegetable soup and add clam chunks. For clam fritters, mix eggs, Bisquick and clam chunks, then pan fry in oil. Stuffed clams can be made by mixing Italian bread crumbs and clam chunks together, then by packing in a half shell and bake.

The juice from the clam helps all these recipes, so save as much as possible. These recipes are not meant to replace grandma's secret ones, just a quick way to enjoy one of the Eastern Shore's most tasty seafoods. There are also loads of recipes online. If you have the time, clams are well worth the effort to improve on these recipes. You are allowed to take 250 clams for personal use, without a license in Virginia.

On Fish Tales' "Eastern Shore Adventure," we typically tread or rake on exposed sand bars and mud flats. We supply the rakes, socks and basket.

There are also loads of mussels along the banks of the marsh. These mussels need to be purged by leaving them in saltwater for a day or two. Steam them and add to sauce, or just dip them in butter.

ChincoteagueCulturalAlliance.org

at 6309 Church Street

TUES JULY 25

9 am-1 pm Farmers & Artisans Market (continues each Sat & Weds)

Noon-2 pm "Horsing Around" Art Show & Misty Memorabilia

1-2 pm Art Class for Kids FREE

FRI JULY 28

6:30 PM Storytelling FREE

at Robert Reed Park (downtown)

Bring a chair or blanket

THURS JULY 27

6:30 pm Live music by keyboardist Bill Berger

8:15 pm Claymation film "Shaun the Sheep" FREE

SAT JULY 29

7 pm Bluegrass Concert by Blue Crab Crossing FREE

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NASA VISITOR CENTER SUMMER ASTRONOMY SERIES AT ASSATEAGUE ISLAND NATIONAL SEASHORE

Submitted Article

Our local national park beaches hold some of the last remaining harbors of darkness on the east coast. By night, Assateague Island visitors have an unparalleled view of the stars and beyond.

Discover the starry night sky Friday, July 28, over the Berlin, Md., end of Assateague Island National Seashore with NASA's Wallops Flight Fa-

cility's Visitor Center and the Delmarva Space Sciences Foundation.

The event starts with Astronomy 101 presentations at the Assateague Visitor Center at 7, 7:30, 8, and 8:30 p.m. Astronomy themed activities also will be held from 7 – 8:30 p.m.

Then from 8:30 to 10 p.m., participants will have the unique opportunity of observing the night sky through telescopes and binoculars located at

the north ocean beach parking lot. Participants will take a closer look into our vast universe through observations of Mercury, Saturn, Jupiter, the Milky Way Galaxy and Earth's moon.

The event is free and open to the public. The Astronomy 101 presentation will take place regardless of the weather. However, the telescope viewing is subject to cancellation due to inclement weather. Park entrance fees

apply.

This series is collaboration between NASA's Wallops Flight Facility's Visitor Center, Assateague Island National Seashore, Assateague State Park and Delmarva Space Sciences Foundation.

For more information about the Astronomy and Night Sky Summer Series or the NASA Visitor Center, call 757-824-1344 or visit <http://www.nasa.gov/centers/wallops/visitorcenter>

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Special Events

Misty & The Beebe Family:
 Hear stories of growing up with
 Misty from the Beebe Family
 July 24, 25 & 26: 2 pm & 3 pm each day

●

Tuesday Night Lecture at the Museum
Suzanne Immen
 Lecture & Book Signing
 Sunny & Jess Book Series
 July 25: 7 pm

●

Book Signing
 Aspen Willow
 Short novels for young horse lovers.
 July 27: 1:30-4:30 pm




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 MLS # 45378 N.Hibiscus Dr. This house has outstanding view of the lake which provides the beauty and tranquility of a waterfront home LR, K, DA, 2 Master Bedroom Suites, 2 Bedrooms, UR,3-1/2Baths Screened Porch. \$399,000	 MLS #44668 East Side Dr. This beach home package includes a 2BR, 1BA stick built home, with LR, DR and kitchen and a 12' x 60' mobile, with 2BR, 1 BA and large enclosed porch. Views of Assateague Island. \$225,000	 MLS # 44046 Ridge Rd. Enjoy this home's spacious living 3 Bedrooms, Den, Living Room, Kitchen, located on 1/2 acre lot. \$179,000
 MLS # 44161 Silver Sails Landing New Construction 2BR, Den, 2-1/2 Baths, first floor Master Bedroom w/full Bath, walk in closet, LR, DA with hardwood floors. Granite countertops, deck and screened porch, garage and Community pool. \$254,900	 MLS # 45582 Starboard St., Captain's Cove 3 bedroom 2 bath waterfront home boasts cathedral ceilings with gas fireplace, sunroom, living room, kitchen, new bulkhead. Community pools, marina, tennis and golf courses. \$319,000	 MLS 45362 Piney Island Dr. You will enjoy picturesque views from this beautiful waterfront parcel. Dock your boat at your door. 2 bedroom septic installed. \$197,000
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NEW LISTINGS!!



