

Eastern Shore

HITCHING

POST

THE SHORE'S ONLY LOCALLY OWNED NEWSPAPER



Artful Flea Brings Colorful Collections to Chincoteague

By Jasmine Foeman

Chincoteague's Artful Flea rolls into town again on Saturday, a venue for farmers, purveyors of artisanal foods, artists, antique sellers, and others showcase their best goods to the throngs that reliably turn out to meet them.

Four years ago, the Chincoteague Cultural Alliance was looking for new programs to attract people. Alex Hubb, markets manager for the CCA, realized that there were already many flea markets in the area. The CCA already had a large property, so Hubb decided to try a big flea market and gauge reactions.

"We just gave it a shot and we were pleased with the results that we saw," said Hubb.

Approximately 45 vendors are participating in the Artful Flea this year, from as far away as Pennsylvania. Veteran vendors say good sales is what makes them return year after year. JoAnne Beckwith, a three-year veteran, said, "This is a good market with good people, both customers and vendors. And Alex Hubb works hard to plan and organize, and he works well with the vendors."

New sellers say the Artful Flea is becoming branded — dealers are doing well with their sales and are spreading the word to others. They are also noticing that they have followers and the public comes looking for them specifically. Newcomers Cheryl Rimmer and Tracy Cornwell, of Treasure Beach Design, are excited to be apart of the market this year. "The atmosphere and location" are the main draws, said Cornwell; live music and prepared food help cinch the deal for other sellers.

The bulk of the clientele at the Artful Flea are tourists browsing the unique and special merchandise each year; it's the blend that keep the market lively and

Photos courtesy of Alex Hubb

Some of the items available for sale at one of last year's Artful Flea market on Chincoteague.

(Continued on Page 2)

~ Artful Flea ~ (continued from front)

interesting. For example, this year there will be a woman selling miniature fruit and produce. The vendor said that this is a big trend in major cities and something she wanted to bring to the Shore. There will also be two people from Pennsylvania selling vintage goods. Nautical items are also a favorite at the Artful Flea. There aren't just unique goods, there are also familiar standbys that people look forward to each year.

Indoor sites have also been added to accommodate some of the sellers. There will be between nine and 11 vendors inside for those who have perishable

items or those who can't be outside very long.

Hubb likes to invite musicians of all types to perform at the Artful Flea, an addition enjoyed by vendors and shoppers alike. This year, he has two coming from New York, three from northern Virginia, and some from northern Maryland. He also encourages local musicians to play. Although they are playing for tips only, Hubb believes they come "because they love the experience."

The Artful Flea has hit on a successful formula. "Plenty of vendors offering variety of quality products, a structured program for vendors, publicity, free admission, live music, food vendors, and an on-site manager," are all required, said Hubb. "Take anyone of these away, and our event is probably in some jeopardy of being successful."



Photos Courtesy of Alex Hubb
Last year's Artful Flea saw a wide range of merchandise, including local seafood, stone and beaded jewelry, and hand-made ukuleles.

If you go...

The Artful Flea is second Saturday of every month until October, from 9 a.m. - 2 p.m., 6309 Church St. The event goes on, rain or shine.

There is no charge for admission.

www.chincoteagueculturalalliance.org

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NASA Postpones Sounding Rocket Launch from Wallops

Submitted Article

The launch of a Terrier-Improved Malemute sounding rocket scheduled for June 4 from NASA's Wallops Flight Facility, was postponed due to clouds impacting the ability to test a new ampoule ejection system designed to support studies of the ionosphere and aurora.

While the launch window ran through June 6, forecast weather was not conducive for supporting the test mission through the remainder of the window. The launch is now scheduled for no earlier than June 11, pending range availability.

NASA has two ground stations — at Wallops and Duck, N.C. — to view blue-green and red artificial clouds that will be produced as part of the test. Clear skies are required at one of the two ground stations for this test.

The June 4 attempt was the fourth for this mission. The first two attempts were scrubbed due to winds and clouds. The third attempt was scrubbed due to boats in the launch hazard area.

