

Free

Weekly Summer Paper Exclusively for Chincoteague Island

June 1, 2018

Free

Eastern Shore

HITCHING

POST

THE SHORE'S ONLY LOCALLY OWNED NEWSPAPER



Photo by Linda Cicoria

Bench Beckons Birders

Birdwatching is a favorite pastime of visitors to the Chincoteague Wildlife Refuge. This bench on the Refuge Wildlife Loop is a great place for spotting birds in every season. Read more about birding at the refuge on Pages 4 and 5.

Chincoteague Cultural Alliance Debuts Open-Air Stage

Submitted Article and Photo

Gather around the new open-air stage at the Chincoteague Cultural Alliance on Sunday, June 3, at 2 p.m., for a rousing performance of traditional gospel music by Troy and Clara Outten, Colton Kerchner, Mickey and Keagan Justice, and Connor Dendler. Troy Outten is the music teacher at Chincoteague High School and Kerchner is one of his students. Enjoy great instrumentals on banjo, bass, guitar, and mandolin, and harmony singing on classics including “Will The Circle Be Unbroken,” “I’ll Fly Away,” “Preachin, Praying, Singing,” and “Rock of Ages.”

There is no admission fee but a suggested contribution of \$5 will help 17-year-old Kerchner accompany the Outten family this summer to the 46th Annual RockyGrass Festival in Colorado. Known internationally as one of the top traditional bluegrass festivals, it brings together “generations of legends and future-legends,” making it a perfect place for Colton, Chincoteague’s young banjo virtuoso, to learn even more.

The concert is outdoors at CCA’s Community Center for the Arts, 6309 Church St. (inside in case of rain). Attendees are may bring chairs and coolers. Water and soft drinks will be available for sale.



Photo by Jim Dayton

Clara Outten, Colton Kerchner, and Troy Outten singing “Rock of Ages”



Photos by Linda Cicaira

Give a Person a Fish, She Eats for a Day; Teach a Person to Fish, It Becomes an Obsession

Fishing and crabbing are important parts of Chincoteague’s heritage and just about anywhere there’s water, there are people fishing. Born of necessity, they have become a preferred leisure activities — obsessions for some — and ways to form fun family traditions. At left, a family is crabbing at Chincoteague National Wildlife Refuge. At right a woman casts from the former bridge, the remnants of which now serve as a pier.



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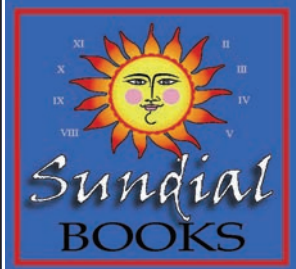
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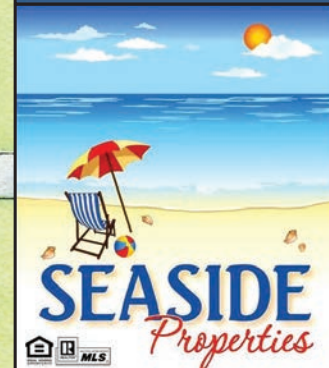


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Birding at the Wildlife Refuge: It's a Four-Season Hobby



Photo by Linda Cicaira

An egret steps through brush at Chincoteague National Wildlife Refuge.

By Connie Morrison

When the Chincoteague National Wildlife Refuge celebrated its 75th anniversary on May 12, it was also celebrating World Migratory Bird Day. The refuge is a stopover in the Eastern flyway for both the spring and fall migrations. It is a haven for bird-watchers and also houses nesting migratory shorebirds such as piping plovers, American oystercatchers, and least terns.

Some, like the threatened piping plover, are federally protected. Nesting sanctuaries were created for

them by closing Toms Cove Hook and Assawoman Island. From March 15 to September 15 visitors are asked to help protect nesting shorebirds by staying out of these sensitive areas.

There are, however, plenty of other areas to engage in birdwatching that don't harm threatened bird populations.

"It is a four-season birding experience. You can go any season and see a lot of species," said local birding enthusiast Roberta Kellam in an interview for the Hitching Post last fall.

Tom's Cove, accessible from the Beach Road; the Snow Goose Pool, accessible from the Wildlife Loop; and the Swan Cove Pool, accessible from both the Beach Road and the Wildlife Loop are favorite locations for bird watchers.

There are many ways to see birds and other wildlife at the refuge.

Hoof it. Take your binoculars and/or camera and set up along one of the many paths around the refuge. If you are unable to walk for any distance, binoculars and/or a telephoto lens can make the difference. Pull off the road and onto the shoulder where you can safely do so.

Get a bird's-eye view. Get an all-around view as your reward for climbing the spiral steps to the top of the Assateague Lighthouse. Climbs are available 9 a.m. - 3 p.m. daily. Lighthouse access is free to the public. Who knows what you might spy with your bird's eye view?

Important notes: For public safety, the lighthouse will close when temperatures exceed 95 degrees. Lighthouse access may occasionally be canceled due to inclement weather, safety considerations, or staffing. Please contact Chincoteague Natural History Association (CNHA) to ensure that climbs will be available during your visit. The association can be reached at 757-336-3696 or www.piping-plover.org

Take the Refuge Trek. CNHA provides bus transportation on a seven-mile service road for visitors wishing to view wildlife. Birds are just one of the wild refuge residents spotted on this less-traveled road. Ponies, white-tailed deer, and sika elk are also frequently seen. Bus operators ask that you dress for the weather as riders are permitted to get off the bus at select locations. Insect repellent, water, cameras, and binoculars are recommended.

Refuge Treks are scheduled for Saturday and Sunday at 10 a.m., and Fridays at 4 p.m. Beginning in mid-June, Refuge Treks will be offered daily, except Wednesdays, through Labor Day weekend. CNHA accepts Visa, MasterCard, and Discover for phone reservations. Refuge Treks do sell out, so plan and reserve accordingly. Bus rides cost \$15/person and \$7.50 for children 12 and under.

Important notes: Refuge Treks have limited space. Seats can be reserved in advance by calling 757-336-3696. The tours are occasionally cancelled due to inclement weather, safety considerations, or staffing. Before you visit, please contact CNHA to ensure the Refuge Trek will be available. The association can be reached at 757-336-3696 or www.piping-plover.org

DO NOT take to the skies. The use of drones within the refuge is strictly prohibited, both for public health and safety reasons and to protect refuge resources. Launching, landing, or operating unmanned aircraft from or on lands and waters administered by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

within the boundaries of Chincoteague National Wildlife Refuge is prohibited.

To find out which birds have been sighted recently in the park, check in with the rangers at the Herbert H. Bateman Educational and Administrative Center (the visitors center), open daily, 9 a.m. - 4 p.m., or go online. Recent bird sightings can be found at www.fws.gov/refuge/chincoteague/birdsightings.html There is also a link where birders can add their own bird sightings <https://ebird.org/home> On Monday, May 28, more than 60 entries had been made by 10 a.m.

