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BAYSIDE GAZETTE

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FEBRUARY 14, 2013

Berlin, market vendors agree on 2013 plan

Memorandum covers most, but not all, issues

By Sheila R. Cherry
Associate Editor

BERLIN --The Berlin Town Council, during a Feb. 11 public meeting, directed Town Attorney David Gaskill to draft a memorandum of understanding that will officially confirm a partnership between the town and the Downtown Berlin Farmer's Market.

Susan Wood of Sassafra Meadows Farms, who was elected as the market master by the vendor community, told the council that vendors in the farmer's market had agreed to purchase town business licenses.

The group had also met to discuss ways to address concerns that were raised by members of the council last year, concerns that Wood listed as a lack of communication, lack of transparency and objectivity in admitting new vendors, lack of a functioning business relationship with the town, and the use of the parking lot on the north end of town during peak shopping periods.

Wood said the vendor group has met four to five times and has taken steps to improve communications, which may include updating the market's Web site to include rules and vendor applications.

She said the vendors had approved recommended rule changes from a nine-member advisory group consisting of vendors, community and business representatives and Berlin Economic and Development Director Michael Day.

From those recommendations, the group agreed to revise its rules to clarify the market's hours of operation and when the parking would need to be vacated, and to streamline the vendor application and approval process. The application deadline for new vendors is Mar. 3, she added.

Councilmember Elroy Brittingham referring to the new application form provided by Wood pointed out that ven-

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SHEILA R. CHERRY/BAYSIDE GAZETTE

A crane raises a rooftop muffler that was replaced on the Berlin Utility's external exhaust system as the William's Street plant upgraded its reciprocating internal combustion engines to meet new emission standards. (Inset) A new oxidation catalyst filter will capture emissions and reduce hydrocarbons at the Berlin Utility plant on Williams Street.

Berlin brings generators up to EPA standard

Work reflects changes in federal regulations on exhaust, emissions

By Sheila R. Cherry
Associate Editor

BERLIN — If motorists and pedestrians along Williams Street were wondering what that enormous crane was doing at the electric generation plant on Feb. 7, the easiest way to describe it would be: it was installing mufflers and catalytic converters.

Specifically, workers were retrofitting the plant's reciprocating internal combustion engines to meet new

air emissions standards that are being mandated by the Environmental Protection Agency.

The EPA is requiring utilities with stationary "four-stroke rich burn spark ignition engines" to reduce the amount of formaldehyde that comes out of the smokestacks as exhaust by 76 percent. The equipment that was installed last Thursday will give the town a four-month head start on meeting the May deadline for converting to that new emission standard. Not all of the generators have four-stroke engines. A few are the more powerful two-stroke engines (the term stroke refers to the up and down movement of the pistons).

Berlin Electric Utility Director Timothy Lawrence and Bo Mikkelsen, a project engineer Engine Technology Support Inc., oversaw the operation and were eager to explain detail-by-detail how the whole process would work. This reporter was hanging on every technical word of it, and if you could take it all in without your brains exploding, you'd have enough intellectual ammunition to smack down any water cooler know-it-all.

But basically, it goes like this, Berlin used to generate its own electricity before it started buying it on the wholesale market. So, now the on-site generators at the Williams St. plant

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SHEILA R. CHERRY/BAYSIDE GAZETTE

An up-close view of the new filters designed to convert carbon monoxide into carbon dioxide.

Generator emissions will be scrubbed to new EPA levels

Continued from Page 1

are used to help the town stabilize its utility costs when electric use peaks, such as in the dog days of summer, when all of the air conditioners are going full blast.

Rather than pay premium prices for electricity when demand, and rates, are skyrocketing, once utility officials get the word that a usage spike is coming, they fire up the generators at the plant until they are in sync with the regional electrical power grid. And, voila! the town switches from grid power back to its own electrical power faster than you can say "Prius."

This is called "peak shaving," because it is used when utilities want to shave down the higher electricity rates

they would be required to pay, when the grid is nearing its load capacity if they had no other option.

But even though the generators are now used on a temporary basis – until the electricity demand spike and rates revert back to normal – the equipment is still required to reduce its hazardous air pollutants.

The catalysts that were being installed on the town's five generator engines are made of coated stainless steel that is corrugated to filter the exhausts. In the process, the catalysts break down carbon monoxide and formaldehydes to more benign carbon dioxide and water vapor.

Moreover, the new equipment comes with monitoring systems that help measure pollution levels in the exhausts by detecting changes in temperature and air pressure, which both rise as part of the oxidation process. It also includes a safety monitor that triggers a shutdown if the generator overheats (reaches 1,000-1,200 degrees Fahrenheit).

Lawrence said by keeping the plant in compliance, it can save Berlin as much as \$600,000 in peak-shaving savings. The upgrades, he pointed out, will ultimately cost approximately \$180,000.

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Just call us anytime at 410-641-1434. I will come out and measure your home to determine the availability of the proper size. I will show you the real world price of the heating and cooling system that fits your home so you know EXACTLY how much you're saving. My quote will include all labor and installation materials. Nothing is left out.

NO OBLIGATION

Even after I completely explain the installation, there is absolutely NO OBLIGATION. If you decide you don't want to take advantage of the spectacular savings, that's OK. I will give you a free NO OBLIGATION home and duct leakage test valued at \$289 because you were kind enough to read this letter. I want you to think of ARCTIC HEATING AND AIR CONDITIONING even if you don't buy a thing.

YOU CAN BUY WITH NO CASH

You don't even have to pay me right away. I have set up a terrific financing program offering LOW MONTHLY PAYMENTS for your convenience. I even decided not to mark up the interest rate like most companies do. Consider this: if you decide to make monthly payments instead of paying cash, the entire amount of your payments could be more than offset by the savings on your utility bills. It's like having your cake and eating it too.

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Win the 2013 OPVFD raffle house for \$100

OCEAN PINES — Tickets are now on sale for the Ocean Pines Volunteer Fire Department's 2013 House Raffle. Tickets cost \$100 each and the winner will be awarded a custom-built home by Brunori Homes, valued at more than \$200,000.

Only 3,000 tickets will be sold.

The new home, located at 82 Windjammer Road on the north side of Ocean Pines, will contain three bedrooms, two bathrooms, a screened-in porch and an attached garage, and it will include all appliances.

Tickets are available at the South Fire Station, located at 911 Ocean Parkway in Ocean Pines, or by calling the OPVFD at 410-641-8272. Purchases can be made by cash, check or credit card (Visa, MasterCard and Discover accepted).

The drawing will be held on Labor Day, Sept. 2, at the house.

U.S. 50 bypass will see upgrades and some lane closures

SALISBURY — Maryland highway officials are starting some upgrades to Route 50 bypass in Salisbury to prevent erosion. The State Highway Administration said the work was scheduled to begin Friday and is expected to be completed by late spring.

The first phase involves shoring up slopes along three ramps connecting the bypass with Naylor Mill Road. After that, contractors will do slope renovation along the sides of the bypass. That part of the project will involve lane closures.

The work includes regrading existing slopes, planting grass and installing plastic grids to hold the grass and soil in place during storms. David A. Bramble Inc. of Chestertown will perform the construction work.

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Berlin Market vendors, Berlin officials see eye-to-eye ... almost

Continued from Page 1

dors who were granted weekly spots at the market would be too short-term to purchase business licenses. Woods indicated that the weekly spots were rare and that requiring that those temporary vendors buy a \$75 business license would probably make them nonexistent.

According to Wood, the vendors agreed to no longer open the market on Wednesday. Apparently the customer response to the Wednesday market had not been as reliable as the foot traffic on Fridays anyway. She also noted that the cones marking the boundaries of the market in the parking lot where it is held are brought in closer to the vendors during times when fewer vendors show up.

Mayor Gee Williams said that he was aware of that practice and expressed his appreciation for it to the vendors.

Wood said the market is now year-round, although it included vendors with "in season" products that would be available from April through October. The number of vendors, she estimated ranged from a minimum of four to a maximum of 16.

The rapport between the council and Wood went relatively smoothly with the exception of two small hiccups. One was over whether signs for the group would list it as the "Berlin Farmer's Market" or the "Downtown Berlin Farmer's Market." Woods said the vendors wanted to

retain the right to name themselves.

Councilmember Paula Lynch said the group could name themselves whatever they wished, but balked at the idea of the town buying new signs for a new label for the vendor group.

"You already have a great brand," Williams told Wood. He added that he did not see a name change as something that was necessary or that would be well received and restated that the farmer's market was a key asset to the Berlin community.

"Do we not have a right to our own name?" Wood asked.

Still, Williams said he was very pleased with what had been accomplished in the meetings within the vendor community.

The other issue came about when Councilmember Lisa Hall inquired about how the fees from the business licenses would actually be allocated. Williams said the fee revenue would help promote the farmer's market — through the overall budget process, which prompted Wood to push for a further clarification. She said the vendors' perception would be that the revenue would be used to promote the farmer's market.

Town Administrator Anthony Carson explained that the revenue would first be allocated to the general fund, which, in turn, would be used for various line item allocations by the Department of Economic Development.



SHEILA R. CHERRY/BAYSIDE GAZETTE

Susan Wood, market master for the Downtown Berlin Farmer's Market, discusses with the Berlin Town Council recent operational reforms the vendor community has made as it merges with the Berlin Main Street program.

Wood followed up with additional questions and comments for more clarification on how the fees would correlate to promotion of the market. Williams and other councilmembers sought to assure the vendors that the town would support the market as it has with its other businesses in the overall Berlin Main Street program. "As your partner, you are going to have to

trust us," he told Wood.

But Wood seemed a bit more receptive to an explanation by Councilmember Troy Purnell, who compared the fee revenue to rent payments rather than promotional payments. And he added he would like to see the market expanded, perhaps to a size that might require a larger venue, to make the market an attraction in its own right.



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OBITUARIES

Michael Eric Post

WILLARDS — Michael Eric Post, 39, died Saturday, Jan. 26, 2013, at Atlantic General Hospital in Berlin. Born in Cape



Michael Post

May, N.J., he was the son of Harold William Post Jr. and his wife, Joanne Post, and Judith Ann Siefken Post and her companion, Ronald Hall.

He is survived by his daughter, Gabrielle Ann Post of Baltimore; his girl-

friend, Rhonda Jones; a brother, Donald Post of Ocean Pines; a sister, Laurie Bowie of Ocean City; a stepbrother, Scott Sier and his wife, Amy; a stepsister, Christine Braugher; and a niece and several nephews. He was preceded in death by his brother, Harold W. Post III in 2012.

A celebration of life was held on Saturday, Feb. 9, at Boggs-Disharoon American Legion Post 166 in Berlin. In lieu of flowers donations may be made to the Gabrielle Ann Post Scholarship Fund, c/o Hebron Savings Bank, 1310 Mt. Hermon Road, Salisbury, Md. 21804.

Arrangements were handled by Burbage Funeral Home in Berlin.

Bobby Randall Hamlett

BERLIN — Bobby Randall "Randy" Hamlett, 54, of Berlin died Tuesday, Jan. 29, 2013, at Atlantic General Hospital in Berlin. Born in Lebanon, Tenn., he was the son of the late Bobby Kenneth and Kayree Colene (Kirk) Hamlett.

Mr. Hamlett had worked as a deliveryman for the Coastal Dispatch newspaper.

He is survived by his wife, Mary E. "Libby" Terrell of Berlin; a daughter, Melanie Lee of Essex, Md.; three brothers, Danny Hamlett of Willards, Bruce Hamlett of Berlin and Todd Hamlett of Towson, Md.; and three grandchildren.

A memorial service was held on Saturday, Feb. 9, at Faith Baptist Church in Berlin. Pastor John Abent officiated.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be sent to Worcester County Humane Society, P.O. Box 48, Berlin, Md. 21811.

George Edgar Burton Jr.

NEWARK, Md. — George Edgar Burton Jr., 62, died Wednesday, Jan. 30, 2013, at his home. Born in Baltimore, he was the son of the late George Edgar Burton Sr. and Frances Ozella Knickman Burton. He is survived by his wife, Patricia Burton; a daughter, Karen Lynn Burton of Ocean City; and a granddaughter, Katerina Marie Burton. Also surviving are brothers, Charles Burton of Pennsylvania and Brian Burton of Virginia; and a sister, Frances Burton of Maryland. He was preceded in death by a brother, Terry Burton.

Mr. Burton had retired from Verizon, where he had been a cable splicer. He was also a United States Army veteran. He was the founder of the Communication Workers of America Local #2106 retirees' chapter and was a sprint car enthusiast.

A graveside service was held Monday, Feb. 4, at the Delaware Veterans Cemetery near Millsboro, Del. Pastor Mark Massey officiated.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to Coastal Hospice, P.O. Box 1733, Salisbury, Md. 21804. Arrangements were handled by Burbage Funeral Home in Berlin.

Ann Showell Mariner

OCEAN CITY — Ann Showell Mariner, 61, passed away Sunday, Jan. 27, 2013, in Ocean City. Born in Ocean



Ann Mariner

City, she was the daughter of the late John Dale Showell III and Ann Lockhart Showell, and was a descendant of Col. Lemuel Showell, who was a founding father of Ocean City.

She is survived by her devoted husband of 31 years, A. Reginald

"Reggie" Mariner II of Berlin; one sister, Sarah Elizabeth Showell of Salisbury; and two brothers, John Dale Showell IV of Delray Beach, Fla., and Adam Lockhart Showell of Ocean City.

She was beloved aunt to Carly Ann Finkbeiner (Ryan), Elizabeth Lockhart Showell, Sarah Ann Showell, Hannah Napier Showell and Adam Lockhart Showell II. She is also survived by Reggie's children, A. Reginald Mariner Jr. (Martha) of Berlin, Jennifer Mariner Neeb (Barry) of Berlin and Beth Sheppard (Shep) of Wilmington, N.C.

Mrs. Mariner graduated from Hannah More Academy in Reisterstown, Md., and went on to graduate from Florida International University, where she studied hospitality management. After graduation, she returned to Ocean City and spent her entire professional career working in the family business, Castle in the Sand Hotel, where she later became the co-owner. She was also co-owner of the Green Turtle Club in the Bahamas. Ann and Reggie also created Mariners Country Down in Berlin, where they opened their farm on a seasonal basis and hosted many memorable parties and weddings.

Mrs. Mariner traveled extensively with her husband. She made many friends from around the world and enjoyed bringing back new ideas for her businesses from the places she visited.

She was a member of St. Paul's by the Sea Episcopal Church, Worcester County Garden Club, National Society of the Colonial Dames of America, Ocean City Hotel-Motel-Restaurant Association, Salisbury University Foundation Board and board of directors of the Castle in the Sand.

A funeral service was held Tuesday, Feb. 5, at St. Paul's Episcopal Church in Berlin. The Rev. Michael Moyer officiated. Interment followed in the Episcopal Churchyard.

Because of Mrs. Mariner's love of gardening and her devotion to Worcester County, donations may be made to the garden fund at Rackliffe House, P.O. Box 561, Berlin, Md. 21811. Arrangements were handled by Burbage Funeral Home in Berlin.