The multi-canister ampoule ejection

system flying on this mission will allow scientists to gather information over a much larger area than previously able.

Canisters will deploy between 4 and 5.5 minutes after launch releasing

Refuge Announces User Fees Changes Effective July 23

Submitted Article

Chincoteague National Wildlife Refuge offers many unique recreational and educational opportunities to the visiting public. They are all made possible through the collection of entrance fees.

On June 23, 2017, after seeking and considering public input, the refuge fee structure will change to replace a fee structure unchanged since 2008. Entrance passes, good for one week, will be priced at \$20. Yearly passes, good for one year, will be priced at \$40. Refuge passes are also good for entrance to Assateague Island National Seashore in Maryland. Entrance fee will be waived for

blue-green and red vapor to form artificial clouds. These clouds, or vapor tracers, allow scientists on the ground to visually track particle motions in space. The clouds may be visible along the

passengers of local courtesy shuttles, such as those typically used by hotels and motels. Hikers and cyclists can still enter free of charge.

Refuge Manager Kevin Sloan said, "The increase in entrance fees is sorely needed to cover ever-increasing costs associated with maintaining and improving refuge infrastructure that supports visitor activities. This astonishing beautiful refuge is the gem of the Atlantic Coast, offering exceptional wildlife viewing, surf fishing, and beach recreation found nowhere else. In addition, the refuge is a very strong economic engine for the surrounding area generating an estimated \$50

mid-Atlantic coastline from New York to North Carolina.

More information will be released when available; updates will be posted to www.nasa.gov/wallops

million for the Town of Chincoteague and \$200 million for Virginia's Eastern Shore annually."

Eighty percent of all fees collected from the sale of refuge entrance passes are used to maintain and improve the visitor experience including, repairs to the historic Assateague lighthouse, annual maintenance of roads, trails, visitor health and safety services, fee collection operations, and providing ranger programs and special events. Refuge law enforcement, an important element of ensuring year-round public safety, is also partially funded through the col-

(Continued on Page 7)

