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Weekly Summer Paper Exclusively for Chincoteague

August 25, 2017

CIRCULATION 5.000

Eastern Shore HITCHINC



THE SHORE'S ONLY LOCALLY OWNED NEWSPAPER

Cemeteries Offer **History Lessons**

By Angie Heady

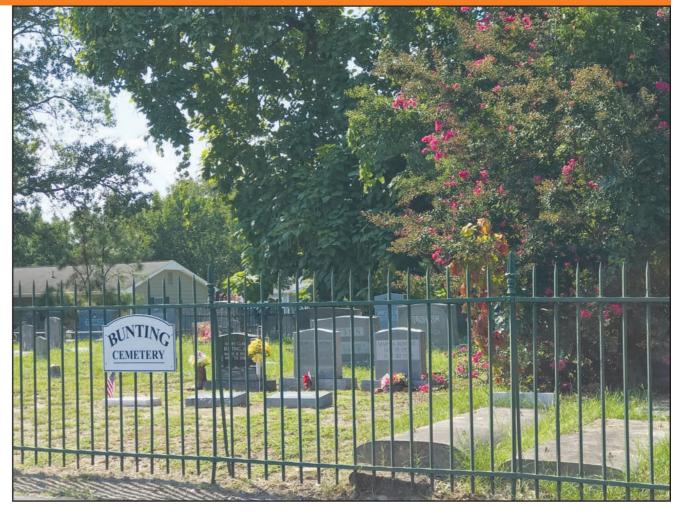
Hidden within tall clumps of grass and overgrown bushes are some of the most interesting markers of history on the Eastern Shore of Virginia - forgotten or disused cemeteries, their telltale stones occasionally visible from the highway, far out in a farmer's field. Many were once lovingly cared for by family members who are no longer living or who have moved out of the area, these old burial grounds offer a glimpse into the rich and varied background of the area.

Chincoteague Island is one spot on the Eastern Shore that boasts easily-accessible cemeteries in abundance for those eager to delve into local or family history. The island community, along with the town, work together to keep these cemeteries maintained, their stones legible, and their locations known.

There are 25 burial grounds on Chincoteague, each with its own interesting story to tell, dating back to the early 19th century, including two African American cemeteries and a small cemetery on Assateague. Together, they hold more than 3,600 gravesites.

In 2013, the town implemented a Cemetery Preservation Plan which, with extensive volunteer support, established a regular cemetery maintenance schedule.

"Often a cemetery is the only remnant left from early settlements and families - as such it is a vital link with the past," reads the plan. "They are an invaluable educational tool ... [and] they provide quiet places to commemorate the deceased. Sometimes they provide us with more than the bare facts of birth and death; they provide us with tender, tragic or humorous looks into the lives of earlier generations. They tell us about the struggle to survive childhood diseases, childbirth, wars and epidemics. But most of all they tell us about the recurring cycle of birth, life, and death and how we are all a part of that cycle."



A view of Bunting Cemetery on Willow Street.

The plan was built on the research and documentation of James W. Carpenter Sr., who published the 2007 book "From Tears to Memories -A Comprehensive Look at Chincoteague Island Cemeteries." For locals and visitors alike, the plan is a terrific resource to start exploring the history of island cemeteries as it includes a detailed map. The plan are available at www.chincoteague-va.gov. In addition, the detailed information compiled at

Photo by Connie Morrison

www.islandbones.com can be used in conjuction with the map for a more complete look at island burial grounds, past and present.

In addition to numerous family plots across the island, there are unique cemeteries such as the Odd Fellows (on Willow Street), which was established in 1907 by the Queen Lodge #5642 of the Grand United Order of Odd Fellows, an African American fraternal

