

WACHAPREAGUE Times

News, information
& happenings from
the Flounder
Capital of the World
- a small town with a
big Halloween draw.

Volume 1

Oct. 19, 2023

No. 6



And the
winners are...

THE ANNUAL crab cake and apple-pie competition turned out well, said Town Clerk Charlie Gibble, in spite of the fact that the date had to be moved because of rain.

About 20 people came to the Gazebo on Oct. 15 and enjoyed a pot-luck lunch as well as award-winning crab cakes and slices of apple pie.

Top, Liz Joseph, left, and Sue Fountain with their winning dishes. Photographs by Charlie Gibble

COMING UP! This Saturday, Oct. 21, from 11 a.m.- 2 p.m., it's the 2nd Annual Wachapreague Reunion.

Residents past and present, family and friends are invited to the carnival grounds for free hamburgers, hot dogs, chips and water. A group photo is set for 1 PM. Donations to the volunteer fire department would be welcomed!

Hometown Heroes: A Project of Pride and Honor

ON TELEPHONE POLES all along Main Street, Hometown Heroes banners are flying, honoring Wachapreague citizens past and present who served in all branches of the military.

The project, spearheaded by Lucky Levens, has been in the works for about a year. Twelve banners, modeled after programs in other

Eastern Shore towns, were raised in early September, each recognizing a service veteran who lived in Wachapreague.

The success of the first round sparked enough interest that Levens and his partner Rossana



Aponte were able to send off for a second set. Aponte hopes they'll be up for Veterans Day.

When the town council heard the idea, back in 2022, members gave it their blessing. The Hometown Hero Committee advertised the project on Wachapreague social media platforms, at the town hall, post office, Island House, and the Wachapreague General Store. The best advertisement was word of mouth, and people quickly expressed their interest.

Continued on back

This and That

THE TOWN HALLOWEEN PARTY takes place Oct. 28, from 6:30-9 p.m., on the second floor of the Wachapreague Fire Hall. Show up in your Halloween costume, and prepare to eat lots of snacks, play games, and have fun!

LAURA CHUQUIN-NAYLOR, pastor of the Powelton Presbyterian Church, has completed the requirements to become a commissioned lay pastor! Her commissioning service is Sunday,

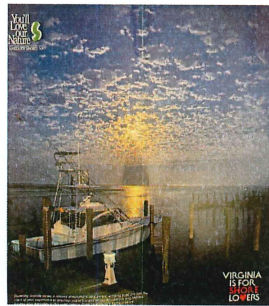


On the tourism map

ARTIST ANN CRAIN is featured in the 2023 Eastern Shore of Virginia Tourism Commission brochure!

And earlier in the month, 35 officials from welcome centers across the state spent a day here - and said they loved our town.

They toured the town, saw VIMS, and had lunch at The Island House. They all agreed it was "delicious!"



More This & That

Oct. 21, at 3 p.m., at the church All are invited.

MAYOR CHARLES ELLIOTT will compete in the Josie Music Awards on Sunday, Oct. 21. The event takes place at the Grand Ol' Opry in Nashville, TN.

The stated purpose of the event is to recognize excellence by independent artists.

For more, please see www.josiemusicawards.com

WANT AN UPRIGHT piano? Contact Phil at

609-709-6253. Piano is free; you move it.

HOOKS & NEEDLES knitting and sewing group meets at Powelton Presbyterian on the second and fourth Tuesdays from 1-3 p.m. All are welcome!

THE WACHAPREAGUE GENERAL STORE will close for the winter on Christmas Day, and reopen April 1. There are some new food treats, and also some exciting new art and craft!

PERSON OF THE YEAR Nominations are open for the Wachapreague Times Person of the Year, 2023.

Please send your nomination to carrieBjacobson@gmail.com, or PO Box 144, or drop it at 18 Bayview .

Heroes, continued

Levens started the process, but it was Aponte who took it over and brought it into being.

The 12 banners were sent off to be printed, and then, in early September, they went up. Putting them up was a town project, Aponte says. She and Levens put out a call, and people gathered at the corner of Main and Brooklyn with snacks and drinks provided by the General Store and the Bilicki family.

Steve Joseph brought his lift to hang them. Others trimmed trees for better visibility and still others drove their trucks to haul everything to the dump.

The banners should last three to five years, Levens says, and adds that they are considering taking them down for the winter, to decrease wear from the elements.

Bonnie Munn was the first to sponsor a banner, honoring her late husband, Bruce Munn, who was a 1st lieutenant in the Marine Corps. He was also an active member of the Liars Corner ("If I was bleeding on the floor, Bruce would have stepped over me to get to the Liar's Corner by 11," she jokes). The family of her ex-husband, Preston Richardson, sponsored a banner for him, for his service in the Air Force.

"I'm very patriotic," Munn says. "I love the military. I'm especially fond of the Vietnam-era veterans, who were treated so poorly." She thinks the banners are a big success. "The joy of

seeing them every day has added to my life," she says.

The banners are available to anyone who has served in any branch of the military and , with an honorable discharge, and lives in, or has lived in Wachapreague.

Levens and Aponte need a photograph of the veteran, proof of honorable discharge (DD214 or equivalent discharge paperwork), and township residency. The cost of sponsoring a banner is approximately \$200.

Levens and Aponte, who live on Lee Street, and Bonnie Munn, who lives on Pearl Street, will help any participant find honorable discharge documents. Aponte says that work on the banner can start while families are locating the discharge documents.

If a loved one's discharge paperwork has been lost over the years it can be easily obtained through the National Archives, Levens stated, and went through this process himself when requesting his late grandfather's discharge paperwork. Here is a website where you can start your search:

<https://www.archives.gov/veterans/military-service-records>

"The only limit (to the project) is the number of poles," Lucky says.

"We're going to fill up Main Street, then go to the left and right down Atlantic. When we run out of interest or run out of poles, we'll stop."

Sewer Survey Update

Town Clerk Charlie Gible reports that nearly 20 people have filled out the sewer survey. The deadline has been extended to the end of October. If you haven't filled one out, please take a moment to do so.

If the sewer line came down your street, would you be interested in hooking up to it? Circle **Yes** or **No**

How much would you be willing to pay to hook up? (Write your answer)

Your name:

Please return this to Town Hall by Oct. 31