

CITIZENS FOR A BETTER EASTERN SHORE

SHORELINE

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Bay's History Depended on Menhaden; Its Future Will as Well

By Joel Dunn

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Capt. John Smith's description of the Chesapeake Bay has long been used as a benchmark to compare this unique ecosystem's health to what it once was long ago. Recently, many find themselves comparing the Bay of today with the Bay of 40 years ago, 20 years ago, even 10 years ago.

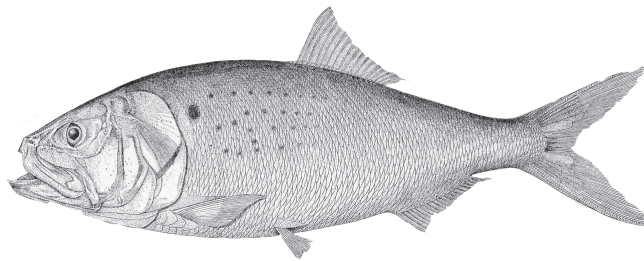
These constant changes – most noticeably the clarity of the water and abundance of your favorite species – can't always be linked to a single phenomenon. One species of fish, though, stands out among the rest, as its well-being is directly linked to the overall health of the Bay: the menhaden.

Four hundred years ago, no fish was quite as ubiquitous as the menhaden. Despite its relatively small size and oily composition not meant for human consumption, Smith once described the menhaden as "lying so thick with their heads above the water, as for want of nets (our barge driving amongst them) we attempted to catch them with a frying pan."

The Bay of Smith's time, the sights one could see along his historic route from the mouth of the James at Jamestown all the way north to the Susquehanna, would have been drastically different without this small, but mighty, fish. Menhaden are relatively low in the food chain. But fish important to both the recreational and commercial fishing industries, such as weakfish, striped bass (rockfish), tuna and more, eat menhaden. Coastal birds, such as osprey and loons, also

prey on these fish. As menhaden populations increase, so too do the populations of these predators. Overall, the health of the entire Bay's ecosystem depends on the integral role this small fish plays.

Beyond the Chesapeake, menhaden are found throughout the Atlantic. Recently determined to make their presence known, healthier menhaden



populations have turned up in the waters of New York and Narragansett Bay in Rhode Island, bringing along beautiful dinner guests such as North Atlantic right whales, humpback whales and dolphins. Management of the menhaden fishery has contributed significantly to this recent phenomenon; these waters are starting to resemble their pre-whaling times.

The Bay can and should learn from these examples. No stranger to the importance of menhaden, the *Bay Journal* has documented their decline, the negative impacts associated therewith, and the history of its management since the 1990s.

The menhaden fishery is the largest in the Atlantic, with an approved total allowable catch of 200,000 metric tons for the 2017 fishing system.

Virginia is allocated 85.32% of that catch while Maryland is allocated 1.37%, which means most of the fish stock is taken from the Chesapeake. It's no surprise then, that neighbors to the north are seeing different results than we are here in the Bay region.

The Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission (ASMFC) has ramped up its oversight of menhaden fisheries because of growing concerns by recreational anglers and conservationists that too few were left uncaught to support the fish, birds and whales that depend on them.

In the Chesapeake, some recreational anglers believe the depleted menhaden population caused an increase in the number of diseased striped bass affected by malnutrition, as menhaden serve as the latter's primary food source was depleted.

Although the menhaden population
See **Menhaden**, *cont'd on p. 2*

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Menhaden, cont'd from p. 1

today has been deemed “not over-fished” by the ASMFC, the wide-ranging impact of this species cannot be ignored. The menhaden fishery cannot be looked at solely based on the size of its population from a decade or so ago. Instead, management of menhaden should and must also take into account the ecological value they provide to recreational and sport anglers, to other commercial industries, and even ecotourism derived from clean, biodiverse waters.

When we look back in twenty years, we don't want to – once more – compare the Bay to our very recent past with such distinction. The Chesapeake Conservancy works to protect and restore the health of our ecosystem and enhance outdoor recreation opportunities. The menhaden is undoubtedly a keystone species with natural, historic and economic importance. Preservation of the Bay's historical and natural resources is something the Chesapeake Conservancy strives to achieve and needs your help, as well.

