

News from the Mathews Historical Museum—April 2024



MATHEWS HISTORICAL MUSEUM
SPONSOR OF THE MATHEWS COUNTY SPRING HERITAGE FESTIVAL, SATURDAY, MAY 4
“May Faire: A Rural Life-2024”—Farming, Fishing and Family
200 Main Street* Mathews, Virginia 23109



Museum Hosts Local Grower Of Start-up Mushroom Farm

Christian Brown, a Virginia native and now a Mathews resident and owner of a local farm, “Mush Love in Mathews VA,” spoke Saturday, March 25 at the Museum about plans for beginning a mushroom consortium with his two partners, Pat Hanners and Frank Schmidt. “We will be up and running in about a month,” said Brown as he described to the audience how he inoculates logs to produce his mushrooms. When asked by someone in the audience “why mushrooms?” and “why Mathews?” he responded, “Mushroom farming is a very sustainable industry, and mushrooms are exceedingly nutritious. They are low in fat, low in carbs, and a great source of protein. They are the only non-animal source of Vitamin D. Moreover, Mathews is a great climate in which to grown mushrooms.”

Brown spent four years in the Army before deciding to pursue culinary arts, graduating with honors from Johnson & Wales School of Culinary Art. He spent some time out of state before deciding to settle here and is now the owner of MushLove in Mathews VA and he couldn’t be happier. He will be a vendor at the Farmers Market for years to come!

Brown’s appearance at the museum was in concert with the theme of this year’s May Faire, “A Rural Life,” focusing on farming, fishing, and families. He can be reached at 757-870-1559.

News from the Mathews Historical Museum—April 2024



Mathews VA250 Committee to Sponsor Fife & Drum Corps Performance

A very special treat is in store for visitors to Mathews May Faire 2024—an appearance by Colonial Williamsburg’s Fife & Drum Corps! Chaired by local resident Fred Lyon, the Mathews VA250 Committee has generously arranged for the performance by the Fife & Drum Corps at the May Faire closing ceremonies at 3:00.

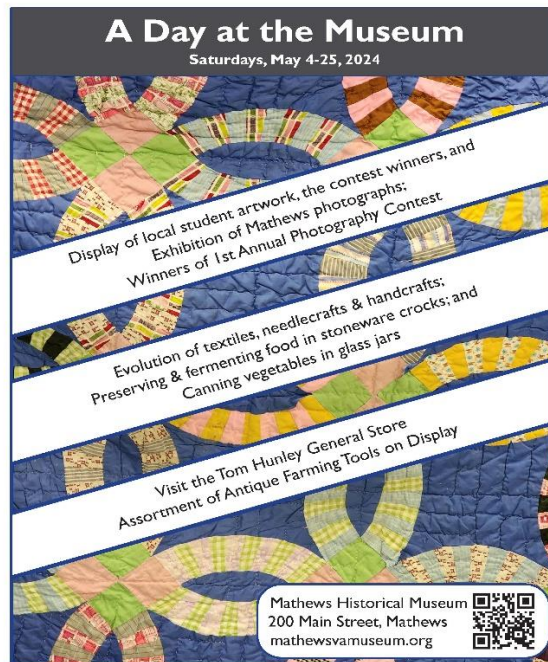
The Mathews County VA250 Committee was authorized in July 2023, by the county’s Board of Supervisors. Our local Committee is part of the Commonwealth’s efforts to commemorate the 250th anniversary, in 2026, of the American Revolution, the Revolutionary War, and the Independence of the United States.



Get Out Your Recipe Book and Enter The May Faire Pound Cake Contest!

This year’s May Faire will once again sponsor the Pound Cake Contest! One thing has changed, and that is that registration must be completed and submitted ahead of time, by April 18. Forms may be found online at www.mathewsvmuseum.org, or, at the Mathews Visitor Center on Main Street. There is no registration fee and there are two categories, traditional and creative. For more information, please call Karen Doremus at 804-725-7215.

News from the Mathews Historical Museum—April 2024



Mathews May Faire 2024: A Rural Life, This Year A “County Fair” Kind of Event!

The Mathews Historical Museum invites you to help us celebrate our County’s 6th annual Spring Heritage Festival, Saturday, May 4, 2024.

We will explore all facets of our county’s history, ranging from farming to fishing to families, in a county fair type of atmosphere. Our mission at the Museum is to preserve and promote the cultural heritage of Mathews County, through relevant displays, collections, and educational and experiential programs. We seek to provide an opportunity for visitors to our lovely county to gain an understanding and appreciation of what the County offers as well as to appreciate our Commonwealth’s role in our Nation’s history.

Outdoors will be an architectural dig where children can participate in uncovering artifacts. A children’s mini farm will have baby chicks hatching (we hope!) and bunnies and other little animals. There will be a Clydesdale horse and ponies that children can actually paint! On stage our school’s choral groups will perform, and a local dance troupe will perform the traditional May Pole dance.

Indoors at the Museum we will feature special exhibits that showcase our County’s talent, including textiles and needlecraft and food products. Also, there will be a display of local student artwork as well as an exhibition of Mathews photographers and the winners of the Museum’s 1st Annual Photography Contest.

At our historic Court House--another May Faire tradition-- we will be hosting three special programs that are reflective of our County’s rich history. Aerial “then and now” photographs going back 60 years, taken by local aerial photographers, will be on display. Following that, there will be a special presentation, “100 years of Daffodils in Mathews” by area horticulturist Brent Heath, owner of Brent and Becky’s Bulbs. That will be followed by area teacher Michelle Williams whose students.

The Mathews Historical Museum was incorporated in 2015 as a 501 (c) (3) non-profit organization. In May 2018 the Museum acquired a permanent site at 200 Main Street, and we will soon be embarking on our capital campaign for a complete renovation. All monies raised during May Faire go to support the operations and programs of the Museum.

News from the Mathews Historical Museum—April 2024

Note: Our Movie Night in April will be cancelled, as we are preparing for our huge annual event, May Faire. Please join us for May Faire on May 4th, 2024, and then each and every following Saturday in May, as we host special exhibits, all of them “Mathews-centric”! And, you can get an early peek at the Hunley General Store exhibit scheduled for its grand opening in late May. Watch for an upcoming announcement about the opening!

New email for Barbara Bass

Chair, Mathews May Faire 2024 – cbbbbb@breezeline.net