Lani St. John Rakow

OCEAN PINES — Lani St. John Rakow, 71, of Ocean Pines, died peacefully at her home Friday, Feb. 1, 2013.



Lani Rakow

Born in Honolulu, she was the daughter of the late Sheldon St. John. She is survived by her mother, Margaret Ralston St. John; her husband, retired U.S. Marine Corps Col. William M. Rakow Jr.; a son, Steven W.

Rakow and his wife, Kelley, of Bishopville; a daughter, Christina R. White and her husband, Steven, of Stafford, Va.; a brother, Curtis St. John and his

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OBITUARIES

wife, Phimol, of Alexandria, Va.; and five grandchildren, Riley White, Brooke White, Marley Rakow, Lily Rakow and Lexie Rakow.

Mrs. Rakow was a graduate of Mary Washington College in Fredericksburg, Va.

A memorial service will be held at 10 a.m. on Monday, April 29, 2013, at the U.S. Naval Academy Chapel in Annapolis. Interment will follow in the Naval Academy Columbarium, and a reception will be held at the Naval Academy Club. In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to Coastal Hospice, P.O. Box 1733, Salisbury, Md. 21804.

Arrangements were handled by Burbage Funeral Home in Berlin.

Thomas David Hipszer

OCEAN PINES — Thomas David Hipszer, 62, of Ocean Pines, died Sunday, Feb. 4, 2013, at Peninsula Regional Medical Center in Salisbury. Born in Pennsylvania, he was the son of the late Thomas Joseph Hipszer and Edith Kleinbach Hipszer. He was survived by his wife, Patricia "Pat" Ann Hipszer. He is also survived by a son, Matthew D. Hipszer and his wife, Sande; two daughters, Victoria A. Saxon and her husband, Mark, and Cara E. Rose and her husband, Jack; two sisters, Dolores Hale and Sylvia

Tormey and her husband, Jim; and four grandchildren, Jonas, Gavin, Benjamin Hipszer and Luke Saxon.

Mr. Hipszer worked as an accountant for the state of Maryland for many years. He was also an avid golfer, member of Knights of Columbus, and extremely active in all aspects of St. Mary's Star of the Sea Parish and Holy Savior Catholic Church.

A Mass of Christian burial was celebrated Friday, Feb. 8, at St. Mary's Star of the Sea parish in Ocean City. Interment was private. In lieu of flowers, donations may be made in to St. Mary's Star of the Sea building fund, 1701 Philadelphia Ave., Ocean City, Ms. 21842.

Arrangements were handled by Burbage Funeral Home.

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Pines places among top 10 in nationwide recycling challenge

By Sheila R. Cherry
Associate Editor

OCEAN PINES — The Ocean Pines community placed among the top 10 of 50 communities vying for bragging rights — and a \$100,000 green project grant — in a recycling challenge sponsored by cleaning products giant SC Johnson.

According to a statement by the company, the SC Johnson Green Choices Recycling Challenge encouraged 50 communities, one in each state, to compete to see who could get the highest recycling participation rate during a six-month contest.

The winning community would receive a \$100,000 grant for a “green”

project from SC Johnson, it said.

Lakes at Red Rock, Va. won the environment-friendly challenge. The top 10 communities in the challenge were Lakes at Red Rock, Va.; Huntington Woods, Mich.; Horace, N.D.; Union Grove, Wis.; Hampstead, N.H.; North Ogden, Utah; Bluffton, S.C.; Chatham Borough, N.J.; Ocean Pines, Md.; and Fuquay Varina, N.C.

“It’s been great for the Association to see this community react and step up to the plate with something so significant as recycling. Our partnership with Waste Management allowed for the convenience of curbside recycling and it clearly made a huge impact on what went to our landfill,” said Teresa Travatello, marketing and public relations director of the Ocean Pines Association, on Feb. 12.

According to Travatello, Ocean Pines collected 1,000 tons in its first year of curbside recycling. “We are very proud to have been 9th place out of 50th in the SC Johnson recycle challenge,” she said, adding, “We hope residents will continue to recy-


cle and continue to take advantage of the Recyclebank rewards and offerings.”

Ocean Pines is closing in on the first anniversary of its recycling program, which started March 2012. Last December, General Manager Bob Thompson called continuation of the program a success. “While the transition was rocky, the results are incredible,” he said.

“These are items that would have previously ended up in our local landfill. Instead waste materials are being collected and converted into useful new products”

The company said the challenge was designed to increase consumer recycling, and to help the company become landfill neutral by 2016.

The 50 communities involved in the recycling challenge joined more than 300 communities across the U.S. and the U.K. that have implemented Recyclebank programs that helps to increase recycling rates through incentives and reward programs, the company said.





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Delmarva Power has rebates during this tax-free weekend

Maryland residential customers can save big on ENERGY STAR items

SALISBURY — Delmarva Power is encouraging Maryland residential customers to take advantage of its Appliance Rebate Program during the state's tax-free weekend, Feb. 16-18. During this period, customers will not have to pay the state's 6 percent sales

tax when they purchase select ENERGY STAR certified products such as standard size refrigerators, clothes washers, room air conditioners, dehumidifiers, heat pumps and compact fluorescent light bulbs.

“This is a great opportunity for customers to combine Delmarva Power's rebates with the Shop Maryland Energy tax savings this weekend, and also take advantage of various retailers' Presidents Day sales,” said John Allen, Delmarva Power region vice president. “Delmarva Power is proud to offer rebates on energy efficient appliances to help our customers save energy in their homes.”


Delmarva Power paid more than 3,300 rebates to Maryland customers in 2012 for the purchase of energy efficient appliances. Maryland residential customers can receive rebates on many ENERGY STAR certified products such as clothes washers, dehumidifiers, freezers, refrigerators, and water heaters. The value of the appliance rebates ranges from \$25 to \$350. Rebate forms are available in stores and at delmarva.com/ApplianceRebates. Customers can expect to receive rebate checks within six to eight weeks from Delmarva Power's receipt of their rebate applications.

The Appliance Rebate Program is part of Delmarva Power's portfolio of energy efficiency programs that are designed to support Gov. Martin O'Malley's EmPOWER Maryland initiative to reduce energy consumption in the state by 15 percent by 2015.



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Conway, Mathias offer Diaknonia funding measures

By Sheila R. Cherry
Associate Editor

MARYLAND — Legislation filed in the Senate of the General Assembly by Sen. James Mathias (D) and in the House of Delegates by Delegate Norman Conway (D-38B) would authorize bond funding, in the form of a \$350,000 matching grant, for Diakonia housing units in West Ocean City.

The pair also sponsored bicameral legislation to establish a minimum threshold that counties must distribute to volunteer, fire, rescue and ambulance companies.

Also proposed during the week of Feb. 4, were bills to fund a park and the YMCA in Salisbury, establish an identification card for retail customers with special medical needs, exempt police cars from a prohibition that bans certain car window tinting, and implement procedures for billing inmate health care services.

Companion bills SBo773/HB1164, introduced by Conway and Mathias, would authorize \$350,000 in bond-funded grants for the acquisition, planning, design, construction, repair, renovation, reconstruction, and equipping housing units for Diakonia, which provides emergency and transitional

Continued on Page 10



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Bills address fire co. funding

Continued from Page 9

housing for people in need.

The organization has until June 1, 2015 to secure matching funds and have those funds certified by the Board of Public Works, in order to receive the grant funds. "The fund may consist of in-kind contributions or funds expended prior to the effective date of this Act," according to the language of the bill. If approved, the proposal would go into effect June 1.

Conway and Mathias were also the primary sponsors of SB0899/HB0778, which would establish a formula for calculating how much of the percentage of funds that counties receive from the state's Sen. William H. Amoss Fire, Rescue, and Ambulance Fund should be used to help volunteer fire and rescue companies.

The legislation would require each county to distribute funding to its volunteer first responders in amounts equal to either "funds distributed by each county to volunteer fire, rescue, and ambulance companies from the fund in fiscal year 2011 or at least 51 (percent) of the allocation received by each county" for public safety. If enacted the legislation would become effective July 1.

Conway, on Feb. 8 introduced companion legislation (HB1179) to a proposal by Mathias the previous week (SB 0472) that would allow moped and scooter dealers to apply to attach temporary decals to their vehicles so they could be op-

erated on a highway, for demonstration purposes, by prospective buyers with either a driver's license or moped operator's permit. A hearing on Conway's bill is scheduled before the House Environmental Matters Committee on Mar. 5 at 1 p.m.

Conway offered two separate bond authorization bills on Feb. 8. The first, HB1163, would extend the deadline, from Dec. 1, 2012 to Dec. 1, 2015, for a grant that would make \$150,000 in matching funds available for the Salisbury City Park.

The funding would pay for the repair and reconstruction of the park's bandstand pavilion, pedestrian bridges, the Beaverdam Bridge, the Picnic Island Bridge, and the Memorial Drive bridges, provided that a historic easement is conveyed to the Maryland Historical Trust. According to the legislation, matching funds may include in kind contributions.

Conway's second proposal (HB 1165) would authorize the sale of \$500,000 in bonds to fund a loan program to underwrite the planning, design, construction, repair, renovation, reconstruction, and capital equipping of the YMCA of the Chesapeake, which is located in Salisbury. The organization has until June 2015 to secure and certify the matching funds needed to make them eligible for the grant funding. The effective date of the bill would be June 1.

Retail customers with certain medical

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Legislation aims to provide relief for disabled

conditions would be eligible for special identification cards to allow them to use store restroom facilities that are otherwise reserved for employees, under the provisions of a proposal Conway introduced Feb. 8 in response to a constituent's request. The legislative proposal (HB 1183) would alter the circumstances under which a retail establishment that has a toilet facility for its employees would be required to allow certain customers to use the facility.

Individuals with Crohn's disease, ulcerative colitis, inflammatory bowel, or any other medical condition would be given access to the restrooms.

According to the legislation, covered customers would be allowed to use employee toilet facilities during normal business hours when a public restroom was not otherwise available, if three or more employees are working at the time the re-

quest is made. The bill would direct retailers to grant the request if the customer had a covered medical condition that is documented by an identification card from either the department of health and mental hygiene, a nonprofit organization that serves individuals with eligible medical conditions, or an electronic identification card signed by a health care provider.

If enacted the legislation would take effect Oct. 1.

Delegate Michael McDermott (R-38B) on Feb. 8 introduced legislation (HB1235) that would exempt vehicles used by law enforcement agencies from prohibitions that bar the use of window tinting materials that block more than 35 percent light transmittance. Removable tinting materials, people with documented photosensitive medical conditions, and light-blocking tinting

specifically designed to shade small children are already exempt for the ban. The bill would add law enforcement vehicles to the list of exemptions on Oct. 1, if enacted.

McDermott also proposed a bill (HB1242) that would establish a system of medical codes and conventions for reconciling medical claims for inmate health care services. The system would require the Department of Public Safety and Correctional Services to implement certain measures and automated health care billing systems, conduct audits and reviews of claims, and contract with appropriate vendors to implement the technology.

The system is expected to automate claims resolution and enhance cost containment for health care services in an attempt to order prevent errors or overbilling, according to the legislation.

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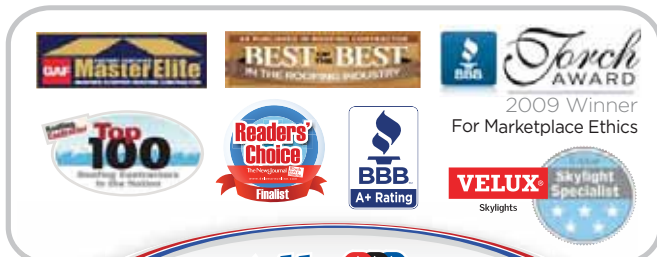
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Poultry business leaders seek sympathetic ear in Annapolis

Getting permit for new house in Maryland can take up to 10 months

By Sheila R. Cherry

Associate Editor

MARYLAND —When Bill Satterfield and his colleagues went to the Maryland General Assembly on Feb. 8, they went in part to alert members of the Eastern Shore delegation of disparities between how Maryland and Delaware implement stormwater management permitting and how that difference is suppressing the growth of the poultry industry in Maryland in comparison to similar businesses in Delaware.

Satterfield, executive director of the Delmarva Poultry Industry Inc., was joined in the industry's annual presentation to legislators by DPI President Jenny Rhodes, Vice President Keith Moore, and Immediate Past President Andrew McLean.

Satterfield said the industry representatives wanted to make the lawmakers aware of what Maryland's poultry growers were facing so the legislators might be prompted to exert their influence to help the industry.

DPI is the trade association that repre-

sents the broiler chicken industry from New Castle, Del., to Kent County, Md., to Accokeek, Va., according to Satterfield. He said the organization represents four of the Eastern Shore's major poultry producers (Amick Farms, Mountaire Farms, Perdue Farms, and Tyson Foods), and its 2,000 members include nearly 1,200 family farms, hundreds of business that supply products and services to the industry, and poultry company employees.

The issues the group hoped to clarify, according to Satterfield, were the impediments that arise, when Maryland farmers try to build new chicken houses, because of permitting rules designed to meet the Maryland Department of the Environment's stormwater management standards.

The MDE's permitting process requires chicken growers to provide detailed plans on how rainwater will be managed on the proposed sites for planned new chicken houses, Satterfield said.

The process in Maryland was supposed to be easy and simple, he added. Instead, his members have found the process tedious and complicated, according to Satterfield. By comparison, he said that the stormwater permitting implemented in Delaware is far less cumbersome.

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Delaware's process more streamlined than Maryland's

As a result, Satterfield reported that in 2012, Delaware farmers put 36 new chicken houses into service, while only 20 were put into service in the same period in Maryland. This year he said 64 chicken houses have been planned for development in Delaware, while 39 have been planned for Maryland.

