

Rappahannock Record

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Sharing the bounty

Helping to feed the hungry at Thanksgiving, Lancaster Middle School student Jared Bowis (left) hands bags and boxes of canned goods to Tides Inn sales manager Gus Shelton, for delivery to the Central Virginia Food Bank. Between July 1 and September 30, 2004, the food bank distributed 18,801 pounds of food in Lancaster County and 6,956 pounds in Northumberland. The local food drive was sponsored by the Kilmarnock Chamber of Commerce, the Tides Inn and Bay 101.7 Radio Station. A drop-off was held last Friday at Tri-Star Supermarket in Kilmarnock. Food items had an estimated value of some \$5,000 and over \$1,000 was collected.



From left, Grace Perkins, Megan Hudnall, Tucker Martin and Danielle Warner pack boxes full of cans during last week's food drive. The three students are members of Lancaster Middle School's Beta and Builders clubs. The groups spent two weeks collecting food from LMS students for the Central Virginia Food Bank, which helps to supply food to the hungry in the Northern Neck. The LMS students collected 1,330 cans of food with the fourth-grade class collecting 510 cans to win the schoolwide competition. (Photos by Lisa Hinton-Valdrighi)

Community Thanksgiving activities set

Several Thanksgiving events are planned throughout the community. Here's a list of holiday activities as reported to the Record.

November 24, Thanksgiving Eve

- The Northumberland Ministerial Association will hold a Community Service of Thanksgiving at 7 p.m. at Fairfield Baptist Church at 15213 Northumberland Highway in Burgess.

- Rev. Brian Hamrick of Fairfield Baptist Church will serve as host. The speaker is the Rev. Dr. T. W. Morris of Shiloh Baptist Church in Reedville.

- Good Shepherd Lutheran Church in Callao will hold a Thanksgiving eve worship service at 7 p.m.

- June Herbert, church organist, will lead the music and Pastor Mike Ramming will deliver the celebration message.

- Claybrook Baptist Church in Weems will hold a Thanksgiving eve worship service at 7 p.m.

November 25, Thanksgiving Day

- The annual Irvington Turkey Trot will run along the streets of the village. Race day registration begins at 8:45 a.m. and races begin at 9 a.m. An awards ceremony begins at 11:30 a.m.

- There will be men's and women's divisions by age groups. Races include a two-mile run/walk (\$18), a five-mile run (\$18), both (\$23), and a 100-yard "turkey trot" for children. To pre-register, call 438-6391.

- Participants are urged to bring a bag of dry cat or dog food as well as the entry fee.

- The Fairfield United Methodist Women will host a complimentary Thanksgiving dinner at the church in Burgess from noon to 2 p.m.

- For transportation, call 580-6145 or 453-5427.

- Mt. Olive Baptist Church near Wicomico Church will hold its annual Thanksgiving Day service at noon. A traditional turkey dinner will be served at 1 p.m.

- For more information, call 435-3725 or 435-0115.

November 26-27

- The 10th annual Rockfish Derby, sponsored by the Bethel-Emmanuel United Methodist Men, will be held on local waters.

- The entry fee is \$25. Late registration will be held from 7 to 9 a.m. on derby days at the Upper Deck.

- Weigh-in is at E. J. Conrad and Sons Upper Deck on Greenvale Creek in Mollusk. For directions, call 462-7229.

Record closed for Thanksgiving

The Rappahannock Record office will be closed Thursday, November 25, and Friday, November 26, for the Thanksgiving holiday.

However, the regular deadline schedule resumes. The deadline for display advertising is 5 p.m. on Mondays; the deadline for classified advertising is noon on Tuesdays; the deadline for news with photos and for calendar listings is 11 a.m. on Tuesdays; and the deadline for all other news is 2 p.m. on Tuesdays.

By email, news items may be submitted at any time to editor@rrecord.com and advertisements may be sent to mail@rrecord.com.

Items may also be sent by fax to 435-2632, by mail to P.O. Box 400, Kilmarnock, VA 22482, or dropped through the slot in the front door at 27 North Main Street in Kilmarnock.



The trumpet section, including (from left) Alex Williams, Spenser Hall, Josh Grabowski and Shaq Towels, rehearse Christmas songs for the Kilmarnock parade.

Successful LMS program leads to prestigious high school band

by Lisa Hinton-Valdrighi

KILMARNOCK—The pursuit of musical excellence in Lancaster County schools begins in Room 904 at Lancaster Middle School.

Director Glen Burtner doesn't like to toot his own horn, although that's just what he was doing last week while instructing a group of novice band students.