The ASMFC will be making its final decision on the future of this important fish during a two-day

meeting on Nov. 13-14. It is our hope that the commission will use this ecological-based approach to management and work on returning the Bay to full health rather than focus on an industry-based approach that will earmark the Bay's current conditions as the new standard.



An update came into CBES inbox shortly after receiving the Bay Journal article regarding the ASMFC meeting:

Big News for a Little Fish This Week

(Submitted by Chris Moore, Senior Regional Ecosystem Scientist, Chesapeake Bay Foundation)

“The Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission (ASMFC) voted on November 13 to continue with the status quo for managing the menhaden fishery rather than immediately adopting limits that would take into account menhaden's role in the food chain. They made this decision despite overwhelming public outcry in support of an ecosystem-based approach to menhaden management. This included more than 14,000 CBF supporters who sent letters to ASMFC and a group of extraordinarily dedicated CBF volunteers who boarded buses to Baltimore from all over the region to stand up for menhaden at the meeting.

“Menhaden, often called ‘the most important fish in the sea,’ are a crucial link in the Bay's ecosystem – they are, in many ways, the foundation of the food web, serving as vital food for striped bass, osprey, and other important Bay species. But the Chesapeake Bay has not been seeing the number of young menhaden it did historically, raising concerns for anyone who cares about the Bay's health. The catch limits would have served as guardrails for the commercial fishery by ensuring enough of these forage fish are left to serve their critical role in the food chain.

“In spite of this disappointing news, I am happy to report a significant victory for the Bay. Near the end of the two-day meeting, the Commission voted to decrease the Chesapeake Bay reduction fishery cap by 41.5 percent. Reducing the cap keeps menhaden harvests by the reduction fishery in the Chesapeake Bay from growing, protecting an important nursery ground for both menhaden and striped bass.

“In fact, CBF's very own Allison Colden stepped in to passionately and successfully argue that because of ongoing ecological concerns the Bay's menhaden needed further protection with a reduction in the fishery cap.

“While the ASMFC commission members decided to delay the ecosystem-based approach to managing “the most important fish in the sea,” they voiced broad support for adopting this management approach when their analysis is complete in two years.”

For more information about the meeting, go to:

<http://wypr.org/post/interstate-conflict-fisheries-managers-meeting>



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Correction

An article by Andrew Follmer in the November *ShoreLine* misstated the figures for the poverty level and household income for Northampton County. The correct figures from Small Area Income and Poverty data from 2015 are: Poverty Level 20.5%; Median Household Income \$37,515. Mr. Follmer regrets any confusion caused by the two data errors. He stands by his conclusions and his analysis of the shortcomings in the county's Comprehensive Plan draft, which he says paints an inaccurate and distorted assessment of the county's recent positive growth.

Islands of the Blest

By Lee Payne

Submitted by his daughter, CBES Board member Meriwether Payne

A flight over the Eastern Shore can be an unexpectedly enchanting experience. Not the customary thirty-thousand-foot-altitude commercial flight with total insularity from all topography below, but a low-altitude, total-consciousness occasion as was enjoyed a few days ago. The time was very early morning, cool and clear, and the sun had recently risen when we headed north just seaward of the island chain which flanks these two Virginia counties. Our altitude was only a few hundred feet and the tide was almost full flood, though still visibly surging through the inlets. A light easterly wind sent breakers onto the beaches with only their foaming peaks reflecting the early sun.

First over Fisherman Island, with its broadly arresting sand shoals at the confluence of ocean and bay. Then Smith, with the prominent ridges of cedar and oak outlining the ancient dune lines, and this the site of Virginia's first industry – salt manufacturing – and also the site of a much more recent plan to construct an oceanside resort of ten thousand residences. It was over Smith that we were startled by our first deer, six of them, leaping single file over the dunes into deeper cover. They were seen, however, on almost every succeeding island, standing first on the foredune at the beach, staring up at our passage, with their russet color so in contrast to the vivid green of the undergrowth. On the broad salt bay marsh at the north end of Myrtle, we saw a doe and her fawn standing on the high dunes like beacons in the early light.