If you catch bird fever and want to take your new hobby home, the ebird site allows enthusiasts to view sited species by location so new birders will know what to look for at home. When the Hitching Post last wrote about birding in September 2017, 383 bird species had been recorded in Accomack County, and 411 in Northampton. Since then each county has added one species to its tally. Whether watching out the living room window at home or from a relaxing vacation destination, birding is a hobby that can go anywhere.

If you don't have binoculars, the visitors center has them to loan, and the local libraries have several bird guides (under Sibley's and National Wildlife Federation titles). If you want to purchase your own, the gift shop at the visitors center has everything a novice needs to get started.



Photo by Linda Cicaira

This gull appears to be dancing. You'll never know what you'll see when bird watching.



Photo by Connie Morrison

The Black Duck Pool on Beach Road attracts a variety of water birds and other fauna.



Photo by Linda Cicaira

A black-crowned night heron at the edge of the water in Chincoteague National Wildlife Refuge.



Fishing from the Shore

By Bill Hall

For the second week in a row, the fishing remains more consistent than the weather. Croakers have made an early appearance on the seaside and cobia have begun to take the place of black drum in the lower Chesapeake Bay. Spanish mackerel have shown up in the ocean waters just off the Virginia Capes.

Lower Shore — Chris Snooks at Chris' Bait & Tackle reports that flounder fishing has improved in the ditch off the refuge, with flatfish as big as 8 pounds reported. Red drum fishing remains very good off Fishermen's Island, where black drum also remain. Cobia and large sharks have begun to show up, with shark releases as long as 8 feet registered for citations. Sheepshead catches are still coming from the Chesapeake Bay Bridge-Tunnel. Catches of sea mullet have been made from the pier at the Kiptopeke State Park. Croaker catches have come from the waters out of Oyster.

Jeb Brady at Bailey's Bait & Tackle reports that they have enjoyed a good run of black drum and a few fish still remain. Drum anglers are starting to see increasing numbers of cobia bycatches, especially off Nautilus Shoal and around the bridge-tunnel. Flounder catches were being made out of Oyster and sand mullet were being caught off Guy's Point.

Wachapreague — Captain Lindsay Paul at Trident Tackle reports that black drum catches are still being made out of Willis Wharf and Quinby. The shop registered a red drum release citation for Sam Sellard. Flounder fishing out of Wachapreague was described as "hit or miss," but croakers have shown up along with sand mullet. Reports of yellowfin tuna catches have come from the Poor

Man's Canyon, but planned trips out of the port were scuttled due to high winds.

Chincoteague — Peter Vasilou at Captain Steve's Bait & Tackle reports the black drum and striper bite off the beach remains steady. Kingfish (whiting), puffers, and toothy sharks are also being caught in the surf. In Chincoteague Bay the flounder population has spread out with catches coming from Queen Sound as well as in the Chincoteague Channel. Assateague Channel continues to be a favorite destination for a lot of the flounder seekers. Offshore, the black sea bass bite has been good over the wrecks. Reports of yellowfin and bluefin tuna have come from the canyon waters.

Donna Rae at Captain Bob's Marina reports flounder fishing has been "spotty" with a lot of undersized fish. Anglers have been averaging a couple of keepers out of every dozen or so fish caught. A lot of captains are fishing in Chincoteague Bay, especially in the deep hole in front of the high school. Undersized gray trout as well as bluefish have shown up in Chincoteague Channel. Donna said that the surf is still producing catches of black drum, but the number of fish is declining, while the number of striped bass is increasing. Croaker and kingfish have shown up in the inlet near buoys #11 and 12. Yellowfin to almost 70 pounds have been reported from the Poor Man's Canyon.

Upper Shore — Captain Matt Abell of the Sea Hawk Sports Center reports fishing has been good considering the recent weather that we have had. He said flounder fishing on the seaside remains "okay," as the fish have moved up on the flats with the best action occurring during the last of the flood through the first of the ebb tide. Red drum catches are still coming from the surf and some of the reds have met the slot limit. On the bayside, speckled trout fishing has been slow on the upswing, with fresh baits outcatching lures. The same holds true for rockfish. Red drum catches have been coming from the waters of Pocomoke Sound

all the way up to South Marsh Island. Sheepshead catches from the waters off Chincoteague all the way down to the Chesapeake Bay Bridge Tunnel have recently been brought into the shop.

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 IGFA 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 Bailey's Bait & Tackle
A sheepshead weighing 12.9 pounds caught by Richard Lee Hubbard.