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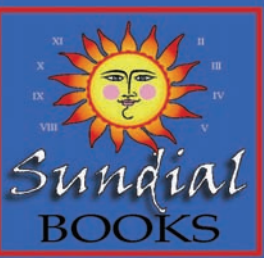
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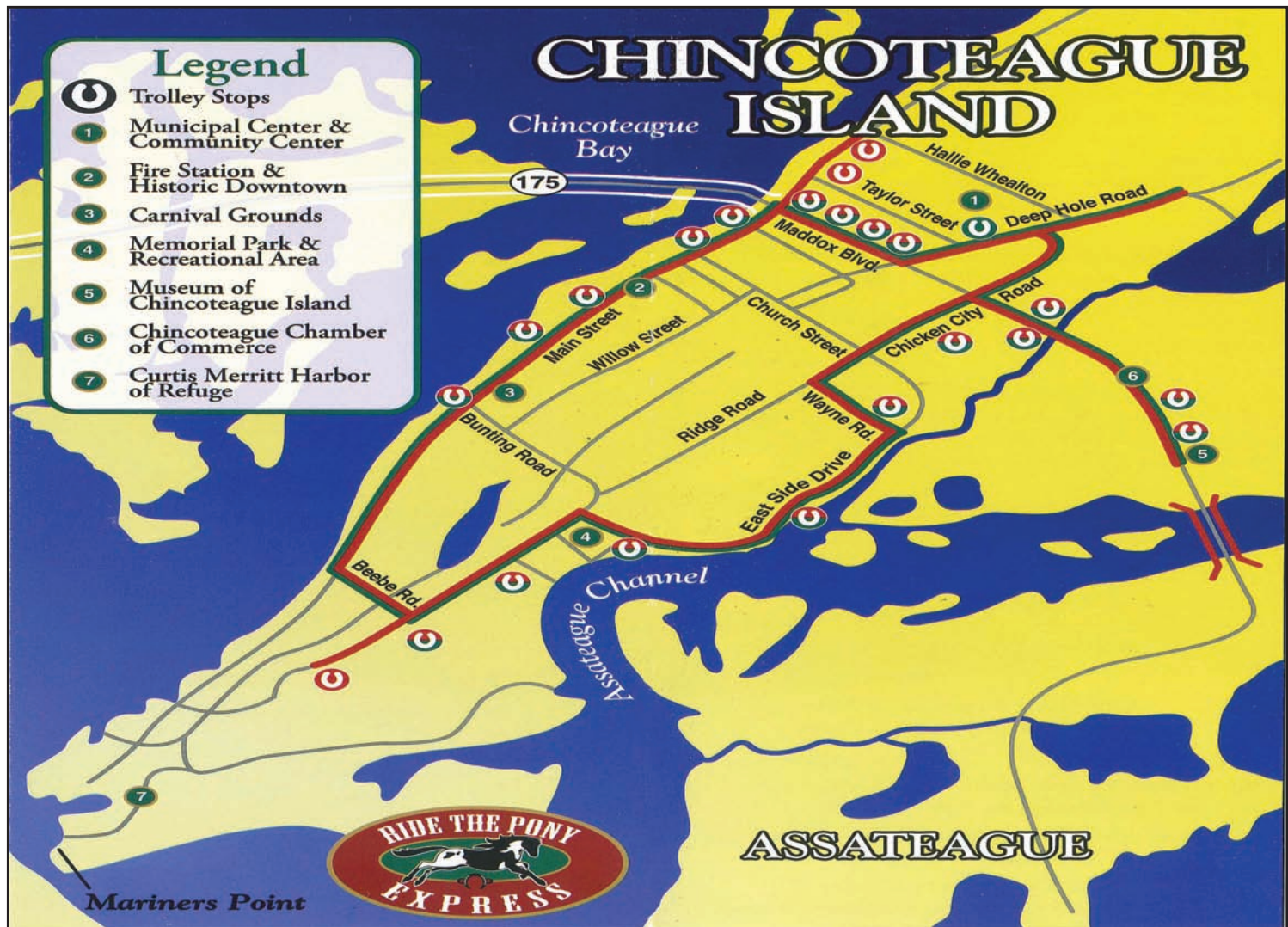
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2017 TROLLEY SCHEDULE

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										Carnival*, Pony Swim, Pony Auction, Pony Swim Back Extended Hours											
SEPT.: 30th - Chili Chowder Cook Off - 10am - 10:30pm										JULY: 1st - Fireworks - 5pm - Midnight 26th - Pony Swim - TBA - Midnight											
OCTOBER: 7th - Oyster Fest - 10am - 10:30pm (Ride free 10am - 5pm)										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.

What to do this week in and around Chincoteague

June 9 - June 15:

"Wonder Woman," Island Theatre, www.islandtheatres.com/ for showtimes.

Saturday, June 10

Artful Flea Market, 9 a.m. - 2 p.m., and *Farmers Market*, 9 a.m. until 1 p.m., Chincoteague Cultural Alliance, 6309 Church St., www.chincoteagueculturalalliance.org

Chincoteague Bike Rodeo and Safety Seminar, 10 a.m. - noon, Chincoteague Police Department and Safe Routes to School Program, behind Chincoteague Town Complex on Community Drive, free registration and helmets, Ages 5-13

Solar System Activities, 11 a.m., Wallops Flight Facility Visitor Center, Building J20 Route 175, Chincoteague Rd., www.nasa.gov/centers/wallops/visitorcenter

Tour of the Solar System, 2 p.m., Wallops Flight Facility Visitor Center, Building J20 Route 175, Chincoteague Rd., www.nasa.gov/centers/wallops/visitorcenter

Second Saturday Art Stroll, 5- 8 p.m., Main Street. and Maddox Boulevard, www.chincoteagueculturalalliance.org/2nd-saturday-art-stroll.html