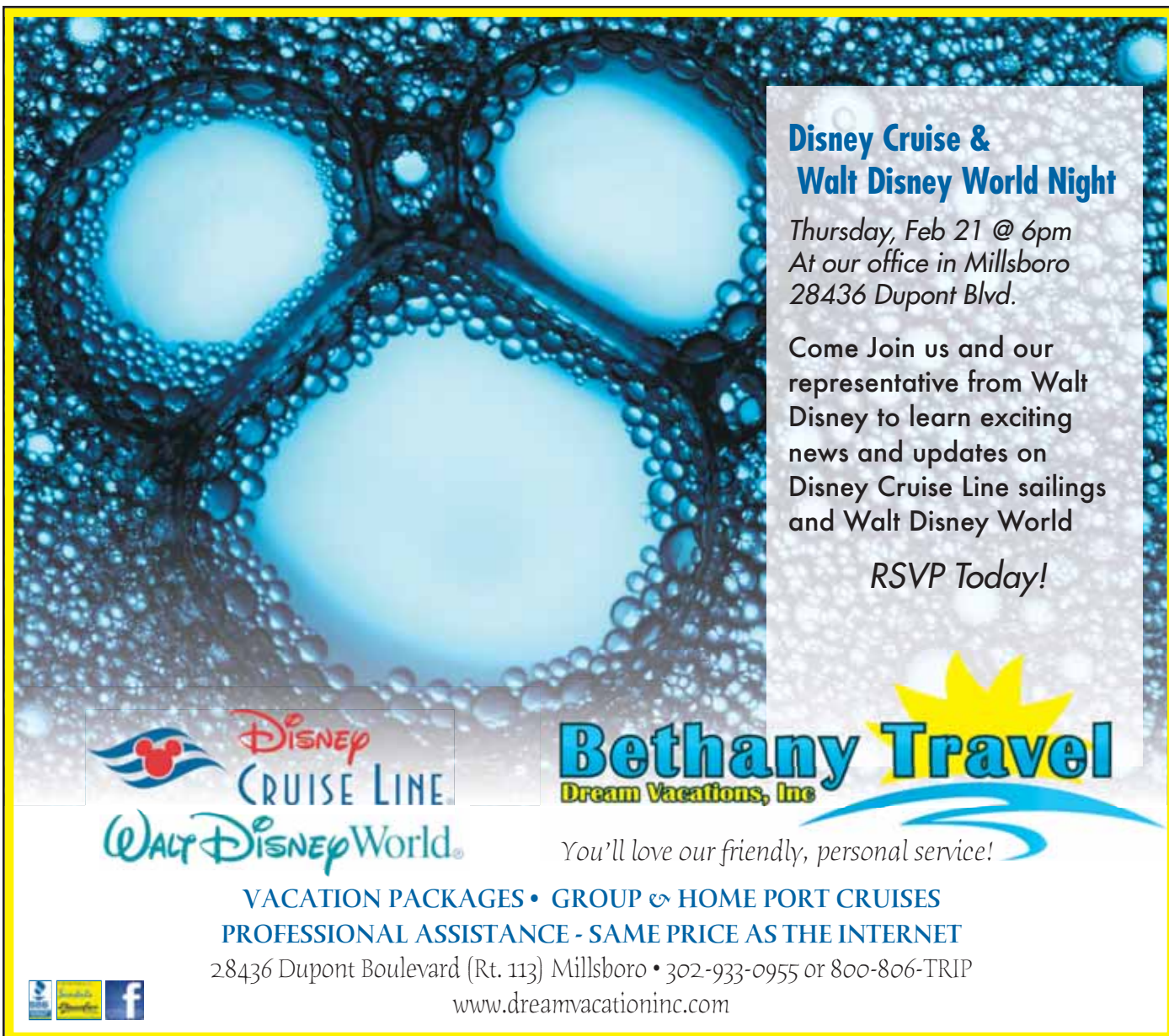
Poultry businesses in Maryland are complaining about the complexity of trying to create and finance the type of stormwater system the state wants, with no assurance that after the costs of meeting officials' requirements for site design, landscaping and dirt moving, the applications for permits will be granted.

This year, 64 chicken houses have been planned in Delaware, while 39 have been planned for Maryland

Satterfield said one of the differences between the two states was the length of time it takes to begin actual construction. The average time period for permitting in Delaware is 60 days, he said, when by comparison it can take nine to 10 months in Maryland.

The other difference between the two states, he said, was the extra costs that accrue as businesses try to meet the MDE's rules. Satterfield said the cost of bringing a new chicken house through the permitting process can be from 33-50 percent higher in Maryland than it would be in Delaware.

Consequently the Maryland poultry industry has commenced a campaign to educate legislators and regulators on the types of impediments the stormwater management program is creating for Maryland businesses. Satterfield said that last year industry representatives provided a tour of poultry farms for the Maryland Business and Economic Development Secretary in hopes that he might be willing to work with MDE officials on a way to streamline the process.



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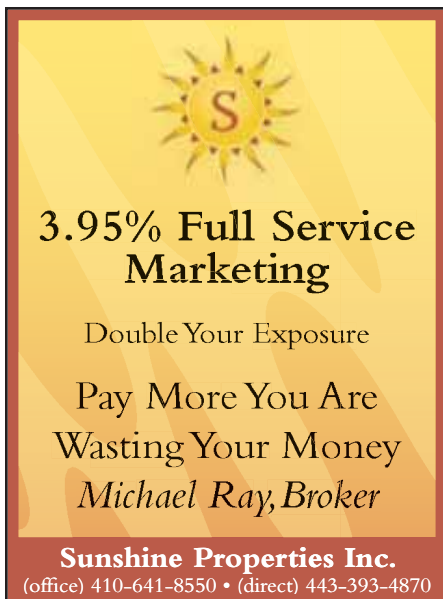
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POLICE BRIEFS

Fleeing from police

An 18-year-old Berlin man was charged with several traffic offenses Feb. 8 after reportedly trying to evade arrest.

An officer with the Berlin Police Department tried to stop a vehicle in the area of West Street and Buckingham Lane because of a traffic violation. But instead of stopping his vehicle, the driver, Gerald D. Timmons, tried to flee and eventually pulled behind a Evans Road residence, police said.

Police charged Timmons with numerous violations, including driving while impaired by alcohol, fleeing and eluding police and violating a license restriction.

Not his truck

Ocean City police charged Gregory Davis Sterling Jr., 30, of Pocomoke with alcoholic beverage intoxication/endangering others and being a rogue and vagabond after he got in a truck that was not his on Feb. 9.

A police officer had talked to Sterling at about 7 p.m. after getting a call about an intoxicated man who refused to leave a downtown bar. Sterling did not seem to know where he was or where he was

going. He said he had taken a bus from Salisbury to Ocean City.

About 10 minutes later, the officer saw Sterling again. This time, he opened the door of a Chevy pickup and got in. He told the police officer that the truck was his, but it is owned by Trimper Rides.

Marijuana distribution

Ocean City police charged Matthew Mitchell Poremski, 53, of Ocean City with possession of marijuana and possession of marijuana with the intent to distribute it after finding the drug in his unit on Feb. 7.

Members of the Narcotics Unit of the Ocean City Police Department had Poremski under surveillance when they saw him leave his 12th Street unit with another man at about 6:50 p.m. Police stopped the car in which they were riding about 10 minutes later. A search of Poremski revealed a bag of marijuana and \$132 in his front pants pocket.

The Narcotics Unit executed a search warrant on Poremski's unit and found six bags, each containing one gram (a little less than a quarter of a teaspoon) of marijuana. They also found a digital scale with pieces of marijuana in the kitchen.

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BUSINESS

BAYSIDE GAZETTE

WOC's 'Death by Chocolate' will make Sunday truly sweet

WEST OCEAN CITY — On Sunday, 20 West Ocean City merchants will serve an assortment of free, chocolate treats to those participating in the sixth annual Death By Chocolate event.

The game takes "players" to businesses throughout West Ocean City and provides them with an opportunity to patronize places they have not been to before. Nineteen shops and one restaurant are on the list to stop at this year.

"It was designed to create awareness for who your local merchants are. Even though some merchants participate year after year, it's a great opportunity for them to show the public their new offerings. It's also to remind people to support local merchants," said Jan Patterson-Hohman, organizer of Death By Chocolate with Louise Reardon, last week. The pair own CraZy LadyZ!, one of the businesses scheduled to take part in the event.

Death By Chocolate participants will visit CraZy LadyZ!'s new West Ocean City location during the Feb. 17 event. Reardon and Patterson-Hohman closed the Route 50 shop they operated for seven years last Wednesday. The business has moved into a larger space nearby.

Other Death By Chocolate participants featured again this year are Paws & Claws, Monkey's Trunk, Kendall Furniture, Wockenfuss, Blue Moon Boutique, Snap-dragon, OC Floor Gallery, Park Place Jewelers, The Green Room, Bliss Salon & Spa, Buddhas & Beads, Marlin Market, OC Organic, Hair Evolution, Ocean City Chamber of Commerce, Paddle House Outfitters and Sunset Grille.

This is the fourth year the Ocean City Chamber of Commerce will be a Death By Chocolate stop.

"This is a great opportunity to generate some business around West Ocean City in the off-season, as well as introduce people to businesses that they may have never been to before," said Melanie Pursel, executive director of the Greater Ocean City Chamber of Commerce. "It is a fun and creative event."

Todd and Jill Ferrante, owners of Park Place Jewelers, have participated in the festivities for five years. Todd Ferrante said the event is not only fun for those playing the game, but for merchants, as well.

"We see a lot of familiar faces and some people coming in that have never been here before," he said. "It's great for us to see



Presenting a basket filled with sweets at Wockenfuss during Death By Chocolate last year, from left, are Chris Butler, JoAnn Poremski, Kelly Colbert and Joe Dimairo.

some familiar faces and some new ones."

Ferrante said he likes to offer different sweets during the event. This year, visitors can snack on chocolate covered pretzels, malted milk balls and "chocolate crunch" (caramel popcorn drizzled with chocolate).

Special discounts on watches and diamond and gemstone rings, earrings and pendants will be offered that day at the store.

This will also be Bliss Salon & Spa's fifth time as a Death By Chocolate destination.

"We love it because it brings new interest and clients to the small businesses in the West Ocean City area," said Bliss owner Beth Miller. "We enjoy the spirit of the event and those that take the time to participate. [Stop by and] enjoy some chocolate and maybe even a cocktail."

Featured at Bliss will be a chocolate fountain with fruit and other snacks for dipping. A rum punch will also be served. Guests who make a purchase or book an

Continued on Page 16

FINANCE

Don't forget, that IRA contribution can generate tax benefits

As April 15 approaches, many taxpayers should make sure they contribute to their IRAs so as to receive the related tax benefit. If you do this, it's important to make sure that you satisfy the contribution eligibility requirements to avoid penalties. Following are some important reminders to help you to meet these requirements.



Chip Gordy,
MBA, CRPC

First, you must have eligible compensation to be qualified to contribute to an IRA. For IRA purposes, eligible compensation includes wages,

salaries, tips, commissions received as a percentage of sales and taxable alimony. If you are a sole proprietor or a partner in a partnership, your compensation is based on your net earnings from your business, reduced by contributions to any employer-sponsored plan that you adopt and any deduction allowed for 50 percent of your self-employment taxes.

Amounts you receive as interest, annuity, dividends, pension, earnings and profits from property investments, and any amount you exclude from your income are not considered eligible compensation for IRA purposes.

The maximum you may contribute to your IRA for 2012 is \$5,000 (\$5,500 for

2013). If you are at least age 50 by the end of the year to which the contribution applies, you may contribute an additional \$1,000 (referred to as a catch-up contribution). If your eligible compensation is less than the maximum, then you are eligible to contribute only up to the amount you earn for the year.

You may contribute to your Traditional IRA to age 70 1/2, but if you make a contribution in the year you reach age 70 1/2 or a later, the amount will be considered an excess contribution. If this happens, the amount must be taken out of your IRA by Oct. 15 of the following year in order to avoid penalties (Roth IRA contributions are different as there's no

age limit for their contributions).

The Contribution Deadline Tax-filing extensions do not apply to your IRA and or Roth IRA contributions. This means that your contributions must be deposited by your tax filing due date, which is usually April 15. Similar to your tax return, a postmark date is considered timely; therefore, if you send your contribution in the mail by April 15, you will have met the deadline, even if your financial institution receives the contribution after April 15.

Check to make sure you meet the eligibility requirements and that you received eligible compensation for the year before you make your IRA contribution.

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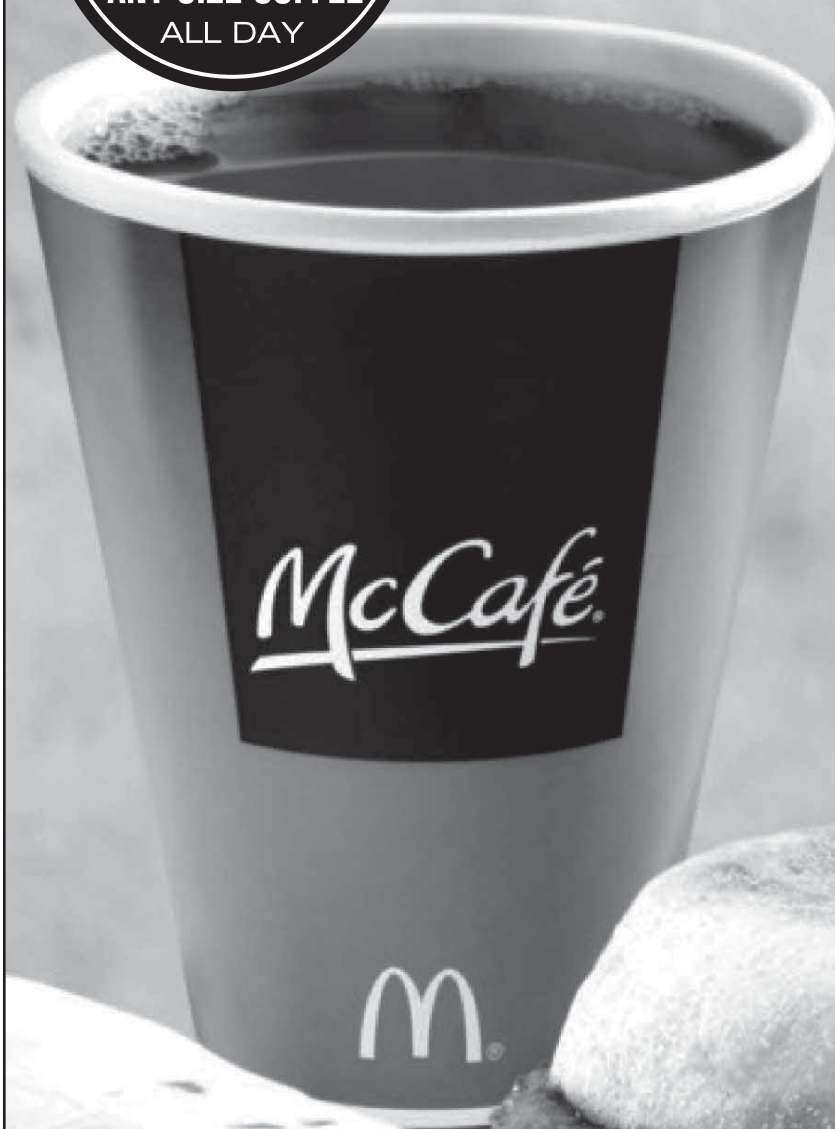



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Continued from Page 15

appointment on Sunday will receive a \$10 gift vouchers.

Kendall Furniture has been a participant since Death By Chocolate began six years ago. Owner Joe Kendall enjoys the festivities, although he said he does feel a little pressure to make the presentation better each year at his store.

"We'll have our special champagne toast, fresh raspberries, secret homemade crab dip, and of course, truffles and treats from Wockenfuss," he said. "It's a great day to open our store and relax. It's like our living room and we get to entertain. We see some of the same faces each year, which is awesome [and] also the new [visitors] are fun to meet. They can't believe the spread that Kendall puts out each year."

Marlin Market was a stop for the first time last year and co-owner Roberta Hennessy is looking forward to the 2013 event.

"It was great. A lot of people came through the store," she said. "I had a blast. It should be fun again this year."

Tabby Berkeridge, manager of 19th Hole Bar & Grille, which is connected to Marlin Market, will be making chocolates for the affair. A 15-percent discount off bottles of wine will be offered at the store on Sunday.