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		<u>Friday</u> June 1		<u>Saturday</u> June 2		<u>Sunday</u> June 3		<u>Monday</u> June 4		<u>Tuesday</u> June 5		<u>Wednesday</u> June 6		<u>Thursday</u> June 7	
Seaside	Assateague Beach	H L	10:43 a.m. 4:53 p.m.	H L	11:26 a.m. 5:35 p.m.	H L	12:09 p.m. 6:28 a.m.	H L	12:55 p.m. 7:13 a.m.	H L	1:45 p.m. 7:59 a.m.	H L	2:38 p.m. 8:46 a.m.	H L	3:33 p.m. 9:33 a.m.
	Chinco Channel	H L	10:47 a.m. 4:52 p.m.	H L	11:30 a.m. 5:34 p.m.	H L	12:13 p.m. 6:27 a.m.	H L	12:59 p.m. 7:12 a.m.	H L	1:49 p.m. 7:58 a.m.	H L	2:42 p.m. 8:45 a.m.	H L	3:37 p.m. 9:32 a.m.
	Gargatha Neck	H L	11:39 a.m. 5:32 p.m.	H L	12:22 p.m. 6:24 a.m.	H L	1:05 p.m. 7:07 a.m.	H L	1:51 p.m. 7:52 a.m.	H L	2:41 p.m. 8:38 a.m.	H L	3:34 p.m. 9:25 a.m.	H L	4:49 p.m. 10:12 a.m.
	Folly Creek	H L	11:32 a.m. 5:17 p.m.	H L	12:15 p.m. 5:59 p.m.	H L	12:58 p.m. 6:52 a.m.	H L	1:44 p.m. 7:37 a.m.	H L	2:34 p.m. 8:23 a.m.	H L	3:27 p.m. 9:10 a.m.	H L	4:22 p.m. 9:57 a.m.
	Wachapreague	H L	11:18 a.m. 5:01 p.m.	H L	12:01 p.m. 5:43 p.m.	H L	12:44 p.m. 6:36 a.m.	H L	1:30 p.m. 7:21 a.m.	H L	2:20 p.m. 8:07 a.m.	H L	3:13 p.m. 8:54 a.m.	H L	4:08 p.m. 9:41 a.m.
	Quinby Inlet	H L	10:43 a.m. 4:32 p.m.	H L	11:26 a.m. 5:14 p.m.	H L	12:09 p.m. 6:00 p.m.	H L	12:55 p.m. 6:52 a.m.	H L	1:45 p.m. 7:38 a.m.	H L	2:38 p.m. 8:25 a.m.	H L	3:33 p.m. 9:12 a.m.
	Machipongo	H L	11:13 a.m. 5:01 p.m.	H L	11:56 a.m. 5:43 p.m.	H L	12:39 p.m. 6:36 a.m.	H L	1:25 p.m. 7:21 a.m.	H L	2:15 p.m. 8:07 a.m.	H L	3:08 p.m. 8:54 a.m.	H L	4:03 p.m. 9:41 a.m.
Bayside	Tangier Sound Light	H L	2:55 p.m. 9:10 a.m.	H L	3:33 p.m. 9:47 a.m.	H L	4:14 p.m. 10:26 a.m.	H L	4:58 p.m. 11:07 a.m.	H L	5:45 p.m. 11:07 a.m.	H L	6:36 p.m. 12:39 p.m.	H L	6:51 a.m. 1:28 p.m.
	Muddy Creek	H L	3:11 p.m. 9:45 a.m.	H L	3:49 p.m. 10:22 a.m.	H L	4:30 p.m. 11:01 a.m.	H L	5:14 p.m. 11:42 a.m.	H L	6:01 p.m. 12:27 p.m.	H L	6:15 a.m. 1:14 p.m.	H L	7:07 a.m. 2:03 p.m.
	Guard Shore	H L	3:03 p.m. 9:41 a.m.	H L	3:41 p.m. 10:18 a.m.	H L	4:22 p.m. 10:57 a.m.	H L	5:06 p.m. 11:38 a.m.	H L	5:53 p.m. 12:23 p.m.	H L	6:07 a.m. 1:10 p.m.	H L	6:59 a.m. 1:59 p.m.
	Chescon. Creek	H L	2:38 p.m. 8:53 a.m.	H L	3:16 p.m. 9:30 a.m.	H L	3:57 p.m. 10:50 a.m.	H L	4:41 p.m. 10:50 a.m.	H L	5:28 p.m. 11:35 a.m.	H L	6:19 p.m. 12:22 p.m.	H L	6:34 a.m. 1:11 p.m.
	Onancock Creek	H L	2:52 p.m. 9:13 a.m.	H L	3:30 p.m. 9:50 a.m.	H L	4:11 p.m. 10:29 a.m.	H L	4:55 p.m. 11:10 a.m.	H L	5:42 p.m. 11:55 a.m.	H L	5:56 a.m. 12:42 p.m.	H L	6:38 a.m. 1:31 p.m.
	Pungoteague Creek	H L	2:08 p.m. 8:27 a.m.	H L	2:46 p.m. 9:04 a.m.	H L	3:27 p.m. 9:43 a.m.	H L	4:11 p.m. 10:24 a.m.	H L	4:58 p.m. 11:09 a.m.	H L	5:49 p.m. 11:56 a.m.	H L	6:43 p.m. 12:45 p.m.
	Nassawadox	H L	12:53 p.m. 6:49 a.m.	H L	1:31 p.m. 7:26 a.m.	H L	2:12 p.m. 8:05 a.m.	H L	2:56 p.m. 8:46 a.m.	H L	3:43 p.m. 9:31 a.m.	H L	4:34 p.m. 10:18 a.m.	H L	5:28 p.m. 11:07 a.m.
	Occhohan. Creek	H L	1:32 p.m. 8:07 a.m.	H L	2:10 p.m. 8:44 a.m.	H L	2:51 p.m. 9:23 a.m.	H L	3:35 p.m. 10:04 a.m.	H L	4:22 p.m. 10:49 a.m.	H L	5:13 p.m. 11:36 a.m.	H L	6:07 p.m. 12:25 p.m.
	Cape Charles	H L	11:42 a.m. 5:50 p.m.	H L	12:20 p.m. 6:31 p.m.	H L	1:01 p.m. 7:13 a.m.	H L	1:45 p.m. 7:54 a.m.	H L	2:32 p.m. 9:26 a.m.	H L	3:23 p.m. 9:26 a.m.	H L	4:17 p.m. 10:15 a.m.
	Kiptopeke Beach	H L	11:20 a.m. 5:19 p.m.	H L	11:58 a.m. 6:00 p.m.	H L	12:39 p.m. 6:42 a.m.	H L	1:23 p.m. 7:23 a.m.	H L	2:10 p.m. 8:08 a.m.	H L	3:01 p.m. 8:55 a.m.	H L	3:55 p.m. 9:44 a.m.

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CCTA members who participated in the annual Round Robin event.



Paul Knight (left), Kim Halpin, Edda Grove, Peter Lukacs, and Terry Springle.

Big Winner in Community Tennis Round Robin Tournament in Fun!

Submitted Article and Photos

The Chincoteague Community Tennis Association (CCTA) held its annual Memorial Day Round Robin Tennis Tournament on Saturday, May 26, at the public tennis courts at Memorial Park on Chincoteague Island. The event was directed by Kim Hal-

pin and was attended by many existing and new members including Kathy Seabrooks of Belle Haven, and Art and Margaret Carroll, of Uncasville, Conn.

The competition began at 9 a.m., and by noon the winners had been determined. First place was awarded to Terry Springle of Captains Cove. In second

place was Peter Lukacs of Chincoteague, and third place was taken by Paul Knight of Captains Cove. Edda Grove of Chincoteague was awarded the prize for most games won by a female player. All of the players and many other members then enjoyed a potluck picnic at the pavilion.

The next event to be held by the CCTA

will be the July 4th Family Fun Day & Picnic to be held on Wednesday, July 4th. As with all of the events organized by the CCTA you must be a member to participate so please consider joining our association. Contact Peter Lukacs at communitytennisassoc.2013@gmail.com or call 301-370-8439 for more information.



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Posted at Sea Level



By Linda Cicaira

If you've ever gone over the Chesapeake Bay Bridge-Tunnel you know one way to get back home is to follow the seagull signs. It's that same bird you throw a french fry when you're sitting in the car at a fast-food restaurant with the window down. They hang out in parking lots and on the beach. They like to rest on piers. They are a symbol of the Eastern Shore.

Well, guess what I just read? They are not seagulls at all. That is correct and I am as shocked as you are.

According to www.spwickstrom.com/seagull, "Seagull" is an informal way laymen refer to any of the species that belong to the family Laridae, or the gulls. In all actuality," the site says, "there is no such thing as a seagull."

Can you really believe everything you read on the internet? Most likely not, but, I think this one is sad but true.

"There is not actually a single species called the

seagull, but people all over the world refer to them as seagulls," the site continues. "They are actually, and correctly, referred to as 'gulls' ... most closely related to the terns and only distantly related to auks, and skimmers, and more distantly to the waders." And I thought waders were those high rubber boots watermen wore.