WE LOVE OUR PONIES!!

It's Pony Week, and here are a few of the newest additions!

For more information, contact your local Chincoteague Saltwater Cowboys.
You'll find both ponies & cowboys at the carnival grounds, Thursday the 27th!

OUR AGENTS ARE WORKING THIS WEEK!!

WE'VE GOT A NEW BATCH OF HOMES FOR SALE; SOMETHING FOR EVERY BUDGET!!
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Jim Montenieri

MEET THE
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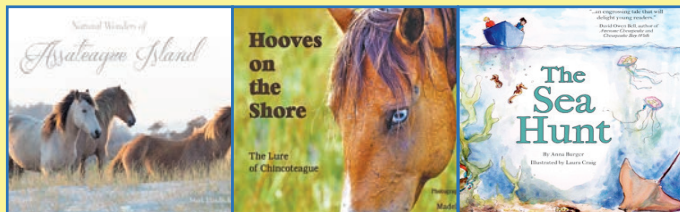
Pony Swim Week

THE LAUGHING DOG
JEWELER

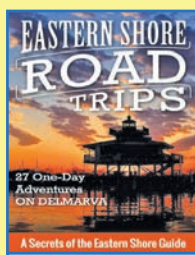
BOOK
SIGNINGS

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Book Signings



Monday - 7/24

10:00 am - noon: Lois Szymanski & Linda Kantjas - Surfer Dude & Your Chincoteague Pony's First Year
1:00 - 3:00pm: Suzanne Immen - Book Release! Sonny & Jess Go To Boarding School
6:00 - 8:00pm: Linda J. White - Sniper! Sequel to Seeds of Evidence



Tuesday - 7/25

11:00 am - 1:00 pm: Mark Hendricks - Natural Wonders of Assateague
2:00 - 4:00 pm: Jim Duffy - Eastern Shore Road Trips

Wednesday - 7/26

3:00 - 5:00 pm: Suzanne Immen - Sonny & Jess Go To Boarding School
5:00 - 7:00 pm: Kelly Lidard - Field Guide to the Chincoteague Ponies / Pony Calendar 2018

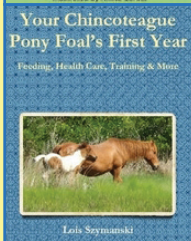
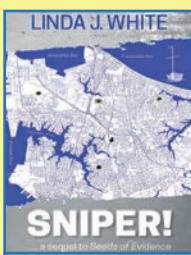
KELLY LIDARD
FIELD GUIDE TO
CHINCOTEAGUE
PONIES
&
2018
PONY CALENDAR

Thursday - 7/27

3:00 - 5:00 pm: Linda J. White - Sniper! Sequel to Seeds of Evidence
6:00 - 8:00 pm: Madeline Giardina - Hooves on the Shore

Friday - 7/28

11:00 am - 1:00 pm: Anna Burger - The Sea Hunt
2:00 - 4:00 pm: Mark Hendricks - Natural Wonders of Assateague



Hemlock Hollow



Tuesday 7/25
7:00 pm

Greg Shupe & Friends



Wednesday 7/26
7:00 pm

THE LAUGHING DOG JEWELER

ORIGINAL HANDMADE JEWELRY



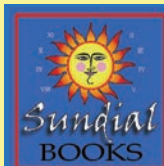
PONY JEWELRY & MORE!
Wednesday 7/26
noon - 2:00 pm

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There's no Mystery to Misty

If you're a fan of Misty, or just want to know what the fuss is all about, there's no better time to become acquainted than Pony Penning week.

Misty, the beloved pony who was the subject of the children's book and movie, "Misty of Chincoteague," was a real pony who lived on the Beebe family ranch, at 3062 Ridge Road, on Chincoteague. The Beebe Ranch will open Misty's old barn July 21 and 22 from 1 - 5p.m., and July 27 - 29 from 1 - 5 p.m. Owners Billy and Bonnie Beebe say that baby Drizzle, who is a year old now, is ready to greet visitors. She is a sixth generation Misty descendant and the first foal born at the ranch since 1972 - 45 years ago. The "Misty of Chincoteague" book series, stamped by Grandpa Beebe's branding iron and signed by Billy K. Beebe, are available for purchase. Admission is \$3 for the barn tour.

The Chincoteague Pony Centre is home to several Misty descendants over the summer, and many of them are part of the lesson and show program. As a special feature during pony penning week, MisChief, a veteran of the swim from two years ago, also known as the "pink" pony, will be visiting the Pony Centre Monday through Thursday (July 24-27).