A Perfect Face Day Spa and Treasures by the Sea have joined the Death By Chocolate festivities.

"We are going to go all out here. The whole weekend will be very chocolaty and sweet, without all the calories," Carol Withers, owner of A Perfect Face, said last week. Besides offering free chocolate snacks, there will also be a drawing at the spa to win a 5-pound Hershey's candy bar.

Game cards and chocolate desserts will be available at each participating merchant. The theme of this year's event is "Going to the Zoo."

Participants may stop by the participating businesses between 10 a.m. and 5 p.m. and in any order; however, they must visit each place, find a zoo animal, and then have their card validated. Players will also have to solve a final clue.

Completed cards may be left at players' last stop or dropped off at Sunset Grille on Sunset Ave., where there will be food and drink specials available, including \$4 chocolate martinis. Those interested in dining at the restaurant should make reservations by calling 410-213-8110.

Cards must be turned in no later than 6 p.m. Players 18 and older with completed cards will be eligible for prizes awarded by each merchant. The drawing will take place at Sunset Grille at 7 p.m. Winners need not be present to claim their prize. They will be notified Monday.

It is free to participate in the game and to sample the chocolates at each business.

Last year, Patterson-Hohman said approximately 460 people turned in game cards, but many more took part in the festivities.

For more information about Death By Chocolate, call CraZy LadyZ! at 410-213-2085.

OPINION

BAYSIDE GAZETTE

Please send all letters to editor, notices, calendar events and community announcements to editor@baysidegazette.com by 5 p.m. Monday.

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EDITORIAL

Market and town work out 2013 plans

At the Berlin Council meeting this week, the vendor master of the Berlin Farmer's Market outlined its plans for the upcoming year, addressing most of the issues that the town had requested.

However, a core issue between the group and the town remains to be resolved. The market has only been given approval to remain at the north parking lot location until the end of the year. The farmers want to remain on Main Street after that deadline, and while town officials are sympathetic to that, they must find a long-term solution to the parking issue in that area, with little other option than to move the market to nearby Stephen Decatur Park.

For its part, the town has dropped the earlier request for the market to operate from both Stephen Decatur and Henry Parks, which was the source of contention this past fall. The town also has indicated it will provide a gazebo and adequate water and electricity to allow the market to expand, which the market cannot do in its current location. The town will also provide additional signs to help direct people to any new location.

A growing market is in the best interest of the community and will help resolve a couple of other issues that were raised last fall. Some concern had been expressed that the market had a shortage of actual Berlin farmers. Also troubling to some was the current market's policy to exclude some farmers who duplicate what is already being offered. The latter is something best left for consumers to control, rather than having their choices arbitrarily limited.

While the eventual move of the market may still be upsetting to the market vendors, the farmers should welcome it, as nearby new markets that have recently opened successfully prove there is a greater following for locally grown products than the current market can or does meet.

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LETTERS

Debt collection plan follows requirements

Editor,

I am writing to you as an individual reader of your newspaper and not as a representative of the Ocean Pines Association, Inc.

I believed that the acquisition of the Bayside Gazette by the prestigious Flag Publications, Inc. would have brought about an improvement in the quality and professionalism of your editorial content. However, after reading your editorial in the Feb. 7 Gazette newspaper, headlined "Publishing names a misguided idea," apparently I was mistaken. You have chosen inflammatory rhetoric over informed and factual journalism.

The recent decision by the board of directors for Ocean Pines Association, Inc., to publish the names of delinquent property owners was not a "misguided idea." It is a requirement found in the Ocean Pines Association, Inc.'s Charter, Declaration of Restrictions, and Resolution F-04.

You further imply that the publishing of the delinquent property owner's name is punitive and a means to "shame" the delinquent property owners. That is also with-

out factual basis. This action is an attempt to collect a legitimate debt in the manner prescribed by the before mentioned documents. Delinquent property owners' names become a matter of public record the minute the association files a lien against their property.

The Ocean Pines Association, Inc. has been patient to a fault. Had the Bayside Gazette done any homework at all it would have noted that the motion passed by the board is specifically targeting delinquent property owners who owe over \$5,000 and have made no genuine attempt to work with the association to retire their debt.

Martin D. Clarke
Ocean Pines

Protecting farms and environment as well

Editor,

Worcester County residents should take a hard look at the tax, wildlife and water quality ramifications of a county bill that would effectively increase the amount of allowable growth on our farms and forestland by 40 percent.

Proposed by a few of the Worcester County Commissioners in December, the bill

aims to increase the number of housing lots on agricultural and resource protection-zoned land (about 89 percent of Worcester County) from five lots to seven.

While the reasoning behind the increase is well-intentioned (to give farmers more lots to sell for development), the outcome will not only have a deleterious effect on agriculture in Worcester County, but will also increase the tax burden on existing property owners. This, combined with the serious impacts to water quality and wildlife, render the idea a bad one.

To employ a graceful exit strategy from this diversion, the county could help real farm families by creating interfamily transfers to keep farm families on the farm. With less than 2 percent of Worcester County residents being farmers, it makes little sense to take land out of production by sprawling larger subdivisions all over our farms and forestlands, especially when so many farmers rent land. To protect farming, we need to grow crops, not houses. Fragmentation from land subdivision is the biggest threat to farming and forestry.

County residents and professional planners were aware

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LETTERS

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of this when they wrote about agricultural zoning in Worcester County's Comprehensive Plan, "Only minor subdivisions of five lots or less are permitted. This restriction has been the strongest component of the county's agricultural preservation strategy, and it should be maintained as is."

This is why it seemed odd that during a Jan. 17 work session on the issue, the Worcester County Planning Commission didn't even look at the comp plan (their primary charter) when making a hurried recommendation to go to seven lots.

From 2005-2009, the public and planning staff used painstaking detail in making sure schools, public safety, transportation and bay health were top priorities in the county's comprehensive plan and rezoning. They prescribed growth away from flood plains, forests and near existing infrastructure, and up-zoned thousands of acres to allow for even more development. A new agricultural district (A-2) gave property owners more options.

After four years of painstaking work by professional planners and input by hundreds of citizens to create Worcester's updated comprehensive plan and zoning code, it seems hasty to push through such a move with little examination of the ramification on county taxes, water quality, and wildlife. Such a radical change of course for one of Mary-

land's most beautiful and biologically diverse counties should be more than just an afterthought.

Before acting, the Worcester County Commissioners should study on the effects of this upzoning. On average, in Maryland for every dollar levied in taxes, sprawl development costs taxpayers \$1.15-\$1.60, while land in agriculture and forestry demand only about 33-49 cents in services. For decades through forward-thinking planning and zoning, Worcester has boasted the lowest income tax rate and the second lowest property tax rate in Maryland. Examples of the effects of unchecked development on taxes abound from Glen Burnie to Wicomico County.

Moreover, an increase in development by 40 percent would render it impossible to reach our water quality goals for the bays, which are the foundation of our tourism and agricultural economy. Septic system pollution is a much bigger problem per acre than nutrient inputs from agriculture. Over the past five years, Worcester County has spent hundreds of thousands of taxpayer dollars every year to get existing septic systems off line.

It would be counterproductive to indiscriminately allow an estimated 2,000 more septic systems to pump hundreds of thousands of additional pounds of nutrients from human excrement into the bays behind Ocean City and Assateague.

Along with preserving agriculture, the loss of biodiversity and decline in water quality from unchecked growth in Maryland is staggering. The steep decline in bobwhite quail, meadowlarks, American woodcock and scores of other species of birds, amphibians, plants and mammals are linked directly to suburban sprawl.

However much quick profits and individual property owners come into play, the Worcester County Commissioners have a moral and political obligation to stick to the core planning principles in the comprehensive rezoning for the common good and future health of their community.

The days when lax zoning arbitrarily increased the property value for a few while simultaneously raising taxes and devaluing the property values of everyone else should be over.

Planning and zoning are the key factors in determining the future economic and environmental health of towns and counties. Without proper planning, all of our rights to clean bays and rivers, lower taxes, and public safety are diminished.

The best way to reduce the size of government and keep taxes low is to espouse planning that reduces sprawl, protects natural resources, and limits damage and loss of life from natural disasters.

For this reason, county residents should contact their commissioners or voice their concerns at a public hearing

on the matter Feb. 19, at 11 a.m. at the Worcester County Administrative Building in Snow Hill.

For those who say strong agricultural zoning is war on rural Maryland, the reality is quite the opposite. It is perhaps the only thing that can save it.

Dave Wilson, executive director
Maryland Coastal Bays Program

The Ravens Victory:
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Ellen C. O'Donoghue
Ocean City

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Daily 10-5pm	Bay Point Plantation, Rt. 589 to Gum Pt. Rd.	—	Estate Size Lots	From \$199,900	The Fritschle Group/Condo Realty
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Saturdays 11-4pm	Heron Harbour Sales Office, 120th St., Bayside	1BR/2/BR/3BR/4/BR+	Condo, Towns & SF	—	ERA Holiday/Nanette Pavier
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Saturday 10-3pm	6 86th Street, Ocean City	3BR/3.5BA	Single Family Home	\$775,000	The Fritschle Group/Wayne Phillips
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Saturday 1-3pm	The Quay, Unit #1508	3BR	Condo	—	Long & Foster/Mary McCracken
Sunday 2-5pm	314 North Heron Gull Court	5BR/3.5BA	Single Family Home	\$995,000	Coldwell Banker/Nancy Reither
Sunday 11-2pm	Bridge Point I, Unit 220, end of Rusty Anchor Rd.	2BR/2BA	Condo	\$245,000	Coldwell Banker/Doug Covert
Sunday 12-3pm	132 Newport Bay Dr., Ocean City	4BR/3BA	Single Family Home	\$549,900	Sheppard Realty/Jenny Sheppard
Sundays 11-4pm	Harbour Island Sales Office, 14th St & Bayside	2 & 3BR/2 & 3.5BA	Condo, Town, Slips	From \$300,000	ERA Holiday RE/Sherry Dare
Sundays 11-4pm	Heron Harbour Sales Office, 120th St., Bayside	1BR/2/BR3BR/4/BR+	Condo, Towns & SF	—	ERA Holiday/Nanette Pavier

FINANCE

Check your IRA eligibility now

Continued from Page 15

To be sure that your contribution was deposited for the right tax year, check your account statement for the month the amount is deposited. Financial institutions are more likely to correct errors if they're detected early. And most importantly, check with your tax and financial professional for assistance with determining whether contributing to your IRA is a

good financial decision for you.

— *Chip Gordy, MBA, CRPC is a financial advisor with Coastal Wealth Management, LLC, located at 10441 Racetrack Road, Unit 1, in Berlin, who specializes in wealth and retirement planning. He can be reached at 410-208-4545 or chip@coastalwealthmgmt.com.*

AGH sets chronic disease classes

BERLIN — Atlantic General Hospital will be conducting a chronic disease self-management class for six weeks at the Selbyville, Del. Library beginning March 6.

The model for this program comes out of Stanford School of Medicine and is designed to help people with chronic conditions (or those who have a loved one with a chronic condition) live a better life.

The workshop is facilitated by two specially trained leaders. Examples of chronic conditions may include diabetes, arthritis, migraine headaches, back pain, heart disease or any conditions that may hinder you from living the life you desire. If you have any condition that alters your daily living in any way you could benefit from this workshop.

Topics will include how to manage problems such as frustration, fatigue, pain and isolation; how to communicate effectively with family, friends and healthcare professionals, nutrition and how it effects our quality of life, exercise to improve strength, flexibility and endurance; how to make daily tasks easier; and how to get more out of life, appropriate use of medications, and how to evaluate new treatment options.

The workshop is six classes of two-and-a-half hours each and will meet each Wednesday, March 6 through April 10, from 10 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. The class is free and open to all. Participants must begin the class with Session 1 or 2. To register, call Laura at 410-629-6820.



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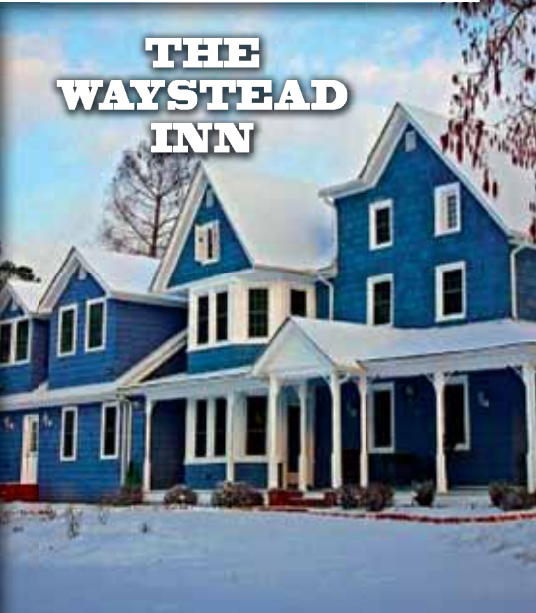
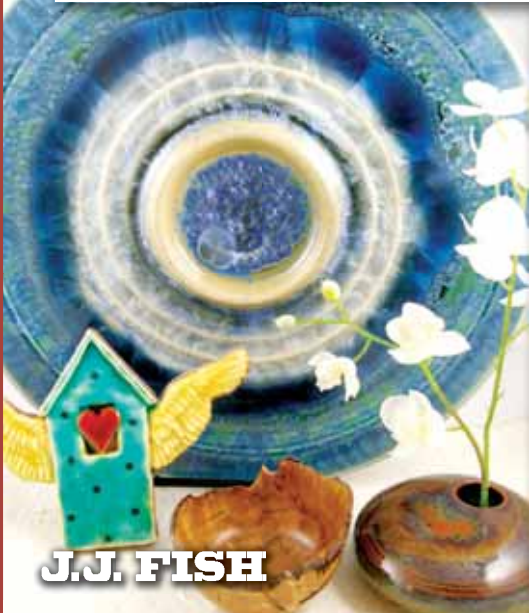
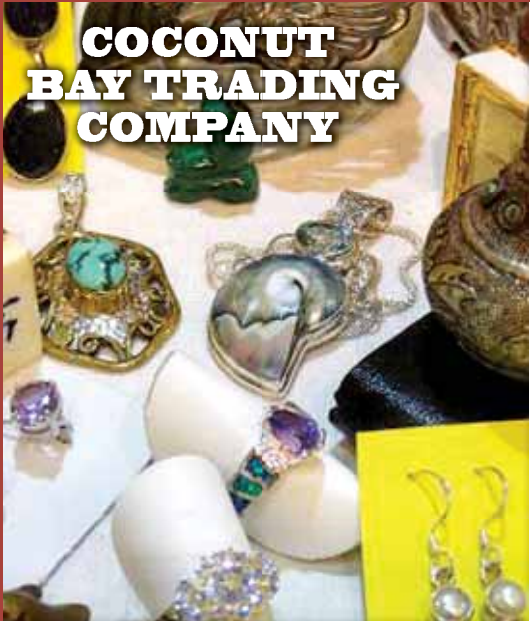
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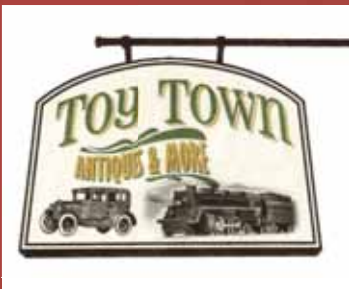
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O'Malley seeks job training grants

By Alexander Pyles

The Daily Record Newswire

MARYLAND — Industries seeking skilled workers would compete for job training grants if an administration bill clears the General Assembly this year.