Kasey Williams Live, 7 p.m., Chincoteague Island Arts Organization, Island

Theatre Annex, 4076 Main St., www.chincoteagueislandarts.org/

Tuesday, June 13:

Tuesday Nights at the Museum: Where Island Tales Are Told, 7 p.m., Museum of Chincoteague, 7125 Maddox Blvd., 757-336-6117, chincoteaguemuseum.com/programs

Wednesday, June 14

Artful Flea Market, 9 a.m. - 2 p.m., and *Farmers Market*, 9 a.m. until 1 p.m., Chincoteague Cultural Alliance, 6309 Church St., www.chincoteagueculturalalliance.org

Thursday, June 15

3rd Thursday Theatre presented by the Chincoteague Island Theatre Company, 8 p.m., CCA Community Center for the Arts, 6309 Church St., www.chincoteagueculturalalliance.org/upcoming-plays-and-events.html

Saturday, June 17

STEM Saturday: Engineering Challenge - Flight, 12 p.m., NASA Wallops Visitor Center, Building J20, Route 175, Chincoteague Rd., www.nasa.gov/content/wallops-visitor-center

Island Coffeehouse, 7 p.m., Chincoteague Cultural Alliance, 6309 Church St., www.chincoteagueculturalalliance.org

Day Trips and Side Trips Around the Eastern Shore

Friday, June 9

Flatfooting to Live Music by Gassafrass, 6 - 8 p.m., Lemon Tree Gallery and Studio, 301 Mason Ave., Cape Charles, 757-331-4327, Admission: Free. <http://lemontree.gallery>

Stronger Than Steel, 8 p.m., North Street Playhouse, 34 Market St., Onancock, 757-787-2050, Admission: Adults \$15, seniors (55+) \$13, students \$10 (also June 10, 8 p.m. and June 11, 2:30 p.m.), <http://northstreetplayhouse.org/tickets/strongerthansteel>

Saturday, June 10

Assawoman United Methodist Church Yard Sale - Antiques, Collectibles, and Silent Auction, begins 8 a.m., Atlantic Road, Assawoman

ESO Live in the Park: Return of the Myrtles, 6 - 8 p.m., Exmore Town Park, Admission: \$5, children 12 and under are free, www.esoartscenter.com

Roseland Cinema and Entertainment Center (RCEC) Presents "Peter Pan -National Theatre Live," 7:30 p.m., Roseland Theatre, 48 Market St., Onancock, Admission: Adults \$15, Children \$5. Also June 11, 2:30 p.m. www.roselandonancock.com/

Thursday, June 15

Fish Talk with Fishes of Chesapeake Bay author, Ed Murdy, 7 p.m., The Nature Conservancy historic Brownsville House, near Nassawadox, (757) 414-9227, Admission: Free, but registration is required, mvanclief@tnc.org

Friday, June 16

Paint the Town Plein Air with Clelia Sheppard, 8 a.m. - 2 p.m., Lemon Tree Gallery and Studio, 301 Mason Ave., Cape Charles, 757-331-4327 <http://lemontree.gallery>

Saturday, June 17

18th Annual Juneteenth Festival, 9 a.m. - 4 p.m., Exmore Town Park, (757) 442-2139, Admission: Free

Sunday, June 18

18th Annual Juneteenth Festival - Gospel Extravaganza, 3 - 5 p.m., Exmore Town Park, (757) 442-2139, Admission: Free

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



Fishing from the Shore

By Bill Hall

For once, a controversial new federal regulation brought a positive result for Eastern Shore of Virginia anglers.

Delayed opening of the 2017 cobia season, which began June 1, allowed a larger than normal population of the highly popular gamefish to avoid the relentless fishing pressure of the southern tidewater cobia fishing fleet. The result was a sizable group of fish in the upper bay.

As of last Saturday, cobia catches had been reported out of Cape Charles, Bayford, Morley's Wharf,



Photo by Ian Redmond

Richie Turner, of Parksley, with a 43-0 cobia caught off Onancock on Saturday while fishing with Ian Redmond.