A special foal training seminar will be held at the Pony Centre on Tuesday morning at 10 a.m. for those who want to learn more about how to train a wild foal. Interested parties can sign up for that at the counter in the gift shoppe. A silent auction to raise money for the non profit group, The Chincoteague Pony Drill Team, will be ongoing Monday thru Friday at the Pony Centre. A variety of items have been donated.

The Pony Centre is open Monday through Saturday, from 9 a.m. to 9 p.m., and is located on Chicken City Road, one half block south of Maddox Blvd. Pony Shows will be held Monday thru Thursday of Pony Penning week at 4 and 7 p.m. and pony rides will be ongoing all day. Riding lessons are offered from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. For more information about any of these activities, please call 757-336-2776.

The mythical Misty has left her hoof prints in the hearts of children for generations, but her actual hoof prints can be found in the concrete sidewalk in front of the Island Theatre on Main Street. The film "Misty of Chincoteague" premiered at the theater simultaneously with its premiere in Hollywood in 1961. The Chincoteague Island Arts Organization is sponsoring free showings of the film at 11 a.m., July 24 - July 28, at the Island Theater. Sponsors urge the public to arrive early, it is a popular activity.

Across the street is the Robert Reed Waterfront Park where a bronze statue of Misty reminds everyone who put Chincoteague on the map. Stroll on down northward on Main Street to Miss Molly's Inn, where Marguerite Henry lodged while writing "Misty."

Pay your respects to the Misty in person at the Museum of Chincoteague Island. Misty and her offspring, Stormy, are preserved and on display so generations can see the pony that inspired Henry's classic novel.

Thanks to the Chincoteague Chamber of Commerce and the Chincoteague Pony Centre for contributing information for this article.

Happy Summer!

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

Find the listed words in the diagram. They run in all directions forward, backward, up, down and diagonally

- | | | | |
|---------|----------|----------|-----------|
| Antwerp | Freetown | Kobe | Salvador |
| Boston | Havana | Mumbai | Tokyo |
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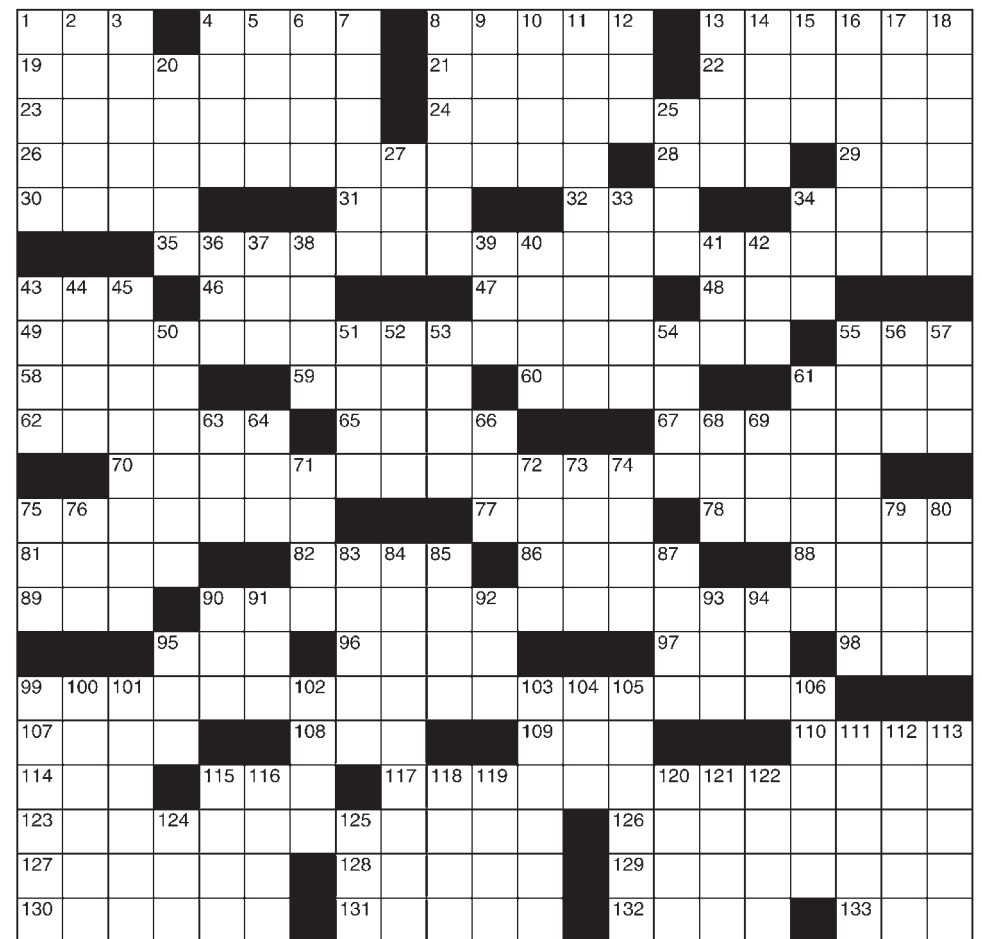