The bays behind, stretching ten miles to the distant mainland, were clear and full with the flooding 6-foot tide; they gave only partial indication of the winding marsh channels that penetrate them throughout and give the only access when the flats become exposed 6 hours later. These same flats serve as a magnet for the hordes of migrating shorebirds and waterfowl in fall and spring.

After Ship Shoal and Wreck, the wide beaches of Cobb and Hog passed beside us, totally unpeopled for their twelve-mile length – a paradise of hard sand, shells, and rolling surf. The only human evidence in all this wide expanse was scattered oyster-watching stations – shacks on stilts – or former life-saving stations which now, with one exception, are unoccupied by the Coast Guard and are largely deserted. Incredible that these same two islands, and others, were once the site of flourishing hotels and substantial settlements – all totally obliterated by the ceaseless coastwise currents that, sooner or later, make folly of the efforts of man.



Photo of Hog Island by Gordon Campbell/At Altitude Gallery on Mason Avenue in Cape Charles; www.ataltitudegallery.com.

Too early at this hour for the outboard fishermen after their daily bounty of flounder, croaker, or trout, but as we near the tall pines of Parramore, the earliest offshore charter boats, with a full day for white marlin, are curling out of Wachapreague toward the sea.

The only true habitants of all these islands, tumps, and marshes are avian, and the rookeries of herons are the most prominent. Here the snowy egrets dress the clumps of marsh elder like Christmas ornaments, leaving their less-obvious associates, the Little Blue and Louisiana Herons and Glossy Ibis in relative obscurity. Along the thin thread of Metompkin Island, the nesting colonies of skimmers, gulls, and terns are almost continuous, and the flocks take vehement offense as we glide by, rising protectively to protest the alien eagle.

These islands are owned now by the Nature Conservancy in perpetual trust for all, with usage and enjoyment encouraged. Educational and scientific research in a multitude of disciplines will be encouraged, but development in the conventional sense will be permanently prohibited. The afternoon before this flight, our group had flown from Sandbridge to Hatteras, over the many beach developments, following the narrow highway to its end. A prevailing sense of sameness and the ever-present roadway drew a sharp contrast to the charm and individual divergence of the Eastern Shore islands. Less easy to touch, and thus forever protected.

As philosophers have mused, "Every man holds a vision of an enchantment landscape, islands of the blest, an Atlantis lost in time." In Virginia, they are on our doorstep.

25th Annual CBES Between the Waters Bike Tour

By Donna Bozza

CBES 25th Anniversary Between the Waters Bike Tour got a special gift from Mother Nature. Soft blue skies and balmy temperatures, more like May than late October, welcomed cyclists who cruised from our cape to the tiny town of Painter.

Excitement for the tour began early. For the first time, we sold out all 1,000 slots in August. Even the expanded Oink & Oyster Roast, which more than doubled in attendance, sold out in a matter of weeks.

Participants chose between four routes, 25, 40, 60, and 100 miles. The event's location rotates on a four-year schedule between our two counties; this year, the event was concentrated mainly in Northampton County.


The start and finish were at Sunset Beach Hotel and RV Resort, which was also the southernmost locale for the tour. The partnership with Sunset Beach provided sponsorship dollars, manpower, and infrastructure for the tour and the Oyster Roast, improving our cyclists' experiences and greatly helping the financial success of CBES main fundraiser. CBES is grateful to Sunset Beach owners Todd Burbage and Blue Water Development, and the proficient assistance of Manager Greg Linsmeyer and Sales Manager

Jamie Lewis, who started the day at 6 AM and finished with us at 9 PM – with lots of coffee in between.

Adding to the safety of our participants was the dedication of the Chesapeake Bay Bridge Tunnel's police force, headed by Chief Eddie Spencer, making sure each cyclist crossed Route 13 at Sunset Beach without incident.