The proposed Employment Advancement Right Now program would bring together local government, nonprofits and educational institutions to offer workforce training for jobs in areas such as manufacturing, construction, health care and cybersecurity.

"This is really an effort that is driven by employers who say they have jobs that are open, but they need more employees with the skills to fill them," Gov. Martin O'Malley told members of the Senate Finance Committee last Thursday.

The program, which would be run by the state Department of Labor, Licensing and Regulation in conjunction with the Department of Business and Economic Development and Governor's Workforce Investment Board, would be paid for through \$2.5 million earmarked in O'Malley's \$37.3 billion budget proposal.

The Maryland Chamber of Commerce supports the legislation because it would prevent businesses in need of a highly skilled workforce from leaving Maryland.

In a hearing last Thursday, the bill appeared to receive bipartisan support from the Senate Finance Committee.

The grants would be awarded to strategic industry partnerships — regional

groups of businesses, nonprofits, educational institutions and local governments — based on an application that would provide evidence of a shortage of skilled workers within a targeted industry. The partnerships would have to provide a collaborative plan to educate those workers.

Labor Secretary Leonard J. Howie III said the department would focus also on partnerships that focused on industries that would continue to provide jobs for years to come.

"Industry has defined what skills gaps are in existence, and this is an initiative that is designed to close those skill gaps with effective training and education programs," Howie said. "We are focusing on sustainability."

The program would be complementary to a number of tax credits O'Malley has enacted or expanded in recent years, including a credit for biotechnology companies and a new credit he's proposed this year for cybersecurity firms.

"Too many of the new jobs being created in our economy go unfilled," O'Malley said. "The EARN bill's purpose is to bridge that gap between the jobs that are available and the skills that our people have."

Once partnerships are selected for grant awards, the Labor Department, in turn, would direct people claiming unemployment toward those partnerships to receive training in high-need job areas. DBED's focus will be marketing the program, including launching a new Web site.

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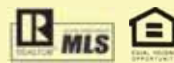
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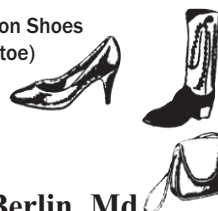
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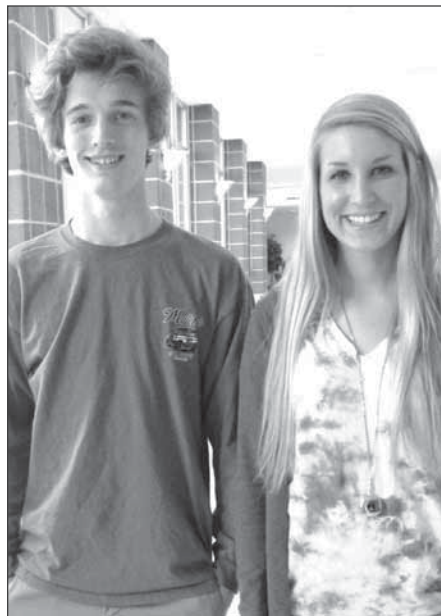
SHEILA R. CHERRY/BAYSIDE GAZETTE

Kayla Heinz and Haley Trice, winners of Stephen Decatur High School's student talent show on Feb. 6, a percussion routine using decorative foil cups as taps and drums accompaniment to clapping with a vocal duet, to a song by "Lulu and the Lampshades."



SHEILA R. CHERRY/BAYSIDE GAZETTE

A crowd-pleasing "drum battle" won Josiah Oswald, a sophomore, and Gianna Spedale, a junior, the second-place award at SDHS's Feb. 6 talent show.



SHEILA R. CHERRY/BAYSIDE GAZETTE

Seniors Jessi Maddy and Logan Simpson placed third in SDHS's talent show, the only traditional guitar and vocal group to make it to the top three. They performed a medley of pop and original songs.

Decatur competition uncovers abundant talent

Student talent show has some surprises, as well as unique performances

By Sheila R. Cherry
Associate Editor

BERLIN — Kayla Heinz and Haley Trice, winners of Stephen Decatur High School's student talent show on Feb. 6, were "hands down" the most unusual act in the mix of competing performers.

Heinz and Trice performed a light and clever percussion routine using decorative foil cups as taps and drums accompaniment to clapping with a vocal duet. The two neighbors and volleyball teammates said they were inspired by a song by Lulu and the Lampshades that was performed in the movie "Pitch Perfect," which was about ... a music competition.

Trice said the sophomore pair loved the energy of the movie and thought the unique routine "looked like a lot of fun." They revamped the song as a duet, rather than as a solo as depicted in the film.

Heinz said the routine required two months of practice: one to get the cup/clap percussions synchronized, and, another to fine-tune their harmony.

Entering the talent competition was a lark, according to the two, who said they were urged on by their other volleyball teammates. Nevertheless, they were the most different of the night's performers and not only won the top

award, but also a spot the following morning to perform their routine on FM 98.1 with DJ Host Big Al Reno.

They said they had no particular aspirations to pursue musical careers. The girls just wanted to have fun.

Taking the second place prize was an act that was essentially a competition within a competition. As the curtains framed Josiah Oswald and Gianna Spedale, seated at face-to-face drum sets, their act was introduced as a drum battle.

Both are members of the high school band and have apparently honed their skills in band lab. Spedale said they had no particular routine for the jam session, which they said came about through a conversation on Facebook. "We just played what we felt," she said.

Oswald, a sophomore who started learning the drums last year, also plays cello, trumpet and is learning the piano. He said he wants to pursue music as a profession and is inspired by master drummer Dennis Chambers. Oswald said he is interested in attending the music program at Washington College in Chestertown.

Spedale, a junior who moved to the Eastern Shore from New York 10 years ago, said she also plays the clarinet and has played the drums all three of her high school years. She said she wants to pursue a professional music career and would like to attend either the Musicians Institute in Hollywood, Calif. or the Berklee College of Music in Boston. She said she is inspired by the music of Kiss drummer Eric Carr.

Spedale's speed and Oswald's power

were a definite crowd-pleasing routine and won several rounds of applause throughout their performance. But Oswald conceded that Spedale was the clear winner of their informal match. Actually the audience was, because the talented musicians laid down serious rock band or jazz club quality stick work.

Seniors Jessi Maddy and Logan Simpson were the only traditional guitar and vocal group to make the final cut, coming in as third-place winners in the talent show. Their act shone through with Maddy's clear, well delivered vocals, which she complemented with tambourine, and Simpson's vocals and guitar work.

The two talent show veterans performed a duet medley of "Out Loud" by Dispatch, "Sunday Morning," by Maroon Five, and an original segue between the two songs that was written by Simpson.

Maddy said she has been accepted to attend Towson University next year, although she is still deciding on a major. She said she might major in music, but is interested using it as a component for a career in occupational therapy.

Logan said he was also considering a career in the music industry, but he did not "want to put a name to it yet." While his comments suggested that he was more interested in the business end of the music industry, Logan showed that he has the chops for the stage when he also performed as front man for another group in the competition, the band "Lazy Fish."

School's own 'drama queen' has write stuff

Gwen Freeman Lehman says acting helps in life

By Sheila R. Cherry
Associate Editor

BERLIN — Just as Chicago's "Second City" has helped populate the genre of stand-up comedy and the phrase "Stanislavski Method" is known by Broadway-bound actors, entertainment and media professionals who hail from the Eastern Shore tend to know of what and whom you are speaking when the names Gwendolyn Freeman Lehman and Stephen Decatur High School's drama program are mentioned.

Lehman, originally from Williamsport, Md., frequently visited the Eastern Shore with classmates who lived here during her years at Hood College. After graduation, Lehman taught advanced English classes at Hagerstown High School, but kept her social connections to the Shore, including when she married an Ocean City native, who worked in the Washington, D.C. area.

It wasn't too much of a stretch for her when an acquaintance, the late Thelma Connor recruited her to teach another passion of hers, psychology, at Stephen Decatur in 1969. But the principal at the time, Gladys Burbage, had a more immediate need — a freshman class remedial English teacher.

So from Hagerstown's school system, where Lehman said she taught some of the state's best students, she found herself in Worcester County teaching kids who had just passed eighth grade with little or no reading skills. "It was a big cultural shift," she said.

Lehman said she struggled in the assignment and at one point was not sure she wanted to stay.

"I had always worked and lived with excellent students. I wasn't prepared for the job of having to teach a (high school) kid how to read."

Lehman credited Burbage with motivating her to try to make a go it.

"She was the kind of boss who made you want to be the best at your job, because you wanted her to be proud of you," she said.

In 1971, when two teachers who produced the school's two annual theater productions moved away, it opened an opportunity for Lehman, a young teacher needing more of an intellectual

Continued on Page 28

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Gwendolyn Freeman Lehman

Drama program grew out of need for challenge

Continued from Page 26

challenge. Lehman asked Burbage to let her and two other young teachers, Susan Bertin Costanzo and Joanne Cathell, start an acting arts program and Burbage agreed.

Drama provided a creative outlet and a totally different way of teaching, Lehman said.

Previously, the school was producing

two performances a year, she said, as fundraisers.

She chuckled at what she called her "brass" when she agreed to take on the drama program — under two conditions: 1) that the program be funded as a stand-alone academic-based program that could be used to teach public speaking, poise and acting, and, 2) that she would be able to teach it as a class, writing the curriculum, not oversee it as a club, with performances limited to senior or junior class plays.

Burbage had faith in the teachers she hired and allowed them to develop programs on their own, Lehman said. "That made the difference."

So Lehman continued to teach remedial English and admits now that she eventually came to enjoy the spiritedness of the students and the challenge of finding ways of making an English curriculum relevant to students who were struggling with the subject.

She said one technique that proved effective was complementing English literature reading assignments with movies, such as Dickens' "Tale of Two Cities," "Oliver Twist," and "David Copperfield." It worked on some level, she said.

She also taught advanced placement psychology, introduction to theater and theater production.

"I never wanted my kids to feel limited by where they went to school," she said.

Besides her interest in academics,

Lehman said she always wanted to be a writer and also had a profound interest in psychology. She has written several of the plays the program has produced. She has also served as a volunteer for women, youth and family counseling programs.

Over the course of her 44 years of teaching, Lehman has taught from 4,000 to 5,000 students, she said. She lists name after name of former students who came out of the Stephen Decatur Acting Arts Program to eventually work in entertainment, communications or media.

Among them were Jennifer Hope Wills, an actress with theatrical credits that include performances on Broadway, Erica Cramer Messer, a writer for the hit drama "Criminal Minds," and John Chester, director of the documentary "Rock Prophecies." She said Chester is fond of calling her a "springboard" for performance careers.

The idea for Stephen Decatur's courtyard Shakespeare Theater developed during the year Lehman was assigned 44 students, including several high-spirited boys, who had no interest in performing.

But her classroom was near the courtyard, which at the time was frequently ignored. She said as she was passing by it one day she had the thought it might make a good place for a theater. Lehman made a proposal to the principal and who posed it to the Board of Education. The board approved the project, but with conditions that the students would have cre-

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'You have to put on a persona'

ate and fund the project on their own.

Lehman said the kids were enthused. They secured the permits, did the fundraising and solicited donations, such as building supplies from the local Adkins Lumber company.

During the spring of 1996, the troupe produced its first courtyard performance, of "A Midsummer Night's Dream."

Lehman said every year her department performs children's theater – this is the 36th year. The department gives 20 performances to audiences from Wicomico, Somerset and Worcester Counties, 10,000 people per year, she said.

The early spring production has often

been from an original script or well-known comedy from American, British or French writers. In May, the production is Shakespeare, followed by a Halloween production in October and a December performance the Wednesday after Thanksgiving.

Lehman seemed quite content having successfully merged her passions of English, drama and psychology. Part of the importance of an acting arts curriculum, Lehman said, is because, "In so many realms of your life, you have to put on a persona," whether for example, public speaking, legal deliberations or just as a self-confidence builder.

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By Lisa Capitelli

Assistant Editor/Ocean City Today

OCEAN CITY — With more than a month of winter remaining, the excitement of summer and thoughts of warm, sunny weather will flow throughout the Ocean City convention center this weekend, as boating enthusiasts preview recreational vessels and accessories on display during the 30th annual Seaside Boat Show.

The three-day show, which draws an annual attendance of 15,000 to 18,000 guests, according to Chairman Charlie Dorman, is sponsored by the Ocean City/Berlin Optimist Club.

This year, Dorman said he expects a larger turnout because the Harrisburg, Pa. show, held the same time as the Ocean City event each year, was cancelled.

"People who like to go to these shows can come to Ocean City," he said.

The 40th Street venue will be filled to capacity, as the event will feature hundreds of boats and approximately 150 exhibitors. Cruisers, sportsfishing boats

and performance vessels, among others, will be on display and visitors will have an opportunity to board many of them.

Anything that is boat-related will be available during the show, and special sales and discounts will be offered by the exhibitors, Dorman said.

Electronics and gadgets, propellers, motors, canvas tops, boatlifts, boat docks and trailers, marine canvas covers, fishing tackle and boating magazines will be featured. In addition, information on boat insurance, financing and safety programs will be available.

Those not in the market to purchase a boat or boating accessories will also find items of interest, as vendors will showcase jewelry, baked goods, clothing, candles, spas, bath fixtures, artwork, crafts and personalized gifts.

"There's a little bit of everything at the show," Dorman said. "Anything boat related will be available; plus, we've got a lot of crafts and artists. There's something for everybody."

A variety of organizations, including Believe in Tomorrow, Delaware State Parks, Delmarva Cat Connection, Marine Corp League, U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary, Ocean City/Berlin Optimist Club, OC Reef Foundation, Ocean City Power Squadron and Worcester County 4-H Club, will also be on hand.



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Optimists' show tries to cater to all members of family

While the event is geared toward fishermen and recreational boaters, Dorman said the show caters to each member of the family. Proceeds will benefit youth programs within the community, which is why the event is billed "the show that works for kids."

Funds generated help support the Optimist Club's Youth ID program. This year, Dorman said, the club finger-printed and video-taped more than 2,000 students in Worcester County schools.

Local scouts, Little League organizations and the Ocean City and Ocean Pines recreation departments, among others, also benefit from the show.

"Ocean City Recreation and Parks Department is so thankful for the support from the OC/Berlin Optimists for youth recreation programs. Their donations helps to offset costs of the programs, which allows us to keep our programs as affordable as possible for families," said Kate Gaddis, OCRPD recreation superintendent. "The work the Optimists do to support the youth in this community is outstanding and appreciated by so many."

There will again be a \$100,000 drawing in the Optimist Club's scholarship lottery. Tickets may be purchased at the convention center. Three prizes will be awarded on Sunday. The first-place prize is \$75,000. A \$15,000 and \$10,000 prize will also be awarded.