I went online to find out how to pronounce Laridae. What a crazy quest that was. The dictionaries kept asking me if I meant "lariat." Word people don't take "no" for an answer. Finally, I learned you say lair-a-day or lair-a-dee. The first one sounds like a loose woman and the second reminds me of the word "chickadee." I will not be recommending it as the next baby girl name of the year.

It is a Greek word meaning "ravenous seabird." I learned Laridae is in the bottom 10 percent of words by popularity. There are many, many species of gulls and I have seen them all. The Black-legged Kittiwake, the large Glaucus Gull, the annoying Laughing Gull, and the Ring-billed Gull look the most familiar to me.

There were some "fun facts" about gulls too. They are monogamous. They will gang up on an intruder with up to 100 gulls to protect their breeding colony. They can survive drinking salt water due to the glands just above their eyes that flush the salt from their systems out through their nostrils. They have excellent vision, are expert flyers, and are the state bird of Utah. And, I love to photograph them because they are not camera shy at all. Yippee!



By Linda Cicaira

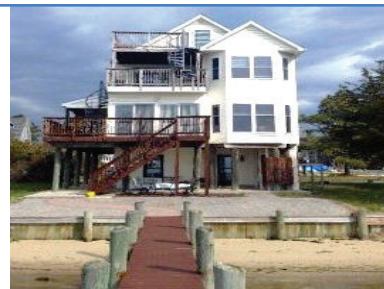
This gull thinks he's king of the tump — that's a small hill or group of trees or shrubs — and it's what some people call Chincoteague.



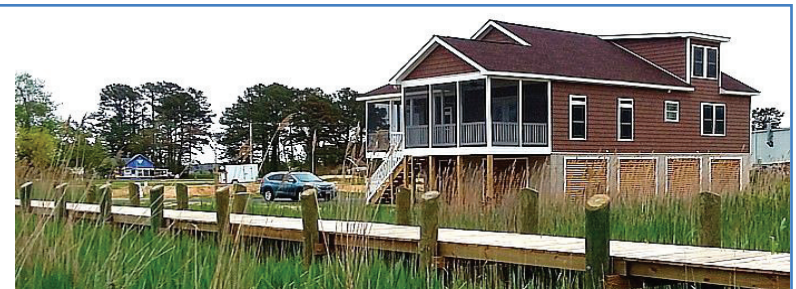
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Nothing but views of the Chincoteague Bay! Enjoy all the incredible decking, newer spiral staircase to upper deck for amazing views, new patio to sit and watch the dolphins, your own 100' pier: launch your boat fast and go fish! Waterfront marina club! **Just \$445,000**



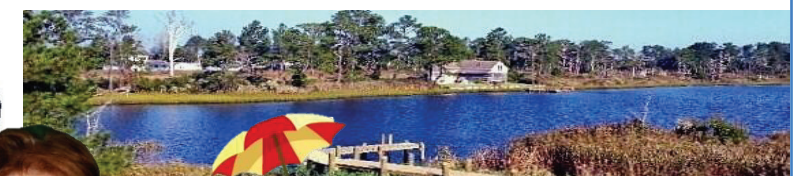
BRAND NEW ISLAND COMMUNITY! LOT 5 RACING MOON LANDING, RIDGE RD
Own your own waterfront home on the island! Right in the middle of Pony Penning and everything else! Community of only 6 custom-built homes will feature community pier for fishing and crabbing and the home features include: open concept, stainless, granite, tile bathroom floors, bamboo floors, ceiling fans and garage. You'll want to sit out on your screened porches in the evenings and watch the wildlife. Bike to the beach or uptown for shopping or dinner. Turn-key and ready to go. Let the beach fun begin! **REDUCED \$399,900**



JUST OFF RIDGE RD CHINCOTEAGUE
Custom designed waterfront Charleston-style cottage. With granite, bamboo floors, stainless, Wolfe cabinets, screened porch, extreme decking waterway, underneath parking with storage area. So close to Pony Swim Lane you won't believe it! **\$375,500**



5363 McCLEARY LN CHINCOTEAGUE
Own your own piece of the island in Misty Meadows! One-level living in this well-kept area! LOTS of new updates, including flooring for the entire length of house. Outbuildings for all your beach toys AND it's being sold completely furnished! WOW! **Just \$169,000**



Margaret Nichols
757.336.6000

SEASIDE
Properties

Artwork by Chris Holmes

Library Challenge Gets Students Reading Over the Summer

Submitted Article

Children and their parents are invited to a Summer Reading Challenge Open House on Thursday, June 7, from 4-7 p.m. Refreshments will be served.

The challenge runs June 7 through Aug. 17. It is free and open to all children, locals and visitors, from kindergarten through 12th grade. During the reading challenge, children can select any reading materials and topics that they enjoy. Studies indicate that children will read more when they can choose materials based on their own interests.

Stop in anytime from 4-7 p.m. on June 7 to register and pick up reading logs. If a child does not already have a library card, this is a great opportunity to sign up for one. A parent or guardian must accompany a child who wants to get a library card. Children who just want to register and get their reading logs and informa-

tion do not have to be accompanied by a parent.

Children should turn in their completed logs to the library on Aug. 17 at 11 a.m. when a wrap-up party will be held. Refreshments will be served, and readers will receive a library bag of back-to-school supplies. Children who cannot attend the wrap-up party can still turn in their logs through Aug. 25 and receive their bags of goodies.

"Free and voluntary reading helps children become better readers, writers, and spellers," notes the Chincoteague Island Library President Linda Ryan. "The Summer Reading Challenge encourages that reading become a lifelong habit and helps children keep up their skills over the summer months. And it is fun!"

Children who cannot attend the open house can still participate by signing up and picking up their read-



Photo by Connie Morrison

The Island Library in downtown Chincoteague.

ing logs at the library anytime during regular business hours between June 8 - June 23.

The Chincoteague Island Library is located at 4077 Main Street. For

more information call the library at 757-336-3460, or check the Chincoteague Island Library Facebook page or its website www.chincoteague.com/chincoteagueislandlibrary/

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North Street Playhouse
3rd Annual Gala
June 2, 2018
6:30-10 p.m.
tickets at 757-78-2050 or northstreetplayhouse.org/gala

THE GOLDEN AGE OF BROADWAY

Music, dancing, hors d'oeuvres, live performances and a sneak peek at "Kiss Me Kate!"

Make Plans Now for the 2018 Carnival and Pony Penning

By Linda Cicaira

The tradition of Pony Penning started in 1925, more than two decades before the famous “Misty of Chincoteague” was born, and will begin again in July to the delight of thousands.