For 25 years, CBES has provided a top-quality event that is only possible through the generosity of sponsors as well as the landowners who provide for scenic rest stops and lunch spots – this year including the Town of Exmore and Eleanor Gordon's Windrush Farm.

The post-ride Oyster Roast, always a favorite, was catered by Eastern Shore Events and Rentals, who roasted oysters and provided clam chowder. The Island House added delicious barbeque to the menu as well as dessert. An excellent time was had by all.

But perhaps the most heartfelt asset we offer our cyclists is our volunteers. It is their genuine hospitality CBES hears about most in bike tour surveys. It's not a surprise to us, but it makes us proud of our generous Eastern Shore community. 

Every effort has been made to acknowledge our volunteers; we appreciate each and every one of you! Please let us know if there are additions to this list or have misspelled your name.

Bike Tour Volunteers/Contributors

Elken Archer	Jack and Jody Humphreys
Jim Baugh	Roberta Kellam
Sandra Beerends	Sheila Kerpelman
Bethel Baptist Church	Paul Knight
Melinda Blanchard	John Kolos
Vincent and Liz Bochicchio	Josh Lattimore
Ruth Boettcher	Donna Lawson
Donna Bozza	Laura Lembke
Buzz Carragher	Sally and Kurt Lewin
Martina and John Coker	Bo and Rebecca Lusk
Alice Curling	Lusk Family
Joani Donohoe	Larry and Donna LeMasters
Kathy Durmick	Sue Mastyl
Lee Ann Fick	Annie McConnell
Mary Floyd	Madison Mello
ES Medical Corps	Melanie Jo Moore
Eleanor Gordon	Bob Meyers
H.M. Terry Seafood	Meriwether Payne
Kim Halpin	Olivia and Gary Pearl
Steve Hardy	Mike and Lee Peirson
Cleo and Barbara Hargis	Sue Rice
Susan and Phil Harris	Bonnie Riggin
Peter Helck	Eddie Spencer
Jeff Holland	Lisa Tankard

Ed Tankard	Travis Chapel
Tarkill Aquaculture Ventures, LLC	Carol and Arthur Upshur
Ashby and Sandra Taylor	Margaret Van Clief
The Nature Conservancy	Leigh Ann Waggoner
Nikki Tiffany	Jeff Walker
Town of Exmore	Sharon Whitman
	Doug Williams

Oyster Roast Volunteers/Contributors

Janice and Ken Allen	Wendy Martin
Jim Baugh	Barbra Mann Mayers
Bob Bilicki	Sean McDaniel
Beth Calder	Sarah Morgan
Roger Cowen	Barbara O'Hare
Karen & Chad Davis	Meriwether Payne
Donna & Dave Fauber	Marge Reinhardt
Andrew Follmer	Arthur & Carol Upshur
Traci Johnson	Margaret Van Clief
Traci Jones	Cecil Watts
Stephen Joseph	Northampton HS students:
David Kabler	Carmela Torres
Olivia Kozak	Dante Wilson
Donna Lawson	
Debbie Markowitz	

By the Bay Alpacas: A Labor of Love

by Sue Mastyl


Tara King can't really say what inspired her and her husband, Andrew Leach, to explore the idea of raising alpacas here on the Shore. They "just started looking into it," first by attending an alpaca show. They toured several alpaca farms in Maine, talking about both the breeding and commercial sides of making products using alpaca fiber. "I only knew how to knit," said King, so she had to learn the skills of spinning, weaving, felting, and other techniques such as roving and fractal spinning. She joined the knitting group at the Bear & Cub Coffee Shop in Pungoteague; since the shop closed, the group now meets at her house.




They bought their first female, which was already pregnant, in 2007 and boarded her and two others for a year while they got their one-acre Craddockville property ready. Their first breeding effort produced Bristol, now a seven-year-old fawn-colored male alpaca, a six-time champion. As their herd grew, they began looking for a larger farm, finally moving to their location in Pungoteague.