Each year, the local Optimist Club, which shares the International Optimist Club's motto, "a friend of the youth," raises funds to donate to area high school seniors through college scholarships. Over the years, more than of \$1.5 million in college scholarships has been awarded to Worcester County graduates. Through the club's program, approximately 280 students have received college scholarships.

Scott and Mary McCurdy of North Bay Marine in Selbyville, Del., have again donated an 18-foot Sweetwater Pontoon boat with a 40-HP Honda motor. Everyone who pays admission into the show will be entered into the drawing. The boat will be given away on Sunday at the conclusion of the event.

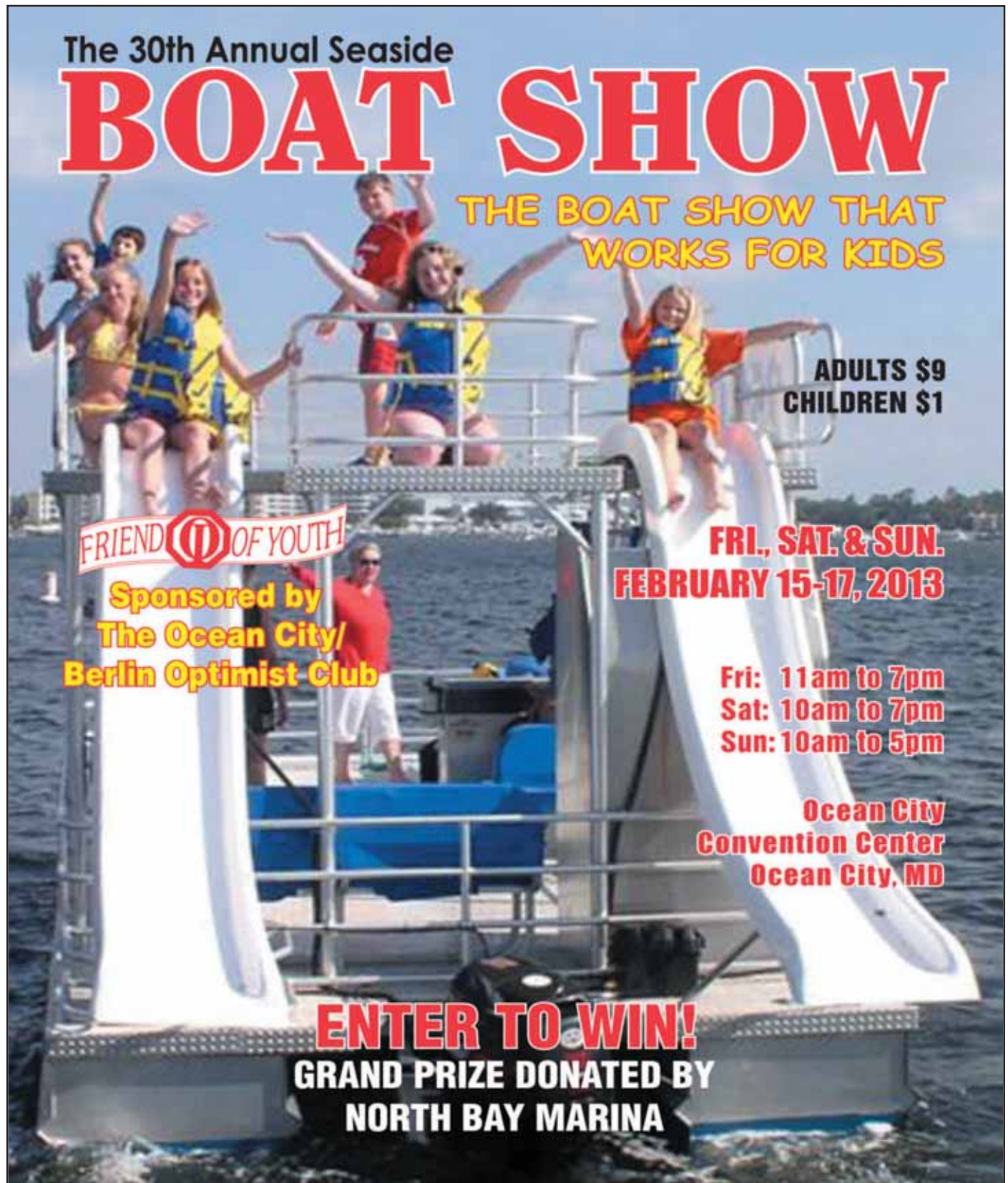
Show hours are Friday, 11 a.m. to 7 p.m.; Saturday, 10 a.m. to 7 p.m.; and Sunday, 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. Daily admission costs \$9 for adults and \$1 for children. A weekend pass is available for \$15. For more information, visit www.ocboatshow.com.

WHAT: 30th annual Seaside Boat Show

WHERE: Ocean City convention center, 40th Street

WHEN: Friday, 11 a.m. to 7 p.m.; Saturday, 10 a.m. to 7 p.m. and Sunday, 11 a.m. to 5 p.m.

COST: Adult tickets cost \$9, children \$1. Weekend pass, \$15.



The 30th Annual Seaside
BOAT SHOW
THE BOAT SHOW THAT WORKS FOR KIDS

**ADULTS \$9
CHILDREN \$1**

**FRI., SAT. & SUN.
FEBRUARY 15-17, 2013**

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Sat: 10am to 7pm
Sun: 10am to 5pm**

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Convention Center
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Feb. 14 Only

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ENCHILADAS TAPATIAS \$7.99
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CALENDAR

BAYSIDE GAZETTE

Please send calendar items to editor@baysidegazette.com by 5 p.m. Monday to make sure your events are printed. All community-related activities will be published at no charge.

ONGOING EVENTS

BINGO NIGHT

American Legion Post 166, 2308 Philadelphia Ave., in Ocean City, every Thursday, year round. Doors open at 5:30 p.m., games start at 7 p.m. Food available. Open to the public. Info: 410-289-3166.

SQUARE DANCING

Wednesdays
Ocean Pines Community Center, 7:15-9:15 p.m. All are welcome. For more info call 410-208-6777.

SHEPHERD'S NOOK THRIFT SHOP

Wednesdays, Thursdays, Fridays, and Saturdays
Shepherd's Nook Thrift Shop open 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Community Church, Rt. 589, Racetrack Road, Ocean Pines. Accepting donations of gently worn clothes and small household items.

DIAKONIA FURNITURE CENTER

Wednesday thru Saturday, 10 am-4 pm, 'Used to be Mine' Furniture Center. Corner of Rte 611 and Sunset Ave. 410-213-0243.

PINE'EER CRAFT & GIFT SHOP

Saturdays and Sundays
Pineeer Craft and Gift shop open 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. White Horse Park, Ocean Pines. Handcrafted items created by members.

BUILDING MATERIALS SALE

Every first & third Saturday
Habitat for Humanity, 310 E. Market St., Snow Hill, 8 a.m. to noon. Building materials, appliances, doors, windows, cabinets, vanities, fixtures, furniture and more. Selection and prices vary depending on inventory. Proceeds fund the Flower Street, Berlin house construction.

STORY TIME FOR CHILDREN AGES 3-5

Ocean Pines library, 11107 Cathell Road, 10:30 a.m. Stories, rhymes, finger plays, music and crafts. Info: 410-208-4014.

KIWANIS CLUB

Wednesdays
Meeting 7:45 a.m. at the Ocean Pines Community Hall, except for third Wednesday which meets at The Woodlands in Ocean Pines. Meeting at 5:30 p.m., dinner at 6 p.m. For more info: 410-641-7330.

DELMARVA CHORUS

Mondays
The Delmarva Chorus under the direction of Carol Ludwig meets 7-9 p.m. at the Ocean Pines Community Center. Women interested in learning and singing in a barbershop format are welcome. For more information call 410-208-4171.

SALTWATER SPORTFISHERS

Atlantic Coast Chapter of the Maryland Saltwater Sportfishing Association meets on the fourth Tuesday of the every month except for July, August and December at the Ocean City Lions Club, Airport Road, West Ocean City, 7:30 p.m.

DEMOCRATIC WOMEN

Democratic Women of Worcester County meets 9:30 a.m. for coffee followed by a meeting at 10 a.m., the third Monday of the month at the Ocean Pines Community Center. Guests and new members welcome.

PANCAKE BREAKFAST

Saturdays
VFW, Post 8296, 104 66th St., bayside in Ocean City, 8-11 a.m. A \$5 donation for all-you-can-eat pancakes or 2-2-2, two eggs, two pancakes and two bacon, includes coffee and juice. Bloody Marys cost \$3. Info: 410-524-8196.

SANCTIONED BRIDGE

Mondays: noon
Tuesdays: 10 a.m.
Weekly open duplicate Bridge games. Ocean Pines Community Center. Cost is \$5, special games \$6. 1 p.m. on the third Sunday of every month is Swiss Teams. Partners guaranteed. Info: Felicia Daly, 410-208-1272, Pat Kanz, 410-641-8071.

FRIDAY NIGHT BINGO

Fridays
Knights of Columbus, 9901 Coastal Highway (rear of St. Luke's Church) in Ocean City. Doors open at 5 p.m. and games begin at 6:30 p.m. Refreshments for sale. Info: 410-524-7994.

BEACH SINGLES

Thursdays
Beach Singles 45-Plus meets for happy hour at Clarion Hotel, 10100 Coastal Highway in Ocean City, 4-7 p.m. Info: Arlene, 302-436-9577; Kate, 410-524-0649; or www.beachsingles.org.

BERLIN FARMERS' MARKET

Fridays, 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.
On the corner of West and Main streets. Fresh produce, eggs, garden plants, fresh cut flowers, seafood, meat and breads.

TACO NIGHT

Thursdays
VFW Post 8296, 66th Street, Ocean City. Benefits veterans. Three tacos and a Corona plus dessert, \$8 per person.

BREAKFAST

Knights of Columbus #9053, every second and fourth Sunday, 9 a.m. to noon.
\$8 per person, half price for 12 and younger. 9901 Coastal Highway,



IT'S TIME TO LEARN ABOUT TIME!

Juliana Bobik's third grade students at Showell Elementary School created analog watches in order to practice telling time with one another. Kenny Berry is shown reading a friend's watch, and writing the time shown on a time collection sheet.

SUBMITTED PHOTO /BAYSIDE GAZETTE

Ocean City, rear St. Luke's Church. Info: 410-524-7994.

SI BOC GROUP

Second Tuesday of every month, the Woodlands in South Ocean Pines, 6 p.m. dinner, social time meeting begins 6:30 p.m. Info: President Marty Cropper, 410-213-1592.

LIFE AFTER LOSS

Non-denominational support group will meet 11 a.m. on the second and fourth Tuesday of each month at The Community Church at Ocean Pines, room 38 in the Thomas McKelvey Family Life Center. Info: 410-641-5433.

AARP

Ocean City AARP Chapter 1917 meets at the Elks Lodge, 138th Street and Sinexpuent Avenue, 9:30 a.m., on the second Thursday of the month (January, June, October and November)

SURVIVORS OF SUICIDE

Meets the third Wednesday of every month 6 p.m. at the Worcester County Health De-

partment, 9730 Healthway Drive, Berlin (adjacent to Atlantic General Hospital). Open to anyone who has lost a friend or loved one to suicide. Hosted by a survivor and a licensed social worker. Free of charge. Info: 410-629-0164 or www.jessesaddle.org

WEEKLY SALE

Fridays
Stevenson United Methodist Church Thrift Shop, 5 Stevenson Lane, Berlin, 10:30 a.m. to 2 p.m..

BEREAVEMENT SUPPORT GROUP

Atlantic General Hospital, chapel, 9733 Healthway Drive in Berlin, 7-8 p.m. The group gathers the fourth Wednesday of each month. Pre-registration is not necessary. Info: Pastoral Care Services, 410-641-9725 or gmansell@atlanticgeneral.org.

DELMARVA HAND DANCING CLUB

Meets every Wednesday at Skyline Bar & Grille at The Fenwick Inn, 138th Street and Coastal Highway in Ocean City. Beginner and intermediate lessons, 5:30-6:30 p.m., followed by

dancing until 9 p.m. Jitterbug, swing, cha-cha to the sounds of the '50s, '60s and Carolina beach music. All are welcome. Discounted food and drink prices. Info: 302-337-3638.

TAKE OFF POUNDS SENSIBLY

Mondays
Berlin group No. 169, Atlantic General Hospital, conference room 2, 9733 Healthway Drive in Berlin, 5-6:30 p.m. TOPS is a support and educational group promoting weight loss and healthy lifestyle. It meets weekly. Info: Edna Berkey, 410-251-2083.

ELKS BINGO

Every Wednesday at Ocean City Elks Lodge 2645, 138th Street across from Fenwick Inn. Doors open at 5:30 p.m., games start 6:30 p.m. A \$1,000 jackpot available, food, snacks and non-alcoholic beverages. No one under 18 years allowed in the hall during bingo. Info: 410-250-2645.

FIRESIDE CHAT

Berlin library, 220 N. Main St., 3 p.m. Monthly book discussion.

Take a book you've enjoyed or one that you want to discuss. Get ideas for new authors to try. Free and open to the public. Info: 410-641-0650.

THURSDAY, FEB. 14

OCEAN PINES GARDEN CLUB MEETING

Ocean Pines Community Center, 235 Ocean Parkway. 10 a.m. Guest will speak on health and wellness. New members welcome.

SOUP SALE

Atlantic United Methodist Church, 105 Fourth St., in Ocean City, 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. Fresh, homemade hot soups and biscuits and desserts. Carry-out available. Info: 410-289-7430.

WRITING WITH RUTH

Ocean City library, 10003 Coastal Highway, 1-3 p.m. Monthly gathering of local writers who share their independent work (poems, essays, memoirs, prose, etc.) and receive encouragement. *Continued on Page 34*

CALENDAR

Continued from Page 33
aging feedback from fellow participants. All writers welcome. Info: 410-524-1818.

BINGO

American Legion Post 166, 2308 Philadelphia Ave., in Ocean City, every Thursday, year round. Doors open at 5:30 p.m., games start at 7 p.m. Food available. Open to the public. Info: 410-289-3166.

OC AARP 1917 GENERAL MEETING

Knights of Columbus, 9901 Coastal Highway (rear of St. Luke's Church) in Ocean City, 9:30 a.m. Speakers Karen Turner of the Bank of Delmarva and Veronica Nhan-Nock from Seaford Federal Union will talk about the differences between banks and credit unions. All persons age 50 and older are welcome. Info: aarp1917.org or 410-352-5748.

FRIDAY, FEB. 15

SEASIDE BOAT SHOW

Ocean City convention center, 4001 Coastal Highway, 11 a.m. to 7 p.m. Featuring more than 350 boats, 150 exhibitors and 50 boat dealers. Door prizes donated by North Bay Marine. Each person who purchases a show admission has a chance to win a boat. Ocean City/Berlin Optimist Club will sponsor a scholarship lottery with \$100,000 in prizes. Chances cost \$100; drawing at 5 p.m. Sunday. Admission costs \$9 for adults and \$1 for children. Weekend passes available for \$15. Info: cdorman1@yahoo.com or www.ocboatshow.com.