The South Herd roundup is the kickoff of week-long activities and is set for Saturday, July 21, at about 4 p.m.. That’s when saltwater cowboys, or members of the Chincoteague Volunteer Fire Company, which owns the herd, will escort approximately 50 ponies to the Southern Corral on Assateague Island on the Chincoteague National Wildlife Refuge, where they live. The public is permitted to gather around the coral for the event.

Then on Sunday morning, July 22, between 100 and 150 ponies will be herded to the North Coral. This part of the island is not accessible. However, reserve tickets for special bus tours are available by contacting the Chincoteague Chamber of Commerce.

Misty, the palomino pinto with markings resembling a map of the United States on her side, was sold for \$150 in 1946 to Marguerite Henry, the

Illinois author who told the equine story. Misty wasn’t a wild filly, although her mother, a smoky black pinto named Phantom was. Misty’s father was Pied Piper, a chestnut pinto.

Misty was born on the Chincoteague family ranch owned by Clarence “Grandpa” Beebe and Ida “Grandma” Beebe, both of whom were featured in Misty’s book and the 1961 movie. Misty returned to the ranch in 1957 and had three foals sired by Wings, a chestnut pinto with a marking that looked like wings. Phantom Wings was Misty’s first foal. The palomino pinto stallion was her only son. A year later, Wisp O’ Mist, a chestnut mare, was born, and in 1962, Stormy arrived. Stormy also had her own book and was named for the Ash Wednesday Nor’easter that came through and caused much devastation on the islands.

“Windy of Chincoteague,” a book about Misty’s first granddaughter, was written in 1987 by Ronald Keiper. It is based on the true story of Windy nursing her half-sister, Misty II, along with her own foal, Cyclone.

The Beach Walk will be offered on

Monday, July 23. Ponies leave the North Corral at 6 a.m. and are escorted along the shore by the cowboys who lead them to the South Corral. Veterinary checks will be made on Tuesday, July 24. The Pony Swim will be held on Wednesday, July 25, when the herd swims across the channel from Assateague Island to Chincoteague Island at slack tide, sometime between 7 a.m. and 1 p.m. A more precise time will be announced later.

The swim occurs just south of Memorial Park on the east side of Chincoteague. There is no charge for parking or watching. Only buses are designated to park at Memorial Park. Those seeking handicap parking and all day-trippers are encouraged to go to Municipal Center on Community Drive and catch the free shuttle. Shuttles begin between 4 and 5 a.m. and end an hour after the ponies arrive at the carnival grounds.

The first foal to swim to Chincoteague will be named King or Queen Neptune and will be given away in a raffle drawing at the carnival grounds later in the day. You must be present

to win. The ponies rest for about 45 minutes after swimming and then are paraded to the carnival grounds on Main Street.

The carnival will be offered from 7 to 11 p.m. on June 29 and 30, July 4-7, July 13 and 14, July 20 and 21, and July 23-28.

Henry wrote her last Misty book, “Misty’s Twilight,” in 1992. It is about Misty’s great-great-grand-foal, “Misty’s Twilight,” a successful show horse.

The annual auction of ponies will begin Thursday, July 26, 8 a.m. at the carnival ground. Last year, 62 ponies sold (including 10 buybacks — ponies that are returned to wild, but the owner buys the right to name them) for an average of \$3,385. The high bid was \$15,000. The low bid was \$1,100. Total sales were \$209,900, a new record.

There are two herds of ponies on Assateague. One is in Virginia and the other is in Maryland. The two states share the island, and a fence separates the herds. The National Park Service manages the Maryland herd. A contraceptive vaccine controls its population.



Photo by Angie H. Crutchley

This foal made the swim in 2017.



Photo by Angie H. Crutchley

The Saltwater Cowboys escort the ponies through Chincoteague.

Chincoteague Island Pony Express 2018 Trolley Schedule

GREEN ROUTE	EVENING HOURS ONLY										
Pine Grove	5:02		6:02		7:02		8:02		9:02		10:02
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
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
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
Memorial Park	5:17	5:47	6:17	6:47	7:17	7:47	8:17	8:47	9:17	9:47	10:17
Pony Centre	5:21	5:51	6:21	6:51	7:21	7:51	8:21	8:51	9:21	9:51	10:21
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
GREEN ROUTE: Designated "Free Rides" courtesy of the Chincoteague Chamber of Commerce											
SEPTEMBER: 29th - Chili Chowder Cook Off - 10am - 10:30pm											
OCTOBER: 6th - Oyster Fest - 10am - 10:30pm (Ride free 10am - 5pm)											

RED ROUTE	EVENING HOURS ONLY										
Pine Grove	5:15		6:15		7:15		8:15		9:15		
High School - Call In											
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.	5:30		6:30		7:30		8:30		9:30		
Memorial Park	5:34		6:34		7:34		8:34		9:34		
Museum of Chincoteague Is.	5:38	6:08	6:38	7:08	7:38	8:08	8:38	9:08	9:38		