The herd is small, and King knows each alpaca intimately, from his or her name and lineage, to temperament and dietary needs, to the color fiber that the animal will produce. "The true color is down near the skin," she noted. Alpaca is warmer and lighter than wool, with no lanolin, making it hypoallergenic. The animals are friendly and curious, and have been domesticated for thousands of years.

King noted that they "take great satisfaction in taking the product from one end to the other" – from breeding and raising the animals, to overseeing the annual shearing in the spring, to turning the raw fiber into the many different products she has developed. She has a shop in their home, and offers wet felted items, woven scarves, and knitted hats, baby sweaters, and fingerless gloves, as well as alpaca yarn in sock weight and other weights. She also features other artists who use her fiber in exciting and creative ways. All of the yarns are dyed by hand. The shop is open year-round – "if we're home, we're open"; they are also a stop on the annual Artisans Studio Tour each Thanksgiving weekend, with up to 600 visitors. Visitors get to see (and feel!) some of the alpaca herd, as well as seeing the wonderful products in the shop.

She attributes success to the support of the community, including the Artisans Guild. "It's important to know your area, and make sure there's a market," she said, before getting into a new venture. More information can be found on their Facebook page or by calling 757-442-5651. 

CBES Annual Appeal

As the holiday season gains fever pitch between Thanksgiving and New Year's Day, please take a moment to contribute to CBES. As a longstanding local organization, CBES contributes to the community in many ways. Readers of *CBES ShoreLine* are given insight into the issues important to the growth – and health – of the Eastern Shore. Candidate forums and events such as Community Unity Day receive support and manpower, and CBES observes, reports on, and participates in the civic events that shape the future of the home we share. Please give generously so we can continue the mission begun over 30 years ago. Together, Citizens For a Better Eastern Shore makes a difference. Go to www.cbcs.org to donate, renew, or join us. The Eastern Shore needs CBES, and CBES needs the Eastern Shore. 


Raffle Winner Announced



Charlie Farlow of Onancock was the winner of the raffle for Bethany Simpson's colorful and evocative Eastern Shore scene. Bethany's work is available at the Lemon Tree Gallery in Cape Charles. Thanks to everyone who entered the raffle this year!

Audubon Christmas Bird Count

The 2017 count takes place on December 16, a Saturday, over a 24-hour window. But no one (on this count, at least) spends all that time in the field! You can spend as much or as little time as you deem appropriate to your area, the weather, and your inclinations. The only firm suggestion is that participants come to the Sage Diner in Onley at 4:30 PM on Sunday the 17th to hear the tales of fellow birders, including the day's adventures as well as rare sightings.

Come help us enjoy the winter's pleasures. For more information and to participate, please call 757-824-0608. 

What Election Winners Told Us

Staff Report

When candidates for competitive seats in Northampton County participated in the CBES Candidates Forum in October, the public had a chance to hear their positions and their answers to audience questions.

John Coker, newly elected Supervisor, District 1

Position statements:

- Supports economic development that does no harm to water and other resources, and does not adversely affect neighboring property values
- Vows to work toward better emergency health services
- Wants to create a local labor force through education and engaging local industries
- Supports marketing the county through an improved website and welcoming highway signage, publicizing the county as a good place to invest and live
- Wants to promote the county with positive facts – tourism up, Transient Occupancy Tax revenue up, sales tax up, building permits up, unemployment down
- Will focus on healthcare, education and broadband
- Will keep office hours, hold Town Hall meetings and continue to seek public input

Responses to questions concerning:

- *The lack of draft Comprehensive Plan language about development in low-lying and flood-prone areas:* “I believe in science and sea level rise. Plan and zone to move development and building back from the water. Emergency services need to be able to reach residents.”
- *Collection of Transient Occupancy Tax from all vacation rentals, including AirBnB, VRBO, etc. –* “Absolutely. The County needs to draft the regulation.”
- *Support for Ag-Forestal Districts (AFDs) –* “Yes, for family farms. If AFDs go, farms go to chicken houses.”
- *Need for workforce housing –* “Yes. Work with towns to increase the number of rental units where infrastructure can support them.”
- *A good process to create the Comprehensive Plan draft –* “No, I don’t think so. There was no public process. It was written in a vacuum.”

