

September 2021



Introducing Mike and Mary Massey



Originally from Chincoteague and Onancock, Mike and Mary Massey are now the homeowners of Lot 51. Mike was Divisional Director of Production and Planning in the poultry industry and is now retired. Mary is a retired schoolteacher who

was much loved by her first graders. They are avid gardeners and their property is just stunning! Mikey, an Australian Shepherd, is the new member of their family.... and full of puppy energy!

Invasive Plants in Seaview



Johnson Grass (*Sorghum halepense*) is a perennial grass from Asia and northern Africa that **has been declared a public nuisance in Virginia**. "It shall be unlawful to knowingly allow Johnson Grass to form a seed head on any land."



By seeds and rhizomes, this perennial grass is taller and more aggressive than native grasses and quickly spreads throughout fields. The bright green in this Seaview field is Johnson Grass.



Russian Olive (*Elaeagnus angustifolia*) is not a true olive but an invasive, non-native small tree. This east European-central Asian plant was introduced because it survives many adverse conditions and has pretty silvery leaves, but the

negatives outweigh any perceived positives. It is extremely aggressive and it will choke out native species to completely

dominate an open area or stream bank. Government Fish and Wildlife departments consider this a high threat to the natural hydrology of riparian areas. It is banned in Colorado, Connecticut, California and New Mexico and is listed as an invasive, toxic weed in 26 other states **including Virginia**.

To bush hog your lot, please contact our Caretaker for details: David Smullin 757-709-4738 / dsmullin@verizon.net

Shore History: Accomack Cnty. Debtors Prison

According to Whitelaw, one of the worst ideas the Colonists employed was the means of punishment. Besides imprisonment, other forms included the stocks, pillory, the ducking stool and whipping on a bare back for serious offenses. (Actually, in the later part of the 1600's the official whipper in Accomack county was a woman... that's scary.)



Accomack Debtors Prison c. 1950



Accomack Debtors Prison 2018

There was also a continuance of English law that debtors could be imprisoned for non-payment. These people were housed in the same quarters as felons and those who committed minor offenses. In 1824 a discussion was held to house these people separately since they were probably no threat to the public. Of course, the inch iron bars on the windows, oak batten doors and good locks were added, and by 1841 the building was known as the debtors apartments of the jail of Accomack County.

It stands today on Courthouse Rd., a curiosity of a not so distant past.