2017 Foals of the Wild Chincoteague Pony Herds

Super Crossword

BROADWAY OPENINGS

- | | | | | | |
|--|--|--|--|-------------------------------------|---|
| ACROSS | 58 Witty writer
Bombbeck | 99 What
Thomas | 5 Bristol's river | 50 Fad dance of
the 1960s | 94 Suffix with
southeast |
| 1 China's Mao
—-tung | 59 Hornswoggle | became, in
kid-lit | 6 Pianist Peter | 51 Bro | 95 Willy |
| 4 Thumb locale | 60 Actress
Swenson | 107 Alone | 7 Party to a
financial
transaction | 52 Sonata, e.g. | 99 Worker on a
housetop |
| 8 Cries of
unveiling | 61 Hill's partner | 108 See 102-
Down | 8 Giggled | 53 Honoraria | 100 Huge, in
French |
| 13 Spanish fleet | 62 Nose
partition | 109 Love-letter
"hugs" | 9 Yank with a
#13 jersey | 54 Actor Scott | 101 Camel kin |
| 19 Post-bender
headache | 65 Piece for two | 110 Former toy
company | 10 Hip-hop bud | 55 Payload area | 102 With |
| 21 Poetry Muse | 67 Paid no heed | 114 Alley-
(court play) | 11 "Listen up!" | 56 Bitter brew | 108-Across,
of acceptable
quality |
| 22 One-sided
views | 70 "We've been
raking in the
profit" | 115 Juicer | 12 "— lied!" | 57 Part of B&B | 103 Department
in northern
France |
| 23 Old stage
actress Duse | 75 Advance
markdown | 117 Overdoing
the effort | 13 Help do bad | 61 One of
Santa's
reindeer | 104 Near-eternity |
| 24 "Things go
by so fast!" | 77 Requirement | 123 Writer of the
Tony-winning
musical
featured in
this puzzle | 14 Plentiful | 63 Old Glory's
nation | 105 Noodle |
| 26 "As far as I'm
aware ..." | 78 Church
decrees | 126 Flavored
with a certain
spice | 15 Bad start? | 64 Wire
measure | 106 Erstwhile
anesthetic |
| 28 Brunched,
e.g. | 81 Painter of
melting
watches | 127 Introduced
acts, e.g. | 16 Cheese in an
Italian deli | 66 "Sn" element | 111 Spun tales |
| 29 Kwik-E-Mart
clerk | 82 Camera
varieties, for
short | 128 Lenya of
"Cabaret" | 17 Intensity | 68 Sierra maker | 112 Floorboard
sound |
| 30 Writer Seton | 86 Vientiane's
country | 129 IRS part | 18 Make certain | 69 Actress
Peeples | 113 Curiously |
| 31 Iris locale | 88 "My Country"
author Abba | 130 Tallies again | 20 Some
Spanish
paintings | 71 Lark's home | 114 Lineup 121-
Down |
| 32 Pres.
advisory gp. | 89 Hole-poking
tool | 131 Arctic people | 25 Spiked staff | 72 — -confident | 115 REO part |
| 34 New —
(Yanni, e.g.) | 90 Phrase just
before an act
is introduced | 132 Central part
of a church | 27 Harsh
cleanser | 73 Boyfriend | 116 Post-Q
string |
| 35 Become king
after being a
prince, say | 95 Pouchlike
body part | 133 Star site | 33 "I dunno"
gesture | 74 Hound's clue | 119 Himalayan
legend |
| 43 Quirk of
behavior | 96 Incantation
opener | DOWN | 34 Financier
Onassis | 75 High-tech
"appt. book" | 120 Funny Fey
Christian |
| 46 — Schwarz
(toy retailer) | 97 River of Bern | 1 Greek letter | 36 ET ship | 76 Uncooked | 121 Showing via
the idiot box |
| 47 Kuwaiti royal | 98 Veer off
course | 2 Perm place | 37 Avis rental | 77 Zippo | 122 Arch with a
double
curve |
| 48 A third of IX | | 3 Foe | 38 Unemotional | 80 Winter drifter | 124 Composer
Rorem |
| 49 Totally up the
creek | | 4 Toot | 39 Vietnamese
New Year | 83 — apso | 125 Manning of
football |
| 55 Semi section | | | 40 Actor Katz | 84 Pat of the
Christian
right | |
| | | | 41 Dusk-down
linkup | 85 Ride a wave | |
| | | | 42 Move quickly | 87 Antler sporter | |
| | | | 43 Rail supports | 90 — -Mart
(retail chain) | |
| | | | 44 Pertaining to | 91 Unemotional | |
| | | | 45 Singer Glen | 92 Greek letter | |
| | | | | 93 "Bali —" | |