Robert Bloxom, re-elected Delegate, 100th District

Position statements:

- no higher taxes
- endorsed by industry organizations – farming, real estate, gun owners, educators
- strong supporter of the Second Amendment

Responses to questions concerning:

- *Poultry house expansion and whether the Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) needs more staffing –* “No more DEQ funding.” [The poultry house concern] “...is an issue looking for a problem. Farmers don’t have enough nitrogen for corn crops.”
- *Redistricting, the next Census, and more clearly defined criteria –* “One person, one vote. The process is political.”
- *Measures to stop gun violence –* “Automatic guns are already illegal. Laws need to be enforced; new laws won’t prevent Las Vegas.”
- *Expansion of Medicaid in Virginia –* “A bad idea. [Medicaid now] is twenty-three cents of every dollar in the budget; it’s not meant to cover 30% of the population. Dollars for schools, hospitals and infrastructure are gone, to pay for Medicaid.”
- *Guaranteeing medical care for all –* “Rural Health on the Shore has a sliding scale; hospitals cannot deny care. The ACA has hurt patients, increased premiums. Health care is better than ever.”
- *Legalizing marijuana, involving medical schools in research –* “Against legalizing. State is doing a study on decriminalizing. You can get anything you need with a prescription.”
- *Well-head meters on every chicken house –* “No. If every house is the same, why does each need a meter?”
- *Legislation to merge the two Shore counties –* “No. Zoning priorities are different; chaos from the start.”
- *School funding deficiencies, State funding priorities –* “We did approve teacher pay raises. [Universal pre-K] would create an unfunded mandate. Every [additional] dollar that gets spent [on schools] takes away dollars from something else.” [His spending priorities:] “Transportation, schools and public safety; everything else is fluff.”
- *Roe vs. Wade/abortion –* “I’m pro-life. [But the Supreme Court ruling] likely will not be overturned.”
- *Felons’ voting rights –* “Not without court-ordered restitution. There’s already a process in place.”
- *High school/community college vocational-technical education programs –* “Yes, but they should be different programs; industry certification and no SOLs.”

Randall Parks, re-elected School Board member

Position statements:

- Supported the change to an elected School Board
- 40 years as a teacher
- Perfect attendance at meetings

See **Winners**, cont’d on p. 7

Keeping Track

Tangier Numbers Don't Add Up

Recent news about Tangier Island, the struggles to save the shoreline, and the island itself, have raised another interesting question – how many people are there on Tangier? The *Eastern Shore News*, in a single piece in August, cited both “more than 700 people” and “about 450 people.” The U.S. Census website lists 727 people in the 2010 census, with an estimate of 722 for 2016, and 449 population 16 years and older. A July article in *The New York Times* lists 470. The Chesapeake Bay Foundation cites a decline from a high of 950, to 500 in 2011.

The town of Tangier uses 465 as the number for their year-round population of all ages. Marilyn Pruitt, Assistant Town Manager, says she has “no idea” where the census figures came from: “maybe when I was a child it might have been 700.” A call to the U. S. Census Bureau confirmed the 2010 census figure, although the most recent estimate from the American Community Survey, which provides ongoing population estimates by the Census Bureau, had a figure of 491 for 2015 (with a margin of error of 118) and 579 for 2010 (with a margin of error of 152). The Census Bureau could not explain the discrepancy, but confirmed that they do conduct door-to-door surveys on the island for each Census.

Northampton County

Board of Supervisors Race – One for the Records

With a 50% voter turnout in District 1, the record previously set for the number of votes for a candidate in a Supervisors' race was broken this year. Supervisor-elect John Coker, with 692 votes, broke the old record held by Granville Hogg, also District 1, of 554 votes in 2013.