BOOK SIGNING

High Stakes Bar and Grill, 5799 Lighthouse Cove, Route 54, Fenwick Island, Del., 5-7 p.m. Local author, Carolyn Outlaw Kuhn, has written her first book, "Suffering in Silence." Also available in e-book and soon-to-be on Kindle at Amazon.com, barnesandnoble.com or www.outskirtspress.com/sufferinginsilence. Portion of proceeds benefits S.O.A.R., Selbyville, Del. Info: 410-487-1183.

BERLIN BOOK OF THE MONTH

Berlin library, 220 N. Main St., 1 p.m. Group will discuss "Every Last One" by Anna Quindlen. A novel about facing every last one of the things we fear the most, about finding ways to navigate a road we never intended to travel. All are welcome. Info: 410-641-0650.

BINGO

Knights of Columbus, 9901 Coastal Highway (rear of St. Luke's Church) in Ocean City. Doors open at 5 p.m. and games begin at 6:30 p.m. Refreshments for sale. Info: 410-524-7994.

YOUTH VALENTINE'S DAY DANCE

Stevenson United Methodist Church, 123 N. Main St., Berlin, 6:30-8:30 p.m. Youth in grades first through sixth welcome for dancing, games and snacks. Children 6 and younger must be accompanied by a parent. Info: Kathy Davis, 443-235-6761 or Nanci Savage, 410-251-7234.

PRESIDENTS DAY WEEKEND CRAFT SHOW

Gold Coast Mall, 11301 115th St., Ocean City, 10 a.m. Handmade crafts and vendors. Info: Debbie, 410-600-5812.

SATURDAY, FEB. 16

SEASIDE BOAT SHOW

Ocean City convention center, 4001 Coastal Highway, 10 a.m. to 7 p.m. Featuring more than 350 boats, 150 exhibitors and 50 boat dealers. Door prizes donated by North Bay Marine. Each person who purchases a show admission has a chance to win a boat. Ocean City/Berlin Optimist Club will sponsor a scholarship lottery with \$100,000 in prizes. Chances cost \$100; drawing at 5 p.m. Sunday. Admission costs \$9 for adults and \$1 for children. Weekend passes available for \$15. Info: cdorman1@yahoo.com or www.ocboatshow.com.

WINTER WONDERLAND GALA

Delmarva Discovery Center, 2 Market St., Pocomoke City, 7-10 p.m. Admission costs \$40 for members and \$45 each or \$80 couple for non-members and includes hors d'oeuvres by Watermen's Inn, Crisfield; two complimentary drink tickets; and dancing to live music performed by Frank Nanna's W W Tunes. Silent and live auctions. To donate an item or purchase tickets, contact 410-957-9933. Info: www.delmarvadiscoverycenter.org.

ALL-YOU-CAN-EAT BEEF AND DUMPLING DINNER

Faith Chapel Church, 8006 Libertytown Road, Berlin, 5 p.m. Dinner includes homemade dumplings, three vegetables, coffee or tea and dessert. Dine-in costs \$12 for adults and \$6 for children 5 and younger. Carry out is \$12. Info: 443-235-6911.

ALL-YOU-CAN-EAT FRIED CHICKEN DINNER

New Hope United Methodist Church, 35815 Woodyard Road, Willards, noon. Menu includes mashed potatoes, greens, string beans, macaroni and cheese, beets, biscuits, dessert and coffee. Cost is \$11 for adults. Carryouts available. Info: 410-543-8244 or 443-235-0251.

PRESIDENTS DAY WEEKEND CRAFT SHOW

Gold Coast Mall, 11301 115th St., Ocean City, 10 a.m. Hand-

made crafts and vendors. Info: Debbie, 410-600-5812.

PANCAKE BREAKFAST

VFW, Post 8296, 104 66th St., bayside in Ocean City, 8-11 a.m. A \$5 donation for all-you-can-eat pancakes or 2-2-2, two eggs, two pancakes and two bacon slices, includes coffee and juice. Bloody Marys cost \$3. Info: 410-524-8196.

SUNDAY, FEB. 17

SEASIDE BOAT SHOW

Ocean City convention center, 4001 Coastal Highway, 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. Featuring more than 350 boats, 150 exhibitors and 50 boat dealers. Door prizes donated by North Bay Marine. Each person who purchases a show admission has a chance to win a boat. Ocean City/Berlin Optimist Club will sponsor a scholarship lottery with \$100,000 in prizes. Chances cost \$100; drawing at 5 p.m. Sunday. Admission costs \$9 for adults and \$1 for children. Weekend passes available for \$15. Info: cdorman1@yahoo.com or www.ocboatshow.com.

PRESIDENTS DAY WEEKEND CRAFT SHOW

Gold Coast Mall, 11301 115th St., Ocean City, 10 a.m. Handmade crafts and vendors. Info: Debbie, 410-600-5812.

SHARING SUNDAY

Democratic Women's Club of Worcester County collecting nonperishable food, paper goods and grocery cards at the Ocean Pines South Side Fire Station, 1-3 p.m. Collected items will be given to Sarah's Pantry at the Community Church at Ocean Pines. Info: 410-641-6683.

MONDAY, FEB. 18

GREAT BOOKS DISCUSSION

Ocean Pines library, small meeting room, 11107 Cathell Road, 2:30 p.m. Great Books focuses on works that shape our culture and provide a deeper appreciation for what it means to be human. Info: Don Winslow, 410-208-4014.

CPAP MASK FITTING

Atlantic General Hospital Sleep Disorders Diagnostic Center, 9733 Healthway Drive in Berlin. Free, monthly mask fitting clinic for patients who are having trouble adjusting to their CPAP equipment. Additional clinic offered for those who are apprehensive about the idea of using CPAP. By appointment only: Robin Rohlfing, 410-641-9726.

HAND DANCING

House of Welsh, 1106 Coastal Highway, Fenwick, Del. Free lessons from 6-7 p.m., open dancing 7-10 p.m. No cover charge.

Info: DC Hand Dance Club, 302-541-0728.

TUESDAY, FEB. 19

YOUNG AND RESTLESS

Pocomoke library, 301 Market St., 10:30 a.m. Creative science, art and music activities for children ages 3-5. Dress for a mess. Call ahead to reserve your space: 410-957-0878.

BOREDOM BUSTERS

Pocomoke library, 301 Market St., 4 p.m. Nature and science fun during that after school lull. For ages 6-12. Info: 410-957-0878.

SALSA DANCE FEVER

Pocomoke library, 301 Market St., every Tuesday, 6:30 p.m. Learn the art of salsa dancing. Come alone or bring a partner. Info: 410-957-0878.

YOGA

James G. Barrett Medical Office Building, rotunda, 10231 Old Ocean City Boulevard, Berlin, 5:30-6:45 p.m. All levels welcome. Cost is \$72 for eight sessions or \$10 drop-in fee for first time. Info: Georgette Rhoads, 410-641-9734 or grhoads@atlanticgeneral.org.

AGH AUXILIARY LOBBY SALE

Atlantic General Hospital, main lobby, 9733 Healthway Drive in Berlin, 7 a.m. to 4 p.m. Scrubs, surgery caps, lab coats, Dansko shoes and socks. Proceeds benefit the hospital. Info: Jessica Hales, 410-629-6821.

WEDNESDAY, FEB. 20

PLAY TIME

Ocean City library, 10003 Coastal Highway, 10:30 a.m. Parents and children, infant to 5 years old, explore educational toys together in an interactive, free play program. Info: 410-524-1818.

FOREIGN POLICY KEY ISSUES: DISCUSSION GROUP

Ocean Pines library, 11107 Cathell Road, 10 a.m. to noon. Reading and discussion of major foreign policy issues. Group meets bi-monthly February through May. A study guide is provided. Register: 410-208-4014.

COUNTRY DANCE STEPPING

Ocean City library, 10003 Coastal Highway, Feb. 20 and 27, 1 p.m. Learn to two-step, contra style dance and more. Register for the first class by calling 410-524-1818.

HYPERTENSION CLINICS

Sponsored by Atlantic General Hospital and takes place at Walgreen's, Bethany Beach, Del., 10 a.m. to noon and at Walgreens, Selbyville, Del., 1-3 p.m. Free blood pressure screening and health information. Info: Dawn Denton, 410-641-9268.

Please send calendar items to
editor@baysidegazette.com

by 5 p.m. Monday to make sure your events are printed. All community-related activities will be published at no charge.

WEIGHT LOSS SURGERY SEMINAR

Berlin Main Place Complex, 9956 N. Main St., Berlin, 5-6 p.m. Receive information about the lap band and gastric sleeve weight loss procedures. Pre-reg-ister: 410-641-3960.

2013 JOB FAIR

Stephen Decatur High School, 9913 Seahawk Road, Berlin, 8:15 a.m. to 1 p.m. In addition to Stephen Decatur students, Snow Hill and Pocomoke students will also be in attendance. To sign up as a vendor, call Kim Hudson at 410-641-4410.

'GETTING TO KNOW YOU...AGAIN' VIDEO SERIES

Brandywine Senior Living at Fenwick Island, 21111 Arrington Drive, Selbyville, Del., 2:30 p.m. Part I - Introduction to Alzheimer's Disease. Five-part educational video series as part of Brandywine's Lifelong Learning Signature Program. Info: 302-436-0808.

SUICIDE GRIEVERS' SUPPORT GROUP

Worcester County Health Department, 9730 Healthway Drive, Berlin, the third Wednesday of every month, 6 p.m. Open to anyone who has lost a friend or loved one to suicide. Free of charge. Info: 410-629-0164 or www.jessespaddle.org.

AGH AUXILIARY LOBBY SALE

Atlantic General Hospital, main lobby, 9733 Healthway Drive in Berlin, 7 a.m. to 2 p.m. Scrubs, surgery caps, lab coats, Dansko shoes and socks. Proceeds benefit the hospital. Info: Jessica Hales, 410-629-6821.

BINGO

Every Wednesday at Ocean City Elks Lodge 2645, 138th Street across from Fenwick Inn. Doors open at 5:30 p.m., games start 6:30 p.m. A \$1,000 jackpot available, food, snacks and non-alcoholic beverages. No one under 18 years allowed in the hall during bingo. Info: 410-250-2645.

DELMARVA HAND DANCING CLUB

Meets every Wednesday at Skyline Bar & Grille at The Fenwick Inn, 138th Street and Coastal Highway in Ocean City. Beginner and intermediate lessons, 5:30-6:30 p.m., followed by dancing until 9 p.m. Jitterbug, swing, cha-cha to the sounds of the '50s, '60s and Carolina beach music. All are welcome. Discounted food and drink prices.

Info: 302-337-3638.

TAKE OFF POUNDS SENSIBLY

Ocean City library, 10003 Coastal Highway, Wednesdays, 4:45-6 p.m. TOPS is a support and educational group promoting weight loss and healthy lifestyle. It meets weekly. Info: 302-436-3682.

THURSDAY, FEB. 21

STORY TIME

Ocean Pines library, 11107 Cathell Road, 10:30 a.m. Stories, rhymes, finger plays, music and crafts for children ages 2-5. Info: 410-208-4014.

PLAY TIME

Snow Hill library, 307 N. Washington St., 10:30 a.m. Parents and children, infant to 5 years old, explore educational toys together in an interactive, free play program. Info: 410-632-3495.

ADULT KNITTING GROUP

Pocomoke library, 301 Market St., 11 a.m. Informal monthly group for people who love to knit or crochet to share ideas, patterns and projects. Info: 410-957-0878.

WORCESTER COUNTY TEA PARTY MEETING

Ocean Pines Community Center, 235 Ocean Parkway. Doors open at 6:30 p.m., meeting starts at 7 p.m. Guest speakers will be Worcester County Sheriff Reggie Mason and Worcester County State's Attorney Beau Oglesby. All are invited. Info: 443-614-7214, WorTeaParty@gmail.com or www.worcestercountyteaparty.com.

PINE'ER CRAFT CLUB OF OCEAN PINES MEETING

Ocean Pines Community Center, 235 Ocean Parkway, 9:45 a.m. Following the business meeting, members will make heart earrings in red, pink or crystal color. The \$5 years dues will be collected. All residents of the Ocean Pines Community are invited, as well as residents in close proximity to the Ocean Pines area. Refreshments served.

BINGO

American Legion Post 166, 2308 Philadelphia Ave., in Ocean City, every Thursday, year round. Doors open at 5:30 p.m., games start at 7 p.m. Food available. Open to the public. Info: 410-289-3166.

PUZZLES

I HEARD YOU THE FIRST TIME By Patrick Berry / Edited by Will Shortz

Across

1 Wallop

6 Gray piece

10 Cricket club

13 Fair-minded

17 “Funeral Blues” writer

18 “Pity is for the living, ___ is for the dead”: Twain

19 Kaplan of “Welcome Back, Kotter”

20 Info from a debriefing

22 Somewhat redundant 1965 country song?

26 Journalist Couric

27 ___ Lang, Superboy’s love

28 1951 Cooperstown inductee

29 Increases, with “up”

30 Somewhat redundant Milton Bradley game?

35 Show featuring the L.V.P.D.

38 Oktoberfest collectibles

39 Cotillion attendee

40 Power in sci-fi

41 Kneeler’s offering

43 Ambient musician Brian

44 Org. that fines polluters

45 Chicken bred for its meat

For any three answers, call from a touch-tone phone: 1-900-285-5656, \$1.49 each minute; or, with a credit card, 1-800-814-5554.

49 Somewhat redundant size?

54 Roof projection

55 Constitutional

56 Bedtime preyer?

57 “Nick News” host Linda

60 Song featured in “Animal House”

61 Bakery array

62 Reacted to a bad call

63 Mr. Bill appeared on it: Abbr.

64 Somewhat redundant 1960s spy series?

69 Sound of heartbreak

72 Picks up

73 Cartoon beagle

74 Hit the roof

78 Like some passages in a symphony

80 Elton John nickname

81 Deli appliance

82 O’Neill’s “___ Christie”

83 Somewhat redundant literary genre?

88 Scrammed

91 Brief laugh

92 Flamboyant stole

93 Machiavellian concerns

94 John of Salisbury

95 Pink lady ingredient

96 “The things I put up with!”

99 Buff

100 Somewhat redundant theater production?

106 Glinda’s creator

107 Clock face number

108 Repo justification

109 Core philosophy

112 Extremely redundant 1963 caper film?

118 “Ta-da!”