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Weekly SUDOKU

by Linda Thistle

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

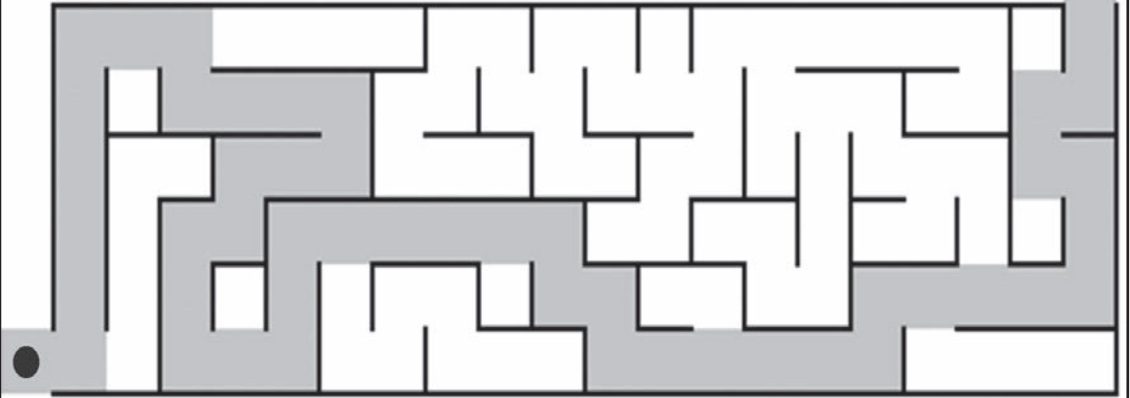
Place a number in the empty boxes in such a way that each row across, each column down and each small 9-box square contains all of the numbers from one to nine.

DIFFICULTY THIS WEEK: ◆◆◆

◆ Moderate ◆◆ Challenging
 ◆◆◆ HOO BOY!

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Kids' Maze Solution



Puzzles4Kids

by Helene Hovanec

CRISSCROSS – WHERE'S AL?

Each word will fit into one spot in the grid. Use the starting letters as a guide and fit each word into its spot. All words will be used, so cross off each one after you put it into the grid.

3 Letters

ALE
ALL
PAL

4 Letters

ALPS
ALSO
BALD
KALE
SALT

5 Letters

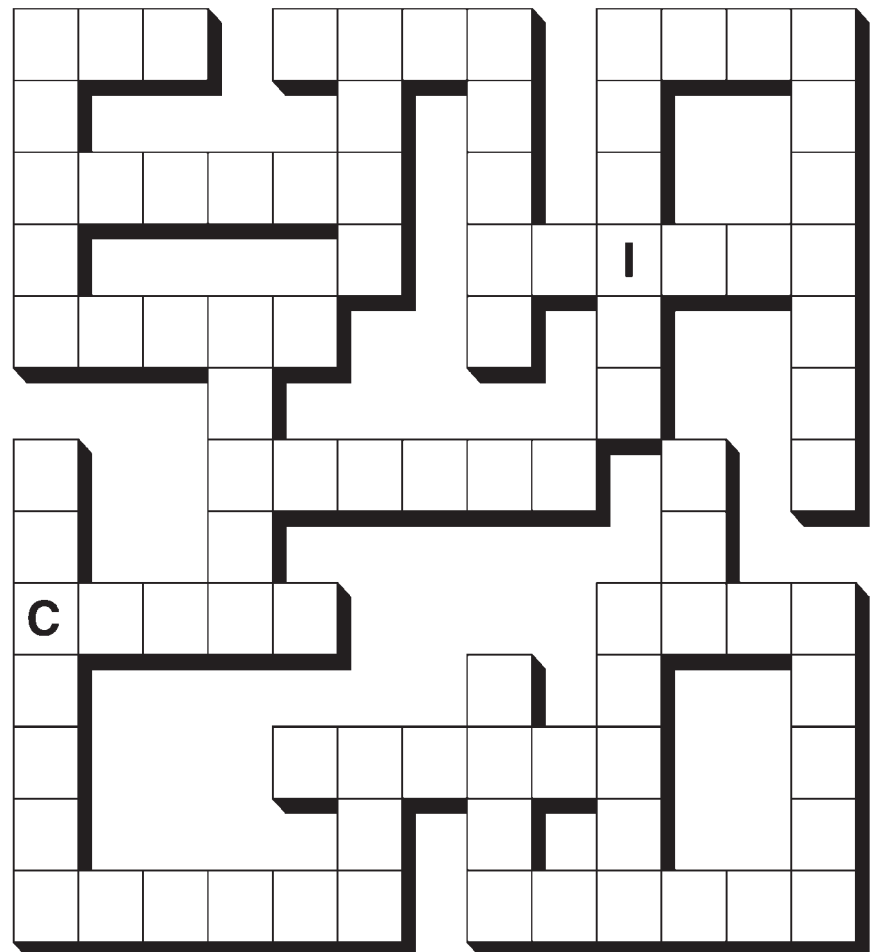
ALIEN
CHALK
EQUAL
LEGAL
MEALS
PSALM
SMALL