What to do this week on and around Chincoteague

Friday, Aug. 25

Rocketry, 2 p.m., NASA Visitor Center, Rt. 175, Chincoteague Rd., www.nasa.gov/centers/wallops/visitorcenter *Music At the Dock: Blue Aces*, 7 p.m., Robert Reed Downtown Park (in case of rain concert will be at the town Activities Center), www.chincoteagueculturalalliance.org Captain Timothy Hill House, open to public Fridays 1 - 3 p.m., 5122 Main St., free admission (donations welcome), call 973-831-5961, www.captaintimothyhillhouse.com Saturday, Aug. 26 Chincoteague Island Farmer & Artisan Market, 9 a.m. - 1 p.m., 6309 Church St., free admission, www.chincoteagueculturalalliance.org Imagination Playground, 11 a.m., NASA Visitor Center, Rt. 175, Chincoteague Rd., <u>www.nasa.gov/centers/wallops/visitorcenter</u> Peculiar Planet, 2 p.m., NASA Visitor Center, Rt. 175, Chincoteague Rd., www.nasa.gov/centers/wallops/visitorcenter

Music At the Dock: CAISO Steeldrum Band, 7 p.m., Robert Reed Downtown Park (in case of rain concert will be at the town Activities Center),

www.chincotegaueculturalalliance.org

Sunday, Aug. 27

Kitchen Gallery, 3 - 5 p.m., 6309 Church St., www.chicnoteagueculturalalliance.org Monday, Aug. 28

Community Bingo, 1 - 3 p.m., CCA Community Center for the Arts, 6309 Church St., games only \$0.25 each, www.chincoteagueculturalalliance.org Tuesday, Aug. 29

Tuesday Nights at the Museum: Where Island Tales Are Told, 7 p.m., active military and museum members, www.chincoteaguemuseum.com

Wednesday, Aug. 30

Engineering Challenge, 2 p.m., pre-registration begins at 1 p.m., NASA Visitor Center, Rt. 175, Chincoteague Rd., <u>www.nasa.gov/centers/wallops/visitorcenter</u> Game Night, 6 - 8 p.m., Chincoteague Center, 6155 Community Dr., \$3/person or \$8/family, 757-336-0614, www.thechincoteaguecenter.com The Brain That Would Not Die, 8 p.m., Theatre Annex, 4076 Main St., admission is \$5 and includes a small drink and a snack, www.chincoteagueislandarts.com Friday. Sept. 1

Station 1 Pizza Night, 5 - 8 p.m., New Church Volunteer Fire Co., 4264 Firehouse St., New Church, large cheese or pepperoni \$12, www.ncvfr.org Saturday. Sept. 2

Back-to-School Fashion Show, 2 - 4 p.m., Catalina Angelina's Boutique of Fashion, 6759 Maddox Blvd., Chincoteague, free admission (donations welcome), call 973-831-5961, www.captaintimothyhillhouse.com

Sunday, Sept. 3

Free Shakespeare in the Park, 7:30 p.m., Robert Reed Park, Brown Box Theatre Project production of Hamlet, co sponsored by Chincoteague Cultural Alliance and Chincoteague Island Arts Organization, www.chincoteagueculturalalliance.org Ongoing

Museum of Chincoteague Island, Tuesday - Sunday, 11 a.m. - 5 p.m., 7125 Maddox Blvd., 757-336-6117, www.chincoteaguemuseum.com, Adults: \$4, under 12: free. Chincoteague National Wildlife Refuge, 6 a.m. - 8 p.m. daily, Herbert H. Bateman Educational and Administrative Center open daily, 9 a.m. - 4 p.m. 757-336-6122, www.fws.gov/refuge/chincoteague/

Assateague National Seashore, Toms Cove Visitor Center, 9 a.m. - 4 p.m., 757-336-6577, www.nps.gov/asis/index.htmwww.nps.gov/asis/index.htm 7125 Maddox Blvd., \$4 admission for adults, free admission for 12 & under, NASA Visitor Center, Tuesday - Saturday, 10 a.m. - 4 p.m., 757-824-1344, www.nasa.gov/centers/wallops/visitorcenter, Admission: Free



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

The Hitching Post is a publication of the The Eastern Shore Post, Onley, Virginia. Contact us at 757-789-7678. Editor, Connie Morrison; Ad Manager, Troy Justis; Advertising Associate, Sam Sellard; Ad Designer, Kimberly PERRY. CONTRIBUTING WRITER: ANGIE HEADY.

NAMEPLATE PHOTOGRAPH BY SOLID ROCK PHOTOGRAPHY, CHINCOTEAGUE.



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(Continued From Front)

organization on the island in the early 1900s.