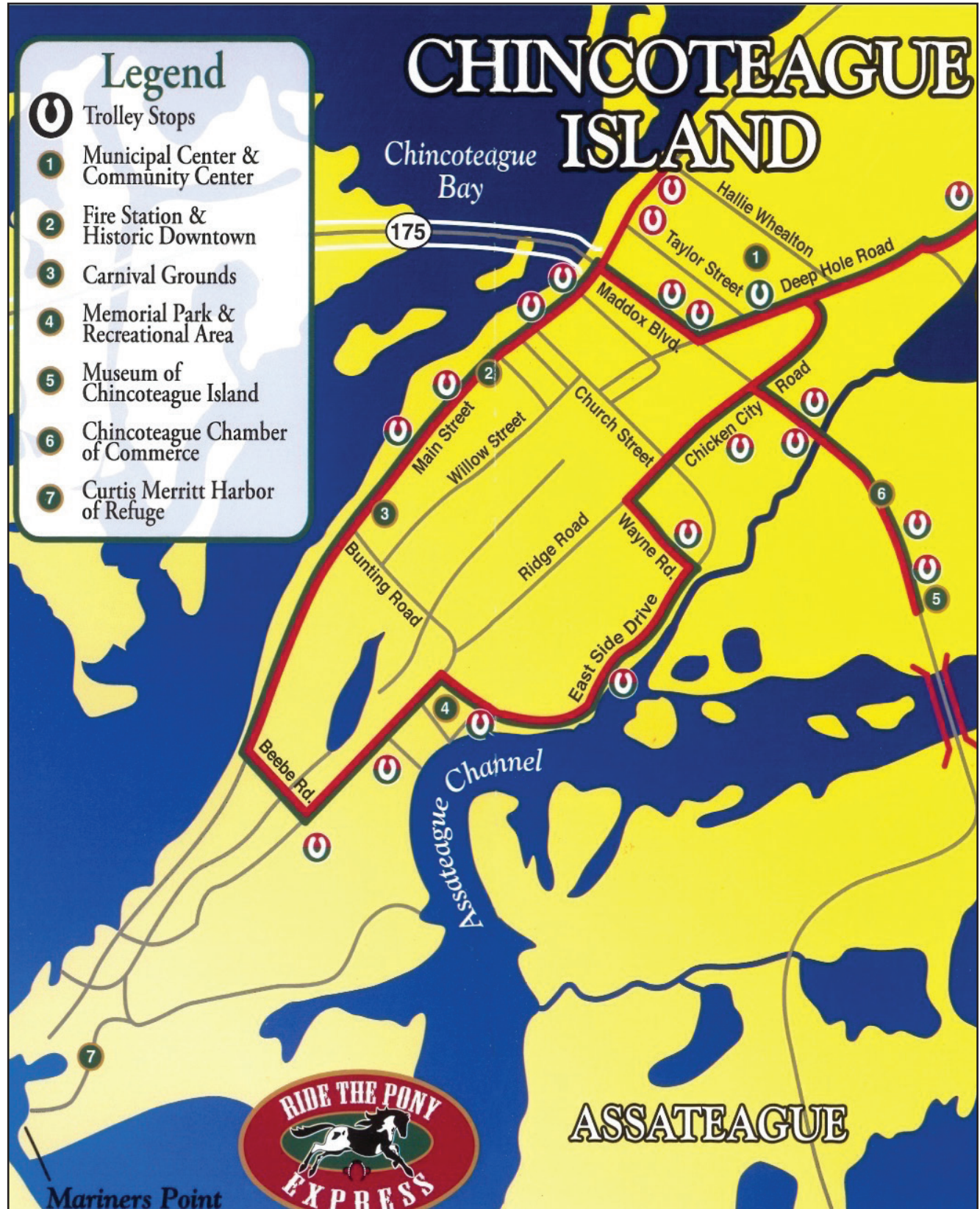
Carnival*, Pony Swim, Pony Auction, Pony Swim Back Extended Hours
 JULY: 4th - Fireworks - 5pm - Midnight 25th - Pony Swim - TBA - Midnight
 JULY: 26th - Pony Auction - 7am - 1pm** 27th - Pony Swim Back - 6am - 1pm**
 ** Last Call for Trolley during Carnival is 11:00pm

Additional Information

Trolley fare is 25 cents per person per ride, or one taken. Exact change is appreciated. Free ride tokens are available at local businesses. Drivers do not carry cash. 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. The operator complies with all ADA rules and regulations. ADA trips will be arranged where logistically possible.

THE PONY EXPRESS

A Guide to Chincoteague Island's Public Transit Trolley



What to do this week on and around Chincoteague Island

Friday, June 1

Captain Timothy Hill House, open to public Fridays 1-3 p.m., 5122 Main St., Chincoteague, free admission (donations appreciated), call 973-831-5961, www.captaintimothyhillhouse.com

Saturday, June 2

Farmers and Artisans Market, 9 a.m. until 1 p.m., Chincoteague Cultural Alliance, 6309 Church St., www.chincoteagueculturalalliance.org

Kitchen Gallery Art Show, 10 a.m. - noon, Community Center for the Arts, 6309 Church St., www.chincoteagueculturalalliance.org

Imagination Playground: Chain Reactions, 11-noon, geared toward ages 4 to 9, NASA Wallops Flight Facility Visitors Center, 757-824-1344, Admission: free, www.nasa.gov/centers/wallops/visitorcenter

Free Kids Art Class, 1-2 p.m., Chincoteague Cultural Alliance, 6309 Church St., www.chincoteagueculturalalliance.org

Rocketry: Model Rocket Launch, 2-3 p.m., geared toward ages 6 to adult, NASA Wallops FLight Facility Visitors Center, 757-824-1344, Admission: free, www.nasa.gov/centers/wallops/visitorcenter

Sunday, June 3

Episcopal Church Service, Emmanuel Episcopal Church (conducted in the chapel of Fox Holston Funeral Home, 5049 Chicken City Rd, Chincoteague), 8 a.m., the Rev. Claire M. Hunkins, 757-894-7078, www.emmanuelchurchjb.com

Outdoor Gospel Music Concert, 2 p.m., Chincoteague Cultural Alliance, 6309 Church St., no admission charge, but suggested contribution \$5, chincoteagueculturalalliance.org

coteagueculturalalliance.org

Tuesday, June 5

Tuesday Nights at the Museum: Where Island Tales Are Told, "Southern Folk Cemeteries & Chincoteague Island," by Gary Turnquist, 7 p.m., Museum of Chincoteague Island, 7125 Maddox Blvd. Cost: \$4 for adults and children older than 12 years, free admission for children 12 and under and active military. (757) 336-6117, info@chincoteaguemuseum.com

Wednesday, June 6

Farmers and Artisans Market, 9 a.m. until 1 p.m., Chincoteague Cultural Alliance, 6309 Church St., www.chincoteagueculturalalliance.org

Art Class: Acrylic as Watercolor, 1-3 p.m., Chincoteague Cultural Alliance, pre-registration required online or at Sundial Books (cash or check only), 6309 Church St., \$35, chincoteagueculturalalliance.org

Ongoing

NASA Visitor Center, Tuesday - Saturday, 10 a.m. - 4 p.m., 757-824-1344, Admission: free, www.nasa.gov/centers/wallops/visitorcenter

Chincoteague National Wildlife Refuge, 6 a.m. - 8 p.m. daily, 757-336-6122, www.fws.gov/refuge/chincoteague/ Herbert H. Bateman Educational and Administrative Center open daily, 9 a.m. - 4 p.m.

Assateague National Seashore, Toms Cove Visitor Center, 9 a.m. - 4 p.m. 757-336-6577, www.nps.gov/asis/index.htm

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.

Day Trips and Side Trips Around the Eastern Shore

Friday, June 1 - Sunday, June 3

Free Fishing Days at Virginia State Parks. No fishing license of any kind will be required for recreational rod and reel fishing during free fishing days and facilities use permits will also not be required during these dates. Please note: Chincoteague National Wildlife Refuge is a NATIONAL facility and is not included in the "Free Fishing Days." For more information, go to <https://www.dgif.virginia.gov/fishing/free-fishing-days/>

Saturday, June 2

Yogo, Wellness, and Wine on the Lawn, 1 p.m., yoga followed by a relaxing time on Chatham Vineyard's lawn, wine tasting and light hors d'oeuvres. Chatham Vineyard, 9232 Chatham Rd., Machipongo, \$35, 757-678-5588, Info@ChathamVineyards.com

The Golden Age of Broadway, 3rd Annual Fundraising Gala, 6:30-10 p.m., North Street Playhouse, 34 Market St., Onancock, tickets are \$40 in advance; \$50 at the door, 757-678-5550, www.northstreetplayhouse.org/gala/

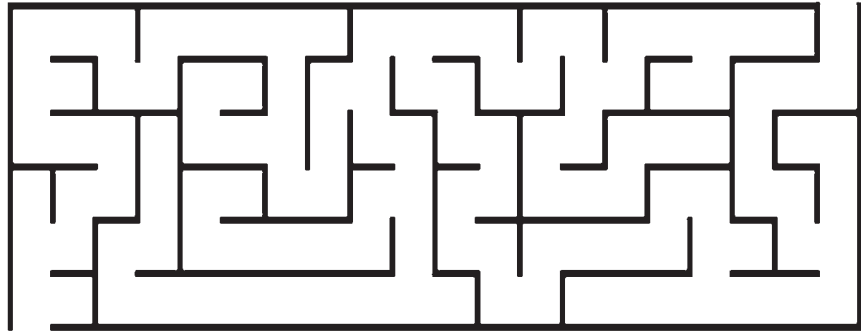
All listings are provided for information only; call or check websites for updates and confirmation.