Saxis, and as far north as Bloodsworth and South Marsh Islands in Maryland. The fishery off Onancock has been reminiscent of the early days when the town billed itself as the "Cobia Capital of the World."

The ESVA Anglers' Club is hosting a Kid's Fishing Day on June 11 from 1-2:30 p.m. at Morley's Wharf fishing pier. The event is free and open to kids 3-15 years old. The first 50 participants will be provided with rods and reels. Registration begins at 12:30 p.m., and a cookout will follow. The pier is at the end of Morley's Wharf Road near Wardtown. For more information, call 757-824-1485.

The club's next meeting is Monday, June 12, at 7:30 p.m., at the Sage Diner in Onley. A free presentation on trolling for red drum will be given by Andy Dize. The public is invited.

Upper Bay - Matt Abell, of Sea Hawk Sports Center, confirmed that cobia were getting most of the attention over the last week with catches coming from Onancock to South Marsh. Most anglers were chumming and fishing chunks of fresh or frozen bunker on fish finder rigs. Speckled trout and small rockfish continue to be caught by casters throwing jigs around the marsh islands. Red drum catches were still being made by anglers soaking soft crab baits, but cow-nosed rays, known locally as bullfish were becoming unwanted by-catches. Chase Byrd landed a black drum in the vicinity of Stone Rock. Tangier Sound was producing speckled trout and some keeper rockfish.

Chincoteague - Captain Steve's Bait & Tackle reported that limit catches were the norm for anglers targeting black sea bass on the offshore wrecks. The shop registered a couple of mako shark catches over the weekend. Flounder fishing was still productive, with anglers seeing an increase in the number of throwbacks; however, fish to 23-inches were brought in. Watts Bay near Four Mouths, the southside of Assateague Bridge, and the main channel in front of Donald Leonard Park, all produced flounder catches. The shop registered a 45-inch red drum that was caught off the surf on Wallops Island as well as a 36-inch bluefish from the beach on Assateague. Captain Bob's reported flounder catches in front of Tom's Cove Campground, under the Assateague Bridge in the "junkyard," and in Oyster Bay. There was a "scattering" of flounder in the Chincoteague Channel, where bluefish were being caught from in front of the American Legion Building up to the town fishing pier. Sea mullet (whiting, kingfish) catches came from between Markers 11 and 16 near the inlet. Coastal shark catches in the two-foot to four-foot range were being made inside the inlet on the shop's "shark snack" rigs. A 412-pound thresher shark was landed by Tim Nielson.

Wachapreague - Captain Lindsay Paul, at Trident Tackle, reported flounder catches were being made in Bullshead Channel on the flats, as well as Drawing and Green Channels. The old staple of live minnows and strips of squid were the most successful combinations. Capt. Abell led his party to limit catches of flounder in Folly Creek. A couple of boats



Photo by Capt. John Shields

Mike Gibbons caught this nice flounder drifting by Snug Harbor on Chincoteague island. It measured 23 1/4 inches.

ran offshore for some deep dropping and returned with nice catches of blueline tilefish. Surf fishermen found good catches of tasty whiting, a few red drum and increasing numbers of large southern stingrays. Donald, from Don's Tackle echoed the flounder activity in Folly Creek, as well as off Quinby. He had not received any reports from offshore.

Lower Shore - Red drum and cobia are getting most of the attention here. James, at Chris's Bait & Tackle, reported that the trophy red drum release fishery was still going strong off Fisherman's Island. Cobia have shown up in good numbers inside the bay, with catches coming from nine-foot Shoals and Buoy 13. Sand mullet were described as being "everywhere!" Spanish mackerel have arrived with catches coming from vessels trolling the oceanfront as well as the mouth of the bay. Expect this fishery to improve as the waters warm. Limits of spadefish catches were made around the pilings and the rock islands of the Chesapeake Bay Bridge-Tunnel. Anglers were still enjoying success with flounder off Oyster.