Unfortunately, all undertaker records prior to the 1920s have been lost for virtually all cemeteries on the island, but there is a burial list of the Odd Fellows and the Christ Union Baptist cemeteries recently compiled from mainland sources. (Copies of this list are on file in the Eastern Shore Room of the Eastern Shore Public Library in Accomac, the Chincoteague Island Library, and at the Museum of Chincoteague Island.) Another great resource for more information on the island's African American cemeteries is Rick Smith's Accomac Roots website at <u>www.accomacroots.com</u>

On Assateague Island in 2010, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service used ground penetrating radar to find an unmarked cemetery in the old village churchyard, where the unidentified remains are now noted by a simple metal plaque. (The location of the village itself is only shown by some

Chincoteague

building foundations and the cemetery.) Visitors are encouraged to call 757-336-6122, or stop by the Bateman Visitor Center on Beach Road. before entering the cemetery and to learn more about the village of Assateague that existed there until the early 1930s.

If you choose to explore island cemeteries. remember that many are private property and require permission to enter. All cemeteries are sacred spaces, so be respectful. Finally, the **Chincoteague Island Cemetery Committee and volunteers** endeavor to keep the island cemeteries clean and the tombstones legible, and you can help by supporting their fall clean-up. Donations may be sent to The Town of Chincoteague, 6150 Community Dr., Chincoteague, VA 23336, Attn: Cemetery Cleanup Fund.





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Fishing from the Shore By Bill Hall

As the days begin to shorten and the night time temperatures start to drop, the fishing off the Eastern Shore typically begins to improve from its summer doldrums and this year looks to be no exception. Speckled trout catches continue to increase along the bayside creeks and the late summer/early autumn run of red drum along the channel edges is well underway. The appearance of medium to large sized "yellow-bellied" spot should not be too far behind.

Although most fisheries seemed to be below expectations this year, one noticeable exception has been the lower bay cobia run. Cobia first appeared in early-mid May and are still hitting with some consistency. Contrary to what some governmental fisheries management agencies claim, the cobia population seems to be in good shape. Cobia and whiting (sea mullet, kingfish) catches have been the highlights of the summer fishing season.

Chincoteague – Donna Rae, at Captain Bob's Marina, reported that flounder and croaker catches were slow on the inside, with the best catches coming from buoy 17 up to the town pier. Catches consisted primarily of undersized fish. Mark Joyner caught a rare limit of flounder in Chincoteague Channel, finding keeper fish in the area north of Captain Bob's Marina, near Daisey's Dockside. Fourinch Berkley Gulp Ripple Shad Mullet in

the white body/chartreuse tail color pattern were the successful baits for the trip. Larger flounder catches continue to come from the offshore wrecks, a recent trip with Captain Glen Clausen limited out with the largest flounder weighing in at 6-8! Kingfish (whiting) catches were still being made near the inlet. Undersized striped bass, measuring

20-21 inches were being caught and released around the bridge pilings and just offshore of the ocean breakers. Snapper bluefish were also found around the Assateague Bridge. Black sea bass, tiggers, and flounder were being caught by anglers, as well as speared by spearfishermen, on the Blackfish Banks and the box cars. Large black sea bass were coming from the Bone, the Marine Electric, and the wreck outside the Parking Lot, where a couple of nice dolphin (mahi mahi) have also been taken. The Kid's Croaker Tournament at Captain Steve's Bait & Tackle attracted a field of almost 90 participants, with Ethan Willett hanging on to first place with a 13.3-ounce fish and William Davis finishing second with a 12-ounce fish. This is the second year in a row that Willett and taken the top honors in this tournament!

Wachapreague - Captain Lindsay Paul, of Trident Tackle, reported that there has not been any changes in the flounder fishing inside the inlet. Captain Paul repeated that a "few" fish continue to be caught but they are mostly "throwbacks" under the seventeen-inch minimum size limit. Offshore fishing did not sound very encouraging either, with tuna catches described as "scarce"! Recent trips to the 21 Mile Hill have produced only catches of false albacore. There were reports of a few tuna being pulled from 30 fathoms and a white marlin release com-

Toys, Games, Kites,

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ing from inside the Washington Canyon.