Another milestone, the amount of money raised by a candidate in a Board race, was also revised this year. As of Oct 26, District 1 candidate Jacqueline Chatmon raised \$6,457, second only to Samuel Long, District 2, who raised \$9,195 for his race in 2009. The #2 fundraising record was previously held by Granville Hogg, \$4,672, in 2013. According to the Virginia Public Access Project (VPAP), which tracks many Virginia election details, both the current top two fund-raisers received about half their identified campaign donations from sources outside their districts or from off the Shore. VPAP has published Northampton County election details since 2007: www.vpap.org/localities/northampton-county-va/elections/tracked/

In what is probably another record-setting number, there were over 2,500 write-in votes cast in the various local races. And voter turnout was up in every one of the five local voting districts.

Permanent Medication Disposal Boxes Available

On Saturday, Oct. 28, an annual Drug Take Back Day yielded 70 pounds of unwanted prescription medications in disposal boxes sponsored by the Eastern Shore Drug Task Force in conjunction with the Drug Enforcement Administration, and supplied by Rite Aid Pharmacy. Rite Aid has now provided four permanent, secure Safe Medication Disposal boxes, at Chincoteague Police Department (6150 Community Drive, Chincoteague); Accomack County Sheriff's Office (23323 Wise Court, Accomac); Exmore Police Department (3305 Main Street, Exmore); and Northampton County Sheriff's Office (5211 The Hornes, Eastville). The Exmore box will be accessible during business hours; the other three are accessible at all times. The boxes have been provided at no cost to the community; the disposal of the drugs will be handled free of charge by an incineration company. Only pills, tablets, and patches will be accepted.



Winners, cont'd from p. 6

Responses to questions concerning:

- *Teacher support* – “In-service programs offered to new teachers in classroom management.” “I serve on the discipline committee.”
- *How to encourage students to become teachers* – “Scholarships. But there's no money for this. We can't afford the teachers we need.”
- *Increasing SOL scores and accreditation* – “Teacher retention is THE problem. We offer \$7,000 -\$10,000 less than other districts in the region.” “Too many substitute teachers.”
- *Board of Supervisors' support for school district* – “Support from the Board, yes. From the State, no.”
- *Increased parental engagement* – “Ms. Parker at Kiptopeke Elementary does it well. If principals were from here...”
- *Lack of updating of two previous (school district) Comprehensive Plans* – “We're doing it now.”
- *Students with cell phones in school* – “Cause of the most discipline issues is texting on phones. Schools must have a policy and teachers need to enforce it.”
- *Primary challenges* – “Bring back some of the old non-classroom programs. But there's no money.”
- *How to keep administrators accountable* – “Problems always there. Harder to get principals. The Board needs to speak firmly; the Superintendent needs to act.

Ed. note: Kudos to all the candidates who stepped up to the plate to offer their public service to the community.



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SHORELINE

Community Calendar - December 2017

Note: Please verify times and places prior to attending meetings.

CBES and Other Activities		Accomack County		Northampton County	
Dec 6	VIMS Public Seminar 7:30 PM, Wachapreague	Dec 6	Board of Zoning Appeals 10 AM, Sup. Chambers	Dec 5	Board of Zoning Appeals 1 PM, Conference Room
Dec 14	Shorekeeper Meeting* 3 PM, Barrier Islands Center	Dec 13	Planning Commission (PC) 7 PM, Sup. Chambers	Dec 5	Planning Commission (PC) 7 PM, Sup. Chambers
Dec 19	ES Groundwater Committee No meeting this month	Dec 19	PC Work Session Canceled this month	Dec 12	Board of Supervisors 7 PM, Sup. Chambers
Dec 19	CBES Board Meeting No meeting this month	Dec 19	School Board 6:30 PM, Sup. Chambers	Dec 20	Wetlands Board TBA, Conference Room
		Dec 20	Board of Zoning Appeals Canceled this month	Dec 20	PC Work Session 7 PM, Sup. Chambers
		Dec 20	Board of Supervisors 5 PM, Sup. Chambers	Dec	BOS Work Session Canceled this month
		Dec 28	Wetlands Board 10 AM, Sup. Chambers	Dec	School Board Canceled this month

* Alternating between the ES Chamber of Commerce and the Barrier Islands Center

www.cbese.org