119 Patron saint of sailors

120 Cut and collect

121 128-character set

122 Job title abbr.

123 Cooper Union’s location, briefly

124 Haute cuisine it’s not

125 Chews (out)

Down

1 Not look perky, say

2 Visibility reducer

3 Skull session result

4 Comb row

5 Ancient Roman author Quintus ___

6 In accordance with

7 Goalie’s jersey number, often

8 A Waugh

9 Human speech mimickers

10 Shearing shed sound

11 Swallow, as costs

12 Clearly low on patience

13 Peter Pan rival

14 Not as content

15 Percussive dance troupe

16 Musician’s rate

19 Will Geer’s role on “The Waltons”

21 Minus

23 Refined

24 Animal whose head doesn’t make a sound?

25 Common check box on surveys

31 MTV’s earliest viewers, mostly

32 & 33 Plastic shields and such

34 Equal: Prefix

35 Tangy salad leaves

36 Amendment guaranteeing a speedy trial

37 Part of the front matter

42 Mosaicist’s supply

44 South Dakota Air Force base

45 Not on deck, maybe

46 R&D sites

47 Unchanging

48 Walk while dizzy

50 Wimbledon champ Gibson

51 Shakes up

52 Very impressed

53 Crystal Cave is one

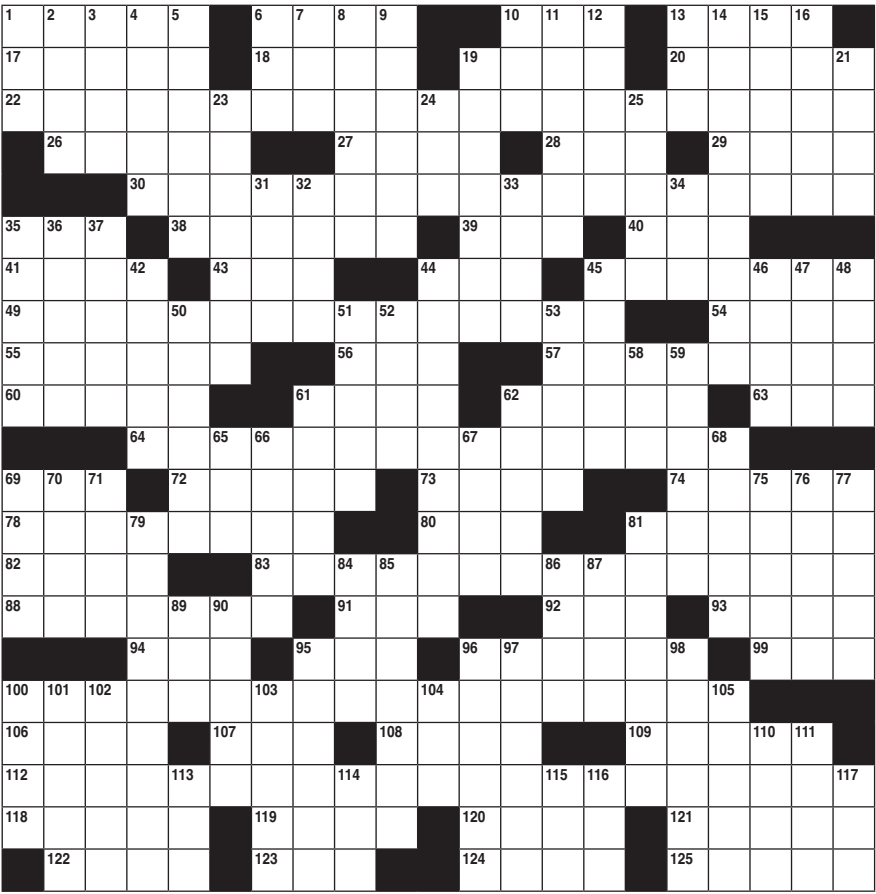
58 Common middle name

59 E Day debuts

61 Emergency

62 Captain who says “Well, gentlemen, between ourselves and home are 27,000 sea miles”

65 Fill up on



66 Perfume sampling spot

67 Roman calendar day

68 Overused

69 One way to go to a party

70 “What a calamity!”

71 Inclination

75 Big East sch.

76 Proust’s “À la Recherche du Temps ___”

77 Sweet meet?

79 Nabisco treats sold only seasonally

81 Hidden

84 Athens’s home

85 1950s TV star Duncan

86 Do as expected

87 Old World deer

89 Body blow reaction

90 World capital situated in what was once ancient Thrace

95 How bad news is often received

96 Attests

97 “Music for the Royal Fireworks” composer

98 Open conflict

100 End note?

101 Nickname of jazz’s Earl Hines

102 Joins

103 Cheney’s follower

104 Slow on the uptake

105 “___ Body?” (first Lord Peter Wimsey novel)

110 Marine threat

111 Skinny

113 Satisfied

114 “Breaking Bad” network

115 Great Leap Forward overseer

116 BlackBerry buy

117 Slam



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HARD – 8

Fill in the blank spaces in the grid so that every vertical column, every horizontal row and every 3 by 3 box contains the numbers 1 through 9, without repeating any. There is really only one solution to each puzzle.

1		8						6
				3				
		5	6		8	9		
7						4	3	8
		6						9
		8	5	2				4
				7	4		5	1
						1		
		7					9	
								2

Answers to last week’s puzzles

3	8	5	4	9	6	1	7	2
6	7	1	5	2	3	4	8	9
9	4	2	8	7	1	5	6	3
5	1	4	2	3	7	6	9	8
8	3	7	9	6	4	2	5	1
2	9	6	1	5	8	7	3	4
4	5	9	6	8	2	3	1	7
7	2	8	3	1	5	9	4	6
1	6	3	7	4	9	8	2	5

T	A	R	T	S		S	A	L	A		B	A	R	T	A	B	S				
S	O	L	E	I	L		P	E	R	I	L		O	V	E	R	V	I	E	W	
P	U	M	P	E	R	N	I	C	K	E	L		A	E	R	I	A	L	L	Y	
A	P	O	O	R		U	P	R	I	V	E	R		D	U	B		D	E	E	
R	E	N	T		G	R	E	E	N		Y	E	S	O	N		D	U	C	T	
T	E	D			E	M	I	T		T	W	A	I	N		T	E	N	T	H	
A	S	S		A	S	S	I	N		R	E	A	L	M		R	E	G			
				C	P	U			P	O	L	Y			E	B	E	R	S	O	L
	S	K	E	I	N		N	O	D	E		O	R	A	L	S		R	B	I	
S	P	A	D	E	D		A	L	E	X		L	O	R	I		C	O	L	A	
E	L	F	I	S	H		I	T	O		H	I	P		T	R	U	M	A	N	
T	A	F	T		E	A	V	E		V	O	T	E		Z	A	P	A	T	A	
A	S	E		M	I	N	E	R		E	N	I	D		K	R	O	N	E		
T	H	E	C	I	T	Y		G	R	E	E	K			R	E	L				
		K	A	T			B	E	E	R	Y		S	P	I	R	A	C	L	E	
O	L	L	I	E		R	E	I	M	S		R	U	L	E		H	O	D		
B	E	A	N		M	E	N	S	A		S	E	L	I	G		D	A	W	G	
A	M	T		L	A	B		T	R	E	A	D	L	E		M	A	O	R	I	
M	U	S	S	E	S	U	P		K	I	N	D	E	R	G	A	R	T	E	N	
A	R	C	H	D	U	K	E		O	R	T	O	N		T	I	L	I	N	G	
	S	H	E	A	R	E	D		N	E	A	T			E	N	A	C	T		



HAPPY VALENTINE'S DAY!
Rows of gift bags await attendees of United Way of the Lower Eastern Shore's Valentine's Day Youth Carnival on Feb. 9.

SHEILA R. CHERRY/BAYSIDE GAZETTE



The United Way's Young Leaders Society provided a day of games and activities at Berlin Intermediate School on Feb. 9.

SHEILA R. CHERRY/BAYSIDE GAZETTE



Guiermo Mejia, 3, models face painting.

SHEILA R. CHERRY/BAYSIDE GAZETTE



"Guess the Candy" winner Karla Maldonado, left, poses with dad Pual and sister, Kathie.

SHEILA R. CHERRY/BAYSIDE GAZETTE



Jahryn Long shows his custom-designed picture frame.

SHEILA R. CHERRY/BAYSIDE GAZETTE



The Johnson family enjoys a day of fun and games for the kids.

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TUESDAY - Al Prescott



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WEDNESDAY - Bobby Burns

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FRIDAY - Guest Bartender Night

Attorneys for Perdue Farms, Berlin farmer seek award of \$3M

Allege in lawsuit that plaintiffs pursued case to unreasonable lengths

By Beth Moszkowicz

The Daily Record Newswire

MARYLAND — Attorneys for Perdue Farms Inc. and Berlin-based farmer Alan Hudson spelled out in strongly worded filings why they should be awarded a total of \$3 million in attorneys' fees after defeating a federal Clean Water Act case by the Waterkeeper Alliance Inc. in December.

The company and its Eastern Shore contract farmer said the Waterkeeper's allegations — that they repeatedly discharged pollutants through a point source into the Pocomoke River and the Chesapeake Bay — were groundless,

and that actions of that sort should be discouraged.

The Waterkeeper Alliance "continued to litigate an action well beyond the time when the case clearly was unreasonable (assuming, but not conceding, that it was not frivolous from the start)," Michael Schatzow, James L. Shea and Maria E. Rodriguez of Venable LLP wrote for Perdue in a document filed Thursday in U.S. District Court in Baltimore.

The plaintiffs "should not be permitted to walk away having lost nothing, not even the ability to assert an identical claim against another farm, after having caused the defendants to suffer financial and emotional pain and loss," the filing says.

The filing says Perdue has already paid its lawyers for more than 10,000 hours.

In an interview last month, Schatzow said the Salisbury-based company incurred \$2.5 million in attorneys' fees and expenses since March 1, when Senior Judge William N. Nickerson issued an order denying Perdue's motion for summary judgment. The judge ruled in Perdue and Hudson's favor two months ago.

Perdue and Hudson filed requests for attorneys' fees last month, and Nickerson gave them until Thursday to file supporting memoranda.

Jane F. Barrett, who directs the University of Maryland Environmental Law Clinic and represented Waterkeeper, said in an e-mail last month that the attorney-fee motions were not unusual or unexpected. Jeffrey Raymond, a spokesman for the University of Maryland Francis King Carey School of Law, said in an e-mail Thursday that Water-

keeper's response will be filed with the court later this month.

A separate filing by Hudson's attorney, George F. Ritchie of Gordon Feinblatt LLC in Baltimore, called the case "an excruciating ordeal that has left its traumatic mark on his family despite the court's ruling in his favor."

The farmer is seeking upwards of \$500,000 in costs and attorneys' fees.

"This case ... was the culmination of a lengthy campaign to, as this Court recognized, 'force poultry integrators, like Perdue, to seriously alter if not abandon their operations on the Eastern Shore,'" Ritchie said his filing. "The Hudsons were simply collateral damage in Plaintiff's zealous campaign to strike at Perdue and other integrators in the poultry industry."

He said Thursday in a statement that the Hudsons relied on the support of their neighbors, fellow Eastern Shore farmers, and sympathetic family farmers from across the country.

"It is time for the Waterkeepers to own up to their ill-conceived and harmful legal actions, and repay the farmers that supported this beleaguered farm family," he said. "Further, repayment of legal fees is clearly permissible and allowed for under the [Clean Water Act]."

Cows, not chickens

By targeting both Perdue and Hudson Farm, the lawsuit was seen as a broader challenge to the way industry operates.

Waterkeeper Alliance had argued that Perdue should be held liable for the pollution because Perdue is "intimately involved in and controls each stage of the poultry-growing process at its contract growers, including Hudson Farm," but Nickerson disagreed.

Attorneys for Perdue and Hudson had argued that the cows on Hudson's farm, not chickens, were the source of the E. coli bacteria Waterkeeper found, and Nickerson concurred.

He noted that "unconfined cattle produce literally tons of manure that is left in the fields, some of which is in direct contact with runoff."

However, under the Clean Water Act, Waterkeeper Alliance could assert "no liability in this action arising out of the cattle operation," Nickerson wrote. In contrast, the judge said there was "no evidence of any observable discharge from chicken litter into any ditch on the Hudson Farm."

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Make fresh Bellini without annoying foam

There are times in life that we must step outside the realm of what we know in order to delve into the unfamiliar.



By Paul Suplee,
CEC PCIII

There is no other way to broaden what and who we are, and the hospitality field embodies this mentality well.

One of our students, Mitch, convinced his employer to buy a beautiful commercial juicer and he is regularly processing juices for gastriques, butter-mounted sauces, purees and other uses. He came to me recently to ask about how to use fresh peach juice in a Bellini without that spongy foam that makes it impossible to drink.

I had no idea.

In asking my buddy (one of the best bar consultants in the area), the response was that he had similar issues at a catered event. Fresh Bellini? Perfect ... or at least in theory. But when they poured the contraption into a flute, the guest had to wrestle the foam, making a big mess in the process.

I contacted a food additive company in Canada that I have used before and they recommended xanthan gum, although it would alter the taste. Needless to say, that was off the table. As the result is the most important aspect of what we do, the suggestion was not heeded.

Off to the drawing board, I remembered a fluid gel recipe from a long time ago off of the Rhymos.org site and investigated. Now, I know that this will alienate some readers as they won't have an interest in the molecular gastronomy side of cooking, but it's still interesting and quite relevant, especially as we live in a beach town and having a new drink to add to our summer entertaining

menu seems obvious to me.

By simply replacing the original recipe's grape juice with peach juice and substituting the Prosecco and some Peach Schnapps for the wine, I had the answer and it was simple. In fact, much simpler than I would have figured — I made a peach puree utilizing Gellan Gum and thinned it out with Peach Schnapps to have my base. Then, all I had to do was top it off with Prosecco, pour in a flute and drink away.

This may seem like extra steps and there is another way. We could simply depouillage the peach juice, leaving us the almost clear peach juice. Depouillage is the French cooking term for skimming the gunk off of the tops of sauces. The resulting juice is clear, but I would be remiss if I didn't share that a great deal of the flavor is in the peach foam, so what fun would that be?

Decide which way will work for you (or even just buy a peach puree) but either way, you will have a fresh Bellini at your next springtime party.

I'll take a Bellini, please. Hold the sponge.

Fresh Bellini

(hold the sponge)

Fresh peaches, washed and pits removed

Gellan Gum* as needed (formula below)

Simple syrup, as needed

Italian Prosecco or sparkling wine

Peach Schnapps as needed

Step 1: Keeping the skin on, juice peaches through a juicer and weigh resulting juice with foam

Step 2: Multiply weight of juice by .01667 to figure amount of gellan gum you need

Step 3: Slowly whisk gellan into juice and bring to a boil. Remove from heat immediately

Step 4: Place bowl on top of some ice and cool while zapping it with a stick blender a few times.

This will ensure a creamy puree

Step 5: When puree has cooled, it will take the consistency of apple butter or baby food (you can pick which one you want to think of when you think of a Bellini)

Step 6: If puree is sour (mine was), add simple syrup to taste, but match it to the style of Prosecco (if "dolce," don't make the base overly sweet, or you will be eating a sugar bomb)

Step 7: Thin mixture out with Peach Schnapps and a touch of Prosecco. This becomes a pourable base. As of this writing, my base is on its third day and still standing, but for freshness' sake I wouldn't keep it long

Step 8: To make your Bellini, simply combine base with prosecco and pour over ice or strain to serve up. Garnish with peach wedge and drink up!

* For the Gellan, visit molecular.com and dig through the additive page.

— Paul G. Suplee is a certified executive chef and ProChef certified Level-3. He is a writer and culinary instructor. Find his ePortfolio at www.heartofakitchen.com.



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