Lower Shore - Chris Snook, of Chris' Bait & Tackle, reported that the shop has registered red drum release citations for fish being released from the Middle Grounds all the way up to Nassawadox Creek. Spanish mackerel are hitting trolled Clark spoons as well as Stingsilvers that have been tossed under flocks of feeding birds. Croaker have been coming from the deeper water along the main channels. Anglers chumming for cobia are having to deal with lots of sharks and rays, but the cobia run continues. The fourth island of the Chesapeake Bay Bridge-Tunnel continues to hold a population of spadefish and triggerfish. The area in Front of Sunset Beach Inn up to the concrete ships off Kiptopeke State Park is holding good numbers of sea mullet (whiting). Spot catches are starting to increase off the Kiptopeke pier. Flounder fishing remains inconsistent, with the better catches coming from anglers jigging around the bridge pilings during periods of slack tide.

Upper Shore - Tex McFaden, from the Onancock Wharf, reported that Captain Walt Charters led Pennsylvania angler Brett Dunn to a catch of four keeper

speckled trout measuring up to 21 inches as well as a number of rockfish while fishing near the mouth of Onancock Creek. Captain Matt Abell and party released four large red drum and kept a cobia on a recent trip near off Nassawadox Creek. Red drum have also shown up farther up the middle bay in the vicinity of buoy #72, where bluefish in the 18-22 inch size are also hitting. Speckled trout catches were reported off Tangier. Croaker catches are starting to increase in size and numbers.

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.