6 Letters

ALWAYS
ANIMAL
DENIAL
GALLON
LOCALE
SALAMI
SOCIAL

7 Letters

FACTUAL
TALLEST



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Fishing from the Shore

By Bill Hall



The biggest change along the local fishing front over the last week has been the unexpected arrival of decent numbers of medium sized spot in the upper bay off Onancock. These are not the large “yellow-bellies” that you would expect to see in the late summer/early autumn, but the majority of these fish are keeper size. Target these tasty panfish along the channel edges while drifting, using small hooks adorned with bloodworm, Fishbites, or the soft claw portions of a peeler crab.

Croakers, among the smallest members of the drum family, are still well below the numbers and sizes expected for this time of year on both sides of the Eastern Shore. Let's hope that there is a surge in the population of these tasty bottom fish prior to the first Saturday in August. That's when the Onancock Volunteer Fire Company will be hosting its first Croaker Tournament from the Onancock Town Wharf. Prizes will be awarded to the three largest croakers, the top croaker catch by a youth and the top croaker catch by a female angler. In addition, there will be a category for any active fire, EMS, and/or police personnel. There will also be an award for the largest “non-croaker” catch. All proceeds from the event will benefit the Onancock Volunteer Fire Company. The event is scheduled for Saturday, Aug. 5. For more information, contact Adam James at 757-710-2731.

Chincoteague – Donna Rae, of Captain Bob's Marina, reported that flounder were still a “chore” to be found with the throwback to keeper ratios being 13-1 inside the Chincoteague Channel, and down to 6-1 north of the American Legion building. There were some flounder, undersized black sea bass, and small bluefish landed from the town pier. A few legal-sized flounder and small croakers came from the Assateague Channel near Memo-

rial Park and the Tom's Cove Fishing Pier. Good catches of kingfish (whiting) were coming from buoys 10-14. Bottom water temperatures as low as 48 degrees were still being reported by divers on Blackfish Banks, hampering the offshore flounder fishing there. Expect limit catches to once again become the norm as the water turns over. Black sea bass can still be found along the wrecks and spadefish are swarming above the thermocline. Better seabass catches are coming from the wreck near the Parking Lot and out at the Marine Electric. A few cobia have been seen along the 2TL buoy at Turner's Lump. Offshore, a few bluefin tuna and small yellowfin were reported beyond 20 fathoms.

Jimmy, at Captain Steve's Bait & Tackle, reported that anglers targeting flounder in the surf, jigging with 1 to 1.5 ounce bucktails were having success, with one pair landing five keepers. Orange mylar rigs produced flounder to 22-inches in length. A variety of sharks and rays dominated most of the surf action.

Wachapreague – Captain Lindsay Paul, at Trident Tackle, reported that a few yellowfin tuna, some below the minimum size limit, were hitting in the Washington Canyon. A little closer to the beach, gaffer dolphin (mahi mahi) were being caught along the 20 Fathom line. Inside the inlet, Captain Paul said that action was “nothing hot and heavy,” but a few flounder were caught, mostly throwbacks. I witnessed the same thing inside Metompkin Inlet, as keeper-sized fish were few and far between. A few nicer class of flounder were coming from around the wrecks, as a six-pounder was brought in over the weekend. Similar reports were coming from Gargatha, with one party on Monday catching over 30 flounder without finding a single keeper. The trip was salvaged by

a nice bycatch of kingfish which hit silversides. Don's Tackle echoed the slim pickings for inshore flounder, but said that some nicer fish were caught out around the No. 10 rail cars. He said that the wrecks are covered with small spadefish and triggerfish.

Lower Shore – Mark, at Chris' Bait & Tackle, reported that the run of cobia was still occurring in the lower Chesapeake Bay, with the best action occurring from the Inner Middle Grounds up to Buoy No. 36. Flounder catches were coming from along the pilings of the Chesapeake Bay Bridge-Tunnel and under the highrise section. Sea mullet (whiting) were hitting along Latimer Shoals with croakers in the 6-10” class hitting on the seaside.

Upper Bay – I fished out of Onancock on Monday, finding lots of undersized rockfish in the shallows along with a plethora of stingrays. The rockfish were hitting curlytail grubs and peeler crab baits, while the stingrays feasted on peeler crab. Drifting along the channel edges produced a mixed

bag of kingfish, hand-sized spot, and small croakers. Dylan Donnelly landed an estimated ten pound sheepshead while fishing at the Target Ships. Earlier in the day Donnelly and William Bailey found speckled trout and small rockfish along the marshy islands of Pocomoke Sound.