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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Seaside

Bayside

		Friday, June 9		Saturday, June 10		Sunday, June 11		Monday, June 12		Tuesday, June 13		Wednesday, June 14		Thursday, June 15
Assateague Beach	H L	8:42 a.m. 2:56 p.m.	H L	9:24 a.m. 3:34 p.m.	H L	10:05 a.m. 4:14 p.m.	H L	10:47 a.m. 4:54 p.m.	H L	11:28 a.m. 5:38 p.m.	H L	12:12 p.m. 6:28 a.m.	H L	12:58 p.m. 7:13 a.m.
Chinco.Channel	H L	8:46 a.m. 2:55 p.m.	H L	9:28 a.m. 3:33 p.m.	H L	10:09 a.m. 4:13 p.m.	H L	10:51 a.m. 4:53 p.m.	H L	11:32 a.m. 5:37 p.m.	H L	12:16 p.m. 6:27 a.m.	H L	1:02 p.m. 7:12 a.m.
Gargatha Neck	H L	9:38 a.m. 3:35 p.m.	H L	10:20 a.m. 4:13 p.m.	H L	11:01 a.m. 4:53 p.m.	H L	11:43 a.m. 5:33 p.m.	H L	12:24 p.m. 6:23 a.m.	H L	1:08 p.m. 7:07 a.m.	H L	1:54 p.m. 7:52 a.m.
Folly Creek	H L	9:31 a.m. 3:20 p.m.	H L	10:13 a.m. 3:58 p.m.	H L	10:54 a.m. 4:38 p.m.	H L	11:36 a.m. 5:18 p.m.	H L	12:17 p.m. 6:02 p.m.	H L	1:01 p.m. 6:52 a.m.	H L	1:47 p.m. 7:37 a.m.
Wachapreague	H L	9:17 a.m. 3:04 p.m.	H L	9:59 a.m. 3:42 p.m.	H L	10:40 a.m. 4:22 p.m.	H L	11:22 a.m. 5:02 p.m.	H L	12:03 p.m. 5:46 p.m.	H L	12:47 p.m. 6:36 a.m.	H L	1:33 p.m. 7:21 a.m.
Quinby Inlet	H L	8:42 a.m. 2:35 p.m.	H L	9:24 a.m. 3:13 p.m.	H L	10:05 a.m. 3:53 p.m.	H L	10:47 a.m. 4:33 p.m.	H L	11:28 a.m. 5:17 p.m.	H L	12:12 p.m. 6:04 p.m.	H L	12:58 p.m. 6:52 a.m.
Machipongo	H L	9:12 a.m. 3:04 p.m.	H L	9:54 a.m. 3:42 p.m.	H L	10:35 a.m. 4:22 p.m.	H L	11:17 a.m. 5:02 p.m.	H L	11:58 a.m. 5:46 p.m.	H L	12:42 p.m. 6:36 a.m.	H L	1:28 p.m. 7:21 a.m.
Tangier Sound Light	H L	1:02 p.m. 7:17 a.m.	H L	1:39 p.m. 7:52 a.m.	H L	2:16 p.m. 8:27 a.m.	H L	2:53 p.m. 9:03 a.m.	H L	3:32 p.m. 9:41 a.m.	H L	4:13 p.m. 10:21 a.m.	H L	4:58 p.m. 11:04 a.m.
Muddy Creek	H L	1:18 p.m. 7:52 a.m.	H L	1:55 p.m. 8:27 a.m.	H L	2:32 p.m. 9:02 a.m.	H L	3:09 p.m. 9:38 a.m.	H L	3:48 p.m. 10:16 a.m.	H L	4:29 p.m. 10:56 a.m.	H L	5:14 p.m. 11:39 a.m.
Guard Shore	H L	1:10 p.m. 7:48 a.m.	H L	1:47 p.m. 8:23 a.m.	H L	2:24 p.m. 8:58 a.m.	H L	3:01 p.m. 9:34 a.m.	H L	3:40 p.m. 10:12 a.m.	H L	4:21 p.m. 10:52 a.m.	H L	5:06 p.m. 11:35 a.m.
Chescon. Creek	H L	12:45p.m. 7:00 a.m.	H L	1:22 p.m. 7:35 a.m.	H L	1:59 p.m. 8:10 a.m.	H L	2:36 p.m. 8:46 a.m.	H L	3:15 p.m. 9:24 a.m.	H L	3:56 p.m. 10:04 a.m.	H L	4:41 p.m. 10:47 a.m.
Onancock Creek	H L	12:59 p.m. 7:20 a.m.	H L	1:36 p.m. 7:55 a.m.	H L	2:13 p.m. 8:30 a.m.	H L	2:50 p.m. 9:06 a.m.	H L	3:29 p.m. 9:44 a.m.	H L	4:10 p.m. 10:24 a.m.	H L	4:55 p.m. 11:07 a.m.