Burtner grabbed his trumpet and joined in with his beginners, blowing out a Christmas tune that the group was learning for a Kilmarnock parade and holiday concert.

He stops and starts the musicians patiently, reminding himself that they are his sixth-grade class of newcomers. The group is part of a prestigious bunch of Lancaster County band students and will one day hopefully join the decorated Lancaster High School Marching Band, which in January performs in London in Her Majesty's New Year's Day Parade.

The community has rallied around the LHS band, raising nearly \$125,000 for the trip.

"I don't know of another rural, small town community like this that gives so much support to its band," said Burtner.

He's been teaching band for 17 years at LMS, where most of the high school band members get their start.

With 60 percent of the LMS sixth-, seventh- and eighth-grade students participating, band is just as popular at the middle school level as it is in high school. Of the school's 351 students, 210 are band members.

When LMS students enter the sixth grade, they have to choose an expanded core class of either band, chorus, computer or visual arts. Most, it seems, choose band.

"The way I look at it," said Burtner, "the high school and middle school bands feed off of each other. The kids see how good the high school band is doing and the places they go and they want to do those things. But if



Glen Burtner leads a sixth-grade beginners' band class at Lancaster Middle School.

we weren't turning out a good product down here, then the high school band wouldn't be what it is either."

By "we," Burtner means he and assistant director, Kenny Flester. Flester splits time between LMS and LHS, assisting both Burtner and high school director Robbie Spiers.

According to Burtner, the music program in Lancaster started to "take-off" in the early 1980s when the LHS marching band began traveling out of state to Florida and Pennsylvania.

It takes a lot of money to send hundreds of students on the trips, said Burtner, and although the high school band has several fund-raisers a year, Burtner limits his group to just one.

"We don't like to do it, but it's a necessary evil," Burtner said. "We do one at the beginning of the year and get it over with."

This year, they used about \$1,500 of the proceeds to purchase a tuba and another \$1,600 to purchase a recorder.

Burtner conducts five separate bands at LMS: three concert bands, a jazz band and a marching band.

Interest is so great that he and Flester are able to now audition students for the symphonic and jazz bands.

The classes are also split to include groups of novices and groups of more advanced performers.

At that age and level of experience, says Burtner, it takes the students about two months to learn a song well enough to "show it" at one of the bands' seven yearly performances.

The LMS marching band will be featured in the Kilmarnock Christmas parade on Friday, December 10, and the school's jazz, sixth-grade, concert and symphonic bands will perform a winter concert in the LMS Theater on Monday, December 20, at 7 p.m.

The bands also perform annually in September for Band Day in Kilmarnock, at a spring concert, at the area and all-district band competitions, at an area band festival and during a festival at either Kings Dominion or Bush Gardens.



Martin Ward plays the trumpet.



Practice, practice, practice is what beginning band students do. From left, Courtland Sydner and Ashleigh Saunders are among those in this sixth-grade band class.

Lancaster planners weigh PUD issues

by Robb Hoff

LANCASTER—Appeals for a continued public hearing process and questions about whether planned unit development (PUD) ordinances are really needed in Lancaster County were heard last Thursday when the county planning commission resumed discussions about the proposed tool to regulate large-scale developments.

Discussion focused on the provisions that would regulate all three of the PUDs currently proposed: waterfront residential (WRPUD), mixed commercial (MCPUD), and inland residential (RPUD).

One of the issues at the forefront of the discussion, which included public input, is the public hearing process planned for PUDs.

The PUD ordinances themselves will be held for public hearing by the planning commission once the draft is completed and advertised for hearing. County supervisors will hold another hearing

before voting on adopting the measures.

However, if the ordinances are eventually adopted by the county board of supervisors, each PUD application that is submitted by a developer to the county will not be subject to a public hearing under the general requirements now being considered.

"There will be a hearing," said commissioner David Jones. "It's just that there won't be any public input."

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Letters to Santa are due by December 15

The Rappahannock Record will publish letters to Santa in its December 23 issue.

Letters must be in the Record office by Wednesday, December 15, in order to appear in the special section.

If letters are written as a class project, teachers are encouraged to submit them by December 9.

Letters should be written in dark ink and include the child's name, age and hometown.

Parents, teachers and others are asked to make certain the letters are legible.

Teachers are reminded to include their first and last names with the class submission.

The Rappahannock Record's mailing address is P.O. Box 400, Kilmarnock, VA 22482. Letters also may be faxed to 804-435-2632, e-mailed to mail@rrecord.com, or dropped through the front door slot at 27 North Main Street in Kilmarnock.

The December 23 issue includes holiday greetings from area merchants and others. The deadline for these advertising messages is also December 15.

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