THE HITCHING POST IS A PUBLICATION OF THE THE EASTERN SHORE POST, ONLEY, VIRGINIA. CONTACT US AT 757-789-7678. EDITOR, CONNIE MORRISON; COPY EDITOR, DAVID MARTIN; AD MANAGER, TROY JUSTIS; ADVERTISING ASSOCIATE, SAM SELLARD; AD DESIGNER, KIMBERLY PERRY.

NAMEPLATE PHOTOGRAPH BY SOLID ROCK PHOTOGRAPHY, CHINCOTEAGUE.

Kids' Puzzle Page

Kids' Maze



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"Relax — I haven't been married before!
You smell _____ because
this was Mom's wedding dress!"

SCRAMBLERS

Unscramble the letters within each rectangle to form four ordinary words. Then rearrange the boxed letters to form the mystery word, which will complete the gag!

Defer	VESEHL	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
Shiver	MORTER	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
Key	PETALS	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
Strange	ZEIBRAR	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>

TODAY'S WORD

SEASIDE by Coleman



HE IS A SEAMONSTER. HE WORKS WITH MY DADDY ON THE BOAT



I HAVE TO GIVE YOU A FROWNY FACE



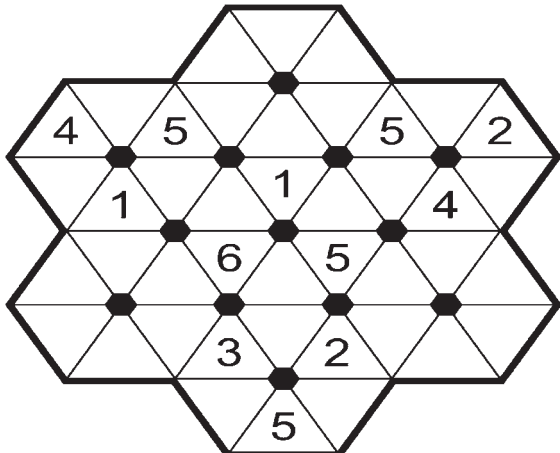
MY TEACHER SAYS YOU ARE A LIAR!!



SNOWFLAKES

by Japheth Light

There are 13 black hexagons in the puzzle. Place the numbers 1 - 6 around each of them. No number can be repeated in any partial hexagon shape along the border of the puzzle.



DIFFICULTY THIS WEEK:

◆ Easy ◆◆ Medium ◆◆◆ Difficult

A RHYMING RIDDLE!

"We are familiar creatures,
Each with different features.
One of us in a glass is set,
Another you will find in jet;
The third is found inside
a tin,
A fourth, a beautiful box
within;
And the fifth, if you pursue,
It will never fly from you."



THE JOLLY JESTER has five items in mind. You have five minutes to find them.

Answer: The vowels — A, E, I, O and U.

YOU'LL BE IN TIP-TOP FORM if you can solve this AlphaMath puzzle in less than five minutes. You must replace the letters to the right with the digits 1, 2, 3, 4, 6, 8 and 9, so that you have a correct addition problem. The same letters get the same digits.

Our Answer: T=8, I=3, P=2, O=6, F=1, R=9, M=4, (832 + 862 = 1694).

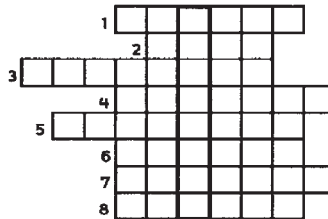
LINK-UPS! Here's a list of 12 one-syllable words, divided into two columns. Turn them into six longer words by linking them together. To do this, draw a line from one word in the left column to one word in the right.

Answers: Winsome, buckled, wassail, added, grinding, damages.

Junior Whirl

by Charles Barry Townsend

TRY TO BE PRESIDENTIAL SOLVING THIS ONE!



In the grid to the left, there is room for the last names of eight of our past presidents. The following tricky hints should help you:

1. One who moves things.
2. Often found in the garden.
3. One of the Beatles.
4. The Tall Texan.
5. To add greater quantity to.
6. He was for clean government.
7. A catty president.
8. A type of stare.

There is a dark frame around one of the columns. The letters in the frame, top to bottom, will spell out the home of several of our presidents.

Answers: 1. Carter, 2. Bush, 3. Harrison, 4. Johnson, 5. Fillmore, 6. Hoover (vacuum), 7. Garfield, 8. Pierce (piercing stare). The dark framed column spells "Rushmore."



Illustrated by David Coulson

1. WIN	AGES
2. BUCK	DING
3. WAS	LED
4. ADD	SOME
5. GRIN	LED
6. DAM	SAIL

P
A
S
T
I
M
E
S

MAGIC MAZE ● SHY WORDS

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

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

- | | | | |
|-------|--------|---------|-------------|
| Bushy | Fleshy | Pushy | Swishy |
| Cushy | Gushy | Shylock | Trashy |
| Dishy | Marshy | Shyness | Wishy-washy |
| Fishy | Mushy | Sloshy | |

Last Week's Answers

ANTISERA SEDANS LENTO
 DEADHEAT OLIVIA EVERY
 DOLLARDIPLOMACY GALAS
 SNEER MEIN ESSO SIT
 RETWEET FORMULAONE
 MED DUI RADII EDASNER
 ELIGIBLESINGLE ANISES
 LEVIN TARA RWANDA
 VON MONTE BIOS NASA
 HER PAPA BUCKPASSING
 INC ACE ECASH EXO ROE
 STEAMERCLAM ACID AWE
 SHES ARMY TARTS TLIC
 PASSAT DEMI SWEAR
 POTENT GREENBACKPARTY
 IRONERS EASEL HEE TSE
 LIPSMACKER MINARET
 LOP ODOR LENA DORIS
 ALLEN WASHINGTONSTATE
 GEESE LUTIST ALOUETTE
 ESSES STUMPS LAMPREYS

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

Weekly SUDOKU

by Linda Thistle

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

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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Super Crossword

