Eastern Shore CIRCULATION 13,000 THE SHORE'S ONLY LOCALLY OWNED NEWSPAPER

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May 1, 2015



Photo by Bill Sterling

Carbon, a black Lab owned by North American Hunting Retriever Association President Frank Plewa, charges across a pond to retrieve a duck in field trials held Saturday, April 18, outside Onancock. A local chapter has formed for training retrievers. See *Postin' Up* on Page 22 for details.

Cost of Arson Spree Goes Far Beyond Burnt Property

By Linda Cicoira

Fines and costs totaling nearly \$100,000 were filed this week in Accomack Circuit Court in association with the cases of serial arsonists Tonya Susan Bundick and Charles (Charlie Applegate) Robert Smith III.

More bills are likely to be submitted from various defense lawyers.

And there could be even more charges after that, since Bundick, 42, who is incarcerated at Eastern Shore Regional Jail in Eastville, is appealing her convictions. She has filed appeals so far for two of her 65 convictions.

Smith, her former fiancé, 40, who is being held in Accomack Jail, cannot appeal because his guilty pleas

were straightforward. Bundick pleaded guilty to most of the counts by using a legal ploy called the Alford plea, which allowed her to state she is innocent but pleaded guilty because the evidence against her was overwhelming.

The list of fines and fees that have

been submitted so far for Smith total \$52,997. A breakdown showed a fixed fee of \$22,125 for the 58 felony convictions, a fixed fee of \$720 for the nine misdemeanor convictions, \$27,677 for the court-appointed attorney fee, \$680 for courthouse security, \$750 for a psy-

chological exam, \$25 for a jail admission fee and \$1,020 for an Internet crimes child fund that is designated for defendants.

Bundick's fines and costs so far total \$46,332. That figure includes \$19,500

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Woman Killed in Accomack Collision with Tractor-Trailer

By Linda Cicoira

A Delaware woman died Tuesday in a traffic accident in Accomack County.

Tameka Shamra Wallop, 21, of Wallop Road in Seaford died at the scene of the two-vehicle crash, State Police Sgt. Michelle Anaya reported.

The crash occurred at about 4 p.m. at the intersection of

Saxis Road (Route 695) and Neal Parker Road (Route 693), the officer continued. A 2007 Freightliner tractor-trailer truck was going east on Saxis Road when a 2008 Ford Focus "failed to acknowledge the stop sign" and ran into the other vehicle, Anaya said.

The name and condition of the driver of the Freightliner was not available.

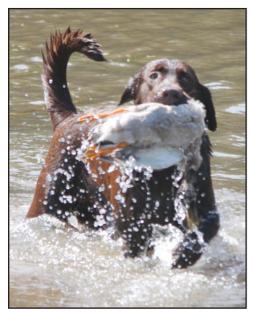


I was on the property five minutes when I realized just how much work I had to do with Duke.

The event was a North American Hunting Retriever Association (NAHRA) field test being held at the farms of Charlie and Marlene Donnell, David Joynes and Larry Housman and Victoria Pepper outside Onancocck one recent Saturday.

Housman is the president of the local Eastern Shore Retrievers Club. Formed just this past January, the club has 20 members who get together to work with their retrievers. They usually meet on his 70-acre farm that includes several ponds. Housman worked his two dogs, Bry, 6, and Hank, 18 months, at the trials. Housman invites anyone who wants to join to call 787-8520.

The local club worked with the national organization to stage the recent



Titus, owned by Jeff Riebling, brings back a mallard.

SPIRTS

Retrievers Show Their Stuff





Bry, owned by Larry Housman, charges into a pond on Charlie and Marlene Donnell's farm and retrieves a duck at a recent field trial near Onancock.

field trial. Retrievers, all Labradors, were being tested under actual hunting conditions and showing the hours of work they had put in with their owners.

I saw dogs in hot pursuit of a fallen duck stop 10 feet away on command by their owner. I saw dogs take hand signals from their owners on blind retrieves. I saw dogs charge into the water and bring a duck to their owner's hand before striking out for another on land.

Some of these dogs were as young as 10 months old.

Meanwhile, I have a 7-month-old black Lab that I thought precocious at 4 months and just plain stubborn today. He knows what I want him to do — some days he does Sit, Stay and Come like a champ, retrieves a dummy and brings it to me on command — but he likes his freedom so much that lately he roams wherever his nose might lead him, ignoring my commands.

They say the best virtue of a dog owner is patience, but mine is wearing thin.

NAHRA's mission is the preservation of our heritage of hunting with retrievers. Its members see the retriever as a conservation tool in the field. Frank Plewa, national president of the chapter, says, "Without a dog, hunters will probably lose ducks and continue hunting until they get their limit. With a trained retriever in the blind, the likelihood is that game that is dropped will not get away or be lost."