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			<u>Friday,</u> Aug. 25		Saturday. Aug. 26		<u>Sunday,</u> Aug. 27		Monday, Aug. 28		Tuesday, Aug. 29		Wednesday, Aug. 30		Thursday, Aug. 31
Seaside	Assateague Beach	H L	11:22 a.m. 5:51 p.m.	H L	12:08 p.m. 6:41 p.m.	H L	12:55 p.m. 6:57 a.m.	H L	1:45 p.m. 7:43 a.m.	H L	2:40 p.m. 8:32 a.m.	H L	3:39 p.m. 9:23 a.m.	H L	4:37 p.m. 10:16 a.m.
	Chinco.Channel	H L	11:26 a.m. 5:50 p.m.	H L	12:12 p.m. 6:40 p.m.	H L	12:59 p.m. 6:56 a.m.	H L	1:49 p.m. 7:42 a.m.	H L	2:44 p.m. 8:31 a.m.	H L	3:43 p.m. 9:22 a.m.	H L	4:41 p.m. 10:15 a.m.
	Gargatha Neck	H L	12:18 p.m. 6:30 p.m.	H L	1:04 p.m. 6:51 a.m.	H L	1:51 p.m. 7:36 a.m.	H L	2:41 p.m. 8:22 a.m.	H L	3:36 p.m. 9:11 a.m.	H L	4:35 p.m. 10:02 a.m.	H L	5:33 p.m. 10:55 a.m.
	Folly Creek	H L	12:11 p.m. 6:15 p.m.	H L	12:57 p.m. 6:36 a.m.	H L	1:44 p.m. 7:21 a.m.	H L	2:34 p.m. 8:07 a.m.	H L	3:29 p.m. 8:56 a.m.	H L	4:28 p.m. 9:47 a.m.	H L	5:26 p.m. 10:40 a.m.
	Wachapreague	H L	11:47 a.m. 5:59 p.m.	H L	12:43 p.m. 6:49 p.m.	H L	1:30 p.m. 7:05 a.m.	H L	2:20 p.m. 7:51 a.m.	H L	3:15 p.m. 8:40 a.m.	H L	4:14 p.m. 9:31 a.m.	H L	5:12 p.m. 10:24 a.m.
	Quinby Inlet	H L	11:22 a.m. 5:30 p.m.	H L	12:08 p.m. 6:20 p.m.	H L	12:55 p.m. 6:36 a.m.	H L	1:45 p.m. 7:22 a.m.	H L	2:40 p.m. 8:11 a.m.	H L	3:39 p.m. 9:02 a.m.	H L	4:37 p.m. 9:55 a.m.
	Machipongo	H L	11:52 a.m. 5:59 p.m.	H L	12:38 p.m. 6:20 a.m.	H L	1:25 p.m. 7:05 a.m.	H L	2:15 p.m. 7:51 a.m.	H L	3:10 p.m. 8:40 a.m.	H L	4:09 p.m. 9:31 a.m.	H L	5:07 p.m. 10:24 a.m.
Bayside	Tangier Sound Light	H L	3:38 p.m. 9:38 a.m.	H L	4:21 p.m. 10:20 a.m.	H L	5:06 p.m. 11:02 a.m.	H L	5:54 p.m. 11:47 a.m.	H L	6:47 p.m. 12:37 a.m.	H L	7:08 a.m. 1:32 p.m.	H L	8:09 a.m. 2:29 p.m.
	Muddy Creek	H L	3:54 p.m. 10:13 a.m.	H L	4:37 p.m. 10:55 a.m.	H L	5:22 p.m. 11:37 a.m.	H L	6:10 p.m. 12:22 p.m.	H L	6:28 a.m. 1:12 p.m.	H L	7:24 a.m. 2:07 p.m.	H L	8:25 a.m. 3:04 p.m.
	Guard Shore	H L	3:46 p.m. 10:09 a.m.	H L	4:29 p.m. 10:51 a.m.	H L	5:14 p.m. 11:33 a.m.	H L	6:02 p.m. 12:18 p.m.	H L	6:20 a.m. 1:08 p.m.	H L	7:16 a.m. 2:03 p.m.	H L	8:17 a.m. 3:00 p.m.
	Chescon. Creek	H L	3:21 p.m. 9:21 a.m.	H L	4:04 p.m. 10:03 a.m.	H L	4:49 p.m. 10:45 a.m.	H L	5:37 p.m. 11:30 a.m.	H L	6:30 p.m. 12:20 p.m.	H L	6:51 a.m. 1:15 p.m.	H L	7:52 a.m. 2:12 p.m.
	Onancock Creek	H L	3:35 p.m. 9:41 a.m.	H L	4:18 p.m. 10:23 a.m.	H L	5:03 p.m. 11:05 a.m.	H L	5:51 p.m. 11:50 a.m.	H L	6:44 p.m. 12:40 p.m.	H L	7:05 a.m. 1:35 p.m.	H L	8:06 a.m. 2:32 p.m.
	Pungoteague Creek	H L	2:51 p.m. 8:55 a.m.	H L	3:34 p.m. 9:37 a.m.	H L	4:19 p.m. 10:19 a.m.	H L	5:07 p.m. 11:04 a.m.	H L	6:00 p.m. 11:54 a.m.	H L	6:57 p.m. 12:49 p.m.	H L	7:22 a.m. 1:46 p.m.
	Nassawadox	H L	1:36 p.m. 7:17 a.m.	H L	2:19 p.m. 7:59 a.m.	H L	3:04 p.m. 8:41 a.m.	H L	3:52 p.m. 9:26 a.m.	H L	4:45 p.m. 10:16 a.m.	H L	5:42 p.m. 11:11 a.m.	H L	6:41 p.m. 12:08 p.m
	Occohan. Creek	H L	2:15 p.m. 8:35 a.m.	H L	2:58 p.m. 9:17 a.m.	H L	3:43 p.m. 9:59 a.m.	H L	4:31 p.m. 10:44 a.m.	H L	5:24 p.m. 11:34 a.m.	H L	6:21 p.m. 12:29 a.m.	H L	6:46 a.m. 1:26 p.m.
	Cape Charles	H L	12:25 p.m. 6:56 p.m.	H L	1:08 p.m. 7:07 a.m.	H L	1:53 p.m. 7:49 a.m.	H L	2:41 p.m. 8:34 a.m.	H L	3:34 p.m. 9:24 a.m.	H L	4:31 p.m. 10:19 a.m.	H L	5:30 p.m. 11:16 a.m.
	Kiptopeke Beach	H L	12:03 p.m. 6:25 p.m.	H L	12:46 p.m. 6:36 p.m.	H L	1:31 p.m. 7:17 a.m.	H L	2:19 p.m. 8:03 a.m.	H L	3:12 p.m. 8:53 a.m.	H L	4:09 p.m. 9:48 a.m.	H L	5:08 p.m. 10:45 a.m.

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