RECREATIONAL MATHEMATICS

- | | | | | | |
|---------------------------------------|--|---|------------------------------------|--|-------------------------------|
| ACROSS | 43 Layer with a "hole" in it | 82 Wallach of "The Misfits" | 129 Carmelite nun | 32 Huge heads | 80 Singer |
| 1 Sovereign | 45 Hand lender | 85 Spinning measure, to a math lover? | 130 Vampire novelist | 33 Get as profit | Morissette |
| 9 "And on and on and on": Abbr. | 48 Narrow coastal inlet | 92 — while | DOWN | 35 Classical column style | 81 Bow rub-on |
| 15 Like saltines | 49 R.E. Lee's org. | 93 Extra NBA periods | 1 Mini-demon | 36 "The ball — your court" | 83 Guitarist Paul |
| 20 Fit to send via the postal service | 52 Male Oscar category, to a math lover? | 94 Petrol station name | 2 — Zedong | 37 Hi-tech 'zine | 84 Freezing up |
| 21 Old-time comedian Russell | 58 Cry audibly | 95 "— Marner" | 3 Domino spot | 40 "Hush!" | 86 City |
| 22 Designer Oscar de la — | 59 Sir — Newton | 96 Stick on | 4 Pachyderms | 44 Tijuana "that" | 87 "— trap!" |
| 23 Olive Oyl's guy, to a math lover? | 60 One like the previous one | 99 Reporter, informally | 5 Silky fabric | 46 Prescription measure | 88 Beat big-time |
| 25 Hall's partner in music | 62 Suffix with leopard | 102 South, south of the border | 6 Alpine goats | 47 Lyric Muse | 89 Balm plant |
| 26 Chicken — | 65 Will subject | 104 Tetra- + five | 7 Height stat | 50 Derision | 90 Mama's ma |
| 27 "Have — a deal for you!" | 67 Lump of mayo, e.g. | 105 Protective spirit, to a math lover? | 8 Utah City near Provo | 51 Floral oil | 91 Old overlord |
| 28 Increases, as debt | 69 Harsh in tone | 110 Motoring TV series | 9 Belgian artist James | 53 Rival of Lyft | 96 Christie of mystery |
| 30 2011-15 speaker of the House | 70 "Les Misérables" author, to a math lover? | 112 No fewer than | 10 Big name in breath mints | 54 — kwon do | 97 Import taxes |
| 34 Huge grin, to a math lover? | 73 More done than "bloody," to a math lover? | 113 Burglarizes | 11 Tax doc. pro | 55 One-named Italian model | 98 City in Texas |
| 38 Meditative discipline | 75 Pretty up | 115 Jerry's uncle on "Seinfeld" | 12 U.S. aliens' subj. | 56 "Hey, I was thinking ..." | 100 Annoys a lot |
| 39 "Oh really? — who?!" | 76 Mimic | 116 Certain floor specialist | 13 Hot brew | 57 Glossy proof | 101 Way to leave |
| 41 Old Carl Sagan series | 77 Ballpark bite | 117 1950 black-comedy film noir, to a math lover? | 14 Storied duelist with a big nose | 61 Deli breads | 103 Arrive, as fog |
| 42 Guitarist Nugent | 78 Casual greetings | 125 Lift with effort | 15 Gators' kin | 62 "Well, Did You —?" (Cole Porter tune) | 106 Christopher of "Superman" |
| | 79 Cry upon arriving | 126 Motionless | 16 Supply with a new weapon | 63 Nisan feast | 107 Ventures |
| | 81 Air, as an oldie | 127 Talked nonsense | 17 Have a hunch | 64 Win points | 108 Bunch of, informally |
| | | 128 Pack-toting animals | 18 Remington of 1980s TV | 66 SeaWorld killer whale | 109 Diminish |
| | | | 19 Went by | 67 Outfits | 111 Annoy |
| | | | 24 Yolk's place | 68 Peculiarity | 114 Mixer choice |
| | | | 29 Med. x-ray | 71 Roman fountain | 118 Aztec cousin |
| | | | 30 Party abbr. | 72 Shallot's kin | 119 "I'm cold!" |
| | | | 31 Seep | 73 — code | 120 View |
| | | | | 74 Many moons | 121 It may dispense |
| | | | | 77 Mother bird | 13-Down |
| | | | | | 122 Old ring king |
| | | | | | 123 Abbr. on a camcorder |
| | | | | | 124 HST follower |

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Captains Cove - Never lived in 3BR/2BA home with lots of storage space and small deck
MLS# 47227 \$219,000



Chincoteague - Well maintained 2BR/2BA home with fenced yard. Sold turn key!
MLS# 46135 \$115,000



Chincoteague - Large waterfront 3BR/2.5BA home w/ 2 car garage. Successful vaca. rental
MLS# 47365 \$419,500



Chincoteague - 3BR/2BA mobile home w/ screen porch, detached garage and more!
MLS# 47281 \$129,500



Chincoteague - Waterfront 2BR/1.5BA townhouse with open floor plan. Fully furnished
MLS# 45800 \$247,500



Captains Cove - 3BR/2BA home on quiet cul de sac. Screened porch and large backyard. Great starter home
MLS# 47629 \$158,900



Chincoteague - Custom 4BR/2.5BA waterfront home with kayak ramp, screen porch, and huge deck space.
MLS# 47142 \$695,000



Captains Cove - Waterfront 3BR/2BA home with open deck, screened porch, high ceilings, fireplace and gorgeous sunsets!
MLS# 47264 \$159,900



Atlantic - Large 4BR/2.5BA home on corner lot with lots of yard space. 1st floor master suite with walk-in closets.
MLS# 47690 \$245,000



Chincoteague - Waterfront 2BR/2.5BA townhouse with spacious decks and views of Assateague and the lighthouse
MLS# 47360 \$329,900

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<p>CHINCOTEAGUE 6426 Maddox Blvd. (next to PNC Bank) 757/336-5100</p>	<p>CAPTAINS COVE 37054 State Line Rd. (on the right) 757/824-5195</p>
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PRICE REDUCED!



Chincoteague - Fresh and roomy 3BR/2BA mobile home on a corner lot with paved driveway. Large kitchen with lots of counter space and enough room for an eat-in kitchen. The over sized living room boasts lots of natural lighting. Outdoor building and all new windows throughout!
MLS 46501 \$139,000



Chincoteague - Gorgeous 2BR/1BA home on an expansive lot that could be divided into two. The house has a renovated kitchen, hardwood floors, bay windows, and freshly painted exterior. Features a covered front porch and large fenced backyard. Auxiliary building has a bathroom and wood stove with plenty of extra storage space!
MLS 47428 \$330,000



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#LnFChincoteague



Meghan Oliver
757/894-0798



Jenny Barker
917/612-8799



John McGoldrick
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