Trainers from all over the East Coast and as far as away as Minnesota gathered on this beautiful Saturday to compete in the field trial. There were duck blinds, numerous decoys, calls, shotguns and other hunting implements used in a manner simulating normal hunting. Almost everyone was decked out in camouflage except one member attired in a magenta blouse. She heard about that all day.

Trainers were young and old, female and male. The Labs included blacks, yellow and chocolate and arrived with names like Delta Marsh Yellow Tail Sushi, Shoe Charcoal Travel'n Man and Basking in the Glow of Good Enough.

Under the NAHRA concept, the objective is to recover the bird as quickly and efficiently as possible, to create the least amount of disturbance in



Carbon returns with a duck.

the marsh and upland and to give the hunter the maximum amount of time to actually take game. Dogs are placed in five categories based on ability, not age: Beginner, Started, Hunter, Intermediate and Senior. Dogs do not compete against one another for placements, but rather their performances are judged individually against a "standard."

Plewa, from Gettysburg, Pa., trains



Titus hands a duck to his owner, Jeff Riebling at the field trial.



Judges and contestants discuss the rules of an upcoming trial at a North American Hunting Retriever Association (NAHRA) event held outside Onancock on April 18, in conjunction with the Eastern Shore Retriever Club.

dogs and also serves as a hunting guide, primarily for goose hunting over fields. "My dog will often hunt with other dogs. We try to simulate conditions here that we find in the field. If you have done it, you understand that there is probably more action and confusion taking place than many dogs can handle. Hours of waiting, then a scramble to hide, ridiculous amounts of calling to and from the geese, the sudden explosion of blinds opening and guns emptying, birds falling and flying away. Through all this, a dog hopefully waits patiently for the

signal to go. It doesn't end there, sometimes two or three dogs are being sent for hopefully different birds, birds flopping, cripples running, etc. That's a lot for a young dog to digest.

"There is nothing more satisfying to me than to see a rookie in the morning become somewhat experienced by day's end," said Plewa, whose dog Carbon handled everything asked of him.

If you have a retriever and want some training tips, call the local club. It seems like I could use some help with Duke.



Larry Housman with Bry, in the foreground, and Frank Plewa with Carbon await the start of a field trial competition.

SPIRTS SHIRTS

Legion Golf May 29

The 8th Annual American Legion Post 56 Golf Tournament will be held on the Bay Creek Palmer Course on May 29 with a shotgun start at noon.

The cost is \$100 per golfer, which includes golf, cart, drink tickets, goodies, prizes, dinner, and many giveaways. There are two flights based on scores. Proceeds from the tournament go to support veterans, Wounded Warriors, and youth. Post 56 is sponsoring six boys attending Boys State at a cost of \$400 per boy.

Send a list of team players and a check made out to American Legion Post 56 to American Legion Post 56, Box 537, Cheriton, VA 23316.

For more information, call Scott Heneghan at 757-619-2510.

Safe Boating Class

U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary Flotilla 12-06 Chincoteague is offering a free Boat Virginia Safe boating class to be taught at Coast Guard Base Chincoteague May 18, 19 and 20, from 6-9 p.m.

Successful completion of this class will entitle students to their Boating Safety Education Card which is required by those age eligible to operate a personal watercraft or boat in Virginia. As of July 1, 2014, all Personal Water Craft (PWC) operators age 14 and older and motorboat operators 45 and younger were required to complete a boating safety course. Beginning July 1, 2015, all PWC operators age 14 and older and motorboat operators ages 50 and younger are required to take a boating safety course.

Pre-registration is required no later than May 8 to ensure that sufficient materials will be available.

For additional information, contact J. Conquest at 757-824-6335 or email <u>jeconquest@verizon.net</u>

Shore Fest Golf Tourney

The Shore Fest Golf Tournament, sponsored by Eastern Shore Chamber of Commerce, will be held May 8 at Eastern Shore Yacht & Country Club.

Registration will begin at 11 a.m. and

lunch will be served beginning at 11:30 a.m. The entry fee is \$100 per person, which includes green fees, cart, lunch, on-course beverages and the reception.

For more information and registration, go to <u>info@esvachamber.org</u> or email <u>jhungiville@esvachamber.org</u> or call 787-2460.

Kickball Tournament

Northampton County Parks and Recreation is hosting a Summer Kickball tournament for adults on Saturday, June 6, at Indiantown Park.

Registration fees are \$100 per team, 8 to 12 players per roster for anyone 18 and over. This will be a double-elimination tournament; each team is guaranteed two games. Prizes will be given to first-, second-, and third-place teams. Teams must register before May 26.

For more information or a coach's packet, call 678-0468.



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