Bill Hall was the first Eastern Shore resident to achieve Virginia Salt Water Master Angler Status. He has been named Virginia Saltwater Angler of the Year and Virginia Saltwater Release Angler of the Year. Bill is an I.G.F.A. International Committee Representative and a longtime member of the Virginia Saltwater Fishing Tournament Committee. He is the Virginia Recreation Fishing representative on the ASMFC Striped Bass Management Panel and is a past recipient of the CCA-VA Virginia Outdoor Writer Conservation Leadership Award.



Photo courtesy of Captain Steve's Bait & Tackle
Andrew Dively and Jason Shank with bluefin tuna, the largest weighing in at 104-0 and dolphin caught aboard the “Voodoo.”

TIDE TABLE

		<u>Friday</u> July 21	<u>Saturday</u> July 22	<u>Sunday</u> July 23	<u>Monday</u> July 24	<u>Tuesday</u> July 25	<u>Wednesday</u> July 26	<u>Thursday</u> July 27
Seaside	Assateague Beach	H 6:37 a.m. L 1:00 p.m.	H 7:33 a.m. L 1:56 p.m.	H 8:28 a.m. L 2:50 p.m.	H 9:21 a.m. L 3:42 p.m.	H 10:13 a.m. L 4:34 p.m.	H 11:04 a.m. L 5:26 p.m.	H 11:54 a.m. L 6:19 p.m.
	Chinco.Channel	H 6:41 a.m. L 12:59 p.m.	H 7:37 a.m. L 1:55 p.m.	H 8:32 a.m. L 2:49 p.m.	H 9:25 a.m. L 3:41 p.m.	H 10:17 a.m. L 4:33 p.m.	H 11:08 a.m. L 5:25 p.m.	H 11:58 a.m. L 6:18 p.m.
	Gargatha Neck	H 7:33 a.m. L 1:39 p.m.	H 8:29 a.m. L 2:35 p.m.	H 9:24 a.m. L 3:29 p.m.	H 10:17 a.m. L 4:21 p.m.	H 11:09 a.m. L 5:13 p.m.	H 12:00 p.m. L 6:05 p.m.	H 12:50 p.m. L 6:45 a.m.
	Folly Creek	H 7:26 a.m. L 1:24 p.m.	H 8:22 a.m. L 2:20 p.m.	H 9:17 a.m. L 3:14 p.m.	H 10:10 a.m. L 4:06 p.m.	H 11:02 a.m. L 4:58 p.m.	H 11:53 a.m. L 5:50 p.m.	H 12:43 p.m. L 6:30 a.m.
	Wachapreague	H 7:12 a.m. L 1:08 p.m.	H 8:08 a.m. L 2:04 p.m.	H 9:03 a.m. L 2:58 p.m.	H 9:56 a.m. L 3:50 p.m.	H 10:48 a.m. L 4:42 p.m.	H 11:39 a.m. L 5:34 p.m.	H 12:29 p.m. L 6:27 p.m.
	Quinby Inlet	H 6:37 a.m. L 12:39 p.m.	H 7:33 a.m. L 1:35 p.m.	H 8:28 a.m. L 2:29 p.m.	H 9:21 a.m. L 3:21 p.m.	H 10:13 a.m. L 4:13 p.m.	H 11:04 a.m. L 5:05 p.m.	H 11:54 a.m. L 5:58 p.m.
	Machipongo	H 7:07 a.m. L 1:08 p.m.	H 8:03 a.m. L 2:04 p.m.	H 8:58 a.m. L 2:58 p.m.	H 9:51 a.m. L 3:50 p.m.	H 10:43 a.m. L 4:42 p.m.	H 11:34 a.m. L 5:34 p.m.	H 12:24 p.m. L 6:27 p.m.
	Tangier Sound Light	H 10:52 a.m. L 5:09 p.m.	H 11:52 a.m. L 6:06 p.m.	H 12:48 p.m. L 6:58 a.m.	H 1:42 p.m. L 7:49 a.m.	H 2:33 p.m. L 8:39 a.m.	H 3:22 p.m. L 9:27 a.m.	H 4:12 p.m. L 10:15 a.m.
	Muddy Creek	H 11:08 a.m. L 5:44 p.m.	H 12:08 p.m. L 6:39 a.m.	H 1:04 p.m. L 7:33 a.m.	H 1:58 p.m. L 8:24 a.m.	H 2:49 p.m. L 9:14 a.m.	H 3:38 p.m. L 10:02 a.m.	H 4:28 p.m. L 10:50 a.m.
	Guard Shore	H 11:00 a.m. L 5:40 p.m.	H 12:00 p.m. L 6:35 a.m.	H 12:56 p.m. L 7:29 a.m.	H 1:50 p.m. L 8:20 a.m.	H 2:41 p.m. L 9:10 a.m.	H 3:30 p.m. L 9:58 a.m.	H 4:20 p.m. L 10:46 a.m.
Bayside	Chescon. Creek	H 10:35 a.m. L 4:52 p.m.	H 11:35 a.m. L 5:49 p.m.	H 12:31 p.m. L 6:41 a.m.	H 1:25 p.m. L 7:32 a.m.	H 2:16 p.m. L 8:22 a.m.	H 3:05 p.m. L 9:10 a.m.	H 3:55 p.m. L 9:58 a.m.
	Onancock Creek	H 10:49 a.m. L 5:12 p.m.	H 11:49 a.m. L 6:09 p.m.	H 12:45 p.m. L 7:01 a.m.	H 1:39 p.m. L 7:52 a.m.	H 2:30 p.m. L 8:42 a.m.	H 3:19 p.m. L 9:30 a.m.	H 4:09 p.m. L 10:18 a.m.
	Pungoteague Creek	H 10:05 a.m. L 4:26 p.m.	H 11:05 a.m. L 5:23 p.m.	H 12:01 p.m. L 6:20 p.m.	H 12:55 p.m. L 7:06 a.m.	H 1:46 p.m. L 7:56 a.m.	H 2:35 p.m. L 8:44 a.m.	H 3:25 p.m. L 9:32 a.m.
	Nassawadox	H 8:50 a.m. L 2:48 p.m.	H 9:50 a.m. L 3:45 p.m.	H 10:46 a.m. L 4:42 p.m.	H 11:40 a.m. L 5:36 p.m.	H 12:31 p.m. L 6:18 a.m.	H 1:20 p.m. L 7:06 a.m.	H 2:10 p.m. L 7:54 a.m.
	Occhohan. Creek	H 9:29 a.m. L 4:06 p.m.	H 10:29 a.m. L 5:03 p.m.	H 11:25 a.m. L 6:00 p.m.	H 12:19 p.m. L 6:46 a.m.	H 1:10 p.m. L 7:36 a.m.	H 1:59 p.m. L 8:24 a.m.	H 2:49 p.m. L 9:12 a.m.
	Cape Charles	H 7:39 a.m. L 1:56 p.m.	H 8:39 a.m. L 2:53 p.m.	H 9:35 a.m. L 3:50 p.m.	H 10:29 a.m. L 4:44 p.m.	H 11:20 a.m. L 5:38 p.m.	H 12:09 p.m. L 6:32 p.m.	H 12:59 p.m. L 7:02 a.m.
	Kiptopeke Beach	H 7:17 a.m. L 1:25 p.m.	H 8:17 a.m. L 2:22 p.m.	H 9:13 a.m. L 3:19 p.m.	H 10:07 a.m. L 4:13 p.m.	H 10:58 a.m. L 5:07 p.m.	H 11:47 a.m. L 6:01 p.m.	H 12:37 p.m. L 6:31 a.m.