Pungoteague Creek	H L	12:15 p.m. 6:34 a.m.	H L	12:52 p.m. 7:09 a.m.	H L	1:29 p.m. 7:44 a.m.	H L	2:06 p.m. 8:20 a.m.	H L	2:45 p.m. 8:58 a.m.	H L	3:26 p.m. 9:38 a.m.	H L	4:11 p.m. 10:21 a.m.
Nassawadox	H L	11:00 a.m. 4:44 p.m.	H L	11:37 a.m. 5:22 p.m.	H L	12:14 p.m. 6:00 p.m.	H L	12:51 p.m. 6:42 a.m.	H L	1:30 p.m. 7:20 a.m.	H L	2:11 p.m. 8:00 a.m.	H L	2:56 p.m. 8:43 a.m.
Occhohan. Creek	H L	11:39 a.m. 6:02 p.m.	H L	12:16 p.m. 6:49 a.m.	H L	12:53 p.m. 7:24 a.m.	H L	1:30 p.m. 8:00 a.m.	H L	2:09 p.m. 8:38 a.m.	H L	2:50 p.m. 9:18 a.m.	H L	3:35 p.m. 10:01 a.m.
Cape Charles	H L	9:49 a.m. 3:52 p.m.	H L	10:26 a.m. 4:30 p.m.	H L	11:03 a.m. 5:08 p.m.	H L	11:40 a.m. 5:48 p.m.	H L	12:19 p.m. 6:28 a.m.	H L	1:00 p.m. 7:08 a.m.	H L	1:45 p.m. 7:51 a.m.
Kiptopeke Beach	H L	9:27 a.m. 3:21 p.m.	H L	10:04 a.m. 3:59 p.m.	H L	10:41 a.m. 4:37 p.m.	H L	11:18 a.m. 5:17 p.m.	H L	11:57 a.m. 5:58 p.m.	H L	12:38 p.m. 6:37 a.m.	H L	1:23 p.m. 7:20 a.m.

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

~ Refuge Fees ~
(continued from page 3)

lection of entrance fees.

Importantly, frequent repairs are needed to maintain the current beach parking lots due to their proximity and vulnerability to the Atlantic Ocean. Without the collection of entrance fees, refuge and seashore maintenance staff would be unable to make needed repairs to the parking lots built to support 1,000 vehi-

cles. A flagship of the National Wildlife Refuge System, this barrier island refuge on the mid-Atlantic is a mecca for more than a million outdoor enthusiasts annually including wildlife-watchers and photographers, cyclists, hikers, anglers, hunters, and beach-goers. The amenities offered to visitors at the refuge include a one-mile long recreational beach (co-maintained and managed with the National Park Service - Assateague Island National Seashore), two over-sand vehicle areas for ac-

cess to surf-fishing, miles of hiking and bicycle trails, auto tour routes, the historic Assateague Island lighthouse, and the Bateman Educational and Administrative Center. The iconic Chincoteague ponies can be viewed by vehicle year-round along Beach Road and on foot on the refuge service road. The Sunrise Pony Walk, which occurs annually during the last week of July, is viewed by thousands of visitors. Pony viewing is also available at the new south corral during seasonal pony roundups.

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