Disclaimer: Tides are provided for information only and are not guaranteed for accuracy.

*Homemade
Ice Cream*



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www.islandcreamery.net



Find us:

islandcreameryva



Carodan Farm Wool Shop

Chincoteague Island, Virginia

(800) 985-7083

www.carodanfarm.com

7151 Horseshoe Dr.

757-336-0536

Tuesday - Saturday 10-3

Thursday 10-8



C. LEE HAULING

**Top Soil, Fill, Sand,
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Greenbush, VA

CHINCOTEAGUE PONY CENTRE



THE PLACE TO
SEE AND
MEET THE
CHINCOTEAGUE
PONY!!!

CHINCOTEAGUE PONY SHOW
MON - THURS AT 4PM & 7PM,
FRI & SAT 4PM ONLY
PONY RIDES ON
CHINCOTEAGUE PONIES 9AM - 9PM
RIDING LESSONS ON A
CHINCOTEAGUE PONY 9AM-3PM
UNIQUE GIFT SHOP

Meet "MISCHIEF," two year old "pink" pony from the auction 2015, making special appearances at the Mon, Tues, Wed, and Thurs Shows!

Silent Auction til Friday noon to benefit the Chincoteague Pony Drill Team



COME SEE THE VETERANS OF THE SWIM AND MISTY DESCENDANTS AT THE PONY CENTRE
CHINCOTEAGUE PONIES OF ALL SIZES AND COLORS.



MON - SAT 9AM - 9PM
CLOSED SUNDAY
6417 CARRIAGE DRIVE
(ON CHICKEN CITY ROAD,
1 BLOCK SOUTH OF MADDOX)



Unique Gift Shoppe 757-336-2776 Mom Oreo & Foal Peanut Brittle Born on July 4th